

**From:** Yvette Cooper MP <[coopery@parliament.uk](mailto:coopery@parliament.uk)>

**Sent:** 10 March 2021 15:38

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** (Case Ref: YC55101)

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached a letter for Rebecca Row MP.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

**Yvette Cooper**  
Member of Parliament for Normanton, Pontefract and Castleford



**HOUSE OF COMMONS**  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

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Rebecca Pow MP  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Department  
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House  
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Our Ref: JM/YC55101  
Please quote this reference on your reply.  
10 March 2021

Dear Rebecca,  
RE: Impact of the proposed Deposit Return Scheme on the glass industry

As an MP with a significant glass manufacturing industry in my constituency, I am writing to raise the serious concerns local glass manufacturers have raised regarding the potential impact of including glass within the proposed Deposit Return Scheme (DRS). I would be grateful if you would be willing to meet with me and other MPs representing constituencies with glass manufacturing industries to discuss these issues.

Local manufacturers have informed me that they believe including glass within the proposed DRS could have a significant impact on the industry. As you will be aware, two thirds of the UK's glass is already recycled and a significant number of manufacturing jobs depend on this vital industry. Many of these jobs are concentrated around Knottingley in my constituency and are immensely important to our local economy.

The concerns manufactures have raised with me include:

- The observed decrease in glass recycling rates in some countries where a DRS has previously been implemented;
- The potential increase in plastic use as an unintended consequence of including glass in a DRS;
- A reduction in the quality of recycled glass as a result of using a DRS rather than kerbside recycling which makes it harder for glass manufacturers to use the recycled glass and potentially reduces the level of recycled glass used in the manufacturing process;
- The need for an impact assessment on manufacturing businesses within the glass industry;
- The need for an equality impact assessment to ensure the proposed scheme will not unfairly penalise lower income groups or people who have mobility issues.

Glass manufacturers in my constituency continue to work extremely hard to increase recycling and to improve the environmental sustainability of our food and drinks industry. But I am very concerned by all the points they have raised about the potential unintended consequences of including glass within a DRS.

Please could you also let me know what assessment you have done on all these points and what your next steps and timetables are likely to be concerning a DRS.

Please could you let me know if you would be able to meet to discuss this?

Thank you for looking into this matter – I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Yvette Cooper MP