



PAPER CUP

Recovery & Recycling Group

18 December 2018

STATEMENT IN RESPONSE THE GOVERNMENT'S RESOURCES & WASTE STRATEGY

The Paper Cup Recovery and Recycling Group (PCRRG) welcomes the principles of the Defra Waste and Resource Strategy and is pleased that this consultation is being developed on a level playing field and that no products have been singled out.

As with the Chancellor's decision, we believe that Defra has recognised the work of the industry in the recovery and recycling of paper cups. Through the diligent work of the PCRRG and its members, paper cups have already established a market value for waste operators and used paper cups are now a valuable resource for a range of post-consumer uses.

However there is no room for complacency and we are continuing to drive hard to increase recovery and recycling of paper cups and put in place the infrastructure and processes that are needed to do so. Having established that paper cups are 100% recyclable and that capacity exists now to recycle all of the cups used in the UK, we will continue to work with all those involved to look at paper cups as part of the waste consistency programme, alongside similar recyclable materials such as beverage cartons, which are collected in more than 92% of local authorities.

We note the consultation on Deposit Return Schemes (DRS) but consider this a very complex issue and likely to be extremely challenging. A DRS scheme (for out of home) would place an administrative burden on business, when more than 4 500 collection points already exist in the UK for the collection of used paper cups are more are planned and in progress.

Ends

December 2018

Note to Editors

- PCRRG members include representatives from paper board manufacturers, paper cup manufacturers, distributors, retail brands recycling and reprocessing companies, local authorities and NGO bodies.
- Through the work of the PCRRG, the industry has made huge progress during 2018 increasing rates of paper cup recycling from 1:400 to 1:25, with that number set to increase further in 2019 to 1:12.

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