

February 2026

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY (EPR) FOR PACKAGING 2026

2026 sees the introduction of obligations for smaller producers.

Packaging EPR places the full cost of managing packaging waste on producers, applies across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, and covers all packaging you place on the UK market or import.

Below is an outline of who is obligated and what the next steps should be. You should double check your obligation via the [gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk).

You must collect and report data if all the following are true:

- You are a business, group or subsidiary (not a charity).
- Your turnover is £1 million or higher.
- You supplied or imported more than 25 tonnes of packaging in the previous calendar year.

If these are true, it then the next steps depend on your business size:

- You would be a small producer if turnover £1 million–£2 million and 25–50 tonnes supplied. If you are a small producer, you must register by April 2026 for 2026 reporting.
- A large producer is classified as turnover £2 million or more and more than 50 tonnes supplied. Large producers should have registered before October 2025 for 2026 reporting.

If these apply, you must collect data if you are the brand owner, packer/filler, importer, online marketplace operator, supplier of empty packaging, hirer of reusable packaging).

Registration requirements

- You must **register your organisation with the environmental regulator** if you are obligated under EPR - England (Environment Agency), Scotland (SEPA), Wales (Natural Resources Wales), Northern Ireland (NIEA)
- **Registration deadlines:**
 - Large producers were required to register before October 2025 for 2026 reporting.
 - Small producers must register by April 2026 for 2026 reporting.

Packaging data reporting

- You must **collect packaging data** on all packaging you place on or into the UK market.
- Data needed includes:
 - Material type.
 - Weight in kilograms
 - Packaging category (Primary/Secondary)
 - Shipment packaging
 - Household or non-household status.
 - Self-managed waste
 - Reusable packaging flows.
- You must provide **nation-level data** showing where packaging is supplied and where it is discarded across UK nations.
- You must **create an account on the [‘Report Packaging Data’ portal](#)** before submitting data.

Reporting deadlines:

- Small producers must report previous calendar year by **1st April** of the following year.
- Large producers have set reporting periods and may report twice per year depending on guidance.

Costs and Compliance Schemes

Producers under packaging EPR are responsible for managing fees and compliance. The costs and support options include:

- Annual registration fee for all obligated producers.
- Base waste management fees, charged per tonne of household packaging, with rates varying by material type.
- Eco-modulated fees linked to recyclability, introduced from 2026.
- PRN or PERN costs to meet recycling targets.
- Option to appoint a compliance scheme for support with reporting and fee management, while legal responsibility for accurate data remains with the producer.

You should double check your obligations and a list of all available compliance schemes that can help are found on the [gov.uk website](#).