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19 January 2018

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio, MP
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
Level 17, 8 Nicholson Street
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Dear Minister

Feedback on Victoria's Proposed e-waste Policy Package – Ongoing Funding Requirements

Bayside City Council has responded directly to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning following an invitation to provide feedback on the Government's proposed approach to managing e-waste.

Bayside City Council welcomes the proposal to increase the diversion of e-waste material from landfill. Council has committed to increasing its municipal landfill diversion rates from 51% in 2016/17 to 60% by 2020 and 75% by 2025 and the Government's proposal is a timely and valuable initiative for the State.

Council is however concerned that funding for the ongoing additional costs of collection, storage, handling, transport and processing of e-waste as volumes increase over time has not been sufficiently resolved.

Council wrote to you on 26 July 2017 about use of the funds generated by the Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy (Levy) and I thank you for your response to this on 17 October 2017. You advised that funds generated by the Levy are used to fund ongoing operations of the Environment Protection Authority, Sustainability Victoria and the Waste and Resource Recovery Group, and that remaining Levy income is held in the Sustainability Fund for distribution to support a range of sustainability programs.

I acknowledge the State government has committed to allocate \$15 million from the Sustainability Fund to upgrade municipal transfer stations and improve resource recovery facilities and an additional \$1.5 million for a community education program, and promotion campaign to support behavioural change. It is clear that local governments will be required to meet additional annual costs which will be sourced from ratepayer funds. In Bayside's case, this is expected to be in the order of \$75,000 per annum.



Council believes that funds collected through the Municipal and Industrial Landfill Levy and held in the Sustainability Fund should be used to further support e-waste management and support an increase in diversion rates. This application of the Fund would be logical, strategic and in keeping with the purpose of the Levy, which is to send a signal to industry that is an incentive to minimise the generation of waste, increase recycling and resource recovery and to develop alternatives to dispose to landfill.

I would be pleased to discuss this matter with you further and can be contacted on 9599 4388.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurence Evans" with a stylized flourish underneath.

Cr Laurence Evans
Mayor