

# The European Union Circular Economy Package – Valpak Member Summary Update July 2017

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## Background

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On 2 December 2015 the European Commission released the Circular Economy Package (CEP). The aim of the CEP is to assist the move from a linear economy where resources tend to be used only once, to a more circular economy where products and resources are recaptured and retained within the economy for longer, for example via remanufacturing, reusing and recycling, and waste is minimised.

The CEP included a Circular Economy Action Plan which focused on the full product lifecycle (including for example design and consumption), priority materials, innovation and waste management. As part of the proposals for waste management the CEP included proposed amendments to six waste Directives:

- European Parliament and Council Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste (**Packaging Directive**)
- Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste and repealing certain Directives (**Waste Framework Directive**)
- Council Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste (**Landfill Directive**). The proposed amendments included:
  - ban for separately collected waste to landfill;
  - by 2030 municipal waste sent to landfill to be no more than 10% total municipal waste generated (to be reviewed 2024 with possible reduction)
- Minor proposed amendments relating to reporting to Directive 2000/53/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on end-of-life vehicles (**ELV Directive**), Directive 2012/19/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) (**WEEE Directive**), Directive 2006/66/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators (**Batteries Directive**)

Following the release of the European Commission proposed amendments there follows a period of negotiation. The European Parliament and the Council (Member States) will separately put forward further proposed amendments and the three bodies will then attempt to reach a consensus. These discussions are known as the trilogues.

The European Parliament voted on their agreed amendments to the proposals in March 2017 and the trilogues began at the end of May 2017.

## Current Position

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In early July 2017 Defra held a stakeholder meeting to provide an update on the progress of the trilogues and the positions of the European Parliament and the European Council (outlined in the table below). We expect further developments in the coming months, and understand that it is a priority area for completion under the current Estonian Presidency (July – December 2017). We have requested clarification and further information on a number of points which were raised at the Defra stakeholder meeting and will continue to keep members informed as information becomes available.

If you have any questions please contact us at [info@valpak.co.uk](mailto:info@valpak.co.uk), or by telephone on 03450 682572.

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Topic	Original European Commission proposal		European Council position		European Parliament position	
	2025 prepared for reuse and recycled	2030 prepared for reuse and recycled	2025 reuse and recycling	2030 reuse and recycling	2025 recycling of packaging waste generated	2030 recycling of packaging waste generated
Overall	65%	75%	60%	70%	70%	80%
Plastic	55%	To be reviewed based on progress	Not specified	Not specified	60%	Not specified - assumed to continue 2025 target
Glass	75%	85%	Not specified	75%	80%	90%
Ferrous metal	75%	85%	Not specified	80%	80%	90%
Aluminium	75%	85%	Not specified	50%	80%	90%
Paper and Card	75%	85%	Not specified	80%	90%	Not specified - assumed to continue 2025 target
Wood	60%	75%	Not specified	30%	65%	80%
Reuse	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	Not specified	5% by weight	10% by weight
<b><u>Municipal waste targets</u></b>	<b>2025 prepared for reuse or recycled</b>	<b>2030 prepared for reuse or recycled</b>	<b>2025 recycled</b>	<b>2030 recycled</b>	<b>2025 preparing for re-use and recycling</b>	<b>2030 preparing for re-use and recycling</b>
	60%	65%	55%	60%	60% (3% minimum prepared for reuse)	70% (5% minimum prepared for reuse)
<b><u>Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)</u></b>	<p>New Article 8a introduced to the Waste Framework Directive to outline how Member States should implement EPR. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Full waste management costs</u> to be covered by producers</li> <li>• Defining roles and responsibilities</li> <li>• EPR organisations to <u>make public certain</u></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs to cover certain operations including separate collection, sorting and treatment</li> <li>• Producers to cover “<u>necessary</u>” costs</li> <li>• Fees to be modulated based on the recyclability of the product</li> <li>• As an alternative, producers must cover <u>at least half</u> of the “<u>necessary</u>” costs</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Producers to cover <u>full cost, to meet end-of-life waste management</u></li> <li>• These would be the “<u>optimised</u>” costs</li> <li>• Fees to be modulated based on the recyclability of the product</li> </ul>	

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	<p><u>information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would not apply to voluntary schemes</li> </ul>		
<b><u>Calculation methodology</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes the weight entering the final recycling process or the weight leaving the sorting process (must enter a final recycling process and be less than 10% lost)</li> <li>• Calculations for re-use includes that collected by a “recognised re-use operator” or recovered material that is ready for re-use; or a deposit refund scheme</li> <li>• Would include metals recovered from incinerator bottom ash</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposing <u>either</u> input into final recycling process <u>or</u> output from sorting process where no further sorting is required as a derogation</li> <li>• Includes metal only from incinerator bottom ash</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of “final recycling process” amended to reflect no further sorting operation required</li> <li>• Includes metal from incinerator bottom ash</li> <li>• Collected by a “recognised preparation for re-use operator”</li> </ul>
<b><u>Legal Base – Packaging Directive</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Article 114 (internal market) - no change proposed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed to amend to Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Article 192 (environment)</li> <li>• Could lead to different packaging requirements in different countries</li> </ul> <p><b><u>NB: Could have significant impacts for packaging and products distributed to more than one country</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, Article 114 (internal market) - no change proposed</li> </ul>
<b><u>Landfill Directive</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2030 municipal waste sent to landfill to be reduced to 10% total municipal waste generated (to be reviewed 2024 with possible reduction)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2030 municipal waste sent to landfill be 10% or less than total waste generated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By 2030 municipal waste sent to landfill to be reduced to 5% total municipal waste generated</li> </ul>