

# The Circular

from ERP

Q4 - December 2021

# Contents





**In previous newsletters I dubbed 2021 ‘a year of consultations’ – that’s now looking like my theme for 2022 as well!**

We are still awaiting from Defra their responses to the 2021 consultations on EPR for Packaging, Deposit Return Scheme and Collections Consistency. We know they attracted large numbers of responses and we now expect to see government’s responses early in 2022. As EPR for packaging proposed changes starting in 2023 we are hoping the widespread calls for a more realistic timetable have been heard – the changes will have significant consequences for many producers who need time to

prepare for them.

Anticipated consultations on reforms to the UK’s WEEE Regulations and Battery Regulations have also been delayed until 2022. As a result, it is acknowledged that the initially envisaged implementations in 2023 are therefore no longer realistic – think 2024 for immediate aspects such as those relating to online marketplaces and beyond that for others such as ecomodulation.

The Scottish Government has also delayed the implementation of the Scottish Deposit Return Scheme until August 2023. An independent review had found that, due to the pandemic, the previous go-live date of July 2022 was no longer practical. We understand that DRS infrastructure, such as reverse vending machines, will start rolling out from summer 2022 and, where possible, the Scottish Government will work with retailers to enable use of this infrastructure on a voluntary basis from November 2022.

No delays with the Plastic Packaging Tax though - it will be live in April 2022. Our website now includes a page

dedicated to this with a summary, links to guidance and details of how our Data Service team may be able to help your business with data gathering and calculations.

On a lighter note than the twists and turns of changing legislation in our sector, I wanted to thank all our members, customers, partners and suppliers for their support in 2021 – and of course, all my colleagues at ERP UK and in the wider Landbell Group, for working so effectively together to deliver our services through the year despite the continuing challenges of Covid19.

Instead of sending out Christmas cards to our customers and partners, ERP has made donations to the following:

Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation who support and engage all affected by this rare genetic condition - <https://pmsf.org/>

WasteAid who work with communities and policy makers in lower and middle income countries to implement waste management and recycling programmes - <https://wasteaid.org/>

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable festive season.



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### 2022 WEEE & Battery Registration Update

We are pleased to confirm that we have submitted and completed 2022 registrations for our WEEE and Battery members. Thank you to all members who have assisted us by providing registration details which have allowed us to complete registration by the legal deadlines.

For WEEE and Battery members who are now registered for 2022, we will be sending out copies of their registration certificates shortly. You may find this document useful if requested in external audit, or to provide to suppliers if requested, for example.

### WEEE & Battery Data Rounds

As the end of the year is just around the corner, we will be asking for data reports for Q4 Batteries, Q4 B2C EEE, and 2021 B2B EEE, very soon! You will be able to report for these periods from January 1st, 2022, and we would like to ask members to submit their data no later than Friday 14th January 2022.

For data reporting, please can all producers:

- Ensure that all EEE and batteries made available to the UK market is reported in the relevant reporting periods (see table below);
- Have submissions approved by a legal signatory of the company or delegated authority who has prior written consent for 2021, and
- Explain, where requested, any fluctuations when compared to previous data submissions.

### Small Battery Producers in 2021

ERP would like to urge all small battery producers who are currently registered directly with the Environment Agency to check the weights of batteries placed on to the market in 2021 sooner rather than later!

If you have placed more than 1 tonne of batteries on the UK market in 2021, or expect to place more than 1 tonne of batteries on the UK market in 2021, then please make ERP aware as soon as possible to ensure we will be able to register your company by the legal deadlines.

Reporting Periods	Reporting Deadlines
Q1: 1st January to 31st March	Thursday 15th April 2021
Q2: 1st April to 30th June	Thursday 15th July 2021
Q3: 1st July to 30th September	Friday 15th October 2021
Q4: 1st October to 31st October	Friday 14th January 2022
2021 B2B EEE: 1st Jan to 31st December	Friday 14th January 2022



### Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging

Earlier in the year, DEFRA consulted on proposals to extend the remit of producer responsibility for packaging. The impact of the changes was acknowledged to significantly increase the cost of producer compliance, which would be reflected in cost increases throughout the packaging chain.

#### The key proposals were:

To focus financial responsibility towards brand owners, sellers, importers and online sellers

- To reimburse local authorities for the cost of collecting domestic packaging waste
- To subsidise the collection of commercial packaging waste
- To reimburse local authorities and others for the cost of clearing littered packaging

The proposals, especially in respect of commercial packaging, were broad and the intended environmental outcomes are likely to be positive. However, we are concerned that producers should not be obliged to pay for the consequences of littering, which is a criminal offence committed by others.

A large number of responses to the consultation were received and a summary, due in Q4 2021, has been postponed until the new year.

### Packaging Recycling Targets for 2022

Last year, Defra announced the packaging targets for both 2021 and 2022. These targets are used as part of the calculation of packaging obligations for each packaging member. Generally, there has been a steady increase in recycling targets across most materials (the only exclusion being Wood) for 2022, when compared with the targets from 2021.

A reminder of the packaging targets of each material for both 2021 and 2022, can be found below:

Material	2021	2022
Paper	79.0%	83.0%
Glass	81.0%	82.0%
Aluminium	66.0%	69.0%
Steel	86.0%	87.0%
Plastic	59.0%	61.0%
Wood	35.0%	35.0%
Recycling	76.0%	77.0%

When submitting your packaging data through ERP's online reporting system, we calculate your obligation automatically based on the packaging weights you report. Your annual obligation can then be found on 'Step 5' of your online submission form.



ERP UK can provide your business with the following services

- WEEE
- Batteries
- Packaging
- Data Services
- Plastic Packaging Tax

Contact us today to find out more  
Telephone:  
+44 (0)20 3142 6452

E-mail:  
[uk@erp-recycling.org](mailto:uk@erp-recycling.org)

Or visit our website  
[www.erp-recycling.org/uk/](http://www.erp-recycling.org/uk/)



### Guidance to help with classifying portable and industrial batteries

The government have recently published new guidance for definitions and criteria when distinguishing between portable and industrial batteries.

Published at the end of August 2021, the guidance includes:

- Regulatory definitions of portable batteries, industrial batteries, automotive batteries, battery packs, and sealed batteries.
- Other distinguishing criteria, including when a battery might be considered to be designed exclusively for industrial/professional use.
- Suggested evidence to support classification.

The link to this guidance can be found [here](#)

ERP is also happy to help with any product scoping/classification queries you may have, so please send these across to your account manager if we may be able to help.

### Plastic Packaging Tax

HMRC's Plastic Packaging Tax is due to go live in under 6 months! From April 2022, if you are a manufacturer or importer of plastic packaging you could be liable to comply with this new regulation.

ERP strongly urges any companies handling plastic packaging to get in touch with their account managers to discuss the potential requirements, if you have not done so already. We have developed a new webpage to summarise the tax, which can be found [here](#)

This includes access to a downloadable PDF document and online enquiry form. We have also included a second summary page which outlines PPT in more detail as well as useful links to relating topics.

ERP will be offering additional data services to help support businesses with handling the plastic packaging tax. As above, links to enquire for these services can be found on the webpage.



# Plastic Packaging Tax

Find out how ERP UK can help your business

Visit our Plastic Packaging Tax [webpage](#)



### 2022 Packaging Data Reporting

Along with data reporting for EEE and Batteries below, the 2022 packaging data submission process will also begin in the New Year, and we plan to get in touch with packaging members shortly with reminders of the upcoming deadlines. Packaging members will be required to report the weights of packaging handled from 1st January to 31st December 2021.

If you have any questions, or if ERP may be able to provide further information to support with your packaging submission, please do not hesitate to contact your account manager.

### PRNs Available for 2021 Compliance - Updated following Q3 Statistics Published 26 Nov.

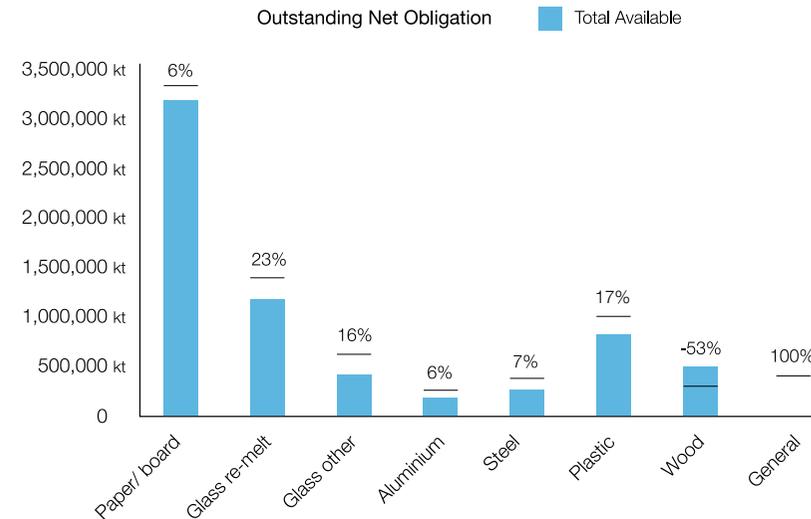
There is continuing uncertainty about the effect of regulatory action on exported packaging waste. We have seen high volatility in the Plastic price during November as the total tonnage reported for export has been amended, firstly downward and then upward. More positively, the trend away from exporting Plastic in favour of recycling

it domestically has continued. On current trends 2021 may be the first year in which the total Plastic received for domestic treatment exceeds that for export.

The price of Glass remelt PRNs remains stubbornly high despite no obvious sign of a shortage of available material. It remains to be seen if the sellers persist in demanding what appear to be unreasonably high prices.

### Chart (below)

The picture for the PRN market as we head to the end of the compliance year remains unclear in some key materials, although the latest quarterly reprocessing statistics still indicate that the UK is likely to meet compliance in all materials.



### WEEE - Analysis of government data for UK WEEE collections

The table below shows Q1- Q3 2021 WEEE collected data against the 2021 Defra targets.

At this point through the year it is encouraging to see that collections for LDA, Cold and Display are at or above 75% - suggesting that collection volumes are in line with the target expectations.

Small Mixed WEEE collections are behind target expectations – a similar picture to previous years, as are PV panels and lamps.

Below is Q1/Q3 2021 WEEE collected data against the 2021 Defra targets

Category	Q1-Q3 2021 UK WEEE collected	2021 DEFRA targets	Progress to targets %
LDA	137 866	187 398	74%
COLD	109 061	137 030	79%
DISPLAY	30 408	37 726	81%
Cats 2-10 SMW	94 669	137 056	69%
LAMPS	2 909	4 145	70%
PVP	180	274	66%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>374 094</b>	<b>503 629</b>	<b>74%</b>

### Batteries

Based on the Q3 2021 waste portable battery collection data, the UK collection rate for 2021 (to date) is 42.55%, which is 93.89% progress towards to the 2021 target (45%). Therefore, the 45% target is already nearly achieved after only Q3 collected data, which demonstrates there is an abundance of waste portable batteries being collected in 2021

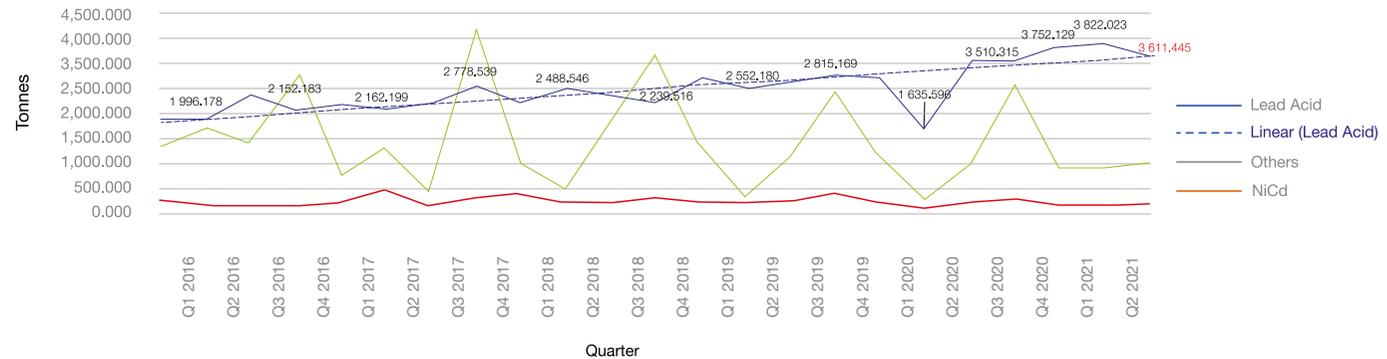
Little variance between Q3 2020 & Q3 2021

	Q2 2020	Q2 2021	% Variance
Lead Acid	3 539 890	3 611 445	2.02%
NiCd	151 892	101 889	-32.92%
Others	1150 386	1 175 933	2.22%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4 842 168</b>	<b>4 889 267</b>	<b>0.97%</b>

More variance between Q3 2019 and Q3 2021

	Q3 2019	Q3 2021	% Variance
Lead Acid	2 661 315	3 611 445	35.70%
NiCd	183 192	101 889	-44.38%
Others	1 345 665	1 175 933	-12.61%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4 190 172</b>	<b>4 889 267</b>	<b>16.68%</b>

UK Waste portable batteries collected - Quarter on Quarter





### **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Data Service team!**

The Data Service team would like to wish all our customers a very Merry Christmas and happy New Year.

#### **Data collections**

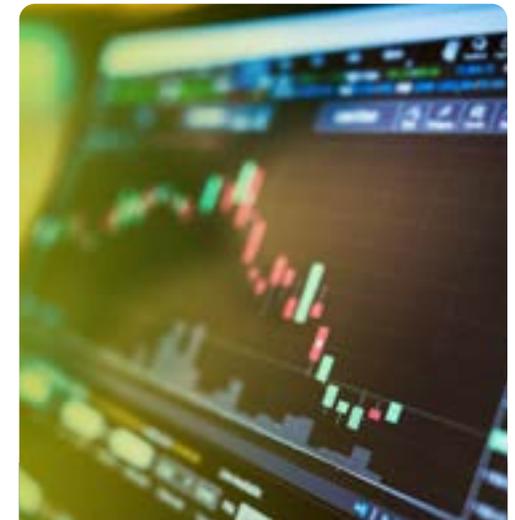
Whilst we don't expect packaging data to be at the top of your 'to do' list over the festive period please be aware that we will require data from you as early as January 2022 to cover the 2021 calendar year.

Account managers will be sending out an e-mail reminder and contacting customers in the coming weeks providing lists of the data and information required to complete your submissions.

If there have been any significant changes to your business structure or activities during 2021, please let us know as soon as possible as these may affect your packaging submission.

The Data Service department will be closed from the afternoon of 24th December 2021 and re-open on 4th January 2022.

If you have any queries about your next packaging submission, please contact your account manager directly or the Data Service team at:  
[ukdataservices@erp-recycling.org](mailto:ukdataservices@erp-recycling.org)



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## Limiting Climate Change – Working Smarter

The Climate Change Act 2008 commits the UK to achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Under the Paris Agreement we are also committed to limiting global warming to less than 2°C. Both these obligations are legally binding.

How we achieve these has been detailed by government in the Clean Growth Strategy VI, the sixth carbon budget III and most recently, The Net Zero Strategy IV. The decarbonisation of transport and reductions within the waste sector are essential parts of all these approaches.

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from transport are a pivotal contributor to climate change so we must all work to ensure that these are limited to only those necessary to effectively and efficiently move goods and people.

In 2020, 468,000 tonnes of WEEE and nearly 18,000 tonnes of portable batteries (<=4kgs each) were collected and delivered for recycling in the UK

under producer responsibility regulations.

This effort involved a high number of vehicle movements, often more than one per load, to get the waste from where it was to where it needed to be to be legitimately recycled.

As a major provider of these services, ERP works continuously with its collection contractors to limit the environmental consequences of the important work to safely collect and dispose of these potentially harmful waste streams. The under-utilisation of collection vehicles and failed collections squander limited resources and lead to unnecessary and avoidable consequences.

To make a difference, we will be contacting our Local Authorities and our collection partners for WEEE and batteries in the new year with ideas on how to minimise the environmental impacts of our services.

Written by **Cliff Laundon/ ERP UK.**

## What is the Paris Agreement?

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at COP 21 in Paris, on 12 December 2015 and entered into force on 4 November 2016.

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Watch a short video and read more about the Paris agreement [here](#).

An ambitious blueprint for Britain's low carbon future.

### **The Clean Growth Strategy**

Read the article [here](#).

### **Sixth Carbon Budget Report**

Read the full report [here](#).



**Q How long have you been with ERP UK?**

**A** Coming up to 6 months

**Q Tell us about your experience before joining the ERP team?**

**A** Prior to joining ERP UK I worked as a Senior Digital Marketing Executive for Capital Gardens, a chain of 5 Garden Centres in and around London. It was a very creative role involving plenty of photography and film work. Prior to redirecting my career, (digital marketing), I worked as a creative head, (creative side of marketing), within financial services for investment banks including JP Morgan Chase/ Goldman Sachs and Barclays Wealth Division - Canary Wharf. In 2019 I completed my Masters in Digital Marketing & Communications.

**Q What does a typical day look like for you?**

**A** I usually start the day with an analysis of our analytics (website performance) making notes on what pages are fairing well/ what pages continue to perform badly - page performance. This helps me identify what pages are working and which are not. It also

helps with marketing strategies. I then spend time planning the type of posts I will create for LinkedIn. Then there is of-course all the everyday duties, PO forms/ event organising/ meetings/ emails/ requests you have to deal with and finally projects I am currently working on.

2022 is shaping up to be a busy but exciting year with plenty of work planned in key areas of the business such as developing the website, building a strong social media strategy and rolling out video across all our digital platforms.

**Q What motivates you in your role?**

**A** My passion for digital marketing/ love for creativity and pushing my own performance. I'm never happy with what I produce I always believe I can do better and that motivates me to push my own performance level with each new project. If you have a love for what you do the motivation comes naturally.

**Q In your opinion how does ERP stand out in comparison to other Producer Compliance Schemes?**

**A** Where ERP really stands out for me is the international perspective we have as part of the Landbell Group; I work with colleagues from multiple countries on some projects and I know many of our customers appreciate Landbell providing a one stop shop for so many related services.

**Q What do you enjoy doing outside work?**

**A** I'm a keen photographer. I have a passion for surfing (having grown up in Cape Town). I'm a bit of a closet Dj and have a couple of mixcloud accounts: [www.mixcloud.com/JustinsDjBox/](http://www.mixcloud.com/JustinsDjBox/) [www.mixcloud.com/JustinsMusic-Box/](http://www.mixcloud.com/JustinsMusic-Box/) Besides that I'm a keen runner a good tennis player and love festivals.

**Q Your favourite band(s) / football team?**

**A** White Lies/ Editors/ The National Manchester United

**Q Favourite holiday destinations?**

**A** Hawaii/ Greek Islands/ Mosambique




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### ERP Workshops - 2022

Our workshops provide detailed training for our members about the Regulations and how to apply them in your business.

They are **FREE** to attend and members give very positive feedback about their helpfulness.

For 2022 we plan a combination of online and face to face events.

Planned events include:

- Packaging 4th Feb - **WEBINAR**
- Packaging 15th Sept - **EVENT in London (Barley Mow Centre)**
- WEEE & Batteries 10th Jan - **WEBINAR (venue to be announced)**
- WEEE & Batteries 9th March - **WEBINAR (venue to be announced)**
- WEEE & Batteries 16th June - **Event in Reading (Holiday Inn)**
- WEEE & Batteries 16th Sept - **Event in London (Barley Mow Centre)**

Get in touch to book a FREE 2022 workshop with us.  
[ukcompliance@erp-recycling.org](mailto:ukcompliance@erp-recycling.org)

**ATF** Approved Authorised Treatment Facility (for WEEE)

**ABE** Approved Battery Exporter

**ABTO** Approved Battery Treatment Operator

**AE** Accredited Exporter (for Packaging)

**AR** Accredited Reprocessor (for Packaging)

**ATF** Authorised Treatment Facility (for WEEE)

**BFR** Brominated Flame Retardants

**CA** site Civic Amenity (see also HWRC)

**CIO** Consumer Information Obligation (for Packaging)

**CIWM** Chartered Institution of Wastes Management

**CSR** Corporate Social Responsibility

**DCF** Designated Collection Facility (for WEEE)

**DEFRA** Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

**DRS** Deposit Return Scheme

**DOENI** Department for the Environment Northern Ireland  
**DTS** Distributor Takeback Scheme (for WEEE)

**EA** Environment Agency (see also SEPA, NRW and NIEA)

**EEA** European Environment Agency

**EFW** Energy from Waste

**ELV** End of Life Vehicles

**EMS** Environmental Management System

**EPR** Extended Producer Responsibility

**ESA** Environmental Services Association

**HDPE** High Density Polyethylene

**HWRC** Household Waste Recycling Centre

**LA** Local Authority

**LARAC** Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee

**MRF** Materials Recovery Facility

**MSW** Municipal Solid Waste

**NIEA** Northern Ireland Environment Agency

**NPWD** National Packaging Waste Database (Batteries & Packaging)

**NRW** Natural Resources Wales

**ODS** Ozone Depleting Substance

**PCB** Polychlorinated Biphenyl

**PCB** Printed Circuit Board

**PERN** Packaging Waste Export Recovery Note

**PP** Polypropylene

**PPT** Plastic Packaging Tax

**PRN** Packaging Waste Recovery Note

**PRO** Producer Responsibility Organisation

**PS** Polystyrene

**PS** Polystyrene

**PVC** Polyvinyl chloride

**RCV** Refuse Collection Vehicle

**ROHS** Restriction Of Hazardous Substances (in EEE)

**SEPA** Scottish Environment Protection Agency

**WAC** Waste Acceptance Criteria

**WBA** Waste Batteries and Accumulators

**WCA** Waste Collection Authority

**WDA** Waste Disposal Authority

**WEEE** Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

**WFD** Waste Framework Directive

**WRAP** Waste and Resources Action Programme

**WBA Regulations** means The Waste Batteries and Accumulators Regulations 2009 (SI 2009/890);

**WEEE Regulations** means the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulations 2013 (SI 2013/3113); and

**Packaging Regulations means** The Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 2017 (SI 2007/871)



Please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you!

**For general enquiries:**

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**For International Compliance:**

Contact: Rupert Foxall, EU Services Manager Call: +44 (0) 7825 119437

Email: [rupert.foxall@erp-recycling.org](mailto:rupert.foxall@erp-recycling.org)

