

30th March 2012

Phone: Our Ref: 9932 1000 A1502192

Standing Council on Environment and Water Secretariat GPO Box 787, Canberra ACT 2601

Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Impact Statement HOBSONS BAY CITY COUNCIL SUBMISSION

The Council appreciates the opportunity to submit its feedback to the Australian Government on the Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) 2011.

The Council supports initiatives to reduce packaging waste to landfill, increase recycling and reduce packaging waste littering.

In 2012/2013 is expected to spend approximately \$6.7 million for waste management services and \$3.5 million on litter management services due to the increased landfill levy and the carbon price. The estimated costs of recycling, garbage and litter management services as a proportion of these total costs with respect to packaging waste account for approximately \$1.5 million for management services and \$0.9 million on litter management services.

The Council's submission summarises key concerns and facts about the Council's waste and litter profile relevant to packaging waste.

Furthermore the Council is supportive of Government initiatives that:

- ensures packaging manufacturers and suppliers share the responsibility of managing packaging waste
- has no further impact on local government operations and costs for implementation of new systems
- provides funding back to local government to continue and or improve kerbside at no cost to a Council for the packaging proportion of the garbage and recycling stream and litter services
- considers all packaging types and is not limited to beverage packaging
- considers the life cycle of packaging and therefore its sustainable design, recyclability, markets and systems for the recycling the packaging
- looks to infrastructure and collection systems that are beyond Local Government's kerbside systems or those in public places
- provides guidance to stakeholders not responsible for packaging waste such as Councils and community groups on their role. This advice would include mechanisms to become involved in a way that protects the Council's and its community's interests and complies with the Local Government Act or other legislation
- involves Local Government in decision making and implementation

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact the Council on 9932 1000.

Yours sincerely,

Manager City Strategy