

16th November 2017

To whom this may concern,

With the introduction of the NSW Container Deposit Scheme in efforts to reduce litter volumes, the costs of the scheme initially fall upon the first supplier, who then has the choice to bear the whole cost or to divide it with its customer(s) by increasing the prices of its beverages. Under the logic that a supplier or retailer would choose not to bear the entire costs of the scheme alone, the common supplier/distributor/retailer would increase the price of its beverages to extend a proportion of the costs to its customer/consumer.

Being a unique retailer that is famously known for selling more than 90% of its products under one base-price or less, this puts us and companies of similar nature in a difficult position in terms of increasing prices of beverages in order to alleviate the impact of the costs of the container deposit scheme. Unlike the majority of suppliers/distributors/retailers whom may be able to change the price(s) of their beverages more freely, we unfortunately do not possess such liberty as we are tied down to keeping our prices under the one price we are well known for. Consequently, due to the limitation of increasing the price of our beverages, we regrettably have no choice but to bear the entire costs of the scheme.

Being concerned about the potential increase in costs of beverages over and above the costs of the scheme is one issue, however we believe suppliers/distributors/retailers in a somewhat opposite situation like ours where we do not have the ease to raise prices of our beverages, should also be taken into consideration and reviewed in a similar manner.