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Ms Janie Finlay MP

Labor Member for Bass

Email: C/o Laura Ross, Clerk of the House [Laura.Ross@parlimanet.tas.gov.au](mailto:Laura.Ross@parlimanet.tas.gov.au)

14 MAY 2025

Dear Ms Finlay

### **CONSTITUENCY QUESTION – Container Refund Scheme**

Thank you for your constituency question regarding the implementation of the Container Refund Scheme, Recycle Rewards. The Tasmanian Government is committed to delivering a scheme that ensures a transparent system for all stakeholders.

You might be interested to know the success of Recycle Rewards which commenced on 1 May 2025. In its first four days, Tasmanians returned more than one million containers as part of Recycle Rewards. In fact, Tasmanians can choose to either receive a refund of 10 cents for every eligible container they deposit or donate the proceeds to one of over 120 official Donation Partners.

Tasmania has more than 90 small beverage companies, operating across the State, and their contribution to the economy, tourism and employment is highly valued. The Government has been working with small beverage companies to ensure they can successfully participate in Recycle Rewards.

To assist small Tasmanian beverage producers, First Responsible Suppliers have an 18-month transition period in which to update their packaging (if needed) to comply with the requirements of the Container Refund Act 2022 and associated regulations.

There are several measures in place to support Tasmania's small and micro beverage industry in the transition to the Scheme. One of these measures means that Tasmanian beverage companies will not pay for their first 20,000 beverage sales each year. This 'cost-free threshold' assists small beverage companies grow and thrive, and it means around 40% of our small beverage companies will not have to pay into the Scheme.

Tasmania's beverage industry has a key role to play in the success of Recycle Rewards. We know that sustainability, Tasmania's clean brand, and a reputation for premium produce are important to our beverage industry's future.

Yours sincerely

Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP

**Minister for the Environment**