



*automatic
vending
association*

AVA Newsletter: 31st March, 2021

Defra: Deposit Return Scheme & Extended Producer Responsibility consultations launched



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

The long-expected consultations on DRS and EPR were published last week - all 597 pages of them! There is such a lot to unpick, but what we can be sure of is that there will be an impact on the UK Vending & Unattended Retailing industry.

There are some positive headlines:

- The DRS proposals, for implementation in 2024, suggest that where vending is the only source of 'in scope drinks containers', then there will be no need for a deposit return mechanism to be in place. It would seem that in the virtual meetings the AVA held with Defra, the Civil Servants were listening!
- The DRS consultation also outlines the issues if 'disposable single use cups' were to be included as part of a DRS scheme. Proposing that a compulsory returns scheme outlined in the EPR consultation would be more effective.

Neither of these outcomes are guaranteed. There are many other contentious and potentially costly points within these documents. Which is why the AVA Environment Committee, chaired by Adrian Pratt and aided by Mike Saltmarsh has begun compiling our responses to these consultations.

BUT - the first consultations drew over 200,000 'copy and paste' responses from the general public calling for an "all-in" - i.e. all materials, all sizes, scheme. Versus under 2,000 submissions from Industry. It used to be about content, but submission numbers now count just as much.

SO - in around eight weeks time, we will circulate the AVA responses to all members. You should then add your own details, plus any additional points you may wish to make and make your own submission. As many individual responses as you can.

The aim of this legislation is to improve material re-use, encourage recycling and help reduce littering - which the AVA supports wholeheartedly. But it must be achieved within a fair and financially equitable

structure - which is why we must all take action.

Watch out for our regular updates, emails and Newsletters.

Full details of the consultations can be found on the Defra website:

- [Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme in England, Wales and Northern Ireland](#)
- [Extended Producer Responsibility for Packaging](#)

Upcoming Vending Events:



Have you registered?

'Virtual Vendex' will take place over three days from April 20 -23 from 10:00am until 6:00pm. You will be able to see all the latest products and services from existing and new suppliers in a virtual exhibition booth. Source new products, product brochures, marketing material and access wider markets for new business opportunities. The virtual stands will offer access to company representatives via live chat, new launch videos, product information and demonstrations, network with industry colleagues and suppliers and revisit product demonstrations and videos anytime during the 3-day event. Virtual Vendex offers a time-efficient format to keep in touch with the industry and have confidential discussions with suppliers from the comfort of your own seat.

Go to www.virtualvendex.com and register to attend. It is free and there will be live support available to assist you



The Vendies 2021: Virtually the same

The organisers of The Vendies 2021 are delighted to invite the entire industry to join in on Thursday 22 April for an incredible celebration of excellence.

Now more than ever, it is vital that the hard work of operators and suppliers in the vending market – and the individuals at the heart of these companies – is recognised and celebrated. For the first time in its history, the prestigious Vendies ceremony will take place on a virtual platform – enabling even more to be a part of this prestigious industry event. The free-to-attend event will kick off at 4:00pm with an interactive social wall, which you can be a part of by sharing your messages of celebration and congratulations on Twitter using #TheVendies. The awards presentation will commence at 4:30pm, revealing the amazing companies, products and people that have been selected as winners by both an independent judging panel and the industry itself.

To find out more about the virtual ceremony or to tune in on the day, visit www.thevendies.co.uk



THE VENDING AND COFFEE SOLUTIONS HUB on 27 & 28 May is a unique virtual EVA platform

where you will be able to meet the major European & Vending Coffee Services players.

Virtual Auditorium: *With regular conferences/webinars, Q&A sessions and speaking opportunities.* With sponsors innovations and experts' speeches, live Q&As including *Future of Cash, Future of Digital Payment, Packaging, New Consumer Behaviours, New Business for Vending, Coffee Trends, Sustainable Practices in the industry.*

An Exhibition Hall: Meet the major industry players during our launch days in the exhibition hall & discover the latest industry innovations, generate leads & new prospects. You will be able to set-up **Chat Slot Appointments** with our exhibitors a few days before our launch in May OR organise **Chat or Video Calls with them during the event.**

Access to the platform & to the events will be COMPLETELY FREE; you will only need to register on the platform landing page. You will also be able to login again throughout the year and visit the exhibitors at any time after the launch dates.

Registrations will open on 27/04.



Engineers Electrical Safety Courses

Next Course: 5th May, 2021

The AVA recently successfully held its very first online version of the Engineers' Training Programme. The course went well, and it received very positive feedback from attendees.

We will be hosting a series of online Part 1 courses throughout 2021.

For any business which currently has employees on furlough, don't forget that these members of the team are still able to take part in the training. For more detail on the course, you can head to the member's area of the website:

[AVA Members Training - Engineers Training Programme](#)

DIARY DATES

For details of industry events and news, keep up to date by regularly checking the [AVA Industry Events Calendar](#)
If you are planning (or re-planning) an event, let us know.



Become an AVA ISO accredited member

Many members take advantage of the AVA Quality Accreditation. To provide reassurance and a guarantee of quality service to their clients.

What many don't know, is that we can also offer ISO accreditation if your clients would prefer this. Both ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015. This involves a slightly longer annual audit process in the same way as Lloyds, Isoquar, BSI etc. But at a much better cost!

However, by using AVA as your ISO auditor members have the distinct advantage of your audit being conducted by someone who understands the vending industry and can inspect machines on site.

To find out more get in touch with Steve Collins: Steve.Collins@the-ava.com

Workplace testing programme expands to offer free rapid home testing

In the next major push for the Government's workplace testing programme, employers will now be able to offer their employees free, rapid and regular testing that can be taken at home.



From 6 April, the workplace testing programme will supply home test kits to companies with over 10 workers where it is not possible to set up testing on-site, due to a lack of space or because companies operate across multiple sites.

Businesses across the country will be eligible to order the home test kits online to distribute to their employees. These self-test kits will be picked up by staff from their employer with clear instructions about how to take the test. Staff will then complete the home test in the normal way, before reporting their results to the NHS using the provided gov.uk address. Businesses must register interest by 12 April to access free tests.

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