

TEXTILES 2030

CIRCULARITY PATHWAY

Transforming our
industry for the planet

Making Textiles Circular

Circularity Pathway to 2030

Textiles 2030 will transform the way that the UK supplies, uses and disposes of clothing and textiles. We need to move away from a linear pattern of growing consumption towards a sustainable and circular model, where we keep products in circulation for as long as possible and use less virgin materials.

A more circular system is crucial if the industry is to reduce climate change to meet the Paris Agreement goals, and reduce severe water stress in supplier countries. Continuing sustainability activities at the current pace, without also implementing circularity, will not enable the industry to meet the goals.

This pathway shows what Textiles 2030 signatories can do to enable whole system change and deliver the targets, with key outcomes by end of 2022, 2025 and 2030.

The pathway is a living document and will evolve in future versions – with further quantification and prioritisation of the actions to be taken.

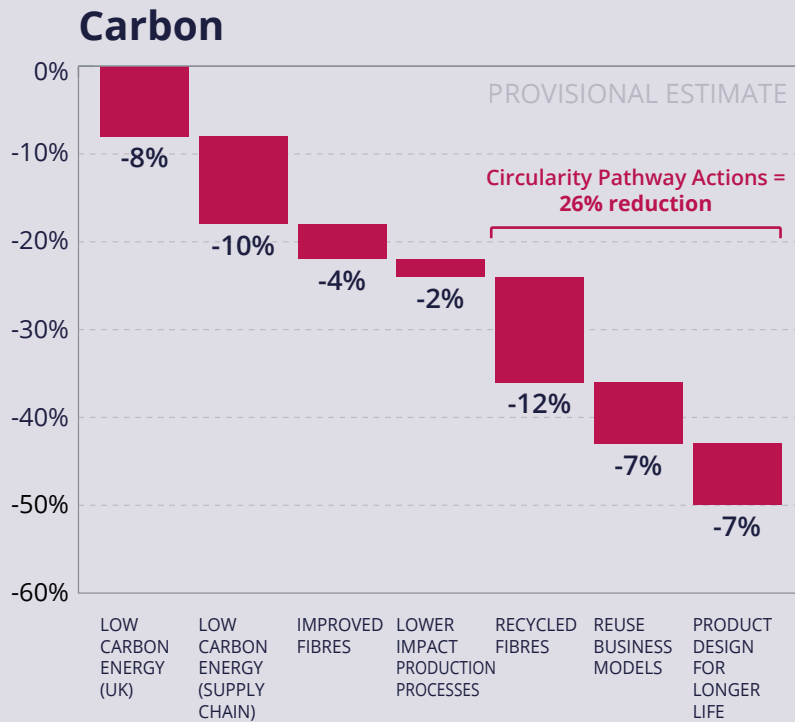
Innovation, in the way the industry works, will be core to delivering a circular system, including the way we design products, create new business models, the way we manage material flows and how we communicate with citizens and build customer relationships.



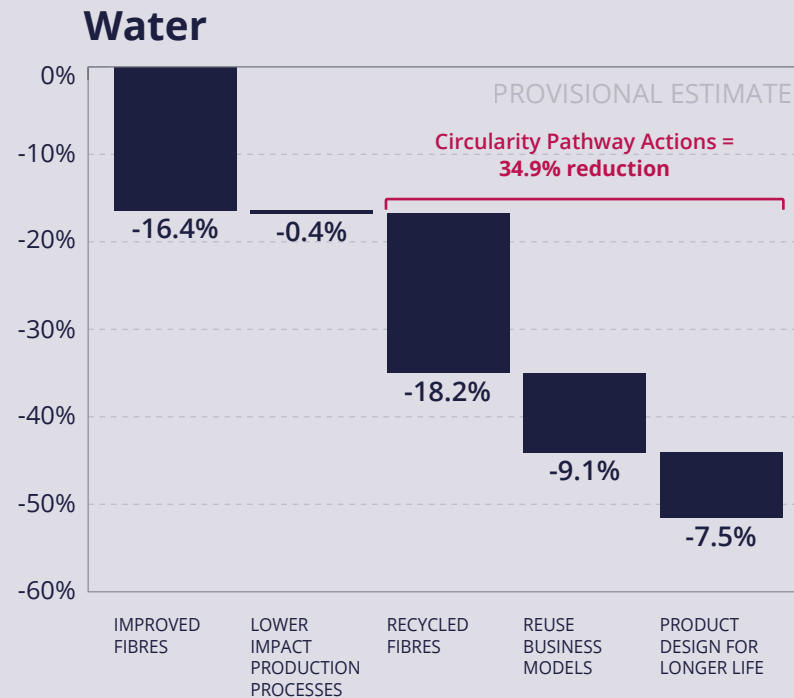
Making Textiles Circular Measurement & Modelling

Preliminary analysis has identified that over half of the footprint reductions needed to achieve the Textiles 2030 targets, could be achieved by businesses taking actions that relate to circularity. Businesses can use this modelling to prioritise actions and select their own strategies.

Future versions of the roadmap will provide further quantification.

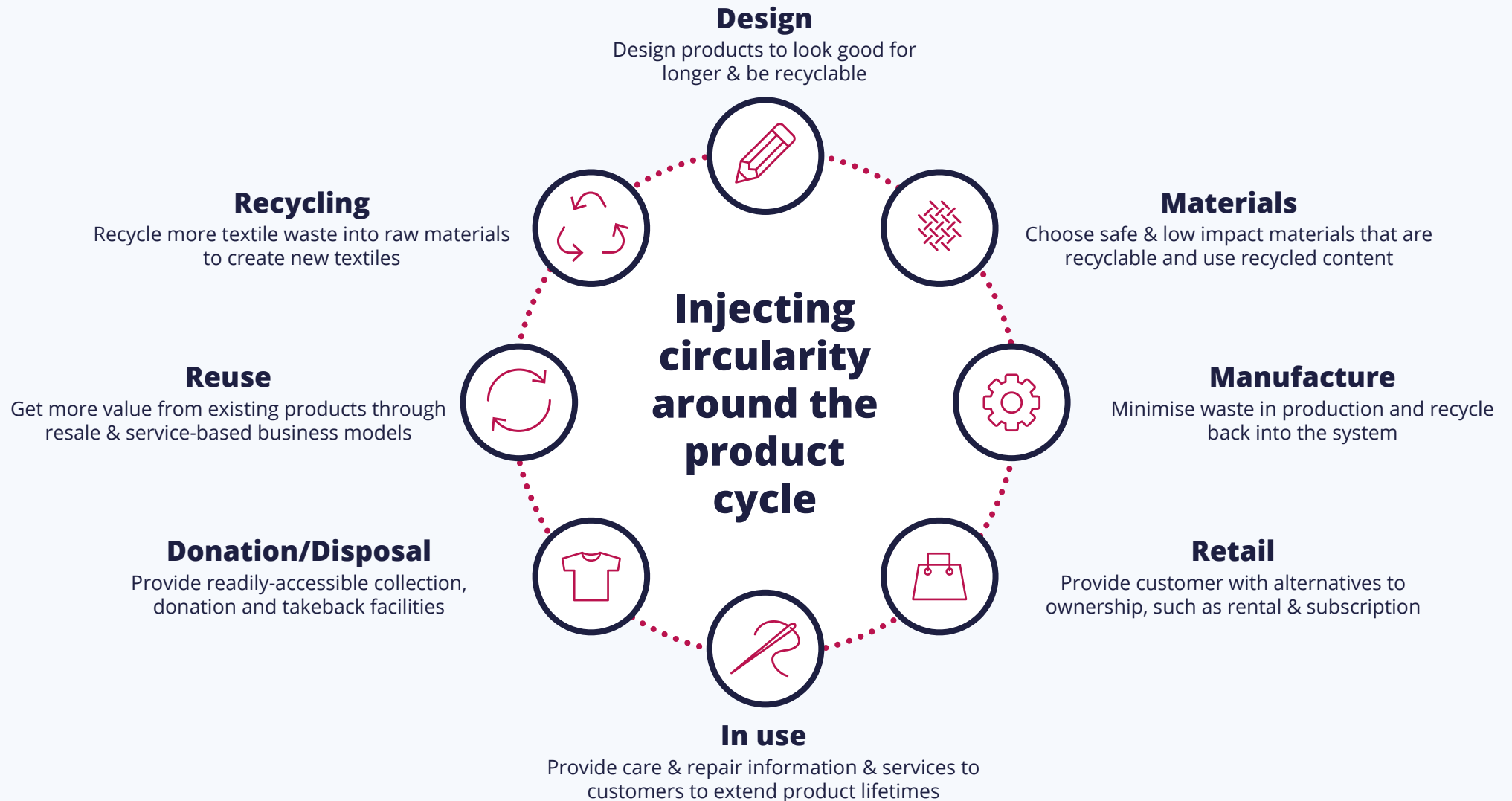


Carbon footprint reduction scenario 2019-2030 (provisional estimate 50% reduction)

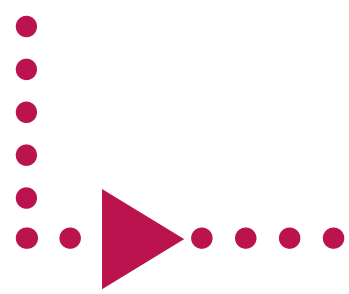


Water footprint reduction scenario 2019-2030 (provisional estimate 51% reduction)

Action on circularity around the product life cycle



Circularity Pathway



Partner signatories will work together to achieve the following:

Design For Circularity

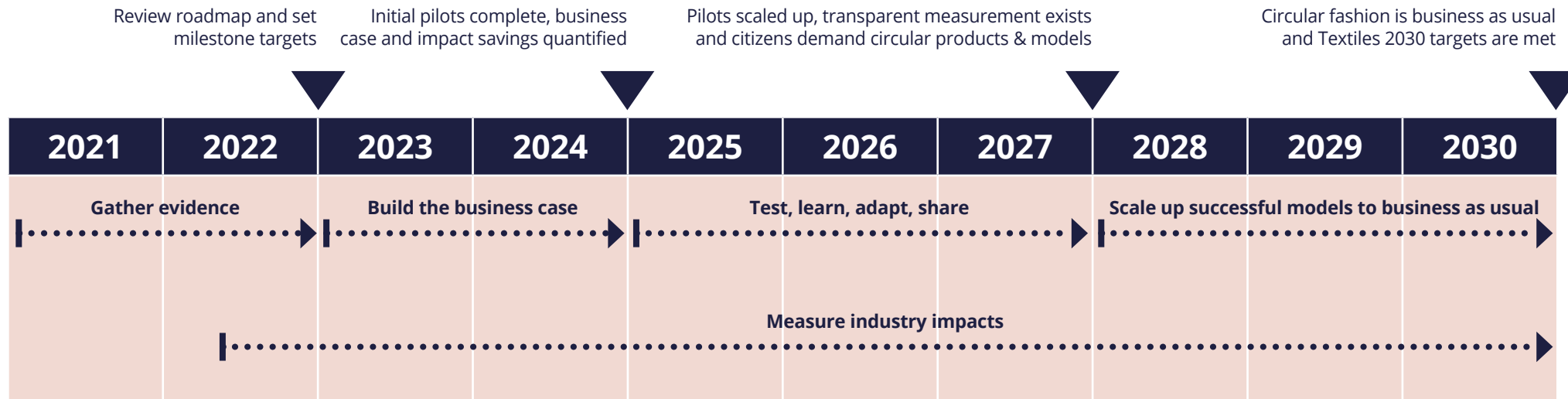
Agree good practice design principles, including durability, recyclability, use of recycled content and minimising waste, and implement them as appropriate to their business model and customer base, to lower the impacts of products placed on the market in the UK.

Implement Circular Business Models

Pilot reuse business models as appropriate to their product ranges, share learning, and develop large-scale implementation to extend the lifetime of clothing in the UK – decoupling business growth from the use of virgin resources.

Close the Loop on Materials

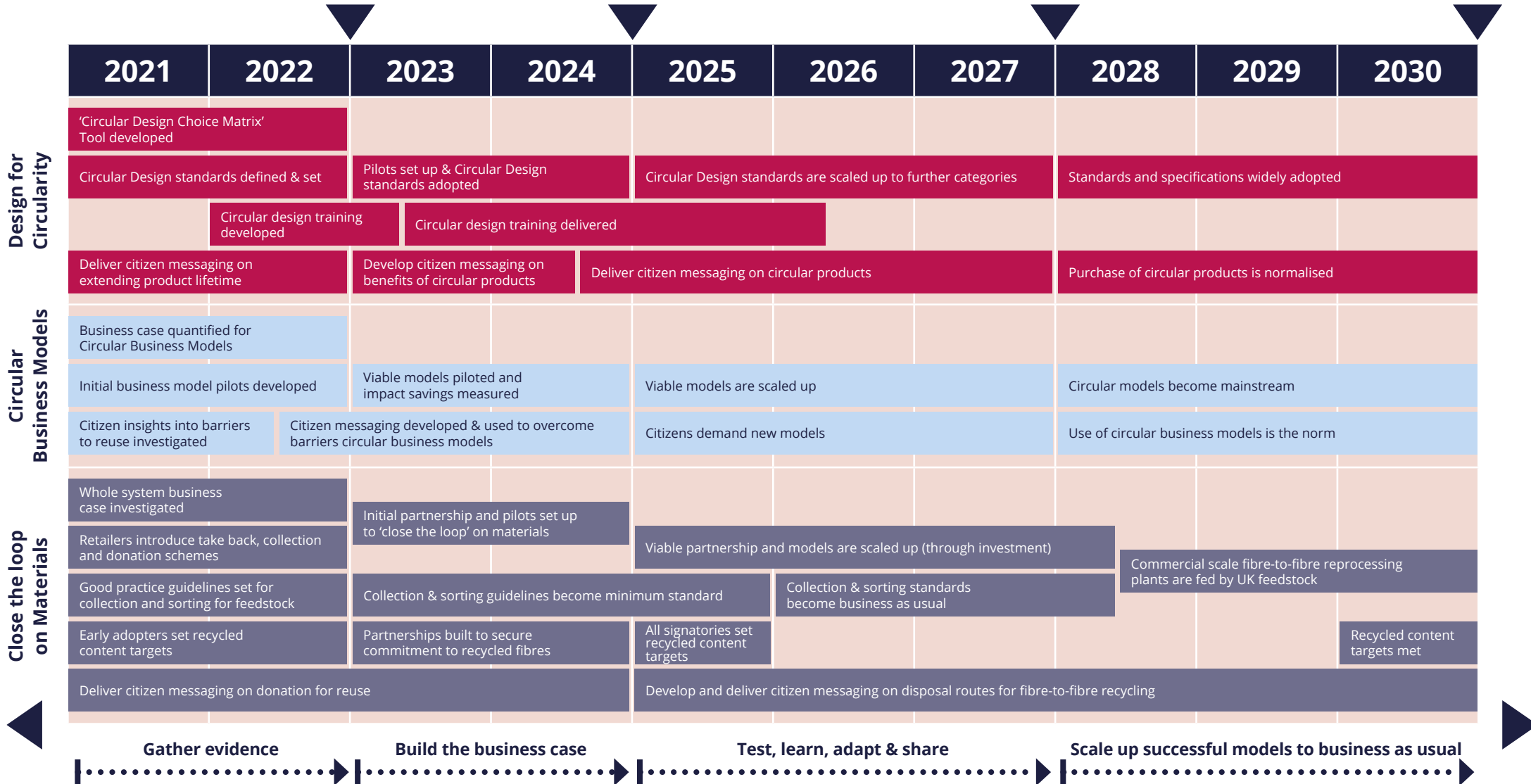
Set up partnerships to supply and use recycled fibres for new products, accelerating the commercialisation of fibre-to-fibre recycling in the UK.



Circularity Pathway Milestones

Version 1 of this pathway provides an initial view of the activities and milestones needed to deliver circular use of textile products and materials, and will be updated as evidence is collected.

Evidence gathered, standards set & pilots developed. Pathway reviewed Initial pilots complete, business case & impact savings quantified Pilots scaled up, transparent measurement exists & citizens demand circular products & models Circular fashion is business as usual & Textiles 2030 targets are met



Design for Circularity

Signatories commit to agree good practice design principles (including durability, recyclability, use of recycled content and minimising waste) and implement them as appropriate to their business model and customer base, to lower the impacts of products placed on the market in the UK.

80% of a product's environmental impact is determined at the design stage. Design will play a pivotal role in moving away from the traditional linear model to a circular one.

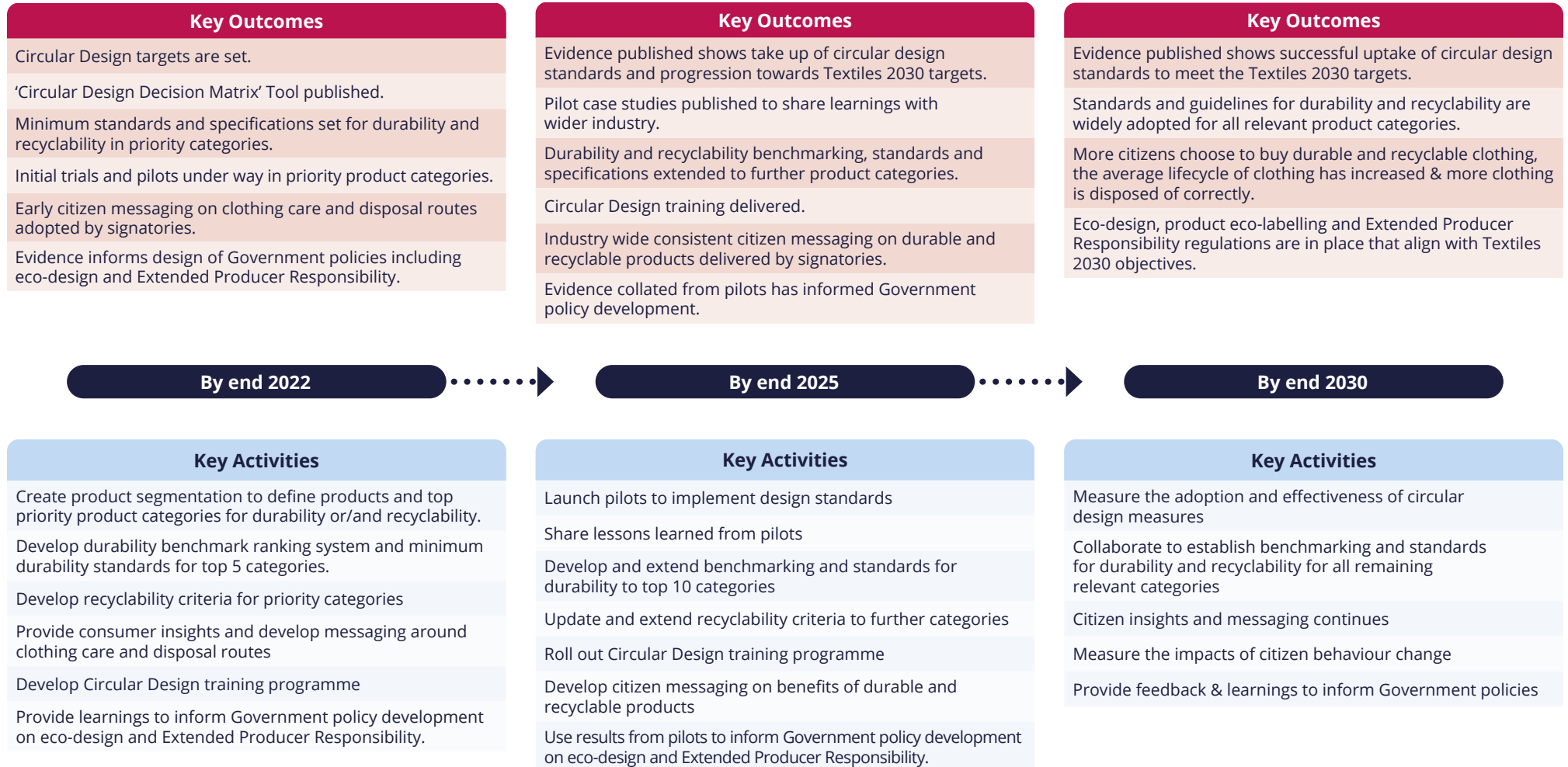
We must use circular design principles to:

- extend the usable life of textile products;
- allow products to be recycled at end-of-life;
- design out waste from the system; and
- increase the demand for recycled materials.

This will allow maximum value to be extracted from textile products, whilst cutting carbon emissions and relieving the pressure on natural resources associated with the primary production of virgin materials. It will also help to divert textile waste from landfill and incineration.

Pathway: Design for Circularity

Version 1 of the pathway provides an initial view of the activities and milestones needed to achieve the Textiles 2030 targets, and will be updated as evidence is collected.



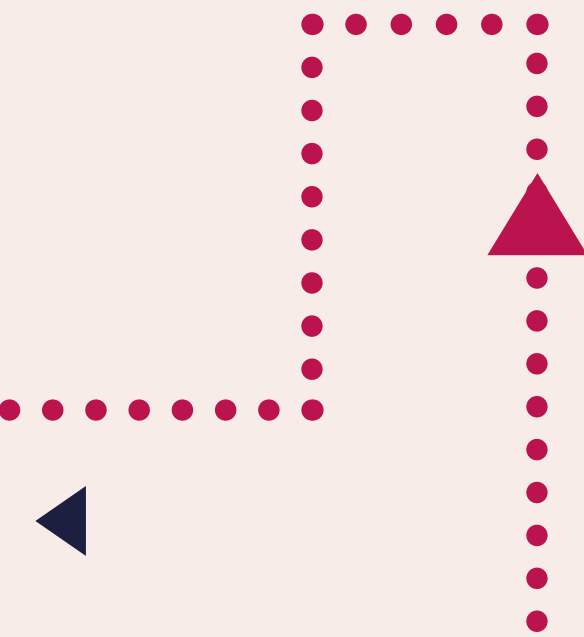
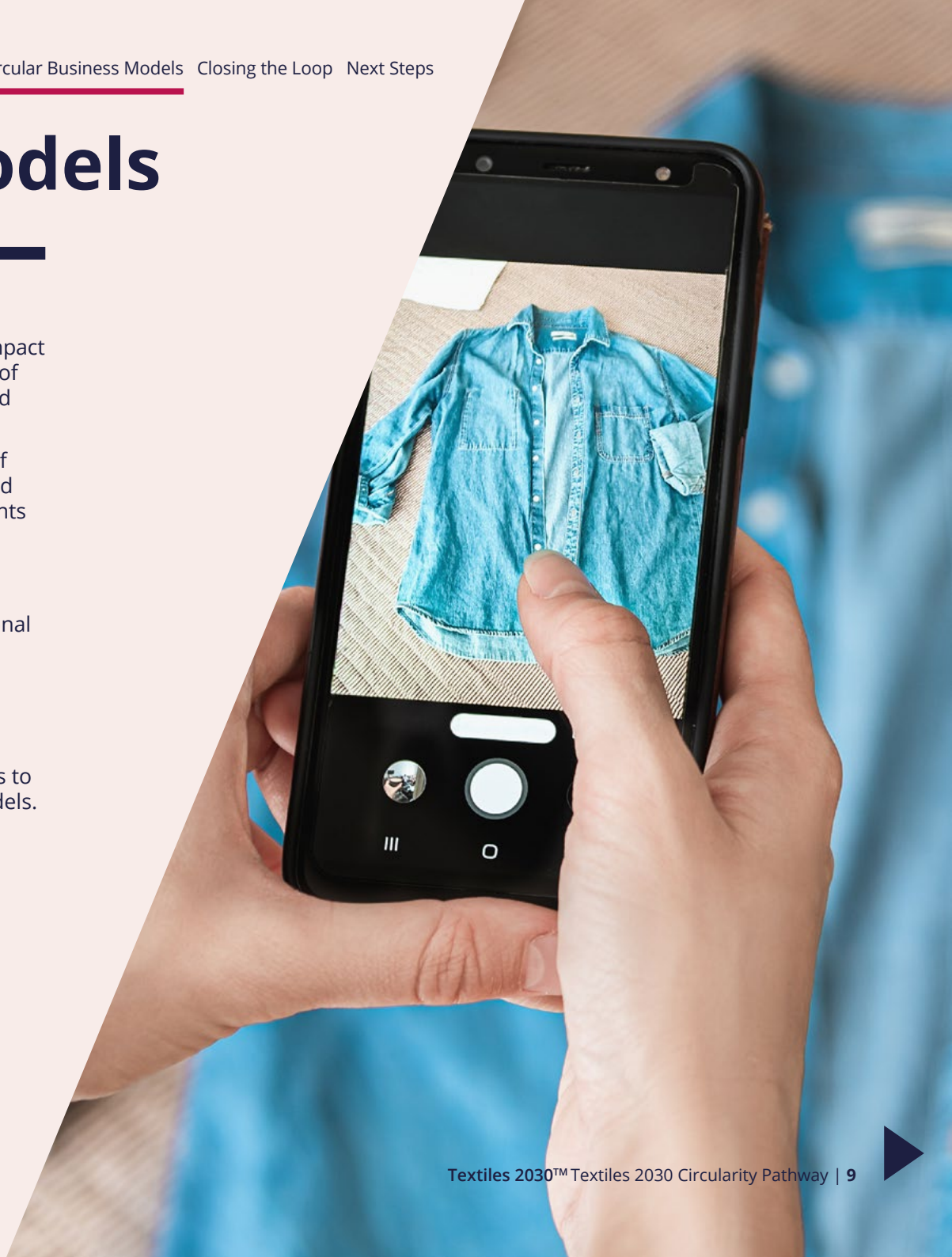
Circular Business Models

Signatories pilot reuse business models as appropriate to their product ranges, share learning, and develop large-scale implementation to extend the lifetime of clothing in the UK – decoupling business growth from the use of virgin resources.

Extending the useful life of textile products is the most effective intervention on environmental impact savings, through displacing sales of new products and their associated primary production impacts.

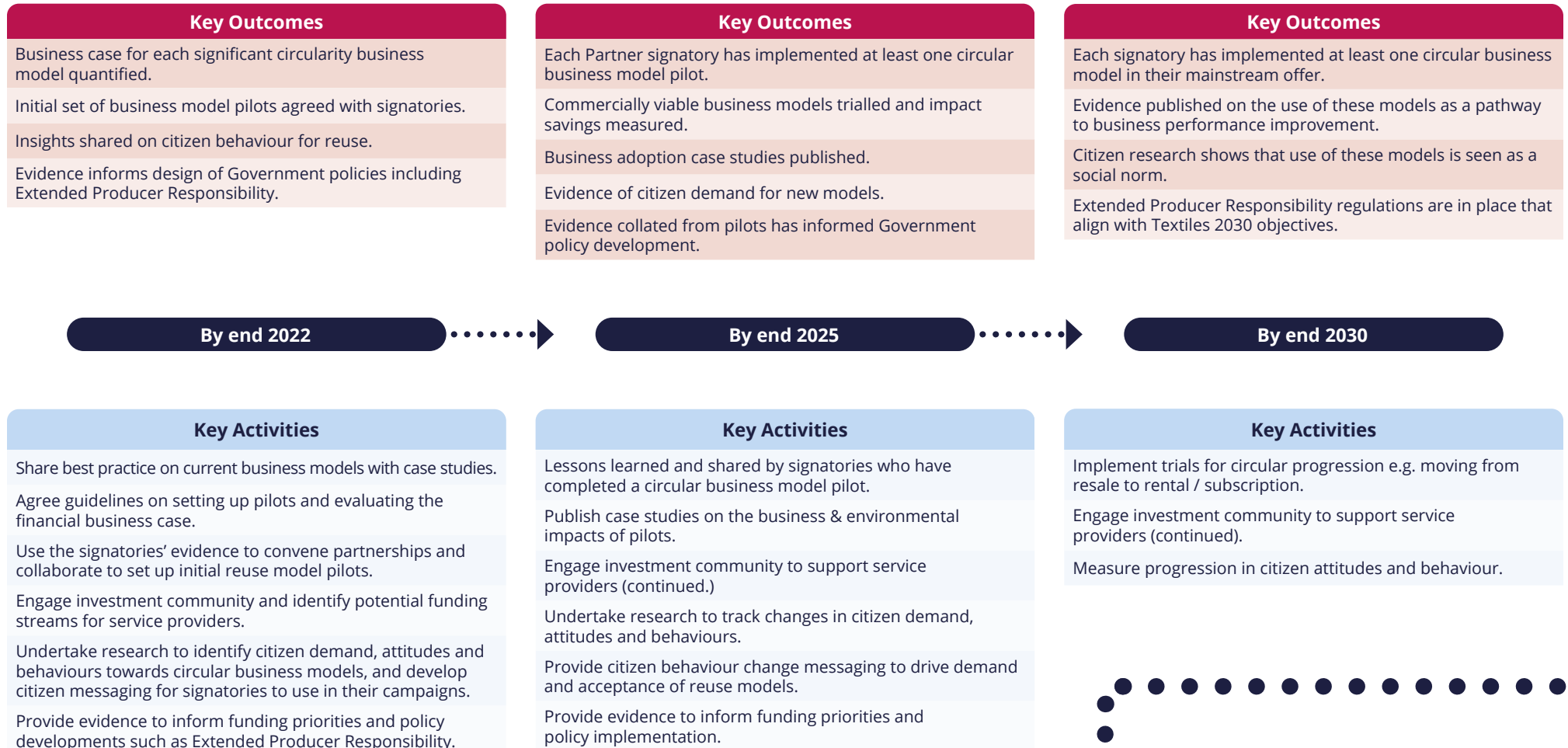
Extending the active life of 50% of UK clothing by nine months would reduce carbon and water footprints by 4-10% each.

On top of this, re-commerce is expected to grow five times over the next five years, whilst traditional retail is expected to shrink. With £30 billion of value sitting idle in UK wardrobes every year, due to clothing under-utilisation, there is a huge opportunity for brands, retailers and re-use organisations to profit from circular business models.



Pathway: Circular Business Models

Version 1 of the pathway provides an initial view of the activities and milestones needed to achieve the Textiles 2030 targets, and will be updated as evidence is collected.



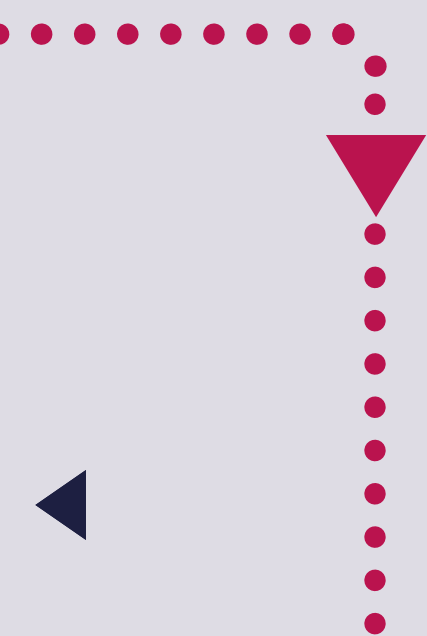
Closing the Loop on Materials

Signatories will work together to set up partnerships to supply and use recycled fibres for new products, accelerating the commercialisation of fibre-to-fibre recycling in the UK.

According to the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 87% of total fibre input used in clothing is eventually incinerated or disposed of in landfill and currently only 1% of material used to produce clothing is recycled back into new clothing.

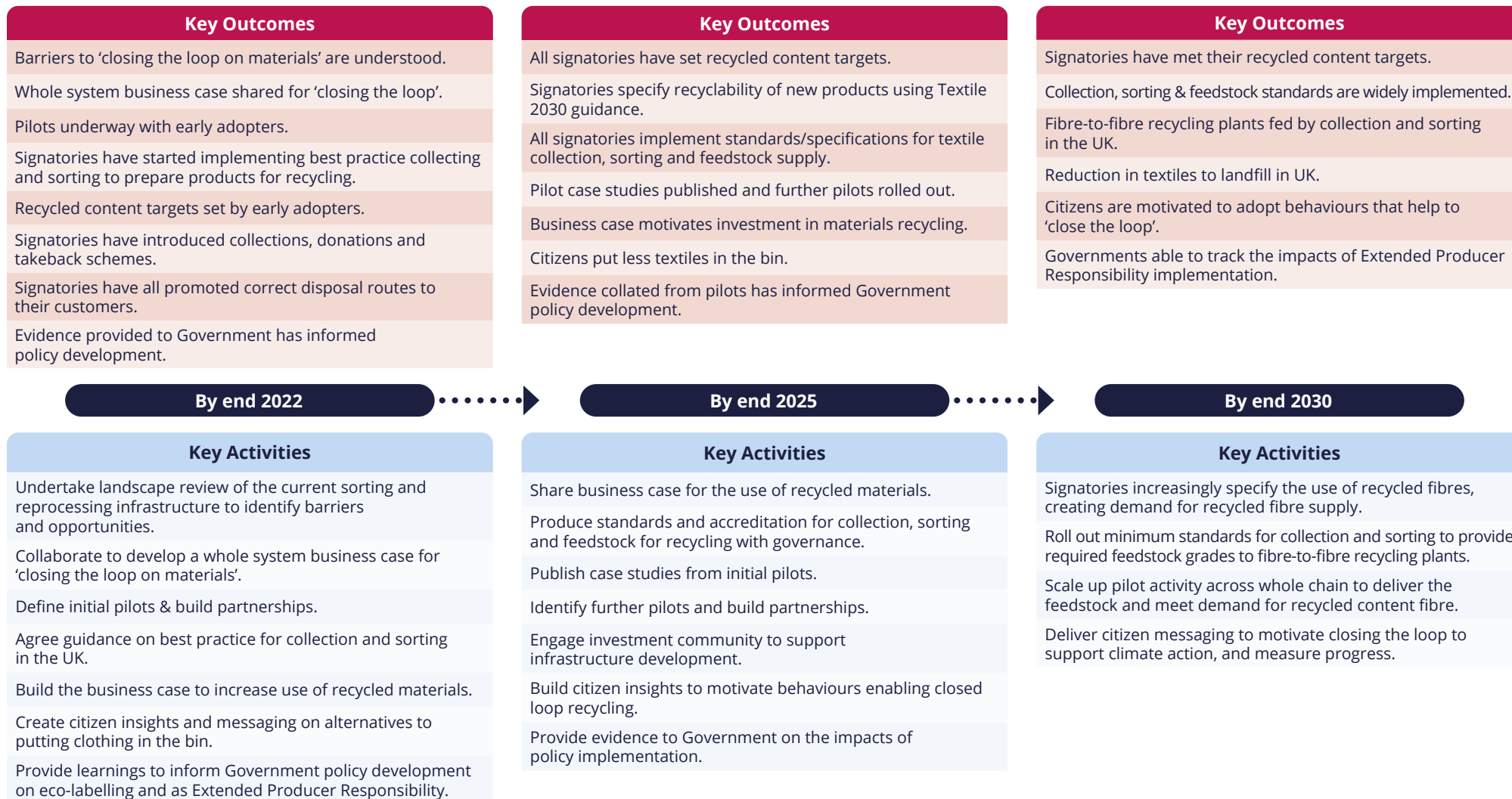
With the raw material phase of a product's lifecycle generating the biggest environmental impacts, and pre and post-consumer textile waste related to UK consumption accounting for 1.7m tonnes to landfill and incineration annually, there is a necessity and an opportunity to increase the use of recycled fibres in new products.

Using recycled fibres displaces the environmental impacts associated with production of virgin raw materials and also diverts textile waste from landfill. By retailers increasing their demand for recycled fibres, this will drive investment into the reuse & recycling sector to build and scale up the infrastructure and innovation needed to support fibre-to-fibre recycling, creating a new opportunity for the UK economy.



Pathway: Closing the Loop on Materials

Version 1 of the pathway provides an initial view of the activities and milestones needed to achieve the Textiles 2030 targets, and will be updated as evidence is collected.



Next steps for Textiles 2030

Following the launch of Textiles 2030 in April 2021, signatories will prioritise and coordinate Roadmap activities through working groups.

Each stakeholder will adopt appropriate targets, embed relevant actions within their organisation, get involved in collaborative activities, and measure progress.

This roadmap is a living document and will be periodically reviewed and adapted to fulfil its purpose.

Join us:

Textiles 2030 is open to all businesses within the fashion and textiles value chain – including retailers, brands, suppliers, recyclers and technology innovators – through a variety of membership options.

It also involves business associations, governments, academia, NGOs and other community and sector organisations.

Joining Textiles 2030 means formally committing to its targets and activities.



To find out how you can get involved and sign up, email:

Textiles2030@wrap.org.uk

[www.wrap.org.uk/
textiles2030](http://www.wrap.org.uk/textiles2030)

Contact us




Textiles 2030 Circularity Pathway

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This Roadmap was developed with oversight from the Textiles 2030 Advisory Group and input from working groups on Circularity and Metrics, convened by WRAP in 2020-2021.

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