



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, 18 February 2021

SA's first trolley By-law binned

Marion Council is calling on the State Government to take action on abandoned shopping trolleys littering the streets after Parliament thwarted SA-first laws last night.

State Parliament has disallowed By-laws that would have given Marion Council powers to tackle abandoned shopping trolleys. Mayor Kris Hanna has slammed the decision.

“Parliament has placed the interests of big end of town retailers ahead of the interests of the community,” Mayor Hanna said.

“We have worked with the Legislative Review Committee for more than a year to address any technical issues they may have had with the By-law. Council has done everything that has been asked of us. Thousands in the community will be frustrated with this measure.

“If Parliament is unwilling to act then I urge the State Government to take the lead and tackle this issue on a State-wide basis. The scourge of abandoned shopping trolleys is not confined to Marion.”

Under Council's proposed By-law, shoppers who removed trolleys from the grounds of a shopping centre or supermarket – and retailers who failed to collect them within 72 hours – would face fines of \$187.50.

Mr Hanna said abandoned trolleys were an eyesore, a nuisance and a safety issue, particularly for the elderly and people with disabilities.

“Council developed the By-law in response to calls from the community to fix the problem,” Mr Hanna said.

“We held a summit with local retailers nearly three years ago to look at ways to end trolley dumping.

“These included electronic locking systems to contain trolleys in precincts and coin deposits. Unfortunately, the retailers did not take the necessary steps, prompting Council to act.”

Laws to manage shopping trolleys have been introduced by councils in Queensland, NT, Victoria and Western Australia, while the ACT Government has laws mandating retailers have coin operated systems.

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