

From: [Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management](#)
To: [recyclinginquiry](#)
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management
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Inquiry Name: Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

Dr Jane Sewell
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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FAO Parliamentary Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management,

I am delighted that an inquiry is being held into Victoria's recycling and waste management - it is a timely issue that requires serious consideration and rapid action to ensure implementation of an environmentally responsible approach across the state. Some key thoughts on this issue:

- outsourcing our recycling and waste management overseas was never a sustainable approach to recycling and finding ways to manage this locally is of utmost importance
- local management of recycling offers the opportunity to expand local recycling industries, both those involved with collecting and carrying out recycling activities and those who would use the 'product' for further processing before being made available to consumers - potentially creating jobs and certainly improving the environmental credentials of the process...please do not look to incineration, this is only going to add to emissions which are driving our current climate breakdown, not to mention being wasteful of existing resources
- consideration must also be given to minimise the amount of waste that is generated, banning single use plastics would be a great start, and also working with supermarkets to reduce excess packaging or at least having plastic free isles as many places in Europe are introducing. I would be keen for you to consider looking at closed loop recycling schemes, container deposits, libraries for more than books, reintroduction of the milk man and soft drink bottle returns would all be very welcome. I feel there is also room for more sustainable, reuse and repair initiatives, again, Europe is seeing some fabulous initiatives: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/11/finland-has-giant-supermarkets-that-only-stock-second-hand-goods/>
- schemes to support composting of food waste will also be important, I imagine schools, hospitals etc would have significant needs in this space, also apartment blocks - we have started meal planning and composting at home and it has made a huge difference to the amount of waste we put in our bin each week - so education is also key to success in this domain.

Good luck with this challenge, I hope to see Victoria take a leadership role in the area of

recycling and waste management - its time or us all to step up to improve the world we share, but we need good leaders to pick up the important issues and really show us the way. This IS one of those issues.

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File1:

File2:

File3: