



MEDIA RELEASE

October 20, 2017

Ambitious new litter reduction scheme

A statewide Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) designed to reduce litter by 40% by 2020 will come into effect on November 1.

Hastings Co-op's chief executive officer Allan Gordon said the price of some drinks sold in bottles, cans and PET will increase from November 1 by up to 15c per container, however, customers will be able to redeem 10c back on eligible bottles from December 1.

"It is inevitable that retailers will have to increase prices to recover the full cost impact of the scheme, and consumers will start to see these increases from November 1," he said.

"We encourage customers to visit the Container Deposit Scheme website at www.nswcds.com.au for further information."

Also known as 'Return and Earn', the new scheme will be the largest litter reduction scheme introduced in NSW.

While the state government is still finalising some of the scheme's guidelines, Mr Gordon said he understood that refunds for eligible containers may be:

- Disbursed electronically to the consumer
- Donated to charity
- An in-store credit or cash redemption voucher from selected partners.

Mr Gordon said he hoped to announce details of a collection point in Wauchope in the coming weeks.

The majority of containers covered under the CDS are beverage containers ranging from 150 millilitres to three litres and made from aluminium, glass, HDPE, liquid paperboard, PET and steel. It is believed that wine, spirit, wine casks and sachets, milk and flavoured milk containers are unaffected by the scheme.

According to the 2015 - 2016 National Litter Index 49% of litter by volume comprised of beverage containers. The NSW CDS aims to capture approximately 43% of this volume, while rewarding consumers who return containers for making sustainable lifestyle choices.

NSW is the third state/territory to adopt the scheme, with QLD and the ACT to follow suit in 2018. South Australia has the longest-running CDS in the country and sees a 76.5% return rate for their beverage containers. They also have a very high landfill diversion rate of 80%.

Media contact –

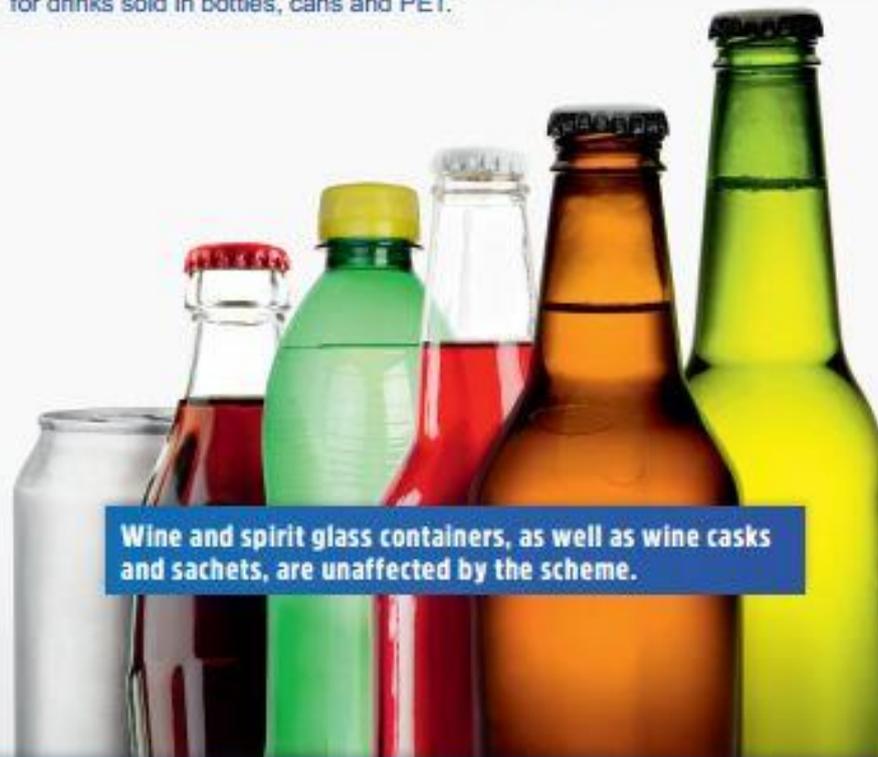
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FROM NOVEMBER 1, THE PRICE OF THESE DRINKS WILL INCREASE*.

The introduction of the NSW Government's Container Deposit Scheme means that you will be paying more* for drinks sold in bottles, cans and PET.



Wine and spirit glass containers, as well as wine casks and sachets, are unaffected by the scheme.

*For retailers to recover the full cost impact of the scheme, including the 10c refund per approved container, plus handling and administration fees (as announced by the scheme coordinator on August 18, 2017), the price of certain drinks will increase initially from November 1, 2017. Any price increase will be up to individual retailers and will depend on their cost pressures and competitive situation.

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