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From: [Redacted]
Sent: 12 November 2020 16:41
To: wastecomments
Subject: Deposit Return Scheme - Consultation

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Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing in respect of the proposal deposit return scheme.

I believe this is a very good and long overdue proposal. I have witnessed personally the operation of similar schemes in the Netherlands, Spain and Italy, and they all work very smoothly from a user perspective, and I have seen how it even quickly changes behaviours of Irish holiday makers in those countries, who quickly get used to returning containers to the shops and getting refunds.

I appreciate it adds to the workload of the businesses operating the recycling centres but I believe consumers will be prepared to accept higher charges to cover such costs, in appreciation of the much improved impact this will have on recycling and reuse of glass and plastic containers.

I have worked in public houses in the 1980s where recycling of empty bottles was part of life, with weekly collections by bottling companies, and nobody questioned its value. We have moved to the opposite end of the spectrum now where all bottles are broken up and recycled as opposed to reused, and this is a sad indictment of our disposable economy. The energy and resources used in such a disposable arrangement is complete waste, and needs to be changed, and now is the to do this.

I have seen dates proposed for the implementation of such a DRS scheme of 2021/22 and I believe this is too long to wait. We need to starting this initiative ASAP and not waste another year. Even small steps now, while pending full implementation later, would still improve the current disastrous situation.

Mise le meas

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