

# Northern Ireland Deposit Return Scheme the new way to recycle

A deposit return scheme for plastic bottles, steel and aluminium cans will be introduced in Northern Ireland in October 2025.

**1** Individuals will pay a small deposit when they purchase a drink in a single-use container (plastic bottle and steel/aluminium can).

**2** This deposit acts as an incentive for the individual to recycle, as it can be reclaimed once the empty container is returned to a designated point.

**4** This scheme is designed to improve recycling rates and reduce litter and plastic pollution. It aims to ensure that 90% fewer drinks containers are discarded as litter after three years of its launch<sup>1</sup>.

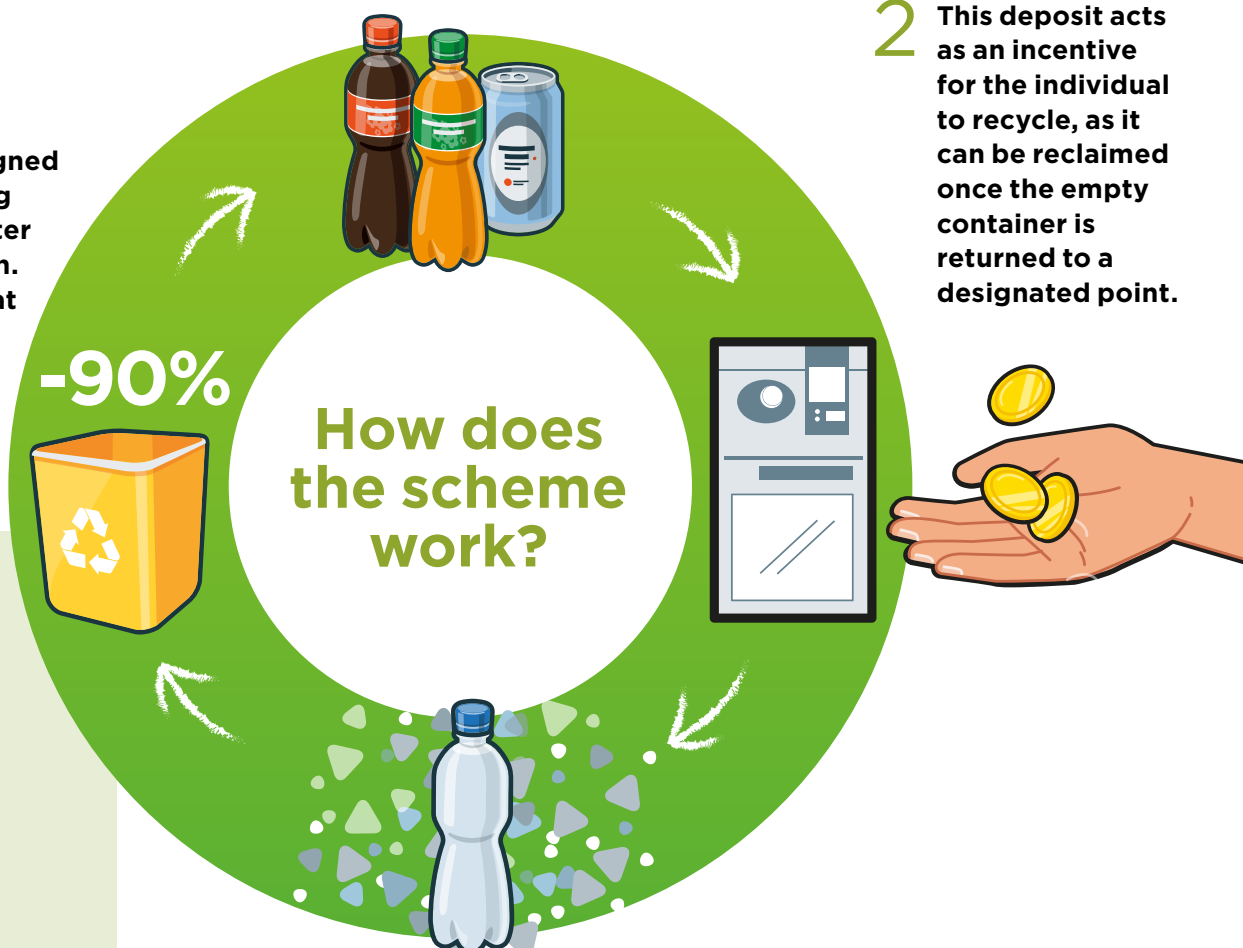
Northern Ireland goes through an estimated

**420m**

plastic drinks bottles and

**90m**

drinks cans every year, many of which are littered or condemned to landfill<sup>2</sup>.



**3** From here the containers are then collected and recycled, promoting a circular economy.

1 Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland Government response 20 January 2023.

2 DAERA 20 January 2023



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