

Friday 17 August 2018

Paper Cup Alliance responds to UK Government publication of single-use plastics call for evidence responses.

The UK Treasury department has published the responses received to the call for evidence on single-use plastics. Commenting on the responses, a Paper Cup Alliance spokesperson said:

“It is right that there is such strong interest in increasing recycling levels. However, it is important that we ensure that any plans to increase the number of paper cups being recycled are proportionate and do not harm successful UK businesses such as paper cup manufacturers. We have calculated that up to 11,000 jobs could be placed in jeopardy by a potential levy on paper cups.

“Paper cups make up no more than 0.7% of total packaging waste and all cups produced in the UK are no less than 92% paper. Crucially, UK-made cups are also completely recyclable and we now have the capacity to recycle all used on the high street. Because of this, the solution to this challenge is improvements in infrastructure, not extra taxes.

“We are pleased that there are now over 4,000 points in the UK to recycle paper cups, and over 400 new ones added this year. It is more effective collaboration between Government, councils and waste collectors that will solve this challenge – not extra taxes on successful UK manufacturers, struggling high street retailers or consumers.”

-ENDS-

About the PCA

The Paper Cup Alliance (PCA) is made up of the eight market-leading paper cup manufacturers in the UK today, employing over 1,700 people across the country. The group was formed in 2017 to coordinate industry efforts to address the issue of paper cup recycling. PCA members are working hard to increase recycling in the UK through a variety of initiatives and through supporting the right behaviours. It aims to better communicate the industry’s efforts on paper cup recycling to reassure stakeholders that the industry takes its environmental responsibilities seriously.

PCA members are part of Pack2Go, the European Association for convenience food packaging, but are specifically focused on the issue of paper cups in the UK.

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