From:

Sent:

12 November 2020 13:56

To:

wastecomments

Subject:

Deposit Return Scheme submission

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Hi I would request that the following issues are very much taken into consideration regarding the proposed Deposit Return Scheme.

- COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS: There are very, very many people in Ireland who are in dire financial
 circumstances. The proposed 20c deposit on a tin can will effectively double the price of the very
 basic and currently very affordable items in the Irish family shopping cart. A tin of tomatoes, beans,
 peas etc can currently be purchased for around 30c in the various supermarkets and form the
 staple for many family meals.
- 2. ONLINE SHOPPING: There has been a surge in online grocery shopping particularly since the lockdown. Will the delivery drivers be able to accept returns and refund those customers who are unable either through lockdown, disability, lack of transport etc. to travel to the refund facilities?
- 3. <u>BIN COLLECTION</u>: Will the bin companies who currently collect recyclable items provide locks on the bins to deter them from being rifled by people seeking cans and bottles? These companies require the bins to be left outside the gates of houses in public spaces the night before collection and the collection area is very often not visible from the house so therefore cannot be monitored by the householder. Who will be responsible for cleaning up should the bins be knocked over by those searching for cans and bottles? I currently have a fortnightly bin collection and my general rubbish bin is always only about a third full. I would probably just not use the recycle bin anymore if I were no longer using it for cans and plastic bottles. While this would be to the detriment of the environment, it would mean I would not have to worry about my green bin being ransacked and therefore could avoid the subsequent clean up of the path outside. Would I get a discount from the bin company for no longer using the recycle bin service?
- 4. PRIVATE PROFIT The refund service will no doubt be provided by a private, for profit company. Will it be to the detriment, once again in this country, of the poorer sections of society who rely on low priced tinned goods to feed their families?
- 5. <u>FREE OPTION</u> There are currently glass bottle banks all over the country which do not require a deposit scheme which are well used by the public. In some areas there are also additional bins for aluminium cans. Why not extend this facility to all bottle bank areas for plastic bottles and aluminium cans and therefore avoid the administration costs, inconvenience and, with the inevitable pilfering of household green bins, potential degradation of public areas?

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