

EN

E-003104/2025

Answer given by Mr Serafin
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.9.2025)

The own resource based on e-waste is not a tax, but a national contribution based on statistical data. As such there is no direct cost for the Swedish taxpayer. Member States are however free to put in place measures or initiatives to increase the collection of e-waste.

The Commission has not conducted a formal impact assessment on the administrative costs for Member States. However, it believes that the administrative burden is limited as Member States already have the obligation to provide data necessary to calculate the own resource to Eurostat in the context of the Directive on waste electrical and electronic equipment¹.

The choice to propose an e-waste own resource is linked to its possible positive impact on the EU's competitiveness and environmental policy. A new own resource based on the amount of non-collected e-waste would help protect the environment and support the Union's strategic autonomy in critical raw materials. E-waste represents one of the fastest growing waste streams. Critical raw materials such as copper, platinum, and rare earth elements can be recycled when waste is managed effectively. At the same time, e-waste contains hazardous materials such as heavy metals and chemical substances, which pose severe environmental and health risks, if not properly collected and treated. Despite progress in recycling, the collection rate remains significantly below the policy targets set out in the Directive on waste electrical and electronic equipment.

In relation to plastic bags (e.g. shopping bags), they are already covered by the own resource on the existing plastic packaging waste generated in each Member State that is not recycled (EUR 0,80 per kilogram).

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TEXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32012L0019>.