

# Consolidated list of questions

## About you

1. What is your name?

Mid Ulster District Council

2. What is your email address?

[karl.mcgowan@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:karl.mcgowan@midulstercouncil.org)

3. Which of the following best describes you?

- trade body or other business representative organisation
- electronic producer
- Producer Compliance Scheme
- distributor (including online marketplace)
- waste management company
- waste operator or re-processor
- exporter
- local government
- community group
- non-governmental organisation
- charity or social enterprise
- re-use or repair operator
- consultancy
- academic or research
- individual (ie not representing an organisation)
- other
- If you answered 'Other', please provide details

4. Would you like your response to be confidential?

- a. Yes
- b. No

5. If you answered 'Yes' to question 4, please briefly explain why you require your response to be confidential.

N/A

## Increasing collections of waste electrical and electronic equipment from households

6. Do you agree or disagree that producers (and distributors that do not provide their own take-back services for electric and electronic goods) should finance collections of small WEEE (for example, toasters, small toys and tools), from households?

Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

7. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 6.

N/A

8. Recognising the need to balance frequency of service with efficiency, what frequency should a WEEE collection round be provided? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Weekly
- b. Fortnightly
- c. Monthly
- d. On demand

9. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 8.

Currently collections within Mid Ulster District are carried out of a fortnightly basis. The most efficient way of implementing a WEEE collection round would be to integrate this with the current recyclables bin collection.

10. Would there be benefit in providing for different arrangements to apply in different areas according to circumstances, for example, on demand in some areas and regular collection round in others? Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer.

No, within Mid Ulster a common collection system would be preferable.

11. What should items qualifying for this service be defined by:

- a. Weight
- b. Dimension

12. Please specify any products that, due to their properties, should be excluded from the small WEEE household collection service. Please provide evidence to support your answer

Items not able to fit within a standard 240l wheeled bin. Items larger than this could be accommodated by an on-demand bulky goods collection. Due to the health and safety implication batteries and light bulbs should also be excluded.

13. For any products listed in response to question 12, what measures should be put in place to drive up levels of their separate collection to minimise disposal in residual waste?

Drop off boxes at retailers and Household Waste Recycling Centres.

14. Do you agree or disagree that producers (and distributors that do not provide their own take-back services) should finance collection of large WEEE? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

15. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 14.

N/A

16. Do you agree or disagree that a producer-led Scheme Administrator, approved by government, is best placed to determine the most practical and efficient delivery mechanism to manage producer obligations to finance small and large WEEE collections from households? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

17. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 16.

N/A

18. Do you agree or disagree that the most efficient and cost-effective delivery of the obligation to provide a regular household collection service for small WEEE and bulky waste collections for large WEEE is likely to be achieved through partnerships between a Scheme Administrator and Local Authorities and their waste management partners? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

19. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 18.

N/A

20. If you answered agree to question 16, what, if any, safeguards might be necessary to ensure costs incurred by producers in meeting the WEEE household collection obligation are reflective of the actual costs of delivery through their service partners?

An agreed methodology should be used for the calculation of costs and claims for costs by service partners should be independently audited by the SA.

21. Do you agree or disagree with the analysis of this proposal set out in the accompanying Impact Assessment? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree.
- c. Unsure

22. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 21.

N/A

23. Are there are other means of delivering a cost effective and efficient household collection service to that described in question 18, with alternative delivery partners to Local Authorities and if so, what might that look like?

Deposit Return Scheme for Small WEEE

On-Demand collection service run by the SA in partnership with local logistics firms. For example the SA could run a website where householders could request a returns envelope to package their item and leave outside their door for a local logistics company to pick up and deliver to a recycler.

24. Please provide any other comments and supporting evidence on the proposal for producers (and distributors that do not provide take-back services) to finance a system of kerbside collection of small WEEE and on-demand collections of large WEEE for households?

N/A

25. Producers who place less than 5 tonnes of equipment on the UK market each year are exempt from financial obligations under the WEEE Regulations. Does that 5-tonne threshold remain appropriate? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unsure

26. If you answered no to question 25, what tonnage threshold is appropriate? Please provide evidence in support of an alternative threshold.

N/A

27. Are there alternative, non-regulatory approaches that could be established to increase separate collection of WEEE from households for re-use and recycling? If so, please describe what this might look like.

N/A

## Increasing distributor collections infrastructure

28. Do you agree or disagree that internet sellers and retailers should provide a free of charge “collection on delivery service”, requiring the free takeback of large domestic appliances such as washing machines, dishwashers, fridges, freezers and TVs? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

29. If you answered agree to question 28, should there be a reasonable time frame stipulated in which the unwanted item should be collected to allow for circumstances where it is not available for collection at time of delivery? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Yes
- b. No.
- c. Unsure

30. If you answered yes to question 29, what should those timeframes be?

- a. 2 days
- b. 5 days
- c. 10 days
- d. No there should not be a reasonable timeframe stipulated.

31. If you answered agree to question 28, should this service be extended to collection of smaller items when a large item is collected? If so, should this be subject to reasonable limits in terms of how many items can be returned at once? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unsure

32. Should retailers selling new household appliances as part of a new kitchen also be obligated to take away the old appliances from the household free of charge? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unsure

33. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 32.

N/A

34. Do you agree or disagree that we should extend the existing take-back requirements for large retailers from 1:1 to a 0:1 basis ie by removing the requirement to purchase an item for the take-back obligation to apply? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

35. If you answered 'agree' to question 34, do you agree or disagree that such an obligation should be subject to reasonable limits as to the quantities of WEEE returned per householder? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

36. Do you agree or disagree that the definition of "large retailer" should be any business with an annual turnover of electrical and electronic equipment of over £100k? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

37. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 36.

N/A

38. If you answered 'disagree' to question 36, what should an alternative threshold be? Please provide evidence to support your answer.

N/A

39. Do you agree or disagree that the obligation be restricted to retailers only taking back items that are similar to those sold in their stores? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

40. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 39.

N/A

41. Do you agree or disagree that an alternative obligation to 0:1 takeback be available to internet sellers such as payment into a scheme, similar to the current distributor takeback scheme, be used to support increased levels of collections for re-use and recycling? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

42. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 41.

N/A

43. Do you agree or disagree that the current information requirements should be enhanced to ensure customers are provided with information about their recycling options 'at the point of sale'? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

44. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 43.

N/A

45. Do you agree or disagree that the point of producer responsibility should be moved to the retailer or internet seller's premises such as the retailer's store, bulking point, distribution point? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

46. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 45.

N/A

47. Are there any other obligations we should place on retailers and/or internet sellers to increase levels of collections?

N/A

48. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 47.

N/A

49. Do you agree or disagree that Online Marketplaces and/or fulfilment houses should have 'take-back' obligations where they facilitate the supply of the product to the householder? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree



b. Disagree

c. Unsure

50. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 49.

N/A

51. How long will industry need to adapt to the proposals set out above? Please select one of the following options:

a. Up to 12 months

b. 12 to 18 months

c. 18 to 24 months

d. 24 to 48 months

52. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 51.

N/A

## New producer obligations for Online Marketplaces and Fulfilment Houses

53. Do you agree or disagree that Online Marketplaces should be required to fulfil the producer obligations on behalf of their overseas sellers? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

54. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 53.

N/A

55. Do you agree or disagree that fulfilment houses should be required to meet the producer obligations on behalf of their overseas sellers? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

56. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 55.

N/A

57. Do you agree that Online Marketplaces/fulfilment houses should initially be able to use estimated weight data using a protocol agreed with the environmental regulators? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Agree
- b. Disagree
- c. Unsure

58. If you answered agree to question 57, please provide evidence to explain why exact data cannot be provided.

N/A

59. What additional costs will accrue to online marketplaces and fulfilment houses as a result of becoming defined as a producer?

N/A

60. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 59.

N/A

61. What other ways, if any, should government explore to tackle the issue of noncompliance with the WEEE Regulations by online sellers?

N/A

62. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 61.

N/A

### Dealing with the environmental impacts of vaping products

63. Do you agree with the proposal to create a new category for vapes? Please select one of the following options:

a. Yes

b. No

c. Unsure

64. What additional costs will accrue to producers, compliance schemes and regulators as a result of creating a new category for vapes? Please provide evidence to support your answer.

N/A

65. Are there any other measures, beyond those for eco-modulation and littering set out in the call for evidence, you think government should take to curb the environmental impact of vapes? Please provide evidence to support your answer.

Single use disposable vapes should be banned.

## System governance, the creation of a WEEE Scheme Administrator and performance indicators

66. Do you agree or disagree with the principle of establishing Government approved, producer-led Scheme Administrator to carry out specified functions in the reformed WEEE system? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unsure

67. Please provide any evidence you have to support your answer to question 66.

N/A

68. If you answered no to question 66, please set out details of an alternative approach to the proposed functions of a Scheme Administrator.

N/A

69. Which of the following functions do you think the Scheme Administrator should carry out?

- i. managing the Producer Balancing system for household WEEE (and non-household if necessary)
- ii. administration of a Distributor Takeback Scheme (for use by those distributors who are not required under the new system to offer in store take-back)
- iii. development and administration of a compliance fee methodology in consultation with all PCSs, for approval by Government
- iv. providing evidence and forecasts of the likely household WEEE arisings – presenting recommendations to Government s to inform setting annual financial obligations placed on PCSs for household WEEE collections
- v. eco-modulation – support Government on potential new measures which could be applied to specific product categories, including development of a methodology upon which to base the modulation
- vi. assess and report on environmental performance of the future system against key performance indicators with recommendations to Government on measures to improve that performance

70. Are there any additional functions that should be added?

N/A

71. Please provide any other comments on the role of a Scheme Administrator.

N/A

72. Which of the alternative performance indicators listed in the section above do you agree or disagree should be included in the future system?

- a. Quantity or weight of WEEE in residual waste.
- b. Convenience of recycling.
- c. Volume of WEEE in fly-tipped waste in each of the nations.
- d. Level of consumer awareness of value and opportunities for reusing or recycling WEEE.
- e. Regular assessment of the carbon impact the UK WEEE system.
- f. Assessment of circular economy performance of the system.
- g. Improvements in the quality of WEEE treatment processes.
- h. Amount of WEEE diverted for reuse.

73. Are there any other measures of success which government should consider to assess the performance of the system?

N/A

74. Should information be collected to a level to support regional or local? Please select one of the following options:

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Unsure