



Notification Number: 2014/638/UK

Draft The Single Use Carrier Bags Charges (England) Order 2015

Date received : 17/12/2014

End of Standstill : 18/12/2014

Fiscal Measures : Yes

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2014) 03762

Directive 98/34/EC

Notificación - Oznámení - Notifikation - Notifizierung - Teavitamine - Γνωστοποίηση - Notification - Notification - Notifica - Pieteikums - Pranešimas - Bejelentés - Notifika - Kennisgeving - Zawiadomienie - Notificação - Hlásenie-Obvestilo - Ilmoitus - Anmälan - Нотификация : 2014/0638/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Nao inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201403762.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2014 0638 UK EN 17-12-2014 UK NOTIF

2. Member State

UK

3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
European Reform Directorate
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

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3. Originating Department

Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs



Resource, Atmosphere and Sustainability
17 Smith Square
London SW1P 3JR

4. Notification Number

2014/0638/UK - B30

5. Title

Draft The Single Use Carrier Bags Charges (England) Order 2015

6. Products Concerned

Single use carrier bag

1.—(1) A single use carrier bag means a bag made of lightweight plastic material with handles other than an excluded bag.

(2) In sub-paragraph (1), “lightweight plastic material” means synthetic or semi-synthetic material made from polyamide, polyethylene, polylactic acid, polyvinyl chloride or other polymer, or any combination of polymers, the thickness of which is not greater than 70 microns.

7. Notification Under Another Act

- Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste

8. Main Content

The draft Order exercises the powers in the Climate Change Act 2008 for England to introduce a mandatory charge on single use plastic bags. The Order:

- imposes a requirement on retailers with 250 or more employees to charge a minimum of 5p for single use plastic bags.
- imposes a requirement on retailers to report on bags provided annually.
- imposes a requirement for the reports to be published annually by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
- provides for enforcement and penalties for non-compliance
- provides specific exemptions for certain plastic bags based on size, thickness and intended use, cost or combination of those factors.

The draft Order applies in relation to England only.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The draft Order aims to reduce the amount of single use plastic carrier bags used, the litter associated with them and to encourage reuse of bags. Since 2006, the grocery retail industry has done some important voluntary work to reduce the huge amount of plastic bags that were used in the UK. These industry initiatives were able to reduce carrier bag distribution by 41% between 2006 and 2009. While this was a significant progress, single-use carrier bag distribution has crept back up in England between 2009 and 2013 by 12%. Charging 5p for a bag is expected to reduce usage as shown elsewhere in the UK.



The charging requirement will be non-discriminatory, and will have no implications for the Single Market. Similar measures are already operational in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, and in other Member States.

10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

No Basic Text exists

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

Yes

15. Impact assessment

Yes

16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

SPS aspect

No - The draft has no significant impact on international trade

European Commission

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