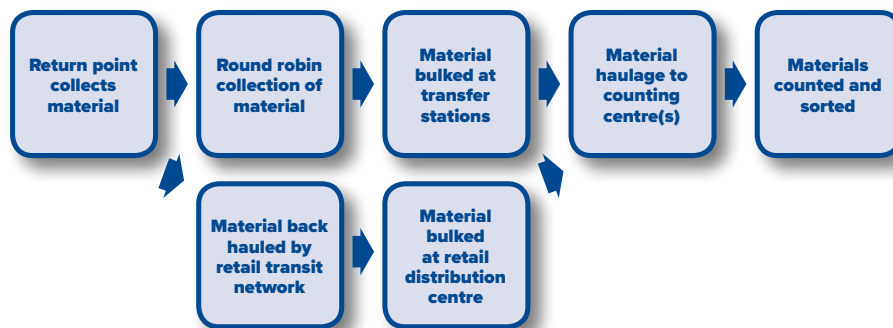


DRS WHOLESAL BACKHAULING OPPORTUNITY

ZERO WASTE SCOTLAND & SWA are interested to hear from members that could assist with the transport of material from retail/HORECA return points, to a local bulking point. This local bulking point could either be a designated waste transfer station or a retail/producer/wholesaler distribution centre where relevant.

The journey of the DRS materials will be as follows:



The utilisation of back haulage would be under contract, as there needs to be a guarantee of the collection and security of materials. The system couldn't rely on ad hoc collections as there would need to be an agreed schedule of collections for the return point.

There will be two streams of material for collection. One is Reverse Vending Machine (RVM) material of crushed cans/PET and uncrushed glass bottles. The second is manual material of uncrushed PET/cans/ glass.

All manual material and all RVM/manual glass bottles would have to be handled in a secure environment. This is because the container re- mains whole, and therefore maintains the 20p deposit value and is open to fraudulent activity. As such, any back haulage of this material would need to guarantee secure transit.

If you are interested in the backhauling opportunity please email colin@scottishwholesale.co.uk and louisa.coursey@zerowastescotland.org.uk so that it can be discussed in further detail.

We appreciate that the scope is quite vague at this stage and there are issues about backhauling waste but indicating an initial interest will help ZWS to better understand the logistic options available to the scheme and identify/address the various factors that would need to be considered (e.g., nature of receptacles used)



DRS WHOLESALE WORKSHOP MEETING

AS A RESULT of SWA lobbying, ZWS have held two workshops with wholesalers. The second meeting of the SWA Wholesale workshop took place on 18th July, chaired by ZWS. The meeting focused on the impacts that wholesalers face both during and after DRS implementation. The key findings and areas of concern will feed into the other Implementation Advisory Group workgroups on which SWA sit, while helping the SWA in our continued lobbying effort of the Scottish Government to:

1. Recognise the cost burden and impacts on wholesalers of implementing/dealing with DRS.
2. Exclude glass from the scheme design.
3. Have the scheme UK wide.
4. Understand that the timescales for go-live by end of March 2021 are not feasible to implement the 'world class' system they envisage.



Concerns of members on the implication of DRS were centred around the fact that this is a Scotland only scheme and creates a border between England and Scotland. Essentially making wholesalers, who operate across the border, either importers or exporters depending on the direction of the flow of goods.

The 20p deposit value, plus additional producer fee, needs to be either applied on entry or reclaimed on export. However for imported products they need also to be registered with the DRS administrator if they are not already part of the scheme. This complication is only one part of the complexity of the DRS, the rest is too long for this brief Bulletin.

To summarise the workshop's activities and requirements of SWA members involved, they include:

- Ascertaining the value of foreign (non UK) imported goods into the Wholesale market place.
- Ascertaining the value of goods wholesalers export to 'England' and rest of the world.
- Identify the value/quantity of range rationalisation wholesalers would undertake to minimise DRS disruption.
- Working with the ICT workgroup to identify how the DRS scheme operator connects into wholesalers IT system so as to separately track deposits, producer fees and more.
- Identify the cost to wholesalers in having to upgrade their IT systems to allow DRS connection and separate tracking/invoicing of deposit values.
- Quantify the cost to wholesalers in managing/implementing DRS: warehousing, ICT costs, logistical impacts, business re-modelling, staff training, reduced customer choice/sales.

Thanks to all members who have taken part in these workshops so far. DRS will have a massive impact on our sector so please share information with us and come along to further workshop meetings so the wholesalers' voice is heard loud and clear.

