



Notification Number: 2012/201/UK

Draft Single Use Carrier Bags Charge Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

Date received : 02/04/2012

End of Standstill : 03/04/2012

Fiscal Measures : Yes

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - SG(2012) D/5884

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 : 2012/0201/UK - Notificare.

No abre el plazo - Nezahtjuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία 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: 201200884.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 001 IND 2012 0201 UK EN 02-04-2012 UK NOTIF

2. Member State

UK

3. Department Responsible

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
Knowledge and Innovation Group
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET.

Email: 9834@bis.gsi.gov.uk.

3. Originating Department

Department of Environment in Northern Ireland.



4. Notification Number

2012/0201/UK - B30

5. Title

Draft Single Use Carrier Bags Charge Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

6. Products Concerned

B30 - ENVIRONMENT

Northern Ireland is proposing to make new legislation - effective from April 2013 which will require sellers to charge for single use carrier bags which they supply to their customers. At present, such bags are usually issued free of charge.

The charging requirement will apply to single use carrier bags made wholly or mainly from plastic, paper, plant-based material or natural starch.

7. Notification Under Another Act

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

8. Main Content

The draft Regulations - which are specific to Northern Ireland - will require sellers of goods to charge their customers a minimum amount for each single use carrier bag supplied new. Sellers will be required to keep records of the bags issued, and to forward the net proceeds of the charge to the Department.

The draft Regulations:

- (i) provide that charging will be administered directly by the Department;
- (ii) define the type of bags that are subject to the requirement to charge;
- (iii) provide for a number of exemptions from the charging requirement - mainly on grounds of patient confidentiality, hygiene and food safety, and where a bag is essential to protect both goods and consumers;
- (iv) stipulate how the net proceeds of the charge should be calculated;
- (v) provide for a regime of civil sanctions, in the event of breaches of the Regulations;
- (vi) provide for a right of appeal against civil sanctions applied by the Department

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

The purpose of the legislation is to achieve significant reductions in the number of single use carrier bags in circulation in Northern Ireland. This in turn will help minimise the CO2 emissions and air and water pollution associated with their production, and the costs of removing and disposing of discarded bags.

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



10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

References of the Basic Texts: A document is attached which briefly describes each individual provision within the draft Regulations.

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

Catherine Day
General Secretary
European Commission

Contact point Directive 98/34
Fax: (32-2) 296 76 60
email: dir83-189-central@ec.europa.eu