

ACP Task Group 1

To consider opportunities for the packaging regulations to assist in meeting the 2020 household waste recycling targets.

Progress Report 13th October 2015

Terms of Reference.

- Data – to identify relevant data for packaging in the household waste stream
- Communication – impact and effectiveness of current systems , including the Consumer Information Obligation
- Economics – impact of PRN and material volatility
- Commercial relationships – consider the impact of commercial relationships between waste management companies and local authorities
- Regulatory obstacles – whether there are aspects of interpretations of regulations that restrict growth

What we will look at

- Data Analysis
- Key Issues Identified
 - Local Authority Collection Services
 - Use of PRN System
- Recommendations
- Next Steps

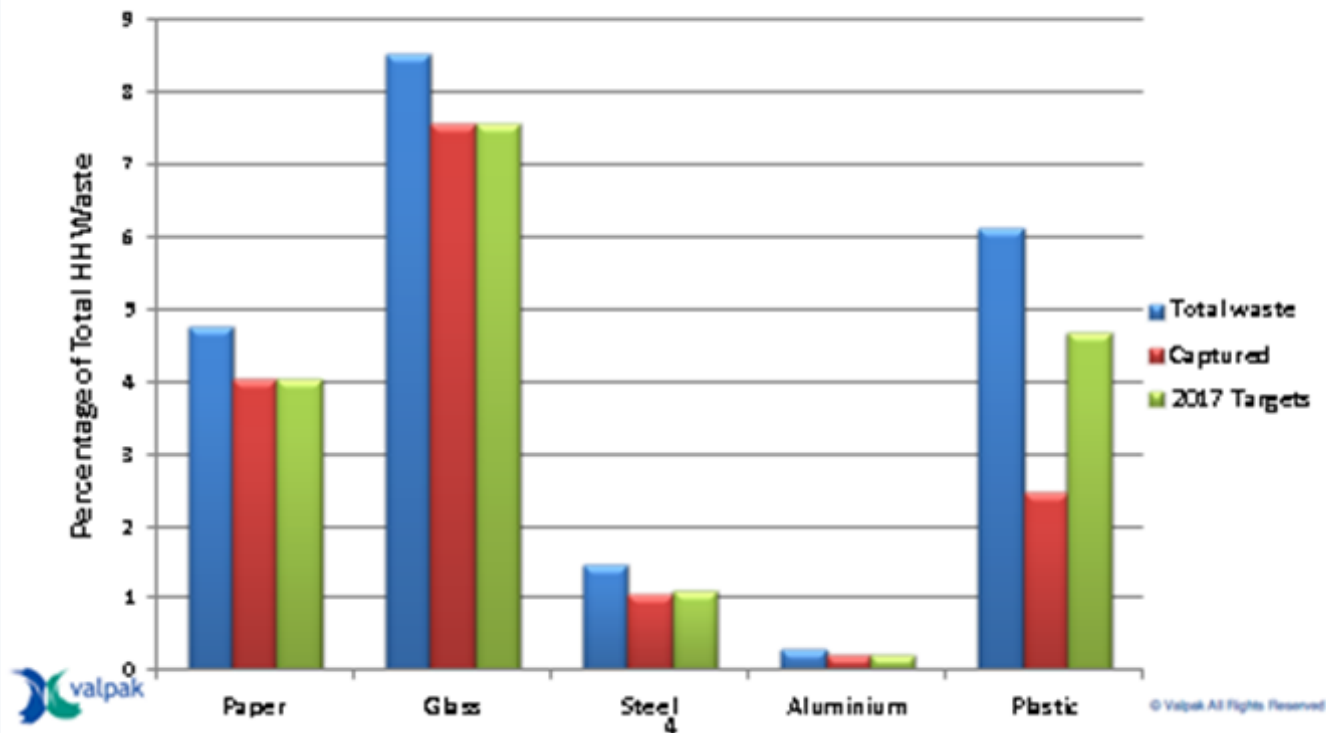
Data Analysis

- High level data indicates where good infrastructure exists capture rates are high, but –
- Difficult to evidence what effect packaging regulations have in capture rate
- Difficult to evidence where there are known gaps in collections
- Plastics are a challenge

High Level Capture Rates

Packaging Remaining in the Household Waste Stream

- Packaging already collected to high levels
 - Some further increases possible, particularly plastics, target increases in place



Key Issues Identified

- Local Authority collection Services
 - Recycling more packaging alone will not solve meeting the 2020 targets
 - It does however have an important role
 - There are pockets even in high performing authority's of poor participation
 - Budgetary pressures may see recycling services reduce.
 - Market volatility doesn't provide confidence
 - Consistency of collection services & material collection causes confusion & doesn't always tie in with messages on consumer packaging
 - Street litter not widely recycled despite containing high rates of packaging material.

Key Issues Identified

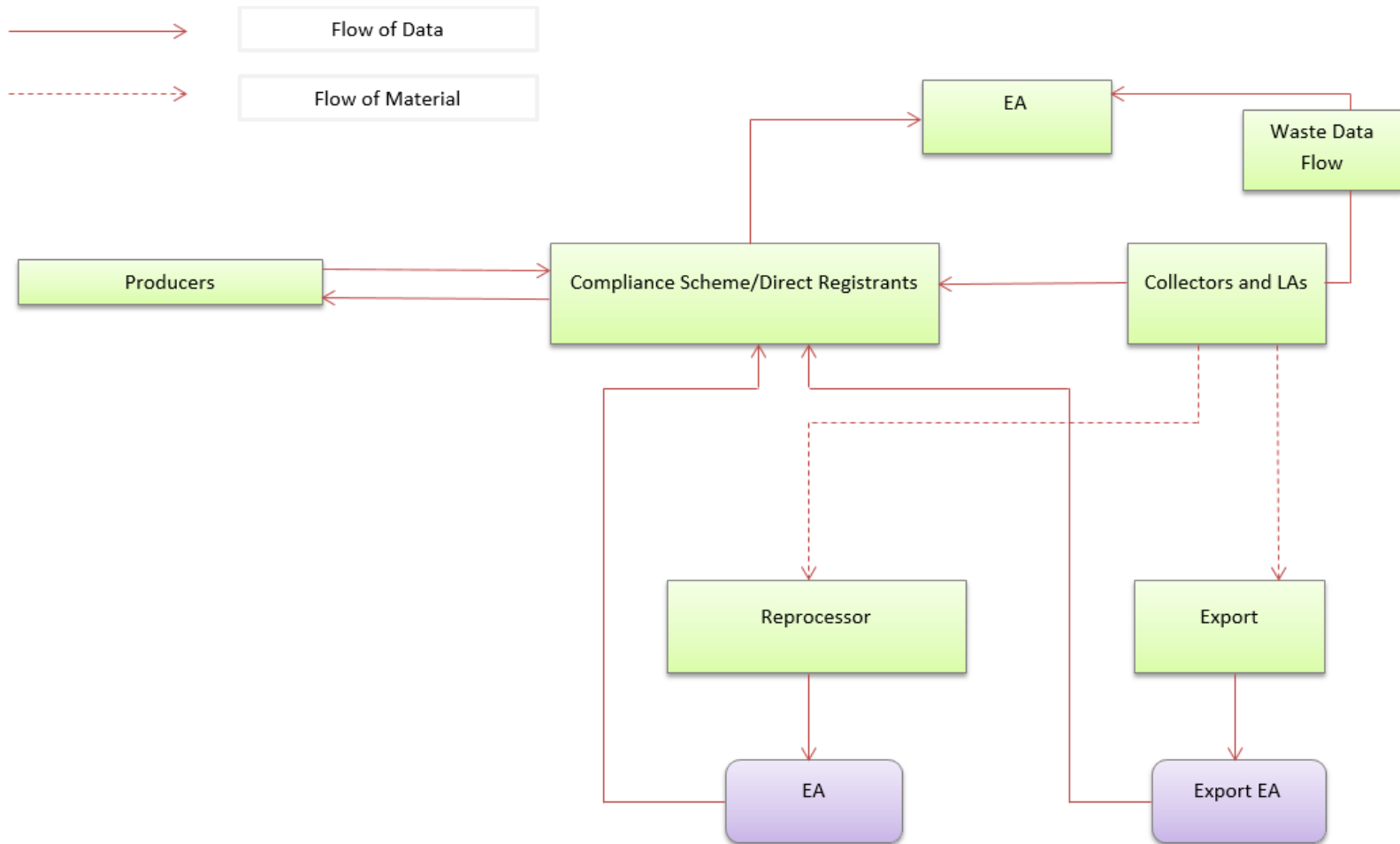
- Use of PRN System
 - Is there a way of putting PRN income back into household collections
 - Splitting PRN revenue along the supply chain
 - Would require a robust system of evidence
 - Could be used to incentivise higher quality material
 - Opportunity to introduce a compliance fee which could be used to improve infrastructure
 - Currently there is only so much money in the 'pot'

Recommendations

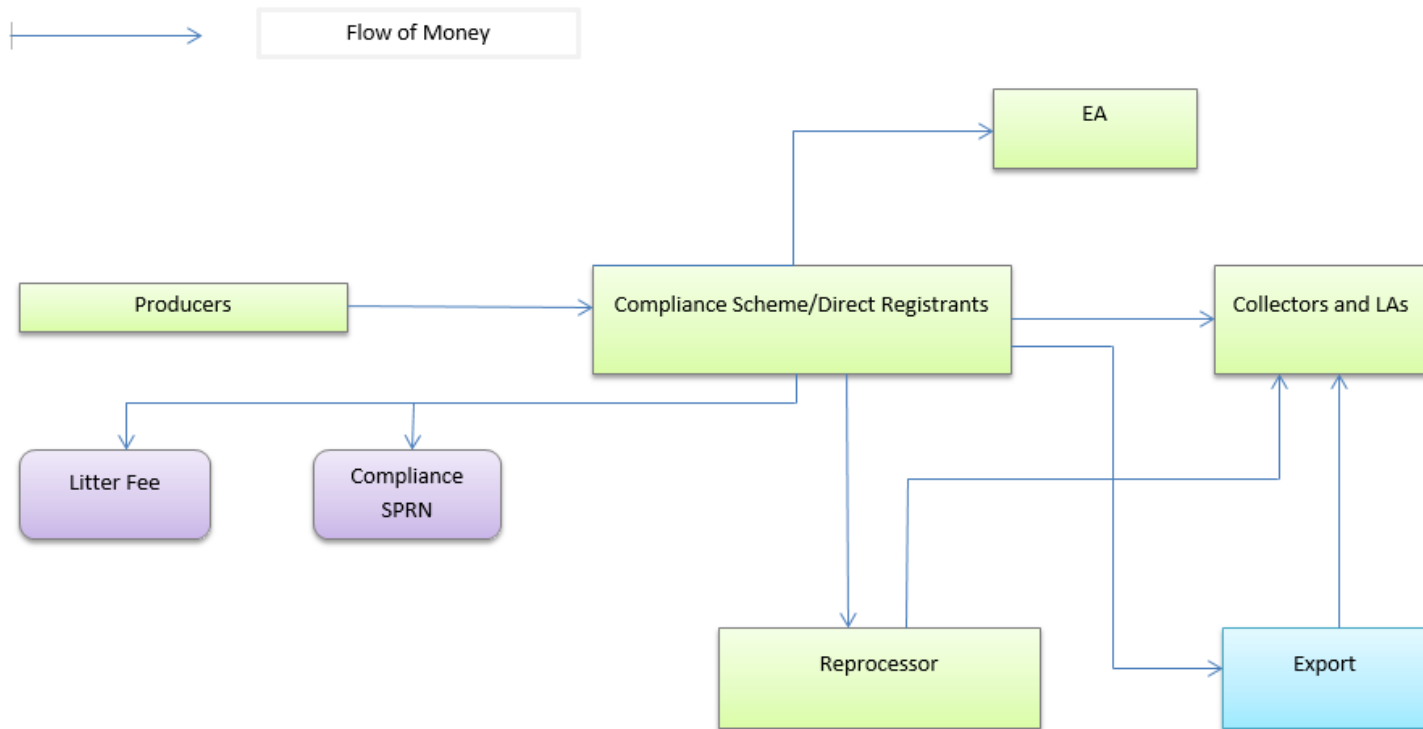
1. PRN system

- Amending the system to incentivise LA's and WM company's to improve quality.
- Incentivise towards material types, e.g. recovering packaging materials from street cleaning operations
- Help materials being collected & dealt with in a consistent manner
- Robust audit requirement would help improve data capture
- LA's & WMC's would be required to obtain formal accreditation

Flow Chart of Data



Flow Chart of Finance



Recommendations

2. Local Authority Targets

- Understand reluctance to reintroduce one size fits all target
- Introduce sliding scale of incentives to help poor performance

Recommendations

3. Consistency of Service Provision

- Welcome work being undertaken to look at how better consistency can be achieved
- Needs to ensure more ‘joined up’ service provision between WCA’s & WDA’s
- Note needs to be taken of existing successful partnerships – Kent, Dorset, Shropshire, Manchester.

Recommendations

4. Removing Barriers to the recycling of packaging

- Provision of recycling infrastructure – start to tackle variations across the country
- Hard to reach areas – need to extend services to all residents, requires innovation for dense urban areas with transient population
- Income from PRNs used to help achieve robust infrastructure

Recommendations

5. Communication

- Deliver consistent communication messages
- Developed alongside more consistent service provision work recently commissioned
- Plastics needs to be the focus initially because of householder confusion
- Need to link with other ACP task groups

Recommendations

6. Route-map for Local Authority's

- A tool box for LA's to take them through a step by step process to help them collect more packaging materials
- Signpost funding opportunity's from organisations such as Alupro & Recoup for communications
- Take them through the accreditation system if adopted

Next Steps

For the group to continue meet in order to fully work up the detail of how the existing PRN system can be amended, develop an associated accreditation system, and look at how the development of the route map can be achieved.