

**Environment Marine and Fisheries
Group**
Environmental Resources Policy
Division



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Dear Marie

Request for further information for Proposed Replacement Act Regulation (EU) 2024/1157 on shipments of waste, amending Regulations (EU) No 1257/2013 and (EU) 2020/1056 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006

Please find attached (Annex A) in response to the committee request for further information following DAERA officials attendance at the committee on 16 May 2024. The information includes:

- Breakdown of the type of waste which makes up the 1 million tonnes exported from Northern Ireland annually;
- Classifications of waste and any change to this upon implementation of the act; and
- A breakdown of the potential costs to local authorities as a result of the changes.

Yours sincerely,

Shane Doris
Director – Environmental Resources Policy Division

***Sustainability** at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.*

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Annex A

1. Breakdown of the type of waste which makes up the 1 million tonnes exported from Northern Ireland annually.

In 2023 waste exported from Northern Ireland (NI) totalled just under 1million tonnes. Waste is exported under the controls of Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 Regulations on Waste Shipments which contains two main types: Notifiable Waste and Green List waste.

Notifiable Waste

Notifiable Waste generally consists of refuse derived fuel (RDF), mixed wastes and hazardous wastes.

Notifiable Waste exports from NI in 2023 totalled approximately 300,000 tonnes. Over 90% of these exports were RDF Exports for R1 operations which are used as a fuel to generate energy. These included exports to Sweden, Norway, Denmark. The next largest export was waste oils at 2% for R9 recovery, the use in oil re-refining. The fees associated with these exports totalled approximately £78,000. There were no notifiable waste exports to non-OECD countries.

Regulation 2024/1157 does not set any fees associated with notifiable waste and leaves it to administrations to determine what fees are charged for waste movements. NIEA has a specific policy detailing the necessary fees for notifiable waste movements. This policy is scheduled for review by NIEA, having last been updated in 2014. The other UK regulators are also undertaking review work on their notifiable waste fees with each agency at different stages of the process.

Green List Waste

Green List Waste generally consists of single stream wastes like Metal, Paper, and Plastics.

Green List waste exports from NI in 2023 totalled approximately 700,000 tonnes. Metal accounted for around 50% of the exports, paper 30%, plastic 10% and tyres 6%.

The Green List Waste exports can be broken down further into OECD and non-OECD countries. In 2023 NI exported approximately 500,000 tonnes of Green List waste to 16 OECD countries and approximately 200,000 tonnes of waste to eight non-OECD countries. The majority of the exports to non-OECD countries consisted of metal, paper and tyre waste. A total of 300 tonnes of plastic waste (equivalent to about 10 shipments) was exported to two non-OECD countries, Malaysia and India. In 2023 these are the only exports that would have been affected by the introduction of the ban on plastic waste to non-OECD countries. The proposed UK-wide restriction on plastic

waste exports to non-OECD countries is anticipated to have the same impact. There are other outlets for plastic wastes within the EU and OECD member countries.

There are currently no fees associated with movements of Green List Waste.

Considering the above we therefore don't believe the ban on plastic exports to non-OECD countries will have a significant impact on NI stakeholders.

2. Classifications of waste and any change to this upon implementation of the act.

The current regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 implements the provisions of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Basel Convention), and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development Decision on the control of transboundary movements of wastes destined for recovery operations (OECD Decision). The UK is a Party to the Basel Convention in its own right and is also subject to the OECD Decision.

The Basel Convention adopted a decision in June 2022 to include two additional codes for electrical and electronic waste in an update to the Annexes. The new Annex II code Y49 for non-hazardous e-waste and the new Annex VIII code A1181 for hazardous e-waste.

The new Regulation (EU) 2024/1157 on shipments of waste implements the Basel Convention decisions above to update Annex II and Annex VIII in relation to waste being prohibited from export to non-OECD countries (Article 39). This will result in a ban on any e-waste from the EU (including NI) to non-OECD countries. In 2023 NI exported one load of 27 tonnes non-hazardous e-waste to Pakistan (non-OECD).

We do not believe the additional waste codes will have a significant impact on NI stakeholders.

3. A breakdown of the potential costs to local authorities as a result of the changes.

Within the new Regulations (EU) 2024/1157 on waste shipments there is an EU requirement to use a digital waste tracking system but there are no direct fees detailed in these regulations.

The UK is independently developing its own Digital Waste Tracking (DWT) System that may eventually feed into any EU system. Fees & Charges associated with the UK DWT system are yet to be determined with work ongoing by the Digital Waste Tracking team. For Digital Waste Tracking a separate NIEA specific policy will have to be introduced once any fees and charges have been agreed, this will be outside of the scope of the new Regulations EU 2024/1157 on waste shipments. Notifiable waste charges will be reviewed separately to the new Regulation 2024/1157, fees currently remain unchanged.

Officials cannot provide any further information on potential costs at this stage.