

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS
Y Dirprwy Brif Weinidog ac Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet
dros Newid Hinsawdd a Materion Gwledig
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Climate Change and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA HIDCC 1855 25

Mike Hedges MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru
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20 October 2025

Dear Mike,

I am writing to inform the Committee of my intention to consent to the UK Government making and laying the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging and Packaging Waste) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 (“the Regulations”).

The Regulations intersect with devolved policy and will apply to Wales. The Regulations will be made by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs under the following provisions in the Environment Act 2021:

- sections 50(1), 51(1) and 143(1),
- paragraphs 1-5, 7 and 12-19 of Schedule 4,
- paragraphs 1-9 and 11-17 of Schedule 5.

Sections 50(3) and 51(3) of the Environment Act 2021 provide that such Regulations can be made by the Secretary of State in relation to Wales with the consent of the Welsh Ministers. The Regulations apply in relation to England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales and a similar request for consent has been sent to Scottish Ministers and Northern Ireland Assembly Members.

The Regulations amend the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging and Packaging Waste) Regulations 2024 which introduced an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme for packaging and packaging waste on a UK basis from 1 January 2025. The packaging EPR scheme seeks to ensure that the efficient costs incurred by local authorities in managing packaging waste is met by the producers who use and supply packaging, applying the “polluter pays” principle.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Whilst it is normally the policy of the Welsh Government to legislate for Wales in matters of devolved competence, in certain circumstances there are benefits in legislating collaboratively with the UK Government, where there is a clear rationale for doing so. In this instance it will enable a single UK-wide SI to make provision for the UK-wide scheme as has been consulted upon, thereby ensuring consistency of approach across the UK. Further, the Regulations make amendments to an already existing UK-wide SI. It is therefore appropriate that these Regulations are made on a UK-wide basis.

It is anticipated that the Regulations will be laid before the UK Parliament using the affirmative procedure and are expected to come into force on 1 January 2026.

I have also written to Llŷr Gruffydd, Chair of the Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Huw', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Huw Irranca-Davies AS/MS

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