



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

The Rt Hon Michael Gove MP
From the Secretary of State for Environment, Food
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Marcus Gover, CEO WRAP
Paul Vanston, CEO INCPEN
Phil Conran, Chair ACP

9/2 May 2018

Dear Marcus, Paul and Phil,

I am very grateful to you and your colleagues for both generating debate on the packaging regulations and gathering the views of such a wide range of organisations.

As you know, I have announced our intent to reform producer responsibility systems (including packaging waste regulations) to incentivise producers to take greater responsibility for the environmental impacts of their products. Your recommendations are timely and will be valuable as we develop policy options that complement and build on the action already being taken by businesses, such as through the UK Plastics Pact.

Achieving the right outcomes is of great importance. I welcome business stepping up and contributing toward better designed, more recyclable packaging. I am committed to accelerating the move toward uniform recycling collections. I therefore welcome the proposal that business funding could help achieve this.

I note your recommendation for an independent arbiter to be established to determine how such funds are allocated, amongst other things. Governance arrangements to ensure that funds raised are targeted to best effect and deliver desired outcomes is important to Government and business alike. I am open minded as to how this is best achieved, including any role for Government itself.

My officials are now developing specific models for a packaging extended producer responsibility scheme. We will consult on this later in the year alongside our proposals for DRS and future packaging recycling targets. As this work develops they will wish to engage further with stakeholders and I trust they can continue to draw on your expertise, support and advice.

With every good wish,

Yours,

Michael Gove