



Ireland's Food Waste Charter

Case Study



Company: Aldi

Location: Nationwide

SUMMARY

Aldi's partnership with FoodCloud began as a pilot project in November 2014 operating in three Aldi stores. Due to overwhelmingly positive feedback from participating stores and charities, the trial was expanded to a further 79 stores by the start of 2016. To date all 130 Aldi Stores are participating in this partnership.

Christmas 2016 marked the first time that Aldi Ireland trailed reverse logistics from our Mitchelstown stores back to our Regional Distribution Centres (RDCs) and then to the FoodCloud Hubs. This initiative allowed Aldi to donate a significant amount of surplus food that would have otherwise been sent for anaerobic digestion due to store closure. Following on from this it was also replicated at Easter 2017 and Christmas 2017 which has saved over €60,000 for the charity sector.



Areas Covered:

Prevention/Reduction:

- Supply chain efficiencies

Measurement/Assessment:

- Impacts
- Food waste data

Research and innovation:

- Supply chain

Food redistribution:

- Food donation
- Logistics

Supply Chain Efficiencies/ Logistics

Aldi are expanding our relationship with FoodCloud hubs through the donation of frozen product specifically at Key Events in an effort to minimise product wastage. FoodCloud Hubs work with food businesses across Ireland who have large volumes of surplus food, such as farms, manufacturers and distributors to manage ad-hoc and regular supplies of surplus as efficiently as possible.

Once the food reaches the closest FoodCloud Hub, it is counted, uploaded onto their warehousing system, and then segregated into storage. They implement a robust, industry standard food safety system to ensure that food is collected and delivered in a safe condition.

Reverse logistics with Key Event stock was trialled in our Mitchelstown Region for Christmas 2016 on our chiller goods. Following on from its success, this formed part of our donation process for Easter and Christmas 2017 for both our Naas and Mitchelstown regions.

At Easter 2017 instead of discounting the stock, Aldi donated fresh meat specials that were left at close of business on the 15th April 2017 to our food donation charity partner FoodCloud. Aldi Stores placed all returnable stock in black produce crates on a D pallet that was wrapped and labelled. The pallets were placed in the store warehouse

freezer immediately after close. Based on the count information received, the Logistics Department collected all pallets on the 17th April that were labelled and placed in the store freezer. Prior to removal from store the driver carried out a temperature check of all product. Product that fell outside the acceptable temperature Range (-18 C to -21 C) was not collected.

By following this procedure, Aldi have been able to guarantee the chill chain integrity from stores back to the RDCs.

Reverse logistics proved hugely successful at Christmas 2017 with over €50,000 worth of meat products donated to charities across Ireland.

In regards to this reverse logistics at Key Events a total of 4.1 tonnes of food was donated to FoodCloud at Easter 2017, which has a value to the charity sector of over €12,000. Reverse logistics proved hugely successful at Christmas 2017 with over €50,000 worth of meat products donated to charities across Ireland.



Impact/ Food Waste Data

To date, Aldi stores have donated over 1,308,000 meals for people in need. By donating 594 tonnes of unsold food Aldi has passed on an equivalent of over €1,700,000 in savings to its local charity partners in Ireland. A total of over 1,903 tonnes of CO₂ emissions have been saved across the stores and 594 tonnes of food saved from landfill (Data as of 17th May 2018).

The partnership between Aldi and FoodCloud has enhanced awareness amongst employees and consumers of the issue of food waste and food poverty that exists today in Ireland and has also demonstrated to our employees, customers and the wider general public that there is an innovative solution to tackle it.

Further information:

<https://www.aldi.ie/reduce-reuse-recycle>

<https://www.checkout.ie/aldi-increases-foodcloud-donations-60/52226>

<http://www.shelflife.ie/aldi-ireland-donates-500000-meals-charity-foodcloud/>

<https://food.cloud/the-problem/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/2017/feb/06/food-waste-apps-global-technology-leftovers-landfill>

“The partnership between Aldi and FoodCloud has enhanced awareness amongst employees and consumers of the issue of food waste and food poverty that exists today in Ireland”



Ireland's Food Waste charter is a collective industry commitment to reduce food waste along the entire supply chain.

Do you know how much food you waste?
Do you think there is something you could do to reduce it?

Sign up to the Charter today and let's see what we can do to reduce food waste in Ireland.