BlueSky

UK PLASTIC PACKAGING TAX

2025

INTRODUCTION

Plastic Packaging Tax (PPT) became law from 1st April 2022. From 1st April 2025, the tax levy increased to £223.69 per tonne on any plastic item, defined as containing over 55% plastic (mixed content). The tax does not apply to products containing 30% recycled polymer or Post Consumer Recycled (PCR) content.

This document covers:

- Who the tax applies to
- How the tax will affect you
- If the tax affects the recyclability of your products
- How BlueSky will support you

WE WILL TAKE CARE OF IT

Who does the tax apply to?

The tax itself only applies to companies who are:

a) Producing plastic products
b) Importing plastic products

As the importer of plastics, BlueSky will be subjected to the tax, and will be responsible for the reporting of relevant data required by HMRC.

How does it affect you?

This additional tax cost will impact the price of products manufactured from virgin polymer.

As a result of increasing demand, the cost of PCR in many polymer types may be more expensive than virgin polymer. This means that the price of plastic packaging will increase irrespective of measures taken to mitigate the tax.

You won't be responsible for reporting the weight of plastic consumed or paying the tax directly, BlueSky is responsible for this as your supplier of choice.

RECYCABILITY

How does it affect the recyclability of your products?

Virgin and PCR PET, PE, or PP are widely recycled at all UK recycling facilities.

As virgin polymer is critical to the ongoing circular economy and creation of recycled material, you will need a label that correctly reflects the recyclability of the packaging, and we recommend OPRL to help with this detail: https://www.oprl.org.uk/

Always consider the 4Rs

- Can you **Remove** any plastic from your range?
- Can you **Reduce** the amount of plastic? Consider the weight of the packaging that you currently use.
- Can you **Reuse** the plastic packaging within your range? Consider refillable packaging.
- Can you **Recycle** the plastic packaging in your range? Are all the products you supply, recyclable within the parameters of the UK recycling system?

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

Exploring alternatives

BlusSky has other options that can be considered as an alternative to plastic, such as, aluminium.

Aluminium is a permanently available resource and infinitely recyclable. The quality of the substrate is not compromised when it is recycled.

Making your product 100% recyclable

The plastic packaging that we supply is not intended for single use and in many cases, it is the most effective and environmentally friendly way to transport, store and use your product.

It is the way that plastic is recycled and reused that is the most significant aspect. Improvements have been made in the recycling infrastructure to support the re-use of plastic in recent years.

We support the development of sustainable and recyclable packaging, and we can help you create a pack (bottle and closure) that is 100% recyclable.

HOW WE WILL SUPPORT YOU

How we will support you:

- The cost of the tax will be included in the price on your invoice. This written statement will feature on the invoice: `The cost of the plastic tax is included in the price'.

- We will include the weight of each product on the delivery notes and invoices, to help you maintain records of the weight of plastic you consume.

- BlueSky is liable directly to HMRC for this tax. It applies to plastic items, either manufactured or imported by BlueSky, that do not incorporate a minimum of 30% PCR material. Regarding plastic items that BlueSky purchase from UK supply partners: they will be liable to HMRC for the tax, and this will be passed on to BlueSky in the cost of the product.

- If the packaging is being used for the immediate packing of pharmaceutical drugs, the tax will not be included in the price we charge, unless:

a) We have not received prior information and evidence of your product licence numbers, required as a proof by HMRC. (We cannot do this after the transaction has taken place).

b) The packaging has been manufactured by a UK supply partner and the cost has already been passed on to BlueSky, without a declaration being signed.

Think sustainably

HOW WE WILL SUPPORT YOU

- If we directly export the packaging to you outside of the UK, the tax will not be included in the price we charge.

- If the packaging contains over 30% PCR, the tax will not be included in the price we charge.

- On packaging that is exported indirectly, whilst a system to reclaim it later may be possible with HMRC, it is not in our mutual interest to consider this option.

- We hereby confirm that BlueSky will comply with all the requirements of the tax, including, accounting for quantities and weights of products supplied, and our liability to pay the tax accordingly.

BlueSky

Unlimited Packaging Possibilities

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