



The challenges of plastics and plastics packaging

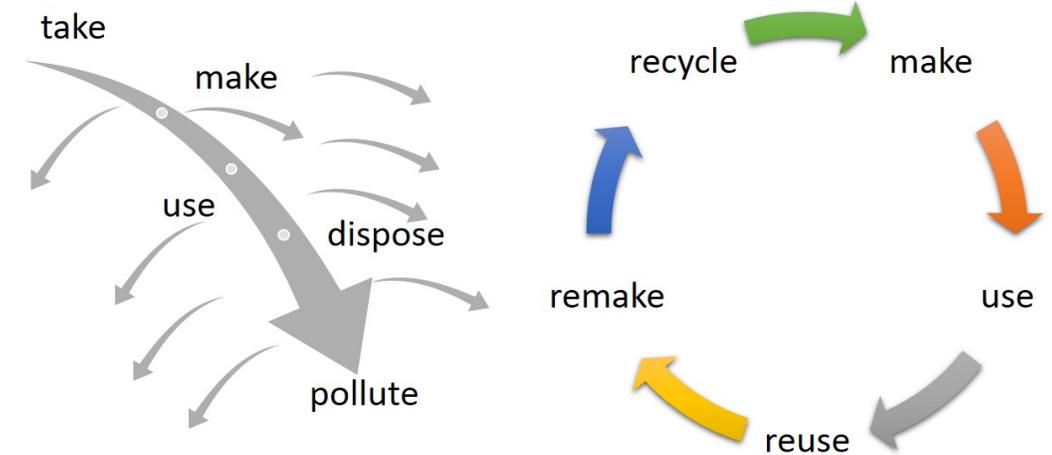
Lorna Williams

BASA

Today's presentation

- What is the regulatory landscape?
- What are 'plastics' for the A&S industry
- How does the CE fit in this?
- Where should A&S manufacturers focus?
- Are there any specific actions?
- Conclusions

Regulatory Landscape



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Plastics in the A&S world



'plastics' in products



Plastic packaging

EU plans to
regulate
microplastics
under REACH

Draft already
published

Consultation open
since 20th March 2019
(open for 6 months)

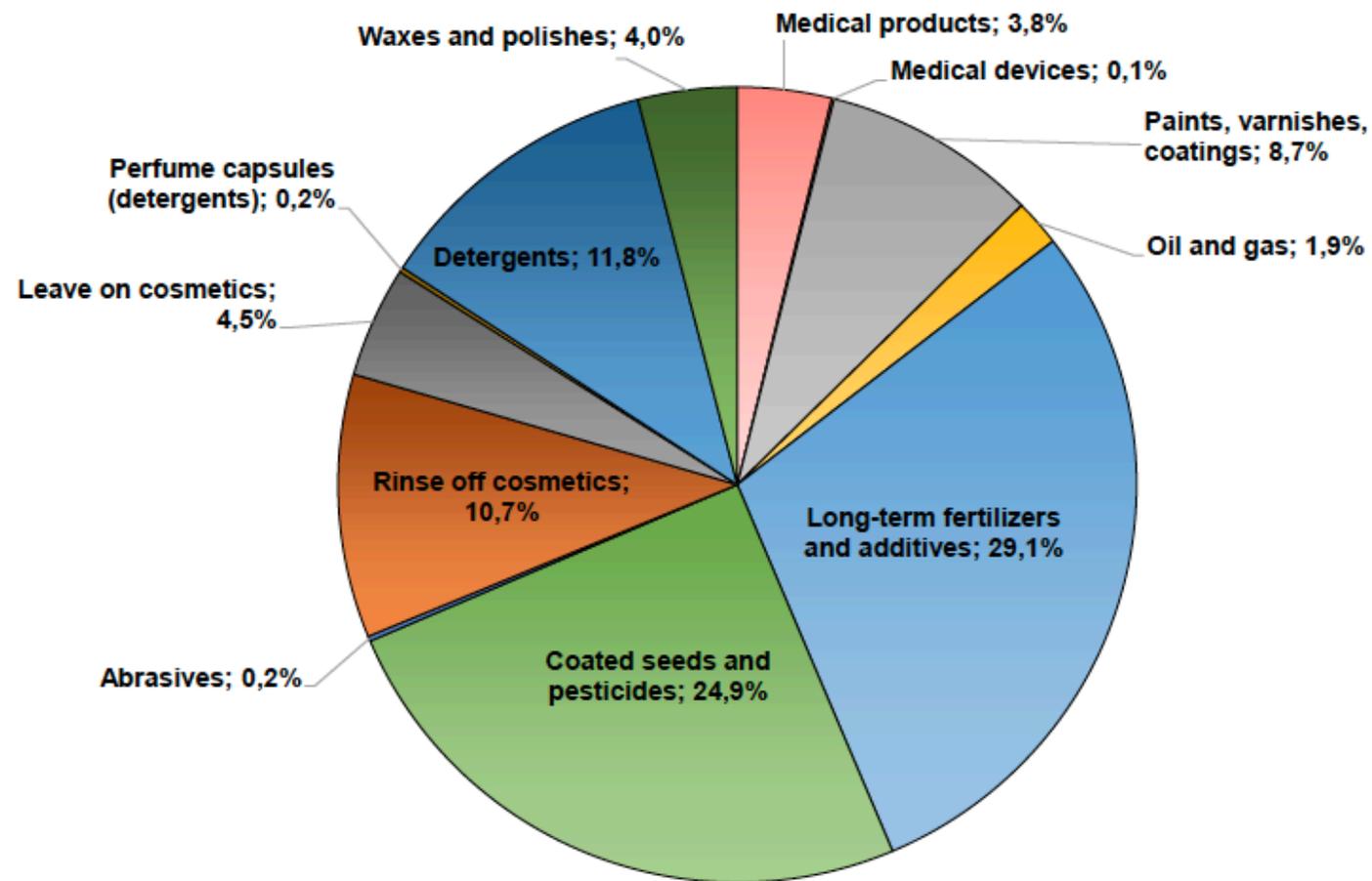
Plastics in products – definition

Specifically listed: Fibre-reinforced cementitious products & Spacers (electronic adhesives) dispersions



Derived from definition but not specifically mentioned: Cementitious products with dispersion powder, Granulated Hotmelts, 3D Printing Powder, Acrylic and PU thickener, Adhesive dots through applications

Use of
primary
microplastics
(51,500 t/y;
European
economic
area)



Source: ECHA Annex XV Restriction Report ,Intentionally added microplastics'

Restriction draft vision

Bans for
microplastics in
named end uses

Labelling &
documentation for
other end uses

Report from
downstream user
NOT the retailer or
installer

Bans for microplastics released directly into the environment from end uses:



cosmetics



detergents



fertilizer



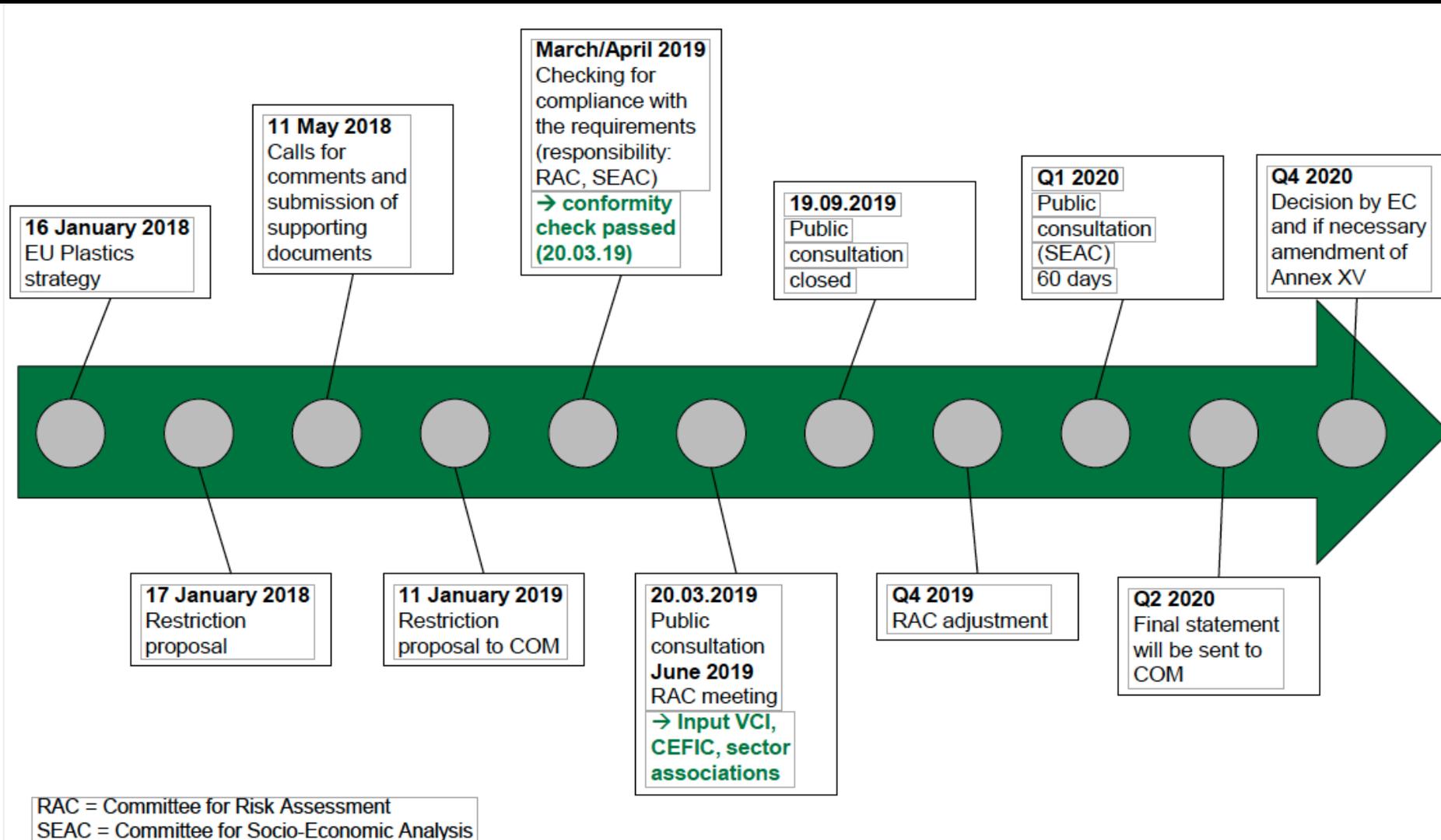
seeds

Labelling and documentation requirements

Microplastics permanently embedded in a matrix

Microplastics which, after use (film forming), no longer falls under the definition

Timeline





HM Treasury



Open consultation
Plastic packaging tax

Published 18 February 2019
From: [HM Treasury](#) and [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Summary

Seeking views on the design of the tax on plastic packaging announced at Budget 2018.
This consultation closes at **11:59pm on 12 May 2019**



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/plastic-packaging-tax>



SINGLE USE PLASTICS CONSULTATION

Nick Youngson CC BY-SA 3.0 Alpha Stock Images

CONSULTATION

- The proposed design of plastic packaging tax – e.g. the tax would apply to all plastic packaging manufactured in the UK and unfilled plastic packaging imported into the UK
- Would only apply to plastic packaging with less than 30% recycled content



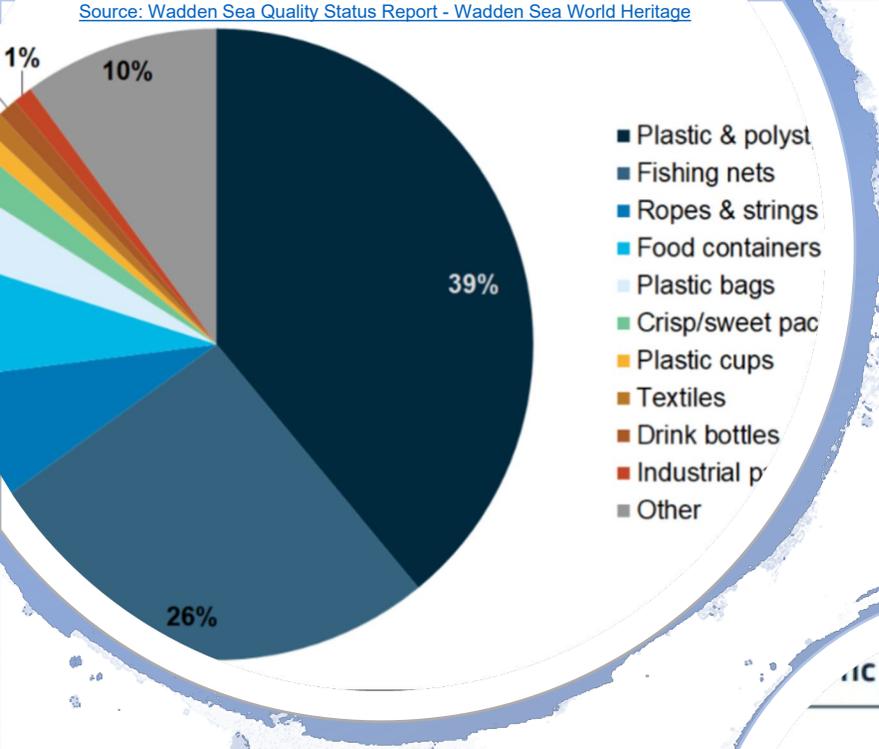
Photo by mailmaeder from Pexels

SINGLE USE PLASTICS BUDGET 2018

- New tax on produced or imported plastic packaging with <30% recycled content.
- Reforms to the Packaging Producer Responsibility System
- Future revenues from the packaging tax and Packaging Producer Responsibility reforms will enable investment to address single-use plastics, waste and litter.
- £20 million to tackle plastics and boost recycling

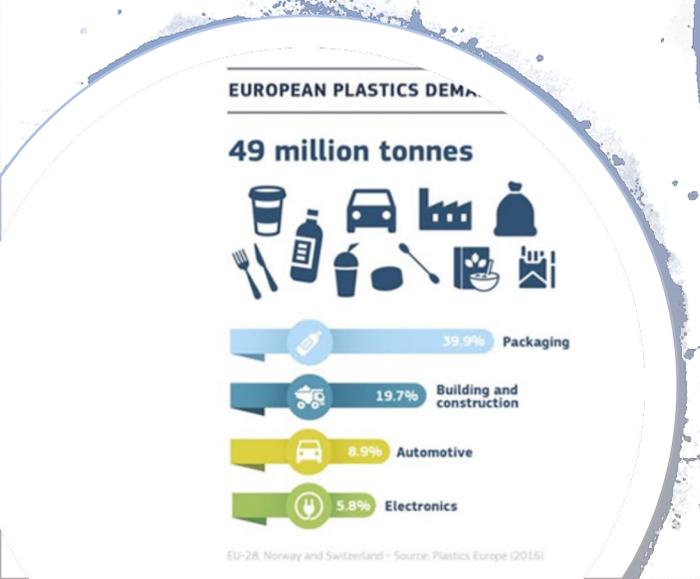
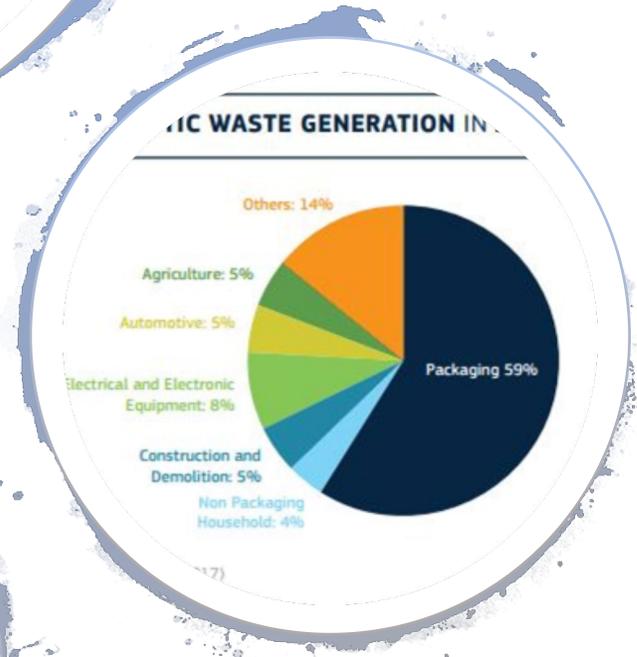


Img Source New Blue Ocean



Single use plastics

Product packaging is probably the biggest negative contributor to sustainability in relation to adhesives and sealants





Cartridges vs Foils?



According to the WRAP Plastics Market Situation Report for 2016, the UK construction and demolition sector was responsible for around 50,000 tonnes of plastic packaging waste in 2014 – well below the 1.53 million tonnes produced by the retail sector, but still significant.

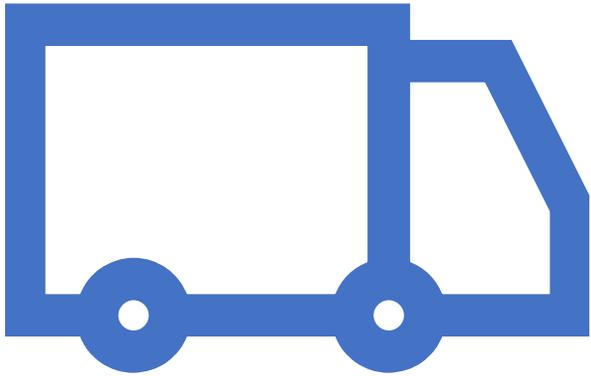


- Most caulks or sealants are still dispensed via the traditional caulk or adhesive cartridge. The typical cartridge consists of a plastic tube, nozzle, and plunger. While these are convenient and easy to use, they do contribute to waste
- Sausages have many benefits compared to standard cartridges. They are more cost effective. They typically hold at least twice the volume of material. And they significantly reduce waste. After the sealant has been fully dispensed, the foil casing ends up being roughly a 13 mm tall disk. A handful of these disks can equal a bag full of empty cartridges.

A large pile of plastic waste, including various colored plastic bottles, containers, and debris, is shown under a sunset sky. The waste is piled high and extends across the foreground and middle ground. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting sun, with some clouds visible. The overall scene conveys a sense of environmental impact and waste management challenges.

Plastics in Construction

- Second largest consumer of plastics behind retail.
- Single-use packaging is estimated to be a third of mixed waste leaving site.
- Only 2-4% recycled



Take Back™ Programme

Takeback schemes

- Recofloor, set up by vinyl flooring manufacturers Altro and Polyflor
- Take Back, by carpet tile manufacturer Desso,
- Aim is to channel plastics directly back into their manufacturing processes to avoid the high landfill tax of roughly £86 per tonne

Challenge for A&S

Vast number of
different formulations

More than one
chemistry

Different formulation
within each chemistry

Extender, pigments

Other raw materials
that potentially
complicate the
recycling

Curing/drying of A&S
means separating from
plastic packaging is
problematical

Printed packaging vs
sleeve

New packaging
solutions and return
schemes will
potentially add to cost

Concluding Remarks

Functional plastics added to current formulations will be highlighted

Removal is likely to be detrimental to performance because of the scope of the definition of 'plastic'

Product packaging should be evaluated and minimise

Changes will require acceptance by the end user and well as the manufacturer



BASA
**BRITISH ADHESIVES &
SEALANTS ASSOCIATION**

**Thankyou for your
attention**

Come and talk to us on Stand K5