

can register their interest in running a collection point by contacting the operator on 1800 290 691 or at enquiries@tcnsw.com.au.

Suppliers are responsible for funding the scheme. It is entirely up to these suppliers whether, how and by how much they pass on these costs to their customers. The NSW Government has commissioned the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to monitor pricing of the scheme. IPART will provide an interim progress report, and a final report to the government in December 2018.

The NSW Government is committed to supporting small to medium sized enterprises as the scheme is implemented. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) together with the scheme coordinator Exchange for Change and the network operator TOMRA Cleanaway have run information sessions for beverage suppliers and retailers to explain how the scheme will work and to provide an opportunity for these stakeholders to ask questions.

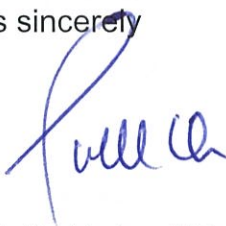
We have also worked with the office of the Small Business Commissioner to raise the concerns of small and medium suppliers. We encourage any supplier that needs assistance to contact the commissioner or the EPA for the necessary support. More information is available at www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au/supporting-business.

The NSW Government also continues to work with other jurisdictions who have or are soon to introduce container deposit schemes to ensure our schemes are as consistent as possible. This will promote ease of access and reduce red tape.

More information about Return and Earn is available at www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/container-deposit-scheme.htm.

If Council has any further questions about this matter, it can contact Ms Sarah Gardner, Executive Director Waste and Resource Recovery, Environment Protection Authority, on 9995 5210 or at sarah.gardner@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Gabrielle Upton MP
Minister for the Environment
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Heritage

21-12-17