



Recommendations presented to address recycling and waste management problems

A comprehensive report on the recycling and waste management crisis has been tabled in the Victorian Parliament today by the Legislative Council’s Environment and Planning Committee.

After a seven-month investigation, the Committee has made 33 findings and 46 recommendations that address a raft of recycling and waste management issues currently facing Victorians.

“This has been a wide-ranging and complex inquiry. Based on the evidence we received, the Committee has developed a detailed set of recommendations aimed at dealing with the problems that have impacted recycling and waste management in our state,” Committee Chair Cesar Melhem said.

“The recycling crisis has been challenging, for industry, government and especially local government, and for the community in general. This report provides an opportunity for systemic change,” Mr Melhem said.

“Adoption of our recommendations will help to achieve better management systems and contribute to the development of a dynamic and vibrant recycling industry in Victoria,” Mr Melhem said.

The findings and recommendations in the report cover a wide range of issues, including:

- the need to reduce waste generally, and thereby reducing landfill and problems associated with stockpiling
- the importance of sorting recycling, particularly the separation of glass from other recyclable materials
- the importance of education in the community to manage recycling and waste
- the complex governance arrangements within the different layers of government, and the potential for recycling and waste management to be designated an essential service.

The inquiry received more than 700 submissions and heard evidence from 135 witnesses in 14 days of public hearings.

“I believe that this report will make a significant contribution to the development of better recycling and waste management practices in Victoria,” Mr Melhem said.

The report is available from the Committee’s [website](#).

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