

WASTE REDUCTION CONSULTATION PROCESS

Compiled by Suircan Community forum, Clonmel, co.Tipperary

3.7 Consultation Questions – Municipal Waste • What further measures should be put in place by Government, regulatory authorities (EPA, local authorities, etc.) and industry stakeholders in order to promote and incentivise waste prevention and improve proper segregation and recycling of waste by both households and businesses?

REFILL STATION FOR WATER IN PUBLIC PLACES;
ROLL OUT REFILL SCHEME IN ALL CAFES AND RESTAURANTS;
WE NEED MANY MORE PUBLIC BINS & PUBLIC SIGNAGE RE RECYCLING AND WASTE PREVENTION.

What measures or practices are currently in place that could be improved? VERY LITTLE IN PLACE AT THE MOMENT.

What other new measures or practices could be put in place?

ENCOURAGE PLOGGING (RUNNING AND PICKING UP LITTER AS PRACTICED IN SCANDINAVIA) OR JUST GENERAL LITTER PICKING (PROVIDED THERE ARE MORE BINS CLOSE BY); DISCONTINUE POO BAGS WHICH ARE AN EYESORE AND UNECESSARY.
PROMOTE AND FACILITATE REPAIR CAFES

What do you see as the barriers/enablers to these measures? LACK OF RESOURCES AT COUNCIL LEVEL IS THE USUAL EXCUSE

Have you any other comments or suggestions on how you would like to see Ireland transition to a more resource efficient and circular economy by improving our waste management practices?

WORKING IN CONJUNCTION WITH LOCAL GROUPS TO HELP IMPLEMENT & MONITOR THIS.

3.8 Consultation Questions – Household Waste

Is incentivised charging working in your opinion? Are households being financially incentivised to prevent waste and recycle correctly through the 3 bin system?

I DUNNO AS I USE RECYCLING CENTRE; BUT THIS WORKS WELL FOR ME AS BLACK BAGS ARE MORE COSTLY THAN RECYCLABLE BAGS, SO IT MAKES SENSE

Would an incentive scheme which compared your performance on how you generate and recycle your household waste with your area / county etc change your waste management behaviour? DUNNO WHAT THIS MEANS

What role should Civic Amenity Sites (local recycling centres) play? Should there be a standard service across all Civic Amenity Sites (CAS), such as the waste streams they accept?

YES; AND BULK ITEMS SHULD BE ACCEPTED (SUCH AS MATTRESSES)

Should CAS accept general waste or only recyclables? Should CAS be used to provide more reuse opportunities, e.g. areas dedicated to exchange and upcycling? If so, how should this be funded?

YES: CHARGE A VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION PER ITEM; AND/OR RATE PER KILO (METAL)

What can be done to improve recycling (including organic waste) in apartment complexes? • Have you any other comments or suggestions on how you would like to see Ireland transition to a more resource efficient and circular economy by improving our waste management practices?

3.9 Consultation Questions – Commercial Waste

How could pricing structures for commercial waste collection be improved to incentivise better segregation and recycling of waste? For example, should pay by weight be introduced for commercial waste? **OF COURSE!**

What further incentives could be put in place to encourage business to recycle more?

CHARGE ACCORDING TO WEIGHT JUST AS PER DOMESTIC WASTE

Should a certification scheme be introduced for businesses to demonstrate that businesses are managing their municipal waste correctly (e.g. using the mixed dry recycling and organic waste bins properly)? **YES**

Have you any other comments or suggestions on how you would like to see Ireland transition to a more resource efficient and circular economy by improving our waste management practices?

ALL BUSINESS WASTE SHOULD BE TRACEABLE AND CHARGED ACCORDING TO ITS RECYCLABILITY.

5.7 Consultation Questions – Plastic and Packaging Waste

☑ How can we make it easier for citizens to play a role in delivering on our targets?

MORE SIGNAGE/INFOGRAPHICS ON SEGREGATION ALL WASTE DISPOSAL SITES/CONTAINERS/ BINS; EXPLAIN WHY CONTAMINATION IS A PROBLEM!

Do waste collectors have a role to play?

SEE ABOVE; ALL BINS SHOULD HAVE SEGREGATION STICKERS TO MAKE IT CLEAR WHAT GOES WHERE!

What is the role of retailers?

Incentivize bulk buying and 'byo' container buying (shampoos, dry food); ENCOURAGE REFILL STATION FOR WATER

What is the role of manufacturers?

Change to simplified bio wrapping (banana paper straps instead of plastic bag)

Is there a role for voluntary measures (individual or by sector) and if so, what might they be? **BYO packaging?**

6.6 Consultation Questions – Single Use Plastics •

What measures could be considered to reduce the amount of single use food containers we use, taking the provisions of the Packaging Directive into account? Are there measures already in place that could be strengthened by legislation – for example, obligating retailers to give a reduction to consumers who use re-useable ware?

ABSOLUTELY -

Do retailers have role to play in exploring viable reusable food containers for on the go consumption? • **YES**

Are there additional products that are suitable for consumption reduction?

All household cleaning agent, cosmetics, shampoos, deodorants; manufacturers should be incentivised to provide bulk buying options.

The role of levies in reducing our consumption is well documented. However, in the case of plastic bags the levy was applied to a commodity which had previously been available for free. Given the range of prices involved for commodities sold in SUP food containers and beverage cups, do you believe a levy would affect behavioral change?

OF COURSE IT WOULD: IT WOULD NEED TO BE PUNITIVE ENOUGH TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Are there other SUP items that cause litter and for which there are sustainable alternatives available, which Ireland should consider banning?

FOIL PACKAGING OF ALL KIND WHICH ENDS UP TOO EASILY IN THE RIVERS

Can our current co-mingled collection model be enhanced in order to deliver a collection rate of 90% for PET beverage containers?

INTRODUCE PLASTIC BOTTLE BANKS?

Would you use a segregated bin just for the responsible disposal of single use PET containers? **YES**

Have you any other comments or suggestions on how you would like to see Ireland transition to a more resource efficient and circular economy by improving our waste management practices?

PROVIDE EASY TO READ INFOGRAPHICS AT ALL BOTTLE BANKS AND ON ALL WASTE DISPOSAL CONTAINERS/BINS EXPLAINING SEGREGATION AND WHY IT IS NEEDED

Introduce REFILL STATION instead of bottles in conjunction with manufacturers.

Introduce public campaign and signage re marine litter along with pick up litter campaign and additional public bins in amenity areas (swimming spots, blueways, beaches) : see example of tide tanks in France: www.bacamaree.fr or/and ‘pick up 3 for the sea’ in Tramore, co. Waterford.

7.7 Consultation Questions – Circular Economy

What measures are required to increase understanding of Circular Economy principles and their uptake by relevant actors?

Some class of graduated levy according to how expensive recycling/disposal of a item would be a game-changer in terms of what materials would be used in the first place.

Have you any other comments or suggestions on how you would like to see Ireland transition to a more resource efficient and circular economy by improving our waste management practices?

Repair/reuse/refill and upcycling businesses should be given tax break to reward their effort! Substantial public information campaigns on waste disposal and the need to take responsibility for our own waste (as opposed to exporting it) should be rolled out.

8.7 Consultation Questions – Citizen Engagement •

What campaigns would better assist householders and businesses in preventing and segregating waste properly? **Regular TV and radio adds should be routine.**

Should this be funded by Government or should the sector play a role in funding campaigns? **Joint venture between all partners; more public info should be displayed in all public buildings: pools, library, schools, parks, etc.**

Do you agree that collectors are giving sufficient information to their customers in relation to separating waste into the 3 bins? **Easiest way to communicate this info is putting stickers on the bin itself.**

Do you think information stickers for bins showing what's accepted in each bin should be rolled out to all households? **Absolutely**

10.7 Consultation Questions – Textiles •

What measures would best support the successful collection of household textiles? **Information about textile waste, recycling and end of life destination would raise awareness; work with manufacturers to promote better practice**

What measures would best support sustainable consumption of textiles by the general public? **Put a recycling tax on each item which would incentivise buying less but better quality? No tax on second hand clothes.**

Have you any other comments or suggestions on how you would like to see Ireland transition to a more resource efficient and circular economy by improving our waste management practices? **Incentivise R&D and the setting up of recycling businesses which reuse the textiles, esp non wearable clothes and waste materials (bedding, denim, polyester filling)**

18.6 Consultation Questions - Research & Innovation • What are the research areas you would consider to be important in developing a circular economy?

What new research programmes/initiatives do you think could be put in place? •

What do you see as the main barriers/enablers to fostering a positive research culture around the circular economy? • Do you think research on waste, resource efficiency and the circular economy could be better publicised and more readily accessible?

How? • What further incentives could be put in place to encourage research? • Have you any other comments or suggestions on how you would like to see Ireland transition to a more resource efficient and circular economy by improving our waste management practices?

21.7 Consultation Questions - Household Bulky Waste

What supports do consumers require to prevent bulky waste?

Unless new bulky items are taxed, there is little incentive to repair existing items or postpone buying new ones. Encourage businesses that repair/ renovate bulky items such as mattresses and furniture for instance.

Are consumers willing to pay more to ensure appropriate end-of-life disposal for these products? **They would be willing if they knew the environmental footprint/cost of new purchases and what happens to them after disposal.**

Should Government support investment in the recycling of large plastic items that are not suitable for domestic recycle collection? **Yes, although taxing such items according to volume and non-recyclability would in time discourage their manufacture.**

Have you any other comments or suggestions on how you would like to see Ireland transition to a more resource efficient and circular economy by improving our waste management practices?

Some class of levy according to how expensive recycling/disposal of a item would be a game-changer in terms of what materials would be used in the first place.