Zero Waste Newsletter update August 2024

1 Recycling update including the delayed Deposit Return Scheme.

Government officials have been travelling across Europe to learn more about bottle return schemes currently operating there and aim to reproduce the most successful in the UK within three years. This is part of a wider range of initiatives to boost household recycling rates which have stagnated over the last decade. The Deposit Return Scheme is a key measure to promote recycling. From 2027, a fee of about 20p is expected to be added to the price of single use plastic, aluminium and steel drink containers across the UK. The money will be refunded when people put bottles in “reverse vending machines” in shops.

In a long overdue move, the government plans to standardise recycling across the UK and ensure people can recycle the same materials irrespective of where they live. This is likely to be three bins containing Dry recycling, Food waste and Non-recyclable rubbish.

2 Plastic Waste

Further information summarising changes in the approaches to plastic waste management which may be required if international legally required targets are agreed is contained in a Government Note. Link is here: Reducing plastic waste

3 How to mend, reuse and dispose of everyday items

– an interesting article the Guardian.

https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/article/2024/aug/13/what-do-i-do-with-my-broken-kettle-how-to-mend-reuse-or-dispose-of-11-everyday-items