

Packaging waste update – winter 2020

December

Packaging waste target update

Defra has recently published interim packaging recycling targets for business for 2021 and 2022. The figures are based on responses received from the 2019 consultation on packaging reform and with consideration of the current market and wood targets, they have been reduced from 48% to 35%.

| | 2021 business target | 2022 business target |
|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Paper | 79.0% | 83.0% |
| Glass | 81.0% | 82.0% |
| Of which by remelt | 72% | 72% |
| Al | 66.0% | 69.0% |
| Steel | 86.0% | 87.0% |
| Plastic | 59.0% | 61.0% |
| Wood | 35.0% | 35.0% |
| Overall recycling | 76.00% | 77.00% |

This news is very welcome, as the high PRN prices experienced previously added a significant cost burden to the manufacturers and users of wooden pallets and packaging.

Interestingly, every other packaging material, including plastics, glass, and metal, have seen an increase in targets from next year. This is a positive sign that the government now recognises a clear difference between these and the unique environmental credentials of wooden materials, which are critical components of a truly circular, sustainable packaging economy that encourages more reuse before recycling.

We anticipate a growing number of businesses will look to engage in the development of a tailored, sustainable pallet solution which minimises timber packaging waste and encourages pallet reuse and recovery. Our experienced nationwide team of timber and pallet procurement specialists, design and technical consultants, and customer account managers are available to support your business to navigate the challenges and opportunities ahead.

For support or more information, contact your account manager or our technical team.

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John Dye

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