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Electrical Product Safety Conference
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BRITISH RETAIL CONSORTIUM

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Who Are the BRC?

The British Retail Consortium (BRC) is the trade association for the entire retail industry. Diverse and exciting, our industry spans large multiples, independents, high streets and out of town, from online to bricks, selling goods across all sectors from clothing, footwear, food and homewares to electricals, health & beauty, jewellery and everything in between, to increasingly discerning consumers.

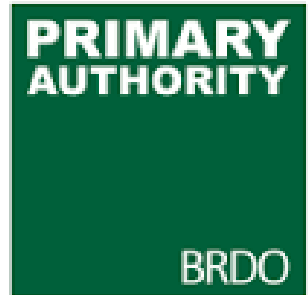
Our mission is to make a positive difference by advancing vibrant and consumer-focused retail. We stand for what is important to the industry and work in partnership with our members to shape debates and influence outcomes.

AGENDA

- 1. Market Surveillance**
- 2. Improving Consumer Involvement**
- 3. Sharing of Information**
- 4. Role of Business**

1. Market Surveillance

- Success depends on the effective operation of the Market Surveillance Authorities (MSA's)
- Existing laws are sufficient
- Need MSAs to be adequately resourced
- Support the polluter pays principle
- Greater focus needed on intelligence gathering
- Effective targeting by Authorities
- Efficient use of available resources



2. Improving Consumer involvement

- Consumers generally understand the concept of recalls and why they are needed.
- Clarity of definitions
- RAPEX: Product safety only.



3. Sharing of information

- Role for Primary Authority
- Working together, smarter.
 - LFB / Primary Authority
 - Promotion of Fire Safety
 - Local Authority / Regional Fire Authority working together
 - Reporting in a consistent manner
- National Injury Database
- Fully support a system that improves intelligence gathering
- Develop safer products
- Monitoring of product safety



4. Role of Business

- Need to recognise that different businesses take a different approach
- Members have established policies to ensure compliance in the first place and avoid recalls
- Product recalls are infrequent
- Authorities should focus on those companies without a robust system in place
- Recognise the merit in further industry discussion

