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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2013 No. 4**

The Single Use Carrier Bags Charge  
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

PART 1

Introduction

**Meaning of “single use carrier bag”**

3.—(1) In these Regulations “single use carrier bag” means a bag fitting the description in paragraph (2) or (3).

(2) A bag fits the description in this paragraph if—

- (a) it is made wholly or mainly of paper, plant-based material or natural starch; and
- (b) it is not specifically manufactured for multiple reuse.

(3) A bag fits the description in this paragraph if it is a plastic bag—

- (a) which does not meet all of the specifications in paragraph (4); or
- (b) which meets all of the specifications in paragraph (4) but is not intended for multiple reuse (see paragraph (5)).

(4) The specifications are—

- (a) both the bag’s dimensions are greater than 404 millimetres (“mm”);
- (b) at least one of the bag’s dimensions is greater than 439mm;
- (c) the bag is manufactured from material which is greater than 49 microns in thickness.

(5) A plastic bag is intended for multiple reuse if—

- (a) it is purchased by the customer; and
- (b) when worn out it is returnable to the seller from whom it was purchased to be replaced free of charge.

(6) In this regulation—

“dimensions” means width or height;

“plastic bag” means a bag which is made wholly or mainly of plastic.