

Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation

DELIVERING
FOR QUEENSLAND



Our reference: CTS 26159/25

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9 JAN 2026

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Neil".

I write to provide an Interim Government Response to Report No. 14, 58th Parliament of the Health, Environment and Innovation Committee titled 'Improving Queensland's Container Refund Scheme' (the Report), which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 16 October 2025.

On behalf of the Crisafulli Government, I thank the Committee for its thorough Inquiry into the Container Refund Scheme (the Scheme), the first such review since the Scheme's establishment in 2018. I also thank the many Queenslanders including community groups, organisations and industry leaders for their submissions to the Inquiry.

The Crisafulli Government remains committed to the Scheme, increasing the container recovery rate and boosting recycling across Queensland. However, the Inquiry's findings represent a damning indictment of the former Labor Government's administration of the Scheme, including serious allegations of bullying, intimidation and corrupt behaviour. The Committee's report also includes a number of referrals to the Crime and Corruption Commission. These findings make it clear that change is required.

Given the significance and complexity of the Committee's recommendations, further time will be needed to consider the recommendations and table the Government Response. The Government will take a careful, methodical approach to responding to the recommendations to ensure that we do not undermine the benefits of the Scheme or impact the many small businesses that have been established as part of the Scheme. A more detailed Government Response will be provided by 16 April 2026.

I appreciate your assistance in tabling this Interim Government Response in the Legislative Assembly by 16 January 2026, in accordance with Standing Order 31 and section 107 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001*.

If you require any further information or assistance in relation to this matter, please contact my office on (07) 3719 7300 or by email at environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andrew Powell".

Andrew Powell MP
Minister for the Environment and Tourism
Minister for Science and Innovation