



Guidelines for Implementing a Deposit System for Reusable Tableware

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 CIRCULAR ECONOMY
Change(K)now!

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INTRODUCTION

These guidelines are intended as a support tool for municipal event planners, event planners in public administration, other event organisers, vendors at events, deposit system service providers, event participants and other professionals involved in introducing deposit systems for reusable tableware at public events in Latvia.

The aim of the guidelines is to provide comprehensive support for introducing a deposit system in a range of street trading and event organisation scenarios, covering both the theoretical background and practical instructions, examples and solutions. The guidelines describe the requirements of the new Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council on packaging and packaging

waste (PPWR) concerning tableware deposit systems and other re-use systems. Compliance with the PPWR requirements can significantly improve the effectiveness of a tableware deposit system; however, for the time being, there are divergent interpretations in the EU public sphere as to whether these requirements apply to tableware deposit systems.

The guidelines have been prepared in accordance with Riga City Council Binding Regulation No. RD-24-286-sn (*Rīgas domes saistošie noteikumi Nr. RD-24-286-sn*), with particular emphasis on the requirement not to use single-use cups that cannot be re-used (Sub-paragraph 70.7). The guidelines incorporate the results and conclusions of the Change(K)now! project.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Regulatory framework

Riga, Latvian and EU rules

The main legal basis for introducing a deposit system in Riga is **Riga City Council Binding Regulation No. RD-24-286-sn**. Its Sub-paragraph 70.7 provides that *in street trading during events, short-term street trading and street trading during the Christmas period, it is prohibited to sell beverages in cups for which re-use is not ensured and to which no deposit is applied, except for cups with a volume of 20 to 50 ml made of unbreakable material*. The requirements of the Binding Regulation took effect on 1 July 2024.¹ In 2026, the **Riga City Council Circular Economy Action Plan 2026–2030** provides for the activity ‘*Development and implementation of guidelines for sustainable public events*’, while the activity ‘*Wider roll-out of the*

tableware deposit system at public events’ is planned for 2028–2030.

At national level, the **Law on the Reduction of Consumption of Products Containing Plastic** (*Plastmasu saturošu izstrādājumu patēriņa samazināšanas likums*) lays down consumption reduction requirements for single-use plastic cups: vendors must enable customers to use cups they have brought with them and must sell or offer reusable alternatives.²

A number of requirements of the **new EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (EU) 2025/40 (PPWR)**³ began to apply on 12 August 2026. From 12 February 2027, a refill option allowing consumers to bring their own container will have to be provided



for take-away beverages and food, and from 12 February 2028, the option of obtaining them in reusable packaging will also have to be offered. By 2030, all packaging must be ‘designed for recycling’, which will affect laminated paper cups. The PPWR lays down requirements for reusable packaging operators, as well as deadlines by which the minimum number of rotations for reusable packaging and detailed labelling requirements will be specified. In the European Union, including Latvia, stakeholders and national authorities differ in their interpretations of the definition of packaging. The PPWR and its guidance documents do not explicitly mention deposit tableware. In essence, however,

the requirements for reusable tableware and for the operators of such systems would significantly improve system effectiveness in the long term. The guidelines therefore set out the PPWR requirements and recommend taking them into account on a voluntary basis until other official information becomes available on whether the PPWR definition of ‘reusable packaging’ applies to deposit tableware.

Definitions

New Packaging Regulation (PPWR) – Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC – hereinafter ‘the PPWR’.

Reusable packaging. As defined in the Packaging Law (*Iepakojuma likums*), this is packaging which has been conceived, designed and placed on the market to accomplish within its life cycle multiple trips or rotations by being refilled or re-used for the same purpose for which it was conceived.

Reusable tableware – Latvian legislation does not precisely define this term. The PPWR ⁴ provides that packaging also includes ‘an item that is designed and intended to be filled at the point of sale in order to dispense the product, which is also referred to as “service packaging”’. Recital

11 of the PPWR explains: ‘Cups, food containers, sandwich bags or other items which can perform a packaging function should not be considered to be packaging where they are designed and intended to be sold empty by the final distributor. Such items should only be considered to be packaging where they are designed and intended to be filled at the point of sale, in which case they should be considered to be “service packaging”, or sold by the final distributor containing food and beverages, provided that they perform a packaging function.’ According to the European Commission’s guidance on the PPWR, ‘if a beverage cup is sold empty in a supermarket to consumers for their private use, it is not considered to be packaging. On the other hand, if the supermarket fills such cups with a product (e.g. coffee) at a refill

⁴ Article 3, point (1)(d), of the PPWR.

station, such cups are packaging, more particularly, “service” packaging’.⁵

The PPWR criteria for reusable packaging are set out in detail below in the section ‘Technical requirements for reusable tableware’. In practice, the Latvian market mostly uses the terms ‘deposit cups’ (*depozīta glāzes*) and ‘deposit tableware’ (*depozīta trauki*). In the remainder of these guidelines, ‘tableware’ means both food containers and drinking cups.

Deposit system – according to the European Commission’s definition, a system in which users pay an extra fee when purchasing a product, which is refunded when the tableware is returned to a designated collection point.⁶ The Latvian Packaging Law defines a deposit system as the acceptance of beverage deposit packaging waste from a final user, sorting, transportation, storage, recycling, or preparation for re-use in conformity with its initial task, and also the planning and organising of the abovementioned activities.⁷

Deposit system for reusable tableware – Latvian legislation does not precisely define this term. EU legislation and the Latvian Packaging Law use the term ‘deposit system for beverage packaging’ to describe the deposit system for bottles. It is therefore important to note that the requirements that apply to ‘deposit systems’ and ‘deposit operators’ under EU and Latvian legislation

do not apply to deposit cups. For reusable tableware, the PPWR uses the term ‘re-use system’, which covers deposit systems and other return systems. In essence, a deposit system for reusable tableware means that users pay an extra fee for the tableware when buying food or a beverage, and this fee is refunded when the tableware is returned to a designated collection point. Other return systems are also used in practice; the most popular in Latvia is the token system, in which a physical or virtual token is returned instead of money, allowing the user to use tableware next time without paying a deposit. In practice, this is often classed as a type of deposit system; however, it is more accurate to call it another type of tableware re-use system: a cup exchange token system.

Re-use system. The PPWR defines it as the organisational, technical or financial arrangements, together with incentives, that allow re-use in a closed loop or open loop system, including deposit and return systems that ensure that packaging is collected for re-use. Unlike the existing standard EN 13429:2004 Packaging – Reuse, which described a re-use system only in general terms, the PPWR lays down a number of requirements for such systems.

Street trading – the sale of goods in a public place outside a permanent location of sale.⁸

⁵ Commission Notice – Guidance document for Regulation (EU) 2025/40 on packaging and packaging waste, European Commission, 2026.

⁶ European Commission. Deposit refund schemes. Available at: https://environment.ec.europa.eu/economy-and-finance/ensuring-polluters-pay/deposit-refund-schemes_en

⁷ Saeima (2001). Packaging Law. Adopted on 20 December 2001. *Latvijas Vēstnesis*, No. 4, 9 January 2002. <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/57207-iekpakojuma-likums>

⁸ Cabinet Regulation No. 440, Regulations Regarding the Types of Trade to Be Agreed upon with a Local Government and the Procedures for Organising of Trade (*Noteikumi par tirdzniecības veidiem, kas saskaņojami ar pašvaldību, un tirdzniecības organizēšanas kārtību*). Available at: <https://likumi.lv/ta/id/210696-noteikumi-par-tirdzniecibas-veidiem-kas-saskanojami-ar-pasvaldibu-un-tirdzniecibas-organizesanas-kartibu>

Operating principles

Types of system and stakeholders

A **tableware deposit system** works on a simple principle: when making a purchase, the customer pays an additional deposit for the tableware, and the deposit is refunded when the tableware is returned to a designated collection point. This mechanism creates a financial incentive to return the tableware rather than throw it away or take it home.

There are also other and modified tableware re-use systems.

Similar to a deposit system is the **reusable tableware system with tokens**, in which a physical or virtual token is returned instead of the deposit and can be used in place of the deposit next time. By its nature, it can be regarded as a subscription system in which the user pays a 'subscription fee' the first time and continues to use tableware as long as the previous items have been returned. A token system can also be used **as a supplement to a deposit system**, in which the token is received and handed back together with the cup to prevent tableware theft; however, this version of token use has not so far been implemented in Latvia.

Besides deposits, **other incentives** can also be used to encourage the return of tableware: discounts, loyalty points or other benefits.

Technology-based systems are growing in popularity. In a deposit-free loan system with a late-return fee, the cup taken is registered in a mobile phone app. If the tableware item is not returned within a set time (usually 14 days), the customer is charged a fee, which is debited from their bank card, and the item is considered purchased. In Latvia, deposit systems use

the Dpays app developed by Swedbank, which refunds the deposit when the barcode is scanned.

The PPWR distinguishes between two types of re-use system: closed loop and open loop systems.

According to the PPWR definition, a **closed loop system** is a re-use system in which reusable packaging is circulated by a system operator or a co-operating group of system participants without the change of the ownership of packaging. An **open loop system**, on the other hand, is a re-use system in which reusable packaging circulates amongst an unspecified number of system participants, and the ownership of the packaging changes at one or more points in the re-use process. In practice, open loop systems usually apply to pallets, beer crates and the like, but they are not common in the deposit tableware market. Instead, there are cooperation models in which cups from different operators can be returned at a single return point and are then sorted by owner. Such systems are also indirectly encouraged by the PPWR, in order to make returning tableware more convenient for users.

At events, the system can be organised as **decentralised** (each caterer manages its own tableware stock) or **centralised** (all event participants use a single system for tableware, its collection and washing). In practice, these are usually closed loop systems. However, if a system covers a wider range of participants within the municipality's territory, it may be set up as a partially open loop system, as described above.

Deposit systems in municipalities usually involve **four main parties**:

- *The event organiser (a municipality or a private organiser).*
- *Service providers (tableware rental company, washing service, technology provider – in practice, all of these services are usually provided by the rental company).*
- *Caterers (who serve beverages and food in deposit tableware).*
- *Visitors (customers buying beverages or food).*

The organiser decides on the system model, selects partners, sets the deposit, organises or supervises logistics and is responsible for communication with visitors. Service providers handle the physical circulation: they deliver clean tableware, collect used tableware, wash and dry it and return it to the system, and, depending on the agreement with the organiser, take part in information activities.

Municipal events and street trading

The municipality and its institutions act as an organiser that influences both rule-making and the oversight of events. The municipality can:

- *require the use of reusable tableware with a deposit at certain types of events (e.g. city festivals, cultural events, markets);*
- *draft and adopt binding regulations laying down minimum requirements;*
- *approve the contracts of vendors and event organisers;*
- *monitor whether vendors and event organisers comply with the requirements;*
- *provide information to residents and visitors.*

The organiser can choose whether to collect deposits using a manual cash register, an app and a QR code, or special reverse vending machines that automatically recognise the cup and pay out the deposit, depending on the range of services offered by operators. Reverse vending machines have not yet been introduced in Latvia because of their high cost. Each additional service entails additional costs. It is up to the organiser to strike a balance between convenience for visitors and costs, also taking into account the interests of caterers and operators and

the purpose of the deposit system – reducing environmental impact.

In this scenario, the municipality often acts both as the ‘political leader’ (deciding on a mandatory deposit system and its requirements) and as the ‘practical organiser’ (concluding contracts with tableware rental companies and supervising work during the event). This means that the municipality is responsible for ensuring that the system runs smoothly – from the delivery of tableware to the operation of return points.

Private-sector events and trading

A private organiser (an event organiser, restaurant, café or food outlet) holds an event or carries out trading in which deposit tableware is used. A private organiser is not

responsible for drafting municipal rules but is responsible for complying with the requirements of municipal rules at its event or trading location.

The private organiser:

- *chooses the specific deposit system model;*
- *engages a tableware rental company and a washing service under contract (currently, rental companies in Latvia provide the washing service themselves);*
- *sets the amount of the deposit (at its own discretion or in line with guidelines; the most common deposit amount in Latvia is EUR 2);*
- *organises the provision of return points and information for visitors, or delegates this to the deposit operator;*
- *keeps records of losses (unreturned or damaged tableware) or requests this information from the deposit operator.*

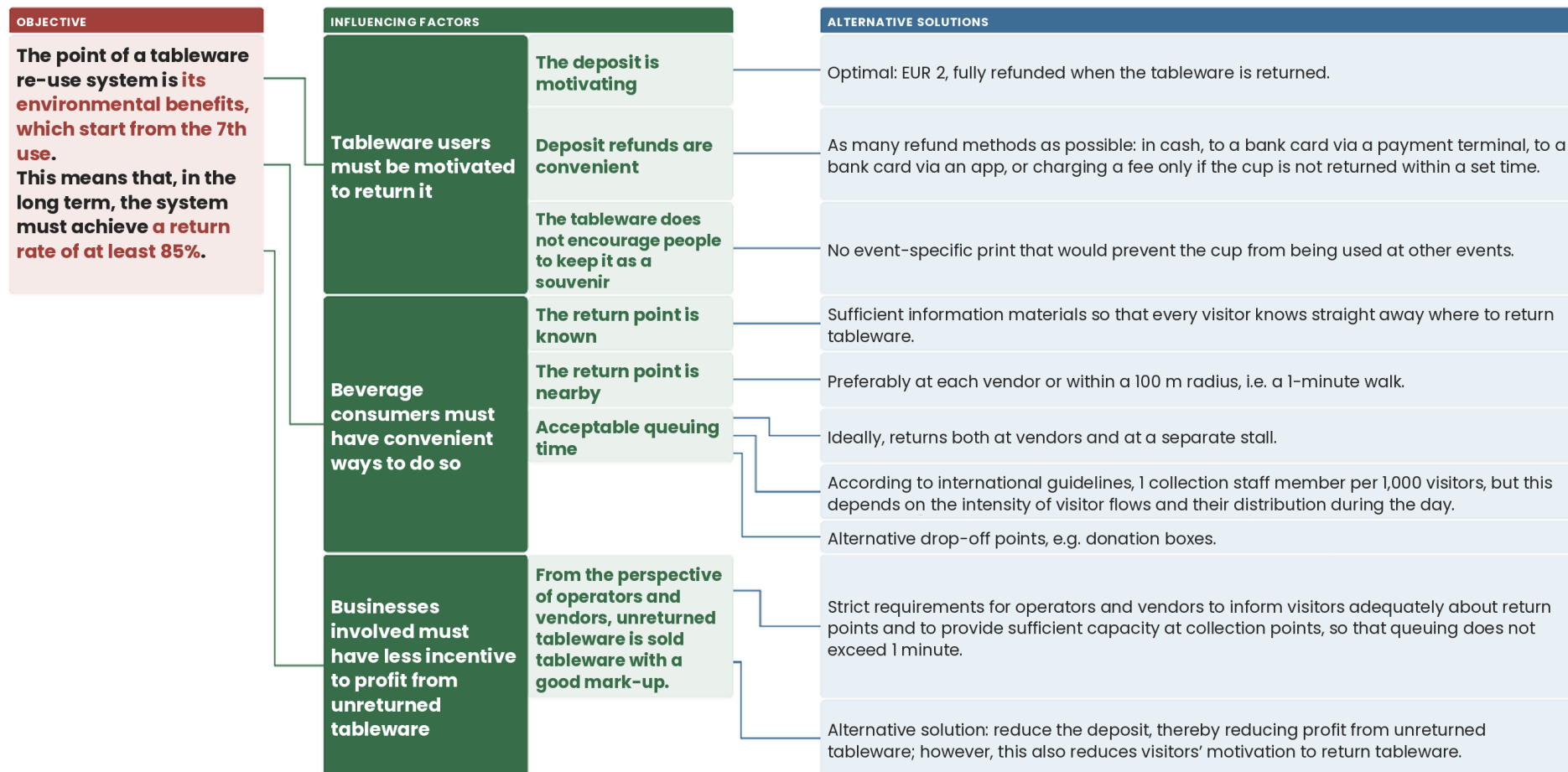
Operating principles: overview

The primary reason for setting up tableware deposit systems is environmental protection: avoiding the use of single-use tableware in order to reduce resource consumption, land-based litter and waste, and to prevent marine litter. As a deposit tableware item is more durable and heavier than a single-use one, its environmental impact is greater. A certain number of uses is therefore needed for reusable tableware to pay off in environmental terms. Various life cycle assessments of cups in Europe put this figure at between 5 and 10 uses on average. The Estonian Ministry of Climate cites 7 uses.⁹ If 90% of tableware is regularly returned at events, this means that after 10 uses, 100% new tableware will have had to be purchased and put into circulation. Seven uses would mean that a return rate of at least around 85% is needed for the re-

use system to make sense from an environmental protection perspective. It is therefore essential to base the choice of system on factors and solutions that ensure the highest possible return rate. The key factors and preferred options are summarised in the figure below.

⁹ <https://kliimaministeerium.ee/uhekordse-plasti-direktiiviga-seotud-korduma-kippuvad-kusimused#avalikud-uritused>

Alternative options for improving the effectiveness of a tableware re-use system



In addition to the operating principles, it is important that:

- *responsibilities between the organiser, caterers and the deposit operator are clearly allocated through both contractual arrangements and clear communication;*
- *a uniform deposit applies across the entire site (where a decentralised system is used);*
- *communication on how to use the system is simple and easy to understand;*
- *adequate spare tableware and reserve collection capacity are provided for peak hours.*

It is essential to understand and clearly define responsibilities, reconciling environmental protection and business interests. The return of cups is a critical factor because, from a business perspective, an unreturned tableware item becomes a sold item, which is usually more profitable than tableware washing and logistics services. This is where the municipality, as part of public administration, has a role in ensuring that the system is aligned with environmental objectives. If optimal solutions are difficult to find, the system rules can be changed. The experience of project partners points to two possible instruments. In Denmark, the deposit has been reduced to DKK 5, or EUR 0.67, which is close to the cost price of a cup. Deposit operators and caterers thus lose the economic incentive arising from

unreturned, or 'sold', cups. However, it should be borne in mind that a lower deposit also gives users less incentive to return tableware. No such experiment has been carried out in Latvia, so the results are difficult to predict. In Estonia, an approach was tested in which part of the deposit was retained to maintain and operate the system. However, it was ultimately decided to abandon this approach. In any case, deposit systems are still being developed, and it will take some time for the public to get used to them. In the meantime, it is very important to be able to monitor trends in return rates so that well-founded decisions can be taken in future. Organisers, and municipal organisers in particular, should therefore require the deposit operator to report the overall return rate of cups (tableware) for the event as a percentage.

Technical requirements for reusable tableware and re-use systems

Packaging Law

The Packaging Law lays down the following requirements for packaging intended for re-use:

- 1) the physical and other characteristics of the packaging shall be such as to ensure an appropriate quality of packaging and allow it to be re-used;*
- 2) the packaging shall be such that it is possible to restore the initial functions thereof, taking into account the health protection of employees and the requirements of safety at work.*

The Law also sets requirements for the maximum concentration of harmful substances in packaging.

PPWR requirements

Requirements for tableware

Article 11(1) of the PPWR¹⁰ provides that ‘packaging placed on the market from 11 February 2025 shall be considered to be reusable where it fulfils all of the following requirements:

- (a) it has been conceived, designed and placed on the market with the objective to be re-used multiple times;
- (b) it has been conceived and designed to accomplish as many rotations as possible under normally predictable conditions of use (by 12 February 2027, the Commission will adopt a delegated act establishing the minimum number of rotations for reusable packaging);
- (c) it fulfils applicable requirements regarding consumer health, safety and hygiene;
- (d) it can be emptied or unloaded without being damaged in a way that would prevent its further function and re-use;
- (e) it is capable of being emptied, unloaded, refilled or reloaded while maintaining the quality and safety of the packaged product and ensuring compliance with the applicable safety and hygiene requirements, including those on food safety;
- (f) it is capable of being reconditioned (i.e. prepared for re-use) in accordance with

Part B of Annex VI, while maintaining its ability to perform its intended function;

- (g) it allows for affixing of labels and the provision of information on the properties of that product and on the packaging itself, including any relevant instructions and information for ensuring safety, adequate use, traceability and shelf-life of the product;
- (h) it can be emptied, unloaded, refilled or reloaded without risk to the health and safety of those responsible for doing so; and
- (i) it fulfils the requirements specific to recyclable packaging set out in Article 6, so that it can be recycled when it becomes waste.’

In practice, the tableware supplier should be asked for a **product specification** and the **EU declaration of conformity** referred to in Annex VIII to the PPWR, confirming compliance with these requirements. The supplier may also be asked whether it can specify the particular re-use system in which the product is to be included – for example, is it intended as deposit tableware? The most important technical parameters are the **intended number of uses of the tableware and the washing temperature**: has the tableware been tested and certified for industrial dishwashing, and at what temperature?

Requirements for the system

The PPWR lays down uniform requirements for re-use systems to ensure that reusable packaging is used effectively, safely and in an economically sound manner. First and foremost, every re-use system must have **clear governance**. The system must have a defined **governance structure that ensures**

that objectives are met, equal access and fair conditions for all businesses and users, and **transparent operation of the system**. The PPWR stresses the need to ensure **equal access and fair conditions for both economic operators and consumers**. The second key principle is the system’s ability

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020

and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC.

to ensure sufficient circulation of packaging. Reusable packaging must be able to achieve the **minimum number of rotations**, which will be laid down in European Commission delegated acts by 12 February 2027. The PPWR also provides for detailed **system rules**. These must specify which packaging may circulate in the system, which products are packaged in it, and how the packaging is to be used, stored, collected, transported, filled and reconditioned. At the same time, the system must provide effective mechanisms that motivate consumers to return the packaging, for example deposits or other incentives. Another important requirement is equal access for all groups in society, including vulnerable consumers. Each system is overseen by a system operator responsible for its proper functioning and for ensuring re-use. The system must have **data recording and reporting rules** in place that make it possible to track the number of packaging rotations, collection rates, the quantity of damaged packaging, the number of packaging units in the system and other performance indicators. This ensures the transparency of the system and makes it possible to assess its effectiveness. The PPWR also sets **requirements for standardisation and economic fairness**. Packaging must comply with mutually agreed technical specifications or standards **so that different economic operators can use interoperable packaging**. At the same time, the system must **ensure a fair distribution of costs** and benefits among its participants and the fulfilment of **extended producer responsibility** requirements for

packaging that becomes waste at the end of its life cycle. In addition to the general requirements, the PPWR distinguishes between two types of re-use system. Closed loop systems must have reverse logistics that return packaging from the user back to the system, as well as centralised collection, reconditioning and redistribution of packaging. System participants are obliged to take back packaging collected in accordance with the system rules. In open loop systems, by contrast, packaging may be re-used after use by the same or another system participant. These systems must also ensure that collection, reconditioning and redistribution are generally available, but certain exemptions apply to them, particularly to older systems or systems without a central operator.

As regards making packaging reusable again, the PPWR lays down **reconditioning requirements**. The reconditioning process must be organised so that it does not create risks to the health and safety of workers, while minimising the impact on the environment. The PPWR sets out a minimum set of reconditioning operations. The process begins with an assessment of the condition of the packaging, followed by the removal of damaged or non-reusable components and their conveyance to an appropriate waste recovery or recycling process. The packaging is then thoroughly cleaned and washed in accordance with the required hygiene standards, repaired where necessary and, finally, inspected and assessed in detail for fitness for further use.

Requirements for caterers

Refill stations shall satisfy the following requirements:

(a) the refill station displays clear and precise information on:

(i) the hygiene standards that the end user's container must meet in order for it to be used to purchase products at the refill station;

(ii) the types and features of containers that can be used to purchase products through refill;

(iii) the contact details of the final distributor to ensure compliance with hygiene standards under applicable law;

(b) the refill station comprises a measuring device or provides alternative means of ensuring that the end user can choose a specified quantity of product for purchase;

(c) the price paid by end users does not include the weight of the container.

Materials

Reusable tableware must be durable and suitable for repeated washing in commercial dishwashing equipment.

Several materials for reusable tableware are available on the market, each with its own advantages:

- *PP (polypropylene) – the most common material for deposit cups. Durable, washable at high temperatures, with a relatively lower environmental impact in production. Compared with the other materials on this list, a PP cup reaches its environmental break-even point sooner – after only about 5–10 uses in most environmental impact categories.*
- *SAN (styrene-acrylonitrile copolymer) – a higher level of durability; available on the market. Its environmental impact in production may be higher than that of PP, so a larger number of rotations needs to be planned to achieve an environmental advantage.*
- *PET (polyethylene terephthalate) – less commonly used for events; better transparency, but lower resistance to hot beverages.*

It should be borne in mind that the market for reusable tableware is currently very dynamic: new composite materials with improved performance and durability are entering the market, and because of complex processes and raw materials, the

life cycle environmental impact of such products can vary. It is therefore advisable to encourage suppliers to provide life cycle assessment information in comparison with products made from conventional raw materials.

Hygiene requirements

Tableware must meet food safety requirements:

- *materials must comply with EU requirements for contact with food in accordance with Cabinet Regulation No. 808 of 19 October 2011, Regulations Regarding Materials and Articles Intended to Come into Contact with Food (Noteikumi par materiāliem un izstrādājumiem, kas paredzēti saskarei ar pārtiku),*
- *tableware must be suitable for washing at high temperatures,*

- *there must be no cracks or deformations.*
- *The requirements of the Food and Veterinary Service (FVS)¹¹ also provide for:*
- *separation of dirty and clean tableware,*
- *a controlled washing process,*
- *disinfection or documented hygiene control.*

In practice, an important factor is the **dryness** of washed tableware: packing wet tableware into transport crates carries a high risk of bacterial contamination. Access to dishwashers with a full drying function,

or another way of making sure that tableware has dried completely before it is placed in transport crates, is therefore essential.

Labelling and identification

Among the requirements that packaging¹² must fulfil to be considered reusable, the PPWR provides that it must allow for affixing of labels and the provision of information on the **properties of that product** and on the packaging itself, including any relevant **instructions** and information for ensuring **safety**, adequate **use**, **traceability** and **shelf-life** of the product.

The PPWR lays down precise labelling requirements for packaging, including reusable tableware, which will apply from **2028–2029**. From 12 August 2028, packaging placed on the market shall be marked with a harmonised label containing information on its **material composition**. Reusable packaging placed on the market from 12 February 2029 shall bear a label informing users that the packaging is **reusable**. Further information on reusability, including the **availability of a local, national or Union-wide re-use system** and information on **collection points**, shall be made available through a **QR code or other type of standardised, open, digital**

data carrier that facilitates the tracking of the packaging and the calculation of trips and rotations, or, if that calculation is not feasible, an average estimation. In addition, reusable sales packaging shall be clearly identified and distinguished from single-use packaging at the point of sale. The requirement to bear a label and a QR code or other type of standardised, open, digital data carrier shall not apply to open loop systems which do not have a system operator. The label and the QR code or other type of standardised, open, digital data carrier shall be **affixed, printed or engraved** visibly, legibly and **firmly** on the packaging, so that they cannot be easily erased. The information contained therein shall also be available to end users before the purchase of the product through online sales. Where such affixing, printing or engraving is not possible or not warranted on account of the nature and size of the packaging, the label, QR code or other standardised, open, digital data carrier shall be affixed to the grouped packaging. Where even that is not possible or not warranted

¹¹ Law on the Supervision of the Handling of Food (*Pārtikas aprites uzraudzības likums*), Section 5. *Latvijas Republikas Saeimas un Ministru Kabineta Ziņotājs*, 1998, No. 8; and Food and Veterinary Service, 'Requirements of laws and regulations for catering establishments' (methodological material in Latvian summarising the requirements of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 852/2004).

¹² Placed on the market from 11 February 2025.

on account of the nature and size of the packaging or where it is relevant to provide for non-discriminatory access to information for vulnerable groups, particularly visually impaired persons, the information shall be provided via a single

electronically readable code or other type of data carrier. None of these requirements apply yet, but it is advisable to take them into account in good time when planning or expanding a re-use system.

Design requirements

Key aspects of tableware design:

Ergonomics – the tableware is easy to hold and does not slip.

Standardisation – a uniform size range within a re-use system or event, e.g. 0.2 l, 0.3 l, 0.4 l and 0.5 l cups, special cups for hot beverages and their lids, and wine glasses. The specific range depends on the re-use system operator or tableware rental provider.

Aesthetics – printing on tableware can enhance visual identity and serve as an advertising platform for sponsors. However, such tableware is usually returned less often. It is important to distinguish situations where the print relates to a specific event, such as a concert, and the printed cups are not suitable for, or

accepted at, other events. Although such tableware is formally reusable, experience shows that most users take it home as a souvenir. In such cases, therefore, it is not correct to regard this as a deposit or other re-use system; it is rather a promotional cup scheme. Nevertheless, such a scheme still prevents the use of single-use tableware and thus also reduces littering and the associated marine litter. However, the environmental benefits are smaller.

Environmental aspects – so far, the most environmentally friendly option is considered to be a PP (polypropylene) cup without print or with minimal, durable print using environmentally friendly inks. Innovative materials need to be assessed separately, including the recyclability of the product.

Summary of requirements for reusable tableware and re-use systems

<i>Category</i>	<i>Requirements of Latvian legislation and the PPWR</i>	<i>Clarifications and recommendations</i>
Material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Packaging must be designed for re-use and intended to be used multiple times. • It must meet food contact, health, safety and hygiene requirements. • It must be possible to recondition the packaging (make it 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Among conventional plastic raw materials, polypropylene (PP) is the recommended material for deposit cups owing to its lower environmental impact and faster environmental break-even point. • SAN and innovative materials are suitable where higher mechanical strength is required.

	reusable again) and to recycle it at the end of its life cycle.	
Durability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The physical properties of the packaging must allow re-use. • It must be able to withstand repeated emptying, refilling and reconditioning while maintaining its functionality. • The minimum number of rotations for tableware will be set in PPWR delegated acts by 12 February 2027. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The supplier should be asked for the technical specification of the tableware and the EU declaration of conformity in accordance with Annex VIII to the PPWR.
Labelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It should be possible to affix a label to reusable tableware providing information on the product, safety, proper use and traceability, and information on the packaging. • Under the PPWR, harmonised labelling requirements will apply from 2028–2029, including material labelling, re-use labelling and a digital data carrier (QR code or equivalent). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PPWR provides that reusable packaging placed on the market from 12 February 2029 shall bear a label informing users that the packaging is reusable. Further information on reusability, including the availability of a local, national or Union-wide re-use system and information on collection points, shall be made available through a QR code or other type of standardised, open, digital data carrier. The label and the QR code or other type of standardised, open, digital data carrier shall be affixed, printed or engraved visibly, legibly and firmly on the packaging, so that they cannot be easily erased. Where this is not possible, the PPWR provides for alternatives.
Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must meet food safety and food contact material requirements. • Consumer health and safety requirements must be ensured during re-use. • Reconditioning must include a technical inspection, removal of damaged tableware, washing and a final check. • Refill stations must provide information on hygiene 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FVS requirements provide for the separation of dirty and clean tableware, a controlled washing process and documented hygiene control or disinfection. • It is important that clean tableware is completely dry when placed in transport packaging.

	requirements and on the containers that may be used.	
System	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The PPWR requires system governance, a system operator, data recording, transparency and equal access and fair conditions.• The system is designed to ensure that reusable packaging rotating within it completes at least the minimum intended number of rotations (to be defined in 2027).• Rules must be laid down for the use, collection, transport, filling and reconditioning of packaging.• Mechanisms must be provided to motivate consumers to return packaging.• Closed loop systems must have reverse logistics and centralised reconditioning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each system must have ‘governance guidelines’ establishing the governance structure of the re-use system that defines the role of system participants, ownership and any envisaged transfer of ownership of packaging, as well as other relevant governance elements of the re-use system.



Summary of PPWR requirements and when they apply

The requirements of the PPWR are directly applicable in Latvia without transposition into national law.

From 12 August 2026, the PPWR applies as a whole.

Article 11 of the PPWR sets out re-use criteria that apply from 11 February 2025,

the date on which the PPWR entered into force. Reusable packaging already placed on the European Union market before the date of entry into force of the PPWR (11 February 2025) does not need to be brought into compliance with these requirements retroactively.

Comparison of PPWR requirements with the previous requirements of standard EN 13429:2004 Packaging – Reuse

The European Commission's guidance document of March 2026 (C(2026) 3702) explicitly states that the requirements laid down in Article 11 of the PPWR are substantially like the requirements on packaging re-use of the previous Packaging Directive (Directive 94/62/EC) and the related harmonised standard EN

13429:2004, so the PPWR requirements are not completely new. To a large extent, the PPWR clarifies and makes legally binding what was previously the methodology of a voluntary harmonised standard. What is substantially new in the PPWR are the requirements for re-use systems and the obligations of their participants.

Requirements for reusable packaging:

<i>Requirements for reusable packaging</i>	<i>PPWR, Article 11</i>	<i>Previous standard EN 13429:2004</i>
Legal status	Directly applicable provision of an EU regulation – binding in all Member States without transposition	Voluntary harmonised standard linked to Directive 94/62/EC, but not legally binding in itself
Basic principle	Packaging must be conceived, designed and placed on the market with the objective of being re-used or refilled multiple times (Article 11(1), point (a))	Physical capability of accomplishing several rotations under normal, foreseeable conditions of use – the same basic idea
Number of use cycles	Packaging must be designed to accomplish as many rotations as possible under foreseeable conditions; by 12 February 2027, the Commission must establish, by means of a delegated act, a specific minimum number of rotations for the packaging formats most frequently used in re-use (Article 11(2))	Does not set a specific numerical minimum number of rotations – the assessment was qualitative/technical, based on the manufacturer's evidence of durability
Emptying / refilling without damage	Packaging must be capable of being emptied or refilled without being damaged in a way that would impair its further function and re-use	Similar criterion – it must be capable of being emptied/filled while maintaining its functionality for subsequent cycles

Health, safety, hygiene	Must meet applicable health, safety and environmental requirements with regard to the contents and users, including hygiene standards	Similar criterion – handling of the packaging (filling/emptying) must not endanger the health and safety of the persons working with it
Reconditioning / restoration	Packaging must be capable of being prepared for re-use ('reconditioned'), including cleaning before the next cycle, in compliance with applicable law	Equivalent condition – capability of being reconditioned (cleaning, inspection, repair) in order to meet applicable requirements
Traceability and data	New compared with the standard – traceability is required (label, QR code or other digital data carrier from 2029) so that the number of rotation cycles can be calculated	The standard contains no such digital traceability requirements – this is a new, additional requirement of the PPWR
Participation in a re-use system	Mandatory requirement – businesses that introduce or use reusable packaging must participate in one or more re-use systems (Article 11 in conjunction with Articles 26–27 and Annex VI)	The standard itself does not regulate participation in a system.
Demonstrating compliance	Formal technical documentation in accordance with Annex VII and an EU declaration of conformity (Annex VIII), to be kept for 10 years	Conformity assessment procedure based on the methodology set out in the standard – less formalised, with no EU-level declaration obligation
Penalties / enforcement	National market surveillance authorities may request documentation and impose corrective action, withdrawal from the market and penalties	Non-compliance with the standard did not in itself entail direct penalties

Given the divergent interpretations as to whether reusable deposit tableware is packaging within the meaning of the PPWR, it is recommended that all PPWR-related requirements be regarded as desirable for

improving the effectiveness of the system, but not mandatory, until the European Commission has provided clarification of the PPWR definition of packaging.

Practical models for implementing a deposit system

When choosing a tableware deposit system, event organisers need to understand two dimensions: where tableware can be returned (the openness of the system) and who manages the

circulation of tableware (the operating model). Together, these two dimensions determine how convenient the system is for visitors, how complicated it is for caterers and how expensive it is for the organiser.

Types of system by openness and collection principle

By openness and collection principle, reusable tableware systems can be divided

into closed loop and open loop systems as defined in the PPWR. A closed loop system

can be centralised or decentralised. In a centralised system with uniform tableware, the return of tableware itself can be centralised at designated collection points

Closed loop system

In a closed loop system as defined in the PPWR, tableware is circulated by a system operator or a co-operating group of system participants without the change of the ownership of packaging. In practice, this usually means that tableware can only be returned at the specific event or trading location where it was obtained.

Centralised system – all caterers at an event or in a given area use a single tableware deposit system with the same tableware and the same rules. In a centralised system, the return of tableware itself can be centralised, where there are one or more

Open loop system

Under the PPWR, an open loop system is a re-use system in which reusable packaging circulates amongst an unspecified number of system participants, and the ownership of the packaging changes at one or more points in the re-use process.

In practice, the system operated by RECUP/REBOWL in Germany,¹³ for example, is regarded as an open loop system. Users can return tableware at any of RECUP's 20,000 partner locations (not only where it was taken) and get their deposit back. From the user's perspective, such a system is very convenient, as it offers the widest range of options for returning tableware, thereby improving return rates and satisfaction with the system. It could therefore be a good long-term prospect for a city-wide system.

or decentralised at vendors. An open loop system has many participants and extends beyond a single event.

shared return points, or decentralised, where vendors also collect tableware.

Decentralised system – each caterer at an event or in street trading is responsible for providing its own deposit system. Visitors return tableware to the same caterer from whom they obtained it. This ensures simple logistics and record-keeping and good control over inventory, but it is very inconvenient for visitors, which results in a high level of unreturned tableware and may lead to misunderstandings about who owns the tableware.

From a formal point of view, however, it should be borne in mind that in most cases ownership of the tableware remains with the operator. Formally, therefore, under the PPWR definition, it may not qualify as an open loop re-use system, for which operators face less stringent system governance requirements.

The biggest challenge is to create a coordinated platform among caterers. If the municipality itself sets up a single tableware deposit management system across the city, this is economically, legally and politically challenging. In Freiburg, Germany, the municipality set up and ran FreiburgCup through its waste management and street cleaning company. In 2021, however, it decided to abandon its own system and join RECUP. The main

¹³ <https://recup.de/en/>

reasons were nationwide coverage, the possibility of using not only cups but also food containers, and greater convenience for users.¹⁴ Overall, however, such examples are not common in the EU.

Where deposit systems are developed by the private sector, free-market competition makes it difficult to establish a single, wider system. European practice offers several

successful examples of city-wide public-private partnerships in which the municipality is the initiator and regulator, and a private operator owns the tableware and manages the system – for example, Lisbon, which in 2025 became the first European capital with a city-wide deposit cup system.

Mobile system

The key element of a mobile system is a mobile washing unit operated by the deposit system operator or by one of the caterers. Its main advantage is that large stocks of clean tableware and space for storing dirty tableware are not needed. Such a system is therefore advantageous at events or in street trading where circulation volumes are small and trading often takes

place at various more remote locations. Given that Riga has several operators with industrial washing capacity in flexible volumes, a mobile system is expected to be cost-effective only in specific cases, depending more on the caterer's or organiser's considerations regarding the location, scale and frequency of events.

Types of system by system manager

Model	<i>Brief description</i>	<i>Main advantages</i>	<i>Main disadvantages</i>
Own system and washing	The caterer uses its own reusable tableware; the customer pays a deposit; used tableware is washed in the kitchen or at a mobile washing unit.	Simple process; good control over inventory and hygiene; no transport costs.	Heavier workload; capital investment in washing equipment; risk of low return rates and high losses.
Shared multi-partner system with centralised collection and local washing	Own tableware, but collected after the event or on a regular basis and taken to a central washing facility (or outsourced locally).	Reduces the workload on site and ensures professional hygiene and economies of scale compared with an own system.	Transport costs, logistics coordination; requires stable cooperation between businesses. Adequate drying of tableware must be ensured.

¹⁴ <https://www.abfallwirtschaft-freiburg.de/de/servicesseiten/freiburgcup.php>

Rental	An external provider delivers clean tableware and takes away dirty tableware.	No investment needed; quick to start.	Dependence on rental fees and transport. The caterer must handle the acceptance of tableware and deposit refunds, as well as the storage of dirty tableware.
Full-service rental from an external provider	A third party delivers the inventory to the event, provides return points, collects used tableware, washes it centrally and delivers it back.	Logistics fully outsourced – convenient for the event organiser; professional washing; labour savings.	More expensive (operator costs); reliance on a third party; good contract management required.

Logistics and circulation management

Transport and storage of tableware

A Euronorm-format transport crate measuring 600 × 400 mm (height 235–440 mm) is the standard for reusable tableware operators in Europe, as it is compatible with:

- industrial dishwashers,
- EUR pallets,
- catering storage systems.

Three crate heights are available: 235 mm, 335 mm and 440 mm. Some operators may also use crates of other sizes. For example, a 600 × 400 × 335 mm crate can hold up to 330 reusable 0.3 l cups. However, the actual capacity depends on the volume and shape of the cups.

Sanitation requirements (washing, disinfection, quality control)

Labelled collection bins are used at collection points. This means that:

- *the bins are clearly marked as deposit tableware return points,*
- *they have a visually clear design,*
- *colour coding or pictograms are often used.*
- *This helps to reduce errors and speeds up the collection process.*

Compliance with FVS requirements means:

- *separation of dirty and clean tableware flows,*
- *closed and hygienic transport,*
- *a controlled washing process with disinfection.*

Stock management (record-keeping, reserves, loss control)

Size of reserve stock

An adequate stock of tableware is essential for the smooth operation of the system. The size of the tableware stock depends on the nature of the event, on-site washing facilities and the rental provider's ability to replenish stock. International experience¹⁵ suggests:

- *at busy events (sports events, music festivals) – about 7 cups per visitor per day;*
- *at quieter events (family events) – about 2.5 cups per visitor per day;*
- *on-site washing halves the reserve stock needed.*

In practice, it is advisable to rely on the recommendations of the re-use system operator or tableware rental provider for the specific event, as an individual caterer's stock at its trading location depends largely on the rental provider's ability to replenish tableware stocks promptly.

Record-keeping recommendations, loss control and calculation

Several important aspects need to be considered in stock management:

- *Keep records (how many tableware items were issued, returned and lost).*
- *Control losses (damaged and missing tableware).*

Calculating losses:

- *Losses = tableware issued – tableware returned – tableware damaged*

It is advisable to set an acceptable loss rate (e.g. 5–15%) and to review the system if it is exceeded. After 12 February 2027, when the European Commission has established, by means of a delegated act, a specific minimum number of rotations for the packaging formats most frequently used in re-use, it will be possible to calculate the minimum return rate needed to meet this requirement.

It can be calculated using the following formula:

$$100 - (100 / \text{minimum number of rotations}) = \text{return rate}$$

For example, if the minimum number of rotations is 20, then

$$100 - (100 / 20) = 95\% \text{ return rate}$$

This means that a cup return rate of 95% must be achieved to ensure an average of 20 rotations per tableware item.

¹⁵ <https://www.drinksdate.co.uk/products/festival-cups>; <https://redcupliving.com/blogs/news/the-shift-to-reusable-cups-in-events-a-sustainable-solution-for-a-greener-future>

Examples of partners and contact details

The largest providers of tableware re-use systems in Riga:¹⁶

Question / Section	SIA Depozīts	SIA Cup Revolution Latvia	SIA ASTRO
Contact person (name, email, telephone)	Toms Judenkovs, toms@depozitat-rauki.lv, +371 20208021	Jānis Rosickis, janis@cuprevolution.lv, +371 22001197	Armands Plinte, armands@astro.com.lv, +371 29205353
Type of system	Deposit system	Token system: a token is given in return for the tableware handed back, which can be used next time or at other events and locations where the Cup Revolution system operates	Deposit system
Experience in providing deposit or reusable tableware systems (years)	3 years	3 years	7 years
Maximum quantity of tableware	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited

Among digital solutions, the **Dpays** app is available in Latvia (<https://www.dpays.eu/lv>).

Choosing a solution

The basic principles for making a choice and the corresponding preferred solutions were shown in the figure above, in the section ‘Operating principles: overview’. Below, options are first described from an organisational perspective and in terms of the system’s objective, and then from the caterer’s perspective.

Organisational perspective and the system’s objective

Shared centralised return points are effective for large events with a clear flow of visitors (at exits, in the centre). Queues may form at the end of the event, which leads to a lower return rate. Decentralised returns, on the other hand, can be inconvenient if visitors have to queue together with customers during the event. The most convenient option for customers is a combined system – both clearly visible centralised return points with sufficient staff capacity and the option of returning tableware at vendors. Such a solution should ensure the best return rates.

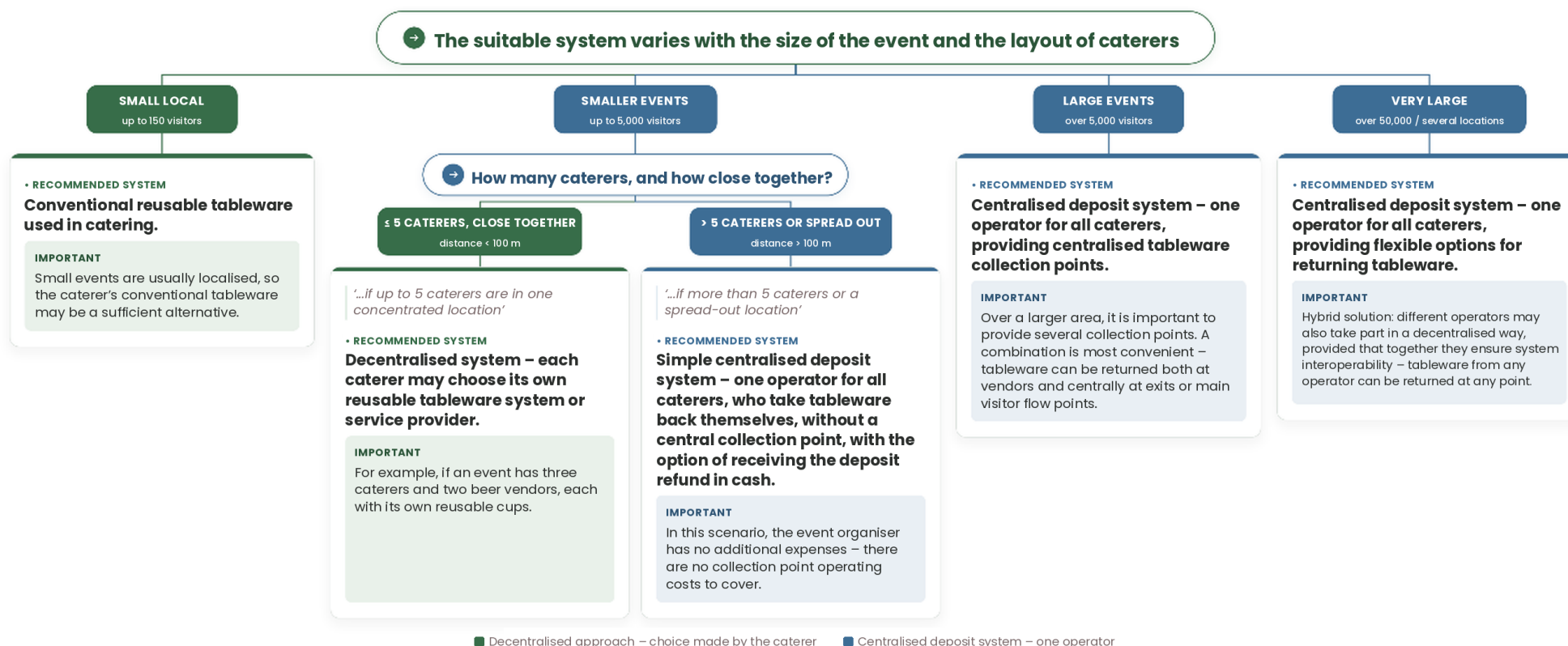
However, actual effectiveness depends on the nature, scale and layout of the event and on visitor flows. The technical complications of decentralised returns also need to be considered, as each vendor must keep small change for deposit refunds and provide sufficient space at the stall for returned tableware, which increases the cost of implementing a re-use system in practice.

The recommended basic options by type of event are shown below.

¹⁶ According to data from a survey conducted by Riga City Council in April 2026.

Recommended reusable tableware deposit system scenarios from the organiser's perspective

The most suitable type of system varies with the size of the event, the number of caterers and their layout – from small local events to very large, multi-site events.



- With equal return rates, the **most cost-effective** scenarios are those with as few additional services as possible:
 - *an own tableware deposit system, if washing and drying facilities are available;*
 - *a centralised system with decentralised collection at caterers, without dedicated collection points.*
- From an **environmental protection** perspective, the most advantageous option, with the highest return rate, is:
 - *full-service rental with options to return tableware both at vendors and at return points, with various deposit payment methods.*

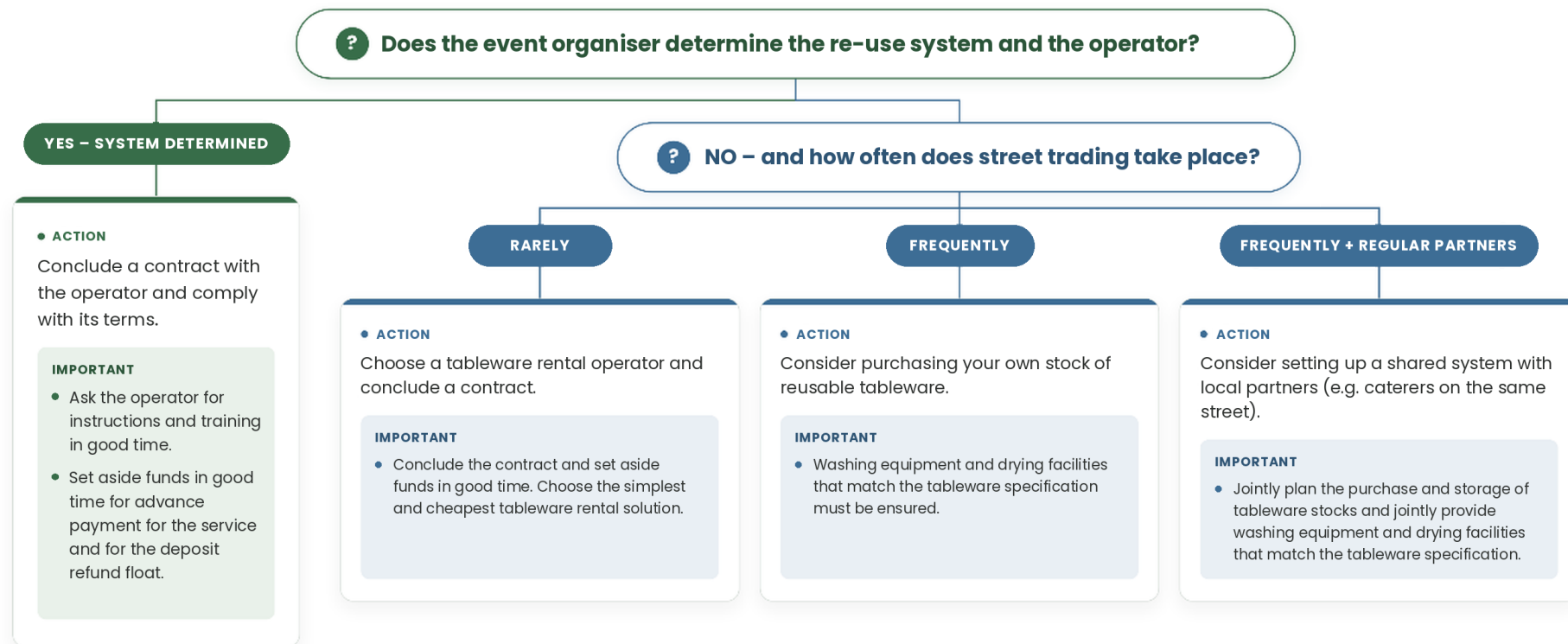
The caterer's perspective

Below is a summary of the most advantageous scenarios depending on the street trading rules and type of trading.

DECISION-MAKING DIAGRAM

Choosing a tableware re-use system from the caterer's perspective

How caterers at events and in street trading can choose the most suitable reusable tableware solution – depending on whether the system is determined by the event organiser.



The study 'Socio-economic assessment of introducing reusable tableware at public events and in beach catering in Liepāja'¹⁷ modelled the economic and socio-economic benefits of different cooperation scenarios.

Several systems were compared:

- *Caterer's own system, in which the vendor builds up its own tableware stock and re-use system;*
- *Shared local caterer system, in which several caterers in a neighbourhood join forces to create their own tableware re-use system;*
- *Rental, in which caterers use external tableware rental services;*
- *Full-service rental, in which caterers use not only rental but also other operator services – collection points, visitor information, availability of small change for deposits, etc.;*
- *Full-service rental with revenue from unreturned items retained by the caterer – a cooperation format in which a fixed fee is charged for services, while deposit income from unreturned cups stays with the caterer.*

Key:

Most advantageous –	
Less advantageous –	
Not advantageous –	

Application/scenario	Size	Caterer's own system	Shared local caterer system	Rental	Full-service rental	Full-service rental with revenue from unreturned items retained by the caterer
Permanent food businesses						
Small events / seminars	≤150 people					
Medium-sized events	150–5,000 people					
Large events / festivals	>5,000 people					

Source: based on 'Socio-economic assessment of introducing reusable tableware at public events and in beach catering in Liepāja', 2026

These results are based on the specific situation in Liepāja and a number of assumptions and should therefore be regarded as indicative. Overall, however, the results show that a self-managed system or simple tableware rental without additional services can be the most advantageous option both economically and socio-economically (including environmental benefits).

Based on available market information, the tableware exchange token system is estimated to have the lowest costs from the caterer's perspective, as these costs are largely covered by the fees paid by new exchange participants.

¹⁷ 'Socio-economic assessment of introducing reusable tableware at public events and in beach catering in Liepāja', 2026 (in Latvian).

However, all of these solutions that are more advantageous for caterers involve inconvenience for users and therefore carry greater risks of failing to meet environmental protection objectives.

IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

These instructions explain the main implementation steps for event organisers introducing a tableware deposit system.

Before the event or trading

Choosing partners and a system

- Determine the planned size of the event and the most suitable system model.
- Select a re-use system operator in good time – at least one month before the event (for municipalities, a deposit system operator at least 6 months before). Agree on the available quantities of tableware, washing facilities, logistics arrangements and terms of cooperation with caterers.
- Obtain confirmation from the re-use system operator that the tableware and washing facilities comply with the mandatory requirements.
- Agree on the costs for caterers and the organiser. If centralised tableware collection points organised by the operator are planned, a procurement procedure must be carried out.
- Conclude a contract with the operator that clearly sets out the tableware circulation plan, the information system and reporting on the tableware return rate.
- Make sure that contracts are concluded with caterers making the use of deposit tableware mandatory, with immediate suspension of trading as the sanction for non-compliance.

Tableware circulation plan

- Calculate the amount of tableware needed in line with the re-use system operator's guidance.
- Determine the number and location of return points in agreement with the re-use system operator. They are recommended at caterers, at each exit and in the centre of the food area, or depending on the site and the specifics of the event, its size and nature, and the available budget. Return points must be marked on the event map.
- Provide payment options that are as flexible as possible: it is recommended to combine at least two methods – cash and bank card. If available, also a mobile phone app, such as Dpays, which makes payments easier and reduces the risk of running out of small change. Ensure a sufficient supply of small change.

Preparing communications

- Post a short explanation on the event website, on tickets and on social media: 'This event uses a tableware deposit system – return your cup and get EUR 2 back.' The simpler and more specific, the better.

- Prepare visual materials – posters and stall signs with clear pictograms and text in Latvian and English. Collection points need to be clearly visible from both sides so that they can be seen from a distance.
- Ensure visual consistency – the same colours, pictograms and texts on all stalls across the entire event site.
- QR codes on signs or tableware linking to a short description of the system are recommended – a convenient solution for visitors who want a quick answer on their phone screen.

During the event

- Ensure that every caterer charges a deposit every time food or a beverage is served in reusable tableware – without exception. If a caterer serves food or a beverage without charging a deposit, or in single-use tableware, this distorts competition and undermines the system, unless the customer has brought their own cup. If necessary, call the municipal police if a caterer fails to comply with its contractual obligations.
- Make sure that staff work in line with the chosen system. Make sure that staff are adequately trained before the event: how to collect and refund deposits, what to do with damaged tableware, and how to direct visitors to the nearest return point. Customer questions about the system are most frequent in the first hour – staff must be prepared.
- If donation boxes have been set up – additional bins where visitors can leave tableware without a deposit refund – they must be monitored and emptied regularly. The box must be designed so that dishonest visitors cannot take cups out of it. Donation boxes may be considered as an option, in agreement with the re-use system operator, if high return rates are difficult to achieve.

After the event

- Tableware collection: make sure that all remaining tableware across the entire event site is collected and taken for washing within 72 hours or in line with the operator's instructions.
- Loss records: make sure that the operator counts returned and unreturned tableware, calculates the return rate and reports it to the event organiser. If the loss rate is higher than 20%, it is worth analysing the reasons – whether collection points were poorly located, the information system was inadequate, or there were other reasons.
- Financial settlements: make sure that caterers and operators fulfil their mutual contractual obligations.
- Post-event debriefs with caterers, staff and the operator on what worked well in the system and what needs to be improved next time.

Further sources of information

- Change(K)now! project training materials: https://ej.uz/changeknow_training. Training modules: Module 1 – Change of the food delivery system; Module 2 – Innovative solutions within Change(K)now!; Module 3 – Sprint manual. Methodology for planning the transition from single-use to reusable containers.
- Materials developed in 2026 under the Change(K)now! project for Liepāja City Municipality Administration: ‘Socio-economic assessment of introducing reusable tableware at public events and in beach catering in Liepāja’ and the ‘Guidelines for introducing reusable cups at public events and in beach catering in Liepāja’ prepared as part of it (in Latvian). Available at: <https://ppdb.mk.gov.lv/database/socialekonomiskais-novertejums-atkartoti-lietojamu-glazu-ieviesanai-publikajos-pasakumos-un-pludmales-edinasana-liepaja/>
- Guidelines developed under the Change(K)now! project: From Pilots to Systems. How Can Circular Food Delivery Systems Become the New Normal? Available at: https://va.lv/images/ChangeKnow_Policy-Recommendations_From-Pilots-to-Systems-Making-circular-food-delivery-the-new-normal_2026.pdf
- ‘Guidelines on waste management and waste reduction at public events in Riga’ developed by Riga City Council (in Latvian). Available at: <https://www.riga.lv/lv/vadlinijas-ielu-tirdzniecibai-riga>
- Zero Waste Latvija guidelines (2024) on introducing a cup re-use system in a municipality (in Latvian). Available at: <https://www.zerowastelatvija.lv/post/zero-waste-latvija-izstrada-depozitglazu-vadlinijas-pasvaldibam>
- Riga City Council procurement documents: ‘Provision of a centralised tableware deposit system at Riga’s Birthday’ (in Latvian). For lessons learned from the procurement, contact atkritumi@riga.lv. The procurement documents are available at: <https://www.eis.gov.lv/EKEIS/Supplier/Procurement/172173>
- Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 on packaging and packaging waste, and related documents. https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/waste-and-recycling/package-waste_en