



OIAD-50

9(2)(a)

Dear 9(2)(a)

Thank you for your email of 10 May 2021 requesting the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I would appreciate it if you could give me a list of all grants that were made by MFE to the following groups since the landfill levy was implemented, plus the amount granted and a brief outline of what the grants were for:

- *The Packaging Council of New Zealand*
- *The Packaging Forum*
- *The Glass Packaging Forum*
- *The Public Space Recycling Scheme*
- *Love NZ*
- *Plastics New Zealand*
- *Coca Cola*
- *Lion Nathan*
- *The NZ Beverage Council (NZBC) (formerly I think the NZ Juice and beverage Council)*
- *Keep NZ Beautiful*
- *Sustainable Coastlines*
- *EBAG (The Environmental Beverage Action Group) set up to create a unified beverage action group to ensure a CRS was not introduced some time ago). Now defunct as the risk of a CRS subsided.*

In the phone call that Sam Buckle, Deputy Secretary Resource Efficiency and Water and Land Use Policy, and I had with you on 26 May 2021; you amended your request to include "a copy of the PWC cost benefit analysis of the proposed container return scheme".

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) has interpreted the scope of the first part of your request to mean grants funded under the Waste Minimisation Fund (WMF) and the landfill levy you refer to as Waste Disposal Levy.

In response to the first part of your request, please find attached the table *Waste Minimisation Fund funded projects* below. The Ministry searched its records and found no information in relation to funding or grants being awarded to the following organisations:

- The Packaging Council of New Zealand
- The Public Space Recycling Scheme
- Love NZ
- Coca Cola
- Lion Nathan
- The NZ Beverage Council (NZBC) (formerly I think the NZ Juice and beverage Council)
- EBAG (The Environmental Beverage Action Group)

I am refusing your request in relation to these organisations under section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist. You can find more information about projects funded under the WMF on the following website: environment.govt.nz/what-you-can-do/funding/waste-minimisation-fund/waste-minimisation-fund-funded-projects/.

In response to the second part of your request, I am withholding a copy of the *New Zealand Container Return Scheme Cost-Benefit Analysis report* in full under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

The proposed Container Return Scheme (CRS) is still being considered by the Government. Documents and advice in relation to the CRS will be released in due course once a decision has been made and announced.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Office of the Ombudsman of my decision to withhold information relating to this request, in accordance with section 28(3) of the Act. The relevant details can be found on their website at: www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Please note that due to the public interest in our work the Ministry publishes responses to requests for official information on our [OIA responses page](#) shortly after the response has been sent. If you have any queries about this, please feel free to contact our Ministerial Services team: ministerials@mfe.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely



Shaun Lewis
Director - Systems Change and Investment

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Waste Minimisation Fund funded projects

Title	Applicant	Project Type	Waste Stream	Funding awarded (up to)	Year funding awarded	Region
Recycling in Public Places - Making Public Place Recycling Happen for the Love of New Zealand	Glass Packaging Forum	Infrastructure	Packaging	\$2,155,020	2010	Nationwide
Development and promotion of public place recycling	Glass Packaging Forum	Infrastructure	Packaging	\$200,000	2011	Nationwide
Pilot Study for a portable interactive educational display focussed on waste minimisation	Sustainable Coastlines Incorporated	Investigative	Multiple Waste Streams	\$110,414	2011	Nationwide
Recycling of Post Consumer Soft Plastic Packaging	The Packaging Forum Incorporated	Services	Packaging	\$1,728,900	2015	Nationwide
Do the right thing	Keep New Zealand Beautiful Society Incorporated	Education and awareness	Litter	\$3,070,690	2016	Nationwide
Independent review of public litter and evaluation of waste minimisation interventions	Sustainable Coastlines Incorporated	Investigative	Litter	\$261,250	2016	Nationwide

in New Zealand						
Litter Less, Recycle More	The Packaging Forum Incorporated	Education and Awareness	Packaging	\$1,728,900	2016	Nationwide
A grass roots solution to litter in New Zealand	Sustainable Coastlines Incorporated	Education and Awareness	Multiple Waste Streams	\$2,658,993	2017	Nationwide
Advancing the New Plastics Economy in Aotearoa	Plastics New Zealand Incorporated	Services	Packaging	\$1,084,840	2019	Nationwide

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