

Repak Gives Cautious Welcome to Department of the Environment Report

(23.09.04) Repak, the voluntary industry funded packaging recycling scheme, has given a cautious welcome to elements of the findings of the Department of the Environment litter study released today.

With regard to the fast food packaging stream the organisation has welcomed the recognition of the benefits of an industry negotiated voluntary arrangement as a solution in the report (for two of the three waste streams).

On the possible introduction of levies Repak is fundamentally opposed to the introduction of additional levies on used packaging as companies are already paying a levy on the packaging they produce in the form of Repak fees. According to Repak additional levies:

- will not address the "behavioural" problem of littering
- could undermine Repak's ability to raise additional funds from industry to support future packaging recycling
- could increase consumer inflation
- will do little to increase the recycling rates of these materials

Repak was involved in the consultation process with the authors of the reports and will be engaging in the public consultation process to continue to articulate its views.

For reference:
Eoin Kennedy,
Slattery Communications,
Tel: 6614055, 086 8339540