

Colm Lambert (DECC)

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday 7 May 2021 14:46
To: wastecomments
Subject: Deposit Return Scheme - proposal
Attachments: Recycling for transport Scheme in Rome - Loc. Governance Group Assignment.pptx

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Dear Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications Team,

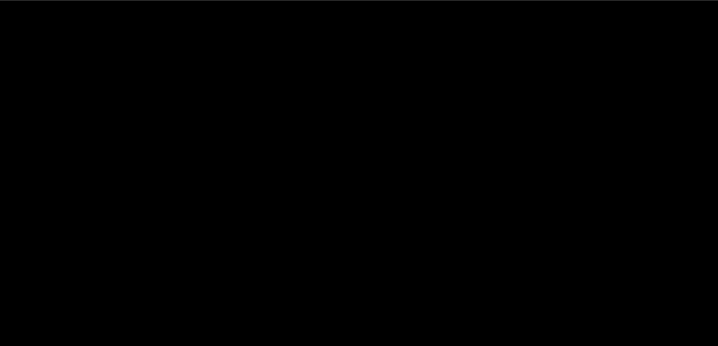
I attached a proposal for the deposit return scheme, to create bonus that can be exchanged for public transportation tickets or public bicycle benefits. The proposal is inspired on a similar scheme implemented in Rome and was presented in the Local Governance lecture of the MSc Sustainable Development at TU Dublin.

Thank you,
Best regards.

[REDACTED]



HOW WOULD
“RECYCLING FOR
PUBLIC TRANSPORT”
SCHEME BE
IMPLEMENTED IN
DUBLIN



Rome, Italy

- almost 3m inhabitants
- 20 m visits every year

Waste problem

- 1.7 million metric tons rubbish every year
- 2 treatment plants closed in 2013 and 2018.
- Plastic problem: Italy largest producer of plastic goods and the 2nd largest waste generator in the region.

Transport problem:

- Between 2016 and 2019, more than 30 buses burn
- By 2018, Rome was expending €7.4 per kilometre of transit travel. €2.8 is considered European best practice
- Public transport administrated by ATAC, a council-owned Transport Company with €1.4bn debt and bad reputation.
- 2018 referendum to privatize the service

The Political Context in Rome



Mayor Virginia Raggi

- First woman occupying the role
- Won with 67% of the votes
- Support public administration of services (transport and waste management)



MoVimento 5 Stelle

- 5 pillars: public water, sustainable mobility, development, connectivity and the environment.
- anti-establishment - no parliament
- hyper-representative digital democracy
- Accusation of misleading citizen participation

General context: Romans disillusioned with politics and the constant corruption cases



New Policy

New urban mobility plan following principles of a Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP)

New Policy

2019 Climate Decree, first step to implementation of the European Green New Deal

Target 2026

Disposable plastic have to be replaced

Target 2030

PET bottles should be 30% recycled plastic.

+ RICICLI + VIAGGI (ATAC + CORIPET , AN ITALIAN CONSORTIUM FOR PET RECYCLING)

1

EATING MACHINES

Installing PET collection machines in Rome's metro stations

2

PET PLASTIC BOTTLES DEPOSIT

Citizens could deposit their PET plastic bottles (from 0.5 to 2 litres), thus receiving € 0.05 in credit for each one

3

ECO BONUS

The accumulated "Eco bonus" can be exchanged by transport tickets that have a cost of € 1.50. (30 bottles)

4

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

PET bottles are reinserted in the production process. New plastic products in RPET (recycled PET)



+ RICICLI + VIAGGI

Results after 8 month of scheme

- 3.200.000 PET bottles were recycled
- equivalent to 160.000 euros = 106.666 transport tickets
- More machines implemented in other stations

Benefits

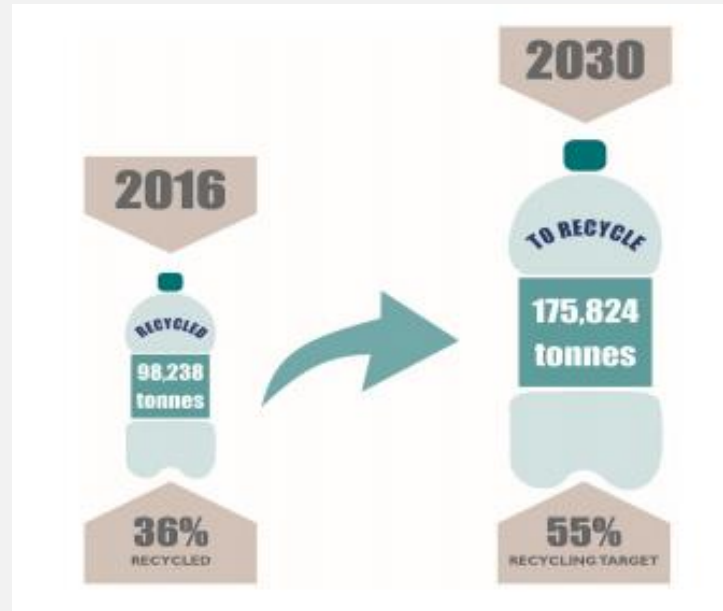
- Step in the right direction: “Even small gestures are important” said Mayor
- Reward responsible environmental behaviour and retain customers on the transport mobile channel
- Circular Economy: contributes process promoted by Coripet

Other cases

- Guayaquil (Ecuador) since 2019
- Istanbul (Turkey) since September 2018
- Surabaya (Indonesia) since April 2018

RICORDA CHE E' CONSENTITO
IL CONFERIMENTO
DEI RIFIUTI

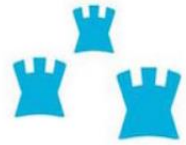
How might this
scheme be
implemented in
Dublin?



The need for such a scheme in Dublin

- Serious litter problem in parts of Dublin City
- Dublin City Council incur high costs for waste management/litter picking
- Ireland is currently behind on a range of EU recycling and waste management targets
- Public Transport will need a boost post-pandemic

Potentially Relevant Bodies



Dublin City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath



Iarnród Éireann
Irish Rail



NTA

Údarás Náisiúnta Iompair
National Transport Authority



Roinn Cumarsáide, Gníomhaithe
ar son na hAeráide & Comhshaoil
Department of Communications,
Climate Action & Environment



Irish Waste Management Association

Tionól Reigiúnach Oirthir agus Lár-Tíre
Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly



TRANSPORT
FOR
IRELAND



An Roinn Iompair,
Turasóireachta agus Spóirt
Department of Transport,
Tourism and Sport



Business funding recycling

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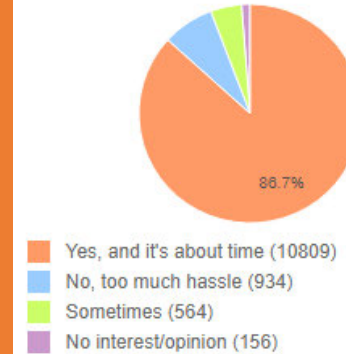
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Past and Present Debate

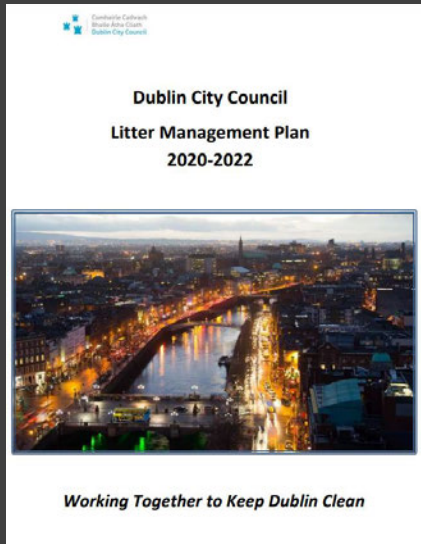
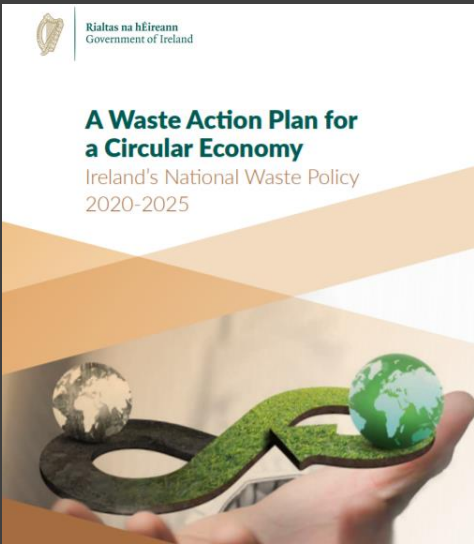
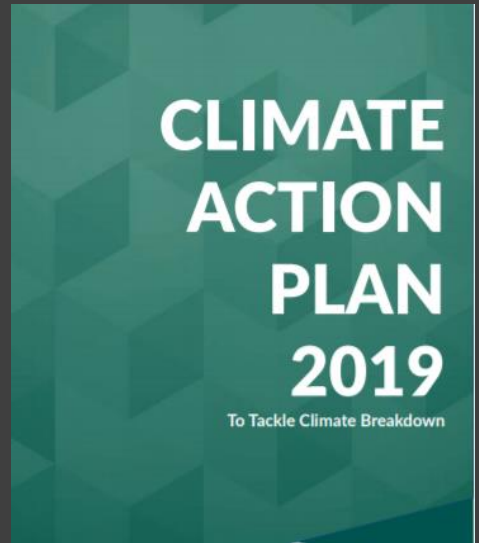
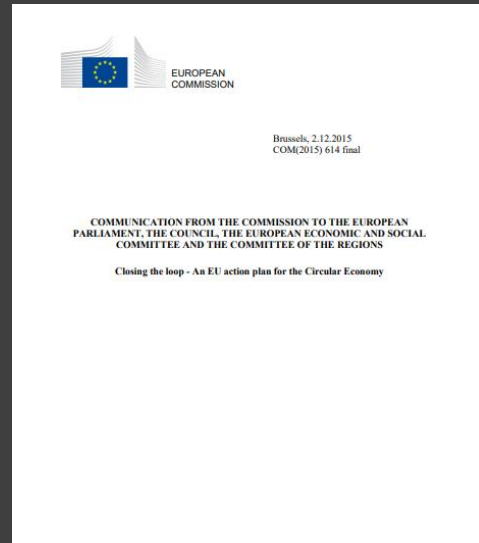
- Deposit and return scheme has been debated in Ireland for many years at a national level
- Primary issue has been operating costs and costs to consumers/existing waste companies
- Questions also asked of whether its required and the likely impact it would have
- Has faced opposition from Repak, IBEC and IWMA
- Politically it has been supported primarliy by the Greens
- Appears to be support from general public 2

But today we're asking: **Would you use the deposit return scheme?**

Poll Results:



IWMA calls for deposit-and-refund scheme to be scrapped



How might this scheme be implemented in Dublin?

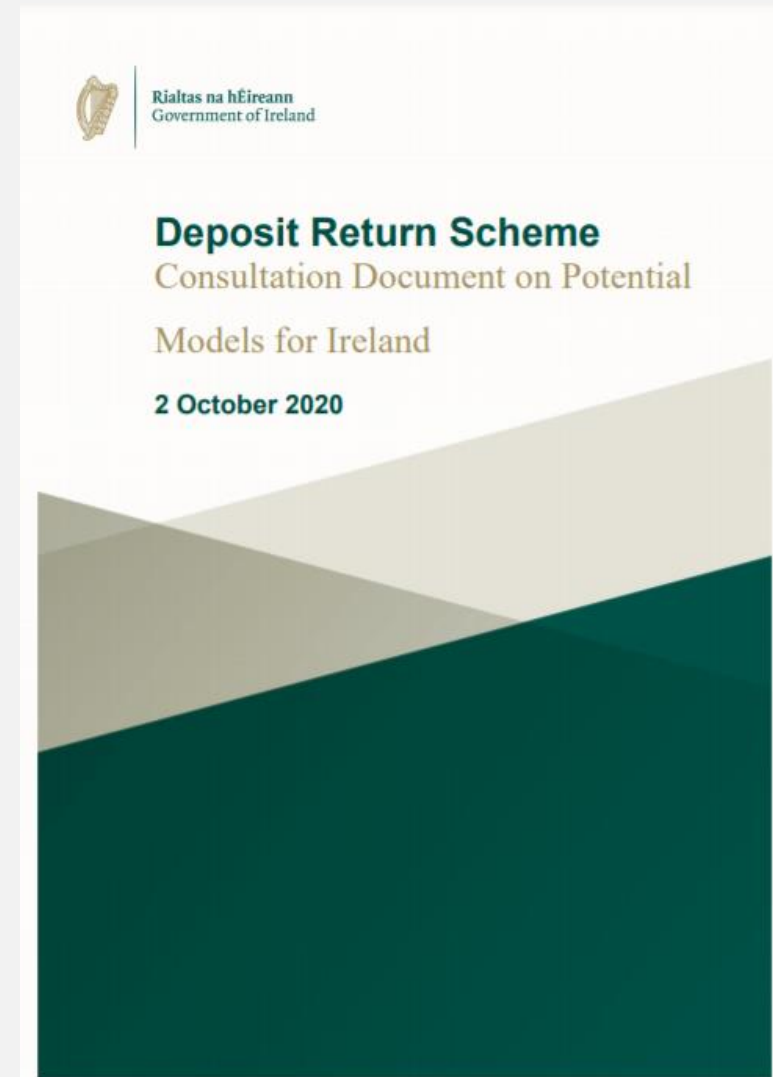
Existing Policy

- EU Action Plan for a Circular Economy & The Eu Waste Directive
- Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy
- Climate Action Plan 2019
- Eastern-Midlands Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021
- Dublin City Development Plan
- Repak Plastic Packaging Strategy
- Dublin City Litter Management Plan

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Proposed Deposit & Return Scheme

- Currently being drafted and has been subject to public consultation
- 3 potential models of implementation; Centralised, Decentralised or a Hybrid
- Will involve reclamation of a deposit (€0.20) that will be paid on drinks containers



Obstacles to Implementation

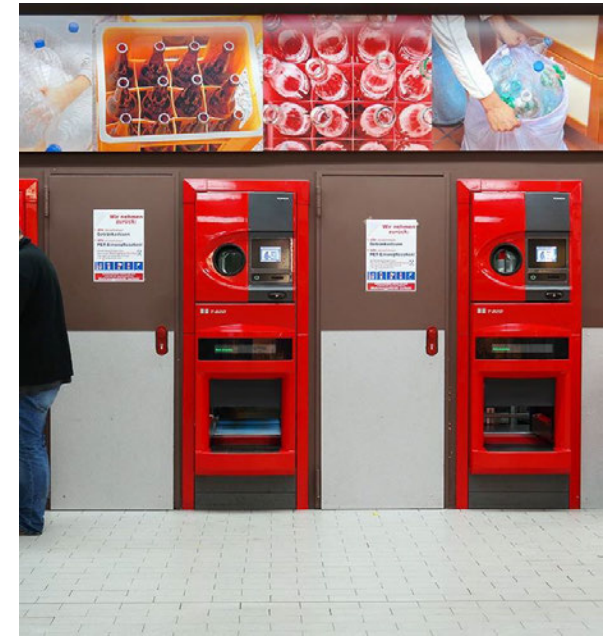
- Could conflict with the proposed deposit and return scheme under the Waste Action Plan
- Opposition from relevant bodies & national government
- Who would be the driver of the policy – range of potential bodies would need to work together
- Implementation costs

Overcoming Obstacles

- Could be piloted by Dublin City Council, Repak and Irish Rail or other PT provider
- Could compliment a universal deposit return scheme in Ireland
- A higher incentive to retrieve PT tickets (i.e. 20c in cash, 30c towards PT ticket)

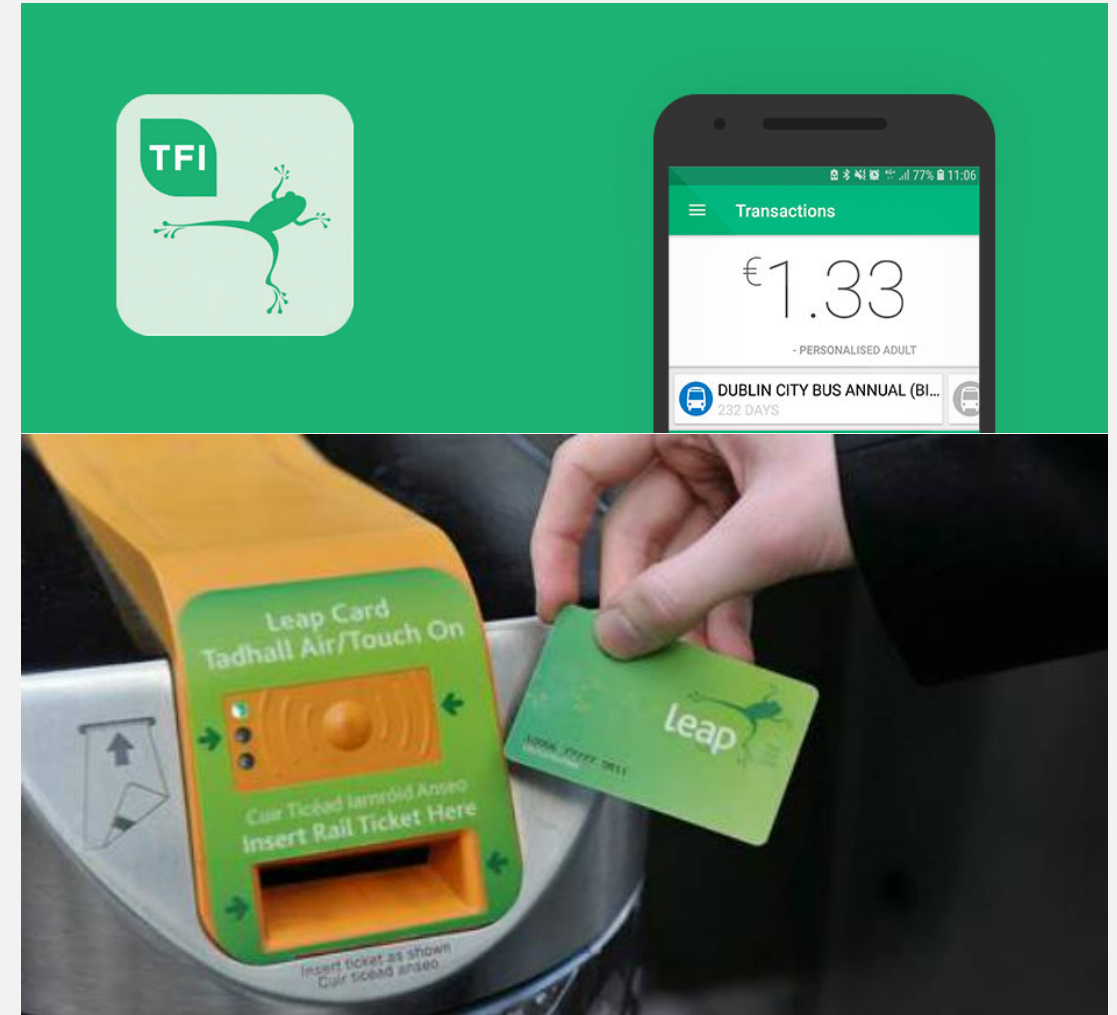


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Examples of Deposit Return Machines

- The implementation of a reward system for deposit-based recycling can best be facilitated in Dublin via the platform of the existing integrated ticketing system known as LEAP.
- The upcoming reforms to the LEAP card via the Bus Connects programme of investment will see new measures such as 90-minute fares for ease of transition between transport modes.
- It is possible by utilising similar technology that a reward system for the recycling of appropriate waste could be linked to a mixture of transport modes within the Greater Dublin Area.
- The deposit return could be transferred as a discount towards normal ticketing and rental periods for schemes such as bike share or e-scooters.





BUS
CONNECTS



- By working with the various transport operators in Dublin it is possible that a rewards system could provide discounts on LEAP card ticketing.
- This can also reduce waste and littering surrounding public transport infrastructure by working with the waste management policies of assorted stakeholders.

Impact on Policy & Wider Benefits

- Could assist in the fulfilment of both climate and transport targets/objectives
- Could help with waste reduction and water pollution
- Could promote public transport use post-pandemic which will need a boost
- Could reengage citizens with their surrounding environment and the issue of litter

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Issues for further Consideration

- What body is most likely to drive this scheme in Dublin?
- Could such a scheme be implemented in Dublin without national level support?
- How could such a scheme compliment a universal deposit return scheme in Ireland (as proposed) given that people are likely to just choose the cash option?



THANK YOU