



British Glass

End of Year Review  
2022 — 2023

# Welcome from CEO Dave Dalton



Dave Dalton, British Glass CEO

Another tumultuous year has passed us by with our great industry yet again tackling challenges both foreseen and entirely unexpected such is the nature of the last few years.

While the cost of energy and cost of living crisis has dominated much of the past 12 months, there has been much to be positive about including the pay off to our campaigning for glass' exclusion from the English and Northern Irish DRS and the culmination of the International Year of Glass.

The volatility of energy prices continued throughout our membership year and while the effects have been felt differently across all of the companies within our membership, our continued engagement with the UK government through the Energy Intensive Users Group (EIUG) saw favourable measures implemented for energy intensive users. The Energy Bill Relief Scheme, which shouldered much of the burden by capping electricity and gas prices, and its successor the Energy Bill Discount Scheme have cushioned the significant blow felt across our industry and allowed us to weather the storm while also strengthening our relationships with key players in government.

At the end of January, it was a great delight to see the news from DEFRA that glass will be excluded from the upcoming Deposit Return Scheme in England and Northern Ireland. The announcement was the culmination of three years of campaigning to ensure that

glass recycling in the UK remains at the kerbside in an improved and consistent collection scheme dovetailed with Extended Producer Responsibility. It is imperative that manufacturers across the country remain able to have access to a consistent and good quality supply of cullet and we hope that the progress made this year will do just that. While it was disappointing to see Wales press ahead with glass' inclusion, we remain hopeful of progress being made in Scotland now the new First Minister has delayed the scheme until March 2024 and hope that we will see a united collections system for glass across the UK.

Finally, the International Year of Glass concluded with celebrations during the Lord Mayor's parade and our own event at the Terrace Pavilion in the House of Commons. The year and the events that marked it were a wonderful opportunity to celebrate everything that makes our industry unique, innovative and truly vital to the wider world.

We look forward to making further progress on the journey to net zero throughout this new membership year and also assisting our members across the areas featured in this end of year review. I look forward to seeing what the future brings and wish you all the best for the upcoming membership year.



# Meet the team



**Dr Nick Kirk**  
Technical Director



**Jenni Richards**  
Federation Manager



**Paul Percy**  
Senior EHS Adviser



**Mark Pudner**  
Senior Technical Adviser



**Theresa Green**  
Information Officer



**Phillip Fenton**  
Lead Packaging and  
Recycling Adviser



**Holly Shackford**  
EHS Adviser



**Meg Grattidge**  
Events and Training  
Coordinator



**Victoria Adams**  
Communications  
Manager



**Tom Armes**  
Content Marketing Lead



**Gareth Jones**  
Operations and  
Commercial Director



**Callum Hawksworth**  
Administrative Assistant

# Value statements

## Section One - Membership subscription

Consultations responded to on your behalf	<b>15</b>
One-to-one consultations with members	<b>167</b>
Representation of your company's interests at stakeholder/gov forums	<b>414</b>
Enquiries to our information line	<b>44</b>
Press coverage - number of cuttings	<b>644</b>
Press coverage - estimated reach	<b>574,976,297</b>
Press coverage - estimated value	<b>£3,0157,03</b>

## Section Two - Environmental policy reliefs

*Estimated value of current policy reliefs per annum for UK glass manufacturing members*

Total policy reliefs	<b>£152,567,841</b>
Total reliefs for last year	<b>£116,918,251</b>

Also delivered energy costs relief schemes which have helped members with volatile energy prices

EBRS – 1 October 2022 – 31 March 2023

EBDS – 1 April 2023 – 31st March 2024

Indirect costs compensation for ETS/CPF for glass fibre manufacturers

# Glass Focus 2022

Companies from across the glass supply chain gathered at Sefton Park Palm House on 17 November to celebrate the Glass Focus Awards 2022 and the milestones of the previous 12 months with Pilkington NSG crowned Company of the Year for the first time.

The flat glass manufacturers also won the Health and safety action award while Saint-Gobain Glass UK and Ardagh Glass Packaging were both double winners on the night. The former took home the Design of the year – flat glass and Strengthening business through people awards with the latter awarded the Sustainable practice and Marketing impact categories.

Other winners included Beatson Clark's Dana Godfrey winning the Rising Star award, Encirc securing the Innovative solution prize and Stoelzle Flacconage's One Gin coming out on top in the Design of the year – container award.



Glass Focus  
Awards 2022



British Glass

The full list of winners from the Glass Focus Awards 2022 are:

**Design of the year – container** (sponsored by Packaging Innovations)

**One Gin by Stoelzle Flacconage Ltd**

**Design of the year – flat** (sponsored by Glass International)

**The Spark by Saint-Gobain Glass UK**

**Innovative solution** (sponsored by Glass Technology Services)

**Cooling system improvements by Encirc**

**Health and safety action** (sponsored by Grayling)

**Vehicle and pedestrian GAP analysis tool by Pilkington NSG**

**Strengthening business through people** (sponsored by Glass Worldwide)

**Complex cold repair by Saint-Gobain Glass UK**

**Rising star** (sponsored by the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers)

**Dana Godfrey at Beatson Clark**

**Marketing impact** (sponsored by awesome.)

**The Glass making process by Ardagh Glass Packaging**

**Sustainable practice** (sponsored by Glass Futures)

**Water saving initiative by Ardagh Glass Packaging**

**British Glass company of the year**

**Pilkington NSG**

# Health & safety overview / HR forum

## Health & safety overview

Health and safety is at the core of everything we do, and the health and safety forward scheme facilitates a common goal of health and safety improvement across the glass sector. Those participating in the scheme submit annual data, which is presented to the committee as sector statistics and a report is produced for each participant. The statistics also allow the health and safety committee to design an annual action plan targeted at the help members need most.

British Glass represents the industry at the HSE's CHARGE Group, where we can feed back activities, address wider mineral industry issues, share industry statistics, and raise sector concerns for discussion.

This year British Glass has provided a forum for discussion on best practice, such as producing a PPE review document for the sector to share their positive and negative feedback of various products. We have also continued to support the implementation of new requirements for chemical regulation to transition from EU REACH to UK REACH to ensure the continued supply of chemicals. We have combined the occupational health working group into the main H&S committee and increased the frequency of the meeting to three per year. Occupational health is a key topic for the sector, and this will continue within the H&S committee.

The 2022 data collection is nearly complete, with slips, trips and falls continuing as the top RIDDOR accident for 2020, 2021 and 2022 followed by contact with moving machinery and in joint third is struck by moving, including falling/flying objects and handling glass (cuts).

## HR Forum

This year the HR forum and Future Forum have continued to focus on the talent attraction campaign, to attract young people to careers in the glass industry, and the industry diversity report.

The talent attraction campaign consists of videos featuring young people in a range of roles across our membership, from design and manufacturing to technical services and glass artistry. British Glass and the industry have created six successful videos so far, these are available to view on the British Glass careers in the glass industry webpage alongside information on apprenticeships and signposts to members recruitment sites.

The diversity report looked at gender balance, gender pay gap, age and ethnicity. Whilst our industry has a long way to go to be more representative, the report showed some positive progress over the last three years. We plan to collect data for 2022 and update the report.



# Business & trade / Information services

## Business & trade

It's over two years since the UK left the EU customs union and we are now starting to get a much clearer picture of the impact on UK industry. Overall glass imports continue to rise after a small dip in 2020/2021 which was caused by covid and new trading rules coming into force just days before the end of the transition period. The majority of import growth is from non-EU countries. Exports have remained relatively stable throughout both the EU and the rest of the world.

As we analyse more of the trade data available, our understanding of UK glass trading conditions is growing, and we are working on a suite of UK glass sector and subsector trade reports which will highlight issues as they arise. The top line figures will be available on our website with a greater level of analysis available for members.

The UK government's trade defence arm, the Trade Remedy Authority, has largely completed the transition reviews, deciding whether or not to retain EU trade measures. This included a final decision to retain anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties on continuous filament glass fibre from China, but to narrow the scope to exclude the woven products. This was a great outcome for UK manufacture of continuous filament glass fibre, and British Glass who supported their retention.

Recently announced reforms to the Trade Remedies framework should be positive, but there is also a risk to UK manufacturers if they are not implemented appropriately in primary and secondary legislation over the next year or so. Additional trade measure options will also be introduced to tackle any surge of imports that result from a free trade agreement. British Glass will follow these changes closely and engage in the consultation processes.

At British Glass we have been highlighting our concerns to policy makers and supporting members with their specific issues. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to discuss this further.

## Information services

The British Glass library is the UK's only dedicated library on glass and glass technology. Our publications, reports and trade journals cover over a century of research in the field of glass science and technology – the era of glassy materials has proven to be one of the key factors of modern society and without this research, life as we know it today would not exist. British Glass members can access all this information free of charge. Our library is open to members most days, and even if you can't visit you can access our digital library remotely, search the index by keyword, and put in a request. A complete A-Z on glass is at your fingertips.

Each year our information services answer hundreds of enquiries from companies and individuals wanting specific glass products, services, or materials. We find out exactly what is required and refer them to the most appropriate member to suit their needs. Noticeably this year, requests for more bespoke glass bottles with customised decoration has increased with customers all over the world learning more about the benefits of using glass. Over the last year the team has answered around 250 direct requests from members and around 700+ from individuals or companies looking for suppliers.

Our new online library hub, which highlights over 35,000 dedicated glass abstracts, is available to British Glass members free of charge and can be found on the British Glass website. As well as the online collections, members can also make use of our vast array of British, EU, and international standards – we are happy to assist should you have any enquiry regarding sourcing a standard or interpretation.

Visit the British Glass online library here:

[www.britglass.org.uk/knowledge-base/digital-library-and-information-services](http://www.britglass.org.uk/knowledge-base/digital-library-and-information-services)

# Energy crisis

Energy costs have been extremely volatile since the end of 2021 and British Glass has continued to seek support for the additional cost burden faced by members. After a year of continued engagement with UK government ministers and MPs, the government introduced the Energy Bill Relief Scheme (EBRS) for all non-domestic businesses in October 2022, capping both electricity and gas prices until the end of March 2023. This policy intervention helped our members to reduce their energy costs in circumstances where costs were more than the government supported price of £211 per MWh for electricity and £75 per MWh for gas. We have also been successful in securing the Energy Bill Discount Scheme (EBDS), which replaced the EBRS on the 1 April 2023 until 31 March 2024 and has a more favourable discount for the glass manufacturing sector than other non-domestic industries.

Energy prices have, since the turn of the year, dropped significantly which is positive but there is still potential for further volatility next winter therefore, we hope that the EBDS will help our members to reduce energy costs from April 2023 to March 2024.

Other positive news is that Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (formally BEIS) has committed to:

- Increasing the renewables exemption from 85% to 100% which will reduce members' electricity costs. This is expected in April 2024.
- Consult on the capacity market and network charges to be implemented by April 2025.

It is estimated that these reforms to renewables exemption, capacity market and network charging could reduce electricity costs by £20 per MWh. This would be positive and potentially could help investment decisions in electrification or oxy-fuel technology. These reforms could potentially reduce our large manufacturing member's electricity costs by £20 million per annum from 2025.

Undoubtedly, the work that British Glass has done over the last 12 months has helped to reduce the burden of the energy crisis on our members. We will continue to engage with the government to ensure that the UK glass industry can continue to be competitive and eligible for future support on capacity and network charging reforms.



Department for Business and Trade visit Ardagh on 22 February 2023



Department for Business and Trade visit Ardagh on 22 February 2023





# Environment

In another busy year we continued to work on a wide range of topics as the government develops UK environmental policy following the EU exit. Carrying on from the publication of our net zero strategy we have been engaging with the various departments within the newly formed Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) to communicate the sectors requirements for decarbonisation. It is encouraging to see the results published from many UK and EU projects on fuel switching, particularly hydrogen, and glass manufacturers starting to publish ambitious carbon reduction targets for 2030 and commitments to net zero. To help share our members' decarbonisation goals and positive steps taken, we were involved in the IOM3 'material change' project and our videos were well received.

We responded to a consultation on amendments to the UK Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and aligning the cap to net zero cap to 2030. The proposal will reduce the number of allowances on the market as well as potentially the number of free allowances available to our sector. We raised concerns that in the short term, the policies and infrastructure are not in place to allow the sector to reduce its emissions in line with this reduction. The consultation response is expected soon together with a further consultation on the allocation of free allowances for 2026 – 2030.

We continue to push for the UK to link to the EU ETS to give UK manufacturers access to a larger market with more liquidity and the

added advantage of being excluded from the planned EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). Although glass sectors are not initially covered by the EU CBAM, all ETS sectors are set to be included by 2030. We are expecting a UK consultation on carbon leakage mitigation measures which will include proposals for a UK CBAM and carbon labelling of products.

The long-awaited response to the consultation on setting air emissions limits associated with best available techniques (BAT) for control of emissions was published, with the UK adopting a similar approach to the EU system to determine BAT. The glass sector is not in the first two tranches of sectors to be considered under the new regime. However, with delays to the BAT process in the EU we may see permit limits for the glass sector reviewed in the UK first.

The Retained EU Law Bill is expected to be passed later this year which has the power to revoke certain retained EU Law. We will be closely monitoring environmental legislation which impacts our sector to assess the impact of any changes and intervene where necessary.

Consultations continue to develop and extend the UK climate change agreements after targets came to an end in 2022. The proposed new scheme will continue with an additional target period to end in 2024. We will push for realistic energy efficiency targets and minimum administrative burden.

# Friends of glass

It was another busy year for our Friends of Glass activities with brands, consumers and a number of different audiences targeted on the benefits of glass packaging and the importance of recycling.

As part of our ongoing work, we teamed up with Mr Motivator at the start of 2023 for the Microplastics Workout to highlight the dangers of microplastics and the ease at which they can enter our diet and homes. The 'workout' video produced with Mr Motivator featured five tips to eliminating microplastics from around our homes including air drying clothes, regular hoovering and dusting, microwaving food not in plastic and choosing glass. Launching with a radio day also featuring CEO Dave Dalton and Professor Jane Rotchell, the story was covered across national and regional radio, with Heart Radio syndicating the interview across all of their regional stations and 967 hits in total. An influencer campaign with sustainability influencers just\_eilidh, simply sustainable living, Marta Canga and my plastic free home followed on from the initial launch. Overall the partnerships reached 68,096 instagram accounts with 70,600 video views as well as 13,220 story impressions and 371 engagements. The whole campaign had an engagement of 7.2% which is more than double the industry standard.



Glass' Greatest Hits were also found in 2022 with an independent judging panel, comprised of Federation Manager Jenni Richards, Packaging News' Waqas Qureshi, and environmental consultant Iain Ferguson, choosing their most iconic piece of glass packaging alongside a public vote conducted with sustainability blogger My Plastic Free Home. After putting together a shortlist of ten pieces of glass packaging, including the iconic coca cola bottle, Bombay Sapphire, the Gu jar and the Heinz tomato ketchup bottle, the

judges chose the humble milk bottle as their favourite while followers of My Plastic Free Home chose the Bonne Maman jam jar as their number one. The campaign was featured in Packaging News, Bonne Maman's website and during the Parliamentary event at the House of Commons.

Following on from another successful year, Glass Guardians was renewed for its fifth year. The introduction of an interactive online experiment proved to be a great success achieving double its target with 1,908 sessions from 1,506 users and 901 registrations reaching 95,157 pupils in total. Building on this success has already begun with the next year of the campaign already performing over its target with 225 teacher registrations and 929 interactive session plays from 715 users.

Over the next year campaigns will continue with proactive press office campaigns throughout 2023 following on from the Microplastic Workout campaign. Campaigns on the health benefits of glass and a video series on the recycling process and the circularity of glass packaging are all planned for the rest of the year to continue showing why glass is the best packaging material for consumers and brands.

# Recycling committee

## Deposit return scheme

After more than three years of campaigning in Westminster, we were absolutely delighted by the news that glass will be excluded from the upcoming (DRS) in England and Northern Ireland. Instead, glass will be recycled as part of an improved, consistent kerbside collection within a world-leading system of Extended Producer Responsibility.

However, British Glass was disappointed by the decision by the Welsh Government to include glass in its scheme, creating major concerns about how the schemes will operate and interact across the UK. Similar issues are making headlines in Scotland with reports that the UK Internal Markets Act could ultimately block the Scottish scheme and ensure any future scheme aligns across the UK on timings and material scope.

We remain hopeful and continue to campaign for glass to remain at the kerbside across the UK. Over the last year our campaigning has taken us to the Scottish Parliament for one-to-ones and roundtables with MSPs, to Parliament, to Birmingham for the Conservative Conference and Liverpool for the Labour conference. The British Glass DRS arguments have featured in hundreds of articles and in numerous UK and Scottish Parliamentary debates. We have also worked closely with our allies across the supply chain to get our voice heard, including the BBPA, SWA, SIBA, the BRC, UK Hospitality, the WSTA, BSDA and more.

## General recycling

The upcoming DRS is not the only priority for container recycling. The last year has seen the Recycling committee focus on multiple workstreams.

Whilst we await the consistency of collections consultation response (now two years overdue), the reforms on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) have moved into the implementation phase. Although there is still much uncertainty and work to be done, including on modulated fees based on recyclability, the data reporting requirements are now law and British Glass have supported container members to meet these requirements.

The glass supply chain has faced another year of volatility and high PRN prices. With increasing prices we have seen a growing quantity of glass exported despite being highly demanded by UK industry. With the support of members we have made representations to DEFRA and the Environment Agency, calling for urgent action to support the UK circular economy for glass. We are exploring how we can increase pressure and secure change on this front.

Our Close the glass loop industry led target to achieve a 90% collected for recycling rate by 2030 took us to Liverpool to in person discuss a plan to produce a roadmap setting out how we achieve this ambitious but critical goal. In 2023 we will host our third glass recycling summit and use the opportunity to encourage the whole supply chain to contribute to the development of our roadmap.



# Maximising membership value

At British Glass, membership value is one of our top priorities as we aim to effectively represent the sector's interests through communication with government and other relevant stakeholders. Over the last year British Glass has put significant effort into the collation of glass industry statistical data to support member positions and inform relevant stakeholders. The first publication of the British Glass recycling data report titled, UK glass packaging recycling statistics, aimed to highlight UK glass recycling statistics while simultaneously underlining the environmental benefits of glass. The report will be reissued annually for members with the most up to date statistics available. British Glass has also worked extensively on collating trade statistics and supporting members following the UK's departure from the EU. A trade data report will also be released shortly to members, aiming to inform the industry and relevant stakeholders on glass industry trade going in and out of the UK.

Communication with members across the full supply chain has been prioritised with British Glass now aiming to speak with every member at least every six months to communicate our membership offerings and support all members on any potential issues or opportunities. British Glass aims to maintain constant communication with members throughout the year to provide the highest level of value possible. Common methods for sharing our messages include through health & safety news, headlines, member news, social media sharing, and many more. For any queries regarding communications at British Glass, please contact [prcomms@britglass.co.uk](mailto:prcomms@britglass.co.uk).

Over the last year British Glass has offered numerous events and training opportunities to help members develop. This includes member only events, the annual Glass Focus event in November 2022, networking events, and glass specific training. In February 2023, British Glass hosted a Parliamentary reception attended by members and MPs, to celebrate



the success of the UK glass industry by commemorating the International Year of Glass. You can find further information of British Glass events and training [here](#).

Value at British Glass is also presented through the availability of technical expertise and guidance. Areas of expertise and guidance include continuous work towards energy efficiency and decarbonisation, recycling and waste, energy costs, health and safety forward scheme, and emissions regulations. British Glass have taken a lead role in governments work on decarbonisation, working closely with regulators and other industry bodies to ensure that what is required of the glass industry is practical, proportionate, and based on sound evidence. British Glass works hard with its members to increase glass recycling rates and to deliver a truly circular economy.

# Technical committee / Flat glass

## Technical committee

This autumn British Glass hosted technical experts from UK and EU manufacturers for the Cetie, Glass Plenary meeting in Sheffield. This annual meeting allows the glass working groups within Cetie to share information on the past years activity and plan the work programme for the next year.

British Glass also participated in the new Cetie working group on reuse, which is developing a set of guidelines for reusable glass containers and associated documents on labels, inks, glues, cleaning and sterilisation.

The revisions of British Glass technical documents TEC 7 and TEC 9 are complete, and they will be published once TEC 4 has been reviewed to ensure that the documents are aligned. The technical documents are available free of charge to British Glass members and can be requested via information services.

We also worked with the Scotch Whiskey Research Institute to help with the revision of their General Guidelines for Standard & Proprietary Glass Bottle Containers. A final draft has now been sent to their members and is due to be published soon.

On the legislation side there was welcome news that the deadline for replacing the



reverse epsilon on measuring container bottles with the UKCA mark has been extended the end of 2027. Work goes on to ensure that the transitional arrangements which allow the UKCA mark to be applied to a pallet label rather than the bottle become a permanent solution.

We are continuing to follow developments in EU legislation that could impact glass containers that we export to the EU. A proposal for the revised EU Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation has been published which includes a requirement for a technical document to justify the packaging weight against a set of performance characteristics. On EU food contact legislation, we are still awaiting the proposal for the revised ceramics directive which will include new limits for migration of heavy metals from glass.

## Flat glass

We have continued to engage with various stakeholders on the benefits of recycling flat glass including through the *Creating a circular economy for flat glass* video we produced this year. There is a genuine interest from stakeholders to recycle flat glass and we have had several enquiries from members of the public and smaller businesses about recycling flat glass.

British Glass is part of the project team looking at the St Helens flat glass recycling trial and helping to survey GGF and NFDC members on flat glass recycling.

To reduce the amount of flat glass cullet going to landfill we have asked HMT to review the lower rate of landfill tax on glass due to its recyclability and its potential to reduce energy and carbon in the manufacturing process. We are yet to see any firm plans, but the treasury has said it will consult further on potential changes to the lower rates of landfill tax to incentive further recycling.

We expect to hear from DEFRA on their plans for the waste prevention programme which may look at EPR for construction waste, including flat glass. Further work is required to ensure that any scheme is fit for purpose and does not have any unintended consequences.

We have worked closely with GGF to produce the window of opportunity infographic which identifies the benefits of replacing old inefficient glazing.



# Brand guide

Our guide for brands, retailers and stakeholders across the glass supply chain was launched in February 2023.

The guide helps readers make informed packaging design choices that puts their packaging at the very forefront of sustainability by focusing on four key areas of improvement; recyclability, recycled content, rightweighting (lightweighting) and refill/reuse.

As well as giving best practice examples, the guide is designed to encourage those who already package in glass or those wanting to use glass packaging to look at how their choices can impact on the sustainability of the glass packaging.

Since launch, the guide has been now downloaded 80 times and the content included will be used throughout the year to promote the guide in different areas such as events and trade press.

Anyone interested in the Maximising the sustainability of glass guide can register their interest on the British Glass website.







# Glass Focus Awards 2023

## SAVE THE DATE

This year's awards event will be held on 16 November  
at the National Football Museum in Manchester



British Glass



**British Glass**

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