

**Minister for Energy and Renewables
Minister for Parks and Environment**

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22 August 2024

Ms Tabatha Badger
Member for Lyons
Via Clerk of the House of Assembly
email: laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Badger

I write in response to a question raised in Parliament on behalf of your constituents on 31 July 2024. I appreciate the interest in this important matter and acknowledge there is growing community interest in the rollout of the Container Refund Scheme (CRS).

As you are aware the new Container Refund Scheme, which will be known as Recycle Rewards, is a key component of the Tasmanian Government's approach to reduce litter and increase recycling. The Government is committed to delivering the best possible scheme for Tasmania and ensure we get it right. A competitive procurement process is being finalised to appoint the Scheme Coordinator (to run the administration and finance) and the Network Operator (to manage the network of refund points across Tasmania). This procurement process is extremely complex. Details about the Scheme, including the commencement date, will be announced once entities for the Scheme Coordinator and Network Operator roles have been selected and contracts finalised.

Importantly, the Tasmanian Government is committed to ensuring that the maximum number of charities and community groups around Tasmania will be able to benefit from the establishment of a CRS. All charities and community groups will be able to run a Donation Point, where they can receive donations of containers from the community and take these containers to a Container Refund Point to collect 10 cents per container for their organisation. In addition, all charities and community groups based in Tasmania will be able to register for a Donation Partner Refund Account. This means that when you take your containers to a Refund Point you will be able to donate your Refund to a registered charity or community organisation of your choice. Charities and community groups will also be able to partner with the Network Operator to run a Refund Point, if they are an appropriate business selected to do so.

The Tasmanian Government is committed to a container recycling scheme that will work for the community and the environment, that provides opportunities for charities and community groups and maximises the number of containers returned.

Thank you again for raising this important matter with me.

Yours sincerely

Hon Nick Duigan MLC
Minister Parks and Environment