Get Ready for RAM:

Your Guide to Recyclability Assessment with RAM Assess

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1. Simplify Recyclability Reporting. Reduce Future Costs.

RAM Assess is our purpose-built online platform designed to help you meet the requirements of the Recyclability Assessment Methodology (RAM) – a key obligation under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) regulations, which came into force on 1 January 2025.
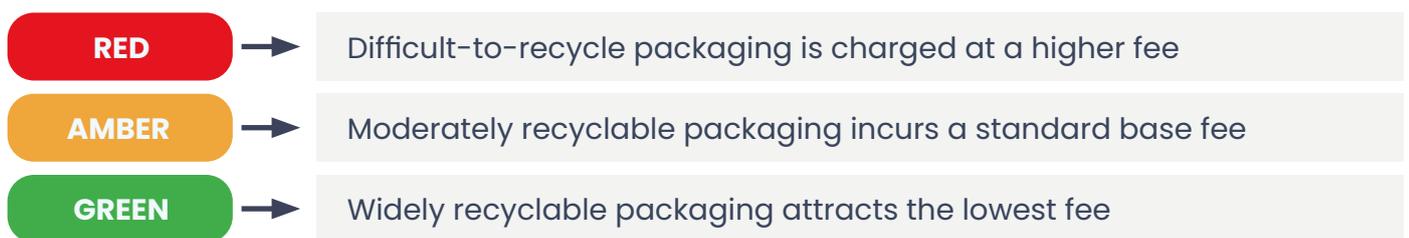
Developed to streamline the complex process of assessing packaging recyclability, **RAM Assess** enables you to:

• Generate component-level recyclability RAG ratings at scale
• Automate bulk component assessments and save hours of manual work
• Identify packaging formats and materials likely to increase your EPR fees
• Calculate your estimated Local Authority waste management fees
• Forecast the financial impact of making strategic packaging changes

Whether you manage thousands of SKUs or a handful of key lines, **RAM Assess** gives you the insight and control to stay compliant, enhance your packaging data, and understand how your design choices influence future EPR costs. By improving data quality and highlighting potential cost impacts, **RAM Assess** helps you make smarter packaging decisions that support both compliance and wider business goals.

2. Why RAM Assess Matters

From 2026, the fees you pay for packaging compliance will be directly linked to how recyclable your packaging is. RAM assigns every component a **RED**, **AMBER**, or **GREEN** rating, and these ratings determine the modulated Local Authority waste management fees you'll pay under EPR.

RED ➡	Difficult-to-recycle packaging is charged at a higher fee
AMBER ➡	Moderately recyclable packaging incurs a standard base fee
GREEN ➡	Widely recyclable packaging attracts the lowest fee

RAM is designed to reward better packaging design and penalise hard-to-recycle formats. The less recyclable your packaging, the more you'll pay.

That's where **RAM Assess** makes a key difference. It helps you:

• Identify packaging formats that could drive up future costs
• Close data gaps to help you avoid default **RED** ratings
• Make smarter, more sustainable packaging decisions
• Automate bulk recyclability assessments, saving hours of time and effort

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3. Find the Right RAM Assess Plan for Your Business

RAM Assess is designed to meet the specific needs of your business, with three tailored tiers: **Core**, **Cost Reduce**, and **Transform**. Whether you're aiming to meet baseline compliance or drive strategic change, each tier offers increasing functionality to help you stay compliant and reduce costs.

RAM Assess Core — Meet Basic RAM Compliance Requirements

Included as standard with Clarity membership, **Core** supports you in meeting your RAM reporting obligations during the data submission period. With **Core** you can:

- Upload packaging data and receive **RED**, **AMBER**, or **GREEN** (RAG) ratings
- Identify missing or incomplete data to avoid costly default **RED** ratings
- Produce bulk RAG outputs to support your submission

A simple tool that supports obligated producers in carrying out RAM assessments.

RAM Assess Cost Reduce — Turn Compliance into Cost Savings

Cost Reduce goes beyond basic compliance, helping you lower future EPR fees with improved data and smarter packaging decisions. With this tier, you can:

- Analyse packaging data by SKU, component, or material
- Target the biggest cost-saving opportunities by prioritising changes with the highest recyclability impacts
- Use dashboards to visualise your packaging data and identify high impact formats
- Export RAG outputs to support procurement, redesign, and reporting
- Year-round access to support ongoing packaging decisions

Ideal for businesses seeking actionable insights to cut costs, avoid **RED**-rated risks, and align compliance with commercial goals.

RAM Assess Transform — Optimise your Packaging Strategy

Our most advanced tier, **Transform** is built for multi-site operations and sustainability-focused teams. It provides year-round access to powerful tools that embed recyclability into your packaging development and operational strategy.

- Edit and review data live within the **RAM Assess** platform
- Set and track cost-saving and recyclability targets
- Enable multi-user access across teams and sites
- Generate RAM-rated data to support your EPR submission
- Year-round access to support ongoing packaging decisions

Transform helps you embed recyclability into business strategy, reduce packaging costs, and meet sustainability goals.

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4. RAM Assess: Tier Features Summary

Navigating RAM doesn't have to be complicated. **RAM Assess** simplifies the entire process, enabling quick, accurate component-level assessments so you can make smarter packaging decisions, minimise costs, and stay compliant with confidence.

Whether you're meeting basic requirements or driving long-term strategy, **RAM Assess** has a tier to match your business. The table below outlines the key features of each option - **Core**, **Cost Reduce**, and **Transform** - so you can select the right level of support for your goals.

Feature	Core RAG assessment only	Cost Reduce (Most Popular) Cut compliance costs with smarter data	Transform Leverage data for strategic decision making
Access to the RAM Assess dashboard and data insights	✓	✓	✓
Generate RAG recyclability ratings by component	✓	✓	✓
Automate bulk RAG assessments for multiple SKUs	✓	✓	✓
Forecast modulated waste management fees		✓	✓
Identify and resolve Red ratings caused by incomplete data		✓	✓
Evaluate cost impacts per component, material and SKU		✓	✓
Year-round access for continuous packaging decision-making		✓	✓
Import, merge and consolidate multiple datasets to streamline analysis			✓
Edit, model and track live dataset changes for strategic decision-making			✓
Multiple dashboards to track product, component and supplier costs			✓
Multi-user access for cross-functional teams and sites			✓
For Clarity Members*	**Included**	**£3,499** /Annum	From **£9,950** /Annum
For Non-Clarity Members*	**£1,000** /Annum	**£4,999** /Annum	From **£9,950** /Annum

*Prices are exclusive of VAT

Not sure which tier is right for you?

Our account management team is here to help. If you're unsure which **RAM Assess** tier best fits your business, get in touch.

We'll assess your needs and recommend the most effective solution based on your packaging profile, compliance goals, and cost-saving opportunities.

Simply e-mail us: **info@clarity.eco**

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5. Completing Your RAM Assessment with RAM Assess

RAM Assess is your essential platform for navigating the key requirements of the recyclability assessment process, enabling you to quickly and confidently complete component-level assessments and understand the commercial impact of your packaging choices.
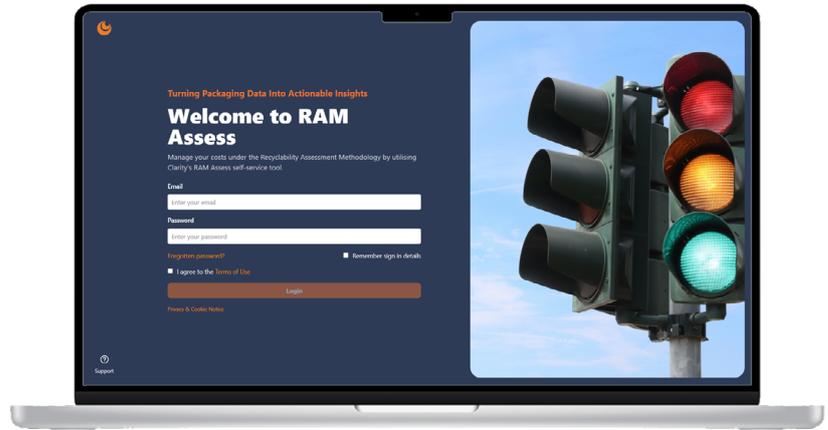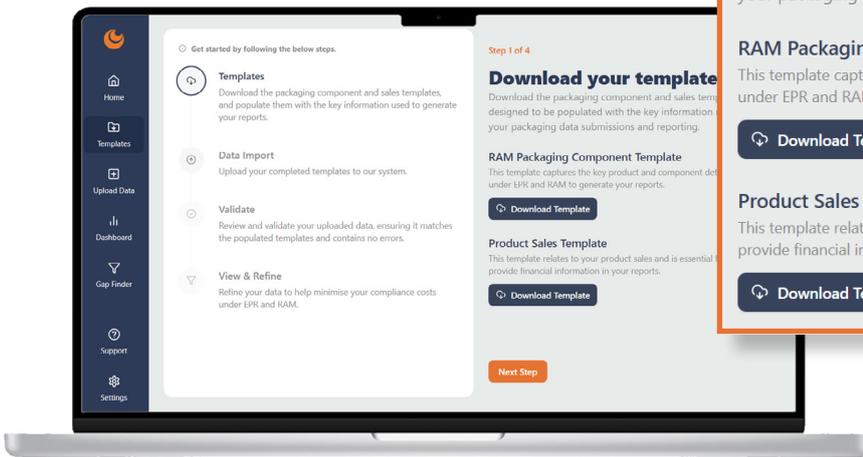
Here's how it works:

1

Download Your Data Templates

Start by downloading and completing the RAM Data Template, where you'll input product, component, and material details.

Download your templates

Download the packaging component and sales templates, designed to be populated with the key information required for your packaging data submissions and reporting.

RAM Packaging Component Template

This template captures the key product and component details needed under EPR and RAM to generate your reports.

⬇ Download Template

Product Sales Template

This template relates to your product sales and is essential for us to provide financial information in your reports.

⬇ Download Template

If you're using **Cost Reduce** or **Transform**, also download the Product Sales Template to capture sales volumes by SKU or product line, which enables **RAM Assess** to calculate your waste management fees.

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2

Upload Your Packaging Data

Upload your completed Excel files directly to the **RAM Assess** platform. **RAM Assess** then reads and processes your data to prepare each packaging component for assessment.
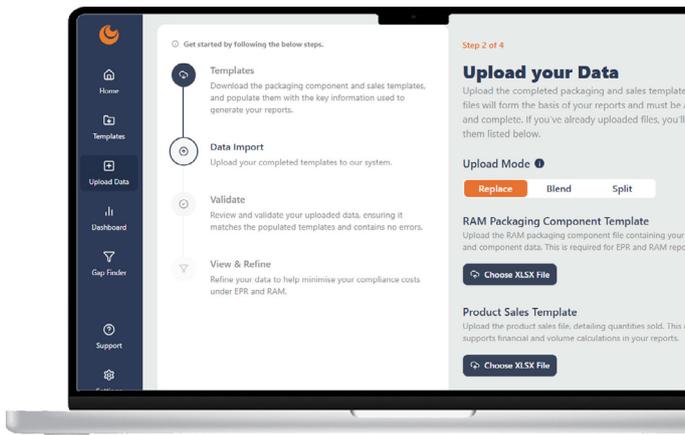
Upload your Data

Upload the completed packaging and sales templates. These files will form the basis of your reports and must be accurate and complete. If you've already uploaded files, you'll see them listed below.

Upload Mode ⓘ

Replace	Blend	Split

RAM Packaging Component Template

Upload the RAM packaging component file containing your product and component data. This is required for EPR and RAM reporting.

⟲ Choose XLSX File

Product Sales Template

Upload the product sales file, detailing quantities sold. This data supports financial and volume calculations in your reports.

⟲ Choose XLSX File

3

Validate Your Data

RAM Assess summarises the uploaded data, confirming the number of SKUs and components. You'll be prompted to fix any format errors or data gaps before continuing.
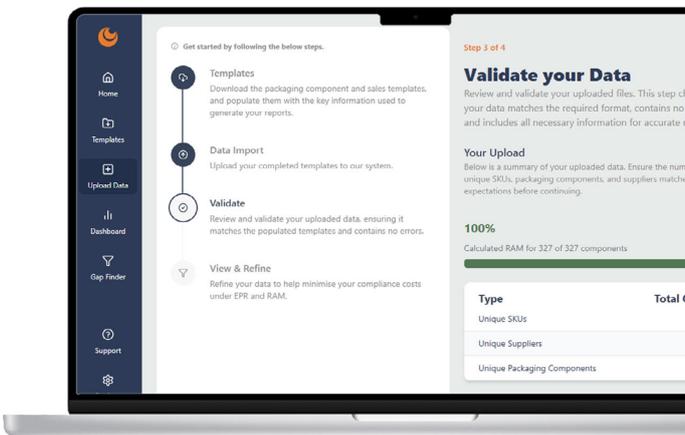
Validate your Data

Review and validate your uploaded files. This step checks that your data matches the required format, contains no errors, and includes all necessary information for accurate reporting.

Your Upload

Below is a summary of your uploaded data. Ensure the number of unique SKUs, packaging components, and suppliers matches your expectations before continuing.
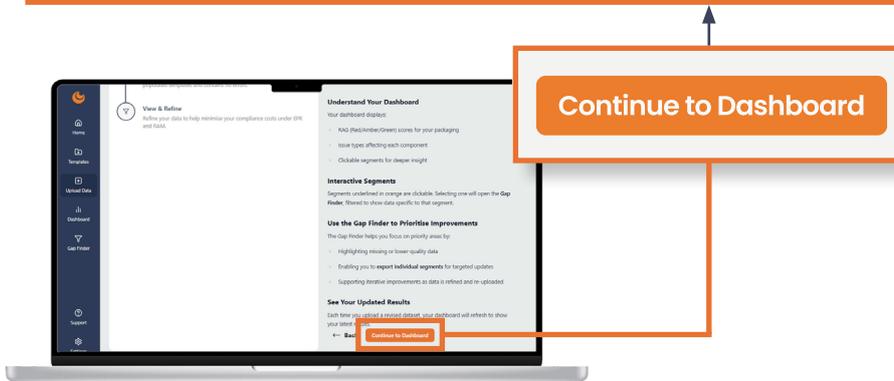
100%

Calculated RAM for 327 of 327 components

Type	Total Count
Unique SKUs	135
Unique Suppliers	0
Unique Packaging Components	327

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4

View and Refine Your RAM Data

You'll be presented with on-screen instructions on how to understand and interpret your **RAM Assess** dashboard before you access your RAG rating report.
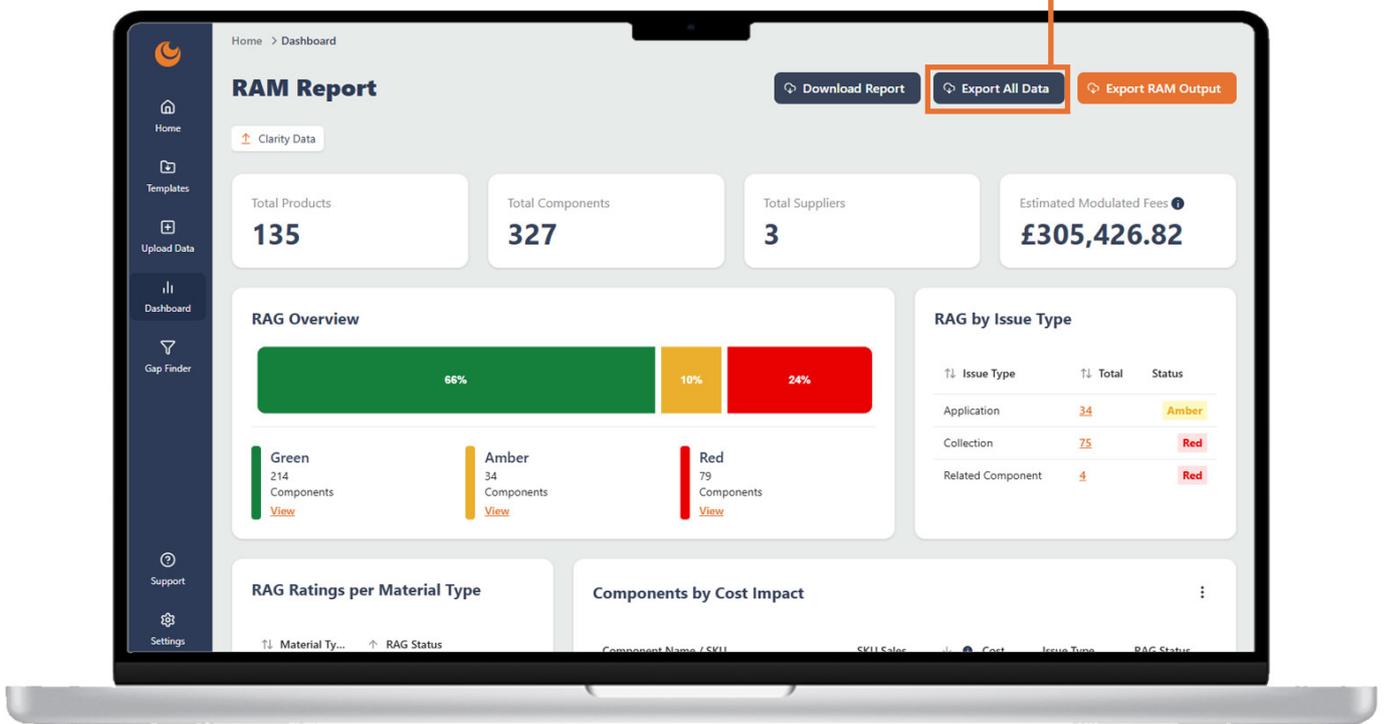
Continue to Dashboard

5

View Your RAM Dashboard

The **RAM Assess** dashboard gives you a clear summary of your packaging components, using **RED**, **AMBER** and **GREEN** (RAG) recyclability ratings.

Use the "**Export All Data**" function to download your component data, complete with RAG ratings, ready to support your EPR submission.

⬇ **Export All Data**

You'll see an overview of the number of products and components assessed, including a breakdown by RAG score and a specific count of those classified as **RED** or **AMBER**.

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Enhanced Functionalities with Cost Reduce and Transform

6

Cost Reduce and **Transform** provide you with advanced tools and insights that can lower EPR costs, improve RAG ratings, and drive smarter packaging decisions - while streamlining your workflow by automating RAG generation at scale, reducing manual work and human error.

RAM Assess uses your sales data to instantly estimate your waste management fees, giving you early insight into potential EPR costs.
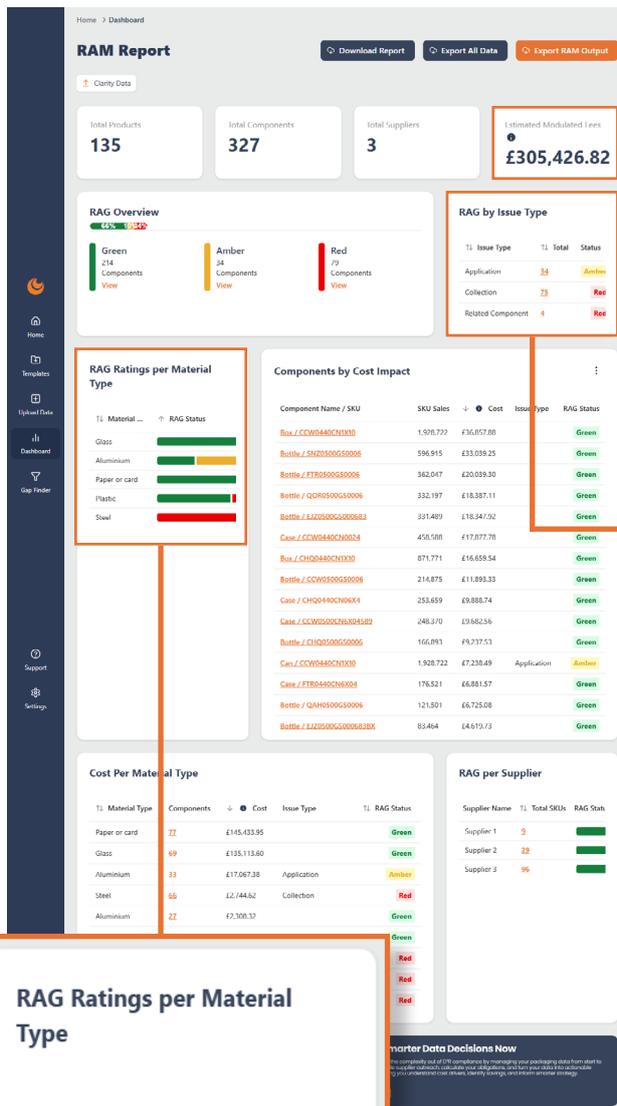

Estimated Modulated Fees ⓘ
£305,426.82

RAG by Issue Type

	↑↓ Issue Type	↑↓ Total	Status
	Application	34	Amber
	Collection	75	Red
	Related Component	4	Red

You're able to analyse **RED** and **AMBER** ratings by drilling into a specific SKU and its components so you can see why it received a certain rating.

RAG Ratings per Material Type

↑↓ Material ...	↑ RAG Status
Glass	
Aluminium	
Paper or card	
Plastic	
Steel	
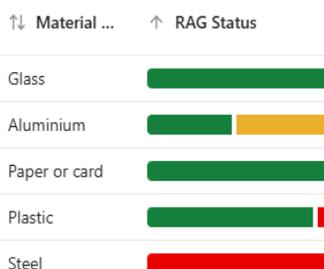
Quickly identify the materials with the highest number of **RED** classifications.

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6 Enhanced Functionalities with Cost Reduce and Transform

Analyse packaging costs at component level to model the savings potential of switching from your current packaging formats to more recyclable, cost-effective alternatives.

Components by Cost Impact

Component Name / SKU	SKU Sales	Cost	Issue Type	RAG Status
Box / CCW0440CN1X10	1,928,722	£36,857.88		Green
Bottle / SNZ0500GS0006	596,915	£33,039.25		Green
Bottle / FTR0500GS0006	362,047	£20,039.30		Green
Bottle / QOR0500GS0006	332,197	£18,387.11		Green
Bottle / EJZ0500GS000683	331,489	£18,347.92		Green
Case / CCW0440CN0024	458,588	£17,877.78		Green
Box / CHQ0440CN1X10	871,771	£16,659.54		Green
Bottle / CCW0500GS0006	214,875	£11,893.33		Green
Case / CHQ0440CN06X4	253,659	£9,888.74		Green
Case / CCW0500CN6X04589	248,370	£9,682.56		Green
Bottle / CHQ0500GS0006	166,893	£9,237.53		Green
Can / CCW0440CN1X10	1,928,722	£7,238.49	Application	Amber
Case / FTR0440CN6X04	176,521	£6,881.57		Green
Bottle / QAH0500GS0006	121,501	£6,725.08		Green
Bottle / EJZ0500GS000683BX	83,464	£4,619.73		Green

Cost Per Material Type

Material Type	Components	Cost	Issue Type	RAG Status
Paper or card	77	£145,433.95		Green
Glass	69	£135,113.60		Green
Aluminium	33	£17,067.38	Application	Amber
Steel	66	£2,744.62	Collection	Red
Aluminium	27	£2,308.32		Green
Plastic	40	£1,294.88		Green
Aluminium	1	£794.98	Collection	Red
Plastic	8	£668.71	Collection	Red
Paper or card	4	£0.38	Related Component	Red

You're provided with a breakdown of RAG results by material category to pinpoint problematic packaging types.

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7 Gap Finder (Cost Reduce and Transform only)

Use the Gap Finder tool to identify where packaging changes will deliver the greatest cost savings and recyclability improvements, backed by detailed analysis and impact modelling.
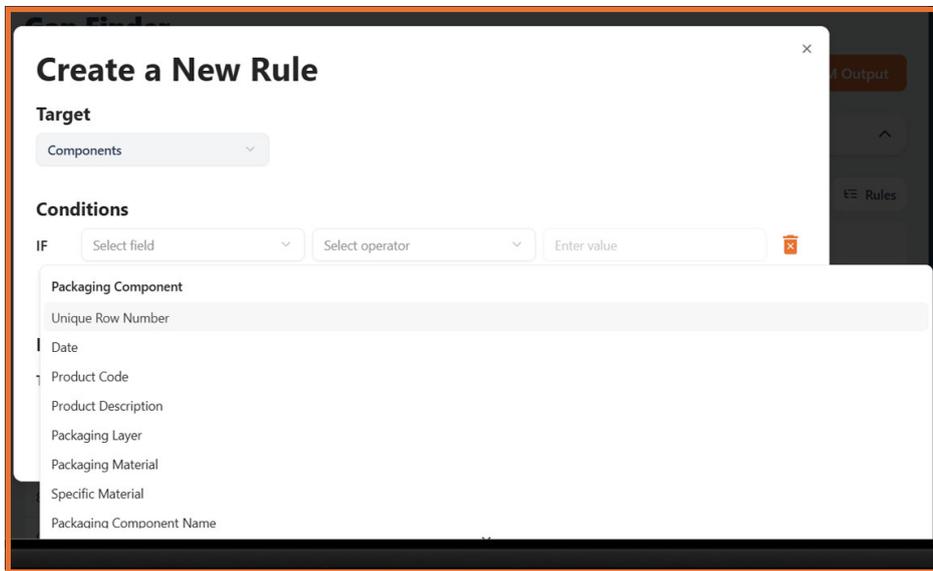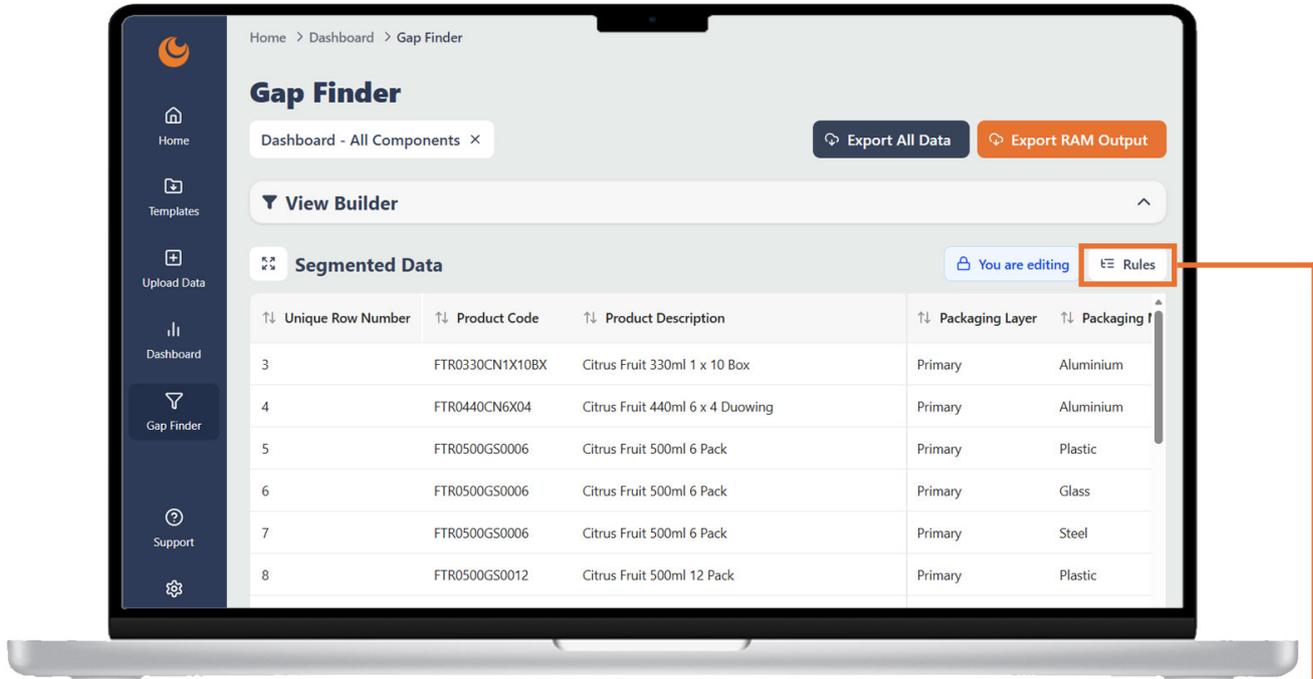
Build cost models from multiple datasets to uncover which packaging formats are increasing your waste management costs and where savings can be made.

RAM Assess automatically generates RAG outputs that you can use to help complete your EPR submission by entering the data into the Clarity dashboard.

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6. Complete Your RAM Submission Now

Take control of your RAM submission with the tools, expertise, and support only Clarity can provide. By following our simple step-by-step process and using **RAM Assess**, your business can take control of its EPR obligations, optimise packaging design, and cut unnecessary costs.

STEP 1

CONFIRM YOUR RAM ASSESS LEVEL
Speak with your Clarity Account Manager to confirm which **RAM Assess** tier is right for your business and we'll provide your login details to the platform.

RAM Assess Core
RAM Assess Cost Reduce
RAM Assess Transform

STEP 2

COMPLETE THE RAM DATA TEMPLATE
Gather your household packaging data together and then download and complete the **RAM Data Template** by logging into **RAM Assess**.

STEP 3

ACCESS YOUR RAM ASSESS PLATFORM
RAM Assess becomes available to scheme members in February 2026. You can also begin submitting your H2 2025 packaging data to Clarity.

STEP 4

UPLOAD YOUR RAM DATA TEMPLATE(S)
Core users should upload their completed RAM template via **RAM Assess**. **Cost Reduce** and **Transform** users must also upload the Product Sales template.

STEP 5

COLLATE YOUR RAM ASSESSMENT RATINGS
Core users should use the 'Export All Data' function to generate RAG ratings. **Cost Reduce** and **Transform** users can use 'Export RAM Output' to generate RAG outputs and RAM reporting for their EPR submission.

STEP 6

COMPLETE YOUR H2 2025 SUBMISSION
Log in to your Clarity dashboard and use your exported **RAM Assess** files to complete your H2 2025 packaging data submission by 20th February.

clarity**dashboard**

EPR Data Submission

Submit, edit or view EPR packaging data

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7. Timeline

Use the timeline below to plan your RAM submission process. It outlines key dates and deadlines for 2026, helping you stay on track and avoid late fees or default **RED** classifications.

January 2026	March 2026	April 2026	June 2026	July 2026	October 2026	December 2026
New 1st January: Small and Large producers start collecting self-managed organisational waste data	**Update** Late Feb/early March: Notices of Liability released for resubmissions	**Submission** 1st April: Submission deadline for H2 2025 (Jul-Dec) data for large producers with compulsary RAM data included included, and H1 RAM data included if not submitted previously	**Update** June: Year 2 pEPR fees published. RED packaging at 1.2 x base fee	**PPT** 31st July: PPT return submission deadline for Apr-Jun 2026	**Submission** 1st October: Submission deadline for H1 2026 (Jan-Jun) data, large producers only	**Update** December: Year 3 illustrative fees expected to be published
New 1st January: Small and Large producers start collecting and reporting nation of sale data for 2026	**Update** March: appointment of PRO expected	**Submission** 1st April: Submission deadline for 2025 (Jan-Dec) for small producers			**Submission** 1st October: First deadline for reporting self-managed organisation waste for H1 2026 (Jan-Jun) data	
PPT 30th January: PPT return submission deadline for Oct-Dec 2025	**Notification** 31 March: Simpler Recycling scheme roll-out for households	**Submission** 1st April: First plastic and paper bag reporting due with pEPR data submission (for all bags supplied in 2025)*			**Invoice** October: year 2 pEPR Notices of Liability invoices issued to producers	
		PPT 30th April: PPT return submission deadline for Jan-Mar 2026			**PPT** 30th October: PPT return submission deadline for Jul-Sept 2026	

8. Need Help? We're Here to Support You

Let's Find the Right RAM Assess Package for You

Whether your goal is to reduce waste management fees, improve packaging recyclability, or streamline compliance reporting, we're here to help. Talk to us about your requirements and we'll recommend the **RAM Assess** package that best fits your business.

To find out more about RAM Assess or how Clarity can help you manage your EPR reporting, simply contact:

Tel: 0845 129 7177
Email: info@clarity.eco

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