

## Monitoring the **impacts on container beverage prices** and **competition**

Our findings and recommendations based on the scheme's first year



### IMPACTS ON CONTAINER BEVERAGE PRICES

Price increases due to the CDS reflect a workably competitive market

#### Non-alcoholic beverages

Average price increase due to the CDS **10.1 cents**



Soft drinks  
▲ **10.8c**



Water  
▲ **11.6c**



Fruit juice  
▲ **5.3c**

#### Alcoholic beverages

Average price increase due to the CDS **5.1 cents**



Beer  
▲ **4.2c**



Ready-to-drink  
▲ **10.0c**



Cider  
▲ **6.9c**

Averages weighted by market share



We found direct costs were 9.3 cents and other costs of up to 2.3 cents were **reasonable**



Monthly scheme costs have been **volatile** due to billing in advance and true ups



We recommend that Exchange for Change **simplify invoices** and **bill in arrears**



### IMPACTS ON COMPETITION

**No specific evidence** of a material **reduction in competition** in the beverage market



NSW Government is providing transitional assistance for retailers on **NSW-Victorian border**

To ensure competitiveness is maintained we recommend:



Container approval fee should reduce from \$80 to **\$13.70 per container**



**Recognise containers** registered in other states and **harmonise administration** with other schemes

**No need for ongoing monitoring of container beverage prices**