

From: [Redacted]
Sent: 12 November 2020 19:22
To: wastecomments
Subject: DRS Submission

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Hi there,
I want to make a submission on the Deposit Return Scheme

- It is great and will offer a reward for recycling, however, we need to shift more of the cost to the retailer as it would be better for the waste packaging not to exist in the first place and putting that charge onto supermarkets will encourage this and will divert waste from being created in the first place
- It is unclear how this would work around different retailers and what type of reimbursement will be applied for returning a waste item, would it be given as a voucher for a particular shop- how would this work if there was 'own brands' involved? eg. returning a Tesco own brand item to a Supervalu outlet
- I feel this would work much better if there were the machines installed across all of the supermarkets and the consumer registers to use the service and is issued a card that after they tap it on the machine, it adds the balance of whatever they earned from the return to the account, they then should have the option to go to a cashdesk and cash it back or use it on shopping using the card
- It is unclear in which state the articles would have to be returned in. For them to be able to be recycled properly, they must be clean, would a machine have a way of determining what is clean and what is not, so that people are only being reimbursed for proper recycling. It is important to have the most up-to-date and correct technology
- It would be important that plastic items are taxed more than the paper or metal counterpart as in you pay a 5c deposit on a plastic bottle and you get 2c back but for a tin can/glass bottle/ carton you pay 5c and get 5c back. This would encourage people to make the more environmentally-friendly choice
- It is important that the recyclable waste collected in a DRS machine or station is segregated properly into the proper categories to allow for proper recycling and cleaning or reuse eg. a plastic bottle might have to go to get recycled but a glass bottle could be reused infinite times. Segregation could follow the system used in portugal- 1. Plastic 2. Glass 3. Paper and Card 4. Metal - this system works very well and is very successful, we should be learning inter-dependence and learning from others mistakes.
- There is no mention of soft plastic recycling, please allow for soft plastics to be recycled and part of the DRS scheme
- There is no mention of bio-plastics (both rigid and soft) being able to be composted as part of the DRS, this is a much more environmentally friendly method as it does not use fossil fuels to make the material as much as regular plastic does. Bio plastics must be included in the DRS scheme including those used for food take-away as they are still suitable for composting even if they have food on them

Please take these points into account on the Deposit Return Scheme, please feel free to contact me
Many Thanks

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