

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 November 2020 22:32
To: wastecomments
Subject: RE: DRS consultation [REDACTED]

Categories: Consultation Submission

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A Chara,

In response to the Deposit Return Scheme proposed, I wish to submit an overwhelmingly supportive submission.

I lived for some time in Oslo, over a decade ago now, and Deposit Return was massively successful there. There was nowhere near the rate of roadside litter we see here (90% of the litter I pick from the road I live on is plastic bottles and cans) and it brought the reality of plastic consumption directly back to the consumer. I have been lobbying in a personal capacity, and as an educator, for this system, since I returned to Ireland.

The Report recommends a centralised, operational model for Ireland. Do you agree with this recommendation?

Absolutely.

• Are there other models you believe could work in an Irish context?

The "pant" system across Europe is universal, and should be adopted in the Irish system, with the same symbol, to align with other European countries.

The suggestion of donating cash collected to a charity on the machine should be available. Schools should also be able to redeem the printed slips/be registered at their local supermarket as an option for donation at machines.

• What role should waste collectors play in the operation of a DRS?

I don't see a specific role for commercial companies operating kerbside collections in this.

• The DRS study proposes a deposit per container of €0.20. Do you think this is appropriate? If not should it be higher or lower or should different deposit rates apply depending on container size?

I think this could be easily dealt with by printing "1 pant" or "2 pant" like other countries on the side. 20c is a good deposit rate, enough to incentivise return, and litter picking if needed.

• Consumers need to know about a DRS long before it becomes operational – do you have any suggestions as to how best the introduction of a DRS can be communicated to the public?

I am involved in Green Schools and they definitely could come on board - getting our kids involved in designing the colour/pattern of machines, etc. The kids will generally pass on the message to their adults!

• What enforcement measures should be considered in parallel with the introduction of a DRS?

Greater fines for dumping of all rubbish, illegal signage, fly tipping....and more litter wardens.

• How should cross-border issues be treated to ensure producers are not at a competitive disadvantage relative to producers in Northern Ireland?

I don't see this as an issue...there are already plans underway to introduce DPS in the North too, so consumers would be at no advantage to buy from the North. Anyway, these products are often bought as convenience products, on the go, and not pre planned by travelling north to buy them

[REDACTED]

Thanks very much

[REDACTED]