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"Driven by a growing focus on healthiness, consumers are increasingly looking to limit their sugar intake, the Soft Drinks Industry Levy is exacerbating this issue. This focus has led to many people switching to diet or no-sugar variants of CSDs, pushed by heavyweight players supported by substantial advertising budgets."

- Amy Price, Senior Food and Drink Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- Attention on sugar prompts switching
- A focus on environmental efforts would give brands a competitive edge
- NPD on flavour offers a way to appeal to a wider audience

The implementation of the Soft Drinks Industry Levy (SDIL) poses a threat to the carbonated soft drinks (CSDs) market. Consumers are turning their backs on sugar, but luckily for CSD manufacturers, many are turning to diet/sugar-free versions. Both Coca-Cola Zero Sugar and Pepsi Max have outperformed sugary variants, succeeding in encouraging consumers to continue buying CSDs. Meanwhile, the vast majority of sugar-containing CSDs have been reformulated to bring their sugar content below the threshold for the levy.

Environmental concerns also pose a threat, with single-use plastic in the firing line. Efforts going beyond drawing attention to the suitability of plastic for recycling are much needed to retain the business of environmentally conscious consumers.

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This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



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