



Department of the
Environment
www.doeni.gov.uk

Environmental Policy Division
6th Floor Goodwood House
44-58 May Street
Town Parks
Belfast
BT1 4NN

Telephone: 028 9025 4851
Fax: 028 9025 6079
Email: Janis.purdy@doeni.gov.uk

Your reference:
Our reference:

Date: 27 November 2015

Dear Consultee

Consultation on changes to the plastic packaging recycling business targets for 2016-17 and new targets for plastic and glass for 2018-20

The Department of the Environment has published the above named consultation paper as part of a UK-wide consultation. We invite you to participate and seek views on proposals to amend the plastic and glass recycling business targets in the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007 (the Regulations).

Consultation Options

The Regulations, and corresponding GB regulations, require producers of packaging to ensure that a proportion of the packaging they handle is recovered and recycled. The proportion they must ensure is recovered and recycled depends on a) the amount of packaging they have handled, b) the activity they have carried out on that packaging e.g. retailing, pack filling etc and c) the Northern Ireland/ GB business targets.

This consultation seeks views on amending the recycling business targets for plastic and glass packaging.

The options for plastic are:

- a) Option P1 – Do not amend the plastic recycling business targets then keep at 57% to 2020.
- b) Option P2 – Amend the existing plastic recycling business target to 48% in 2016 then increase by 1% each year to 2020.
- c) Option P3 – Amend the existing plastic recycling business target to 49% in

2016 then increase by 2% each year to 2020.

Option 3 is the preferred option.

The options for glass are:

Option G1 – Do not amend the glass recycling business target then keep at 77% to 2020.

Option G2 – Do not amend the glass recycling business target then increase by 1% to 2020.

There is no preferred option.

We welcome views from respondents on which options are most desirable and the reasons why. We would also welcome any further evidence and comments on the evidence provided in this consultation especially regarding the data which underpins the targets and impacts on the costs/benefits.

The overarching aim is to have appropriate targets which ensure continued compliance with the EU Packaging Directive targets whilst maximising the benefits for consumers, businesses and the environment.

Consultation process

This consultation paper is presented by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government, the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland, and the Welsh Government. It can be found on the website: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/waste/plasticandglasstargets>

You can also request a hard copy by telephone (02890 254851), by textphone (02890 540642), by fax (02890 256079) or in writing from the above address.

The consultation will start on 26 November 2015. Responses should be received **no later than 23 December 2015**. The consultation has been reduced in order to make a decision by Budget 2016. If you wish to discuss the options in the consultation document and impact assessment please see contact details below.

All responses should be sent by email to packaging@defra.gsi.gov.uk, or by post to
Producer Responsibility
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Area 2B Nobel House
17 Smith Square
London
SW1P 3JR

Respondents in Northern Ireland should also send their response by email to wslpr@doeni.gov.uk, or by post to:

Janis Purdy

Environmental Policy Division
DoENI
6th Floor, Goodwood House
44-58 May Street
BELFAST
BT1 4NN

Please make sure that any email responses are clearly marked '**Plastic and Glass Targets Consultation Responses**'.

In your response, please explain who you are and, where relevant, whom you represent and give your name and appropriate contact details.

Equality screening of the proposals has concluded that they do not impact on equality of opportunity on any of the groups specified in Section 75. The Equality Commission will receive copies of this consultation document as part of this consultation exercise and any comments received from the Commission will be taken into account.

The Human Rights Act 1998 implements the European Convention on Human Rights. The 1998 Act makes it unlawful for any public authority to act in a way that is incompatible with these rights. We believe that the proposals in this consultation document are compatible with the Human Rights Act, but would welcome any views that you might have. The Human Rights Commission will receive copies of this consultation document as part of this consultation exercise and any comments received from the Commission will be taken into account.

Yours faithfully

Janis Purdy

JANIS PURDY