



Press Release

17 February 2019

INCPEN STATEMENT ON THE DEFRA & HM TREASURY CONSULTATIONS

Defra and HM Treasury distributed a press release (embargoed to 00.01 on Monday 18 February 2019) relating to implementing a new Packaging Recovery Notes (PRN) system, a deposit return system (DRS) and consistency of household recycling collections.

Paul Vanston, CEO of INCPEN comments as follows: -

“These Defra consultations on extensive packaging reforms, improving home recycling collections, and implementing a well-designed deposit return system mark a brilliant opportunity to turbo boost the nation’s recycling performance. The whole value chain needs to work together to make recycling easier for citizens at home and on-the-go. We also need to make sure big increases in funding from producers go to the parts of the recycling system where those funds can add the most value. Substantially increasing the quantity and quality of recyclates is imperative.”

“Ministers have demonstrated they’ve listened intently to all the sectors involved in making and recycling packaging. They have followed through with consultations that press the reset button on a vastly more coherent system that thrusts UK recycling performance forward. In welcoming these consultations I encourage all sectors drafting responses to work collectively towards delivering the multiple wins for citizens, our precious environment, and the UK economy that the Secretary of State has put within our grasp.”

UK-wide implementation

“Manufacturers, retailers, brands and many others wish to see harmonised approaches for the reformed PRN system and for a deposit return scheme. But it’s not within the gift of Defra to dictate the UK system as these policies are devolved to the administrations in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

So it’s critical there is a 4-way agreement between the nations on the new systems that are implemented. We encourage Ministers across the nations to work hard with the whole supply chain to deliver against their pledge of July 2018 to implement UK-wide systems.”

Work together now for the greater good

“The size of the prize on offer for radically improved UK-wide systems warrants sectors working together during this consultation phase. That means no single organisation or sector should wish to seek advantage for themselves at the costs of others in the very same supply chain – INCPEN won’t be doing that.

Instead we will seek the greater good. We will work co-operatively with others to submit consultations responses that can be implemented with the support of all four nations. In 20 years time it would be good for everyone to see the UK-wide systems designed in 2019 still operating well, and delivering the 65%+ recycling rates we can be proud of. That’s the opportunity we now need to grasp together.”

END

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