



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

# Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy

**Sorcha Byrne**

**Waste – Plastics, Remediation and Producer Responsibility Division**

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# Policy Context



A Resource Opportunity  
Waste Management Policy in Ireland



**CIRCULAR ECONOMY**  
Closing the loop  
AN AMBITIOUS EU CIRCULAR ECONOMY PACKAGE

**CLIMATE ACTION PLAN 2019**  
To Tackle Climate Breakdown

**Circular Economy Action Plan**  
The European Green Deal

**Programme for Government**  
Our Shared Future

**Next Generation EU**  
#NextGenerationEU  
#EUBudget

# Process



- Strong emphasis on stakeholder engagement
- Process launched September 2019, stakeholder forum
- Consultation document issued December 2019 (open until February 2020)
- Approx 280 submissions
- Waste Advisory Group established to provide cross-sectoral input to developing the plan and provide a platform in which to develop, test, review and refine ideas
- 2 meetings (in person) pre-Covid, 6 held virtually with up to 60 participants
- Full membership, meeting papers and minutes at [www.dccae.gov.ie](http://www.dccae.gov.ie)
- Meetings covered issues such as food waste, circular economy, citizen engagement, enforcement, plastics, deposit and return scheme
- Waste Advisory Group will continue as a support for implementation of the Plan

# The Plan

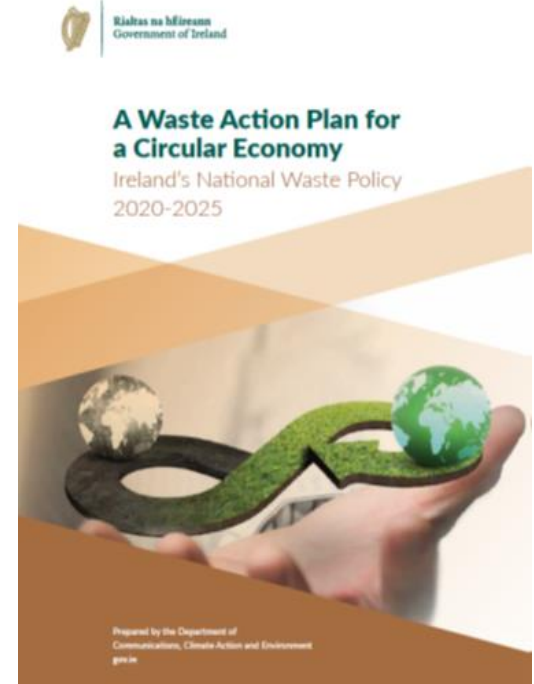


## Format

- An action-focused plan that will place Ireland at the vanguard of EU performance
- Range of more than 200 short, medium and long term actions
- Some can be implemented immediately others require supporting legislation (primary or secondary)

## The overarching objectives of the plan are to:

- Shift the focus away from waste disposal and treatment to ensure that materials and products remain in productive use for longer thereby preventing waste and supporting re-use through a policy framework that discourages the wasting of resources and rewards circularity.
- Make producers who manufacture and sell disposable goods for profit environmentally accountable for the products they place on the market;
- Ensure that measures support sustainable economic models (for example by supporting the use of recycled over virgin materials);
- Harness the reach and influence of all sectors including the voluntary sector, R&D, producers / manufacturers, regulatory bodies, civic society;



# The Plan – EPR headline actions



- remove self-compliance as an option across all EPRs.
- build on the success of our existing EPR schemes to capitalise on circularity potential.
- ensure that costs related to the collection and treatment of end-of-life products are covered by scheme fees for producers.
- each EPR scheme will provide a strategic plan to foster greater engagement along the supply chain.
- review end-of-waste and by-products regulation to remove barriers to CE developments.
- adopt the new EU requirements for EPR schemes.
- improve the governance and transparency of EPR schemes.
- producers liable for eco modulation.



**NEW RULES FOR  
EPR SCHEMES TO  
INCENTIVISE GOOD  
PRACTICE IN WASTE  
RECYCLING AND  
DRIVE BETTER  
PRODUCT DESIGN**

# The Plan – EPR headline actions cont'd



- EPR schemes must contribute towards funding for awareness & enforcement.
- data collection and analysis will support and inform policy decisions & interventions.
- examine the role of a national register for all EPR streams.
- formally record existing reuse practices and expand the development of reuse activity in Ireland to achieve the objectives of the CE.
- adopt national reuse targets.
- shift the existing recycling focus of EPR schemes upwards towards prevention and reuse to better reflect the objectives of the waste hierarchy.
- act on recommendations in the Civic Amenity Site Report to inform their role in EPR waste streams.
- support research and innovation to advance the objectives of the CE.





Thank You

