



Editable press release for Deposit Return Activity A10

Here is a fictional story, with some ideas on what you could include:

DEPOSIT RETURN: SCHOOL TO DELIVER SCULPTURE TO LOCAL MSP

*BRIGADOON HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA RELEASE

Under embargo for 00.01 29 August 2020

Students from Brigadoon High School will next week deliver a ten foot sculpture made from plastic drinks bottles to the office of their local MSP, Charlie Madeup. The bottles were collected by students in S4 and S5 as part of a project to look at recycling, waste and litter, and in particular to look at the impacts of a deposit return system for Scotland.

The Scottish Government has committed to introduce a deposit return system in July 2022, and a refundable deposit of 20p will be applied to drinks cans and drinks bottles made from either glass or PET plastic (typically the clear plastic used for soft drinks). This approach has seen return rates of over 90% in other countries, including most of the Scandinavian and Baltic countries.

Alex Fictional, one of the students involved in the project, said:

"Anyone who lives around here knows there's a big litter problem in the streets and parks, and we've had enough of it. We know from other countries that deposits make a huge difference, and we want to see the same benefits here."

"This sculpture of a dolphin, made out of plastic drinks bottles, symbolises the problem of ocean plastics for us. Some of the bottles littered around Brigadoon will get into the river and out to sea, and cause enormous problems for our wildlife. But it's not just deposits: we want to know what the government is going to do about other sorts of litter too!"

Ali Nonexistent, a teacher at Brigadoon High School, said:

"I'm so proud of the young people: they've combined their passion for their community with their creativity and a desire to have their voices heard. I am also very grateful to Charlie Madeup for their time and for agreeing to meet our students. It will hopefully be a very interesting discussion, and you never know, maybe one of these very young people will be a future MSP for Brigadoon?"

Director of The Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland, said: *"As the charity which led the campaign for a deposit return system for drinks containers in Scotland, we were delighted to hear of the great work done by the students at Brigadoon High. We know that deposit return will cut litter in our countryside and towns, boost recycling rates, help tackle the climate emergency and create jobs. So it's really good to see young people so enthusiastic about this positive change which is coming up soon, and also engaging with their local politicians with ideas as to what the Scottish Government and industry could do next to make it easier to reduce, re-use and recycle."*

Your contact details - email and phone

For more about Brigadoon High School please visit www.brigadoonhigh.org

For more about APRS please visit www.aprs.scot

For more about our deposit return campaign please visit www.haveyougotthebottle.org.uk

Photographers wishing to attend should make contact in advance. Pictures will be made available afterwards.

**Please note, Brigadoon High School is a fictional school for the purpose of this exercise*