

## Press Release:

### Headline: The environmental benefits of free e-waste recycling with TechCollect NZ.

**Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand, (August) 2022:** As of 31 July 2022, the TechCollect NZ pilot programme has recovered and recycled over 177 tonnes of information and communication technology (ICT) e-waste, creating a range of positive impacts for Aotearoa's environment and ecosystems. This major achievement recognises the efforts of numerous individuals, businesses and community groups, and their commitment to a sustainable future.

Established in November 2018, the TechCollect NZ pilot programme is a free national service available to all Kiwi-households and small businesses looking to responsibly recycle their unwanted and end-of-life ICT equipment. According to a recent Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of the TechCollect NZ pilot programme, recycling one tonne of ICT e-waste with TechCollect NZ:



**PREVENTS 2,052 KGS OF CO<sub>2E</sub> FROM ENTERING THE ATMOSPHERE.** THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO PLANTING 30 TREES.



**SAVES 28,347 MJ OF FOSSIL FUEL ENERGY.** THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO THE ELECTRICITY CONSUMED BY ONE AVERAGE KIWI-HOUSEHOLD FOR 410 DAYS.



**SAVES 7.4M<sup>3</sup> OF WATER.** THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO 26 DAYS OF WATER CONSUMPTION FOR ONE PERSON.



**PREVENTS 3,026 GRAMS OF PARTICULATE MATTER FROM ENTERING THE ATMOSPHERE.** THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO REMOVING OVER 3,050KM OF TRUCK DRIVING.

Michael Dudley, TechCollect NZ Senior Policy Manager thanks TechCollect NZ's members, partners, supporters and the communities across Aotearoa for making these impressive achievements possible and invites other like-minded businesses to throw their weight behind TechCollect NZ's trailblazing efforts.

Dudley says, "So far, TechCollect NZ's pilot has recycled thousands of the products that our members sell to Kiwi-consumers. We've also safely recovered and recycled thousands of ICT e-waste made by other brands who also sell their goods in Aotearoa".

"TechCollect NZ offers businesses a genuine opportunity to walk the talk when it comes to their ESG commitments and make a real difference on the ground in NZ. TechCollect NZ and our members welcome all e-product manufacturers, importers and retailers to jump onboard as early as possible and help us bridge the gap to 2024 when a regulated scheme is expected to take force. Our core aim is to shape a better future – one we can all be proud to present to our tamariki and mokopuna."

## About the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)

TechCollect NZ engaged Lifecycles, an experienced provider of life cycle assessment research, to conduct a life cycle assessment for TechCollect NZ's national e-waste collection and recycling service in Aotearoa New Zealand.

A Life Cycle Assessment or LCA assesses the environmental impacts associated with all the stages of the life cycle of a commercial product, process, or service. The primary objective for the assessment was to quantify the environmental impacts and benefits associated with recycling e-waste items accepted by the TechCollect NZ pilot, based on TechCollect NZ's programme operations.

The LCA clearly demonstrated a wide range of environmental benefits associated with recycling ICT e-waste. It also highlights the benefits of maximising the proportion of e-waste processed in New Zealand. Aotearoa's electricity grid has a low emission profile, and a significant proportion of electricity is produced from renewable sources such as hydro, geothermal and wind. As such, material separation and treatment processes taking place locally have low environmental impacts compared with offshore markets that rely more heavily on fossil fuels for their energy generation mix.

To see full LCA report please visit [http://techcollect.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/LCA\\_potential\\_environmental\\_benefits\\_ewaste\\_recycling\\_report.pdf](http://techcollect.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/LCA_potential_environmental_benefits_ewaste_recycling_report.pdf).

## About TechCollect NZ

A not-for-profit member-based organisation established by leading global technology companies committed to supporting the development of an effective regulated product stewardship scheme for electrical and electronic products in Aotearoa New Zealand.

TechCollect NZ works with a range of partners to provide a free collection and recycling service for ICT equipment in Aotearoa. This free service is available to households and small businesses looking to responsibly recycle their ICT equipment once is unwanted or has reached end of its useful life.

TechCollect NZ's members include Apple, Canon NZ, Dell NZ, HP New Zealand, Microsoft and The Warehouse Group.

Visit website <https://techcollect.nz>.

## For further information please contact:

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