

22 February 2024

## OFFICEWORKS EVOLVES ITS 'BRING IT BACK' PROGRAM

Officeworks' Bring it Back recycling program is changing in coming months, as the retailer continues to work towards better recycling outcomes and a circular economy, as set out within its People and Planet Positive Plan.

Officeworks will cease battery collection in store from February 2024 to focus on other streams that are currently not easily recycled including household products and stationery. Officeworks will trial the launch of People and Planet recycling pop-up days through its store network in the coming months where battery recycling options will be available.

Bring it Back launched in 2015 as part of Officeworks' commitment to help transition to a more circular economy and to repair, repurpose and recycle as many products as possible. Since launch, it has collected more than 9,000 tonnes of products, with Officeworks one of the first accredited retailers of B-cycle, Australia's government authorised battery stewardship scheme, which began in 2022.

Customers can continue to use the Bring it Back program to recycle pens and markers, ink and toner cartridges, laptops, computers, tablets and technology accessories. Online trade-in options will remain, with Officeworks gift cards offered for high-value tech products.

Officeworks's Head of ESG and Corporate Affairs, Fiona Lawrie, says: "When Officeworks first launched Bring it Back, we were one of the first to the market with battery recycling, and one of very few locations across the country where Australians could easily recycle their household batteries. Today, there are more than 5,000 convenient drop off points across the country that Australians can use to recycle batteries thanks to B-Cycle."

"Household battery collection has been a small part of our much larger Bring it Back program and with so many additional collection points now available, we're shifting our focus to other more complex recycling challenges."

"With our goal to recycle 17,000 tonnes by 2025, we want to place our efforts where we can make a meaningful difference for our core items that are currently difficult to recycle or don't have a sustainable end or extension-of-life solution. We're excited to evolve the Bring it Back program this year with the trial of People and Planet Positive recycling pop-up days where customers will be able to donate items that aren't easy to re-use or recycle."

People and Planet Positive recycling pop-up days will be trialled in coming months, with further information to be shared with Officeworks customers and its store communities soon.

Batteries will no longer be accepted for everyday recycling at Officeworks from 23 February 2024. The community can visit the B-cycle website ([bcycle.com.au](http://bcycle.com.au)) for other convenient drop-off points.

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## **About Officeworks**

Established in 1994 in Richmond, Victoria, Officeworks is committed to making bigger things happen for its customers, team, the community and stakeholders. It operates 169 stores across Australia, a website that is home to more than 40,000 products, a national call centre, and a business team that helps micro, small and medium-sized businesses start, run and grow and Australians to work, learn, create and connect.

Officeworks offers customers a wide range of office supplies, technology, furniture, art supplies, education resources and helpful services like print & copy and on-site and remote tech support through Geeks2U – delivering an experience that is easy and engaging, no matter how customers choose to shop.

Officeworks is focused on the safety, wellbeing and career progression of the more than 9,000 team members it employs. It's also dedicated to operating in a sustainable manner, including building and maintaining meaningful connections with the communities in which it operates, fundraising for its national partners and local community groups, continuing to reduce its impact on the environment and source responsibly.