



**sepa**

Scottish Environment  
Protection Agency  
Buidheann Dion  
Àrainneachd na h-Alba

For the future of our environment

# Code of Practice on Sampling & Reporting at Material Facilities 2024

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26<sup>th</sup> September 2024

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# Agenda

## 1. Introduction

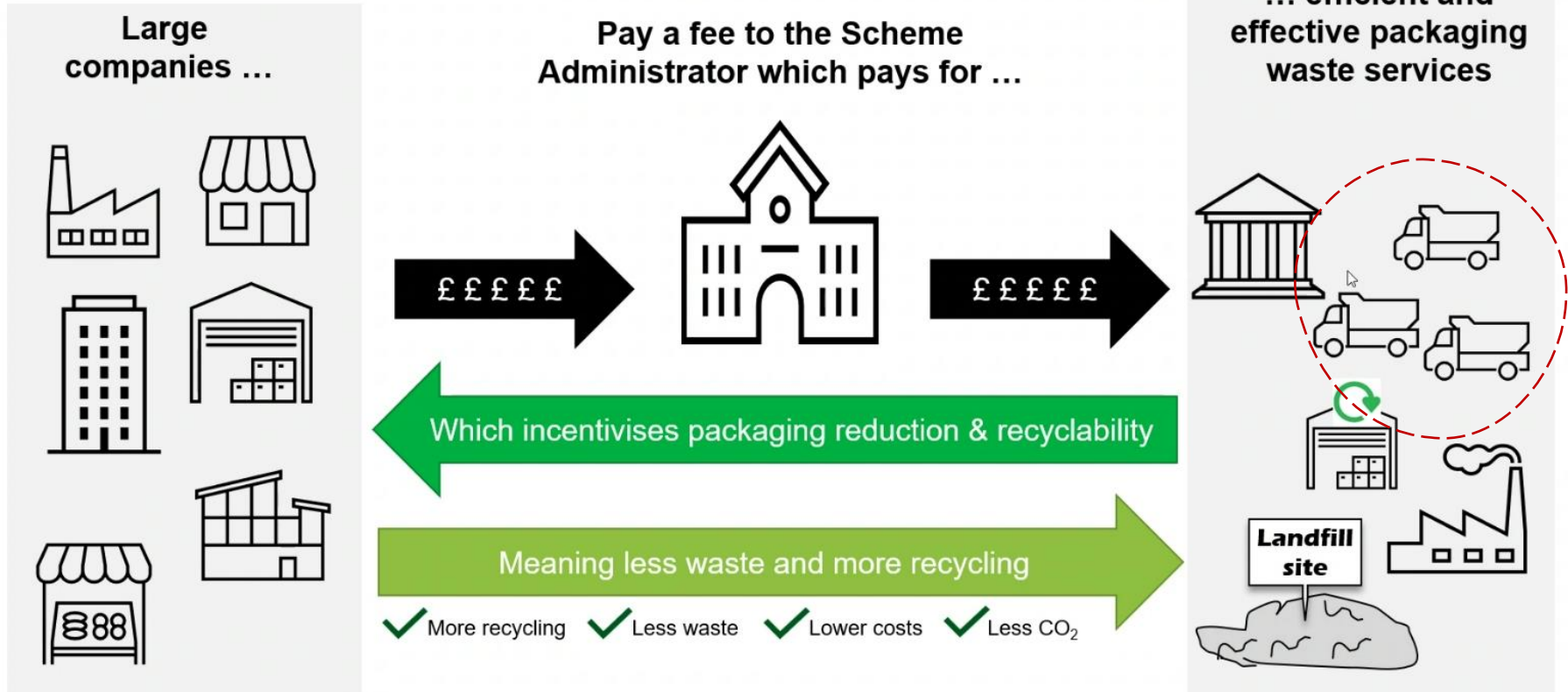
- Background and policy intent

## 2. Code of Practice on Sampling & Reporting at Material Facilities 2024

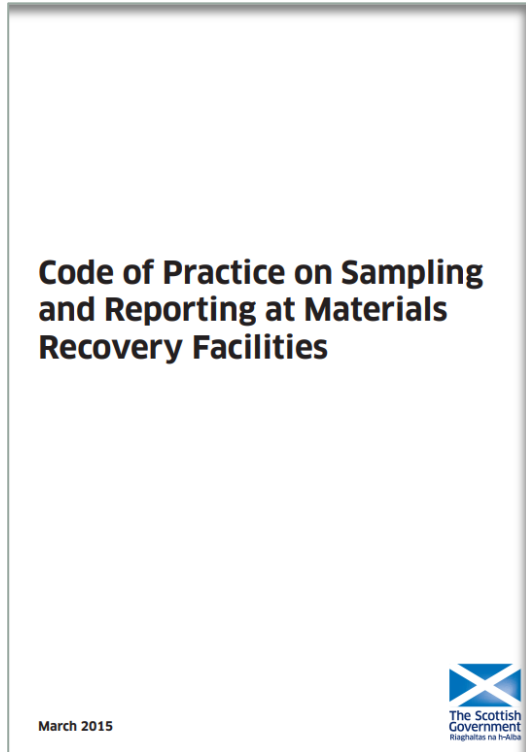
- Key changes
- SEPA's role
- Your role

## 3. Q&A

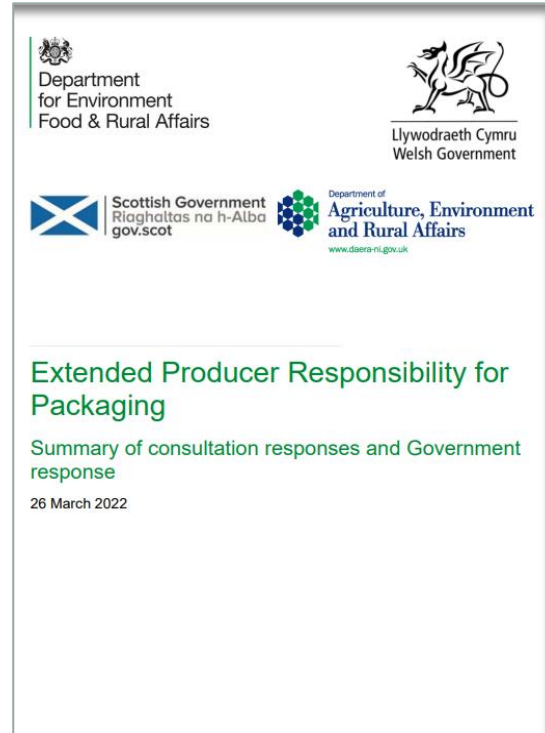
# Introduction & The Policy



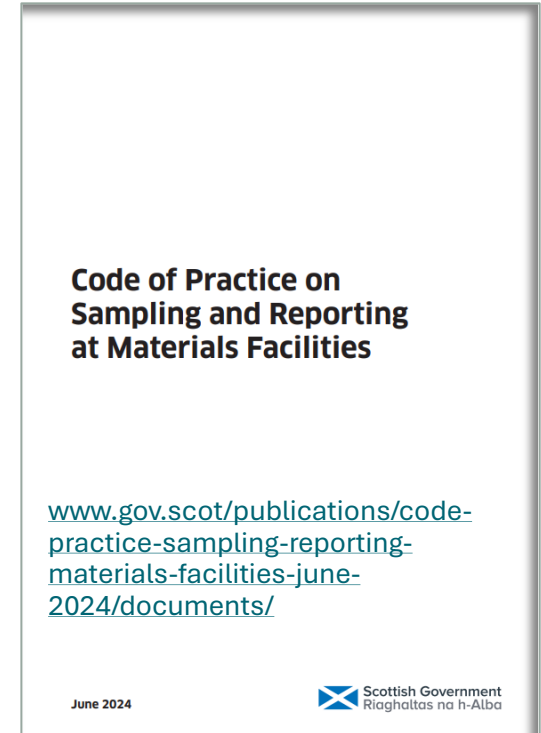
# Material Facility Code of Practice



The MRF Code has been in place since March 2015



pEPR response published in March 2022



The MF Code comes into force on 1 April 2025

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## Material Facility Code of Practice 2024 – What's Changed?

Expands range of in-scope operators, to include transfer stations/first points of consolidation

Sites that are exempt under paragraph 11 and 17 of the WML Regs will come into scope

Expands the range of materials required to be sampled, to include fibre-based composites

Expands the range of sampling required to be done, to report proportions of packaging and drinks containers

Increases sampling frequencies for existing input materials

Operators to begin sampling 1st April 2025 and submit first returns to SEPA by 30th July 2025.

## SEPA's role

### Compliance assessment:

- Receipt, validation and verification of data returns
- Site-based audits, including spot check sampling (mix of announced and unannounced visits)

### Key checks:

- Has a return been submitted? On time?
- Have enough samples been taken for each obligated element?
- Is the sampling methodology sound?
- Does reported data match SEPA sampling results?

Intelligence led approach to freerider work

Publish data on the Scotland Environment Web

<https://informatics.sepa.org.uk/RecyclateQuality/>

Publish guidance on sampling best practice and completing operator returns - email [MFCODE@sepa.org.uk](mailto:MFCODE@sepa.org.uk) for copy of draft guidance

Responsible for sharing data reported under the Code to the Scheme Administrator

## Your role

To self-assess if your facility is in-scope:

- Do you meet the definition of a ‘material facility’ in the Code – do you operate a facility that bulks dry recyclable waste from two or more suppliers or sort dry recyclable waste into specified output material?
- Does your facility receive 1000 tonnes or more of dry recyclable waste per reporting year?
- If so, you must:
  - ✓ Notify SEPA when you are in scope (and out)
  - ✓ Pay an annual subsistence fee for operating an in-scope MF
  - ✓ Prepare a sampling methodology (sampling, equipment, training)
  - ✓ Sample waste (input and output)
  - ✓ Record and report data using the operator return form at the end of each quarter



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# Thank you



**SEPA MF Team**

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