

Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging: Illustrative Base Fees Overview

This document outlines the updated **illustrative base fees** for the first year of the EPR for packaging scheme (2025-2026). These fees represent estimates of costs that will be charged to obligated producers by the Scheme Administrator to cover waste management and other associated costs. Please note, these figures **do not include**:

- Regulator fees (e.g., Environment Agency, SEPA, NIEA, NRW)
- Costs related to meeting recycling targets (e.g. PRNs)

Key Highlights

1. **Total Costs for Local Authorities**

The total disposal cost to be recovered through EPR in 2025 is **£1.5 billion**, significantly lower than previous estimates of £1.8 billion. This amount will guide funding allocations to local authorities.

2. **Illustrative Base Fees by Material (2025-2026)**

Fees are calculated per tonne of packaging placed on the market. These estimates are based on the most recent data and subject to change as more information becomes available.

Material	Rate (£ per tonne)
Aluminium	£435
Fibre-based composite	£455
Glass	£240
Paper or board	£215
Plastic	£485
Steel	£305
Wood	£320
Other (e.g., bamboo, rubber)	£280



3. Data and Methodology

Fees are calculated using:

- Reported packaging tonnage (Jan-June 2024)
- Adjustments for missing or incomplete data
- Costs incurred by local authorities, Scheme Administrator costs, and debt provision costs
The methodology excludes costs for packaging disposed of in public bins or littered, though such packaging is included in the tonnage totals.

4. Updates to Fees

Changes in fees reflect updated tonnage data and the final scenario for local authority costs. For example:

- **Glass fees** increased due to reduced reported tonnage.
- **'Other' fees** increased due to higher disposal costs and lower predicted tonnage.

5. Next Steps for Producers

- Report your packaging data:
 - **Jan–June 2024 data** was used for these estimates.
 - **July–Dec 2024 data** must be submitted by **1st April 2025**.
- Final fees for Year 1 (2025-2026) will be released by **July 2025**.

Looking Ahead: Modulated Fees (2026 Onwards)

From 2026, fees will be adjusted based on the recyclability of packaging materials. Less recyclable materials will incur higher fees, while recyclable materials will benefit from lower costs. Guidance on recyclability assessments and fee structures will be published in **2025** for industry feedback.

