Question on Notice
No. 643
Asked on Wednesday, 30 April 2008

QUESTION:

MR MOORHEAD asked the Minister for Sustainability, Climate Change and Innovation (Mr McNamara) —

Will the Minister outline what the State Government is doing to allow Queenslanders to recycle waste away from home?

ANSWER:

While a good rate of recycling is already being achieved through kerbside collections in Queensland (243,194 tonnes in 2006) it is estimated a further 50 percent of recyclable material is generated away from home and is not being recycled.

So that Queenslanders have the option to extend their recycling efforts beyond their own footpaths a new statewide Public Place Recycling project has been launched.

The project aims to:
− be as reliable and consistent as Council kerbside recycling systems;
− maximise the capture of recyclable materials with limited contamination;
− enhance collection and recycling infrastructure in the State to generate increased economies of scale for recycling industries; and
− change people's behaviour so that they can continue to recycle when they are away from home.

It is envisaged the two-year project will target the following public places and venues across the State including:
− major Events;
− public spaces and parks;
− shopping precincts and centres;
− major Sporting venues;
− transport centres and hubs; and
− Tertiary educational institutions.

The roll out of new recycling bins in public places will be accompanied by a public awareness campaign of '*do the right thing, use the right bin*'.

The project has a budget of $1 million over two years. In addition to industry contributions of $0.5 million under the National Packaging Covenant the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing matched funding of $0.5 million. Additional funding and in-kind costs will be provided by the Packaging Stewardship Forum. Further in-kind costs, in the form of free advertising and in-house EPA marketing and graphics, are expected to raise the figure to over $2 million in the next two years.