

**VISIT TO EAST KILBRIDE COCA COLA BOTTLING PLANT
BRIEFING
23 January 2019**

<i>What</i>	Closed photocall at Coca-Cola's East Kilbride bottling plant to highlight the benefits to industry of deposit return
<i>Where</i>	Coca-Cola European Partners, 52 Milton Road, College Milton, East Kilbride, G74 5DJ
<i>When</i>	10:00-11:00 Wednesday 23rd January 2018
<i>Key Message(s)</i>	Scottish Government is committed to introducing a system that will benefit the environment, communities and industry.
<i>Who</i>	[Redacted], Site Director; [Redacted], Head of Sustainability; [Redacted], VP Public Affairs, Communications and Sustainability; [Redacted], Public Affairs Manager
<i>Why</i>	Opportunity to thank a key industry stakeholder for its continued engagement with the process; acknowledge Coca-Cola's support for deposit return.
<i>Questions expected</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When do you anticipate DRS being delivered / announcement of the scheme design? • Are you pleased with the progress to date?
<i>Supporting official</i>	[Redacted], Circular Economy Team Mob: [Redacted]
<i>Briefing contents</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda • Coca-Cola's Position on DRS • Deposit return headline facts
<i>Media Handling</i>	Closed photocall to accompany news release on benefits of deposit return to industry

VISIT TO EAST KILBRIDE COCA COLA BOTTLING PLANT

BRIEFING

23 January 2019

Agenda

10:00 Cabinet Secretary arrives

10:00-10:10 Introductions

10:10-10:20 Policy discussion with representatives of Coca-Cola

10:20-10:50 Photocall in two locations (overlooking the bottling lines, and on the factory floor. The latter will require PPE, which will be provided)

11:00 Cabinet Secretary departs

Coca-Cola's Position

- Coca-Cola, along with most other soft drinks producers, had initially been a vocal opponent of deposit return, arguing that it would be costly for industry and retailers, detrimental to consumers and incompatible with a well-developed kerbside recycling system.
- However, it has changed its position and supports a well-designed deposit return scheme. This reflects the increased interest in the plastics issue, a clear direction from Scottish and UK Ministers that a deposit return system will be introduced, and other policy developments such as extended producer responsibility and the proposed virgin plastics tax. There is growing recognition amongst industry that a DRS will provide recycled materials at a lower price, allowing them to service customer expectations and prepare for the virgin material tax, as well as reduce producer responsibility costs. Coca-Cola has been engaging constructively with policy officials and ZWS.
- Along with other stakeholders, we have shared general indications of the direction of travel with representatives. While broadly supportive and keen to be involved, Coca-Cola has expressed reservations over the possible inclusion of glass in the system, the gap between Scottish and English systems being introduced, and the possibility of different systems on either side of the border.
- Coca-Cola uses very limited amounts of glass, and argues that including glass will lead to increased cost and complexity of the system, threatening its viability.
- Manufacturers and retailers with cross-border supply chains have expressed concerns about systems being introduced at different times and the possibility of Scotland having a different system. They argue that they will require separate production and supply chains, increasing costs, and that there is a risk of significant cross-border fraud that could impact the viability of the scheme.
- We have been engaging with industry and retail stakeholders to understand their concerns and discuss possible mitigation. We are in the process of establishing

VISIT TO EAST KILBRIDE COCA COLA BOTTLING PLANT

BRIEFING

23 January 2019

an Implementation Advisory Group, with representation from industry and retail associations, to draw on their expertise to support implementation. The British Soft Drinks Association will be invited to nominate a representative.

Deposit Return Headline Facts

- We were the first country in the UK to commit to introducing a deposit return system for drinks containers. We will ensure the scheme is tailored to meet Scotland's specific needs and we are working closely with the business community during its design and implementation.
- We are discussing the possibility of co-operation on deposit return with the UK and other administrations. Any co-operation must be on the basis of matching our ambitions for a scheme. This includes the relationship between Extended Producer Responsibility, deposit return and any virgin material tax.
- Our consultation was a step closer to achieving delivering the system.
 - ❖ Over 3,000 people and organisations responded to the consultation.
 - ❖ Consultation responses are now being analysed and the results will help shape system design. Scottish Government and Zero Waste Scotland officials are also continuing to engage with key stakeholders to gather views.
 - ❖ Further steps will be announced next year.
- Officials from the UK, Welsh and NI administrations are working together with us on deposit return and related issues. In particular, there will need to be significant changes to producer responsibility regulations as a result of the EU circular economy package.
- It is likely that producers of drinks included in the scheme will be impacted by the system in terms of possible labelling requirements and payment of a producer fee to the system administrator. Producers will also be involved in the flow of deposit money. The scope of the scheme, including what materials will be included and what the financial model will look like, is currently being finalised.
- Major producers have also expressed concerns about cross-border supply networks and the possibility of fraud should Scotland have a scheme before England, or if the scheme in England is significantly different. We are working with industry to understand these concerns and discuss mitigation; we are also in contact with Defra over its plans in order to better understand their potential scope and timeline.
- DRS could serve as a cost effective way for obligated producers to fulfil their producer responsibility obligations on drinks containers. One of the key drivers for

**VISIT TO EAST KILBRIDE COCA COLA BOTTLING PLANT
BRIEFING
23 January 2019**

this policy is to increase the rate and quality of recycling of the targeted materials. By segregating the collection of targeted materials, the system will ensure pure material streams that will be more economically attractive to reprocess, this will make recycled material available at a better price for producers.

- Zero Waste Scotland is working to consider equalities and social justice issues as part of its work, particularly in terms of time spent returning items, the impact of unredeemed deposits where people might not find it practical to return items and cash flow for customers.

EIR202000011574 E-mail Policy to Private Office

RE: Deposit Return Scheme - Ministerial Engagement Briefing - Visit to Coca-Cola East Kilbride - Wednesday 23 January 2019

[Redacted],

Grateful if you could draw the Cabinet Secretary's attention to the attached one page advert that was in The Herald last week. As you can see, Coca-Cola was one of 11 companies highlighting that it is shifting its own practices to reduce greenhouse gases, and calling on Scottish Parliament to set a net-zero emissions target by 2050 at the latest.

Officials advise that the meeting with Coca-Cola tomorrow provides a positive opportunity to welcome Coca-Cola's commitment to tackling climate change and pave the way for further discussion about how Coca-Cola is planning to achieve net-zero emissions within its own practices and supply- and distribution- chains, and how such leading practice can be shared amongst other major businesses. We recommend that the Cabinet Secretary conveys this message and invites Coca-Cola to engage with Scottish Government officials to take forward these discussions.

[Redacted]

EIR 202000011574 Email chain 11-21 January between Private Office, Policy and Communications

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 21 January 2019 16:12

To: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

[<CabSecECCLR@gov.scot>](mailto:CabSecECCLR@gov.scot)

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: Deposit Return Scheme - Ministerial Engagement Briefing - Visit to Coca-Cola East Kilbride - Wednesday 23 January 2019

[Redacted],

With thanks to [Redacted], please find attached a short briefing pack for the Cabinet Secretary's consideration in advance of Wednesday's visit to Coca-Cola in East Kilbride. Communications colleagues are currently working to finalise a suggested news release for issue following the Ms Cunningham's visit.

I hope this is helpful.

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

Sent: 16 January 2019 14:02

To: [Redacted]

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: diary request - DRS

Hi [Redacted],

Thanks for sending this through.

Ms Cunningham is content to set up a visit to Coke, she has availability next Wednesday 23rd from 10 – 11, could you see if that would work for them?

[Out of scope]

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 11 January 2019 12:21

To: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

[<CabSecECCLR@gov.scot>](mailto:CabSecECCLR@gov.scot)

Cc: [Redacted]

Subject: diary request - DRS

[Redacted],

We are keen to promote DRS in the coming months and have highlighted the following opportunities to do so. These have been agreed with [Redacted], policy and ZWS.

With this in mind, we would be grateful if we could secure diary time for two visits.

- Diary slot in January to visit a bottling plant (possibly Highland Spring or Coke) to talk about DRS, ahead of rUK, fight against plastic etc.
- [Out of Scope]

[Out of scope]

Thanks in anticipation,

[Redacted]

EIR 202000011574 – E-mail chain 21 January between Private Office and Policy

Thanks [Redacted] – [Redacted] and [Redacted] from comms will be there.

Regards,
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

Sent: 21 January 2019 16:00

To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Visit to Coca-cola Factory

Hi [Redacted]

Ms Cunningham is a size [redacted] for shoes.

I'll be accompanying on Wednesday. I'm a size [redacted] for shoes. Will comms be in attendance at this? I'm happy to take myself out of the component on the bottling line floor if so, as they can undertake this part and get photos. If they're not going to be in attendance, then I'll need to be on the bottling floor to grab some pictures.

Thanks.

[Redacted]

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [Redacted]

Sent: 21 January 2019 11:40

To: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform
<CabSecECCLR@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Visit to Coca-cola Factory

[Redacted] – just getting the briefing sorted. Coca Cola has asked who will be accompanying the CabSec.

The proposal will be for some photography on the bottling line. This will require some PPE – could you let me know what the CabSec's shoe size is, as well as anyone who might go with her (though they'd like to limit the number of people going onto the line).

Thanks,
[Redacted]

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

Sent: 18 January 2019 10:17

To: Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform; [Redacted]

Subject: Visit to Coca-cola Factory

When: 23 January 2019 10:00-11:00 (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London.

Where: Coca Cola Factory, 52 Milton Rd, Glasgow, G74 5DJ

All – Grateful if we could have the briefing by COP Monday 21st January, happy to discuss. [Redacted]

AIMING FOR NET ZERO: MANAGING RISK AND CREATING OPPORTUNITY

The transition to a climate-safe world has already begun. As progressive businesses committed to a sustainable, thriving economy, we want to accelerate this transition in Scotland, the UK and globally.

We are already shifting our practices, supply chains and even business models to be fit for the future. We want to build resilience and reduce risks.

Businesses like ours need the right enabling frameworks and clear direction from governments to support low carbon investment and innovation to end our contribution to climate change once and for all. Scotland, with its proud tradition of innovation, a wealth of natural resources and a track record on climate change, has an opportunity to rise to this challenge and provide the necessary leadership.

The Paris Agreement is a landmark for international action on climate change. It commits nations to limit global temperature rise to well below 2°C, with efforts to limit this to 1.5 °C. This means all nations must aim for net zero emissions around mid-century. Advanced economies like Scotland must do this by 2050 at the latest.

We hope the Scottish Parliament seizes the chance to renew its position as a climate leader in the Climate Change Bill and look forward to working with government, businesses and people in Scotland to build a climate-safe future for all.

