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To whom it may concern,

### **Submission in response to the: Victorian Container Deposit Scheme (“CDS”) Discussion Paper**

The Committee for Geelong (“CfG”) provides strategic leadership and influence to leverage the economic and social prosperity of our city-region. An independent, non-partisan, membership-based, not for profit organisation, the CfG works collaboratively with an authoritative group of stakeholders and influencers to design Geelong’s best future.

The CfG has consulted widely with its members in relation to the design of Victoria’s CDS by 2023 and we provide the following feedback:

- We support the introduction of the CDS and we support the City of Greater Geelong’s proposal to trial the CDS in our city-region – we believe a smaller-scale trial can identify and fix the issues that inevitably arise when a new scheme is implemented state-wide;
- We believe the CDS will increase resource recovery, reduce littering, waste and environmental pollution;
- We believe the CDS provides an ideal opportunity to grow the city-region’s waste management and materials recovery industry and infrastructure;
- We support an extensive distribution of refund points, including retail outlets, across our city-region and a processing refund for materials recovery facilities;
- We generally support the governance framework proposed in the Discussion Paper, although we strongly encourage the Victorian Government to adopt a multi network operator model across the state to avoid the monopoly created by the similarly designed scheme in New South Wales, and;
- We believe a multi network operator approach will provide equitable opportunities for small and medium-sized businesses and would be consistent with the Victorian Government’s Local Jobs First Policy and Social Procurement Framework.

We thank you for the opportunity to provide you with this feedback. If you have any questions, please contact me via [jennifer.cromarty@committeeforgeelong.com.au](mailto:jennifer.cromarty@committeeforgeelong.com.au) or call our office on (03) 5227 8075.

Kind Regards



Jennifer Cromarty  
CEO, Committee for Geelong

