

MEDIA RELEASE

Return and Earn Bin Baskets

Coonamble shire council has installed ten Return and Earn bin baskets on public bins to improve public place recycling and keep eligible bottles and cans out of the litter stream and landfills.

The bin baskets are attached to council bins in high-traffic areas to enable people to leave their drink containers for someone else to collect.

Residents or community groups can then easily collect the containers from the bin baskets to recycle at a nearby Return and Earn location for the 10c refund.

A recent trial of the simple but innovative solution by Return and Earn scheme coordinator Exchange for Change, found the bin baskets were effective at reducing drink containers going into the public bins and landfill by up to 80 per cent.

The Return and Earn bin baskets have been installed at key locations including:

- Castlereagh street
- Macdonald Park
- Smith Park
- Broome Park
- Skate Park

Coonamble shire residents are already enthusiastic recyclers at home, having returned over 1 million eligible bottles, cans and cartons through local return points since Return and Earn began in 2017.

“The bin baskets are a simple solution to keep recyclable drink containers out of landfill.’ Mayor Keady said

“Anyone out and about can now just leave their empty bottle or can in one of the bin baskets for someone else to collect. This simple act gives someone else the chance to claim the refund, whether its a child collecting for extra pocket money or a local group collect as part of their fundraising. It keeps our local environment clean while helping our community.”

More than 15 billion drink containers have been returned for recycling through the network of over 660 return points across NSW, resulting in over \$1.5 billion in container refunds back in people’s pockets.

There is currently 1 return point in Coonamble Shire for residents to recycle their containers. Visit www.returnandearn.org.au to find your nearest location.

The bin baskets were provided by Exchange for Change as part of its [Return and Earn Bin Baskets for Councils program](#).

