

What's the Opportunity for Non Profit Organisations?

Charities have a number of opportunities to participate in a Container Deposit System (CDS) to secure a long term and sustainable revenue base for their important work. These include:

1. Like South Australia, busy households that are happy to forgo their deposits, can choose to forfeit their deposit to charities who offer to regularly collect their beverage containers. Similarly pubs and cafes could use this charity collection service. Charities that could benefit heavily from running this type of service are youth and welfare orientated organisation with transport equipment: Disability employment providers (e.g. Wesley Mission, Wise Employment), welfare agencies (Mission Australia and the Salvo's) and sports (surf lifesaving and football clubs).
2. The extensive use of RVMs creates options for people to choose to support their favourite charity by donating the deposit when they return their containers. (arrangement for selected charity made with RVM operator).
3. Arrangements with pubs and cafes that pass on the deposit in their prices to consumers and then donate the proceeds to a 'charity of the month'.

In South Australia these types of activities generate around \$7.5million p.a. In the much larger NSW population this could easily represent a boost for charities of some \$40million p.a; and in Qld some \$24million.¹

Social Enterprise is well established in Australia and many already operate waste and recycling services. For example Scouts South Australia is the largest depot operator of the CDS in South Australia. The operation of bulk collection facilities with handling fees is an ideal opportunity for local charities. These types of social enterprise activities benefit the community in two ways. They provide income for the groups work and create jobs for the most disadvantaged job seekers in the employment market.

4. Bush regeneration and clean up groups (e.g. Clean Up Australia, Responsible Runners, Scouts, Sports groups – at their grounds) can earn revenues from litter collections.
5. Charities based in high pedestrian traffic areas (e.g. Surf Clubs, Op Shops) can earn rental incomes partnering with RVM providers to locate their collection points in ideal locations.
6. CDS, combined with community 'drop off' recycling facilities operated by local government or community groups - will make participation in the CDS very attractive for charities.

It is feasible that 20% of the collection network could be operated by this sector. At this level of participation it is realistic to see another \$25million p.a. injected into the NSW charitable sector; and \$15.5million in Qld.

TOTAL: NSW \$65m

¹The Harrison report (2014) to the SA EPA and Zero Waste states some 13% donate their containers. This figure is discounted by 25% to account for the fact that SA has far less redemption points so more people are 'inconvenienced' by redemption and use a charitable service when compared to the NSW approach.

QLD \$39.5m