

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Question Without Notice

Thursday, 20 February 2020

C134. Hon Robin Chapple to the Minister for Environment

I refer to the 'Containers for Change' scheme, and the website "containersforchange.com.au/wa/faqs", relating to the scheme, and I ask:

1. To date, how many refund points have been confirmed in the Pilbara region for the 'Containers for Change' scheme?
2. To date, how many refund points have been confirmed in the Kimberly region for the 'Containers for Change' scheme?
3. Can the Minister explain why the webpage states "Drink manufacturers, distributors and importers who first supply eligible beverage containers into Western Australia fund the scheme...Business which first supply an eligible beverage container into Western Australia will fund the scheme on a cost-per-container returned basis" when, on Wednesday 18th February, the front page of The West Australian stated that these "[costs] will be passed on by shops to drinkers"?
4. Does the Minister agree that this presents a breach of consumer and public trust?
5. Does the Minister maintain that it's appropriate that a subsidiary of Coca-Cola Amatil - the company that produces most of the containers - stands to profit from community recycling efforts?

Answer

1. 11.
2. 20.
- 3-4. No. Consistent with the schemes in other states, Western Australia's Container Deposit Scheme is funded by beverage suppliers. These funds pay for the 10 cent refund, collection, processing and sale of the scheme materials for recycling. Beverage suppliers will determine what costs are passed onto their customers when making their pricing decisions. Queensland and New South Wales, the most recently introduced schemes in Australia, have had average cost increases of less than the 10 cent refund.
- 3-5. Western Australia Return Recycle Renew is not a subsidiary of Coca-Cola Amatil. It is a not for profit company appointed by the State Government as the scheme coordinator. As a not for profit company it is not permitted to return a profit.



Hon Stephen Dawson MLC
**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT;
DISABILITY SERVICES; ELECTORAL AFFAIRS**