

AVA NEWSLETTER

March 2024

AVA Live: On-the Road Wednesday 3rd April @ Scobie Mcintosh

Guide Bridge, Ashton Under Lyne, OL70HU



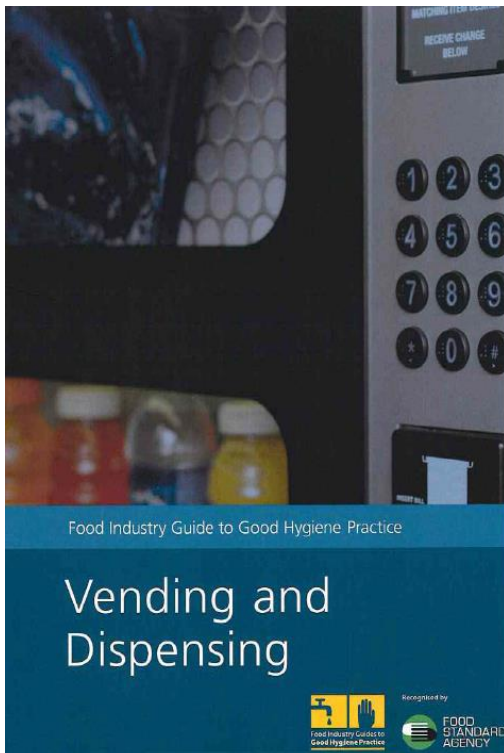
We're going back on tour! Join us for this year's AVA Live: On-the-Road, generously hosted by Scobie McIntosh. Industry experts will be on hand to discuss the following topics:

- **Bridging the gap:** As technology advances, vending operators are confronted with many challenges, including How to bridge the gap between legacy equipment and the ever-evolving demands of a technology-driven society? Join us as we discover innovative solutions and next steps to integrate the latest technology into all vending machinery including "How smart are 'smart machines'?" Over the past five years, Micro Markets have expanded by 500%, igniting an interest in smart fridges within the vending industry. But within this surge, a critical question arises: just how smart are these 'smart / connected' machines? Join our panel of industry experts to explore available options, the benefits of these machines and mapping out the trajectory of this dynamic market.

- In 2020, cash transactions accounted for 17% of all transactions in the UK, but this figure has steadily declined each year. Vending operators are left wondering, is cash dead? Are we on the brink of a cashless society? From the appeal of cash to the convenience of card payments, we'll explore the changing landscape and discuss the advantages of both options.

We have limited places available so if you are interested in reserving a spot, please email kennedy.warwick@the-ava.com or call 003300 883 267. This event is FREE to all AVA members and full details can be found here.

Vending Hygiene Guide Update



As you will have seen in the recent Technical Newsletter, The AVA is currently updating 'The Guide to Good Hygiene Practice: Vending & Dispense'. Originally written 20 years ago, it is currently being revised and updated. The timing and steps of the process are dictated by the Food Standards Agency. When finally registered this will be an official guide recognised by the Food Standards Agency and Food Standards Scotland and could be referenced in court, so it is important that it represents industry practices. This is your opportunity to review the contents – especially the 'How to Comply with the Law' and the 'Good Practice' sections.

If you have any feedback, suggested amendments, or corrections, please get back to us by the end of March.

The DRAFT document can be found in the members section of the AVA website [HERE](#)

We look forward to receiving your feedback.

FSA Healthy Vending Conference in Belfast



Davids, Llewellyn & Bamford, recently attended the [Food Standards Agency \(FSA\) conference in Belfast](#). It is evident that the vending industry plays a crucial role in promoting healthier choices among consumers. While guidelines from the FSA provide a framework for managing calorie and sugar intake, there is a need for a broader perspective beyond vending machines alone.

The industry faces the challenge of resolving strict regulations with practical considerations and consumer preferences. Especially with [recommended guidance from the FSA](#) for confectionery and sweet snacks to be a maximum of 250kCal or 200kCal each. Also the Northern Ireland Health & Social Care (HSC) restrictions of 100kCal per item. As these guidelines influence procurement policies across various sectors, collaboration emerges as a key strategy for adaptation. The FSA's declared aim is to see these nutritional profiles implemented across all public sites across the UK.

Moving forward, the focus should be on encouraging conversation among stakeholders, including brands, operators, and end-users, to ensure that vending solutions align with emerging standards while catering to diverse needs.

Ultimately, vending goes beyond mere snack dispensing; it's about delivering sustenance and satisfaction to consumers. By embracing partnership and innovation, the industry can transform vending spaces into hubs of health and wellness, prioritizing well-being alongside convenience.

For more information on this topic, please visit the members area [here](#).

Scotland 'single use disposable cup' levy to be imposed in 2025

As part of its recent "Scotland's Circular Economy and Waste Route Map to 2030 Consultation" the Scottish government has declared its intention as part of its objective to promote "responsible consumption, production and re-use" to introduce a charge on "single use disposable cups." The intent is to impose "a charge or ban on unnecessary products[which] provides a strong incentive to choose reusable alternatives, or to avoid certain products altogether."

This despite Defra's declared intent to introduce a UK wide mandatory cup takeback scheme. Scotland seem intent on double charging producers, operators and consumers. Also, despite the fact that a majority of table top and floor standing vending machines are free vend – there is no means of charging consumers at point of purchase.

Details of the consultation and the AVA response can be found in 'Lobbying' sections of the members area [HERE](#).



New Recycling Law for Wales

A new law comes into effect in Wales from 6th April 2024. It means all workplaces such as businesses, public sector and charities will need to separate their recyclable materials in the same way households already do.

Workplaces will need to separate the materials listed below for recycling. Workplaces will also need to arrange for the waste to be collected separately from other waste.

- paper and card
- glass
- metal, plastic, and cartons and other similar packaging (for example coffee cups)
- food – only for premises that produce more than 5kg of food waste a week
- unsold small waste electrical and electronic equipment (sWEEE)
- unsold textiles

All workplaces in Wales will be required to follow the new law. The business, public body or third sector organisation may own the premises, they may lease or rent it, or temporarily occupy it. It is the occupiers of a workplace who must ensure recycling is separated for collection. If multiple workplaces are in a shared location, each individual organisation is responsible but may need to agree with the landlord or facilities manager if a central recycling system is needed.

For Vending Operators with premises and clients in Wales there are two main points:

- This **does not** make you responsible for collection and recycling of paper or plastic coffee cups. The responsibility is with your clients to ensure that they are collected and processed by their existing waste contractor in the correct way.
- Waste processed through your depot or offices will have to be segregated as above.

Full details can be found here: <https://www.gov.wales/changes-workplace-recycling-guidance-workplaces#127756>

The AVA appoints Kennedy Warwick as Communications & Events Executive

The Automatic Vending Association is pleased to introduce their newly appointed Communications and Events Executive, Kennedy Warwick. Some of you may recognise her as Kennedy Procter however, following her recent marriage, she now formally goes by Mrs Kennedy Warwick.



Kennedy brings a wealth of experience, having previously served as the AVA's full-time Marketing & Communications Executive from 2018 to 2021. While her role has evolved to part-time, Kennedy's dedication remains steadfast as she now oversees both internal and external communications, including the eagerly awaited monthly newsletter, social media channels, and PR initiatives. Additionally, she will be orchestrating the various events

hosted by the AVA throughout the year, albeit her presence may not always be feasible as her new position is predominantly office-based – a setting she embraces wholeheartedly.

Kennedy says: “Returning to the AVA and the Vending Industry is a privilege and I look forward to reconnecting with familiar faces while forging new relationships.”

If you wish to get in touch with Kennedy, feel free to reach out via email at kennedy.warwick@the-ava.com.

David Llewellyn, Chief Executive at the AVA, commented: “It’s great to have Kennedy back with us. With two years of prior experience at the AVA, she brings valuable expertise to her current role as a part-time Communications and Event Executive”.

VENDEX Midlands’24 Review

What a busy and dynamic VENDEX this week. Apparently one of the largest number of pre-registered attendees. It certainly felt like that – with a wide variety of attendees: Operators, Facilities & Site managers, and new Brands wanting to find out more about the vending market. It was also nice to see a number of younger attendees looking to develop and grow their fledgling vending businesses too.



As always the AVA stand was kept busy throughout the day, with visitors wanting information on current legislation and guidance, details on AVA training and – of course – to find out about membership.



We're in the news! Check out what we have been up to below:

David Llewellyn assesses the prospects of the Vending Industry in public spaces, in light of the latest legislation: <https://governmentbusiness.co.uk/features/blending-vending-public-spaces>

The AVA gave their expertise to comment on why PFAS are important to vending: <https://vendinginternational-online.com/pfas-and-why-they-matter-to-vending/>

<https://vendinginternational-online.com/the-ava-appoints-kennedy-warwick-as-communications-events-executive/>

<https://www.planet-vending.com/kennedy-is-back-at-the-ava/>



The graphic features a blue background with the text 'UPCOMING EVENTS APRIL' at the top. Below this, three white rounded rectangular boxes are stacked vertically. Each box contains a day of the week in red, a large black number representing the date, and the event name in black text.

Day	Date	Event
Wednesday	3	AVA Live: On-the-Road @ Scobie McIntosh
Thursday	11	The London Coffee Festival
Tuesday	23	British Coffee Association Education Seminar

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ALL THE AVA AND INDUSTRY EVENTS - CHECK FOR UPDATES AND NEW ADDITIONS IN OUR [CALENDAR](#)

WHO? WHAT? WHERE?

Have you recognised anyone in these pictures? Can you decipher their activities or pinpoint their locations? During our office clean-up this week, we stumbled upon a treasure trove of nostalgic photos, sparking the idea for a new newsletter feature - **WHO? WHAT? WHERE?** Each week, we'll unveil an intriguing vintage photo on social media. Then, at the end of each month, we'll compile these snapshots into our newsletter, inviting you to unravel the mysteries of who these individuals are, what they're up to, and where they might be. If you crack the code, we're eager to hear from you! Reach out to Kennedy at kennedy.warwick@the-ava.com with your revelations!



WHO?
WHAT?
WHERE?



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Our mailing address is:
info@the-ava.com

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