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From: [Redacted]
Sent: 12 November 2020 11:06
To: wastecomments
Subject: Submission to DRS consultation process
Attachments: Deposit Return Scheme.docx

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Please find attached submission to the process

Kind Regards

[Redacted]

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Deposit Return Scheme - Consultation on Potential Models for Ireland

Submission to Consultation Process

I am submitting these comments as a Green Party public Representative:

- Ireland falls far behind other European Countries regarding public and easily accessible systems for allowing citizens to easily recycle frequently used recyclable items like plastic bottles, cans and glass bottles. I was impressed on visiting Germany some years ago, how seriously recycling is taken. Every air b&b we stayed in were very clear in instructions on how to recycle and all equipment provided. Private citizens are also held responsible for their recycling and refuse collecting staff check recycling bins and will not collect contaminated recycling material. Family members told me there is zero tolerance of failure to adhere to guidelines and rules on refuse collection. Part of that system is the DRS's where I saw machines located at every Aldi and Lidl I visited. **I believe that large supermarkets need to be engaged with to introduce DRS machines widely into Ireland**
- As part of the move towards a National DRS infrastructure all over Ireland, I submit that each County Council should be funded to introduce a DRS proposal so that these machines can be introduced to the public all over Ireland. I submit that each council should work with stakeholder in their own community to find appropriate solutions. There are many options for how refund can be delivered (credit for spend at store, charity donation, cash refund to bank card) and these should be trialled in a measured way across the country in order to ascertain public interest in various types of schemes. **Local Authorities should be the lead organisation in managing funding and coordinating research on efficacy of DRS's**
- Milk is a widely used product in Ireland, however I understand the nature of milk as a product means it renders the plastic container useless for quality recycling. Many of us still remember when you needed to leave out bottles for the milkman in order to get delivery of your milk, complete with the cream on top. **The Government needs to engage with Milk product producers to explore how the containers for milk can be recycled effectively and included in a DRS system that effectively contributes to the reduction of waste in Ireland.**

Kind Regards

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