

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 6 May 2019 12:07 AM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: Re: Submission on recycling

Before we look at establishing new businesses to process our waste we first need to look at reducing the amount of waste we produce. We have become a throw away society. Far too many reusable products are going into landfill so we need to look at ways of repairing items at a reasonable cost. There are a number of (Repair Cafes) around the country where you can take items to be repaired for free. We need a National ban on one use plastic bags, I have been making fabric shopping bags and also small reusable bags for fruit and veg and giving them out at fetes and fairs, this could be a social enterprise. A national refund for the return of bottles like South Australia and Northern Territory and discourage people from purchasing bottles of water and instead use tap water. Some footy clubs are campaigning for this. We also need to reduce unnecessary packaging. We need to ban polystyrene packaging. some companies are now using cardboard moulded to the shape of electrical goods for example. Recently a local tile company was getting rid of perfectly good tiles to make room for new stock. They had them outside their factory for free but also were paying staff to smash them to put into a skip and at the time that I took some to do some mosaics they had filled 5 skips to go to landfill. This must be happening with other products. More businesses like (Resouce Rescue) could be established. Far too much food waste is going into landfill which could be processed into compost. This is a particular problem in the food industry such as cafes. I established a coffee recycling project where we collect used coffee grounds from McDonalds and provide them to schools for their veggie patches and also to individuals. It is full off good minerals and repels slugs and snails instead of using poisonous chemicals. This could also be used in producing compost. There are also a lot of soft plastics going into landfill which could be left at supermarkets for recycling into garden seats. Glass jars etc that we put in our recycle bin are not recycled as they are so compacted in the trucks. Items for hard rubbish collection need to be managed more effectively as there are items such as furniture which can be restored for reuse. People on unemployment benefits could be trained to do this which would create ore jobs. There will soon be more plastic in our oceans than fish and it is killing thousands of seabirds and animals. A recent report was about a whale had died of starvation and was found to have 50kgs of plastic in its stomach. Our waste management is in crisis and must be addressed now !!

Regards
Jean Allan [REDACTED]

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy Tab S2 on the Telstra Mobile Network