

EPA Workshop for Business-to-Business Producers

WEEE Enforcement Activity by EPA

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Dublin
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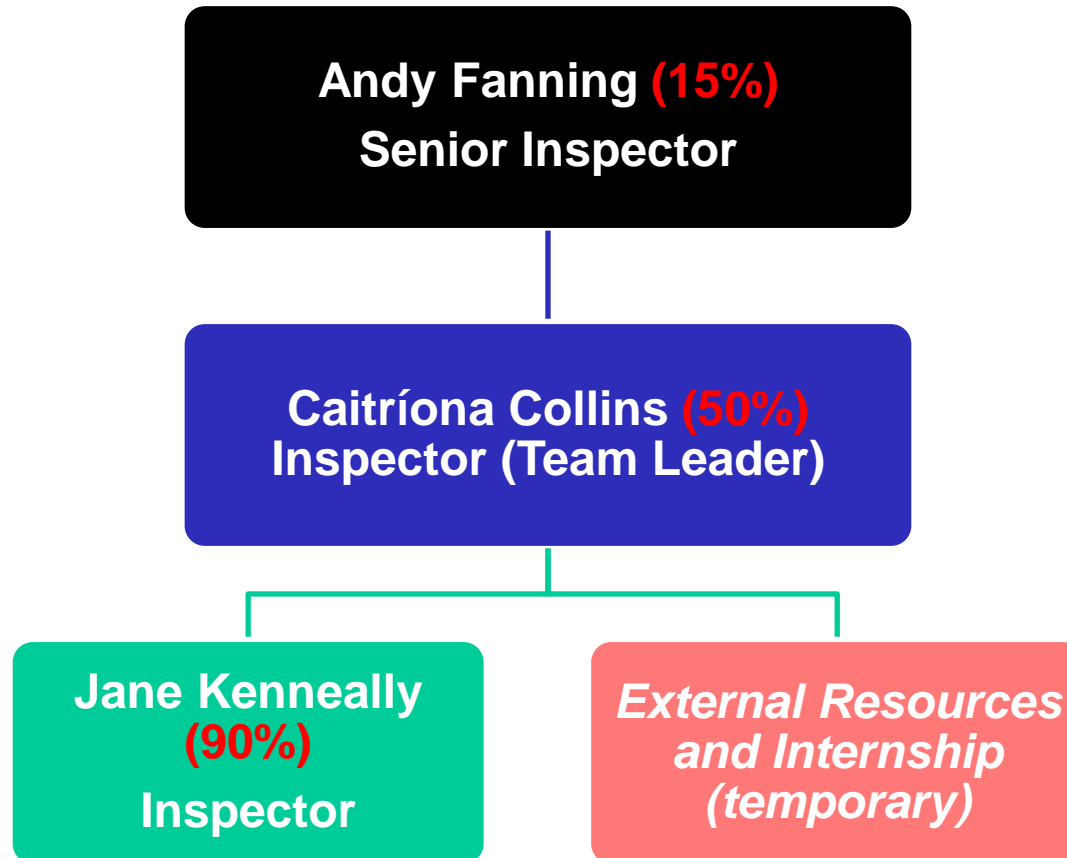
Overview

- Who's involved in WEEE
 - Policy
 - Regulation
 - Obligation
 - Implementation

- Overview of EPA enforcement activity

- Procurement

The EPA WEEE/Batteries team



Office of Climate, Licensing and Resource Use

As an Environmental Agency we are committed to the environment

Resource Use Unit (incorporating the National Waste Prevention Programme)

**WEEE
&
Batteries**

Ozone
depleting
Substances
(ODS)
&
F-gases

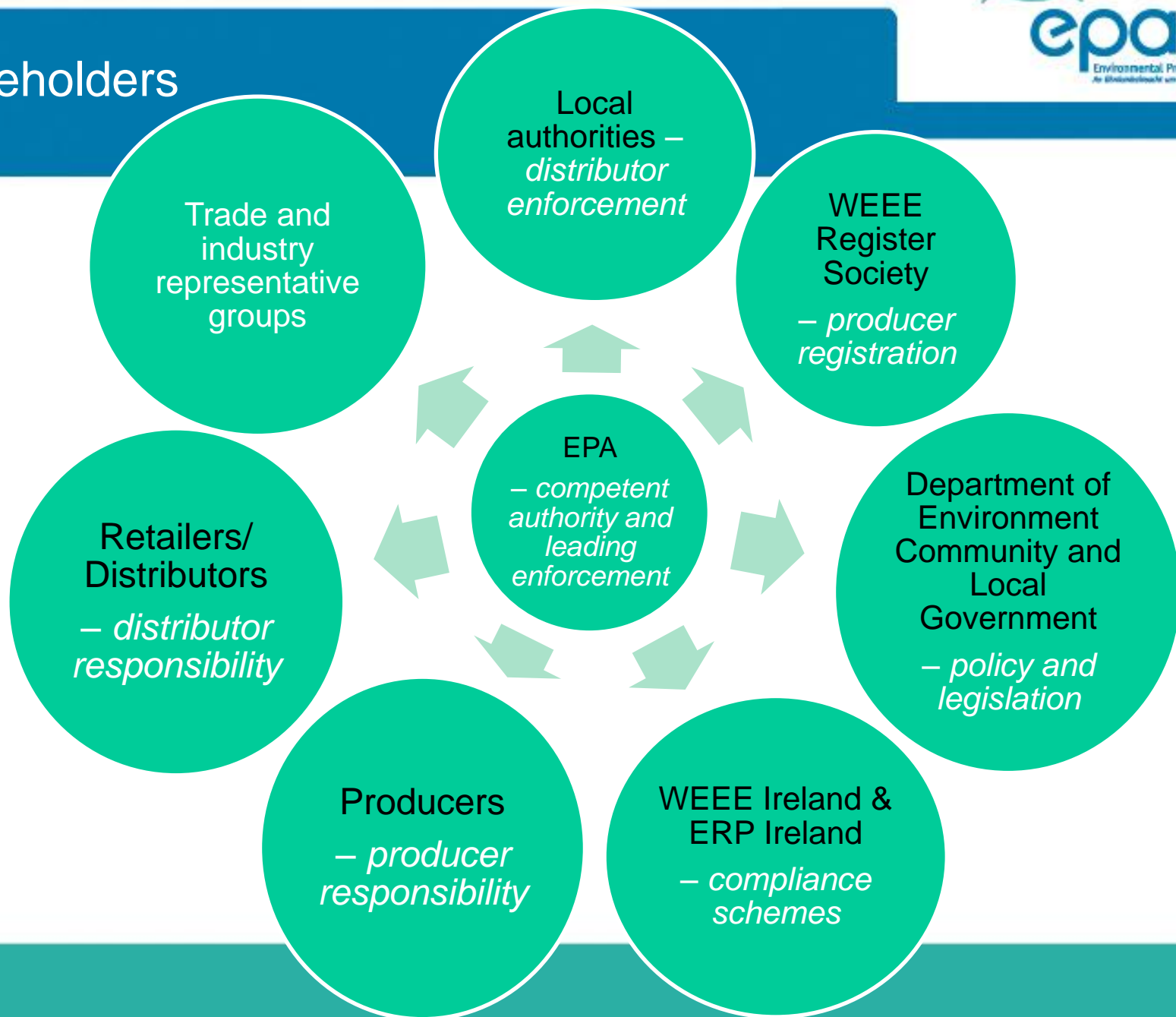
Product
Compliance
RoHS,
Batteries,
Paints and
Packaging

National
Waste Report
&
National
Hazardous
Waste
Management
Plan

Persistent
Organic
Pollutants
(POPs)
&
PCBs

Green
Business
&
Local
Authority
Prevention
Network
(LAPN)

Stakeholders



Key EPA enforcement activity

- Distributor inspections
 - to gather intelligence on producer supply chains

- General producer inspections
 - to determine obligations and potential offences

- B2B audits
 - to verify data submitted in waste management reports

- Special investigations as required

- Distance seller inspections
 - Websites, catalogues etc.

Distributor Inspections

- 433 inspections completed in 2011 – 2012
- Mainly using enforcement support approach
 - Outsourced contract
- Gather intelligence on producer supply chains
- Benefits for awareness of obligations

General Producer Inspections

- Focus on unregistered potential producers
- 19 inspections completed in 2011 – 2012
- Background to inspections can include:
 - Retailer inspections
 - Other producer inspections
 - Local authority complaints and referrals
 - Referrals from WEEE Register Society
 - Referrals from other stakeholders e.g. Compliance schemes
 - Inspections at exhibitions and trade shows
 - Engagement with sectoral groups

B2B Audits

- 40 audits completed 2010 – 2011
- Verify data submitted in WEEE Waste Management Reports
- Increase understanding and assist producers with future reporting
- Improve quality of future reports submitted to EPA

Prosecutions

- 2006 to 2010 – 10 WEEE prosecutions
- Offences against distributor obligations (2 cases)
- Offences against producer obligations (8 cases)
- Fines range €450 - €4,000 (average €2,100)
 - Probation Act applied in one case (no conviction recorded)
- Costs awarded to EPA range €3,000 - €17,000 (average €6,400)

- 2011 – 1st Battery prosecution
- Offences against producer obligations
- Probation Act applied (no conviction recorded)
- Costs awarded to EPA €4,500

Procurement

- Public procurement rules apply to all public sector organisations.
- Selection and award criteria are clearly set out and include compliance with relevant legislation.
- Green public procurement is becoming more and more established.
- New government publication –
Green Tenders – An Action Plan on Green Public Procurement

Conclusions

- EPA enforcement and stakeholder engagement is ongoing
- Prosecutions will be taken for identified breaches but this is never the first option considered
- Demonstration of compliance provides potential procurement opportunities

EPA contacts

- weee@epa.ie
- www.weee-enforcement.ie

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- www.batteries-enforcement.ie