

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL HELD
AT THE DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 64-66 FRONT STREET, MOSSMAN ON
TUESDAY, 7 MARCH 2017, COMMENCING AT 10.00AM**

1. PRESENT

Cr Julia Leu (Mayor), Cr Abigail Noli (Deputy Mayor), Cr David Carey, Cr Michael Kerr, Cr Roy Zammataro, Linda Cardew (Chief Executive Officer), Darryl Crees (General Manager Corporate Services), Nicholas Wellwood (General Manager Operations), Joanne Jacobson (Manager Governance), Paul Hoye (Manager Sustainable Communities), Michael Kriedemann (Manager Infrastructure Services), John Rehn (Manager Finance & IT), Simon Clarke (Coordinator Development Assessment and Coordination), Susanna Andrews (Property Officer), Nicola Learmond (Sustainability Officer), Erica Bigby (Research & Project Officer), Greg McLean (Communications and Event Officer), Nicole Barton (Mayoral and Councillor Support Officer) and Nevinia Davenport (Executive Assistant).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr Leu acknowledged the Kuku Yalanji people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land and paid respect to their Elders both past and present and extended that respect to other Indigenous Australians present.

APOLOGIES

Nil.

2. CONFLICT OF INTEREST/MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST

Cr Kerr recognised that his relationship with the applicant in item 5.5 - *Execute Part C Proposed Permanent Road Closure Part Owen St, Craiglie Adjoining 14 Yiki St, Craiglie* being Cr Kerr's direct neighbour could reasonably be taken to be a perceived conflict of interest in this matter before the meeting but he has considered his position and is firmly of the opinion that he can participate in debate and vote on the matter in the public interest.

3. MAYORAL MINUTE

Moved Cr Leu

"That Council formally thank the Premier and Deputy Premier for the recent funding of almost \$2 million for 12 capital works projects for the Douglas Shire under the Works for Queensland Infrastructure Program. Further, Council recognises the significant economic and community benefit of these projects in the Douglas Shire and across the wider Queensland area and therefore requests that Works for Queensland remain until regional unemployment trends reduce down to the state and national levels."

Carried unanimously.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2017

Moved Cr Zammataro

Seconded Cr Kerr

"That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday, 14 February 2017, be confirmed."

Carried unanimously.

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SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2017

Moved Cr Carey

Seconded Cr Kerr

“That the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Friday, 17 February 2017, be confirmed.”

Carried unanimously.

5. AGENDA ITEMS

5.1. REQUEST FOR COMMENT ON PROPOSED LIQUOR LICENSE FOR OTZ FOOD

Daniel Lamond, Planning Officer

Moved Cr Kerr

Seconded Cr Noli

“That the applicant and the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, be advised that Council does not object to the Application for Commercial Other Subsidiary on Premises Licence for OTZ Food, Shop 1, Four Mile Beach Plaza, 364-366 Port Douglas Road, Port Douglas, also described as Lot 1 on BUP70698.”

Carried unanimously.

5.2. REQUEST FOR COMMENT PROPOSED LIQUOR LICENSE FOR JIMMY RUM'S MIXING LOUNGE

Daniel Lamond, Planning Officer

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Kerr

“That the applicant and the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, be advised that Council does not object to the Application for Commercial Other Subsidiary on Premises Licence for Jimmy Rum's Mixing Lounge, Shop 12-13, 53-61 Macrossan Street, Port Douglas, also described as Lot 1 on SP150461.”

Carried unanimously.

5.3. MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES AT LOT 15 ASSMAN ROAD WHYANBEE

Simon Clarke, Coordinator Development Assessment and Coordination

Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Carey

“That Council approves the development application for Telecommunications Facilities over land described as Lot 15 on SP155089, located at L15 Assman Road, Whyanbeel, subject to the following:

APPROVED DRAWING(S) AND / OR DOCUMENT(S)

The term ‘approved drawing(s) and / or document(s)’ or other similar expressions means:

Drawing or Document	Reference	Date
Draft Site Layout	B1438-P1 Rev 02	20 December 2016
Draft Site Elevation	B1438-P2 Rev 02	20 December 2016

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Assessment Manager Conditions

1. *Carry out the approved development generally in accordance with the approved drawing(s) and/or document(s), and in accordance with:*
 - a. *The specifications, facts and circumstances as set out in the application submitted to Council; and*
 - b. *The following conditions of approval and the requirements of Council's Planning Scheme and the FNQROC Development Manual.*

Except where modified by these conditions of approval

Timing of Effect

2. *The conditions of the Development Permit must be effected prior to Commencement of Use, except where specified otherwise in these conditions of approval.*

Colours

3. *The exterior finishes and colours of the facility must be non-reflective and must blend with the natural colours of the surrounding environment.*

Fencing and Signage

4. *Construct fencing for the perimeter of the facility consisting of a minimum 1.8 metre high mesh security fence. The facility is to be signed with appropriate hazard warning signs.*

Damage to Council Infrastructure

5. *In the event that any part of Council's existing infrastructure is damaged as a result of construction activities occurring on the site, including but not limited to, mobilisation of heavy construction equipment, stripping, grubbing, the applicant/owner must notify Douglas Shire Council immediately of the affected infrastructure and have it repaired or replaced at the developer's cost, prior to Commencement of Use.*

Lawful Point of Discharge

6. *All stormwater from the property must be directed to a lawful point of discharge such that it does not adversely affect surrounding properties or properties downstream from the development, all to the requirements and satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer.*

Health

7. *The facility must comply with all relevant State and National Standards in relation to emission of light, vibration, odour and radiation.*

ADVICE

1. This approval, granted under the provisions of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*, shall lapse four (4) years from the day the approval takes effect in accordance with the provisions of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*.

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2. All building site managers must take all action necessary to ensure building materials and / or machinery on construction sites are secured immediately following the first cyclone watch and that relevant emergency telephone contacts are provided to Council officers, prior to commencement of works.
3. This approval does not negate the requirement for compliance with all other relevant Local Laws and other statutory requirements.
4. For information relating to the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* log on to www.dilgp.qld.gov.au . To access the *FNQROC Development Manual*, Local Laws and other applicable Policies log on to www.douglas.qld.gov.au .

LAND USE DEFINITIONS*

In accordance with the Douglas Shire Planning Scheme 2008, the approved land use of Telecommunication Facilities is defined as:

Means the use of premises for the provision of telecommunication services.

The use excludes Low Impact Telecommunications Facilities as defined by the Telecommunications (Low Impact Facilities Determination) 1997 under the Telecommunications Act.

*This definition is provided for convenience only. This Development Permit is limited to the specifications, facts and circumstances as set out in the application submitted to Council and is subject to the abovementioned conditions of approval and the requirements of Council's Planning Scheme and the *FNQROC Development Manual*."

Carried unanimously.

5.4. PERMISSIBLE CHANGE REQUEST 109 DAVIDSON STREET PORT DOUGLAS

Neil Beck, Planning Officer

Moved Cr Carey

Seconded Cr Zammataro

"That Council resolves to approve the request for a Permissible Change to the existing Camp Ground over land described as Lot 3 on RP909815, located at 109 - 111 Davidson Street, Port Douglas subject to the following:

APPROVED DRAWING(S) AND / OR DOCUMENT(S)

The term 'approved drawing(s) and / or document(s)' or other similar expressions means:

<i>Drawing or Document</i>	<i>Reference</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Site Plan – Plan of Development</i>	<i>As submitted with the request and attached as Attachment 1</i>	<i>Undated</i>

ASSESSMENT MANAGER CONDITIONS

1. Carry out the approved development generally in accordance with the approved drawing(s) and/or document(s), and in accordance with:
 - a. The specifications, facts and circumstances as set out in the Request for the Permissible Change submitted to Council; and

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- b. *The following conditions of approval and the requirements of Council's Planning Scheme and the FNQROC Development Manual.*

Except where modified by these conditions of approval

Timing of Effect

2. *The conditions of the Decision Notice must be effected within 6 months of the date of this Decision Notice.*

Amendment to Design

3. *The proposed development must be amended to accommodate the following requirements:*
- a. *Provide covered car parking for the seven (7) spaces adjacent Crimmins Street that are accessed from the internal driveway.*

Details of the above amendments must be endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer prior to issue of a Development Permit for Building Work.

Damage to Council Infrastructure

4. *In the event that any part of Council's existing sewer/water or road infrastructure is damaged as a result of construction activities occurring on the site, the applicant/owner must notify Council immediately of the affected infrastructure and have it repaired or replaced at no cost to Council.*

Vehicle Parking

5. *All onsite parking as detailed on the Plan of Development must remain available for use at all times. The car parking layout must comply with the Australian Standard AS2890.1 2004 Parking Facilities – off-street car parking and be constructed in accordance with Austroads and good engineering design. In addition, all parking and vehicle maneuvering areas must be imperviously sealed or alternative surface treatment applied to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer.*

Storage of Machinery and Plant

6. *The storage of any machinery, material and vehicles must not cause a nuisance to surrounding properties, to the satisfaction of the Chief Executive Officer.*

Lawful Point of Discharge

7. *All stormwater from the property must be directed to a lawful point of discharge such that it does not adversely affect surrounding properties or properties downstream from the development.*

Sediment and Erosion Control

8. *Soil and water management measures must be installed/implemented prior to discharge of water from the site, such that no external stormwater flow from the site adversely affects surrounding or downstream properties (in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act 1994, and the FNQROC Development Manual).*

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ADVICE

1. *This approval, granted under the provisions of the Sustainable Planning Act 2009, shall lapse four (4) years from the day the approval takes effect in accordance with the provisions of sections 339 and 341 of the Sustainable Planning Act 2009.*
2. *All building site managers must take all action necessary to ensure building materials and / or machinery on construction sites are secured immediately following the first cyclone watch and that relevant emergency telephone contacts are provided to Council officers, prior to commencement of works.*
3. *This approval does not negate the requirement for compliance with all other relevant Local Laws and other statutory requirements.*
4. *For information relating to the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 log on to www.dilgp.qld.gov.au. To access the FNQROC Development Manual, Local Laws and other applicable Policies, log on to www.douglas.qld.gov.au.”*

Carried unanimously.

**5.5. EXECUTE PART C PROPOSED PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE PART
OWEN ST, CRAIGLIE ADJOINING 14 YIKI ST, CRAIGLIE**

Susanna Andrews, Property Officer

Moved Cr Carey

Seconded Cr Noli

“That Council:

1. *delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with section 257 of the Local Government Act 2009, to execute a form Part C as Road Manager so an application can be lodged with the Department of Natural Resources and Mines for a proposed permanent road closure over part of Owen Street, Craiglie, adjoining land located at 14 Yiki Street, Craiglie, also described as Lot 13 on SP192591.*
2. *requires all costs associated with the road closure be paid by the applicant.”*

Carried unanimously.

5.6. CONTAINER REFUND SCHEME SUBMISSION

Paul Hoyer, Manager Sustainable Communities

Nicola Learmond, Sustainability Officer

Abbey Belcher, Resource Management Technical Officer

Moved Cr Leu

Seconded Cr Noli

“That Council resolves to support and submit the attached Container Refund Scheme Submission to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.”

An amendment to the motion was moved.

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Moved Cr Noli

Seconded Cr Carey

“That Council resolves to support and submit the attached Container Refund Scheme Submission to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection with a recommendation that the items currently proposed to be excluded from the recyclable items be included.”

Carried unanimously.

The motion became the substantive motion.

Carried unanimously.

5.7. APPLICATION FOR BUILDING BETTER REGIONS FUNDING

Kerrie Hawkes, Executive Officer

Moved Cr Leu

Seconded Cr Kerr

“That Council resolves to:

- 1. support an application under the current round of the Commonwealth Government 'Building Better Regions' Fund - Infrastructure Projects Stream, for \$1,125,000 towards the construction of the Noah Creek Bridge Renewal; and*
- 2. contribute 25% (\$375,000) towards the project costs.”*

Carried unanimously.

5.8. 2016/17 BUDGET REVIEW

John Rehn, Manager Finance and IT

Moved Cr Leu

Seconded Cr Noli

“That Council adopts the 2016/17 Revised Budget.”

Carried unanimously.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.

7. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

8. PETITIONS

Nil.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Moved Cr Zammataro

Seconded Cr Kerr

“That Council resolves to move into Closed Session to discuss the following matter:

- 9.1 *Contractual Matter S275 (1) (E) Local Government Regulation 2012 - 2016/2017 Regional Asphalt Overlay Program;*
- 9.2 *Prejudicial Matter S275 (1) (H) Local Government Regulation 2012 - Internal Audit Plan 2016/2017; and*
- 9.3 *Contractual Matter S275 (1) (E) Local Government Regulation 2012 - Mossman & District Show Society - Resource & Performance Agreement.”*

Carried unanimously.

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

Moved Cr Carey

Seconded Cr Noli

“That Council resolves to move out of Closed Session.”

Carried unanimously.

9.1. CONTRACTUAL MATTER S275 (1) (E) LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS 2012 - 2016/2017 REGIONAL ASPHALT OVERLAY PROGRAM

Michael Kriedemann, Manager Infrastructure Services

Moved Cr Carey

Seconded Cr Noli

“That Council resolves to:

1. *Award contract 2017–011 Regional Asphalt Overlay Program to Boral Resources (Qld) Pty Ltd. Based on the indicative works program and pricing the contract value is estimated to be in the vicinity of \$775,442.24 excl. GST; and*
2. *Delegate authority to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters in relation to these arrangements.”*

Carried unanimously.

9.2. PREJUDICIAL MATTER S275 (1) (H) LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATION 2012 - INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2016/2017

Darryl Crees, General Manager Corporate Services

Moved Cr Leu

Seconded Cr Noli

“That Council endorses the Annual Internal Plan for the 2016/17 Financial Year.”

Carried unanimously.

**9.3. CONTRACTUAL MATTER S275 (1) (E) LOCAL GOVERNMENT
REGULATIONS 2012 - MOSSMAN & DISTRICT SHOW SOCIETY -
RESOURCE & PERFORMANCE AGREEMENT**

Erica Bigby, Research and Project Officer
Kerrie Hawkes, Executive Officer

Moved Cr Kerr

Seconded Cr Carey

“That Council:

- 1. approves the Resource and Performance Agreement with Mossman & District Show Society for a term of three years to 30 July 2019, to a value of \$15,500 (ex GST) per annum In-Kind; and*
- 2. delegates authority to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009, to finalise any and all matters relating to the execution of the Agreement.”*

Carried unanimously.

CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 10.57am.

CONFIRMED THIS DAY OF 2017

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MAYOR/CHAIR

QUEENSLAND'S CONTAINER REFUND SCHEME

*A submission to the Department of
Environment and Heritage Protection*



DOUGLAS SHIRE
COUNCIL

*Improving Environmental Performance
Ngaral Kulji Bubungu - Eastern Kuku Yalanji
Pulmpa dakit jarral-a-kaling - Yirrganydji*

Queensland's container refund scheme

A submission to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

Introduction

The Douglas region is comprised of World Heritage listed areas of natural beauty, ancient and complex ecosystems and is renowned for the biodiversity of its flora and fauna. The economy of the Shire relies largely on tourism with 1.2 million visitors annually and is supported by a strong agricultural base.

Douglas Shire Council (Douglas) recognises the economic, environmental and social benefits of implementing a successful container refund scheme in Queensland. Douglas has committed to good environmental stewardship and community leadership through its Corporate and Operational Plans and is committed to a 'zero tolerance' approach to litter and illegal dumping. Douglas has adopted a Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan 2016-2019 and an Illegal Dumping Strategy.

Waste Services and Infrastructure

Douglas provides services and facilities for waste disposal throughout the Shire; these include a kerbside collection service to properties within the collection service area, four transfer stations and one active landfill accepting building and construction waste. Properties outside the kerbside collection service area are levied a Special Refuse Charge to enable utilisation of Transfer Stations located throughout the Shire, and one Transfer Station in the adjacent local government area of Cook Shire.

General waste from Douglas kerbside collection service is delivered to Killaloe Transfer Station for transport to an Advanced Resource Recovery Technology Facility in Cairns for processing. Recyclables collected in the kerbside collection are transported directly to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in Cairns. Recycled items are sorted and separated into plastics, paper, steel and aluminium, baled and transported to Brisbane for recycling. Glass is separated and crushed to be used in water and waste operations by Cairns Regional Council where possible.

A Far North Queensland plastic recycling plant is currently being investigated by a local business and if this is successful it would greatly reduce the transport required for recycling plastic products; as the plastics would not be required to be transported to Brisbane for processing.

Douglas supports the introduction of a Container Refund Scheme (CRS) and believes the scheme has the potential to provide a meaningful recycling opportunities for communities and commercial businesses in the area north of the Daintree River and to other outlying areas of the Shire. The CRS also has the ability to greatly reduce roadside littering and provide employment opportunities.

Queensland's container refund scheme

A submission to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

Submission

The thirteen questions outlined in the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP) 'Implementing Queensland's Container Refund Scheme Discussion Paper' are addressed below.

Refund Payments

- 1. Please provide your views on the various refund options (i.e. cash, voucher, direct bank credit, etc.) that may be available to a person returning containers to a container refund point.**

Cash refunds would be the most appropriate option for the majority of users. The majority of children and people from lower socio-economic groups would likely prefer cash over vouchers or direct bank credit.

Direct bank credit would be the most appropriate option for community groups and those operating Container Return Points. Some individuals may also value the option to sign up to direct bank credit instead of receiving cash.

Refund Marking

- 2. Do you think a logo or picture to represent the refund marking is easier to understand than the text, similar to that used in South Australia and Northern Territory?**

Yes, a visual logo or picture on the eligible containers would be easier to understand than text alone.

- 3. Do you agree with broadening the eligibility to receive a refund to 'participating jurisdictions' rather than only in the 'state of purchase'?**

Yes, the Container Refund Scheme should accept 'participating jurisdiction' containers. This will be important particularly for residents living on the border of Queensland and New South Wales, as well as tourists and those travelling interstate. Ultimately the scheme should be a coordinated national scheme and this is a positive step to achieving this.

- 4. Do you support providing flexibility in the Scheme to allow for the use of more than one way to identify an eligible container (i.e. barcode technology, container shape, manual identification)?**

Yes, containers vary in shape and size therefore it is appreciated that there will need to be a level of flexibility to identify eligible containers. This may be particularly important when dealing with large volumes of containers at Material Recycling Facilities (MRFs) and transfer stations. It is also anticipated that some container labels may deteriorate, especially if left out in hot climates and therefore the scheme will need to accommodate this.

Accessibility and Infrastructure

5. What is the best way to provide fair and reasonable access to a container refund point?

There needs to be some form of legislation governing the number of mandatory refund points based on population and distance. This will help ensure there is fair and reasonable access to the scheme for all Queenslanders.

6. What options might be available to the retail sector to participate in the Scheme?

It would be convenient for many community members if the retail sector had Container Refund Points located on their premises. This could be through a reverse vending machine or other methods. Supermarkets and service stations would appear to be the ideal retail businesses to make use of reverse vending machines. This would create opportunity for retailers through voucher credits in store and the prominent location of these retail businesses would afford ready access across the socio economic profile. Parking would also be readily available at these types of retail outlets.

7. How far would you be willing to travel and where would be a convenient location (i.e. public places and buildings, supermarkets, transfer stations, material recovery facilities) to redeem your containers?

Douglas believes that 30 minutes would be an appropriate maximum length of time to travel to a Container Refund Point. However, it is acknowledged that in a large State such as Queensland this will not always be possible. In more remote locations it may be acceptable for individuals to bring their containers into town at certain intervals during regular shopping trips.

Convenient locations for Container Refund Points would be supermarkets, service stations, waste transfer stations and material recovery facilities.

Convenient locations for Container Return Points would be schools, sports facilities and community group locations.

8. How can convenience for redemption of containers and equitable access to all in the community be enhanced (i.e. co-locating container refund points with other collections such as e-waste, establishing new infrastructure)?

Co-location of waste streams would be appropriate at waste transfer stations and material recycling facilities (MRFs). It may also be appropriate to co-locate Container Refund Points with clothing collection points, which are often located at supermarkets and community centres. New infrastructure will also be required to ensure there are enough Container Refund Points so that there is fair and reasonable access to the scheme for all Queenslanders. New infrastructure will also be necessary at many transfer stations and community drop off points to ensure the deposit area is fit for purpose.

Queensland's container refund scheme

A submission to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

9. Do you think that the provision of a specific number of refund points to a certain area should be legislated?

Yes, this is important to ensure equitable access (see answer to Question 5).

Scheme Administration

10. Do you think it is appropriate for the Queensland Government to be responsible for setting the handling fee and deciding how this is allocated among Scheme participants?

Yes, this seems necessary to ensure the successful delivery of the scheme across the State and to ensure the handling fee is set at a fair rate and administered correctly.

11. Do you think the Queensland Scheme should have a single Scheme coordinator or multiple Scheme coordinators?

In the first instance Queensland should have a dedicated single Queensland Scheme coordinator. Sharing a scheme coordinator with New South Wales, as considered in the Discussion Paper, is not supported. To ensure that the scheme can operate to its full potential a Queensland specific coordinator is necessary.

Implementation and Review

12. What do you think might be a reasonable period for the Scheme, from time of introduction, to achieve a targeted level of access?

Twelve months is considered a desirable target given the size of the State and the diverse communities throughout Queensland.

13. How long do you think the Scheme should operate before being reviewed?

A three year review would allow for the rollout of the scheme, behavioural change to be measured and issues to be identified and addressed in most instances. This period of time would also allow for the majority of old container stock to be out of the beverage supply system.

Additional Information

Douglas is also requesting that the proposed excluded containers, which include: plain milk containers, wine and spirit containers and juice containers, are included in the Scheme. This will assist councils and other groups to provide further opportunities for recycling, particularly for small and remote areas where currently there are minimal or no recycling opportunities.

In Far North Queensland, Cairns Regional Council, Tablelands Regional Council and Douglas Shire Council are the only local government areas that currently offer a kerbside collection for recyclables. Douglas pays a significant gate fee to Cairns Regional Council for the processing of recyclables and Cairns Regional Council has ownership of the recyclables. The proposed scheme does provide some

Queensland's container refund scheme

A submission to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

potential ability for Douglas to offset some of the costs via payment of the 10 cents for eligible containers collected by Douglas.

Further to the above the scheme offers the potential for recycling to be viable for commercial operators and residents in communities outside of current collection areas with the added benefit of providing an income source for community groups and potentially people willing to collect and transport the eligible containers to refund points. These containers would previously have been lost to landfill.

It is essential that recycling process systems are considered by the scheme and adequate investment is made to ensure the environmental benefits are not negated through excessive handling and transportation of bulky recyclables. A current example is the glass collected in Douglas' kerbside recycling. This glass is ground down to produce a sand substitute, instead of being sent 1700km to market in Brisbane. It would not be economical or environmentally friendly to start sending bulky glass containers down to Brisbane through the scheme, when they are currently processed in Cairns. Investment in shredding and bailing at local transfer stations and MRFs (before transportation) is critical and would require an appropriate level of investment in equipment and infrastructure.

The scheme needs to be flexible enough to support the development of regional recycling opportunities. An example would be the development of a plastic recycling plant in Far North Queensland to make use of the resources in the region and potentially produce products for the North Queensland market.

Finally, infrastructure design, such as reverse vending machines, needs to be robust enough to survive the high humidity, heat and many animals that are commonly found in Far North Queensland.