



# **Ireland's New Deposit Return Scheme**

**'Go Live' - 1st February 2024**

Hospitality Deposit Return Scheme  
responsibilities.

Monday 23 October 2023



# Agenda

- **The Deposit Return Scheme - Re-turn**
- **Obligations of the Hospitality Sector**
- **Why am I classified as a Retailer?**
- **Compliance**
- **Registration and Take Back Exemptions criteria and process**
- **Q&A**

# Specifics of DRS Regulations

- Definition of a retailer: *“any person who for the purpose of trade or otherwise in the course of business sells or otherwise supplies in-scope products to a final consumer.”*
- For DRS purposes the definition of a Retailer includes traditional Retailers, HORECA establishments (Pubs, Restaurants, Hotels, Cafes etc.) Takeaways, Catering Companies, Event Venues.
- Retailers are obliged to *“ take back every in-scope bottle and in-scope container returned to it by a consumer in a manner agreed between the retailer and the approved body”*
- Regulations mandate the approved body (i.e. Re-turn) to *“agree alternative take-back arrangements, other than that at paragraph (f)”, in certain circumstances”*



# Obligations Set Out in DRS Regulations

- The Regulations set out the obligations that will fall to producers, retailers and return point operators under the scheme and provide the legal framework within which the Minister approves the scheme operator, DRSI CLG, trading as Re-turn.
- Under the Regulation of the scheme, retailers that sell 'in scope' products will have a legal requirement to accept returns of empty drinks containers for recycling. This includes online retailers of drinks.
- If you sell drinks on your premises (for take away) or online, you have a key role to play in the new Deposit Return scheme.
- All Retailers must register with the scheme in order to fulfil their environmental and legislative responsibilities.



# My business is Hospitality, why am I classed as a Retailer?

"If your business sells or otherwise supplies in-scope products, you are defined as a 'Retailer' and are legally obliged to register with the Scheme and adhere to the Re-turn Membership Rules."

# Retailer Definition

- *Ireland's DRS Legislation defines a “retailer” as any person who for the purpose of trade or otherwise in the course of business sells or otherwise supplies ‘in-scope’ products to a final consumer;*
- The Regulations also set out the obligations that will fall to producers, retailers and return point operators under the scheme and provide the framework within which the Minister approves the scheme operator, DRSI CLG, trading as Re-turn.
- Under the regulation of the scheme, retailers that sell ‘in scope’ products will have a legal requirement to accept returns of empty drinks containers for recycling. This includes online retailers of drinks.
- If you sell drinks on your premises (for take away) or online, you have a key role to play in the new Deposit Return scheme.
- **All Retailers must register with the scheme in order to fulfil their environmental and legislative responsibilities.**

# Retailer Key Obligations

- Following initial registration, the key obligations of retailers are:
- Ensure they are only selling drinks containers from producers registered with the Scheme. Comply with transition period for old stock to new stock as allowed following the 'go live' date.
- Ensure that the payment of the deposit is itemised on the proof of payment and displayed clearly as separate from the product price
- Ensure that the facility for taking back DRS bottles and containers on their premises is clearly visible and easily accessible
- Accept all empty deposit return containers, regardless of where they were purchased, and provide full deposit refund to consumer
- Provide storage for DRS bottles and containers in a manner agreed with deposit return scheme operator and agree method and frequency of collection by operator.



# Ireland's DRS Regulations (Key Elements) for your business

Mandatory deposit on 'in-scope containers'

PET bottles and Aluminium and Steel beverage containers from 150ml to 3 litres

Includes alcohol and non-alcohol containers

Excludes dairy containers

Excludes glass

Excludes non-beverage containers

Take back  
Exemption may be applied/granted for drinks consumed in on site hospitality environment.

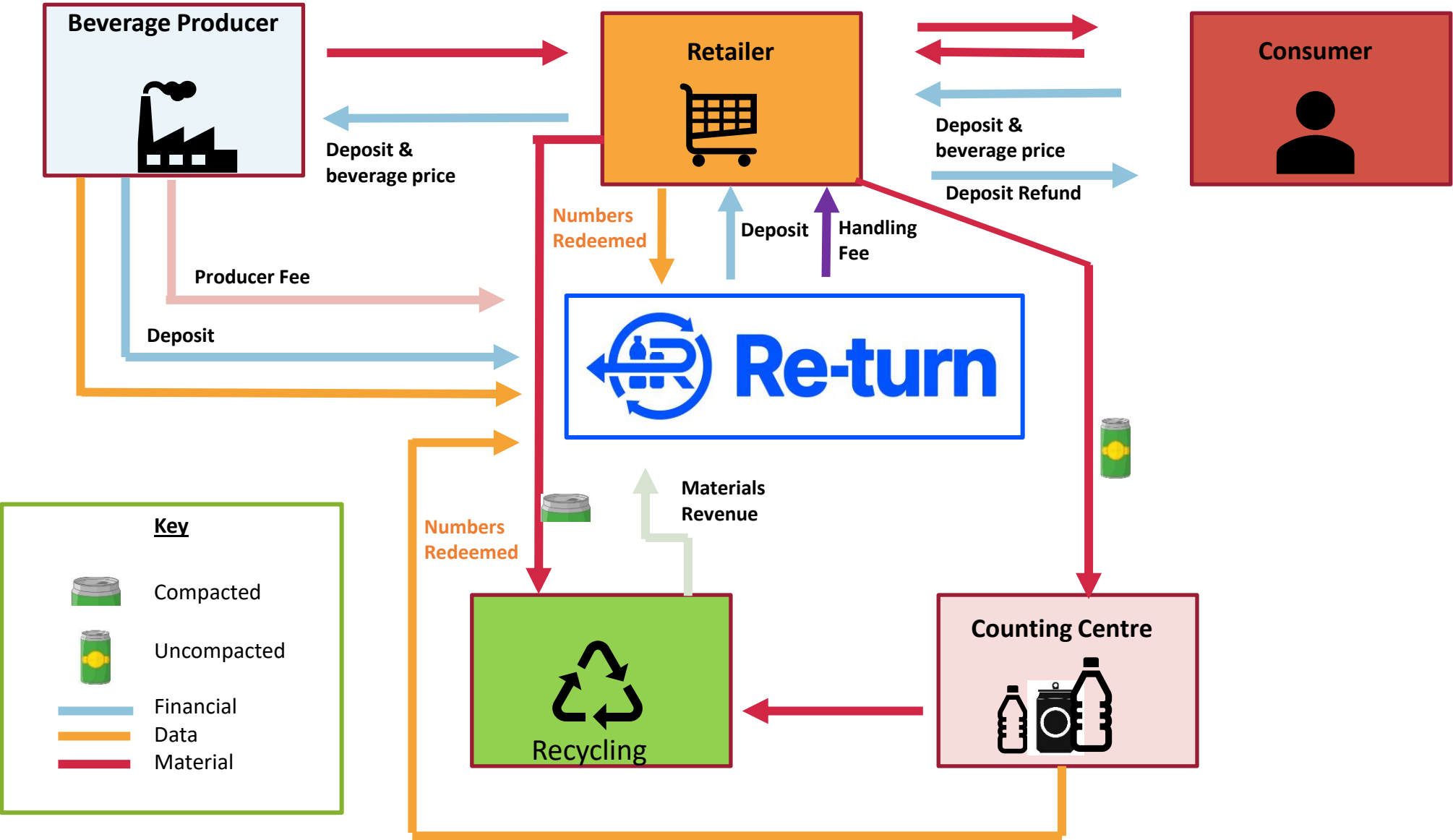
Deposit rate set by the Minister  
15 c (150-500ml)  
25 c (over 500ml to 3 ltr)

Deposit rate fixed for each individual container (Multi-packs)

Deposit (VAT-free) must be shown as a separate line item on till receipts



# Deposit Return Scheme Operational Model



# Retailer Exemptions

## Retailer exemptions apply to the following sectors:

**'Food to go'** Retailers – The criteria for this will apply to premises (customer facing store size) with a footprint of 250sqm or under.

**Hospitality Sector Exemptions (HORECA)** - The hospitality sector comprising public houses, hotels, restaurants, cafes or similar premises, who sell in-scope products for **consumption on the premises**.

### Two exemptions apply to the Hospitality sector as follows:

- a) **Deposit Charging Exemption to Consumers** – The Hospitality sector when purchasing in-scope products will be charged the deposit, however they are not obligated to pass on this deposit to the consumer. How the deposit is applied for on-premise consumption is for the sector to manage.
- b) **Take Back Exemption** – All the Hospitality sector is eligible to apply for an exemption (after registration).

**Note:** You do not have to charge a deposit if it is for on-site consumption, however you do have to charge a deposit if taken off-site.

# Hospitality Sector Exemptions

Off-site consumption or takeaways still require deposit charging.

The responsibility for managing the deposit application rests with the Hospitality sector.

Drinks sold for on-site consumption without a deposit should not be taken off the premises.

# Hospitality Obligations



## Register with scheme

- Company registration
- Stakeholder type
- Premises upload
- Exemptions application



## In-store

- Display certificate of compliance in each of your premises
- Charge deposit on in-scope items (if for take out) business discretion if eating in from February 1<sup>st</sup> 2023



## Take Back Exemptions

- Retailers/Hospitality can apply for Take Back Exemption if their retail facing space is 250 meters squared or under. E.g. Food on the go
- Retailers/hospitality can apply for Take Back Exemptions if their premises meets the Take Back Exemption Criteria outlined

# Hospitality Obligations if offering Takeback



## Register with scheme

- Company registration
- Stakeholder type
- Premises upload
- Exemptions application (optional)



## In-store

- Display certificate of compliance
- Charge deposit on in-scope items from February 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 (take out charge) eat in hospitality decides
- Utilise scheme branding and POS materials in toolkit



## Collections

- Collections will be managed by scheme logistics partner: LPP
- LPP will deliver Wheelie bins to premises operating an RVM.
- Bags and tags will be provided by LPP to manual takeback sites
- Manual collections will be counted and validated at LPPs counting centres



## Takeback type

- Retailers who do not qualify for a Take Back Exemption must operate a manual or automated (RVM) takeback location
- Re-turn will reimburse the retailer the deposit (they have paid out to the consumer).
- Re-turn will also pay the retailer a handling fee on all in-scope items returned by the consumer.
- Retailers should only accept empty undamaged containers that bear the RE-turn logo

# I am a Hospitality Business/Retailer how do I register?

1

## Create user

- log on to Return.ie
- You will be taken to our portal
- This is a personal account on the portal that is required for each user

2

## Create Company

- Select company type, this will include an option for sole traders
- Each company must be registered with its own unique CRO number

3

## Add stakeholder

- Adding a stakeholder enables a user to distinguish the role of their company within the scheme
- At this point, retailers will be required to read and sign the retailer membership rules

4

## Upload Premises

- All retailers will be required to upload information on all of their premises such as address, size of store, & premise type
- Retailers can select their type of takeback for each site, and whether they will apply for a Take Back Exemption (qualify)

5

## Apply for Exemption

- This is now live on the portal, retailers/Hospitality can select the type of Take back Exemption they are seeking

6

## Collection Details

- If you are offering Take Back. Complete The following tasks:
- Enter specific details for each store
- Provide information on site access
- Indicate requirements for an RVM bin, or manual takeback.

# Take Back Exemptions & Criteria

Take Back Exemptions are available to the Hospitality Sector that meet one of the following criteria:



Store size under 250 meter squared. This applies only to retail facing areas



Retailers/Hospitality who operate on a primarily food to go basis and are under 250 square meters



Hospitality sector exemptions. All HORECA establishments will be required to register with the scheme and will qualify for a Take Back Exemption



Online retailers are Take Back exempt provided they register and comply with guidelines



Vending machine operators are Take Back exempt provided they register and comply with guidelines



All retailers intending to apply for a Take Back Exemption will be required to register their premises first, before completing a Take Back exemption request on the portal.

Take Back Exemptions & PREMISE REGISTRATION IS NOW LIVE ON THE PORTAL

On site Catering businesses operating a restaurant, coffee shop or food to go can apply for a take back exemption for each premises that is compliant with the Takeback Back Exemption Criteria

# Deposit Return Take Back Membership & Exemption Certificate

- The Take Back Exemption Certificate is crucial for demonstrating compliance with environmental regulations.
- This certificate helps Customers locate alternative Return Points.





# Take Back Exemption and QR Code Guidelines

Retailers granted a Take Back Exemption will be issued a Take Back Exemption Certificate by Re-turn. This will incorporate the dynamic QR code and website URL to Deposit Return Points map. This Certificate must be printed and be prominently displayed for all consumers to view.

Online retailers granted a Take Back Exemption, must display the dynamic QR Code and URL on sales documentation.

## Dynamic QR Code

To access and download formats of Dynamic QR code please click [here](#).

## URL

Please include the following URL for Deposit Return Points map.

[www.re-turn.ie/#WhereToReturn](http://www.re-turn.ie/#WhereToReturn)

## Sample Online Print Receipt

### Retailer name

Milk..... €xx

Bread..... €xx

Water bottle 2 litre..... €xx

Orange can 330ml..... €xx

**Total Net..... €xx**

### Deposit

25c x 1 Unit.....€xx

15c x 1 Unit.....€

**TOTAL ..... €**

**(Total NET + Deposit)**

Please scan the QR code or visit  
[www.re-turn.ie/#WhereToReturn](http://www.re-turn.ie/#WhereToReturn) to find  
your nearest Deposit Return Point



## Sample Online Digital Receipt

### Thank you for your Order!

Chicken..... €xx

Water bottle 2 litre ..... €xx

Orange can 330ml ..... €xx

**Total Net ..... €xx**

### Deposit

25c x 1 Unit ..... €xx

15c x 1 Unit.....€xx

**TOTAL.....€xx**

**(Total NET + Deposit)**



Please scan the QR code or visit  
[www.re-turn.ie/#WhereToReturn](http://www.re-turn.ie/#WhereToReturn) to find your  
nearest Deposit Return Point



[Unsubscribe](#)

\*Dynamic QR code and website live URL to Deposit Return Points map will go live on 1 February 2024. Test phase takes place in January 2024.

# In-store and Transition Period - how does it impact Hospitality

- Retailers / Hospitality will be required to show certification that they are a registered scheme member
- From the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 all in-scope product with a Return Logo will have a deposit fee, which must be clearly outlined as a separate line item when charged to an ROI consumer. The Hospitality Sector ( consumer sitting in your premises) must decide if they are charging the deposit to these customers, Deposit will be charged for Take outs. **ALL HOSPITALITY businesses selling in-scope WILL BE CHARGED A DEPOSIT for All in-scope products purchased from e.g. supplier, producer, wholesaler, retailer**



## Display certification of registration

This is evidence that you are a registered member of the scheme, and that you will be required to fulfil the obligations of a retailer



## Charge deposit on all in-scope items

Retailers can utilise Re-turn branding within their stores to ensure consumers are aware of the deposit charge at the point of choice



## Provide the consumer with proof of payment of the deposit

Each deposit value should be itemised as a separate line item on receipts



## Take Back Exemption

Where exemptions apply, retailer must display their Takeback Exemption Certificate

- A transition period will be in place until the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 to support retailers as the scheme launches
- Hospitality/Retailers should consider the following steps ahead of Go Live, and throughout the transition period



From Q4 2023, Retailers should begin to co-ordinate a rundown of non-DRS stock with their producers and suppliers



Retailers must clearly display which products the deposit will apply to



Train staff on DRS requirements including deposit charge.



Train staff on logo requirements to differentiate between non-DRS, and DRS stock



Circulate communication tools and materials to stores such as shelf edge labels and POS branding



Retailers must not charge a deposit on non-DRS stock



From 16<sup>th</sup> March, retailers must not purchase non-DRS stock from suppliers



From 1<sup>st</sup> June, only DRS stock can be sold and placed on shelves

# If You Opt to Takeback: Your options

- Retailers should engage with RVM suppliers directly to arrange installation of machines well in advance of the scheme going live
- We advise that RVM orders are placed as a matter of urgency to enable installation for Go Live
- Retailers will select their RVM supplier and model for each premise as part of the registration process
  - **RVM models vary by supplier see reach out directly to our approved RVM supplier for support and guidance**
  - **Financial support is available to retailers from Re-turn with annual returns volumes under 250,000 and will be structured as follows**
    - The grants are €3,000 after Yr1,
    - €2,000 after Yr2
    - €1,000 after Yr3
- RVM Approved suppliers contact details can be found on the Re-turn retailers page on our website: [Retailers - Re-Turn](#)
- After Registering your premises for manual takeback LPP will deliver 100 manual bags and tags. This is provided on behalf of Re-turn at no additional cost to the retailer.



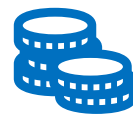
Retailers may operate a manual or automated (RVM) takeback type



RVMs have validation built-in to the machine to identify whether a container is in-scope. You can find more info on our RVM specification guide here: [RVM Specification](#)



RVMs will print a voucher for consumers to redeem in-store. Vouchers must be redeemed at the same store at which they were issued. Re-turn recommend retailers integrate their Epos system with their RVM supplier for voucher validation



Retailers with a manual takeback service or RVMs can repay consumers in cash, or offset with store purchases



Retailers are not required to accept returns of damaged; empty; nonDRS (logo bearing) stock see our comms messaging



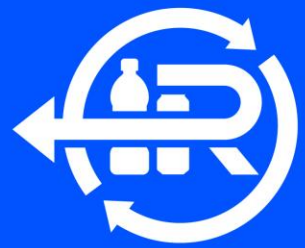
Retailers will be reimbursed by Re-turn with the deposit value on each container returned per unit, and a handling fee for operating the takeback service to consumers

# Retailer – Hospitality Journey Timeline



From February 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 all in-scope products sold on the Irish market and purchased from a retailer with a Re-turn logo will carry a deposit fee.

\*Transition period ends 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024 in that time both in-scope logo'd and non-logo'd in-scope may or will be on the shelves of your retailing/wholesaler suppliers.



# Re-turn

Ireland's New  
**Deposit  
Return  
Scheme**

Thank you!

