

Policy guide for the sustainable use of Pēpi-Pod[®] sleep spaces

Information for informing health policy and practice

Sustainability principles

We must all find ways to do our bit to achieve ambitious net zero carbon goals, in our personal, professional, and organisational lives. Change for our Children promotes the following **three principles** and encourages others to embed these into local policy and practice.

- **Reduce** – order fewer Pēpi-Pod[®] sleep spaces to address the targeted need. This means *tighten criteria* to include smoke-exposed infants especially, and *encourage reuse* and *on-sharing* of resources. Our goal for the programme has always been that >80% of sleep spaces are for *infants at extreme risk* due to the **joint action** of smoking in pregnancy and bedsharing. More and more in NZ, it seems from our ‘A Fragile Change’ report, that sleep spaces may be going to smokefree infants.
- **Re-use and return** – formalise the return of the propylene boxes for reuse with fresh bedding, encourage families to on-share within their networks, and promote returns to your service, or selling on Trade Me. Foster any and all reasonable methods that increase reuse of the container as an infant bed. This reduces waste, magnifies the impact of the health investment and the protection of infants.
- **Re-cycle** – damaged goods can be recycled by the DHB, or, for families, placed in the curbside waste. Then they will be sorted for re-cycling by councils and sold as a raw material for making industrial components and other new items. Pēpi-Pod[®] sleep spaces are made from 100% virgin polypropylene (PP), a recyclable, food-grade polymer.

Links to companion documents published by Change for our Children Limited

1. ‘Why polypropylene?’ explaining the choice of material for the Pēpi-Pod[®] sleep space
2. ‘Designed to protect’ explaining the safety elements of the Pēpi-Pod[®] sleep space.
3. ‘A Fragile Change’ describing implementation of sleep space services in NZ since 2017.