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MEDIA RELEASE

CONTAINERS FOR CHANGE REFUND POINTS TO SERVICE MORETON BAY

The Moreton Bay communities of Russell and Macleay Island will soon be able to participate in the Containers for Change scheme more easily with container refund points to open on both islands.

The Russell Island site will open on October 31 and will operate on Thursday and Fridays while the Macleay Island site will open on November 4 and operate Mondays and Wednesdays. Both services will be operated by a local not-for-profit organisation.

The new sites have been secured following a recent Expression of Interest process seeking local business and community groups interested in operating CRPs as part of the scheme.

The Containers for Change scheme encourages Queenslanders to reduce litter and increase recycling across the state by returning eligible containers for a 10 cent refund.

Locals will be able to return their eligible containers at the bag drop sites and receive their refund via EFT payment through a Containers for Change scheme ID. Residents can register for a scheme ID on the Containers for Change website.

Container Exchange is the not-for-profit organisation that operates Containers for Change. Chief Executive Officer Ken Noye said the new sites would be welcome additions to the scheme.

"These new sites will mean more Queenslanders will be able to access the scheme more easily, making change one container at a time," said Mr Noye.

"I urge residents to visit the Containers for Change website to register for a scheme ID so they are ready to receive their refunds when the sites open."

Queensland Minister for Environment Leeanne Enoch said this was great news for the region.

"Queensland's enthusiasm for Containers for Change has been evident, with more than 920 million containers returned so far, which is an incredible result in under a year of the scheme," Ms Enoch said.

"The scheme has also created economic and job opportunities across the state, and it is clear more organisations are embracing this, as more refund points are being established."

Specific sites and operating hours for the bag drops are yet to be determined but will be announced soon.

For more information on Containers for Change, or to register for a scheme ID visit <u>www.containersforchange.com.au</u>.