



Media Release

Issued: 21 July 2017

**Agriculture and Environment  
Committee**

Chair: Joe Kelly MP  
Deputy Chair: Pat Weir MP

## **Parliamentary committee coming to Yeppoon to hear views on plastic bag ban and container refund scheme**

Queensland Parliament's Agriculture and Environment Committee is travelling to Yeppoon on **Thursday 27 July 2017** to hold a public roundtable meeting.

The committee will hear the local community's views on legislation that would introduce a lightweight plastic shopping bag ban and a container refund scheme for recycling beverage containers. The legislation would also amend laws relating to End of Waste Codes.

Chair of the committee and Member for Greenslopes, Joe Kelly MP, acknowledges the Livingstone Shire community's support for the protection of the natural environment, noting that community groups have pushed for a plastic bag ban and a cash for containers scheme for some years.

"The Livingstone Shire community has made a strong statement of its desire to reduce plastic pollution in Queensland. Local residents have participated in litter cleaning from the beach, shown support for groups such as Plastic Bag Free Livingstone and gathered to support a cash for containers scheme."

"The proposed legislation will reduce the amount of litter in the environment and increase recycling. It will also create opportunities for community and social groups to earn revenue through participation in the container refund scheme."

"The roundtable meeting will provide an opportunity for the committee to consider the potential impacts of the proposed law on the Yeppoon community. I anticipate that a range of stakeholders will be involved, including those representing local government, environmental and business groups, local business, community organisations and members of the local community. The meeting is an opportunity for these stakeholders to attend and discuss their views."

The committee's roundtable meeting will be held from **10.30am – 12.30pm** in the Commodore Room at the Keppel Bay Sailing Club, Anzac Parade, Yeppoon. If you would like to participate at the meeting please register your interest either by calling the committee's secretariat on 07 3553 6662 or 1800 504 022, or by clicking [here](#) to send an email.

The committee is due to report to the Queensland Parliament by Friday 11 August 2017. For information on the committee's inquiry please see the committee's [website](#).

**For media comment:** please contact the committee Chair, Joe Kelly MP on (07)3414 2100

**For background information:** please contact the committee secretariat on (07) 3553 6662, via email at: [aec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:aec@parliament.qld.gov.au) or visit the committee's webpage at: [www.parliament.qld.gov.au/aec](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/aec).