**Sample letter to your MSP and MP on the Scottish Deposit Return Scheme**

Find out who your MSP is at: <http://www.parliament.scot/mspfinder/index.html>

Find out who your MP is at: <https://members.parliament.uk/>

Please let Barry.Watts@siba.co.uk know if you write and get a reply.

Title: Impact of Scottish DRS on small breweries

Dear [MSP or MP NAME]

I’m from a local independent brewery in your constituency which will be hit hard by the Scottish Government’s proposed Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) as it is currently designed.

Small breweries are an important part of our local communities. Our brewery cares about our country and its future and want Scotland to be a sustainable place to live and work. We also care about the environment and want to do our part to improve it.

However I am deeply concerned that the proposed DRS will have major implications for the future of my small business, that it will introduce unsustainable costs, reduce the choice and variety of independent craft beer in Scotland and create more uncertainty as we do not know if it will be compatible with the scheme proposed in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

I would appreciate it if you could urgently write to the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, Roseanna Cunningham MSP, to raise my concerns and request that she makes changes to the draft regulations. In particular it would help small brewers if the regulations could include:

1. **Proportionate costs for small producers**, with registration and producer fees, along with labelling, taking account of the size of my business. This should include de-minimis thresholds for small brewers based on the national Small Breweries’ Relief Scheme.
2. **Safeguards for small producers**, requiring the Scheme Administrator to demonstrate to the Scottish Government how it will give due regard to the requirements of small breweries and prevent it being dominated by Global producers.
3. **A fair implementation period**, giving my business enough time to plan ahead. Implementation should be delayed so there can be one scheme for the whole of the UK.
4. **Alternatives to takeback services**, where small online retailers, which includes small breweries across the country, do not have to provide a takeback service that few customers will use.

I understand that the regulations will soon be laid in the Scottish Parliament with no chance of amendment so I would be grateful if you could raise these concerns with the Scottish Government so that we can have a DRS that works for everyone in Scotland.

You are also very welcome to visit my brewery to see for yourself how DRS will impact our business.

Yours sincerely

NAME

BREWERY