

A deposit return system for Scotland



Have
You
Got
The
Bottle?



DISCARDED BOTTLES
AND CANS POLLUTE
SCOTTISH COUNTRYSIDE,
BEACHES AND STREETS.

**IT DOESN'T NEED
TO BE LIKE THIS.**



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What is deposit return?

- Small deposit on drinks containers
- Get deposit back when you return the container
- Over the counter or reverse vending machine
- 250 million people in 40 countries or regions
- 130 million people in Europe



Deposit return impact

- Cuts litter
- Boosts recycling rates
- Saves local council costs
- Creates jobs
- Promotes circular economy
- Tackles climate change



Typical return rates

Data gathered: 2010 - 2012

Country Examples:

Germany (2012)	98,5 % (PET/CAN/GLASS)
Denmark (2012)	89,0 % (PET/CAN/GLASS)
Sweden (2012)	85,0 % (PET/CAN)
Norway (2012)	95,0 % (PET/CAN)
Finland (2012)	93,3 % (PET/CAN/GLASS)
Canada (2010)	80 %
USA (2012)	70,71 % (average taken from 10 states)
South Australia (2012):	80,8 %

Source: System Operators



Effects on littering

Beverage packaging makes up to 40% - 50% of littering volume (Deutsche Umwelthilfe)

→ It's not the number of littered items that bothers people and causes high clean up costs - It's the volume (the littered area)

Deposit systems are highly effective in preventing and reducing littering

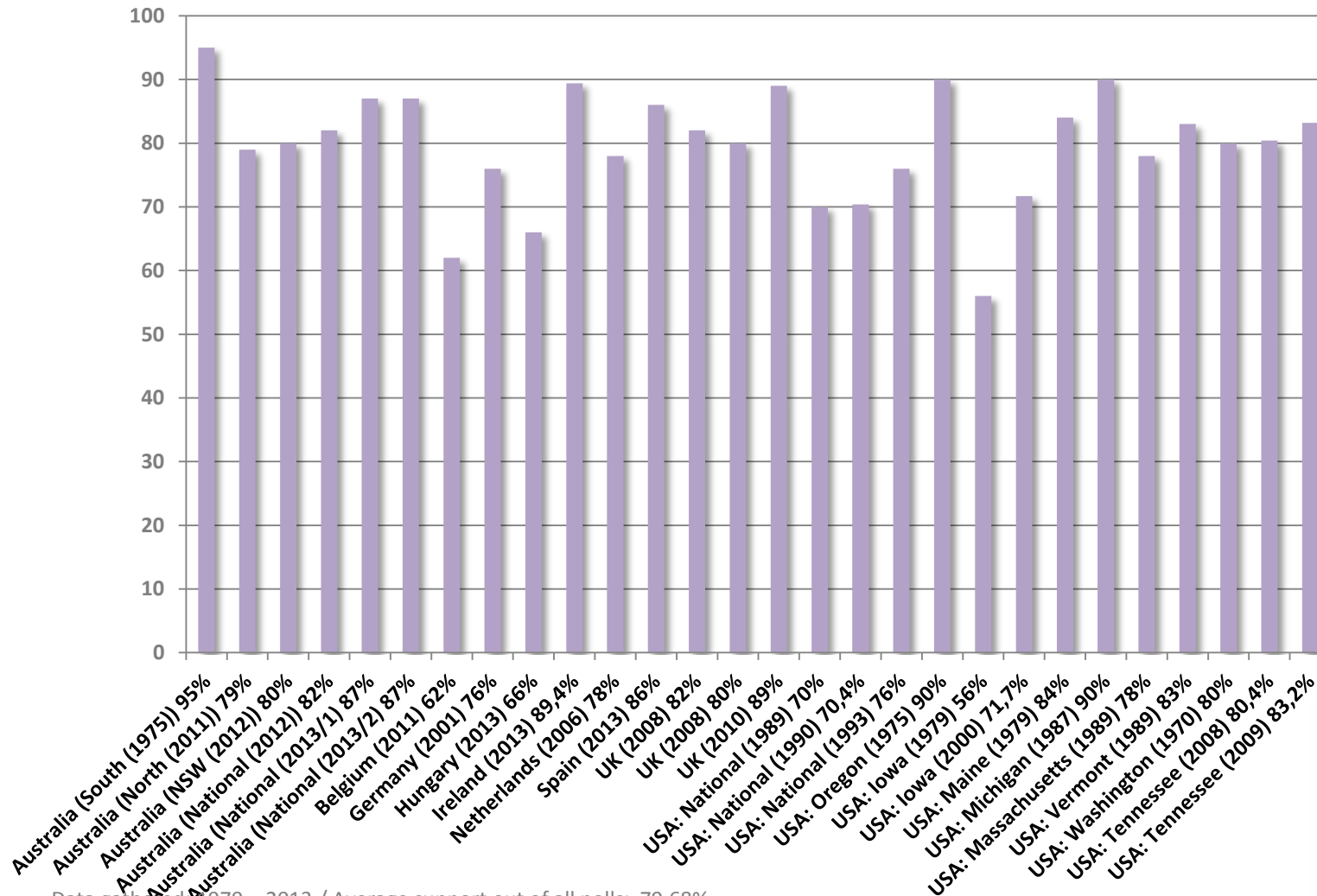
→ Even if the consumer litters, someone else will pick the container up to redeem it for cash

→ Deposit reduces litter by providing a real monetary value to the waste streams

→ Bottles without a deposit system are 10 times more likely to be littered



Public attitudes around the world



Data gathered: 1970 – 2013 / Average support out of all polls: 79,68%



The Dutch example



Recent developments

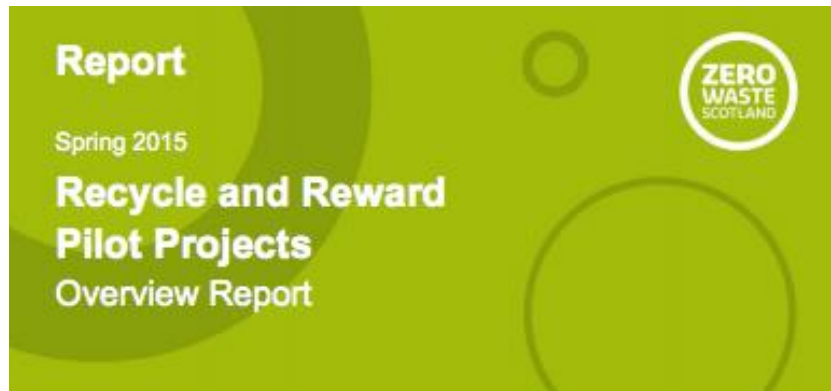
In 2016 alone:

- Lithuania
- New South Wales, Australia
- Queensland, Australia
- Western Australia

But not everyone loves deposit return...



Scottish deposit return pilots



'Have You Got The Bottle?'

- Climate Change Act 2009 primary legislation
- 2015 poll showing 78%+ Scots in favour
- Campaign launched September 2015
- Six founding partners
- Now 35 partners representing 300,000+ people
- Two local authority motions thus far



Our work

- Deposit return in three of five 2016 party manifestos
- Scottish Government Advisory Group
- Global Campaign Summit
- Stakeholder trips
- Profile-raising
- Partnerships



Good for business in Scotland

- Restaurants and cafes
- Large retailers
- Small grocers
- Social enterprise





'Luvians is a small, family-owned bottle shop in Fife. We are rooted in our community and supported the carrier bag charge, which has been good for our business, the environment and our customers. A Scottish deposit return system would be of similar value. It works for shops like ours in other countries and it would work for businesses like ours in Scotland. We would sign up tomorrow if one were introduced here.'

Luvians Bottle Shop

'As a small and growing Scottish restaurant chain with locations in Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Stirling we handle a lot of empty drinks containers. As a result, we pay a significant amount of money each year to have empties uplifted for recycling.'

A deposit return system in Scotland would likely mean these uplifts are provided for free by those who run the system - as is the case in countries who already have deposit return. This would save Boozy Cow a lot of money and might even bring in a small amount of extra cash instead.

I should think anyone in the Scottish restaurant trade would find that prospect equally appealing. Deposit return works for businesses like ours in other countries. It's time for deposit return here.'

Boozy Cow



Good for local authorities in Scotland

May 2015 ZWS study - deposit return would
each year save local authorities:

£7m in litter picking costs

+ £5m on kerbside collection

+ £1m less on household recycling centres

= £13m cost savings



Aberdeenshire gives formal support to DRS



Aberdeenshire Council is formally calling for Scottish local authorities (LAs) to be involved in the design of a deposit-return system.

The council unanimously agreed on Thursday (10 March) to send a letter to Scottish Environment Secretary Richard Lochhead, pledging support for a DRS and highlighting the need to include LAs in its development.



Green motion is in the bank for Midlothian councillor



Midlothian Green councillor Ian Baxter

Green councillor Ian Baxter's motion to press for a Scottish deposit return system for drinks cans and bottles has received cross-party support.

Midlothian Council will now write to the Scottish Government to urge ministers to back a deposit return system to complement local authorities' existing services. The move follows similar action by Aberdeenshire Council



**The only way drinks litter is going to go away
is if we make it go away.**

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Questions?

