Factsheet for operators in the catering and hospitality industry:

# SUSTAINABLE FUTURE





# What is the UK Government Resources and Waste Strategy and how does it affect the catering and hospitality industry?



## **UK GOVERNMENT RESOURCES AND WASTE STRATEGY**

#### What is it?

As part of its 25-year environment plans for England, the government Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has set out plans to reduce waste, improve consistency in waste collections and outline a system where producers pay the full cost of waste disposal.

## What are the key aims?

- To ensure all plastic packaging placed on the market is recyclable, reusable or compostable by 2025
- To eliminate food waste to landfill by 2030
- To eliminate avoidable plastic waste over the lifetime of the 25 year environmental plan
- To eliminate all avoidable waste by 2050

## How will the strategy be achieved?

Together with the H.M. Treasury Plastic Packaging Tax, DEFRA is looking at four main initiatives:

- 1 Reform of Packaging Producer Responsibility and introduction of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)
- 2 Introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS)
- 3 Bans and restrictions of certain materials and products
- 4 Greater consistency in waste collections



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# REFORM OF PACKAGING PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY

#### What is it?

The Government is aiming to reduce the amount of unnecessary and hard-to-recycle packaging on the market and increase recycling at end of life. They are looking to ensure that the full net cost of managing packaging waste is met by those in the supply chain who influence design and production of single use packaging.

#### When does it start?

The Government is considering responses to this year's consultation and will offer a final consultation in **2020**. The Government is committed to introducing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in **2023**.

#### How will it affect me?

Currently, the Packaging Producer Responsibility scheme, paid for through the PRN system, accounts for approximately 7-10% of the cost of managing materials at their end of life. EPR proposes that producers bear the full net costs of managing products at their end of life. This is likely to lead to increased costs across the supply chain.

# DEPOSIT RETURN SCHEME (DRS)

#### What is it?

Under DRS consumers are asked to pay a deposit on packaging items such as plastic bottles, cartons and cans, which is then refunded when they return them to a shop, drop off point or machine. A working system has already been agreed for Scotland.

#### When does it start?

After a further consultation in **2020**, DEFRA would like to introduce one for the rest of the UK in **2023**.

#### How will it affect me?

The Government has signalled that it is keen to include a wide variety and size of materials and containers. They have stated that collection points need to be accessible to everyone, whether, or not this will include restaurants and food outlets is not yet decided.



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## BANS AND RESTRICTIONS OF CERTAIN MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS



#### What is it?

In line with EU legislation, the Government has introduced a ban on plastic stirrers and restrictions on the sale of plastic straws and cotton buds from April 2020. Further bans are planned for plastic cutlery, plates and balloon sticks, as well as cups and food containers made from expanded polystyrene (EPS) and on all products made of oxo-degradable plastic.

#### When does it start?

Plastic stirrers, straws and cotton buds from April **2020**.
Other items are expected to be banned from **2021**.

#### How will it affect me?

You may need to introduce new products to replace banned items. Bunzl Catering Supplies is working with its customers to map legislative changes to their product portfolios, providing the expert advice required to make informed decisions.

# GREATER CONSISTENCY IN WASTE COLLECTIONS



#### What is it?

The Government is aiming to improve recycling rates to 50%, with the aim of an increase to 65% by 2035. They plan to do this by implementing a more consistent approach to the collection of waste, supporting food waste collections, improved separation of waste materials and better data collection.

#### When does it start?

The Government are aiming to implement its plans from **2023**.

#### How will it affect me?

If the current plans are implemented this means businesses will need to separate dry recycling into multiple material types. Food waste will have to be collected separately for recycling or composting. Catering operations will require more bins for separation and more waste collections.



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