

Manly Council



Our Ref: 260312 SC:EL
Enquiries: Emma Lynch 9976 1652

Standing Council on Environment and Water Secretariat
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Packaging Impacts Consultation RIS

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Impact Statement.

Manly is a popular tourist destination and receives up to 8 million visitors per year. This places significant pressure on the local environment and therefore Council is particularly concerned with issues of waste management such as littering, public place waste collection and waste minimisation education. Manly Council has long been an advocate of Container Deposit Schemes (CDS) and has continually lobbied industry, state and federal governments to introduce Container Deposit Legislation.

Council has adopted this position with the expectation that a CDS will serve as an educative tool and raise community awareness of waste avoidance and minimisation; have a positive impact on littering behaviour in the community and reduce the amount of material disposed at landfill. Council also supports a CDS as an opportunity for producers and consumers to take responsibility for the packaging they produce/use and the associated costs to the community.

It is believed that beverage containers compose a significant proportion of litter and waste in Manly. On February 13, Manly Council unanimously passed a notice of motion requesting that an audit of the public place bins be conducted to determine the amount of recyclable bottles in the public place waste and recycling bins. The audit report is expected in the next two weeks. Initial visual inspections showed a large number of recyclable beverage containers in the waste bins, despite the samples being taken from waste bins that were directly adjacent to recycling bins. Photographs of the beverage containers found in the waste and recycling bins that may have been recovered under a container deposit scheme are attached to this submission.

Council incurs financial costs to collect and dispose of packaging litter from public place waste and recycling bins, gross pollutant traps, contents of beach rakes, and street sweepers. As well as managing waste and litter generated in Manly, Council also has to regularly clean its harbour beaches that receive litter that has originated

Council Offices
1 Belgrave Street
Manly NSW 2095

Correspondence to
General Manager
PO Box 82
Manly NSW 1655

DX 9205 Manly

Telephone 02 9976 1500
Facsimile 02 9976 1400

www.manly.nsw.gov.au
records@manly.nsw.gov.au

ABN 43 662 868 065

CLEANER HEALTHIER HAPPIER

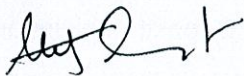
from elsewhere in Sydney. Litter washes ashore underneath and adjacent to Manly Wharf which is one of the nesting sites for Manly's endangered population of Little Penguins, the only mainland breeding colony of penguins left in NSW. Litter has been identified as a threat to Little Penguins as it can tangle, suffocate and injure them.

Council has supported the Two Hands Project (www.twohandsproject.org.au) in their successful Bottle and Butts Refund Campaign, which indicates strong community support for refund schemes. Please see the attached media release for further information on this campaign.

For the reasons listed above and as Container Deposit Schemes have proven to be an effective means of resource recovery for containers in Australia and overseas, evident by significant increases in the container recycling rate and decreases in litter volumes, Manly Council strongly supports Option 4 (a): Mandatory Container Deposit Scheme – Boomerang Alliance CDS.

Thank you for taking the time to consider Council's submission on this matter and should you require any further information or assistance please contact Emma Lynch, Senior Waste Officer, Landuse & Sustainability on ph 02 9976 1652.

Yours faithfully,



Stephen Clements
Deputy General Manager
Landuse & Sustainability Division

Dated: 29/3/12

Below: Photograph of containers collected in a sample of Council's **waste** bins, adjacent to recycling bins in the Manly local government area on 25 March 2012.



Below: Photograph of beverage containers found in a sample of audited **recycling** bins in the Manly local government area on 25 March 2012.





two hands project Inc.

Two Hands Project Inc.
info@twohandsproject.org
PO BOX 480 Brookvale NSW 2100

For immediate release

Bottle Refund Day kicks Butt!

Sydney, 24 January 2012

Refund day nets 4300 refunds in the first two and a half hours.

Manly beachgoers cash in on Two Hands Projects "Bottle and Butt Refund" Initiative

"It's astounding how a simple 10c refund can compel the general public to pick up cigarette butts, one of the dirtiest forms of litter. " we were amazed to receive over 4150 butts in the first 2 ½ hours of our refund event." says Paul Sharp, founder of Two Hands Project

"Cigarette Butts and Beverage Containers are the most common litter items on Australian beaches" says Paul Sharp, Founder of the Two Hands Project. "Adding value to common litter items such a bottles is an effective way to divert them from our water ways and get them into recycling."

With the help of Freshwater Community Bank and the Total Environment Centre , Two Hands Project is running the refund campaign in Manly to demonstrate how effective refund systems are. Research shows that refund systems more than double the recycling rate of beverage containers. The final event is on this Sunday 29th jan.

Many beach goers seemed confused as to why there is no National Refund System in place. "South Australia's Refund System has been going strong for decades, and Northern Territory enacted the CDL (Container Deposit Legislation) this January 2012. Now it's time for the rest of Australia to follow"

Butts and bottle caps pose an immediate ingestion risk to wildlife, as well as introducing toxins to the food web, which can in turn find their way into the seafood we eat, The chemicals from just one filtered cigarette butt have the ability to kill fish living in one liter of water, according as study by San Diego State University researcher Richard Gersberg.

"Bottle caps have been found globally in dead sea turtles, albatross and Australia's own Flesh Footed Shearwaters on Lord Howe Island"

"Litter education programs have been a failed fifty year experiment, proving that as long as disposable systems are in place plastic pollution will continue, It's time to look at adding value to trash through refunds to keep our environment plastic free" says Paul Sharp.

Contact:

Paul Sharp

M: 0419 041 352

paulsharp@twohandsproject.org

Silke Stuckenbrock

M: 0418 865 677



[www.two hands project.org](http://www.twohandsproject.org) - [info@two hands project.org](mailto:info@twohandsproject.org)



[www.two hands project.org](http://www.twohandsproject.org) - [info@two hands project.org](mailto:info@twohandsproject.org)