


9.3.5 POLICY STATEMENT ON CONTAINER DEPOSIT SYSTEM - WALGA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Location:	N/A
Applicant:	Shire of Dandaragan
Folder Path:	Business Classification Scheme / Waste Management / Service Provision / Recycling
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Date:	17 May 2016
Senior Officer:	Tony Nottle, Chief Executive Officer
Signature of Senior Officer:	

PROPOSAL

For Council to consider supporting the position of the WA Local Government Association (WALGA) Policy Statement on Container Deposit System (CDS) and put forward a motion at the Annual General Meeting of the Association to be held Wednesday 3 August 2016 to support their advocacy for such a Scheme.

BACKGROUND

WALGA has been advocating for a CDS to be implemented throughout Western Australia for a number of years. In 2008, WALGA established a Policy Statement in support of Container Deposit Legislation (CDL).

CDL has been in place in South Australia since the 1975, which imposed a deposit on a range of beverage containers. The deposit is included in the retail price of the item and refunded when the container is returned to the collection point.

While this has been advocated for a number of years by WALGA, it has yet to make it to the political arena for consideration by the respective State Governments of the day.

WALGA describes the CDS to be “a type of Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme. It may be structured in many different ways but essentially relies on a recoverable deposit on containers encouraging consumers to return the containers to a retailer or collection centre for recycling for the deposit.”

WALGA’s policy statement suggests that the benefits of a CDS are:

- improvement in resource recovery;
- achieving more appropriate sharing of waste management costs;
- litter reduction; and
- increase in community awareness and involvement in waste management.

WALGA has developed this policy for local governments with reference to its twin roles as a representative of the community and as a service provider.

This twin role is particularly significant with regard to CDS as many local governments including the Shire of Dandaragan have significant investment in resource recovery and our role as a service provider in this area will inevitably be significantly impacted on by the introduction of a CDS.

Cr Slyns currently sits as the Deputy Chair of the Municipal Waste Advisory Committee (MWAC) for WALGA and discussed this briefly at Council's Forum held on the 12 May 2016. This item has been brought to Council to consider supporting WALGA's position and putting forward a motion at the next WALGA AGM.

COMMENT

The Shire of Dandaragan currently has a significant investment in its kerbside recycling program and general landfill operations to handle basic recycling efforts. The Shire also experiences issues with litter on its roadsides, with beverage containers being the most common item discarded along the road reserves.

The introduction of CDL would provide an incentive for community organisations, individuals and the packaging companies themselves, to take responsibility for the lifecycle of their waste.

As it is a State wide issue, it is appropriate to advocate for this legislation and the current position through the AGM to seek support of the local government sector as a whole.

CONSULTATION

- WALGA
- Shire President
- Cr Darren Slyns

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

At present, no legislation exists to allow such a scheme to be established State wide. This item advocates for the appropriate legislation to be introduced, supporting the position of WALGA.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications to this item.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate financial implications to this item. Should legislation be introduced, it may have an impact on reduction in litter prevention strategies and kerbside recycling costs.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Shire of Dandaragan Strategic Community Plan 2015 - 2025

Goal 4 - Healthy natural and built environment

While Council has no specific objectives under this section, it is captured in its "Business as Usual" through litter prevention strategies and advocacy.

ATTACHMENTS

Circulated with the agenda is the following item relevant to this report:

- Copy of the Policy Statement on Container Deposit System (Doc Id: 66836)
- Copy of South Australian fact sheet on Container Deposit Legislation (Doc Id: 66952)

(Marked 9.3.5)

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION 1

That Council supports the West Australian Local Government Associations position on Container Deposit Scheme establishment within Western Australia as per its Statement Policy outlined in attachment 9.3.5 (Doc Id: 66836).

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION 2

That Council:

- 1. Request the West Australian Local Government Association to:**
 - a. continue to actively advocate for the implementation of a Container Deposit Scheme in Western Australia; and**
 - b. include the implementation of a Container Deposit Scheme in the Associations Election Platform.**
- 2. Agree to put forward an item to the West Australian Local Government Association Annual General Meeting seeking support for this position.**