EXCHANGE FOR CHANGE

WHO IS EXCHANGE FOR CHANGE?

Exchange for Change is a not-for-profit body formed by industry, for industry, and appointed to administer the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) across England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The DRS is a statutory scheme established by government. Exchange for Change is responsible for designing and operating it in accordance with that legislation, working alongside producers, retailers, wholesalers and hospitality businesses to ensure the scheme is delivered clearly, consistently and effectively.

HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact us at **enquiries@exchangeforchange.co.uk**

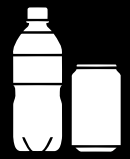
STAY INFORMED

with newsletters, practical updates, timelines and guidance on the UK's Deposit Return Scheme.
Plus details of upcoming free webinars and events.
exchangeforchange.co.uk

WHAT IS A DEPOSIT RETURN SCHEME (DRS)?

A Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) is designed to boost recycling and cut down on litter. It works by adding a deposit to the price of in-scope drinks containers, which consumers get back when they return the empty container for recycling.

MATERIALS IN SCOPE



PET
ALUMINIUM
STEEL

150ML - 3L

SCOTLAND

HOSPITALITY SITES ARE NOT REQUIRED TO OPERATE DRS RETURN POINTS

UNDER THE REGUALTIONS, ONLY GROCERIES RETAILERS ARE MANDATED TO OPERATE RETURN POINTS FOR DRS MATERIAL.



ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION

- A deposit is paid to product suppliers.
- The premise can opt-out of passing the deposit onto the consumer.
- If the deposit is not passed on to the customer, the premises will forfeit the deposit value unless the containers are collected by Exchange for Change.



OFF-PREMISE CONSUMPTION

- A deposit is paid to the producer /brand owner
- A deposit must be charged to consumers.
- Must clearly display information about how a deposit can be redeemed.



COLLECTIONS

- The premise must have the containers picked up by Exchange for Change. (Exchange for Change will publish guidance later this year)



DOCUMENTS CAN BE FOUND HERE:

Q1 2026	Logo regulatory requirements Material specification The RVM spec: supplied in Q4 2025	
Q2 2026	Deposit value confirmed Retail handling fee confirmation Exemptions criteria Material spec	
Q3 2026	Registration period open	