

THE SUSTAINABLE INSIDER

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www.wastecare.co.uk



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Chairman's Message

I am delighted to show off the first of our new newsletter series. As always, we try to have a fresh and transparent approach to helping our customers and clients navigate the complexities of waste management regulations, learn about some of the innovations from within the sector, and hopefully provide ways in which to recover more value from waste. At the same time, we are happy to share our views on the challenges and opportunities that we see in our industry.



In this edition, we discuss the upcoming launch of our new battery collection and recycling initiative Battrecycle, our experience exhibiting at the recent RWM Exhibition, and the success of our partnership with Podback to rollout coffee pod collections nationwide.

We also have a dedicated section for producers of packaging, batteries and/or EEE. Faced with yet more bureaucracy under the forthcoming Extended Producer Regulations, and the new de facto EEE category for vapes, it is more important than ever that we assist our producer compliance members to avoid the pitfalls and control their costs. The latest EPR deadline delay for data submission for larger packaging producers does not reduce the extra burden, nor the disproportionate complexity, that producers are facing.

In addition, it is now clear that the Government is beginning to slow time on a number of environmental initiatives as the next election looms, not least the EPR and revised battery and WEEE regulations. I can only say to both producers of waste and the Waste Management sector, let us use this time effectively to invest in new ways to reduce, reuse, recycle and recover all forms of waste.

Waste is only a dirty word if we don't do the right thing with it. At Wastecare we see waste as a by-product of what businesses and organisations are doing or creating. Throw it away and you are incurring increasing costs. Throw it in our direction, and we will endeavour to reduce the volume of waste you generate, or return value for the recyclate we can recover - while making every effort to eliminate landfill and the export of waste.

I hope you enjoy the new iteration of our newsletter, and any feedback is always welcomed.

Peter



"Wastecare is always extremely proud to participate in the RWM, as it provides a collaborative platform for the waste management industry to come together and exchange ideas" – Matt Stoneman, Wastecare Group Sales Director

Record Attendance, Waste Management Solutions, and the Silver Lady: Wastecare's Roundup of this Year's RWM Expo

The Wastecare team recently exhibited at the Resource and Waste Management Expo at the NEC – and it did not disappoint! As one of the key sponsors of the event, with our logo gracing the entranceways and lanyards, and our famous Silver Lady Bus standing proudly on our stand – we were hard to miss.

There was a tangible buzz about this year's event, with the exhibition taking on a new format under the ESS umbrella, hosting all the major players in recycling,



waste management, energy, decarbonisation, contamination and flood management. This meant two days of non-stop delegate footfall and meetups with new and familiar faces across the sustainability sector – including an impromptu photoshoot with the Wombles to top it all off.

Aside from the reunions and the laughter, it didn't go amiss the importance of these exhibitions and showcasing our commitment as a company to the sector. We pride ourselves on our honesty and transparency within Wastecare, and spending time with individuals in both the commercial and industrial sectors only motivates us further to provide them with the highest standards of reuse, recovery, and recycling.

Valuable catchups

The Wastecare team were thrilled to be inundated with visits from our respected and long-standing peers and customers within the industry, as we know the value of face-to-face catchups with those we work with daily to strengthen our relationships. Not only was it a great opportunity to reconnect, but there were a multitude of new faces stopping by, keen to gain some insight on the spectrum of recycling solutions we have on offer and what it's like to work with Wastecare.

"Wastecare is always extremely proud to participate in the RWM as it provides a collaborative platform for the waste management industry to come together and exchange ideas. We firmly believe that by engaging with both current and potential customers, we can gain deeper insights into their specific requirements and

develop tailored solutions that address their environmental goals, cost efficiencies, and operational effectiveness" commented Wastecare's Sales Director Matt Stoneman on the exhibition.

"We remain committed to collaborating with industry stakeholders, supporting sustainable practices, and delivering cutting-edge waste management solutions to our existing and potential customers. By actively engaging with customers through events such as these, the company continues to solidify its position within the ecosystem as a trusted partner for innovative waste management strategies across the UK."



Battery fires and packaging EPR

Battery fires and disposable vapes were unsurprisingly a common topic of conversation, with growing concerns from local authorities on how to handle the significant increase in landfill fires. As one of the leading battery collection providers across the country, with extended vape collection solutions also on the horizon, discussing viable solutions

to these issues was commonplace over the two days.

Our producer compliance team also met with current and prospective



scheme members, to discuss the series of upcoming regulation changes for battery and packaging, as well as the DRS. Catchups also covered the packaging EPR – a well-documented regulation in the UK media currently, with reporting deadlines delayed until May next year – with the team providing advice and guidance to clients on how they can support them with this change.

Our key takeaways

So after another successful year at the exhibition, we are yet again reminded of the importance of collaboration within the waste and recycling sector. Transparent and honest conversations about the waste management industry's challenges are what we pride ourselves on, and we thoroughly enjoyed sharing with delegates how we're innovating our approaches



to ensure simple and cost-effective solutions remain at the forefront of our service.

If you met with us at RWM, we thank you for dropping by and look forward to catching up soon. If you couldn't make it to this year's exhibition, Peter and the team would welcome you to **get in touch**.

Wastecare Group successfully passes Stage 1 audit of ISO 45001 Certification

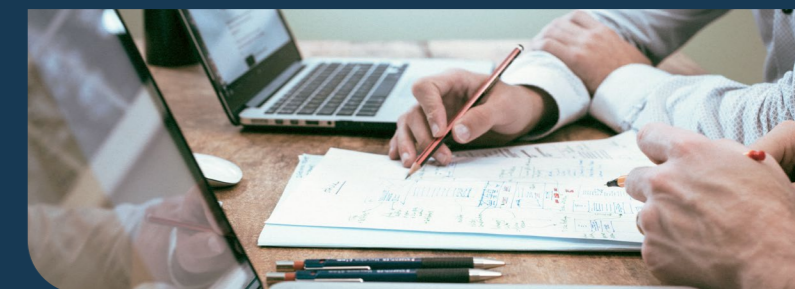
We are pleased to announce that Wastecare have successfully completed the Stage 1 audit for the ISO 45001 certification.

This achievement underscores the company's unwavering commitment to maintaining the highest standards in occupational health and safety management systems.

ISO 45001 is an internationally recognised standard that sets out requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining, and continually improving an occupational health and safety management system. This standard places paramount importance on ensuring a safe and secure work environment for employees, contractors, and all stakeholders associated with an organisation's operations.

The Stage 1 audit is a critical milestone, involving a comprehensive assessment of the company's practices in line with the ISO 45001 standard's requirements. The benefits for companies such as Wastecare moving onto Stage 2 of implementing the system, and gaining the certificate, include:

- » Ensuring an organisation's reputation as a safe place to work is promoted
- » Improving its ability to respond to regulatory compliance issues
- » Reducing the overall costs of incidents
- » Reducing downtime and the costs of disruption to operations
- » Reducing the cost of insurance premiums
- » Reducing absenteeism and employee turnover rates



- » Recognition for having achieved an international benchmark

"We are thrilled to have passed Stage 1 of the ISO 45001 certification process," said Helen Kellett, Head of Quality & Environmental at Wastecare Group.

"This achievement validates our ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety and welfare of our employees, customers, and the communities we serve. We firmly believe that a strong occupational health and safety management system is not only a regulatory requirement but also a cornerstone of our company values."

Wastecare Group is now looking ahead to the Stage 2 audit, scheduled for January 2024 across their sites nationwide. Successful completion of this stage will result in the award of ISO 45001 certification, reinforcing Wastecare's position as an industry leader in safety and responsible business practices.

Introducing Battrecycle - The new recycling initiative to triple battery collection volumes across the UK

A new nationwide partnership to increase battery collections and recycling across the UK is due to be launched imminently. A free service funded by battery compliance schemes, the campaign's objectives are to improve the visibility and accessibility of battery recycling, and to motivate UK consumers to incorporate it into their everyday routines.

With over 30,000 collection points already available across the UK, Battrecycle collection points are due to expand in partnership with other supermarkets, retailers, local authorities and schools. As a result of increased battery deposits at these collection points, consumers will be actively contributing to the funding of local community projects as a part of the initiative.

Positively charged for the planet!

Recycle your old and used batteries in the #BigYellowBatteryBin



Key campaign drivers

Research estimates that fewer than 15% of portable batteries on the market are currently being collected, meaning as a country we need to increase the number of batteries collected by over 300% in the next 4 years to reach the 45% recycling target. Not only is this imperative to reduce landfill fires and the impact on the natural environment, but it also poses a risk to battery producers with the cost of battery compliance likely to increase significantly by 2025.

In order to reach these recycling targets, it is imperative to harness the sheer number of consumers passing through supermarkets, shops, and places of work. Research undertaken by Material Focus and research commissioned by Battrecycle, cited that consumers *want* to do the right thing, but barriers included:

- » No consistent messaging around the issues of battery disposal and recycling
- » Although broadly aware batteries should be recycled, they are unclear as to how, why, or where to do it
- » Unable to find battery recycling points in the supermarkets, or the bins not clearly identifiable as being for battery recycling



Dead batteries? Dead simple.

± Battrecycle

These findings were the driving force behind evolving a cost-effective solution for battery recycling. With an aim to triple the number of collection points to over 100,000 over the next couple of years, the following objectives were set:

- » To create a National Independent Battery recycling scheme so shoppers feel that are part of making a bigger difference
- » Recycling bin designs altered so it is obvious what they are for, and stand out from other in-store branding
- » Bins placed at the front of stores – a small adjustment that could increase awareness by up to 60%

About Battrecycle

Battrecycle will be a National Partnership open to all Battery Compliance Schemes and their members, launching with over 30,000 collection points and counting. Supported by a nationwide digital marketing campaign to educate and raise awareness of battery recycling, the #BigYellowBatteryBin will provide clearly identifiable collection points for consumers to deposit their dead batteries.

To increase accessibility and ease of use, the Battrecycle online collection point locator will enable consumers to identify their closest Battrecycle bin. In addition, local authorities, schools, and other retailers can also become a Battrecycle collection point, with free collections of their batteries to increase recycling in their area.

Supporting local community projects

In addition to increasing battery recycling, Battrecycle will be committed to supporting local communities. For every battery recycled, Battrecycle will fund community projects designed to educate on and increase local access to the environment. In time, Battrecycle users will be able to assign which local community project they would like to 'contribute' their dead batteries to, and follow the progress and success stories of these projects on Battrecycle's social media channels and website.

Be a part of the Battrecycle Campaign

Interested in becoming a Battrecycle collection point? **Simply email the team here** to get your Battrecycle buckets and media pack.

If you are a battery compliance scheme or battery producer and would like to join the Battrecycle partnership, **please contact the team here**.

To keep up to date with the Battrecycle launch and initial community projects being supported, follow on Instagram or Twitter @battrecycle.

Wastecare and Podback partner up with Morrisons to roll out coffee pod recycling scheme

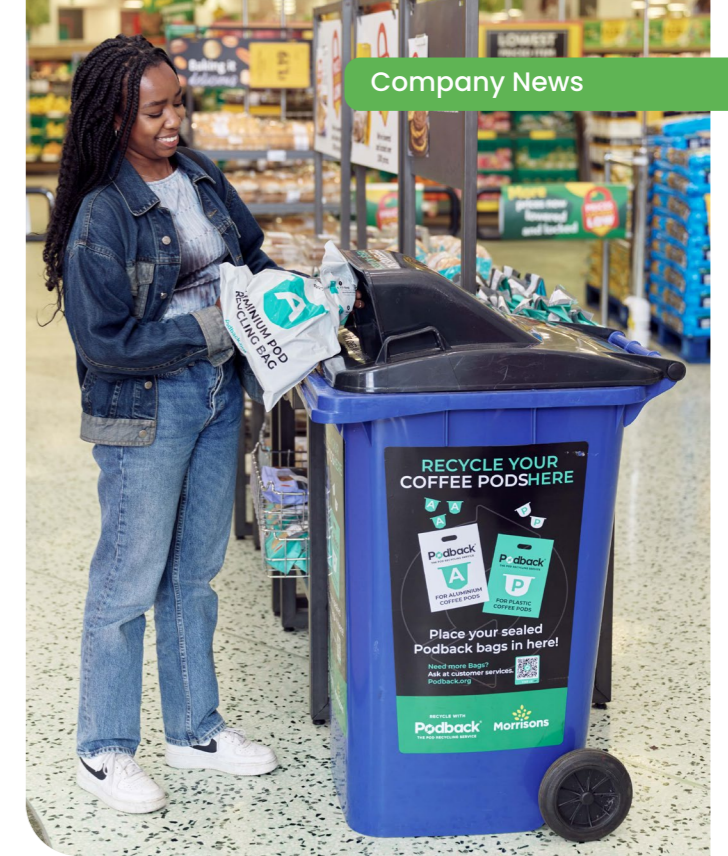
Wastecare have partnered up with Podback on their latest initiative to increase the recycling of coffee pods, with a positive initial trial across 29 Morrison's stores.

Launched in July, this new initiative was initially trialled in 29 stores and is already seeing huge success. These collection points allow customers to collect their Podback recycling bags, fill with their used coffee pods, and recycle in a dedicated bin located at the front of the stores. Wastecare will then be responsible for the frequent collection of these pods.

The scheme offers the opportunity for coffee pod recycling across 24 pod brands, including a partnership with Morrisons to include their own-brand version. In order to differentiate between different types of pods to ensure they are recycled appropriately, there will be colour-coded bags for either aluminium or plastic pods – which are then separated and sent to different recycling processing plants in the UK.

Natasha Cook, sustainable packaging and plastics manager at Morrisons, said:

"We're excited to be launching this trial with Podback as we look to make it even easier for our customers who want to brew fresh coffee at home to recycle their used coffee pods. Now they can grab a Podback bag, fill



it at home and simply drop it off on their next store trip."

The success of the initiative so far has been very encouraging, and we are proud to be adding yet another key waste stream to our recycling collection services. Once collected, these pods are then distributed to specialist recycling centres to transform them into new products, such as beverage cans from the aluminium pods, and building materials from the plastic pods.

[View original press coverage >>](#)

Wastecare's fleet vehicles get some livery TLC

The Wastecare fleet are undergoing a makeover with new wraps and curtain livery!

If you're a long-term customer or partner, you'll know the Wastecare brand has undergone a facelift over the past couple of years. To ensure our nationwide fleet are reflecting this, our recognisable logo and company mission are now hard to miss.

A big thank you to Rob Sharpe and the team at our Normanton site for their hardwork in carrying out this arduous task!

If you spot a Wastecare vehicle in situ, or would like to thank a driver collecting from your site - we would love to know! Find us on Twitter @WasteCare, or on LinkedIn @Wastecare Group.

For any queries regarding Wastecare marketing, please get in touch at marketing@wastecare.co.uk





Extended deadline: EPR data submission for packaging producers

The EA have extended the deadline for EPR data submission for large packaging producers until May 2024.

The Environment Agency have recently published a Regulatory Position Statement (RPS) which allows large packaging producers more time to submit their 2023 data which will be used to calculate Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) payments. Read the full RPS [here](#).

What does this mean for producers?

Producers have effectively been given more time to report their 2023 EPR packaging data.

Although the legal reporting deadlines set in the EPR data reporting Regulations haven't changed, the publication of the RPS means that the Environment Agency will not take enforcement action against large producers if they do not comply with the legal requirements set in the Regulations (H1 2023 data due by the 1st of October 2023, and H2 2023 data due by the 1st of April 2024).

To remain compliant, producers are now required to submit their H1 and H2 2023 data returns by the 31st of May 2024 at the latest.

We strongly encourage our packaging scheme members to submit their January to June 2023 EPR data to us as per the initial deadline we communicated. This is important for several reasons:

- » Under EPR, packaging data reporting is more granular and complex. If producers submit an example of their data in October, it will enable our scheme a chance to review it, suggest

improvements and improve our own data quality assurance process.

- » Defra requires robust data from producers to refine their calculations of the waste management cost, i.e. the estimated £1.4 billion of local authorities' packaging waste collection and disposal cost transferred to producers under EPR Regulations.
- » Under the existing Packaging Regulations producers will need to report their 2023 in April 2024. Waiting until next year to report the two EPR returns for 2023 data means that producers would have to submit three returns in quick succession.

Does the RPS affect producers' enrolment on RPD?

The RPS does not affect the enrolment process. Obligated packaging producers are still required to enrol for EPR on the new government online portal RPD (Report Packaging Data) which can be accessed [here](#).

When you enrol on the RPD portal you will be asked to confirm which packaging compliance scheme you want to work with - **Packcare** is the scheme operated by Wastecare compliance. After a successful enrolment, you will receive a confirmation email containing your Organisation ID reference number.

You must provide us with this Organisation ID as we will need it to submit your EPR packaging data to the Environment Agency.

Support with your data reporting

Please do not hesitate to contact our team for more information and support with your EPR data reporting: packaging.compliance@wastecare.co.uk or call 0330 331 1801.

Wastecare Compliance 2024 membership and evidence fees now live

Our 2024 membership and evidence fees are now live on our website.

At Wastecare, we pride ourselves on being upfront and transparent with our fees so that you can forecast your costs. We can also guarantee our WEEE and battery evidence fees over the entire compliance year, as we generate our members' evidence ourselves. View our respective WEEE, Battery, and Packaging 2024 fees [here](#):

[WEEE >>](#)

[Batteries >>](#)

[Packaging >>](#)

If you have any questions, please reach out to your account manager or call 0330 331 1801.



Update to EEE Cat 1 guidance: upholstered domestic seating

The Environment Agency have recently updated the EEE scope guidance held on gov.uk.

Any upholstered domestic seating which are electrical, such as electrical recliner chairs, are now considered out of scope of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Regulations 2013 (as amended).

Reference to recliner chairs has been removed from Category 1 on the above guidance page. At present, commercial seating remains in scope. This position may be reviewed in future.

For more information on why this change has been made, and what this means for Cat 1 WEEE Producers, [click here](#).

Environment Agency reports encouraging WEEE recycling volumes

Reviewing the latest report, the Wastecare Compliance Team has described recent WEEE recycling volumes as 'encouraging', and on course to meet national targets for the first time in six years.

Late August saw the release of UK WEEE data for Quarter 2 from the Environment Agency, in which a total of 118,952 tonnes of household WEEE had been collected nationwide.

Clément Gaubert, Wastecare's Producer Compliance Director, said "As a part of the Wastecare Group, we have been witnessing increasing numbers of household WEEE products undergoing recycling and reuse. We were pleased to see a 2% increase in volume compared to Q2 2022, confirming the encouraging volume seen in Q1 (120,505 tonnes)"

"If we look closely at the data, almost a quarter of the volume collected came from high street retailers – This is a lower number than Q1 2023 and 2022 and slightly disappointing considering the information campaign OPSS launched earlier in the year to remind retailers of their takeback obligations."

If collection volumes maintain this trend for the rest of the year, Mr Gaubert is confident **"national collection targets could be met for the first time in six years."**

Producer Compliance Calendar: Upcoming Dates

» 15th October

Q3 Battery & WEEE Data Submission Due
Please contact our battery team [here](#) or our WEEE team [here](#) if you have any questions.

» 22nd October

Q3 EA Packaging Recycling Data Released

» 31st October

Battery Compliance Scheme Registration Deadline

Please contact our battery compliance team [here](#) if you have any questions.

» 30th November

WEEE Compliance Scheme Registration Deadline
Please contact our WEEE compliance team [here](#) if you have any questions.



Overall household WEEE volume reported in the first 6 months of this year is tracking over the annual collection target of 471,942 tonnes – a target Defra increased by 1% compared to the amount of WEEE collected in 2022.

Defra WEEE Reform

A Defra consultation on the reform of the WEEE system will be published in the coming months, which will include proposals to drive up the collection of household and non-household WEEE, new obligations for retailers and online marketplaces, and how national collection targets are set in the future to ensure they reflect consumer trends and changes in the electrical products lifecycle.

Once this consultation is released, Wastecare Compliance will be hosting a webinar series to summarise its content and discuss its implications on compliance scheme members and the wider WEEE industry.

Addressing the spike in UK battery fires: Why has the public taken two steps back in recycling efforts?

In recent years, the United Kingdom has witnessed a concerning increase in battery fires, posing significant risks to public safety and the environment.

This increase has now accelerated sharply, with local authorities across the UK now reporting battery-related fires at their recycling centres and waste facilities on an almost daily basis. These fires not only endanger workers but also release toxic fumes into the atmosphere contributing to hazardous air pollution. Additionally, the financial burden of extinguishing these fires and addressing their aftermath falls on local communities and taxpayers.

Can we pinpoint the issue?

As a provider of recycling solutions, this dramatic increase in battery fires combined with increased media coverage has become a pressing discussion within Wastecare. We know recycling accessibility is not a barrier, with us as a company alone providing over 30,000 battery collection points nationwide. *Therefore, we know that it's not because the means to recycle batteries aren't there - the British public simply doesn't feel incentivised to carry it out.*

With millions of portable batteries on the UK market, analysing the attitudes towards batteries themselves may expose the root of the problem. Batteries are an easy commodity to come by in your local supermarket or electronics retailer, with a range of price points making them accessible to a majority. In regards to the disposal of these, statistics show that the average person in the UK will throw away 10 portable batteries a year. Our assumption, therefore, is that if one individual is throwing less than one portable battery away a month it may not feel like a pressing issue to recycle them - due to the infrequent habit of having to do it. **However, the cumulative impact of this action on a yearly basis equates to over 600 million batteries.**

What's more, the knock-on effect of low recycling volumes continues to impact the battery producers themselves. With revised battery regulations expected in 2024/25, if the current levels of recycling are maintained the UK is unlikely to meet its battery recycling targets - significantly impacting obligations costs for compliant producers.

So how can we influence public behaviour?

Motivating a habit change - Consumer-facing businesses manufacturing or distributing portable batteries have a responsibility to provide incentives to recycle them. Point-of-sale call-to-actions are often relied upon to remind consumers to recycle, however, the ability to provide further education via digital



platforms should not be overlooked. Campaigns such as Material Focus' 'Hypnocat', are brilliant examples of using positive and engaging social media messaging to emphasise the dangers of not recycling WEEE. With large platforms with a high reach across the UK, major retailers have a responsibility to use these social platforms to provide education on recycling initiatives and support their consumers on how and where they can access collection points.

Looking within the workplace - Although digital campaigns have a place and can have significant reach, the power of education drives within the workplace shouldn't be underestimated. With companies and offices nationwide containing hundreds of thousands of portable battery consumers - implementing internal communications on recycling along with convenient collection solutions within local areas can be a valuable addition to aiding consumer consciousness. This can have a two-fold impact - managing the usage of WEEE products using portable batteries in the workplace, whilst encouraging employees to utilise collection points to recycle their own household batteries.

Local authorities reporting fires - The unfortunate inevitability is that battery-related fires are unlikely to slow down until recycling rates rise significantly. By reporting fires occurring in local authorities' recycling facilities and waste centres, this key trend data is key to getting public attention on how serious the problem has become.

Conclusion

Ultimately, all those who play a role in the life cycle of portable batteries have a responsibility to educate and support the wider UK population on battery recycling. This will require a cohesive and joint-up approach, as we know one consistent message is far more effective than a confusing narrative of conflicting instructions. From our standpoint, it is about emphasising the impact of battery fires in a way that resonates with the majority of consumers whilst aiding convenient and easy collection - resulting in a culture change making battery recycling as habitual as putting out your household waste black bin. With nationwide initiatives such as Battrecycle set to be implemented, large retailers serving much of the UK population also have a responsibility to harness the platforms they have to influence battery consumer habits.

Defra introduces new de facto EEE category for vapes

Defra has implemented a de facto EEE Category 15 for vapes via a Producer Compliance Scheme Balancing System, to ensure collection and recycling costs are covered by vape manufacturers and importers.

Disposable vapes have quickly become one of the most talked-about topics in the UK, with the waste, environmental, and public sectors raising countless concerns about the product's rapid rise in uptake and its impact on public health and the environment.

As a result, councils nationwide have been publicly applying pressure on Defra and the EA to either fast-track the implementation of stricter policies to manage responsible vape disposal and recycling or impose a ban on disposable vapes altogether.

This call for specific WEEE regulations on vapes has now led to a de facto 15th EEE category for vapes through the PBS backstop provision (Producer Compliance Scheme Balancing System), to ensure that the cost of collection and treatment is borne by the manufacturers and those that import vapes into the UK.

Significant cost implications

As we warned the industry earlier in the year, their failure to implement a holistic national recycling solution for vapes, adopted by their customers, could now see their costs of compliance increase by 5000% over the next 3 months with little to no control.

The Environment Agency began the first step of implementing the changes by writing to producer compliance schemes on the 27th of September. They are now required to disclose the weight of vapes placed on the market by their members so that the cost of collection and treatment at local authority household waste recycling centres can be charged back.

We are expecting a significant initial cost for vape producers. Due to the cost of vape treatment, there is likely to be a large backlog at local authority sites that have been waiting for this change to recycle their vapes at no cost.

With estimates placing grey market and illegal vapes at 45% of those sold and discarded, this will likely result

in a disproportionately high cost for responsible vape producers who, having fulfilled their legal obligations by joining a WEEE compliance scheme, now find themselves having to fund the recycling of all vapes, including the contraband. Further to this, the rules do not distinguish between reusable and disposable vapes, so despite producers of reusable vapes being overwhelmingly the most compliant under the WEEE regulations and producing the least waste, they are being dealt a double blow for the cost of recycling.

Managing the impact

With the rumoured ban on disposable vapes unlikely to be implemented before 2025 (if at all), if the vape industry is to bring down the cost of WEEE producer compliance, they must act in unison to take control of the recycling situation. Although we have helped organisations from NHS Trusts and Universities, through to retailers like VPZ and Tesco to implement a vape recycling solution for their customers (we are in fact, close to hitting 5,000 drop-off points across the UK), there is still much to do. A national, coordinated education and collection campaign, driven by the industry would allow them not only greater control over their costs but to encourage responsible recycling, reducing the 700 fires caused by vapes in recycling facilities every year and safeguarding the lithium contained in their devices.

If you're a vape producer wishing to discuss your obligation with our compliance team, please contact us at compliance@wastecare.co.uk

For more information on our vape and battery collection services, please contact the team at recycling@wastecare.co.uk, or call 0800 091 0000.





How to get ahead of mandatory digital waste tracking in the CD&E industry

Tarmac, a UK business specialising in sustainable building materials and construction solutions, have pulled together a specialist report which they are hoping will 'ignite action' across the industry when it comes to responsible waste management.

This report was a response to a mandatory digital waste tracking policy looking to be launched toward the end of 2023/beginning of 2024, the result of which the spotlight will be on the Construction, Demolition and Excavation (CD&E) sectors to prioritise reuse and recycling in their waste strategies. Making up 68% of all waste in the UK, the CD&E sector, if working in one joined-up approach, could have an instrumental impact towards achieving a more circular, net-zero future for the nation.

To do this, Tarmac cites the need for 'A change in mindset – It's not waste, it's a resource'.

To drive efficiencies toward a circular economy, Defra announced in early 2022 their intentions to launch a **mandatory digital waste tracking policy** across the UK. Their overall incentive for this policy was to:

"Support the effective regulation of waste, transforming the way environmental regulators monitor compliance, prioritise regulatory activities and help prevent waste crime, including fly tipping, deliberate misclassification of waste, illegal waste exports and the operation of illegal waste sites."

With the CD&E sector generating 138 million tonnes in the UK in 2018, the spotlight is firmly on them to be an instrumental player in this initiative.

Historically, although a company's legal obligation and duty of care under Section 34 of the Environment Protection Act is to ensure that waste is dealt with correctly, there has often been the attitude that their responsibility as an individual organisation ends once the waste has been handed on. However this responsibility is meant to extend across the entire process – with company's obligated to track that their waste is being managed responsibly once transferred to a licensed waste carrier. This is where digital waste tracking will expose where in the waste chain the CD&E sector are not fulfilling this duty of care.

So how can the sector better manage the 138 million

tonnes of waste produced in the UK each year, and prepare for mandatory digital waste tracking?

Responsible waste management needs to, in our eyes, be managed simply, reliably, and honestly. Fast moving sectors such as CD&E, need contractors who can provide easy-to-integrate and sustainable workflows. If dealing with waste management becomes a burden, this has a knock-on effect on good practice – the production of waste is a never-ending cycle which cannot be paused if the management system in place is not functional.

This is where services such as **myWaste** are pivotal. A comprehensive, online overview of a company's waste streams, including hazardous or challenging waste, with tracking and data outputs to keep them compliant with the latest environmental regulations. Ultimately – digitising the entire process to support a company's shift into mandatory digital waste tracking.

In addition, tools such as **myWaste** also communicates the bigger picture to the sector. By providing a facility to track recycling costs and see in real-time the value of what is being recovered, it becomes a motivator to improve the sector's overall performance and influence its environmental impact. As cited in the Tarmac report: "More must be done to see waste as a valuable resource and optimise its use instead of choosing landfill."

A site waste management plan can reduce on-site waste by up to 15%, which translates to 43% less waste heading to landfill.

Approaching this change in how waste is managed for the CD&E sector needs to be proactive, in order for mandatory digital tracking obligations to feel manageable – and not a burden on those responsible for it. By getting systems in place now, rather than reactively, will allow for a learning curve period which will kick start efficiencies in reuse and recycling of CD&E waste.

Read the full Tarmac Specialist Report [here](#). For more information on the proposed mandatory digital waste tracking policy, and delivery timelines, [click here](#).

In Other Industry News



£1.8 million awarded to electrical recycling

[Read more >>](#)

Material Focus awards £1.8m from Electricals Recycling Fund

Material Focus has unveiled the recipients of its 'Electricals Recycling Fund', with £1.8 million awarded to 40 projects across the UK "to make it easier for 10 million residents to recycle their electricals".

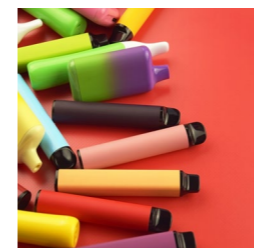


Untapped revenue in refurbished goods

[Read more >>](#)

Physical retailers could raise £850m in refurbished goods sales

High street and physical retailers are missing out on up to £850 million of additional revenue by not selling refurbished and repaired technology in their stores, according to a new report.



'Five million' vapes thrown away weekly

[Read more >>](#)

Material Focus release latest research on the soaring rise of vape disposal

Research now estimates that eight disposable vapes are thrown away every second in the UK, with the cost of collecting and recycling these volumes now estimated at £200 million.



Podback to host local authority webinar

[Register here >>](#)

Tuesday 3rd October: Mobilising a Coffee Pod Recycling Service – A Step by Step Guide

In their upcoming webinar, Podback will outline the support available to local authorities, and take a detailed look at the process of service mobilisation; from planning through to launch.



Achieving a Circular Economy

[Read more >>](#)

Defra announces new "waste reduction" policy programme

The UK government has announced new plans to encourage the use of fewer resources and increase repair, reuse and recycling as part of its "goal" to achieve a circular economy approach.



Redefining waste

[Read more >>](#)

CIWM position statement on the definition of End of Waste

CIWM sees an urgent need to revisit the definition of waste; the resources and waste sector has moved on and developed more sophisticated management methods, which are constrained by the current EU definitions.

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