Dear Secretary,

Inquiry into Recycling and Waste Management

Hobsons Bay City Council welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the inquiry into recycling and waste management.

The matters raised by the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) in its submission are supported. This MAV submission highlights key issues and solutions regarding waste and recycling management in Victoria.

The desire for all levels of government to focus on waste avoidance and buying recycled, for a state based education program, more investment from the landfill levy, and for improved environmental regulation and enforcement is supported. The introduction of container deposit legislation and the expansion of product stewardship schemes is essential. Waste to energy solutions are also important but not the only solution and investing in local reprocessing of waste and recyclables into beneficial use in Australia is a must.

Council have a long history of advocacy in the waste and recycling space. A number of our submissions that are of relevance to this inquiry are as follows:

- the review of the Product Stewardship Act 2011 (2018)
- managing combustible recyclable waste in Victoria (2018)
- reducing the impacts of plastic (2018)
- turning waste to energy discussion paper (2017)
- amendments to the statewide waste and resource recovery infrastructure plan (2017)
- response to the Environment Protection Amendment (Banning Plastic Bags, Packaging and Microbeads) Bill (2016)
- draft Sustainability Fund priority statement (2015)
- Packaging Impacts Consultation Regulation Impact Statement (2014)
If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Kaylene Johnson, Coordinator Environmental Management on 9932 1107 or email kjohnson@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,

Penelope Winslade
Director Sustainable Communities