



NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

<p>1. Notifying Member: <u>UNITED KINGDOM</u></p> <p>If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2): Scottish Government</p>
<p>2. Agency responsible:</p> <p>Marine Directorate, Scottish Government</p> <p>Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above:</p> <p>UK TBT Enquiry Point Trade Policy, Implementation and Negotiations Department for Business and Trade Old Admiralty Building London SW1A 2DY tbtenquiriesuk@businessandtrade.gov.uk</p>
<p>3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [], 5.7.1 [], 3.2 [], 7.2 [], other:</p>
<p>4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Beauty or make-up preparations and preparations for the care of the skin (other than medicaments), including sunscreen or suntan preparations; manicure or pedicure products. (CCCN 3304990000)</p> <p>Organic surface-active agents (other than soap); surface-active preparations, washing preparations (including auxiliary washing preparations) and cleaning preparations, whether or not containing soap, other than those of heading 3401. (HS 3402)</p> <p>Insecticides, rodenticides, fungicides, herbicides, anti-sprouting products and plant-growth regulators, disinfectants and similar products, put up in forms or packings for retail sale or as preparations or articles (for example, sulphur-treated bands, wicks and candles, and fly-papers). (HS 3808)</p>
<p>5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: The Environmental Protection (Wet Wipes Containing Plastic) (Scotland) Regulations 2024; (6 page(s), in English)</p>
<p>6. Description of content: These regulations propose to introduce a ban on the supply and sale of wet wipes containing plastic. There will be exemptions for wet wipes intended for medical and industrial uses, and for business-to-business sales. The legislation provides a transition period of 18-months for businesses to make necessary adjustments.</p> <p>Under these regulations "plastic" means a material consisting of polymer as defined in Article 3(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation,</p>

<p>Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), to which additives or other substances may have been added, and which can function as a main structural component of final products, with the exception of natural polymers that have not been chemically modified.</p> <p>A "wet wipe" is defined as a non-woven piece of fabric which has been soaked and stored in liquid and which is not designed or intended to be re-used, including but not limited to baby wipes, cosmetic wipes, moist toilet tissues, personal hygiene wipes and wipe-based cleaning products.</p> <p>These regulations will apply in Scotland. England, Wales, and Northern Ireland (the other nations of the UK) will introduce their own legislation of the same intent and scope to ban wet wipes containing plastic in each of their respective nations.</p>
<p>7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: The Scottish Government, alongside the other nations in the UK, will implement a ban on the supply and sale of wet wipes containing plastic.</p> <p>The Scottish Government intends to reduce this source of single-use plastic litter, and reduce the negative impacts posed if these items are incorrectly disposed of and arrive in the environment. Wet wipes containing plastic do not fully disintegrate in water or in the sewerage system if they are flushed down the toilet. If these wipes arrive in the environment they are a persistent and problematic source of marine litter, as well as a source of microplastic pollution. The Scottish Government considers that the reduced risk of harm that would result from these regulations will potentially provide environmental benefits for the marine ecosystem as a whole, the species and habitats contained within, and benefits to water quality. ; Protection of human health or safety; Protection of animal or plant life or health; Protection of the environment</p>
<p>8. Relevant documents:</p> <p>Draft legislation: The Environmental Protection (Wet Wipes Containing Plastic) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (attached)</p> <p>Draft Business and Regulation Impact Assessment (BRIA) (published 14 October 2023) Wet wipes containing plastic - proposed ban: partial BRIA - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</p> <p>Economic Annex prepared for the consultation (see Related Documents section) (published 14 October 2023) Consultation on the proposed ban of the manufacture supply and sale of wet wipes containing plastic - Defra - Citizen Space</p> <p>Joint UK-wide consultation on a ban on wet wipes containing plastic (published 14 October 2023) Consultation on the proposed ban of the manufacture supply and sale of wet wipes containing plastic - Defra - Citizen Space</p> <p>Joint UK-wide government response to the consultation on a ban on wet wipes containing plastic (published 22 April 2024) Wet wipes containing plastic: proposed ban on the manufacture, supply and sale - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>
<p>9. Proposed date of adoption: 31 October 2024</p> <p>Proposed date of entry into force: 30 April 2026</p>
<p>10. Final date for comments: 60 days from notification</p>

11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [X] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:

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Trade Policy, Implementation and Negotiations
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https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2024/TBT/GBR/24_04705_00_e.pdf