

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Cùisean Dùthchail, Biadh agus an Àrainneachd
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Food and the Environment
Ridseard Lochhead BPA
Richard Lochhead MSP

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Carl Sargeant AM, Minister for Natural Resources, Welsh Government

By email: PS.Minister.for.HR@wales.gsi.gov.uk



29th May 2015

Dear Carl,

I am writing to highlight the feasibility study for a Deposit Return System for drinks containers published last week by Zero Waste Scotland.

I asked for this issue to be looked at because of the potential to cut litter and increase recycling volumes and quality with potential to stimulate domestic reprocessing.

The study models a potential system to assess the value of these and other factors together with the costs of such a system. The report and Zero Waste Scotland's summary is published at the following link, alongside a call for evidence to ensure we have access to the best information on these issues.

<http://www.zerowastescotland.org.uk/DepositReturnSystems>

While this work is focused on Scotland, I am drawing it to your attention because of the potential for any deposit return system to be optimised by operating UK-wide. I will be looking at this over the coming months in the context of wider efforts to move towards a more circular economy, notably the forthcoming EU circular economy package and producer responsibility proposals. I invite you to do the same.

I am copying this to Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, and Mark H Durkan MLA, Minister for the Environment, Northern Ireland Executive

Yours sincerely

RICHARD LOCHHEAD

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