



For the Information of Producers and Retailers/Distributors of EEE and Batteries

Introduction of Fixed Payment Notices

As a producer or a retailer of electrical or electronic equipment (EEE) and/or batteries, the Environmental Protection Agency would like to make you aware that enforcement powers, in the form of 'Fixed Payment Notices', are **newly available** to the EPA and to the Local Authorities to assist in the enforcement of both the WEEE Regulations and the Batteries and Accumulators Regulations*. The introduction of FPNs provides an efficient means for enforcing legal obligations and will improve targeting of non-compliant operators, thereby ensuring a 'level playing field' across the sector.

The offences under the above regulations for which fixed payment notices may be issued as specified in the Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act** include:

- non-registration with Producer Register Limited;
- the display of a registration number, for example on an invoice, credit note or website by a producer who is not validly registered;
- the selling of WEEE from private households;
- failure, by a distance seller, to display a valid producer registration number on a website;
- failure by a producer to meet obligations to report to the WEEE Blackbox on the quantities of electrical and electronic equipment and/or batteries being placed on the market.
- failure by a distributor/retailer selling by distance communication to appropriately display signage complying with certain requirements such as providing information on WEEE take-back and the appropriate disposal of WEEE.
- failure by a producer or distributor of batteries who is selling by distance communication to appropriately display certain information at each point where batteries are being distributed (including on websites, catalogues, web-shots or brochures take-back of waste batteries) on take-back of waste batteries.
- the refusal to accept, free of charge, waste batteries returned to a distributor.

The Waste Management (Fixed Payment Notice) (Producer Responsibility) Regulations refer to the relevant offences under the two regulations along with the amount that may be payable in respect of each relevant offence. You should note that the amounts associated with the relevant offences range from €500 to €2,000 per offence.

The EPA expects to commence issuing Fixed Payment Notices in Autumn 2018.

Please see the Agency's website for further information and updates at <http://www.epa.ie/enforcement/weee/>, however interested parties are advised to always consult the regulations in their entirety for a complete understanding of their statutory obligations.

*European Union (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Regulations (S.I. No. 149 of 2014) and the European Union (Batteries and Accumulators) Regulations (S.I. No. 283 of 2014).

**Environment (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (No. 29 of 2015).