



Book Industry
Communication

BIC Task and Finish Working Group

Project Name: Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) – A BIC Fast Track Project

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BIC Project Brief

The Purpose of the BIC Project Brief

The BIC Project Brief is required to enable necessary projects or pieces of work to progress from being a good BIC Board or Committee idea to a formal request for work that is submitted to the appropriate Task and Finish Working Group and/ or consultant. The BIC Project Brief must be agreed upon and signed off initially by all members of the BIC Committee responsible for the project and then by the dedicated Task & Finish Working Group (if applicable, depending on the nature of the project) once established.

The BIC Project Brief should generally be short and provide an overview of the proposed project or piece of work.

The finalised, signed off document will be made available to all BIC members, who will be able to provide comment or feedback on the intended project or work.

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BIC Board/ Committee Review

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BIC Board/ Committee Final Approval

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1. Purpose and background

The EU regulation Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) which entered into force 11 February 2025 and will apply from the 12 August 2026 aims to ensure: packaging must be recyclable, minimally wasteful, and clearly labelled. It also sets targets for the amount of recycled content for plastic packaging by 2030 and 2040. The regulation limits the use of or prohibits certain substances in packaging, including PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) used in grease-resistant paper packaging (common in food e-commerce) and certain heavy metals. Some of these restrictions apply from 2026, earlier than the main minimisation and recyclability deadlines. It sets a deadline that by 2030 all packaging is recyclable.

2. Project Definition and Scope

The aim of this project is to provide useful information and guidance to UK and Ireland's book industry supply chain on what the requirements will be for packaging from day one and what an organisation will need to do going forwards to comply with increasing requirements of the regulation as it gets tougher in the following years.

3. Timescale

The aim is to provide an initial 'Helpful Guide' by 12 August 2026. This will be a living document that will be updated as and when new information becomes available. This will depend upon what the Task and Finishing Group (T&FWG) find during their research.

4. Deliverables

- I. A 'Helpful Guide' for the book industry supply chain, the format of which will be defined by the T&FWG as the project goes along.
- II. Project closure report, detailing recommendations for next steps (if any) to be submitted to the Executive Director – for onward circulation to the BIC Board and Green Supply Chain committee.