

SCOTTISH GROCER FEATURE SYNOPSIS

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Deposit Return Scheme

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Deadline for editorial submission is Wednesday 24th May.

- *We're keen to have opinions, thoughts and predictions on the following topical issues as well as general market information such as market share, market trends and details of brand activity.*
- *It's always very useful to receive images – 300 dpi if possible. Good images include product shots, pictures of people quoted in the copy, and pictures of advertising and marketing activity.*
- *And please feel free to provide anything else you think is relevant.*

One of the hottest topics in Scottish convenience at the moment, the deposit return scheme (DRS) brings in debate across all parts of the sector, with questions covering every aspect of the new scheme. Now working towards a new deadline of March 2024, retailers have more time to prepare their stores and hopefully, this time, this will be the final go-live date to stick to. In this feature, we will look to answer the questions that retailers are most concerned about, with at least eight months to go before the scheme gets started next March. We would welcome comments on the following:

- What steps should retailers take now to prepare their stores for DRS? How can c-store retailers best prioritise the time they've been given with the latest delay to the scheme?
- What are the benefits of operating an automated returns system in store? What reverse vending machine solutions does your firm offer to convenience? What about retailers with limited square footage that now need to introduce a new machine to the store, taking up valuable sales space?
- What are the benefits of a manual returns system for the convenience channel?
- How do you intend to reassure retailers that the scheme will be good to go live by March 2024, given the delays and questions surrounding the scheme?
- What steps should c-store retailers take now to inform their customers about the incoming scheme?