

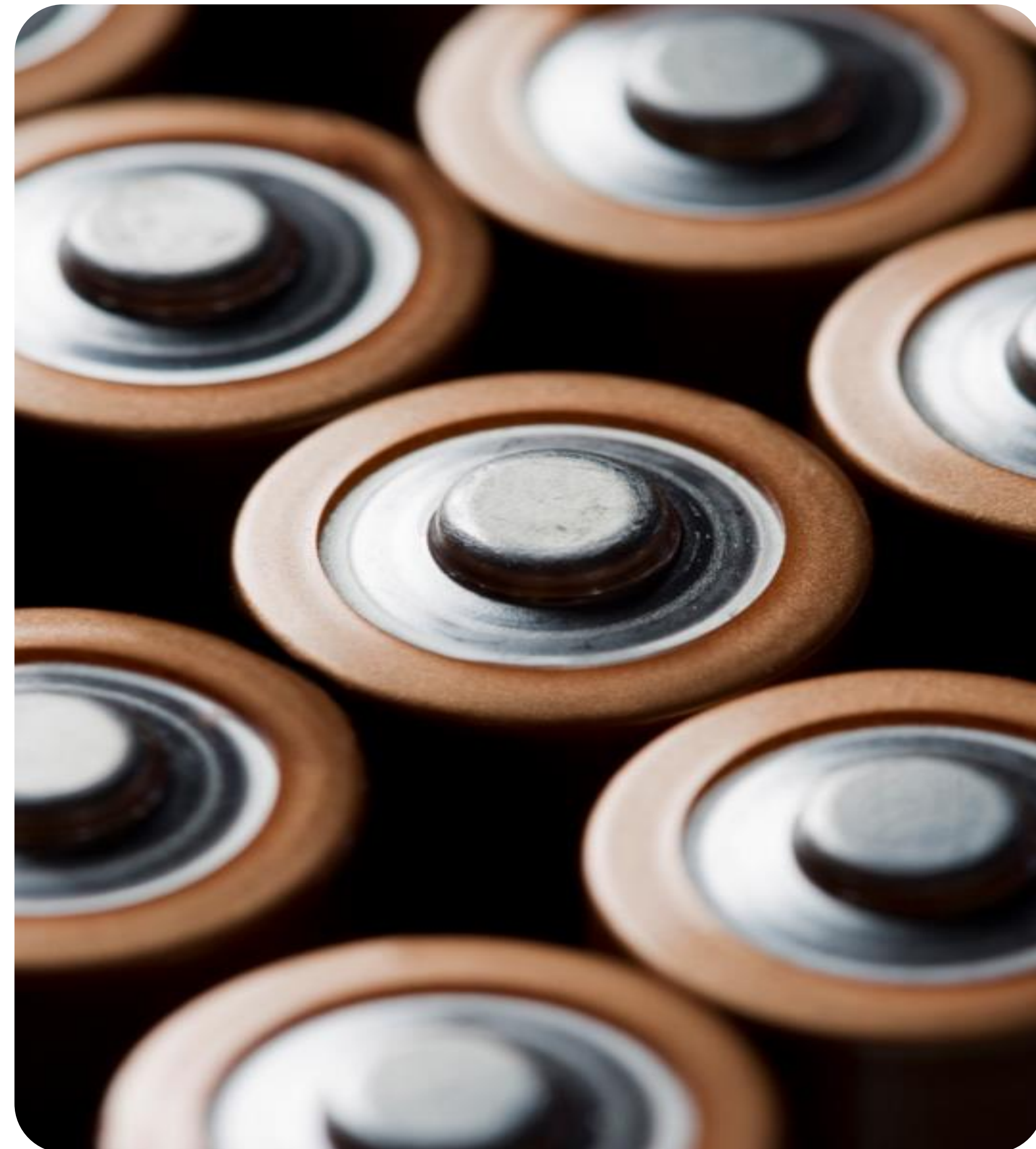
Battery Sector Environmental Scan

What we found – and why it matters

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How small is small?

- ⚡ Under 5kg – aligned with the BIG project
- ⚡ Button batteries, many household batteries
- ⚡ Device batteries – power tools, laptops, digital cameras, vapes
- ⚡ Includes encased batteries
- ⚡ Range of chemistries



Why now?

- ⚡ Growing awareness of issues
- ⚡ Increased use of battery-powered devices
- ⚡ Disjointed responses and stakeholder involvement
- ⚡ Duplication and lack of clarity



The project

The Environmental Scan for end-of-life small batteries:

*“A holistic overview of the situation
in Aotearoa New Zealand”*

- ⚡ Guided by the Battery Collection Working Group
- ⚡ Coordinated by WasteMINZ
- ⚡ Funded by Ministry for the Environment



What don't we know?

- ⚡ Some issues are high profile and very visible
- ⚡ Others are less clear and poorly defined
- ⚡ To identify the best and most appropriate solutions – need a full understanding of the problem



What don't we know?

- ⚡ **Stakeholder engagement:**
 - Group workshops (eight)
 - Direct interviews
 - Targeted workshops
 - Surveys

- ⚡ **Research:**
 - National data – quantities of batteries, # of fires
 - Legislation and regulation
 - International – Australia, UK, and Europe

AND



Stakeholder engagement – Top Five

- ⚡ **33 various issues identified across the eight workshops**
- ⚡ Put alongside the feedback from individual interviews, surveys, etc
- ⚡ The issues can be synthesised into six key themes



1: Ownership and responsibility

- ⚡ Who takes leadership? Who *should* take leadership?
- ⚡ Lack of engagement from retailers, importers, producers
 - > impaired collective and coordinated action
- ⚡ Numerous government ministries and agencies
- ⚡ Responsibility for management, cost and risk > waste sector and councils, some retailers
- ⚡ Siloed approach, duplication, consumer confusion



2: Legislation, Regulation, Guidelines

- ⚡ Lack of clear, consistent regulation/legislation
- ⚡ Damaged batteries a particular issue
- ⚡ *Who takes leadership? Who should take leadership?*
- ⚡ *Numerous government ministries and agencies*
- ⚡ *Responsibility for management, cost and risk > waste sector and councils, some retailers*
- ⚡ *Siloed approach, duplication, consumer confusion*

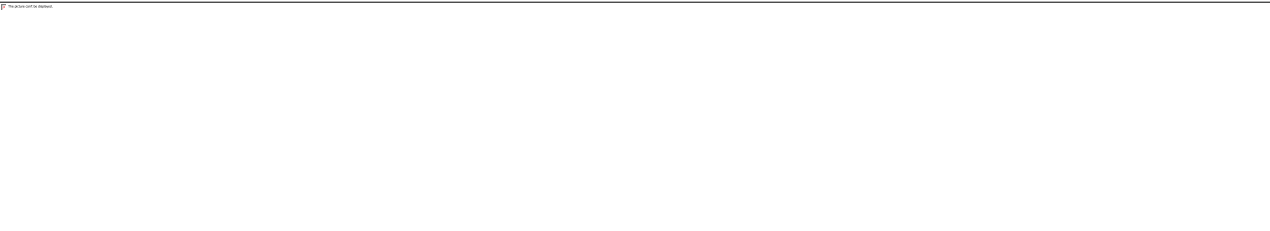
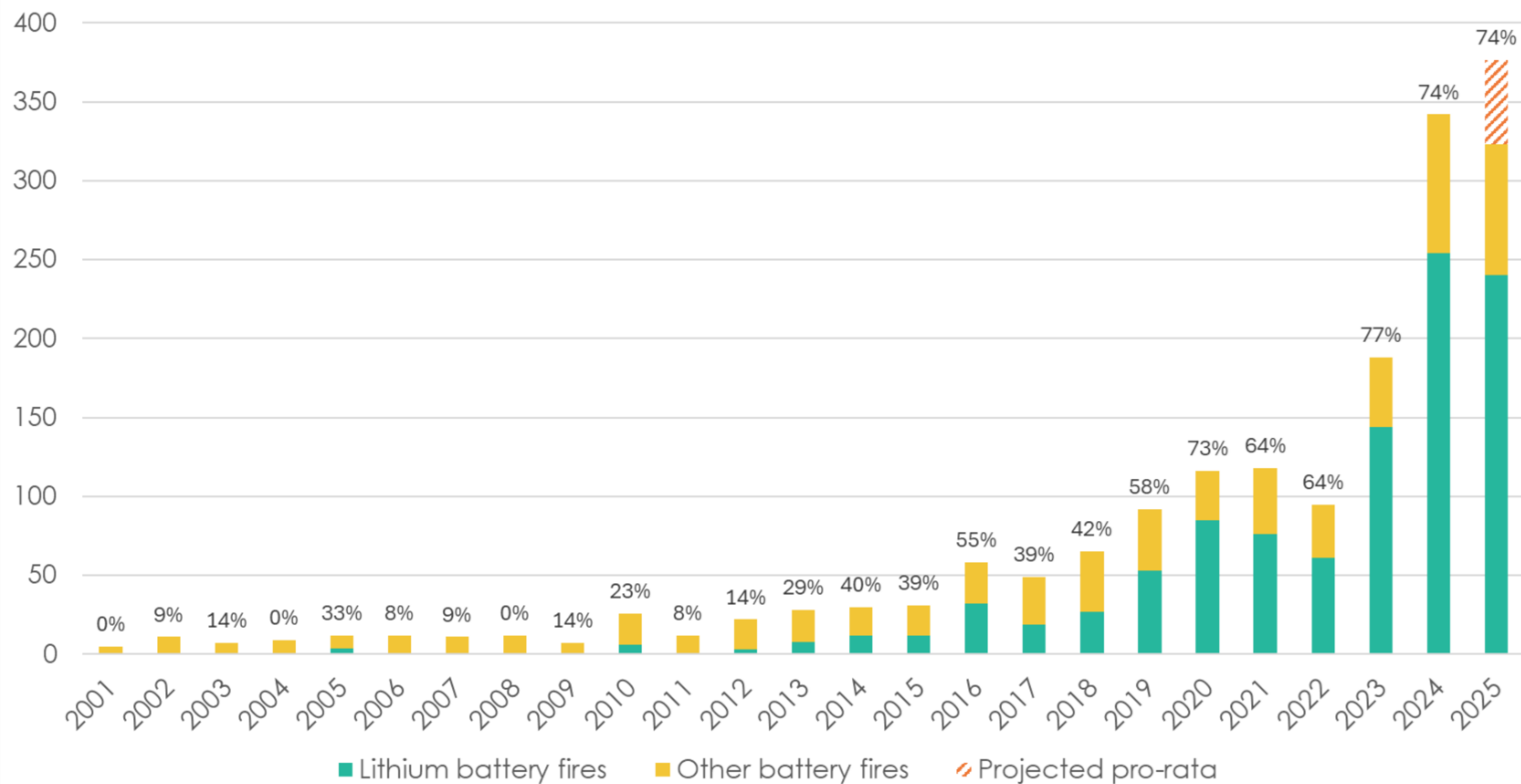


3: Imports, data, monitoring

- ⚡ Overall notable lack of data
- ⚡ Increasing variety of batteries, unclear definitions – Li-ion increasing dramatically?
- ⚡ *Who takes leadership? Who should take leadership?*
- ⚡ *Numerous government ministries and agencies*
- ⚡ *Siloed approach, duplication, consumer confusion*



4: Fires, risk, insurance



5: End-of-life management

- ⚡ Increasing accessibility to recovery/recycling – but *cost > waste sector and councils, some retailers*
- ⚡ Lack of onshore options
- ⚡ *Damaged batteries a particular issue (and embedded)*
- ⚡ *Lack of clarity, guidelines and regulations*
- ⚡ *Who takes leadership? Who should take leadership?*
- ⚡ *Numerous government ministries and agencies*

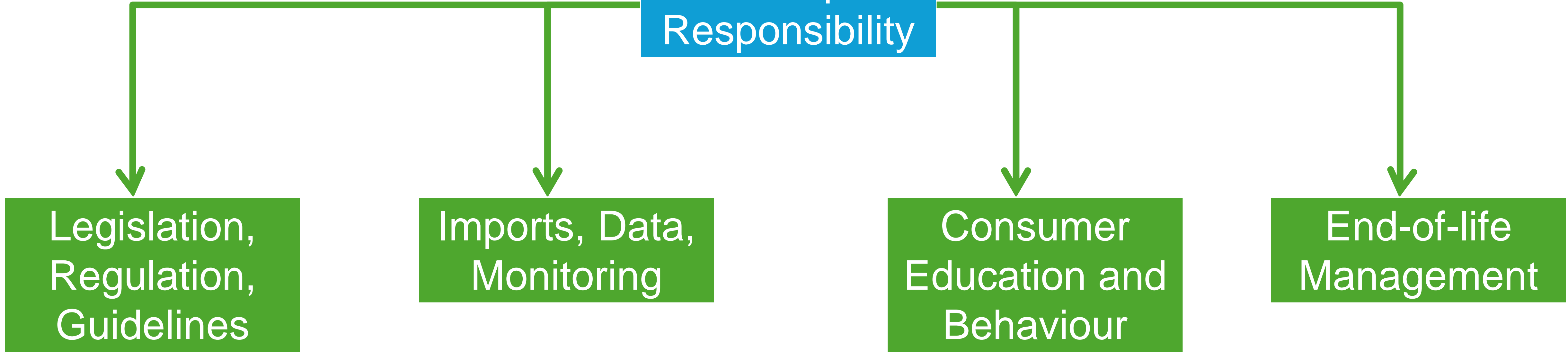


6: Consumer education and behaviour

- ⚡ Limited access to diversion, poor awareness of preferred behaviour
- ⚡ *Increasing variety of batteries, unclear definitions – ‘hidden’ batteries, variable takeback schemes*
- ⚡ *Lack of clarity, guidelines and regulations*
- ⚡ *Siloed approach, duplication, consumer confusion*
- ⚡ *Who takes leadership? Who should take leadership?*



Ownership and Responsibility



Fires,
Risk,
Insurance



Ownership and Responsibility

- ⚡ Small batteries are e-waste – declared as a priority product in 2020, requiring product stewardship approach
- ⚡ BIG and TechCollect responded
- ⚡ *BIG* includes batteries over 5kg, TechCollect includes ‘small batteries’ in later tranche of scheme

How long is too long?



Contact

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