

COMMUNITY, SPORTING GROUPS & SMALL BUSINESS TO BE LOCKED OUT OF CONTAINER RECYCLING

Community, sporting, and small business groups will be short-changed by the Government's proposed container recycling legislation to the tune of \$11 million per year.

"We are dumbfounded that the Government is still proceeding with a for-profit, monopoly style model, which is contrary to their own expert advice and the views of a wide range of stakeholder groups including TasCOSS, the TCCI, TSBC, THA and individual charities such as the Launceston PCYC", said Ben Kearney, TASRecycle Chairman.

"The NSW-style split responsibility scheme the Government are proposing will mean significantly lower returns to charities, sporting groups and small businesses running container collection points. This was highlighted in the majority of the government's recent consultation feedback. Submissions are available [here](#).

"Typically, the return in alternative community (producer responsibility) schemes is around 6.5 cents per container, compared to just 3.5 cents per container under the Government's proposed model.

Based on our calculations of likely volumes, this will mean \$5 million per year less to local community groups, which will instead likely go to a for-profit big waste operator and deliver less jobs."

"The Government have also acknowledged through some of the changes announced that the scheme will be expensive for producers – but all their changes will do is shift more of the cost to medium and larger-sized employers.

"This means that social enterprises and their employees who could have been major beneficiaries from the scheme and who could have provided more positive employment outcomes will be far less likely to do so now."

Mr Kearney said that he continued to be extremely concerned by the Government's attempts to demonise the beverage industry, and not to listen to alternative points of view.

"The beverage industry is a major and iconic employer in Tasmania. I fail to understand why the Liberal Minister (who is also the Minister for State Growth) continues to treat the sector with such disdain and wrongly claim that they can't be trusted to manage their own waste.

"In fact, all the evidence shows that container collection rates are equal to or better in community (producer responsibility) schemes than in the NSW monopoly scheme.

"On top of that, we have suggested to the Minister that he legislate a minimum 85 per cent collection rate, and review it regularly if he is so concerned about the rhetoric and false claims being made on this matter."

Mr Kearney said that the Government haven't properly considered community feedback on the proposed CRS and TASRecycle will now engage with members of the Legislative Council to seek a formal inquiry into the Government's legislation.

Other state CRS schemes include product stewardship, providing opportunities for social enterprise, benefits for community organisations and opportunities for employment at the core of their objectives alongside the environment. Tasmania's does not.

"This scheme is going to be in place for a long-time. It is important that the Parliament take the time to make sure that the design is right and that it maximises local benefit for the Tasmanian community and environment", Mr Kearney said.

A very short video outlining the differences between the two schemes is [available here](#).

TASRecycle is a not-for-profit joint initiative founded by Coca-Cola Europacific Partners and Lion Co (owners of Boags Brewery) to ultimately be run independently by its board.

Coca-Cola Amatil and Lion have been involved in the operation and administration of container deposit or refund schemes for more than 40 years, having been involved in implementing four schemes across Australia in the last six years. They have a unique ability to leverage their

*experience and resources to deliver a successful
independently overseen scheme designed*

uniquely for Tasmania.