

20th October 2014

Dear Scheme

We have been asked by BIS to send you the following communication which they have sent to key stakeholders.

“Dear Stakeholder

WASTE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (WEEE) REGULATIONS: INTERPRETATION OF HOUSEHOLD WEEE

You will recall that following the publication of the European Commission’s WEEE FAQ document earlier this year we conducted a review of our interpretation of WEEE from Private Households. We invited input to that review from you and your members.

We have considered views made by stakeholders very carefully. It is clear that a change, consistent with the Commission’s FAQ document, would result in changes in the distribution of cost amongst producers. It is therefore important that businesses have sufficient time to adjust to that change.

Ministers have concluded that our statutory guidance should be amended to introduce the concept of “dual use” (ie. the classification of WEEE arising from businesses as household WEEE if it is a product that can be used in both households and business premises) into the UK WEEE system with effect from 1 January 2016.

This would require producers placing EEE on the market in 2015 to report “dual use” EEE as B2C. Our guidance will be consistent with the position on dual use as set out in the European Commission’s WEEE FAQ.

In the meantime we will undertake more work to better understand the costs and benefits of this change. In light of this more detailed assessment we will be better able to understand where additional financial pressures may arise on businesses and consider what, if any, action needs to be taken to assist in the transition to working to the revised definition of WEEE from Private Households.

The purpose of this work will be to inform guidance that we will publish to assist producers and recyclers to correctly classify EEE and WEEE as either household or non-household. We aim to conclude this work by March 2015.

Producers, using this guidance, would then be required to classify products placed on the UK market as either household or non household in 2015. That data would then be used to apportion the 2016 household WEEE collection targets according to market share.”

Queries If you have any queries regarding the communication please contact email BIS at weee@bis.gsi.gov.uk