



<b>15.4.</b>	<b>Victorian Container Deposit Scheme</b>
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**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the implementation of the State Government’s Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic) which will be implemented across Victoria in November this year.

**Executive Summary**

*Portfolio 2: Environment*

Strategic Objective: *To protect our environment and address climate change issues*

Priority 2: *Respond to the impacts of climate change and reduce carbon emissions through the Climate Emergency Response Plan*

*Portfolio 4: Heritage, planning and infrastructure*

Strategic Objective: *To protect our distinctive coastal, cultural and built environment, and provide sustainable, suitable infrastructure*

Priority 5: *Maintain and improve community infrastructure within the Borough*

Victoria’s container deposit scheme, CDS Vic, will commence in November 2023. The State Government describes it as a *‘part of important work that is transforming Victoria’s waste and recycling system’*.

CDS Vic will be run by a Scheme Coordinator and three Network Operators. TOMRA Cleanaway has been appointed as the Network Operator for the western zone of Victoria. The Network Operator is responsible for establishing and maintaining a network of refund points in their appointed zones.

TOMRA Cleanaway has advised Council that to meet the State Government distribution and location criteria, one (1) refund point is required in the Borough of Queenscliffe. The refund point to be installed in the Borough is a Standalone Refund



Vending Machine (RVM). This facility is a small, automated collection point with a footprint of less than 2 square metres.

TOMRA Cleanaway has been working with local organisations seeking a partner to run a collection point in Queenscliff. TOMRA Cleanaway have now identified the Queenscliff Bowling Tennis & Croquet Assoc Inc (QBTCA) as their preferred partner and the preferred site.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes this update on the implementation of the State Government's Container Deposit Scheme including how it will be implemented in the Borough of Queenscliffe.



## REPORT

### **Background**

The State Government describes the role of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic) as follows:

*The CDS will turn waste into value by providing a clean stream of materials that can be recycled. It will complement Victoria's new household waste collection system by making recycling easier, even when you're away from home.*

*It will lower clean-up costs for councils and make producers more responsible for their products once used.*

The CDS Vic website describes the broader benefits of the scheme as:

- more and better recycling
- less waste – old containers become new ones
- less litter – cut by up to half
- hundreds of new jobs and economic opportunities across Victoria
- a cleaner, greener state

The scheme works by providing collection points where people can deposit drink cans, bottles and cartons in return for a small financial reward.

CDS Vic will be run by a Scheme Coordinator and three Network Operators. The Network Operator is responsible for the following:

- establish and maintain a network of refund points in their appointed zones;
- distribute refund amounts to consumers;
- distribute payments to refund point operators; and
- report on CDS participation and redemption rates.

Further information about CDS Vic can be found here:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/container-deposit-scheme>

### **Discussion**

Network Operators have been appointed to network operation zones where they will be required to establish and maintain a network of refund collection points. TOMRA



Cleanaway has been appointed as the Network Operator for the western zone of Victoria.

TOMRA Cleanaway is preparing for the commencement of the scheme in November 2023. This preparation includes:

- Setting up refund collection point infrastructure; and
- Liaising with organisations who express interest in becoming a collection point operator.

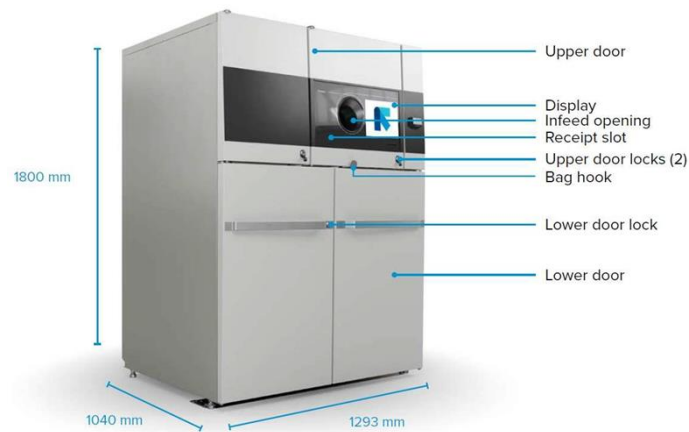
TOMRA Cleanaway is required under the contract with the State Government to provide specific collections points per population. The State Government has said:

*Having an accessible and convenient network of collection points is central to the design of Victoria's CDS. This enables participation in the scheme and maximises the return of containers for the benefit of Victoria's community, economy and environment.*

In response to this and their contractual obligation, TOMRA Cleanaway has determined that one (1) collection point is required in the Borough of Queenscliffe to meet this requirement.

Council received a briefing on the CDS Vic initiative at an assembly in July 2023. At the briefing TOMRA Cleanaway introduced Council to CDS Vic, the criteria for locating a collection point and the type of collection point to be installed in the Borough.

TOMRA Cleanaway advised Council that the population of the Borough will require a Standalone Refund Vending Machine (RVM).



Following the briefing to Council, TOMRA Cleanaway has been working with local organisations in search of a partner to run a collection point in Queenscliff. TOMRA Cleanaway has now identified the Queenscliff Bowling Tennis & Croquet Assoc Inc (QBTCA) as their preferred partner and the preferred site as shown in Attachment 15.4.1.

### **Next steps**

Recent changes to the Queenscliffe Planning Scheme gazette on 26 September 2023 introduced new land use controls to improve the facilitation of the CDS Vic.

Amendment VC246 introduced additional exemptions from requiring a planning permit in an overlay for small automated collection points that are no greater than 2 square metres in total combined area and less than 2.5 metres in height. The Standalone RVM meets the criteria for permit exemption.

If the standalone RVM meets conditions in Clauses 52.13-3, 52.13-6, it is exempt from a permit requirement for land use and for building and works.

The exemption sits under Planning scheme is 52.13.5:

#### **52.13-5 – Permit exemption for an automated collection point**

*Any requirement in a zone or overlay, or a schedule to a zone or overlay, to obtain a permit to construct a building or construct or carry out works does not apply to an automated collection point if the requirements of clause 52.13-3 and clause 52.13-6 are met.*

Clause 52.13-3 says:



An automated collection point should not:

- Be attached to another building.
- Be more than 3 metres in height. This includes an attached sign.
- Restrict a vehicular or pedestrian accessway to or from the land or an entry or exit to a building

Clause 52.13-6 says:

For the purposes of clause 52.13-5, an automated collection point with a gross floor area less than 2 square metres, and a building height less than 2.5 metres must:

- Be set back at least 30 metres from land (not a road) not in the same ownership in a residential zone (other than a Mixed Use Zone or Township Zone) or a Rural Living Zone.
- Be set back at least 30 metres from a dwelling in a Township Zone.
- Not be located on vacant land in a residential or rural zone.
- Not be located in an area set aside for vehicle access or occupy a car parking space. Be of muted, non-reflective external colours and finishes.

For the purposes of clause 52.13-5, an automated collection point with a gross floor area of 2 square metres or more, and a building height of 2.5 metres or more must:

- Occupy no more than:
  - 4 existing car parking spaces on the land; or,
  - 5 existing car parking spaces on the land if the land contains 50 or more car parking spaces.
- Be set back at least 4 metres from the frontage.
- Be set back at least 30 metres from land (not a road) not in the same ownership in a residential zone, Rural Living Zone or Urban Growth Zone.
- Not be located on vacant land in a residential or rural zone.
- Be of muted, non-reflective external colours and finishes.

The RVM and the proposed location at QBTCA satisfy the conditions required to meet the exemption. As such no planning permit application will be required.

QBTCA and TORMA Cleanaway do however need landlord consent to install the RVM at the QBTCA site. The Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action and the Borough of Queenscliffe are both required to give this consent.



Before Consent is granted Council has asked TOMRA Cleanaway to conduct an information session for the community. This will occur in the coming weeks. Council will promote the session on its website and through Facebook.

Following the information session Council will consider the request to grant landlord consent.

### **Options**

1. Councillors note the report on the CDS Vic collection point in the Borough.
2. Councillors request further information in relation to CDS Vic.

### **Communications and Engagement**

#### Community Engagement

The purpose of this report is to inform the community about the CDS Vic and the installation of a collection point in the Borough.

#### Collaboration

There are no collaboration requirements associated with this report.

### **Governance Context**

#### Relevant Law

Climate Change Act 2017

#### Charter of Human Rights

This report has had consideration to, and complies with, the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

#### Gender Equality Act 2020

While the matters in this report do have a direct impact on the public, it is not considered sufficiently significant to require a Gender Impact Assessment.

#### Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Recycling Victoria: A new economy



### Legal and Risk Implications

There are no implications for Council as a result of this report.

### Related Documents

Not applicable.

### Disclosure of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

## **Considerations**

### Environmental Sustainability

It is anticipated that the container deposit scheme will encourage more recycling and reduce litter, create less waste, create jobs and economic opportunities across Victoria.

### Financial and Resource Implications

There are no financial or resource implications associated with this report.

### Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not applicable.

## **Implementation**

### Operational Impacts

This project will not impact Council's operational resources.

### Implementation Process

This project will be delivered by TOMRA Cleanaway on behalf of the State Government of Victoria. Council and DEECA are required to give landlord consent for the infrastructure to be located at Queenscliff Bowling Tennis & Croquet Assoc Inc.

## **Attachments**

1. Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme Factsheet [**15.4.1** - 3 pages]
2. TOMRA Cleanaway container collection point site plan proposal [**15.4.2** - 5 pages]



