



Our ref: A02/0181

28 March, 2012

Standing Council on Environment and Water Secretariat
GPO Box 787
Canberra 2601

Packaging Impacts Consultation RIS Submission Response

To the Standing Committee on Environment and Water,

Waverley Council supports Option 4b) Mandatory Container Deposit Legislation Scheme (CDS) identified in the EPHC Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Statement (Consultation RIS) to directly reduce litter and the demand for resources while meeting our strategic planning objectives and supporting local communities and economies.

Waverley Council is strongly focused on protecting the health and amenity of our environment through strategic planning and service delivery. The Waverley Council Environmental Action Plan includes the following objectives:

- Continue to lobby the government to introduce Container Deposit Legislation for drink bottles
- Reduce illegal dumping and littering through education and enforcement
- Partner with local businesses to reduce their potential to create litter

Waverley Council has taken positive steps towards litter reduction and away-from-home recycling, including provision of public place recycling bins, community education campaigns to reduce beverage container use and litter, as well as provision of infrastructure such as bottle refill stations. However, efforts to manage litter and increase recycling rates within the current legislative framework are falling short of government objectives and community expectations, and stronger support and action are required. To this end, Waverley Council supports the CDS outlined in section 4b) as a sustainable model that will build on existing infrastructure to create jobs, support local economies and reduce litter.

The CDS outlined in section 4b will also help meet Strategy 3 of the National Waste Policy to "improve the use of resources, reduce the environmental impact of packaging design, enhance away-from-home recycling and reduce litter". It will promote a consistent national approach, support businesses in producing environmentally sustainable packaging and simplify the regulatory framework.

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We welcome a national framework for the management of packaging that will help Local Government deal with the escalating costs and impacts of resource wastage, landfill availability and littering. Waverley Council looks forward to the outcomes of the COAG Standing Council's work and the opportunity to work with government, the community and industry on these issues.

If you would like more information please phone Eleanor Raftery on 9369 8242.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Wood', written in a cursive style.

Mark Wood
Acting General Manager