

## **Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee**

Gillian Martin MSP Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Energy Scottish Government

17 October 2025

Dear Gillian,

## The Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging and Packaging Waste) (Amendment) Regulations 2025

At its meeting on 7 October, the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee considered the Scottish Government's consent notification for the following UK statutory instrument—

Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging and Packaging Waste) (Amendment) Regulations 2025

The Committee notes that this notification proposes various changes to the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging and Packaging Waste) Regulations 2024 (the 2024 Regulations).

Further to our scrutiny of this notification, the Committee agreed that it is content for the Scottish Government to give consent to UK Ministers making regulations in a devolved area in relation to this SI.

In so doing, the Committee also agreed to seek some further information about the proposed changes to the 2024 Regulations that are set out in the notification. Could you provide further information on:

- What functions of the scheme administrator may be delegated to the new producer responsibility organisation (PRO)?
- How the PRO, in its governance arrangements, will reflect or ensure consideration of Scottish interests and circumstances?
  - In particular, the Committee notes that where the scheme administrator is calculating efficient disposal costs (impacting on what funds flow to local authorities), it is required under <u>Regulation 73(1)(c)</u> of the 2024 Regulations to consider factors such as population density and types of housing, thereby providing some level of safeguard which may be particularly relevant to Scottish circumstances e.g. remote, rural

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locations or urban tenements. Will the scheme administrator be able to delegate these functions to a PRO and if so, will these considerations be replicated?

 Whether the proposed changes that aim to "more accurately model local authority costs for running an efficient waste management service" are expected to significantly impact the estimates given to the Committee previously of what funds are expected to be paid to Scottish local authorities to ensure full cost recovery<sup>1</sup> (and whether COSLA has raised any concerns about the proposed changes)?

I would be grateful for a response to these points by Friday 14 November.

Yours sincerely,

**Edward Mountain MSP** 

Edward Maurtain,

Convener

**Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Committee was previously advised of a £120 million per year estimate – <u>Official Report, Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee</u>, 3 September 2024