

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO
THE PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY OBLIGATIONS (PACKAGING WASTE) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2012

SR 2012 No. 437

Introduction

This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of the Environment to accompany S.R. 2012 No. 437 which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.

The Statutory Rule is made under Article 3(1) and Article 4(1)(b),(c) and (d) of the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 and is subject to negative resolution procedure.

Purpose

These Regulations are required to set new recovery and recycling targets for packaging waste for a five-year period from 2013 to 2017 (inclusive).

Background

The European Union Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste (94/62/EC) sets overall recovery and recycling targets for packaging waste together with material specific recycling targets for glass, paper, wood, steel, plastic and aluminium. The Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007 implement the requirements of the Directive.

The current targets run until the end of 2012, therefore new targets are required from 1st January 2013 to ensure that we continue to meet the Directive's recovery and recycling rates and negate the risk of infraction through non-compliance.

Consultation

Northern Ireland participated in a UK-wide consultation between 16 December 2011 and 10 February 2012. Seven responses were received from stakeholders in Northern Ireland, all of which were supportive of an increase in the recovery and recycling targets.

Equality Impact

There are no equality issues associated with these Regulations.

Regulatory Impact

An Impact Assessment was carried out by Defra on a UK-wide basis and was attached as an appendix to the consultation document. A copy is available on the DOE website at www.doeni.gov.uk/waste.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with these regulations.

Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

The Statutory Rule complies with the provisions set out in Section 24.

EU Implications

The Statutory Rule implements the EU Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste (94/62/EC) which sets minimum recovery and recycling targets for packaging waste in Member States.

Parity or Replicatory Measures

Amending legislation to introduce the same recovery and recycling targets will be introduced in England, Scotland and Wales, coming into force on 1st January 2013.

Additional Information

Not applicable.