

IS YOUR BUSINESS READY FOR THE NET ZERO EMISSIONS LAW?

Last year the UK became the first major economy in the world to pass laws to end its contribution to global warming. The new target will require the UK to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, compared with the previous target of at least 80% reduction from 1990 levels.

To achieve this ambitious target all sectors of society will need to contribute and businesses will need to take a major role in augmenting real change.

As part of our growing list of services, Dtangle is now also able to provide a Carbon Literacy service to help your business transition to this new low carbon economy. Every aspect of your business will be scrutinised to both understand and measure your carbon output and then put in place recommendations of how these can be lowered. Please contact us for more information on this service.



What will Hospitality look like post COVID-19?

The hospitality industry has now been in lockdown for over two months and has been one of the hardest hit sectors as a result of the Coronavirus. There is however, is a glimmer of hope that this will change sometime in June or July, but before that let's consider what the impacts will be going forward.



- Industry downsizing: Many restaurants, cafes and bars will not open their doors again. Additionally, chains will close poorer performing outlets that are no longer viable. There will also be a hit to the supply chain that supports the industry, including distributors, brokers, service companies and suppliers.
- Fewer new unit openings: Expansion plans will be curtailed as chains focus on rebuilding their existing business and spend resources on rehiring, marketing and promotions.
- New & expanded sanitization practices: Food safety and sanitization are now top of mind for consumers visiting restaurants and therefore also a top priority for operators. As a result, operators will introduce broader and stricter sanitization practices for food handling and front and back of house sanitization.
- Greater supply chain transparency & tracking: We can expect new requirements for sourcing visibility and data tracking as well as demand greater transparency into processing, handling and distribution.
- Increased local sourcing: This is good news for domestic suppliers, but they must ensure their portfolios and capabilities can meet the expectations of operators.
- New standards for maintaining financial solvency: In a post-crisis world, we expect many small and medium-sized operators will take a different approach to managing their finances and cash reserves.
- Higher wages (potentially). Many operators are already paying workers more during the crisis. These higher wages may be difficult to roll back unless of course increased unemployment levels swell the labour pool.
- Fewer SKUS in foodservice: We can expect that operators will seek to "do more with less." Smaller kitchens with less storage to cut back on the restaurant footprint and being able to work with fewer high-quality SKUS that can be developed into multiple menu items.
- More efficient take-out & collect: Given our new "no-touch / no contact" world, we can expect to see new innovative and efficient solutions quickly gain traction. Collection will become more popular as it allows the operator to better control the process, and it provides a greater level of customer service, better food quality, and limits consumer-staff interaction. It is also perceived as safer (and more sanitary) than third-party delivery.
- New investment in take-out, drive-through & delivery units: Those new units being built will be more likely to include a drive-through, designated take-out/collect service, and a separate kitchen operation to support off-premise eating. Operators will invest more going forward to ensure they are better positioned to weather another similar crisis event.

EU REAFFIRMS ITS CIRCULARITY AMBITIONS IN RECOVERY PLAN



The EU's COVID-19 Recovery Plan, published on 27 May, includes a new recovery investment of €750 billion and a reinforced long-term budget of the EU for 2021-2027.

Importantly, this plan reiterates the EU's commitment to circularity, and its objectives to reduce Europe's dependency on foreign materials by preventing waste, boosting recycling and increasing the use of secondary raw materials. It is also funding an annual €15 billion investment to support the transition to a circular economy which could create at least 700,000 new jobs by 2030.



Nestlé trials refillable products

Nestlé is trialling a new refillable instant coffee and Purina cat food service in Switzerland. The service also provides product information, such as ingredients, nutritional values and shelf life via digital means rather than on the packaging.

Refillable services have started to gain traction over the past few years, with Asda having announced plans to launch a 'sustainability store' in January 2020, that offered refillable stations for its own-brand coffee, rice and pasta, in addition to Kellogg's cereals and PG Tips tea.



Poll reveals "typical" Brit's annual waste

The average Brit will get through 242 plastic bottles, 109 single-use coffee cups and 209 crisp packets each year, according to research by DS Smith.

It also emerged 83% are not clear which of these items can and can't be recycled meaning that an estimated 30% of their recyclable items end up in general waste, potentially costing the economy more than £95m each year.

As many as 56% confessed to throwing things away with the general waste despite believing it could be recycled, with 32 per cent of these blaming unclear labelling.



NEW GLOBAL WASTE STANDARD TO DRIVE BUSINESS CIRCULARITY

A new global waste standard has been released by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) that will enable companies to "critically assess" their waste generation throughout the value chain. By highlighting the waste-related impacts of activities, products and services, the standard in turn demonstrates the relationship between materials and waste, and how procurement, design and use of materials contribute to waste-related impacts.

By assessing all components of the value chain, GRI hopes its new waste standard will spur a global business drive towards circularity. As companies become aware of their responsibility to prevent waste at source, GRI expects businesses to accordingly instigate systematic change and adopt circular business practices.



Guidelines for recycled content in plastic packaging launched

'Recycled Content Used In Plastic Packaging Applications' has been launched by the British Plastics Federation (BPF) in conjunction with the Cosmetic, toiletry and Perfumes Association and the Food and Drink Federation (FDF).

It is aimed at companies wishing to include recycled content in food, drink, cosmetics and pharmaceutical packaging; it is also designed to help policymakers better understand the sector-specific issues.

This industry-led collaboration is intended to provide guidance on the regulatory requirements, and key technical considerations.

The document presents detailed guidance in the form of simple FAQs, answering questions like "what is a functional barrier?" or "what is a challenge test?"

It also highlights important factors to consider when incorporating recycled content into plastic packaging, such as the potential to generate extra waste or to render products unrecyclable by conventional means.



Greece to ban SUPs

Greece will introduce an end to disposable plastics as of July 1, 2021, beginning with the public administration sector six months before it goes public, on January 1 2022.

Consumers will be provided with more incentives to encourage recycling SUPs, including bottle return schemes.