Valpak
a Reconomy Group company

Packaging legislation - a guide to compliance



E-guide overview.

We understand that growing and protecting your brand is critical for commercial success.

If your company places certain products on the market in the UK you may be obligated under specific producer responsibility legislation. This means you must take responsibility for the end-of-life waste management of certain products.

Uncertainty about these obligations, the burden of compliance, failure to comply and subsequent consequences of non-compliance can all have negative impacts on your business.

To help you understand your obligations, we have produced this e-guide which outlines the producer responsibility legislation for packaging waste that may impact on your business.

This guide contains helpful information about this legislation, including how to work out if you are obligated, the steps your company will need to take to comply, and importantly what you need to do.



Producer responsibility legislation.

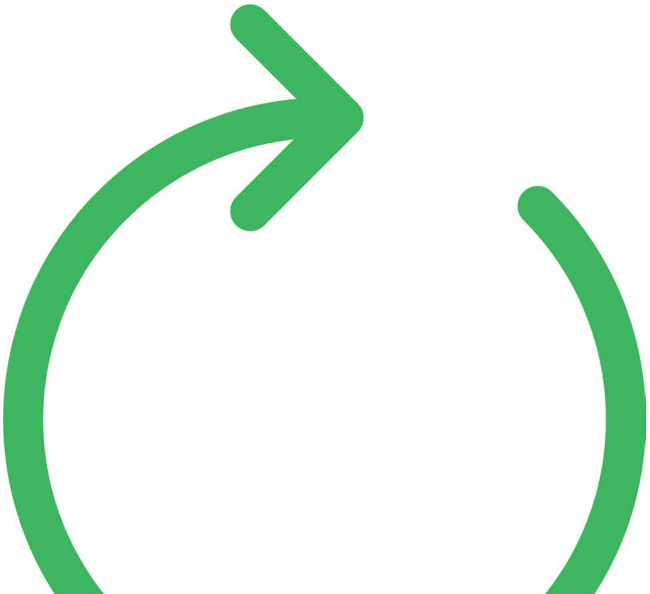
If your company places certain products on the market in the UK you may be obligated under specific producer responsibility legislation.



Producer responsibility means you must take responsibility for the end-of- life waste management of certain products.

Three key areas of producer responsibility that may affect your business include the Packaging Waste, Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and Waste Batteries Directives.

The Packaging Waste Regulations were introduced in 1997 with the aim of reducing the amount of packaging waste going to landfill.



Packaging waste regulations.

Your company or group may be required to contribute towards the cost of recovery and recycling of the packaging you own, manufacture, fill, supply, import or handle.

You are obligated if you own and manufacture, fill, supply, import or handle more than 50 tonnes of packaging or packaging material, and have an annual UK turnover of over £2 million.

Examples include supplying packaging around products to customers, such as toys, clothes, groceries or B2B products.

You may also be obligated if you apply packaging to goods, such as filling bottles, boxes or packing goods into carrier bags for customers.

If your company is operating in England, Wales or Scotland you are obligated under the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 2007.

There are specific Regulations in place for Northern Ireland.

The Producer Responsibility Regulations are a separate requirement to waste management or disposal of packaging waste. Even if you already recycle your own waste, you still need to ensure you are registered under the Producer Responsibility Regulations.





Packaging compliance.

To ensure your company is compliant you will need to register with the environment agency, complete annual data submissions, purchase recycling evidence notes (PRNs) and provide recycling information to your customers.



1. Join a Producer Compliance Scheme (PCS).
2. Complete an annual data submission detailing the amount and type of packaging your company has handled.
3. Calculate the number of tonnes of packaging waste your company must pay for.
4. Purchase your recycling evidence (PRNs) to meet this obligation.
5. Submit your evidence to the relevant environment agency.
6. Provide recycling information to consumers (if you supply packaging to end users).

Non compliance.

Risks of non-compliance include prosecution, heavy fines, negative PR and damage to your brand reputation.

Respective environment agencies are responsible for enforcing environmental regulations across the UK.

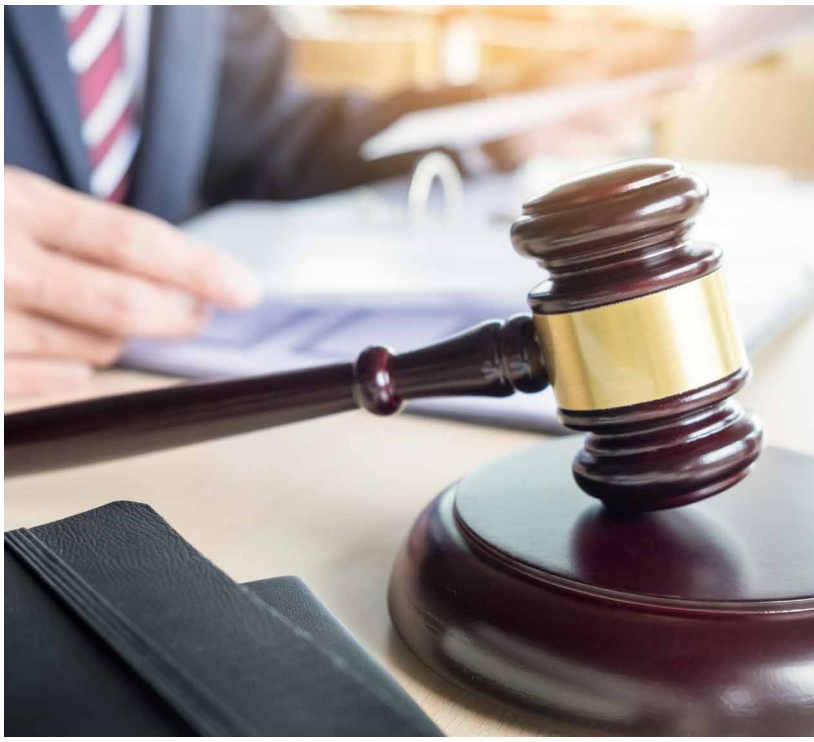
If your company is not compliant these agencies can take enforcement action which ranges from official warnings, through to prosecutions with the potential for significant fines.

Additional risks include adverse PR, brand and reputational damage, negative impacts on your staff, customers, shareholders, and ultimately your profit.

If you think your company was obligated in previous years but has not complied you could still be subject to legal action.

To avoid this your company can submit an enforcement undertaking to the appropriate environment agency.

This should detail what steps you have taken to become compliant and specify an offer of compensation to a suitable environmental project.



How we can help.

We can eliminate the administrative and resource-intensive burden of complying with environmental legislation.

We offer free advice including webinars, seminars and one-to-one support sessions.

If you join our compliance scheme we can manage all of your environmental compliance obligations, allowing you to focus on other business priorities.

We will register your company with the appropriate environment agency, submit your data, calculate your obligation and purchase PRNs on your behalf.

We also offer a tailored data management service to ease your burden of submitting data.

If you think your company was obligated in previous years but has not complied, we can help you address any missed compliance years.

Further benefits of joining our scheme include access to our team of over 15 technical experts who are there to help and guide you through the Regulations.

Being a member will also allow you to link to our consumer facing website www.recycle-more.co.uk. This provides recycling information to consumers and a recycling bank locator.

97% of Valpak customers are satisfied with the service they receive from Valpak.

Reported benefits of using Valpak include...

"Time saving and leveraging Valpak knowledge."

Johnson & Johnson

"Valpak's greatest asset is their people, who pay consistent attention to customer service."

Euro Garages

"Time saving is significant - we can't imagine doing all this without Valpak."

Reckitt Benckiser

"Gaining valuable and exacting information relevant to our business."

BURT'S BEES

"Saving a considerable amount of time and resources in dealing with our packaging waste obligations."

"Saving time and staff resources."

bodycare

Valpak's Compliance team is made up of over 15 technical experts who can ensure your business meets its obligations.

Lucy Cox - Compliance Manager
Ross More - Commercial Account Manager
Sonia Moir - Senior Technical Advisor
Jane McAllister - Technical Trainer

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For help and advice please contact us.

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