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# WEEE!

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# A very quick introduction

## How much waste!?!?

- 9 million of e waste produced in the EU in 2005,
- 1.2 million tonnes e waste per year in the UK,
- In the EU e waste is forecast to increase to 12.3 million tonnes by 2020.





# Many environmental impacts associated with production, use and disposal of electrical equipment .....

- ☹ Production of some components uses hazardous materials and generates hazardous waste (e.g. PVC),
- ☹ EEE often contains hazardous components, e.g. lead, mercury, cadmium, chromium compounds, brominated flame retardants,
- ☹ Disposal of materials is unsustainable.





# EU legislation

Provides a framework for member states.

The underlying principle of the EUs approach is the polluter pays principle.

The European Union's approach to waste management is based on three principles:

- Waste prevention,
- Recycling and reuse,
- Improving final disposal and monitoring.



# European Directives

Two directives relating to electrical equipment.....

Directive 2002/95/EC - The restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment,

Directive 2002/96/EC - Waste electrical and electronic equipment.



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# WEEE Regulations SI 2006/3289



- Reduce the amount of (WEEE) sent to landfill,
- Promote the separate collection, treatment and recycling of WEEE,
- Ensure the safe treatment and disposal of hazardous components,
- Encourage producers to make products easier to recycle,
- Make producers responsible for financing recovery.



# Specific legal obligations for

- Producers
- Distributors
- Business end users
- WEEE treatment facilities
- Exporters of WEEE

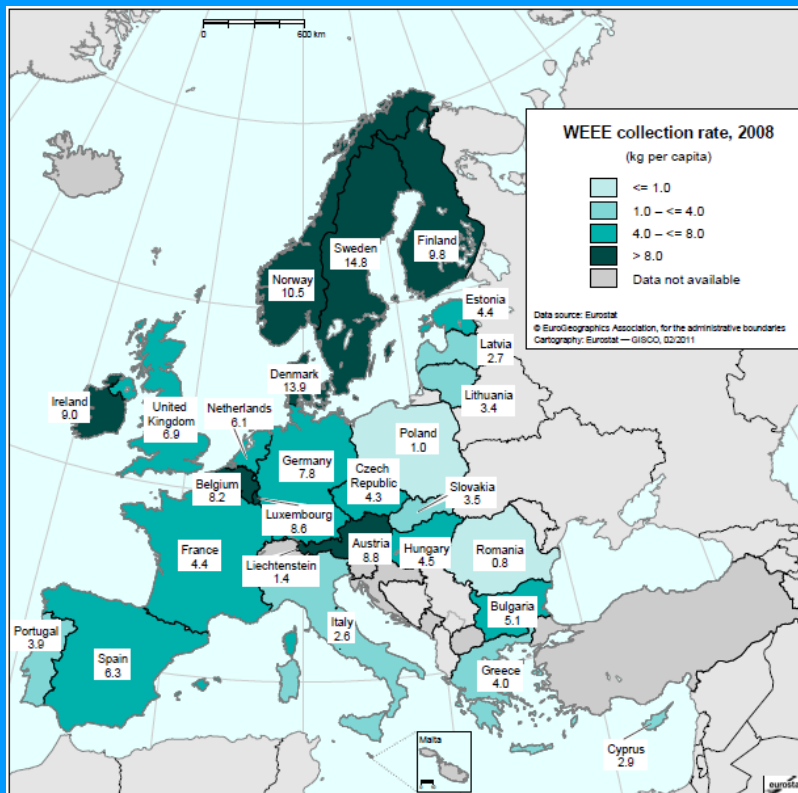
Note: there are no specific requirements for householders







# How successful have the directives been?



- ☹ Restricted substances still found in EEE,
- ☹ Collection target of 4kg per person is too low,
- ☹ 2/3 of waste still going to landfill or substandard treatment sites,
- ☹ Illegal trade of WEEE continues....



# The Future.....

Both directives are currently being revised

## RoHS directive

- Will include medical devices and monitoring and control instruments,
- A list of "priority" substances will be developed.

## WEEE directive

- Targets will be higher, and
- Specific to each member state.



# Disposal of University WEEE

Disposal of WEEE is managed centrally  
In 2010/11.....

- We disposed of 60 tonnes of WEEE,
- Recycling team received 406 collections requests,
- 41 collections were made by our waste contractors .

Work with a social enterprise

All WEEE is either reused or recycled



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# The end!