

**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

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### **SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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Laws need to be passed about the type of packaging manufacturers are allowed to sell/distribute in Victoria. Products that are not compostable or recyclable in Victoria need to be actively discouraged.

Retailers also need to be more responsible with the waste they are generating - there are so many items in supermarkets that are unnecessarily wrapped in plastic - compostable stickers are available for fruit and vegetables. Retailers need to encourage their customers to bring containers for their deli produce, at the moment many supermarkets will not accept containers from home. Legislation needs to be made to ensure consumers can bring their own clean containers to buy food and retailers need to support this.

We need to deal with our own waste, so recycling businesses need to be given more incentives to open or expand in Victoria.

The public needs to be educated about what goes in each bin - the education methods currently being used are clearly ineffective due to the significant amount of contamination. Is there are way to scan rubbish bins as they are collected? (I note they already have individual number codes on them) Perhaps people who provide contaminated recycling could be given warnings then fines to cover the costs of dealing with their contaminated waste.

Another idea for education is a basic test as part of your rates notice, ie, if you can pass this recycling knowledge test you get \$50 off you rates bill. Renters might be receive a \$50 Council voucher for doing the test. Again this cost would recouped through lower costs of dealing with contaminated waste.

The government needs to clearly communicate how our waste is being dealt with too. I have heard a lot people recently saying it doesn't matter what you put in any of the bins now because of China, everything is going to landfill. I sincerely hope this is not true

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File1:

File2:

File3: