

Menzies Group is covered by the Producer Responsibility Obligations (Packaging Waste) Regulations 1997 - these regulations require that we submit a declaration of the amount of packaging materials (in weight) we use from which an 'obligation' will be calculated. We are then required to pay a recycling and recovery charge based on our obligated waste. This data must be submitted annually.

To meet these legal requirements each year a questionnaire is sent out to branches to build up a picture of the amount of paper, plastic, wood, glass and metal we use as packaging. In addition data from suppliers is gathered centrally. Also, we must be able to demonstrate how we came to these figures in an audit from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (as Menzies Group head office is registered in Scotland). Failure to comply with the regulations may result in prosecution and considerable fines for Menzies.

Packaging, for us, includes such things as strapping around bundles, paper (whether new or old news print etc..) used as wrapping of parcels or contents of parcels, string and stretchwrap etc...where the packing is used by us in supply to customers and bubblewrap or similar used around delicate part-works for example. Also included are any packaging products we sell directly to the retailer such as string and also any polybagging which we carry out on behalf of the publisher.

There are some exceptions to the regulations. At the moment we do not have an obligation for second hand packaging, such as cardboard boxes previously used to package something else – e.g. boxes previously used by the publisher or retailer. Or packaging which is just used to transfer products internally, such as pallets used for transshipment between branches. We should also distinguish between any packaging that is imported or exported. The regulations are subject to periodic changes and details may be requested on both obligated and non-obligated materials.

Menzies are not obligated for packaging already applied to products by the publisher, such a polybags, CD cases, blister packs etc...

Data for Northern Ireland is submitted separately.

To assist us with our submission, Menzies use a 'compliance scheme' – Biffpack. Further information regarding the packaging waste regulations is available on the Biffpack website; <http://www.biffpack.co.uk/>



Or for any other queries, please contact Emma John on 0131 469 4504.