

The Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging and Packaging Waste) Regulations 2024

Regulatory Position Statement

October 2026

Title: Compliance with the packaging producer recycling obligations in 2026

This regulatory position statement (RPS) does not change your legal requirement to

1. Register, if required, as a large producer in line with the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging and Packaging Waste) Regulations 2024 (the Packaging regulations).
2. Report packaging data in line with the Packaging regulations.
3. Make all reasonable attempts to comply with your recycling obligations.

However, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency will not normally take enforcement action against you if you do not comply with the recycling obligations set out in Schedule 5 of the Packaging regulations as long as you meet the conditions set out in this RPS.

Activity this RPS applies to

This RPS applies to large producers and compliance schemes which are required to meet the producer responsibility recycling obligations in the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging and Packaging Waste) 2024 in 2026.

Conditions you must comply with

Your statutory recycling obligations for the 2026 compliance year are set out in Schedule 5 of the Regulations.



You must achieve your full statutory recycling obligations for aluminium, glass and paper.

For plastic, steel and wood you must achieve a minimum of

83% of your statutory recycling obligation for plastic

92% of your statutory recycling obligation for steel

90% of your statutory recycling obligation for wood

Keep records for five years from the date of the last use of the RPS to show that you have complied with this RPS and make these records available to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency on request.

Things to note

The Northern Ireland Environment Agency will continue to monitor compliance with the achievement of targets.

If you do not meet the recycling obligations as set out in the Packaging regulations, your Certificate of Compliance (CoC) issued at the end of the compliance year will record non-compliance with the statutory recycling obligations, even if you comply with the conditions in this RPS.

When you must check back

This RPS will expire on 31 January 2027 and will only apply to the 2026 compliance year.

The Northern Ireland Environment Agency can withdraw or amend this regulatory position before this date if they consider it necessary. This includes where the activity that this RPS relates to have not changed.

You will need to check back from time to time, including at and before the expiry date, to see if this RPS still applies.

This RPS remains in force until it is removed from the DAERA website or identified as having been withdrawn.



An Agency within the Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Gníomhaireacht de chuid na Roinne
**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

An Agency wí'n the Depairtment o
**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE®
We invest in people Standard

If you cannot comply with this RPS

If you cannot comply with the RPS, you must

- Tell the Northern Ireland Environment Agency immediately by contacting packaging@DAERA-ni.gov.uk.

Queries

If you have any questions about this RPS please email packaging@DAERA-ni.gov.uk



An Agency within the Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Gníomhaireacht de chuid na Roinne
**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

An Agency wí'ín the Depairtment o
**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE
We invest in people Standard