

# EXCHANGE FOR CHANGE

**THE UK'S DEPOSIT RETURN SCHEME  
LAUNCHING OCTOBER 2027**

## What is a Deposit Return Scheme?

A DRS is a system designed to increase recycling and reduce litter.

Under the scheme:

- A deposit is added when a drink is sold
- That deposit is refunded when the empty bottle or can is returned

### HOW A DRS WORKS



**STEP 1**



**DEPOSIT**

Customers pay a deposit on each product at purchase.

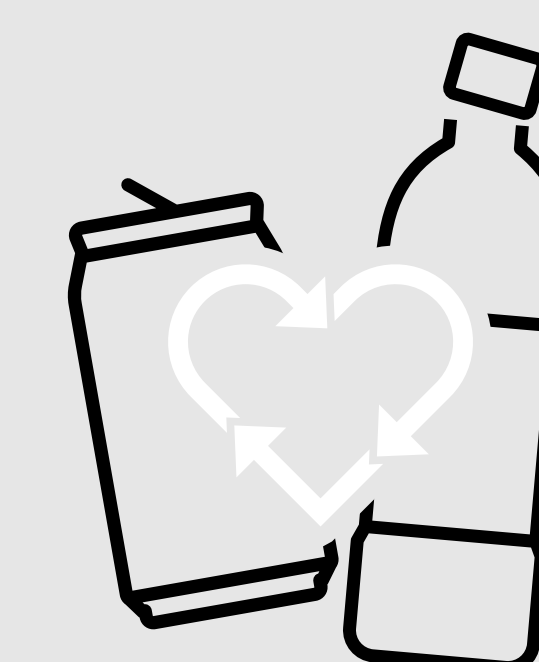
**STEP 2**



**RETURN**

The deposit is refunded when the empty container is returned.

**STEP 3**



**RECYCLED**

The returned material is collected and recycled.

**OCTOBER**

**2027**

### Did You Know?

New legislation across the UK has mandated the launch of a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) in October 2027. This new system will affect producers and retailers of drinks from 150ml - 3L sold in PET Plastic, aluminium and steel containers.

### Who is Exchange for Change?

Exchange for Change (a not-for-profit body formed by industry, for industry) is responsible for designing, implementing, and operating the Deposit Return Scheme across England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

We're working closely with producers, retailers, wholesalers and hospitality businesses to make sure the scheme is clear, consistent and ready to roll out across the UK.

### OUR ROLE IS TO:

- Set out what's required
- Provide clear guidance
- Support businesses to prepare with confidence

### Have Questions?

Contact us at  
[enquiries@exchangeforchange.co.uk](mailto: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](http://exchangeforchange.co.uk)

