

For Immediate Release

14 November 2017

Boomerang Alliance calls for all Queensland political parties to support policies on the next steps to reduce plastic litter and waste

The 55th Queensland Parliament (2015-17) set a new agenda on litter and plastic pollution reductions. It unanimously supported legislation to ban lightweight plastic bags and introduce a Container Refund Scheme. These measures when introduced in July 2018 will significantly reduce litter, increase recycling and support community fundraising.

‘A plastic bag ban and container refund scheme will make a big difference, but are only the first steps in reducing plastic litter.’ said Toby Hutcheon, QLD Manager of the Boomerang Alliance

‘The Boomerang Alliance and our allies, are urging all political parties to keep up the good work and now turn their attention to other plastic pollution problems.’

‘Queensland has often been referred to as the most littered state, we want the next Queensland Government to make Queensland the cleanest and least littered State.’

‘We need to keep our beaches, waterways, our parks, roads and highways clean by reducing our bad plastic habits and switching to better alternative practices.’

The Boomerang Alliance and our allies are seeking the inclusion of policies to reduce the use, and littering habits on single use, non-biodegradable plastics.

- Introduce a **Plastic Pollution Reduction Plan** for Queensland to identify and examine alternatives to throwaway plastics in the home, away from home, in industry and agriculture and discards from fishing and boating activities
- Introduce an **immediate ban on polystyrene takeaway containers**
- **Set a schedule for the phase out of single use, non-biodegradable takeaway products** (coffee cups, straws, containers and food ware)

‘With the State currently receiving 100,000’s of tonnes of interstate waste, Queensland must introduce a waste levy. This transport will continue until a levy is introduced.’

‘A levy, hypothecated to resource recovery investments, will also reduce our waste problems and create new jobs and investments, throughout Queensland.’

For More Information: Toby Hutcheon, QLD Manager-0422 990 372