



**Euromonitor  
International**

# Meals and Soups Packaging in the United Kingdom

August 2025

KEY DATA FINDINGS

2024 DEVELOPMENTS

Demand for convenience influences meals and soups packaging in 2024  
Marked differences between packaging of soup and ready meals in the UK  
iKrafts drives eco-friendly packaging innovation in meals and soups

PROSPECTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Balancing convenience, cost, and eco-friendliness in UK meals and soups packaging  
Flexible, premium, and eco-friendly packs to drive meals and soups packaging trends

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Packaging in 2024: The big picture  
2024 key trends  
Changing consumer behaviour and economic pressures drive the shift towards convenience-focused and flexible packaging formats  
Rising sustainability expectations and inflationary pressures reshape food packaging formats  
Regulatory targets and brand carbon goals accelerate the shift to rPET and low-impact non-alcoholic formats  
Premiumisation demands and carbon-reduction goals drive material diversification in alcoholic drinks  
Circular beauty expectations and retailer action accelerate refill and bio-based packaging adoption  
Demand for value and waste reduction drives adoption of concentrates and refill ecosystems in home care  
Consumer demand for sustainability and functionality drives new flexible and smart packaging formats in pet food

PACKAGING LEGISLATION

Rising regulatory costs are accelerating packaging redesign  
Deposit incentives are reshaping beverage packaging choices  
Government-funded waste systems are driving infrastructure upgrades, recycling targets and local-authority integration

RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Regulatory pressure and consumer demand driving strategic recycling partnerships  
Patent-free biopolymers and seaweed coating emerge as compostable packaging solutions  
EPR obligations and traceability requirements reinforce adoption of smart packaging technologies  
Table 1 - Overview of Packaging Recycling and Recovery in the United Kingdom: 2022/2023 and Targets for 2024

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For more information on this report, further enquiries can be directed via this link [www.euromonitor.com/meals-and-soups-packaging-in-the-united-kingdom/report](http://www.euromonitor.com/meals-and-soups-packaging-in-the-united-kingdom/report).