

From: Anna Kjer-Nielsen <web@greens.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 9 May 2019 2:36 PM
To: recyclinginquiry
Subject: Recycling - Victorian government

RE: INQUIRY INTO RECYCLING AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Hello!

I agree with the above 3 solutions on the Greens website, and advocate from the MAV solutions I have pasted from their draft action schedule below. The recycling crisis has left me feeling somewhat hopeless as recycling used to be one of the easiest, most everyday acts of sustainability that I performed. Now that I know my recycling is going into landfill I feel a constant sense of alarm at the systematic barriers to sustainability that are accepted by so many.

Action 1: Invest in recycling infrastructure Commit greater quantities of Sustainability Fund money to bolster sorting and processing capability in Victoria. We urgently need more capacity in our materials recovery facilities across the state.

Action 2: Fund and support market development Commit greater quantities of Sustainability Fund money to drive demand for recycled content. Support research and development to increase uptake of new uses for recycled materials. Set mandatory procurement targets for Australian recycled material by government agencies. Incentivise procurement of Australian recycled content by others. Support the MAV to develop procurement options for councils.

Action 3: Introduce a container deposit scheme Commit to introducing container deposit legislation into parliament this year and work with the MAV and councils to ensure it achieves the best outcomes for the community.

Victoria and Tasmania are the only Australian states yet to commit to a scheme.

Action 4: Bolster community education

Commit greater quantities of Sustainability Fund money to develop and deliver a consistent state-wide community education campaign focused on:

- making waste-wise decisions
- putting pressure on producers to reduce waste • what can and can't go into recycling and the costs of getting it wrong.

The education campaign should use the channels that most effectively reach the community and apply learnings from other successful government campaigns.

Action 5: Strengthen industry oversight / regulation Recycling is considered an essential service by most, yet the few large operators we have in Victoria operate under a veil of secrecy. The State must improve transparency and accountability within the industry. Access to robust and credible data on market conditions, and costs and revenue within the recycling sector is essential to achieve best value for the community.

-- Anna Kjer-Nielsen

I'm happy for my submission and details to be made public.