



Minister for Environment; Disability Services
Deputy Leader of the Legislative Council

Our Ref: 62-02682

Melvyn J. Tuckey
Committee Member
Peel Preservation Group Inc
PO Box 1784
MANDURAH WA 6210

Dear Melvyn

Thank you for your letter dated 24 July 2017, regarding plastic bags and the significant impact of plastic pollution on our wildlife and environment.

The McGowan Labor Government is concerned about the impacts of waste, including plastic, on the environment. The Government is working to reduce those impacts by introducing a container deposit scheme in Western Australia and investigating how we might ban single use plastic bags.

Under the previous Liberal government, efforts by local governments in WA to ban single-use plastic bags were overturned in State Parliament. Since the election of the McGowan Labor Government on 11 March 2017, many local communities in Western Australia have shown a renewed commitment to ban single use plastic shopping bags.

The Government commends the City of Fremantle and the Town of East Fremantle for having already passed laws that ban plastic bags within their localities. I am keen to understand how a State wide ban could further strengthen this important environmental outcome.

I appreciate your continued advocacy and support and I am confident that together, we will be able to deliver positive outcomes for the people and the environment of Western Australia.

Yours sincerely

Hon Stephen Dawson MLC
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

07 AUG 2017