

EUWID Price Watch UK

June 2026

Prices in £ per tonne free delivered unless otherwise stated	June 2026 £	June 2026 €*	May 2026 £	June 2025 £
Fine paper				
Woodfree uncoated				
Copy paper 80 g A4 B grade	790 - 860	916 - 998	790 - 860	830 - 870
Copy paper 80 g A4 C grade	740 - 830	858 - 963	740 - 830	790 - 840
Offset sheets 80 g	850 - 890	986 - 1,032	850 - 890	880 - 920
Offset reels 80 g	770 - 830	893 - 963	770 - 830	800 - 880
Woodfree coated				
Sheets, double coated, 115 g	870 - 940	1,009 - 1,090	870 - 940	890 - 940
Reels, double coated, 100 g	820 - 870	951 - 1,009	820 - 870	800 - 860
Publication paper				
Standard newsprint 45 g	500 - 530	580 - 615	500 - 530	480 - 510
Standard newsprint 42.5 g	510 - 540	592 - 626	510 - 540	490 - 520
Standard newsprint 40 g	520 - 550	603 - 638	520 - 550	500 - 530
Improved newsprint 52 g, ISO 68	550 - 580	638 - 673	550 - 580	530 - 560
LWC offset 60 g	690 - 720	800 - 835	690 - 720	660 - 700
SC offset 56 g (A)	590 - 610	684 - 708	590 - 610	580 - 610
Corrugated case material				
Primary fibre corrugated case material				
Unbleached kraftliner 175 g+, European quality	720 - 770	835 - 893	720 - 770	720 - 770
White-top kraftliner 140 g, European quality	835 - 910	969 - 1,056	805 - 910	805 - 875
Recycled corrugated case material				
Recycled fluting 100 g	585 - 655	679 - 760	585 - 655	555 - 605
Recycled fluting 90 g	585 - 660	679 - 766	585 - 660	555 - 610
Recycled fluting 85 g	595 - 670	690 - 777	595 - 670	565 - 620
Testliner II	605 - 675	702 - 783	605 - 675	575 - 625
Testliner III	585 - 655	679 - 760	585 - 655	555 - 605
White-top testliner, grade B, 140 g	675 - 725	783 - 841	640 - 725	660 - 720
Cartonboard				
GD II	600 - 670	696 - 777	600 - 670	620 - 715
GC II	880 - 1,030	1,021 - 1,195	880 - 1,030	930 - 1,010

* Exchange rate as of 26 June 2026: £1 = €1.16

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Although substitution is already well advanced, converters point out that the quality and specifications of recycled fibre-based kraftliner alternatives have improved significantly in recent years, creating further opportunities for substitution.

Manufacturers of corrugated board and corrugated packaging also report positive demand. Following the increases in containerboard prices, prices for corrugated packaging have risen by between 7 and 13 per cent, depending on the grade and supplier, with the average increase estimated at 9 to 10 per cent. In most cases, these increases took effect in May.

Expectations of higher prices prompted many buyers of corrugated packaging to bring forward orders from June into May. As a result, some market segments have seen activity ease after a particularly busy May. Elsewhere, however, summer weather conditions and sporting events such as the FIFA World Cup have supported demand.

Overall, many corrugated packaging manufac-

turers report cumulative volume growth of 1 to 2 per cent compared with the previous year. They note that 2026 had been expected to become a year of recovery, but that geopolitical developments have curtailed this improvement.

Independent manufacturers continue to benefit from capacity closures, including those at DS Smith and Smurfit Westrock, as well as insolvencies such as Krystal's. "Customers are unsettled by recent developments and are putting more projects out to tender," one market participant commented.

In many cases, the higher packaging prices are only being passed on to customers with a delay. Given the scale of the increases, some packaging manufacturers have agreed with customers to pass on the higher costs more quickly.

Compliance with new legislation and regulations such as the PPWR, EPR and EUDR is becoming an increasingly important issue. Many customers are approaching their packaging suppliers to ob-

tain confirmation that these requirements are being met. As many aspects of the EU legislation remain unclear and supply chain participants are keen to minimise compliance risks, responding to customer enquiries and ensuring their own compliance is currently tying up significant resources.

UK cartonboard market caught between stable demand and persistent cost pressure

Activity in the UK cartonboard market was mixed in June. While some market participants reported brisk business, others painted a considerably more subdued picture. According to industry sources, positive momentum came in part from the ongoing Christmas production season as well as the warm weather, which boosted sales of barbecue-related products.

At the same time, many experts reported growing interest in packaging solutions designed to replace plastic. According to market insiders, en-

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