



Retail Forum Working Group Minutes: Future of Retail – Green Transition

5 June 2024

Meeting 10

CHATHAM HOUSE RULES APPLY

Attendees: Appendix A

Minutes: The minutes from this meeting are to be agreed under Silence Procedure and will be available on www.enterprise.gov.ie

Item 1: Welcome

The Chair welcomed attendees.

Item 2: Presentation from Department of Environment, Climate and Communications with an update on the Proposed EU Waste Framework Directive Revision (Action 10)

Comments Arising:

- In relation to the timeline, the DECC representative confirmed that 1 January 2025 is a date for the DECC and not the Retail Sector. She added that the Sector should focus on the dates in the Eco design Sustainable Product Regulations.
- A retail representative body asked if there are any registration requirements for retailers who have limited textile sales.
- The DECC representative asked that her email details be passed to WG members if there are any further questions.

Item 3: Presentation from the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment on Accelerating the green transition in Irish enterprises (Action 10)

Comments Arising:

- Who is the social media campaign directed towards.
- Is there a plan to the consuming public? Might be best to give it information in small bites.
- DETE said that there is a reference to consumers in the Digital Product passport.
- A member said that they support the changes to the Departments webpage.
- A member highlighted the difference in expertise between accountants.

Item 4: AOB

The Chair highlighted why the Green Transition Working Group was established and reiterated the need for feedback from the Group with current and/or future issues impacting the retail sector. She added that the retail section will continue to identify

topics for the agenda but wants to make sure that relevant topics are not overlooked. The Chair said that for the next meeting of the Working Group in September it is proposed to rotate the role of the chair which will see a member of the Working Group Chair the Working Group meeting and they will bring one Green Transition item to the agenda.

The Chair also highlighted the current Green Transition actions in the Retail Forum Work Programme, which she said can be revisited and invited members to put forward actions.

Comments Arising:

- A Retail representative body said that they understood that the Group was established to keep the retail sector up to date on relevant initiatives and legislation and to give them an opportunity to give feedback at an early stage of an initiative and/legislation. They added that it is important that this Group is maintained.
- Another Retail representative body suggested there is a lack of real stakeholder consultation regarding initiatives and new legislation across Government Departments and retailers were sometimes not aware of the resulting impacts on their sector, until they were already in place.

The Chair agreed with the points raised assuring members that the retail section regularly engages with other Government Departments on relevant retail topics. The Chair reemphasised the need for members to engage directly with the Retail Section on key matters impacting their sector.

Actions:

- Copy of the presentations to be forwarded to Working Group members and placed on the Retail Sector in Ireland webpage.

Retail Section
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment
6 June 2024

Appendix A

Retail Forum Working Group: Future of Retail – Green Transition

Attendees

Organisation	Representative
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment (Chair)	Marian Cassidy
Chambers Ireland	James Kiernan
CSNA	Vincent Jennings
Hardware Association Ireland	Aoife Kinsella O'Reilly
IKEA	Martyn Allen
LEO Network	Joe Lowe
Marks and Spencer	Martin Phelan
RGDATA	Tara Buckley
SEAI	Ali Donnellan

Presenters

Organisation	Representative
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications	Jacqueline Healy
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment	Aisling McCarthy
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment	Brendan Kelly