

SCOTTISH GROCER FEATURE SYNOPSIS

October 2026

Sustainability/DRS

Editorial contact for this feature is:

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Deadline for editorial submission Wednesday 26th August

- *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.*

Climate change and sustainability are at the forefront of a lot of shoppers' minds, and more and more retailers are embracing it for both the opportunity for more sales and because of environmental policy changes coming down the line such as DRS. In this feature, we will be looking to the key categories for sustainable solutions and DRS options. We would welcome comments on the following:

- How important is sustainability to consumers today and why? What evidence (if any) exists that sustainability is a key consideration for consumers making purchasing decisions in the convenience channel?
- What steps has your brand taken to reduce its impact on the environment? What targets/ambitions are you working towards now? How are you communicating these changes to consumers?
- How can retailers better communicate sustainability in their store? What are the advantages to signposting the environmental credentials of more sustainable brands/variants?
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- Which demographics are most concerned with sustainability and what makes these shoppers valuable to c-store retailers?
- Do you have any sustainability-focused NPD or campaigns you would like to shout about?

- 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 steps should c-store retailers take now to inform their customers about the incoming scheme?