COEX Container Exchange

Annual Report 2023–2024

Making the change that matters.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Contents

FY24 Highlights

2.1 billion

containers returned for recycling through the scheme

Includes containers returned through container refund points and material recovery facilities. 10.3 billion containers returned to date.

▲ 10.5% FROM FY23

1,581*

jobs created

*As reported by container refund point operators, processors, logistics providers and COEX at 30 June 2024

▲ 68.2% FROM FY23

95,462

new member sign-ups

601,244 Containers for Change member sign-ups since launch

▲ 12.8% FROM FY23

86

independent operators*

*Including container refund point operators, processors and logistics service providers

EQUAL TO FY23

184,791

tonnes of material collected

More than 784,000 tonnes of glass, PET, HDPE, aluminium, liquid paperboard and steel diverted to the circular economy to date

▲ 39.6% FROM FY23

15

First Nations communities serviced

Co-designed container refund points active in 6 First Nations Local Government Areas (LGAs)

▲ 34.9% FROM FY23*

* uplift in containers collected from First Nations LGAs

$3.4m

donated to charities and community groups

$13.5m donated to charities and community groups since launch

▲ 14.4% FROM FY23

$181.6m

returned to Queenslanders

$851 million returned to Queenslanders since launch

▲ 9.1% FROM FY23

Delivering Queensland's container refund scheme

100%
of all glass recycled in Queensland

77%
of all glass recycled into new bottles

Chair's message

Welcome to the 2023 - 2024 Container Exchange (COEX) Annual Report. It's my pleasure to present this year's Annual Report on behalf of the COEX Board.

This past year has been one of significant milestones. On 1 November 2023 we celebrated the fifth anniversary of Containers for Change in Queensland and we became the first container refund scheme in Australia to accept glass wine and spirit bottles, contributing to a milestone 2.1 billion containers collected over the year.

We are delighted to see that Queenslanders have embraced the new container range with a 13.4% uplift in glass volumes returned as at 30 June 2024. Through this expansion we have also welcomed to the scheme a new group of wine and spirit beverage manufacturers, who are now also contributing to a producer responsibility model offering substantial sustainable benefits to Queensland.

The Queensland scheme is uniquely designed to amplify environmental, social and economic value created through container recycling. COEX's not-for-profit status means we have a clear remit to ensure we are growing and sharing the benefits of container recycling with Queenslanders from all walks of life.

We are proud that we have continued to grow employment opportunities across Queensland in FY24 with 1,581 jobs created across the scheme, including for Queenslanders who would have otherwise faced barriers to employment. This significant uplift has been driven by an increase in container returns since the inclusion of wine and spirit bottles.

We are also proud of the social enterprises that work across our network as refund point operators, infrastructure suppliers and container processing points – and we retain a firm focus on growing more opportunities to benefit social enterprises in the future.

Of course, one of the most obvious benefits of Containers for Change is the 10-cent refund our customers receive when they return a container. These refunds add up. Since Containers for Change began, through to 30 June 2024 Queenslanders have received refunds totalling $181.6 million via our refund point network.

Those refunds are helping Queenslanders with cost-of-living challenges. They are helping charities and community groups, and schools raise funds to deliver more and better services in their communities.

The environmental benefit is also significant. In addition to containers collected through the refund point network, material recovery facilities (MRFs) have returned 1.8 billion containers since scheme inception through to 30 June 2024. In total that means 10.3 billion containers saved from litter or landfill and given a new lease on life helping to grow Queensland's circular economy, reducing reliance on virgin materials and limiting negative contributions to climate change.

More containers mean more valuable recyclable material available to grow the circular economy in Queensland and Australia. We welcome steps to grow the remanufacturing industry onshore, while maintaining a strong focus on the integrity of offshore recycling networks used by all Australian container refund schemes where local recycling opportunities are not yet developed.

Glass remains a local success story for container recycling and in FY24 we reached a new record recovery rate of 88% for this material type.

We are also proud that 100% of all glass collected through Containers for Change was recycled in Queensland, with 77% of this material supporting bottle-to-bottle recycling.

Our Annual Report reflects a milestone year for Containers for Change and the many people and organisations who have made these achievements possible.

As we table these achievements, I'd like to thank and acknowledge the Honourable Leanne Linard, Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, for her support of COEX and Containers for Change this past year.

I'd also like to acknowledge my fellow Board directors and the COEX team who have worked with commitment to deliver these achievements.

Of course, these successes are not ours alone. They are shared with everyone who participates in Containers for Change including our operators, logistic providers, processors and recycling partners, as well as beverage manufacturers and industry partners. Our network of operators work tirelessly within their local community to make a difference.

Last, but certainly by no means least, I'd like to thank the communities that have embraced Containers for Change right across Queensland. We look forward to delivering even more benefits to all our Queensland communities in the year ahead.

Andrew Clark
Board Chair

CEO's message

The 2023 - 2024 financial year has been one of growth and transformation for Container Exchange and I am proud to present the year's Annual Report on behalf of the organisation.

The achievements in this report reflect our commitment to growing the benefits of Containers for Change across Queensland. In early 2024 we captured this commitment in a new and aspirational vision: No container goes to waste. Our team, our operators and partners have wholeheartedly embraced this vision, which reflects our shared desire that no recyclable container is lost to landfill and no 10-cent refund goes unearned.

The results we have delivered in FY24 show the significant progress we are making towards our goal. We have broken records and achieved new milestones as we continued a track record of year-on-year growth in container collection volumes and recovery rates. We are delighted that through Containers for Change, more than 2.1 billion containers were saved from landfill in FY24, generating $181.6 million in 10-cent refunds for Queenslanders, including $3.8 million for charities, community groups and schools.

The introduction of wine and spirit bottles for refunds in November 2023 paved the way for some of the strongest performing months in our history. It also provided the chance to deliver even more benefits to Queenslanders as the wider range of refundable containers attracted new customers to Containers for Change.

I congratulate our team and network for the hard work and planning that made the addition of these new container types a seamless experience for our customers. This expansion drove new monthly collection records in December (200.7 million) and January (207.9 million) and set the stage for a new record monthly container recovery rate of 83.3% in February 2024. Importantly, we cemented our track record of delivering year-on-year growth in our annual recovery rate, which reached a new high of 67.4%.

In addition to expanding the Containers for Change range, we also focused on expanding our partnership strategies to deliver a strong uplift in out-of-home volumes. By enabling container collection via events, venues, schools, hospitality providers, retail precincts and more, we encouraged Queenslanders to continue the positive recycling behaviours instilled at home, while they were out and about.

We have a clear remit to ensure that all Queenslanders can access Containers for Change and its environmental, social and economic benefits. I am delighted that we were able to continue to grow our reach in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in FY24. Co-designed refund points were opened in the communities of Yarrabah and New Mapoon contributing to the 34.9% uplift in volumes from these Local Government Areas.

Staying connected with our network remains a priority and in FY24 I was pleased to spend a significant amount of time engaging with the refund point operators who are the face of Containers for Change. Together we continue to build strong partnerships built upon trust and a shared vision, and I look forward to working alongside our operators to further grow Containers for Change in FY25.

In sharing our achievements from 2023-2024 I would like to echo the Chair's thanks to the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, the Honourable Leanne Linard. I would also like to acknowledge and thank the Department of Environment , Science and Innovation for their collaboration and support this year.

I would like to sincerely thank our Board for their ongoing support. I would also like to thank the Executive Leadership and COEX team for their continued efforts and innovation as we work together to increase the positive impacts of Containers for Change across the state.

But perhaps the biggest thanks go to the people of Queensland who have made container recycling a part of their daily lives. The results highlighted in this report show you are all part of something important - something that creates jobs, inspires communities and drives our circular economy. We hope you will continue to help us ensure no container goes to waste as we continue to make the change that matters for all Queenslanders.

Natalie Roach
Chief Executive Officer

205m
year-on-year container volume growth

83.3%
Record peak monthly recovery rate (Feb 2024)

About COEX

Container Exchange (COEX) was founded to establish and grow Containers for Change in Queensland. Following engagement with beverage manufacturers, the waste industry and communities across the state, Containers for Change was officially launched on 1 November 2018 with 252 sites statewide.

Since then, COEX has driven the growth of the Containers for Change network, adding more than 100 additional sites and creating significant and meaningful change for the people of Queensland.

We invest where it matters to drive participation in container recycling by individuals, businesses, charities and community groups across the state. As a not-for-profit, our focus is to ensure all Queenslanders can access the positive environmental, social and economic benefits provided by Containers for Change.

Our values

Our values are the pillars upon which our organisation is built. They are the foundation of our culture, guide our behaviours and inform decision making across the business.

Our vision: No container goes to waste

In April 2024 we launched a new vision: No container goes to waste. This has become our north star as we continue to work to increase container recycling across Queensland and amplify the environmental, social and economic benefits this brings. To create our vision, we listened to our team members and key stakeholders, and considered how we could best serve our customers across the state.

The new vision reflects our role in the circular economy and our goal to remove recyclable containers from landfill. It distils the message of our previous vision 'to influence and enable all people to participate in the circular economy' into a clear and compelling call to action that all Queenslanders can embrace.

Following its launch, our new vision became the backbone of our organisation's strategic priorities as we work toward our goal of ensuring no container goes to landfill and no refund is left unearned by customers, charities or community groups.

May 2024 saw COEX take part in the annual Queensland Corporate Games for the first time, fielding teams in mixed netball and bowling. The games were a great opportunity for collaboration and team building in a fun environment.

Our people

We know a highly engaged team enables us to achieve our vision and purpose and better serve our customers and communities across Queensland. We are proud that our team members go to extraordinary lengths every day to achieve this and ensure that no container goes to waste.

In turn, we are committed to creating and sustaining a strong workplace culture where everyone feels valued, recognised and supported to learn and grow. In FY24 we made significant progress towards this goal, achieving quarter-on-quarter improvements in our eNPS (employee net promoter score) survey results, through a focus on these key areas:

- Health and wellbeing
- Leadership
- Reward and recognition
- Diversity, inclusion and belonging
- Learning and development

The focus on these areas has taken place in the context of a significant organisational transformation during which we have embedded a new structure, grown to welcome new team members with new capabilities and focused on creating the culture we need to achieve our vision and support our next phase of growth.

Some highlights from our FY24 people strategy include:

- Establishing a holistic wellbeing program under the banner of 'You Matter' which focuses on initiatives to support mental health, emotional wellbeing, physical health and social wellness.
- More deeply understanding our psychosocial risk climate and collaborating with team members to proactively monitor and manage our key risks.
- Establishing an Inclusion, Diversity and Belonging working group comprised of team members passionate about promoting inclusion, championing diversity and fostering belonging in our workplace.
- Launching a new employee award program celebrating our 'Cheers Champions'. This brings together weekly shout-outs and monthly awards to culminate in the announcement of annual employee award winners.
- Kicking off our 'Brain Bites' learning and development program focused on leadership, psychosocial safety, neuroscience, health and wellbeing and other business topics.
- Delivering a calendar of events and activities that have celebrated and rewarded our employees, from a friendship-focused 'crafternoon' during Pride Month to a memorable family day at Australia Zoo, a Containers for Change partner.

In FY25 the continued evolution of our people strategy to further embed our vision, values and culture will be a key priority.

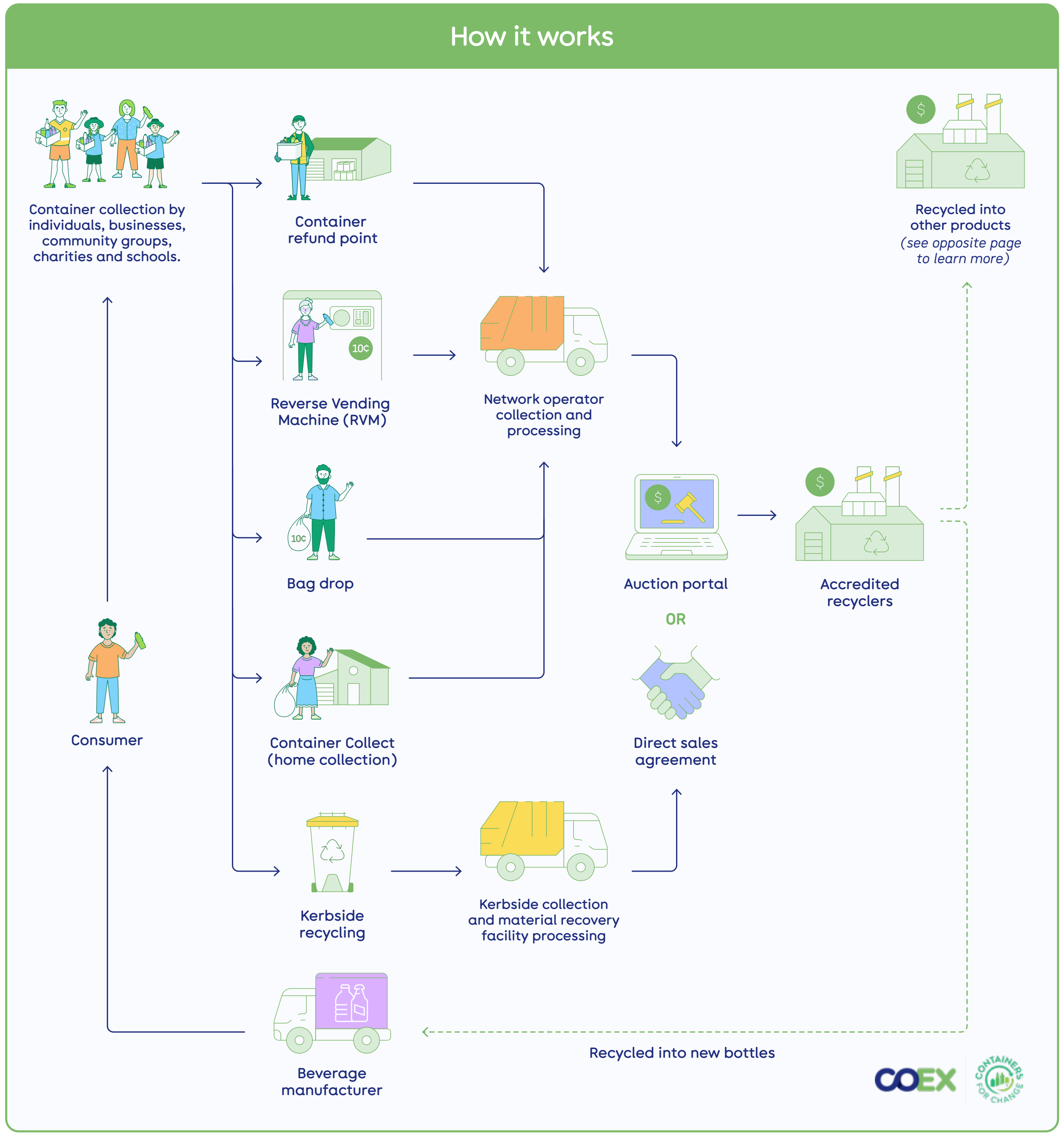
About Containers for Change

Containers for Change is Queensland's container refund scheme.

Customers including charities, schools and community groups, receive 10-cents for each eligible container returned at a Containers for Change refund point.

Containers for Change is designed so that all Queenslanders can share in its environmental, social and economic benefits. Participants can choose to keep their 10-cent refund or donate it to a cause that matters to them.

By taking part, Queenslanders are not only helping to clean up the environment. They are supporting the creation of jobs, contributing to Australia's circular economy and driving positive change in the community through donations to charities and community groups.



What happens to material collected?

Container type		FY24 volume	Recovery rate	YoY variance	Can be recycled into
ALUMINIUM	Aluminium beverage cans	1 billion	69.1%	▲ 2.3%	› Recycled beverage cans › Electronics › Car parts › Building products › Kitchen foil › Takeaway packaging
GLASS	Glass beverage bottles including juice, beer and soft drink	537.8 million	88.0%	▲ 7.6%	Furnace-ready glass cullet for use in: › Recycled beverage bottles › Other glass bottles › Road base › Pipe base underlay › Home insulation
PET	Plastic beverage bottles	510 million	57.1%	▲ 3.6%	› Recycled PET beverage bottles (clear bottles only) › Coloured PET bottles
HDPE	Flavoured milk bottles (<1 litre), pure fruit juice (<1 litre), up to 90% pure juice (<3 litres)	43.2 million	78.7%	▲ 14.7%	› Other bottles (e.g. soap containers) › Furniture › Kitchen bins › Construction material › Manufacturing equipment
LIQUID PAPERBOARD	Juice boxes, flavoured milk, coconut water (<l litre)	39.6 million	25.7%	▲ 2.5%	› Craft paper › Plastic resin › Building products
STEEL	Steel beverage cans	1.3 million	34.1%	▲ 4.4%	› Steel cans › Utensils › Construction materials

Glass has the highest recovery rate of all material collected in Queensland and an impressive 77% is used to make new bottles.

FY24 at a glance

354 container refund points

Container Collect: **1,009** suburbs supported by home collection services

27 RVMs

108 Bag drops

67 Mobile

152 Depots

67.4% Annual recovery rate

57% Container refund point network

10.4% Material recovery facility

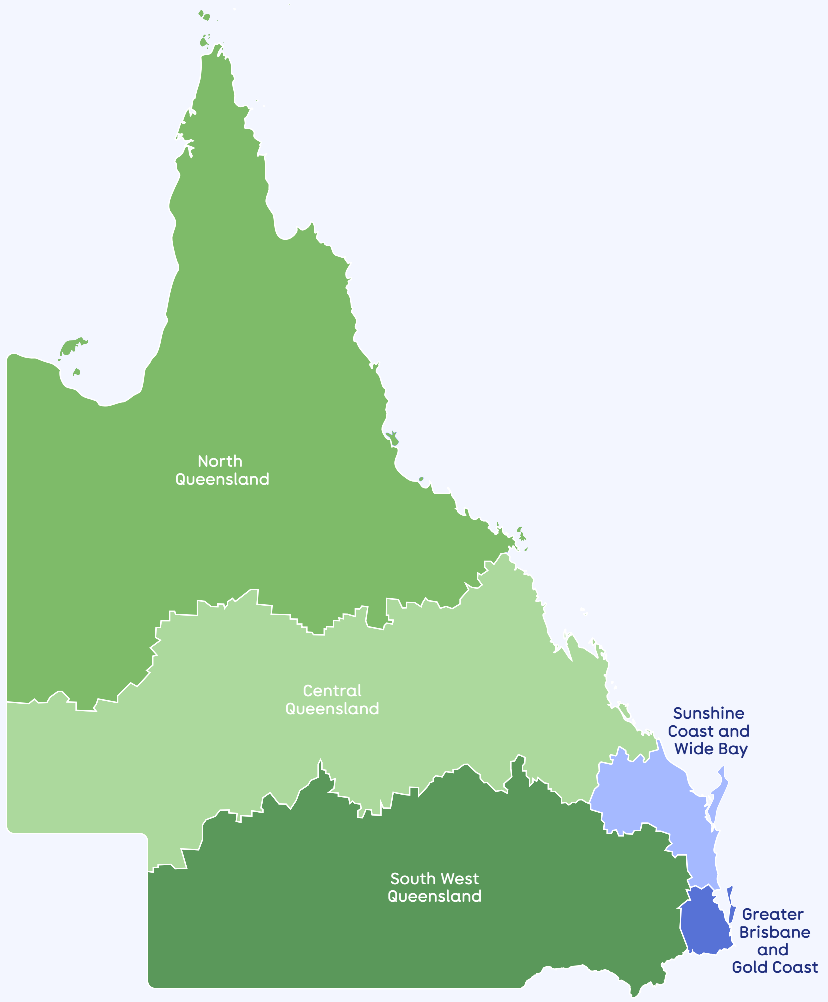
Peak recovery rate **83.3%** Feb 2024

Record daily volume **8.6m** 22 Dec 2023

Record weekly volume **42.6m** 11-17 Dec 2023

Record monthly volume **207.9m** Jan 2024

FY24 regional snapshot



Greater Brisbane and Gold Coast

Total CRPs:	139
Total volume:	1,129 million
Year-on-year volume growth:	10%
Average containers collected per person:	1,401*

Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay

Total CRPs:	55
Total volume:	324.9 million
Year-on-year volume growth:	15.1%
Average containers collected per person:	2,103*

South West Queensland

Total CRPs:	42
Total volume:	173.5 million
Year-on-year volume growth:	12.1%
Average containers collected per person:	2,390*

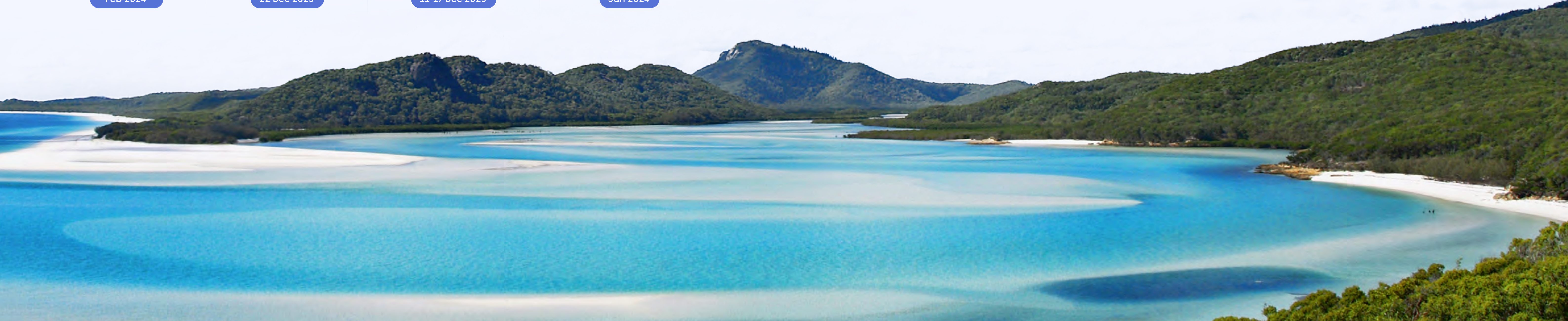
Central Queensland

Total CRPs:	51
Total volume:	230.7 million
Year-on-year volume growth:	10.1%
Average containers collected per person:	2,742*

North Queensland

Total CRPs:	67
Total volume:	285.2 million
Year-on-year volume growth:	7.6%
Average containers collected per person:	3,595*

Note: Regions are as defined by COEX in alignment with its operations.
*Member number transactions only, excludes cash transactions



Key achievements

Keeping our network safe

COEX has an unwavering commitment to maintaining a safe container refund point network for customers, operators, team members and the communities we serve.

The organisation manages and minimises network hazards through a comprehensive safety management system. All refund point operators are required to meet agreed safety standards as part of their contract to operate in the Containers for Change network.

Our regular safety program includes a number of elements:

- Safety audits are carried out by an external provider who reports findings back to COEX for monitoring and management with our operators. In FY24, 122 sites were audited under this program. An audit of every refund point in the network will be completed early in FY25.
- Processes are established to monitor and respond to safety risks and hazards, including issuing safety alerts and updates to educate and support refund point operators and their teams. In FY24 COEX provided information to help operators address a range of safety topics including secure cash handling, CCTV placement to support transaction records, psychosocial wellbeing and plant and equipment safety.
- Safety risks for COEX team members who regularly travel throughout the network are also part of the safety program. Driver training, including four-wheel drive vehicle operation and training to support low-risk driving behaviours, was delivered to 40 COEX team members in FY24.

Outside our regular safety program, a strong focus area during the reporting period was assessing the Workplace Health, Safety and Environment (WHSE) impacts of glass wine and spirit bottles joining the network ahead of the scheme's expansion in November 2023. A thorough risk analysis and extensive consultation with refund point operators and logistics providers ensured increased glass volumes could be safely transported within the network.

During the reporting period there were three notifiable workplace health and safety incidents across the network which were required by legislation to be reported by operators.

Expanding the range of Containers for Change

On 1 November 2023, Queensland's Containers for Change became the first Australian container refund program to accept glass wine and pure spirit bottles for 10-cent refunds.

The Queensland Government's decision to expand the range of eligible containers came after it conducted a three-month consultation period (December 2022 to February 2023) during which more than 98% of the 6,600 individuals surveyed voiced support for the inclusion of the new container types.

COEX aimed to deliver a seamless customer experience from the first day of scheme expansion, and we worked collaboratively with beverage manufacturers, operators and technology providers, as well as our customers to achieve this.

Extensive engagement was undertaken with the wine and spirit industries to help facilitate a smooth registration process. COEX invested in improving its onboarding experience including acquiring databases to facilitate compliance and simplify the product registration process. In addition, an outbound call centre was deployed to support beverage manufacturers alongside a multi-channel education and engagement program.

Ensuring container refund point operators were ready to accept the new containers was another crucial step. COEX supported operators to upgrade operational systems and platforms, offered comprehensive operator support and scheduled additional logistics services.

New technology protocols were established to ensure all wine and spirit bottles could be accepted at refund points that used barcode reading technology.

The preparations were a success. The Containers for Change network successfully handled a 26% year-on-year uplift in glass volumes for the month of November, equating to 10.4 million containers.

The introduction of the new containers set the stage for record-breaking volumes returned through the container refund point network and a 13.4% year-on-year increase in glass volumes. Before November 1, 2023 the rolling 12-month glass recovery rate was 81%. As at 30 June 2024, the 12-month rolling glass recovery rate increased to 88%. In total, more than 538 million glass containers were returned for recycling this financial year.

Partnering for growth

FY24 saw COEX place strong emphasis on establishing and growing strategic partnerships to support volume growth and create new opportunities for Queenslanders to participate in Containers for Change.

The establishment of a dedicated partnership team was key to supporting growth in this area, with specialised leads focused across a range of out-of-home settings including retail, hospitals, schools, hospitality, stadiums and events. More than 1,425 strategic partnerships were launched in FY24 delivering strong growth in out-of-home collection volumes and enabling Queenslanders to practice good recycling habits at work, at home and at play. These partnerships resulted in more than 16.6 million containers being returned for recycling during the financial year.

Visitors to the iconic Gold Coast theme park Sea World have been able to recycle drink containers within the park since mid-2022. However, an official partnership established in FY24 between COEX and the Village Roadshow-owned theme park has been designed to increase collection volumes and educate visitors. The new agreement includes enhanced on-site collection infrastructure, extensive on-site signage, joint promotion and education, including a dedicated segment during the popular Seal Guardians presentation.

The positive relationship with Sea World has led to container collection being introduced to other Village Roadshow theme park sites including Movie World, where collections began in September 2023. As at June 30 more than 352,000 containers had been collected.

Sporting and stadium partnerships continued to yield strong results. Brisbane's Nissan Arena, home stadium of the Queensland Firebirds netball team, recorded a 31% year-on-year increase in collection volumes. Improved on-site collection infrastructure, signage, game day activations and joint promotional content helped drive this result. At a grassroots level, netball community clubs increased collection volumes by almost a third (32%) with refunds benefiting local teams. In the north of the state, Townsville's Queensland Country Bank Stadium achieved an impressive recovery rate of more than 80%, with almost 385,000 containers collected at the stadium. This represents a 77% year-on-year uplift in volume.

Partnerships with charities such as the RSPCA have showcased impressive year-on-year growth to deliver more benefits to Queensland causes. The partnership began with the RSPCA's Wacol shelter before expanding to additional Queensland shelters in FY24. This expansion and an increase in refund donations saw container volumes lift by 200% year on year. Since scheme launch to June 2024, the popular charity had raised more than $18,600 through container refunds across the state.

A partnership with Brisbane Airport Corporation (BAC) resulted in well over half a million containers being collected at Brisbane's domestic and international terminals and the Skygate precinct in FY24. This represents a near doubling of year-on-year collection volumes. The 10-cent refunds generated from containers donated via Brisbane Airport bins have been invested back into the local community, including a $35,000 donation made to the Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee benefiting the local environment.

Partnerships with hospitals and health services such as Darling Downs Health demonstrated the triple bottom line benefits of Containers for Change. The Toowoomba Hospital collected more than 72,000 containers in FY24, with more than 16,000 being collected in June 2023 alone indicating strong volumes heading into FY25. The Hospital's participation in Containers for Change has diverted almost six tonnes of recyclable containers from landfill and has raised more than $7,200 in 10-cent refunds which have been used by the Toowoomba Hospital Foundation to support hospital operations and benefit patient care.

Tourism sector partnerships were in their infancy in FY24, however the strong growth potential of this segment is clear. Collection volumes doubled year-on-year with an impressive 189,000 containers returned for recycling by a single resort, the Intercontinental Hayman Island.

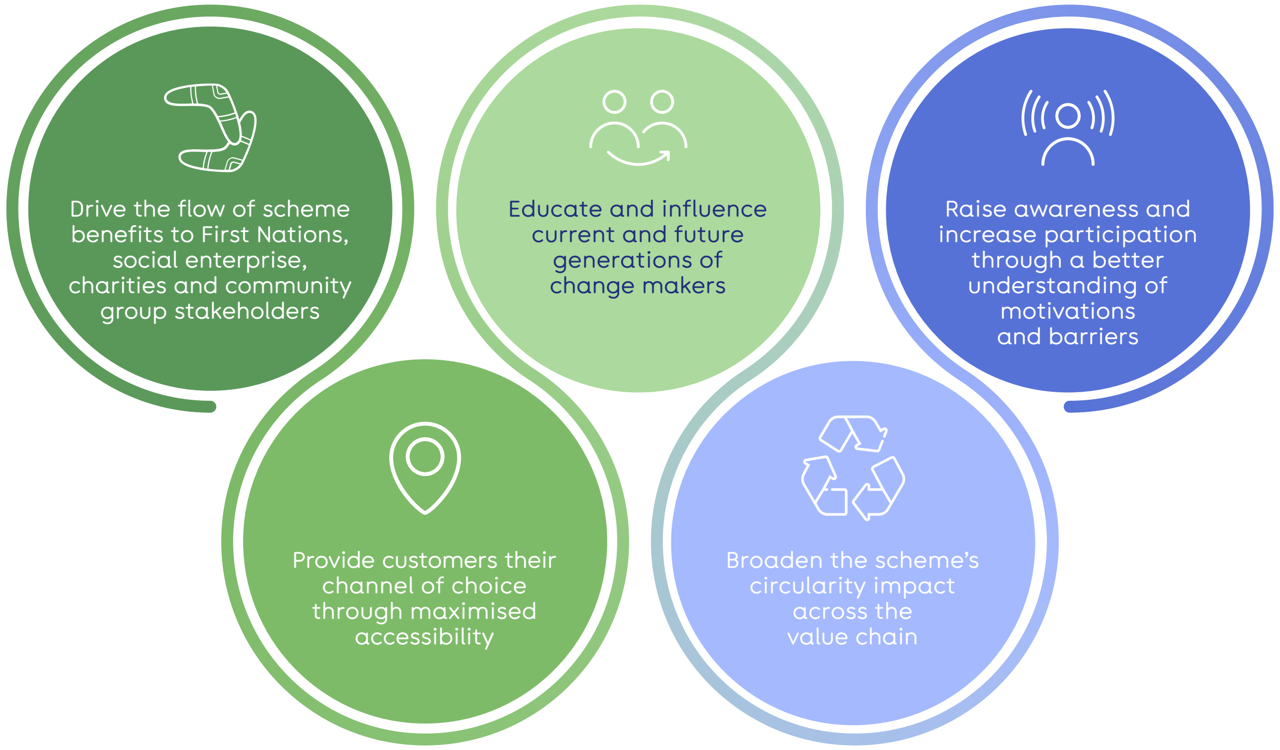
Strategic partnerships with multi-unit dwellings (MUDs), educational facilities and event organisers also yielded impressive results during the financial year.

The RSPCA is just one charity whose fundraising has gone from strength to strength using Containers for Change.

Performance against strategic plan

COEX's FY24 strategic plan was underpinned by five strategic priorities which aimed to support our goal of increasing container collection while maximising the environmental, social and economic benefits of Containers for Change across Queensland.

FY24 Strategic Priorities



Success Measure	Achievement In FY24
2.28b containers collected	› 2.1 billion containers collected equating to 10.6% growth › Scheme awareness reached 87%, up 3% year-on-year[1] › Participation reached 76%, up 12% year-on-year[1]
90% of metro/regional hub Queenslanders within 5km	› 94% of metro/regional hub Queenslanders within a 5km radius of a Containers for Change refund point
Increase fit-for-purpose[2] solutions in First Nations Local Government Areas (LGAs)	› Two new co-designed refund points opened in FY24 (New Mapoon and Yarrabah), taking the total number of First Nations LGAs with a co-designed collection solution to six › As at 30 June 2024, 15 of Queensland's 17 First Nations LGAs had local access to Containers for Change
Increase channel options throughout the network including out-of-home	› A pipeline of 55 new Containers for Change sites was approved for mobilisation in FY25 › The home pick-up service, Container Collect, transitioned from pilot to business-as-usual operations with 1,009 suburbs serviced as at 30 June 2024
Increase strategic partnerships	› 1,427 partnerships were launched in FY24 to grow out-of-home collection volumes › More than 16.6 million containers were returned via these partnerships in FY24
Increase participations in schools	› 446 new schools joined Containers for Change in FY24, taking the total registered to 788 › In FY24, 3.4 million containers were returned through schools, earning $337,000 for these school communities

1. Source: COEX awareness and participation survey, January 2024
2. Fit-for-purpose solutions are container refund points co-designed with individual First Nations communities to fit their needs

Drive the flow of scheme benefits to First Nations, social enterprise, charities and community group stakeholders

First Nations

Growing access to Containers for Change through genuine collaboration with First Nations Local Government Areas (LGAs) was a key strategic focus in FY24. The opening of dedicated container refund depots in the communities of Yarrabah (October 2023) and New Mapoon (September 2023) signified key milestones on this journey.

Representing more than just the establishment of container refund points, the opening of these depots delivered economic opportunities and jobs, fostered community engagement and established a foundation from which to build trust and understanding with local communities.

The response has been overwhelmingly positive with a 34.9% uplift in volume in First Nation LGAs observed in FY24.

As at 30 June 2024, 15 of Queensland's 17 First Nations LGAs (88%) had local access to Containers for Change. In addition, co-designed collection solutions have now been rolled out to six First Nations LGAs.

Additionally, the Containers for Change container refund network created employment opportunities for 90 Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders.

In FY25, COEX will continue its focus on growing partnerships across First Nations LGAs in Queensland.

15
First Nations LGAs serviced

The opening of the Yarrabah refund point has created three full-time jobs in the community of less than 500 households.

COEX CEO Natalie Roach (pictured) assists a customer at the official opening of the New Mapoon depot.

Case Study

New Mapoon's million: container refund boost for First Nations community

New Mapoon was one of two container refund depots opened in First Nations communities in FY24.

Situated at the tip of Australia in Cape York, New Mapoon is nestled in the Northern Peninsula Area (NPA) region. The NPA is made up of five different First Nations communities and is the home of the Angkamuthi, Atambaya and Gudang Yadhaykenu people, the traditional custodians of the land.

The New Mapoon depot has been warmly received by the local community. Since operations began in October 2023 more than 920,000 containers have been returned for recycling at the depot resulting in more than $92,000 in 10-cent refunds being paid to the community.

Prior to a dedicated depot being established the community had access to Containers for Change through a mobile service operating locally since November 2020.

The New Mapoon depot is the sixth co-designed container refund point COEX has established in conjunction with First Nations communities. These co-designed container collection solutions support locals to access the environmental, social and economic benefits of Containers for Change.

Additional co-designed refund points are located in the communities of Cherbourg, Yarrabah, Palm Island, Badu Island and Wujal Wujal.

Following its October 2023 opening, nearly one million containers were processed at the New Mapoon depot in FY24.

Social enterprises, charities and community groups

Containers for Change creates meaningful fundraising opportunities for Queensland charities and community groups. More than 34.4 million containers were returned for recycling by charity and community groups in FY24, representing $3.4 million in donations and taking total donations to charities and community groups to $13.5 million since Containers for Change began.

To help Queenslanders tap into the full fundraising potential of Containers for Change a dedicated charity and community group partnership lead was appointed in January 2024. This role will be pivotal in continuing to raise the profile of Containers for Change as a fundraising avenue in the Queensland charity sector.

COEX is proud to continue to create business opportunities for social enterprises in Queensland. In FY24 13 social enterprise businesses operated within the Containers for Change network earning more than $7.6 million in handling fees. Since Containers for Change began, more than $29.3 million in handling fees has been earned by social enterprises operating or servicing container refund points.

In FY24 COEX explored new ways to work with social enterprises through product procurement. Two Queensland-based social enterprises were engaged in the Container Exchange Point trials across south-east Queensland (for more information on the trial see page 27). Bin Bypass, a Brisbane-based social enterprise that creates public recycling infrastructure, supplied one style of collection infrastructure for the Container Exchange Point program.

A second social enterprise, Help Enterprises, applied instructional and branding stickers to the units prior to their installation. Help Enterprises has been further engaged to assist with manufacturing another style of collection cage for the expansion phase of the Container Exchange Point initiative in FY25.

Rosies Youth Mission is a Queensland charity providing support and practical assistance to young people experiencing homelessness or hardship. As at 30 June 2024, Rosies had returned more than 89,000 containers and raised close to $9,000 to help struggling young Queenslanders build a brighter future.

Donate to Rosie's Youth Mission Inc via member number C10026243.

Educate and influence current and future generations of change makers

COEX has partnered with a growing number of educational institutions in FY24 delivering exponential growth in containers returned for recycling by kindergartens, primary and secondary schools. This was achieved through providing fit-for-purpose bin solutions, strategic support and connections to local refund point operators to provide collection services.

The total number of schools registered with our programs grew by 446 to a total of 788 schools at the end of FY24. This contributed to a year-on-year uplift of more than 2.3 million containers collected. In total, nearly 3.4 million containers were collected through Queensland schools over the past 12 months.

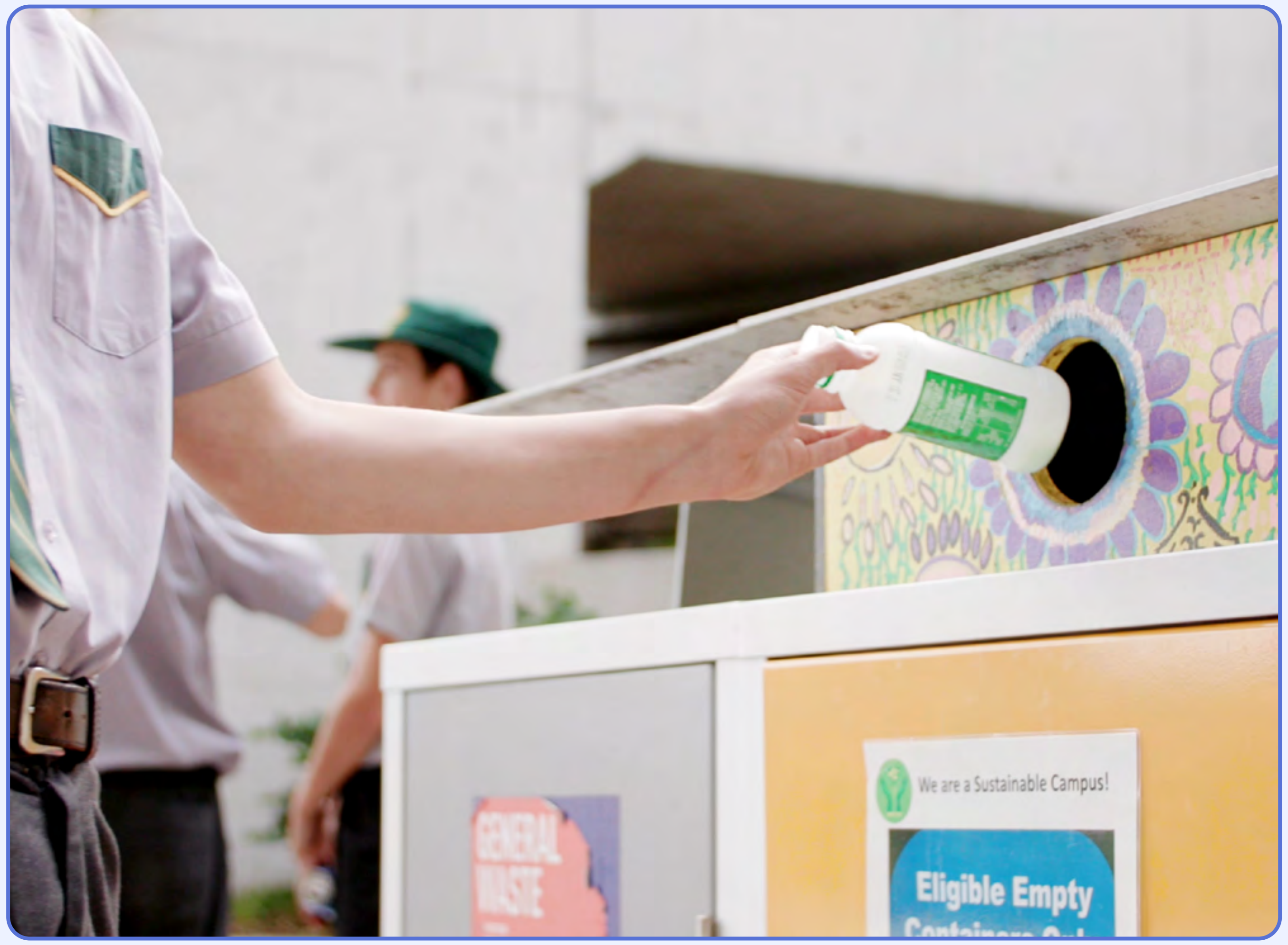
This translates to almost $340,000 raised by Queensland schools through Containers for Change in FY24, providing immediate benefits to the schools. Broader benefits for the community and future generations are also delivered as students become champions to influence recycling behaviour at home.

A focus for FY25 is to support schools to start, as well as maintain, their container collection efforts.

Enhancements to the way COEX uses data, insights and customer engagement platforms are supporting the creation of a new communication journey for schools. This journey will deliver personalised content offering inspiration, tips, and digital tools to support collection goals and sustain container recycling efforts within each school community.

Expanding collection solutions to grow container recycling at Queensland universities and TAFES will be another key area of focus in FY25.

Nearly $340,000 was raised by schools across Queensland this financial year.



Case Study

Containers for Change for Schools: A lesson in making a difference

Villanova College's partnership with Containers for Change has become an integral part of the school's mission to promote sustainability.

Since joining the Containers for Change program in late 2021 Villanova has collected more than 83,000 raising $8,300.

These funds have been used to provide support to Villanova's sister school in the Philippines, install a beehive on campus to support biodiversity and provide breakfast for members of the community experiencing homelessness.

The school's container collection efforts are spearheaded by the Green Team, a student group focused on sustainability initiatives.

COEX worked with the school to establish targeted infrastructure solutions and an education program that encouraged participation from students and their families.

Student-designed artwork on the bins further reinforced the connection to recycling efforts, instilling pride and ownership in the initiative.

In addition to on-campus efforts throughout the year students in different year groups are tasked with boosting the school's container volumes. Students are given special Containers for Change collection bags to take home, fill with containers and return to contribute to Villanova's container tally.

School leaders say Containers for Change has played a significant role in fostering a culture of community service and environmental awareness within Villanova College.

Scan the QR code to watch Villanova's story and help them make change by donating via member number C10698599.

Raise awareness and increase participation through a better understanding of motivations and barriers

Understanding the gap between awareness of, and participation in, Containers for Change was the driver behind a major piece of customer research and segmentation delivered in FY24.

This body of research moved away from applying a demographic lens to customer segmentation and instead took a new approach, identifying customer segments grouped by shared motivations and barriers to container recycling.

Understanding our customers' motivations and barriers to participation supports us in developing products and other solutions that facilitate container collection. It also helps better target education and awareness programs that make container collection easier and more appealing.

The research project combined geo-spatial mapping, a deep behavioural study of 60 Queenslanders, as well as our biggest customer survey to date of 2,500 Queenslanders. The data was analysed to identify seven key customer segments grouped according to common motivations and barriers. This included variables such as the number of containers consumed, ability to store containers, perceived effort or reward of participating in container recycling and environmental attitudes.

Our latest marketing campaign 'Change It Up' was developed with these behavioural insights at its heart, visually speaking to these motivations and barriers with a range of characters and locations.

This has contributed to strong increases in awareness and participation year-on-year with the latest survey putting awareness of Containers for Change at 87% and total participation at 76%.

A key focus in FY25 and beyond will be to further leverage the findings of this research through several strategic initiatives designed to support behaviour change in key customer segments.

Provide customers their channel of choice through maximised accessibility

Network expansion and optimisation

A key priority in FY24 was to support more Queenslanders to take part in Containers for Change by providing them with convenient access through their preferred collection channels. This involved work to refine, define and create new collection channels to maximise participation across all customer segments.

A major contributor to this goal is our ongoing expansion and optimisation strategy, which has seen a strong pipeline of sites approved for rollout in FY25. We successfully redeployed and optimised locations for bag drops we purchased from New South Wales-based operator Envirobank, which opted to exit 37 bag drops in February 2024.

Optimising access to container recycling for different dwelling types has also been a key focus in FY24. Research shows that residents of multi-unit dwellings (MUDs) are half as likely as those in houses and lower-density dwellings to participate in Containers for Change. During the reporting period, custom on-site container collection solutions were developed for 359 MUDs through relationships established by COEX's Customer Acquisition and Growth team generating more than 3.2 million containers.

Providing solutions for customers who face barriers to physically accessing a refund point is also an important focus of our accessibility strategy. In FY24 the highly successful home collection service, Container Collect, transitioned from pilot to business-as-usual operations with 1,009 suburbs serviced as at 30 June 2024. Year-on-year collection volumes through this channel have increased 60%. This service will continue to evolve in line with customer preferences and operational requirements.

Out-of-home collection

As detailed on page 16, COEX has placed significant focus in FY24 on growing strategic partnerships to maximise container collection in out-of-home locations. Collections through these out-of-home partnerships nearly doubled year-on-year, with more than 6.5 million containers collected through partner channels in FY24.

COEX has also established a Strategy and Product function to design solutions that are appealing to partners and effective in supporting container collection in out-of-home environments. One solution proving popular in out-of-home settings is our Container Exchange Points.

Container Exchange Points have been pivotal in establishing strategic partnerships with local councils across Queensland including Sunshine Coast, Scenic Rim, Redland Bay, Mackay and Hinchinbrook. The Container Exchange Points were deployed in a range of public spaces and parks across these local government areas. They provide a visible and easy point at which to leave 10-cent containers for collection by other local recyclers. COEX plans to work with more local councils to expand Container Exchange Points across more sites in FY25.

Another key focus for out-of-home collection in FY24 was major events and festivals. Volumes collected through events across Queensland increased significantly year-on-year, with more than 3.4 million containers collected via this channel during the reporting period, up from 1.1 million the previous financial year. Other events that delivered major growth included:

- the Brisbane Ekka with a year-on-year increase of 78%;
- the Gympie Music Muster where more than 164,000 were collected across four days; and
- the CMC Rocks festival where container volumes more than doubled from 91,000 in FY23 to more than 207,000 in FY24.

Case Study

Collect and connect: Cotton Tree launches Container Exchange Points

In late 2023 COEX partnered with the Sunshine Coast Council to launch an innovative initiative to increase container recycling, decrease litter and benefit the local community.

A lack of dedicated Containers for Change bins in public places meant millions of recyclable and refundable containers were going to waste across Queensland each year.

A pilot project at Cotton Tree sought to address this challenge through the installation of Container Exchange Points on public bins within the park.

Park-goers who don't want to hold on to their empty containers can place them in a Container Exchange Point for others to collect and return for a 10-cent refund.

Sunshine Coast Council Manager of Waste and Resource Management John Hogg said the council was pleased to support the trial to give his community the chance to pay it forward by giving others the chance to collect the 10-cent refunds and reduce waste going to landfill.

The Container Exchange Point trial was a resounding success and led to a number of other councils introducing the units to public spaces.

Broaden the scheme's circularity impact across the value chain

Containers for Change is committed to growing the circular economy in Queensland and Australia, through providing scheme material for recycling locally where possible.

We're proud that 100% of glass returned through Containers for Change is recycled in Queensland. In FY24 we saw a material increase in our glass volumes as we expanded the eligible range of containers to include glass wine and spirit bottles. This resulted in a 13.4% uplift in glass volumes, disrupting a trend where glass volumes had stagnated as consumer preferences and logistical efficiencies drove a preference for different material types.

Around 77% of all glass collected through Containers for Change was recycled into new bottles through direct sales agreements in FY24. Where it's not feasible to transport glass long distances for recycling, we have established other locally based recycling solutions.

One such example is an agreement established with international insulation manufacturing company Knauf, which won a bid to construct a glass cullet plant in Townsville. The plant commenced operations in FY24, processing close to 10,000 tonnes of Containers for Change glass. The state-of-the-art plant has been designed to accommodate future growth with capacity to process up to 20,000 tonnes of glass annually from the Townsville, Mackay and Mt Isa regions.

The pure glass cullet produced at the plant is sent to Knauf's facility in Malaysia to be turned into glass wool. This is then used to manufacture high-performance, energy-saving insulation sold back into Australian retail stores. More than 65% recycled material is used in the production of Knauf's home insulation.

This creates the unique opportunity for Townsville residents to purchase home insulation made from locally consumed glass bottles at their local Bunnings.

Case Study

Martogg: A circular economy journey

Martogg is a family-owned manufacturing business founded in 1975. Today, they are Australia's largest privately owned polymer distribution, resin compounding and plastics recycling company.

The company's sustainability division has seen significant growth in recent years following the Australian waste export ban that was announced in 2018.

At the time Martogg identified an opportunity to invest in domestic supply chains and back local manufacturing through a partnership with Circular AU.

This partnership sees PET containers collected through Containers for Change supplied to Circular AU for processing into high-quality PET flake.

The PET flake produced is then processed into high-quality food-grade PET pellets by Martogg for use in their flagship product marPET®.

In most cases, marPET® can be used as a direct substitute for virgin PET plastic allowing plastic containers to be recycled and repurposed multiple times as water bottles, food trays and more.

Martogg Product Manager Austen Ramage (pictured above with Heath Boucher from Circular AU) said the organisation was proud to play its part in investing in the future of recycling in Australia.

"Martogg wanted to create opportunities for brands to use Australian recycled waste and reduce our reliance on imported raw materials," Mr Ramage said.

"Containers are far too valuable a resource to only use once."

In most cases Martogg's flagship recycled PET can be used as a direct substitute for virgin PET plastic.

Our commitment to sustainability

Delivering a sustainable container refund network

Containers for Change contributes to positive environmental, social and economic impacts across the communities in which it operates. Our early progress in measuring our impact has demonstrated many areas in which the scheme creates broader societal value including through job creation, environmental benefits and contributions to growing Queensland's circular economy. We are continuing to engage with impact measurement experts and container refund schemes in other jurisdictions to further develop our impact evaluation framework.

In FY24, in line with our commitment to sustainability and responsible business practices, COEX has continued to track performance against key United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The United Nations SDGs serve as a global call to action and a 'blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all'.

In this year's report we have further refined the SDGs we are reporting against to ensure they are closely aligned with our core business. The SDGs reported against are those we believe we can make the most material impact toward.

The following pages detail COEX's progress toward achieving these goals in FY24.

Goal 5
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Goal 8
Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all

Goal 11
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12
Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

184,791
tonnes of material collected in FY24

Progress against UN Sustainable Development Goals

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Relevant SDG targets

5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

5.5: Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

Our contribution

COEX is proud of the significant presence of women in decision making roles within the organisation and its commitment to fostering gender equality in the workplace.

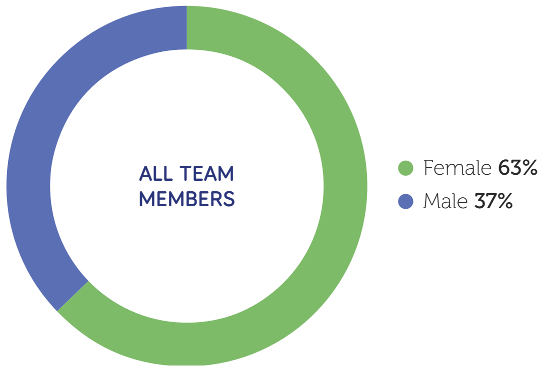
The organisation is led by a female CEO and showcased strong female representation in the Executive Leadership Team (71% women) and on its Board (44% women) as at 30 June 2024. According to the WGEA's Gender Equality Scorecard 2022-23, women represent 22% of CEOs in Australia and 34% of all Board Members in Australia signifying a notable contribution to this SDG by COEX .

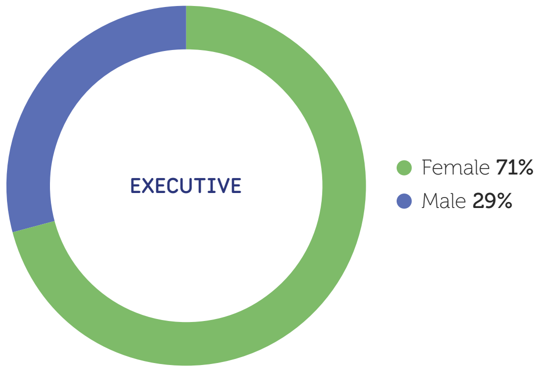
COEX's policies, practices, and training support its commitment to gender equality. The organisation offers a flexible work policy to support women in the workplace. While the flexible work policy supports all team members to balance family or caregiving commitments regardless of gender, it is well documented that women who can manage their work around caregiving responsibilities are more likely to stay in the workforce and pursue career advancement. This commitment to flexibility is further enhanced by a parental leave policy that, in addition to traditional leave benefits, provides an option to take additional unpaid time if desired.

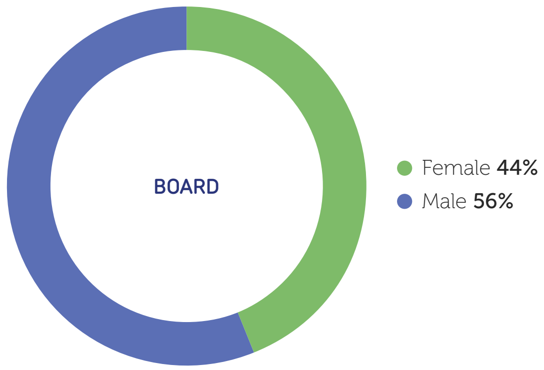
COEX also implements policies and training programs to prevent and address gender-based discrimination and harassment including the COEX Code of Conduct and Sexual Harassment Prevention Training. Both programs are compulsory as part of the team member onboarding process and must be re-completed every 12 months.

In addition, COEX established an Inclusivity, Belonging and Diversity working group to ensure all team members, including women, feel safe and valued.

COEX gender profiles as at 30 June 2024







Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all

Relevant SDG targets

8.3: Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation

8.5: Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value

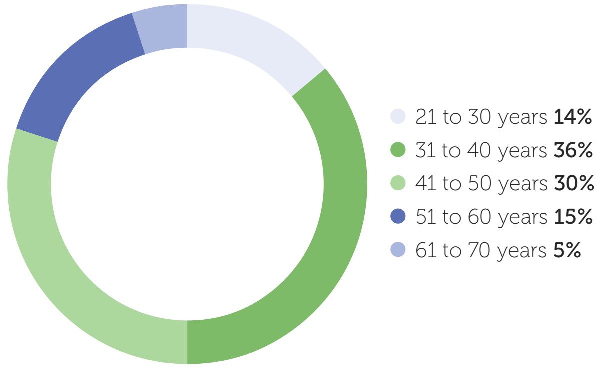
Our contribution

Containers for Change creates valuable employment opportunities for Queenslanders. In FY24 we created 1,581 jobs across the state.

Of particular importance are the jobs created for those who are long-term unemployed or experiencing disadvantage. Structured employment pathways are provided by social enterprise refund point operators such as Substation33 in Brisbane and Impact Community Services in Bundaberg, while additional opportunities are provided through operators who use employment agencies that specifically support these job seekers.

COEX's policies also support productivity and decent work for employees. In FY24 COEX performed a Modern Slavery maturity assessment to inform the establishment of its Modern Slavery Policy, with a working group being established to progress the audit's findings. COEX also continued to offer a flexible working policy which provides opportunities for employees to explore different ways of working to better support work-life balance and wellbeing. Options available to team members included hybrid work, flexible start and finish times, job sharing and the opportunity to work a nine-day fortnight. Five employees took advantage of this policy in FY24.

COEX employee age profile (FTE as at 30 June 2024)



Jobs Created

72 Container Exchange (COEX)

1,509* Container refund network

13 Social enterprise businesses operating within the network

99 Social enterprise jobs created in FY24

*including processors and logistics

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Relevant SDG target

11.6: Reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

Our contribution

In FY24 COEX was responsible for diverting 2.1 billion containers from landfill ensuring they were returned for recycling. More than 10.3 billion containers have been returned for recycling since Containers for Change commenced in November 2018.

In addition to diverting litter from landfill Containers for Change has supported a reduced reliance on virgin materials through recycling. In FY24, 184,791 tonnes of Containers for Change materials were diverted from landfill and recycled into new beverage containers, as well as being used to create road base, insulation and building products. This is equivalent to diverting more than 1.4 million kerbside bins from landfill.

Our recycling efforts saved an estimated 2.6 million kilolitres of water (equivalent to 1,040 Olympic size swimming pools) and avoided greenhouse gas emissions estimated at 320,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO2-e). This equates to taking 139,130 cars off Australian roads in FY24.

As part of our commitment to understanding our environmental impact we have also begun work to measure our carbon footprint and develop improved carbon reduction strategies. In FY24, Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions for COEX were approximately 44.46 tCO_2-e. We have started work to understand and measure our Scope 3 emissions, including across the Containers for Change network, and will progress the development of carbon reduction strategies to minimise our impact.

In FY24, COEX continued its strategic focus on increasing access to container recycling in dwelling types and locations which may face barriers to recycling.

During the reporting period the Container Collect home collection service evolved from a pilot to a standard offering with more than 1,009 suburbs across Queensland serviced as at 30 June 2024. More than 30 million containers were collected via this service in FY24, a 58% year-on-year increase.

Research conducted by COEX indicated residents of multi-unit dwellings were significantly less likely to participate in container refund programs. More than 380 multi-unit dwellings were onboarded in FY24 resulting in 3.2 million containers being collected on-site through building management through partnerships established by COEX.

Containers for Change has also been leveraged in locations where general recycling services do not exist such as K'gari (formerly known as Fraser Island), see the Cathedrals on Fraser Spotlight on this page to learn more.

As at 30 June 2024, 15 of Queensland's 17 First Nations Local Government Areas have access to Containers for Change.

SPOTLIGHT – CATHEDRALS ON FRASER

Jack Worcester and wife Michelle are leading the charge for a sustainable future on K'Gari, the world's largest sand island.

The pair of former environmental scientists run the Cathedrals on Fraser campground on K'gari.

Historically, the island's lack of recycling services meant beverage containers ended up in mainland landfills.

Jack and Michelle introduced Containers for Change recycling bins throughout the campground and educated visitors on their proper use. They then partnered with Fraser Island Logistics, who generously offered to transport the containers to a mainland container refund point at no cost.

More than 436,000 containers have been collected by Cathedrals on Fraser and returned for recycling since they joined Containers for Change in 2019, including 134,000 containers in FY24 alone.

By championing container recycling on K'gari, Jack and Michelle are not only protecting the World Heritage listed island's natural beauty, but also turning waste into good. The 10-cent refunds from containers collected on the island are donated to RACQ LifeFlight and have so far resulted in more than $43,000 in funds raised for this vital service.

Scan the QR code to watch Cathedrals on Fraser's story and help them make change by donating via member number C10206500.

320,000
tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions avoided through increase recycling

2.6 million
kilolitres of water saved

185,000
tonnes of waste diverted from landfill

Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Relevant SDG target

12.5: Substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

12.6: Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle

Our contribution

COEX's core business is about minimising waste generation and maximising recycling through Containers for Change. The container refund program is funded by beverage companies through a product stewardship model. Coca-Cola Europacific Partners and Lion helped establish the container refund program in Queensland in 2018. COEX maintains regular engagement with existing beverage manufacturers and those new to the scheme to support their participation and help beverage manufacturers demonstrate the impact of their sustainable business practices.

Bottle-to-bottle recycling is one of the most effective and efficient examples of recycling within a circular economy and it continues to be a strength of COEX's glass recycling activities. In FY24, around 77% of all Containers for Change glass was recycled into new bottles through direct sales agreements. Regionally, glass collected through Queensland's container refund program is recycled through local councils, such as Rockhampton and Cairns, for use in civil construction projects. Other examples of recycling collaborations that support the use of Containers for Change materials to create new products include those with Knauf (home insulation) and saveBOARD (building products).

Given the current limited capacity of Australian-based facilities able to recycle liquid paperboard (LPB), all Australian container refund programs are required to engage with offshore companies to ensure material recovered through the container refund program can be recycled. In November 2023, COEX began working with Spanish headquartered recycling company Alier. This collaboration provides COEX with a strong chain of custody for LPB collected through Containers for Change. Alier manufactures the LPB into a paper fibre that is used in products such as shopping bags and construction board, as well as a plastic resin for use in products such as bin liners and compost bags. In FY24, 895 tonnes of LPB were shipped to Alier for remanufacture through accredited recycling panel member Industrial Metal Services.

COEX welcomes opportunities to increase onshore recycling in the future as the local recycling and remanufacturing industries develop further. COEX is also taking steps in its own supply chain to support onshore suppliers and the use of recycled or recyclable products where possible through a refinement of the company's procurement practices.

COEX is a member of several peak industry bodies including the Australian Council of Recycling (ACOR), Waste Recycling Industry Queensland (WRIQ) and Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia (WMRR). It actively seeks to engage in industry forums and events that can grow Queensland and Australia's circular economy. In FY24, COEX was pleased to present to industry and government representatives at the Waste 2024 conference in Coffs Harbour where CEO Natalie Roach shared insights on the expansion of the scheme to include glass wine and spirit bottles. Active participation in forums such as this creates opportunities to help shape policies, gain insights into best practices and cultivate meaningful partnerships.

Containers diverted from landfill

Region	FY23 volume	FY24 volume	Volume to date
North Queensland	265.18 million	285.25 million	1.37 billion
Central Queensland	209.56 million	230.66 million	1.13 billion
South West Queensland	154.81 million	173.50 million	0.84 billion
Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay	282.28 million	324.90 million	1.49 billion
Brisbane and Gold Coast	1.03 billion	1.13 billion	5.46 billion
TOTAL	**1.94 billion**	**2.14 billion**	**10.29 billion**

Governance

Governance framework

COEX is the Product Responsibility Organisation (PRO) appointed by the Queensland Government to coordinate and operate Containers for Change in Queensland.

The state's container refund scheme operates under the legislative framework of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 (Qld) and is funded by the beverage manufacturing industry through a product stewardship model.

Operating as a not-for-profit, COEX's overarching purpose is to deliver environmental, social and economic benefits for the people of Queensland through Containers for Change.

COEX is governed by a Board of directors appointed in line with its constitution with support from two specialist committees. The Audit and Risk Committee makes recommendations to the Board regarding financial, audit, compliance, legal and risk strategies. The People and Culture Committee makes recommendations to the Board regarding people strategy, frameworks and practices. The Board charter can be viewed at containerexchange.com.au/board-and-executives.

COEX Board

The COEX Board is comprised of nine non-executive directors with a mix of independent and member representatives from beverage manufacturing, finance, legal and community sectors. Each director is also a member of one of the Board Committees. The Board and Board Committees met regularly throughout the year and reported to the Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef on its strategic plan, operations and achievements.

During FY24 there were changes to the Board composition. The Board would like to welcome the new directors who have joined the Board and would like to thank all departing directors who resigned from the Board for their contribution to COEX and wish them well in their future endeavours.

Profiles of directors who served during the financial year are outlined below.

Andrew Clark

Board Chair

Appointed 14 September 2018, Appointed Chair 29 March 2023

Andrew Clark has more than 25 years of experience providing assurance, financial management, consulting, governance and risk management services in the private and public sectors and has held a range of executive finance positions. He currently provides assurance and client engagement services for business digitisation for clients across Australia and New Zealand with a focus on improving governance, risk and compliance.

Before leading a national consulting practice, Andrew was a Chief Financial Officer with Airservices Australia, providing financial strategic management for one of the world's leading air traffic control and fire rescue providers during a period of industry and service delivery change.

Elizabeth Baker

Non-Executive Director

Appointed 22 June 2024

Liz is an experienced senior business leader and legal executive with an extensive history in the mining and metals sector, including commercial and financial transactions, joint venture management, energy, infrastructure development and governance.

She has also had considerable experience as a non-executive director on boards including not for profits and competitive markets in the resources, transport and health and aged care sectors.

Liz was recognised as a finalist in the Exceptional Woman in QLD Resources Industry and is also a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Ashley Chaleyer

Non-Executive Director

Appointed 9 May 2022

Ashley is a senior policy and public affairs advisor with diverse private and public sector experience.

His previous roles include advising state government and Ministers on international trade (particularly world trade organisation law and policy), and consulting to the banking sector on ethical finance and sustainability policy. Prior to this, as a solicitor in private practice, he advised in the conduct and resolution of large-scale oil and gas infrastructure disputes at two international firms in Melbourne and Perth.

Currently, he leads public policy engagement for Coca-Cola Europacific Partners (Australia).

Catherine Cook

Non-Executive Director

Appointed 30 June 2021

Cathy Cook is a leading public affairs professional with decades of experience steering regulatory initiatives and advocacy in Australia, the United States (US) and India.

As Head of Corporate Affairs for the Australian Beverages Council, Cathy is leading the industry's efforts in container refund programs across Australia. Prior to this Cathy spent many years working with business and government in almost 30 countries, including as a diplomat. Working in the US private sector for 15 of those years with both corporates and trade bodies she managed high impact litigation, crisis response, influence campaigns and advocacy.

Vivienne Doogan

Non-Executive Director, People and Culture Committee Chair (at 30 June 2024)

Appointed 26 October 2023

Vivienne has over 20 years of experience in industrial relations, corporate governance, administration, risk assessment and management, and policy development.

She was formerly President of the Together Queensland Branch of the Australian Services Union, an Executive Committee member of the Queensland Council of Unions and a member of the Australian Services Union National Executive. In her role as a director and Leadership Council member of the Queensland Community Alliance she worked closely with faith groups, civil society organisations, environmental groups and unions. Prior to this, she was a senior scientist with the Queensland Department of Primary Industries. Vivienne is also a Member of the Queensland Rail Board.

Edward Dowse

Non-Executive Director

Appointed 20 July 2020

Edward Dowse is an experienced finance and commercial leader and board member with over 20 years of experience across a range of industries, including fast moving consumer goods, manufacturing and transportation.

He has been with Lion for more than ten years and currently leads their involvement in container refund programs across Australia and New Zealand. Prior to Lion, Ed spent over 10 years at EY advising major lenders, investors and corporates in relation to business performance, strategic options analysis, financial restructures and turnarounds in both Australia and Europe. Ed holds a number of director roles and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Michael Hill

Non-Executive Director, Audit and Risk Committee Chair (at 30 June 2024)

Appointed 10 October 2023

Michael Hill is a chartered accountant with over 30 years of experience in the accounting sector, focusing on forensic accounting and insolvency matters. Michael was a founding partner of McGrathNicol and was a partner at the firm for 19 years.

Michael is also the Chair of Foodbank Queensland, the largest food relief organisation in Queensland. He is a non-executive director of several other organisations and is a graduate member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Sabrina Kunz

Non-Executive Director

Appointed 1 July 2024

Sabrina is the Head of Industry Development for the Independent Brewers Association of Australia and is responsible for serving their 400+ brewery members, leading advocacy efforts and working with our supply-chain partners.

Prior to joining the IBA, Sabrina was the General Manager of Brews News and a weekly voice on the Brews News industry podcast. She was the Executive Director of the Brewers Guild of New Zealand from 2018 – 2021.

Originally a lawyer, Sabrina has worked in a variety of roles in government and is a qualified corporate director having served on Not-for-Profit and commercial boards.

Teagan Peake

Non-Executive Director

Appointed 21 June 2024

Teagan is a highly skilled executive with over a decade of expertise in senior leadership roles, working with some of Australia's biggest brands. She excels in organisational optimisation across marketing, operations, investor acquisition, finance, and people and culture. Her strategic solutions have consistently driven growth from within.

With a background in media and top-tier marketing agencies, her career highlights include pivotal roles at renowned companies such as Claxon and Edge Marketing, and a notable tenure at Channel 7.

Currently, as Co-founder of Six Tricks Distilling Co., Teagan serves as Operations and Marketing Manager, overseeing strategic initiatives, financial management, and stakeholder relations. Her strategic acumen and comprehensive approach have driven internal growth and success in dynamic business environments. Teagan's governance experience and commitment to sustainable practices further enhance her contributions.

Directors who resigned during the 2023-2024 financial year

Richard Ballinger

Non-Executive Director

Appointed 31 October 2017, Resigned 31 December 2023

Richard Ballinger is a highly experienced lawyer who has worked with consumer goods businesses both as general counsel and in large private practice law firms, as well as sitting on their management teams.

He is skilled in partnering with business leaders to achieve their goals and manage issues including mergers and acquisitions transactions, regulatory and compliance, joint ventures and brand partnerships, supply and distribution arrangements, product liability issues and dispute resolution. Richard holds a number of director roles and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD).

Monica Bradley

Non-Executive Director

Appointed 27 October 2018, Resigned 4 October 2023

Monica is a company director with sustainability, technology, and impact investment experience. She accepts board roles with ventures that directly contribute to the transition to a low carbon, inclusive impact economy. Monica is the Chair of Circonomy, a circular service provider to retail and real estate sectors and Chair of MI Global a sustainability services company specialising in sports, major events, and social infrastructure.

Monica was on the Investment Committee of an $80 million Queensland Business Development Fund managed by QIC, is a co-founder of the Australian Coralus group which provides no interest debt to women led businesses solving SDGs and is an Advisory Board member of the $200 million Investible Climate Fund and Beyond Zero Emissions.

Natalie Helm
Non-Executive Director
Appointed 25 August 2021, Resigned 19 June 2024

Natalie joined Coca-Cola South Pacific in 2020, and leads public affairs, communication and sustainability for Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. Prior to joining Coca-Cola, Natalie worked as a consultant in the UK and Australia, advising on communication strategy, public affairs, brand communications and government relations for businesses and brands operating in the retail, food and beverage, alcohol, and energy and environment sectors.

Natalie is a member of the Board of the Australian Beverages Council and is a member of the ANZPAC Plastics Pact Collective Action Group.

Craig Marshall
Non-Executive Director
Appointed 31 December 2023, Resigned 19 June 2024

Craig Marshall is a chemical engineer with over 15 years of experience in beverage manufacturing, holding senior leadership roles across engineering and production for Lion.

He is currently General Manager of Marine Stores, a major coordinator of container refund programs in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

Craig is skilled in strategy development and implementation, operations management, stakeholder engagement and has extensive experience in the operation of container refund programs.

He is a graduate member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is passionate about delivering sustainable environmental solutions.

Dominique Tim So
Non-Executive Director
Appointed 3 August 2018, Resigned 19 June 2024

Dominique Tim So is a Senior Lawyer for James Cook University, having previously worked in private practice and as General Counsel for an ASX-listed company. She has practised extensively across a broad range of areas including property, corporate, commercial, healthcare, higher education and the not-for-profit sectors.

Dominique has acted on behalf of small to large businesses, high-net-worth individuals, private and public companies, not-for-profit organisations and government corporations across a wide array of industries. Dominique also sits on the board of national not-for-profit Crohn's & Colitis Australia and has held previous directorships with government-owned corporation Port of Townsville Limited and statutory not-for-profit Townsville Hospital Foundation.

Executive Leadership Team

Natalie Roach
Chief Executive Officer

Natalie is an accomplished senior executive leader with 24 years of global experience in leading strategic change, transformation, operations and customer experience improvements in the aviation, rail, travel and early education industries. She has extensive experience in strategy development and implementation, operations, stakeholder engagement, communications, and crisis management.

Her previous roles include Chief Customer Officer at G8 Education, Group Executive Customer and Corporate Affairs at Queensland Rail, Head of Customer Experience and Operations at Qantas, and Head of Operations at Heathrow Airport. Natalie is a Board director of Mildura Airport Pty Ltd and a Board Committee member for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) Queensland section. She is also a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Rob Chambers
Executive General Manager – Customer Acquisition and Growth

Rob has extensive experience in the development and execution of complex growth strategies in financial services, information technology, the construction industry and most notably ASX-listed McMillan Shakespeare.

Rob excels in connecting product and service innovations to generate enhanced value and drive growth. He is accomplished in comprehending market dynamics and crafting sophisticated growth strategies.

Prior to joining COEX, Rob held a number of prominent roles as a senior executive across diverse industries, encompassing corporate, government sectors and not-for-profit organisations.

Rob holds a Master of Business Administration and a major in Innovation, he has extensive leadership experience in cultivating highly capable and engaged individuals dedicated to achieving positive and sustainable outcomes.

Lauren Christian
Executive General Manager – Strategy and Product

Lauren is an innovative executive with experience across enterprise strategy, governance and risk, product development, technology platforms, customer experience, and marketing.

Lauren holds experience across large global operations, SMEs, and the not-for-profit sector. She specialises in product innovation and development, specifically in connecting digital and physical experiences in complex environments.

Prior to joining COEX, Lauren held a number of senior executive roles for a technology SaSS business, Cox Automotive, Brisbane Racing Club, and Founder and CEO of a small technology start-up. Lauren has a proven track record of building strong team culture with strategic alignment and delivering measurable results.

Lauren holds a Bachelor in Commerce (Business Law), a Master of Business Administration, and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Lauren is also a Board director of Suited to Success.

Ange Liebke
Executive General Manager – People and Culture

Ange Liebke is an accomplished People and Culture executive with strong commercial acumen and well-rounded expertise including designing and implementing people strategies, managing governance and risk, engaging and developing talent, maximising performance and capability, and increasing psychosocial wellbeing.

Prior to joining COEX Ange held leadership roles within a broad range of industry sectors with organisations including BESIX Watpac, Raytheon Australia, Mondial Assistance (Allianz) and Boeing Australia. Ange also ran her own business and has coached leadership teams and boards during periods of significant growth, transition and cultural reform. A highly regarded people leader, Ange has a proven track record of strengthening employee engagement, organisational culture, and performance.

Ange holds a Bachelor in Business Administration (Human Resources), qualifications in strategic human resources and has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors course. She is also an appointed member of the Queensland Government Tripartite Procurement Advisory Panel.

Lauren Seymour
Chief Financial Officer and Executive General Manager – Corporate Services

Lauren Seymour is an accomplished finance and corporate services leader with experience in public practice, not-for profit and private sector organisations across the research and development, aged care, government, media and social and affordable housing industries.

Lauren specialises in strategic leadership, growth and transformation and is passionate about business partnering and process and systems improvement to drive greater organisational performance outcomes.

Prior to commencing with COEX, Lauren held the role of Executive Manager Corporate Services at Sugar Research Australia and spent six years as Chief Financial Officer at aged care group, Infin8 Care. Her previous roles include Group Finance Manager at Horizon Housing, Senior Consultant for Resolutions Consulting Services working with various Australian Government departments and a Financial Controller at Southern Cross Media.

Lauren is a member of CPA Australia and holds a Master of Business Administration.

Mick Shea
Executive General Manager – Network Delivery

Mick Shea has a wealth of expertise in waste management, recycling, sustainability, and logistics. His experience includes strategic and operational management roles with top tier companies in the waste management and recycler sector, including Visy and JJ Richards and Sons.

A versatile Operations Manager, Mick has an extensive track record in delivering strategic and operational leadership to provide safe, efficient operations and cost reduction across large project areas.

Mick held a number of roles in Visy Industries' recycling division across an eight year period before spending 10 years with JJ's Waste in various roles in recycling and business analytics.

Allison White
Executive General Manager – Strategic Communications and Stakeholder Relations

Allison is an accomplished strategy and engagement specialist with extensive experience working for complex and large organisations to grow the trust of customers, communities and employees.

She is passionate about transforming organisational performance by aligning corporate strategy with the interests of customers, stakeholders, communities and employees.

Allison has a history of delivering environmental, social and economic outcomes across the public and private sectors, including G8 Education, Great Southern Bank, Queensland Treasury, Origin and Ergon Energy.

She holds post graduate qualifications in community development, psychology, and leadership, and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Finance

Chief Financial Officer's Report

FY24 has been a year of significant achievement and transformation for Container Exchange, underpinned by strong financial management which maximised the value delivered through the scheme while appropriately managing costs and keeping scheme pricing stable.

Financial performance overview

For the financial year ending 30 June 2024, Container Exchange delivered the following financial results:

- **Income:** Total revenue for the year reached $486.6 million, a 6.6% increase compared to the prior financial year. This growth was driven by strong beverage manufacturer sales into Queensland, higher commodity revenue from the sale of collected material and the successful inclusion of wine and spirits into the range of eligible containers from November 2023.
- **Operating costs:** FY24 saw a 13% increase in operating costs, which rose to $463 million due to higher recovery rates being achieved throughout the period and increased investment in strategic initiatives. These cost increases are in line with our strategic plan and have been effectively managed to ensure we continue delivering value to our stakeholders.
- **Operating surplus (deficit):** The operating surplus for the year was $24 million which represents a 49% decrease from the prior year. This decline reflects our strategy to maintain scheme pricing at the weighted average of 13.3 cents per container and to leverage cash reserves to fund increases in operating costs and investment in strategic initiatives which drive growth in the recovery rate.
- **Liquidity:** As a not-for-profit entity COEX aims to manage its cash reserves, and any surplus, in a way that supports the sustainability of the scheme and grows its environmental, social and economic benefits. As at 30 June 2024 cash and cash equivalents held were $96 million. To safeguard the scheme's financial sustainability, cash reserves are managed prudently, maintaining a minimum liquidity threshold of $75 million. This is equivalent to six weeks of operating costs and aims to ensure that in the event of unforeseen disruptions, the scheme remains fully operational and can meet its obligations to suppliers and customers without interruption. Cash reserves are also utilised to support price stabilisation and future growth, as each one percentage point increase in container collections equates to a cost increase of approximately $4.6 million.

  Any surplus generated is reinvested into the scheme to enhance its environmental, social and economic impact for the people of Queensland. Our FY25-27 Strategic Plan outlines the strategic pillars where we will invest, utilising cash reserves to achieve these outcomes. This includes significant investment in network expansion, developing innovative out-of-home collection solutions and driving the flow of benefits to First Nations communities, social enterprise, charities and community groups.

Key drivers of performance

- **Income growth:** The 6.6% growth in income during the financial year was driven by strong commodity prices for the sale of scheme material, particularly aluminium, which reached record high prices due to increased global demand. Reported gross income from beverage manufacturers reached a record high since scheme inception of $446 million. This result is an increase of 4.1% on the prior year. It was driven by an increase in the volume of eligible containers supplied by beverage manufacturers into Queensland, further bolstered by the inclusion of wine and spirits in the scheme.
- **Operational cost management:** We maintained a disciplined approach throughout the year, ensuring that our cost per container redeemed remained within the targeted level. A focus on operational efficiency has limited increases in the cost per container redeemed metric to 1.4% despite cost pressures from inflation and increased collection volumes. We are driving the use of competitive sales methods for scheme material in order to achieve the optimum sale price to offset scheme costs. We have introduced a revised Equipment Service Agreement, empowering the organisation to select the most appropriate equipment tailored to each site's needs, driving improved safety and efficiencies across the network. We continue to pursue opportunities to mitigate the effects of indexation through operational efficiencies and cost-saving measures.
- **Strategic investments:** Strategic investment of cash reserves has played a crucial role in partially offsetting operating costs. By diversifying cash reserves into higher interest-bearing investments and maximising commodity sales through both direct and auction-derived channels, we have aligned our financial strategy with our long-term goals. These investments are designed to ensure the scheme remains financially robust, allowing us to keep scheme pricing low for as long as possible while accommodating the growing cost base.
- **Capital management:** Strong cash flow generation has enabled us to maintain a healthy balance sheet, with a working capital ratio of 7. This strong capital position and our disciplined approach to capital management provides us with the financial flexibility to continue investing in key initiatives, meet future challenges and capitalise on further recovery rate growth opportunities.

Outlook

Looking ahead to FY25, we are optimistic about the scheme's recovery rate growth prospects and are confident in our ability to manage scheme pricing despite an increasing cost base driven by higher collection volumes and cost increases.

Leveraging cash reserves, we plan to further invest in our operating model to extract efficiencies and manage our cost per container recovered metric. This will involve leveraging technology, refining processes and enhancing workforce capabilities. Operational excellence will be a key driver of our success in the coming year.

We will continue to reinvest working capital in areas that drive long-term value across the strategic pillars outlined in our FY25-27 Strategic Plan. We will prioritise investments that continue to grow the container recovery rate and maximise the environmental, social and economic benefits of Containers for Change. This includes launching a new investment program which aims to support small to medium sized operators, charities and community groups by reducing financial barriers to entry and expansion within the scheme, optimisation of logistics routes and trialling of compaction processes to increase site capacity and reduce the logistics carbon footprint and reduce operating costs.

Conclusion

In conclusion, in FY24 COEX has delivered a year of solid financial performance and strategic progress to grow the benefits of Containers for Change. We have built a strong foundation for future growth, supported by disciplined cost management, strategic investments and a commitment to operational excellence.

Further details regarding COEX's financial performance are outlined on the following pages.

The inclusion of wine and spirit containers from November 2023 led to a substantial increase in the number of registered beverage manufacturers, resulting in more eligible containers being sold into Queensland.

Financial statements

Contents

General information

The financial statements cover Container Exchange (QLD) Limited (the Company) as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Container Exchange (QLD) Limited's functional and presentation currency.

Container Exchange (QLD) Limited is a public company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

Level 13,
295 Ann Street,
Brisbane, QLD 4000.

A description of the nature of the Company's operations and its principal activities are included in the Directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of Directors, on 25 September 2024. The Directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

Auditor's independence declaration

Grant Thornton

Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd
King George Central
Level 18
145 Ann Street
Brisbane QLD 4000
GPO Box 1008
Brisbane QLD 4001

T +61 7 3222 0200

Auditor's Independence Declaration

To the Directors of Container Exchange (QLD) Limited

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, as lead auditor for the audit of Container Exchange (QLD) Limited for the year ended 30 June 2024, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Grant Thornton

GRANT THORNTON AUDIT PTY LTD
Chartered Accountants

M S Bell

Partner - Audit & Assurance

Brisbane, 25 September 2024

www.grantthornton.com.au
ACN-130 913 594

Directors' report

For the year ended 30 June 2024

The Directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the Company for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Directors

Name of Director	Appointed on	Resigned on
Andrew Charles Clark	14 September 2018	
Edward William Dowse	20 July 2020	
Catherine Mary Cook	30 June 2021	
Vivenne Joy Doogan	26 October 2023	
Michael John Hill	10 October 2023	
Ashley Briggs Chaleyer	9 May 2022	
Sabrina Louise Kunz	1 July 2024	
Teagan Anne Peake	21 June 2024	
Elizabeth Michel Baker	22 June 2024	
Natalie Johanna Helm	25 August 2021	19 June 2024
Dominique Therese Tim So	3 August 2018	19 June 2024
Richard John Ballinger	31 October 2017	31 December 2023
Monica Anne Bradley	27 October 2018	4 October 2023
Craig Anthony Marshall	31 December 2023	19 June 2024

The Members may nominate an Alternate Director from time to time, in accordance with the Company's constitution.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the Company during the year was the running of the Queensland Container Refund Scheme (the Scheme).

Objectives

The Company is appointed as the Product Responsibility Organisation (the PRO), who is responsible for administering the Scheme, which commenced on 1 November 2018. The Company's vision for the Scheme is aligned with the objectives of the State as set out in the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 (as amended) (the WRR Act). In particular, this vision includes:

- The achievement of environmental outcomes, including a reduction in litter in the environment and an increase in the volume of collected and recycled materials;
- Manufacturers of beverage products fulfilling their corporate and product stewardship responsibilities, with that responsibility being shared across industry in a fair and transparent way;
- Efficient design and operation of the Scheme by leveraging efficiencies where possible to minimise unnecessary cost impact on the community and consumers;
- Opportunity to participate and benefit for social enterprises and community groups; and
- Robust and transparent governance arrangements to ensure confidence in the Scheme for all parties concerned, including the State, environmental groups, industry, and the broader community.

Subsequent events

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Company's operations, the results of those operations, or the Company's state of affairs in future financial years.

Likely developments

In the opinion of the Directors there are no likely developments that will change the nature of the operations of the Company.

Environmental regulation

The Company is not affected by any significant environmental regulation in respect of its operations outside of the existing framework.

Review of operations

The total operating surplus for the year to 30 June 2024 amounted to $23,711,499 (2023: $46,813,676). The surplus generated in the current financial year has been used for, and will be used in future years, to grow the Scheme and accelerate activities relating to the achievement of the Company's strategic objectives, in line with the WRR Act's directives.

Reporting obligations

The Company confirms that in the year ending 30 June 2024, progress and achievements are on track to meet the strategic and regulatory objectives relating to the Scheme, which commenced on 1 November 2018.

The Company remains committed to exploring and implementing new opportunities to foster Scheme growth. This commitment is firmly rooted in our FY25 Strategic Plan, which serves as the Company's roadmap for aligning with the directives of the WRR Act and achieving our overarching strategic objectives.

The Company continues to engage with the Department of Environment & Science on these matters.

Auditor's independence declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year to 30 June 2024 has been received and can be found on page 47 of this report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of Directors.

On behalf of the Directors

Andrew Clark
Chair and Director
25 September 2024

Statement of comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 $	2023 $
Revenue and income	3	486,817,658	456,760,323
Expenses			
Container refund expenses	4	(165,675,945)	(151,005,680)
Container handling expenses	4	(133,027,187)	(114,628,738)
Logistics expenses	4	(31,500,213)	(26,129,540)
Container processing expenses	4	(22,540,020)	(18,802,301)
Material recovery facility expenses		(30,668,238)	(25,373,698)
Container export rebates		(24,278,343)	(23,415,307)
Administration support service fees		(17,521,518)	(15,933,401)
Professional services		(3,311,800)	(4,121,263)
Marketing and communication expenses		(10,714,730)	(10,895,308)
Employee benefits expense	4	(12,180,072)	(11,285,818)
Other expenses		(11,435,277)	(8,255,800)
Finance costs	5	(252,816)	(99,793)
Total expenses		(463,106,159)	(409,946,647)
Surplus before income tax expense		23,711,499	46,813,676
Income tax expense	2	—	—
Surplus after income tax expense for the year		23,711,499	46,813,676
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		—	—
Total comprehensive income for the year		23,711,499	46,813,676

The above statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 $	2023 $
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	96,430,265	63,436,721
Trade and other receivables	7	22,181,768	12,642,293
Inventories	8	1,686,830	2,502,887
Financial asset held at amortised cost	9	60,000,000	80,000,000
Other assets	10	38,292,952	35,687,370
Total current assets		218,591,815	194,269,271
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	11	2,358,386	113,958
Intangibles	12	40,525	77,576
Right-of-use asset	13	4,836,387	645,959
Total non-current assets		7,235,298	837,493
Total assets		225,827,113	195,106,764
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	14	29,863,433	27,195,825
Lease liabilities	15	347,931	337,759
Employee benefits	16	503,573	699,292
Total current liabilities		30,714,937	28,232,876
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	15	4,887,031	299,916
Employee benefits	16	95,449	155,775
Total non-current liabilities		4,982,480	455,691
Total liabilities		35,697,417	28,688,567
Net assets		190,129,696	166,418,197
Equity			
Accumulated funds		190,129,696	166,418,197
Total equity		190,129,696	166,418,197

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Accumulated funds $
Balance at 1 July 2022	**119,604,521**
Surplus after income tax expense for the year	46,813,676
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	—
Total comprehensive income for the year	**46,813,676**
Balance at 30 June 2023	**166,418,197**
Balance at 1 July 2023	**166,418,197**
Surplus after income tax expense for the year	23,711,499
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	—
Total comprehensive income for the year	**23,711,499**
Balance at 30 June 2024	**190,129,696**

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 $	2023 $
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from Beverage Manufacturers and customers (inclusive of GST)		514,842,393	494,782,384
Payments to Scheme participants, suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		(505,463,998)	(453,378,817)
Interest received		6,634,062	3,479,902
Interest and other finance costs paid		(252,816)	(99,793)
Net cash from operating activities		**15,759,641**	**44,783,676**
Cash flows from investing activities			
Proceeds from/(investments in) deposits		20,000,000	(30,000,000)
Payments for property, plant and equipment	11	(2,379,057)	(5,170)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		—	15,952
Net cash from/(used in) investing activities		**17,620,943**	**(29,989,218)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Payment of lease liabilities		(387,040)	(278,449)
Net cash used in financing activities		**(387,040)**	**(278,449)**
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		32,993,544	14,516,009
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		63,436,721	48,920,712
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	6	**96,430,265**	**63,436,721**

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 1. Reporting entity

Container Exchange (QLD) Limited (the Company) is a company incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The address of the Company's registered office is Level 13, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000.

The Company's principal activity is to establish and manage the Container Refund Scheme in Queensland (the Scheme).

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company is a reporting entity. The financial report of the Company has been drawn up with simplified disclosure requirements for the purpose of fulfilling the Directors' reporting requirements for the year to 30 June 2024.

This Company is a Not-for-profit entity and registered as a charity by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

The Company, under 102ZJ of the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Amendment Act 2011* (Qld) (the WRR Act), is required to report its financial operations to the Queensland Minister for the Environment and Science by 30 September each year.

Basis of preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (Cth) and associated regulations and the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth), as appropriate for not-for-profit oriented entities.

Basis of measurement

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis.

Note 2. Material accounting policy information

The accounting policies that are material to the Company are set out either in the respective notes or below. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year, unless otherwise stated.

New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The Company has adopted all the recognition and measurement requirements of new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

The adoption of these Accounting Standards and Interpretations did not have any significant impact on the financial performance or position of the Company.

Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in any future periods.

The estimate and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are:

Net realisable value of inventory

Estimates of net realisable value are based on the most reliable evidence available, at the time the estimates are made of the amount the inventories are expected to realise. These estimates take into consideration fluctuations of price or cost directly relating to events occurring after the end of the period to the extent that such events confirm conditions existing at the end of the period.

The Company's inventories are the containers collected. The costs to collect, process and sell the containers significantly exceeds the recoverable amount realised on sale of the processed containers to recyclers. Consistent with the expectations of the Scheme, the expense relating to the write down of inventory to the net realisable amount is outlined in note 4.

Note 2. Material accounting policy information (cont.)

Accrued expenses

Recognised amounts of direct Scheme costs and related accrued expenses reflect management's best estimate of amounts owing to Scheme participants that were not wholly substantiated by declarations of Scheme participants at year end. These estimates are based on a number of critical underlying assumptions such as the volumes of containers submitted and processed through the Scheme at a given time. Estimation uncertainties exist with regard to these items and variations in these assumptions may significantly impact the amount of direct Scheme costs and accrued expenses.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which assumes that the Company will be able to continue trading, realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the ordinary course of business for a period of at least 12 months from the date that these financial statements are approved.

As the appointed Product Responsibility Organisation (the PRO) under the WRR Act, the Company has a statutory obligation to ensure that Beverage Manufacturers fund the costs of the Scheme and the administration of it. Under the WRR Act, Beverage Manufacturers are obligated to enter into Container Recovery Agreements with the Company (as appointed PRO), under which the PRO can require Beverage Manufacturers to pay sufficient amounts to fund the Scheme.

Income tax

The income of the Company is exempt from income tax pursuant to the provisions of subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 and the Company receives GST concessions under division 176 of A New Tax System Act 1999 and is considered an FBT rebatable employer under section 123E of the Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act 1986. The Company is also exempt from other government levies such as State payroll tax.

Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the Company's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in the Company's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Leases

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease based on whether the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

The Company has elected to apply the practical expedient to account for each lease component and any non-lease components as a single lease component.

The Company recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured based on the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, plus any initial direct costs incurred and an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located, less any lease incentives received. The assets are depreciated to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the lease term using the straight-line method as this most closely reflects the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits. Lease terms are for 5 years for offices and IT equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain remeasurements of the lease liability.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, the Company's incremental borrowing rate. Generally, the Company uses its incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate. The lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. It is remeasured when there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in an index or rate, if there is a change in the Company's estimate of the amount expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee, or if the Company changes its assessment of whether it will exercise a purchase, extension or termination option. When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

The Company has elected to apply the practical expedient not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets. The lease payments associated with these leases are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Note 2. Material accounting policy information (cont.)

Investments and other financial assets

Investments and other financial assets are initially measured at fair value. Transaction costs are included as part of the initial measurement, except for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. Such assets are subsequently measured at either amortised cost or fair value depending on their classification. Classification is determined based on both the business model within which such assets are held and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset unless an accounting mismatch is being avoided.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows have expired or have been transferred and the Company has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. When there is no reasonable expectation of recovering part or all of a financial asset, its carrying value is written off.

Financial assets at amortised cost

A financial asset is measured at amortised cost only if both of the following conditions are met: (i) it is held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets in order to collect contractual cash flows; and (ii) the contractual terms of the financial asset represent contractual cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest.

Impairment of financial assets

The Company recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets which are either measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income. The measurement of the loss allowance depends upon the Company's assessment at the end of each reporting period as to whether the financial instrument's credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, based on reasonable and supportable information that is available, without undue cost or effort to obtain.

Where there has not been a significant increase in exposure to credit risk since initial recognition, a 12-month expected credit loss allowance is estimated. This represents a portion of the asset's lifetime expected credit losses that is attributable to a default event that is possible within the next 12 months. Where a financial asset has become credit impaired or where it is determined that credit risk has increased significantly, the loss allowance is based on the asset's lifetime expected credit losses. The amount of expected credit loss recognised is measured on the basis of the probability weighted present value of anticipated cash shortfalls over the life of the instrument discounted at the original effective interest rate.

For financial assets mandatorily measured at fair value through other comprehensive income, the loss allowance is recognised in other comprehensive income with a corresponding expense through profit or loss. In all other cases, the loss allowance reduces the asset's carrying value with a corresponding expense through profit or loss.

Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits are benefits, other than termination benefits, that are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service. Examples of such benefits include wages and salaries, non-monetary benefits and accumulating sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the undiscounted amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Other long-term employee benefits

The liability for annual leave and long service leave not expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on high quality corporate bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Members' Guarantees

The Company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and is a company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member (and each member that has left the Company within one year) is required to contribute a maximum $10 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2024, the total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company wound up is $20 (2023: $20).

Note 3. Revenue and income

	2024 $	2023 $
Container refund Scheme income – AASB 1058	**446,337,841**	425,740,087
Revenue from the sale of recycled goods – AASB 15 – at a point in time	**33,253,307**	26,331,059
Other income	**592,448**	1,200,000
Interest income	**6,634,062**	3,479,902
Gain on disposal of plant and equipment	**—**	9,275
Total revenue and income	**486,817,658**	**456,760,323**

Accounting policy for revenue and income recognition

The Company recognises revenue and income as follows:

Container refund Scheme income – AASB 1058

The Company as the PRO of the Scheme under the WRR Act, enters into deeds with eligible Beverage Manufacturers to receive contributions to cover the costs of administering the Scheme. Whilst these deeds represent an enforceable contract, the contributions received from Beverage Manufacturers fall under *AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, as there is no sufficiently specific promise specified in the separate deeds with Beverage Manufacturers to be delivered by the PRO. Income is recognised as the amount owed by relevant manufacturers of beverage products under the terms of the Scheme. This is calculated upon the number of eligible containers sold into the Queensland market during the financial year, as defined by the WRR Act.

Revenue from the sale of recycled goods – AASB 15

The Company, in its capacity as the PRO, sells processed containers through an online recycling material sales platform to approved recyclers and for some materials enters into direct sale agreements. To determine whether and when to recognise revenue, the Company follows a five-step process:

1) Identifying the contract with a customer – The auction process results in a binding contract between the Company and the recycler as the customer. For direct sales, the Company has an agreement in place with the recycler.
2) Identifying the performance obligations – The performance obligation is the goods for sale.
3) Determining the transaction price – The transaction price is the successful bid made by the recycler or agreed price for direct sales in addition to fees (if any) included in the agreement. The PRO makes no warranties or guarantees about the recycled goods hence there are no provisions or elements of variable consideration to be considered in determining the transaction price.
4) Allocating the transaction price to the performance obligations – The price is allocated directly to the sale.
5) Recognising revenue when/as performance obligation(s) are satisfied – Revenue is recognised at the point in time at which the customer obtains control of a promised asset (i.e. the recycled goods). The Company has deemed this to be the point when the goods are available for collection by the customer as that is the point when the Company has a present right to payment.

Other income

Other income is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method. This is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocating the interest income over the relevant period using the effective interest rate, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

Note 4. Expenses

	2024 $	2023 $
Direct inventory expenses		
Gross container refund expense	164,859,888	151,326,943
Add: Opening containers on hand	2,502,887	2,181,624
Less: Closing containers on hand	(1,686,830)	(2,502,887)
Net container refund expense	165,675,945	151,005,680
Container handling expenses	133,027,187	114,628,738
Logistics expenses	31,500,213	26,129,540
Container processing expenses	22,540,020	18,802,301
Other direct expenses	4,593,125	2,675,227
Total direct inventory expenses	357,336,490	313,241,486

The above costs are incurred in collecting and processing containers into a condition suitable for sale to a recycler. These costs represent the cost of sales of the Company, however the recoverable amount is substantially less than the cumulative direct Scheme costs. The expense relating to the write-down of inventory to its net recoverable value for the period is $358,152,569 (2023: $312,920,223). As the initial 10c per container paid to the consumers exceeds the net recoverable amount for all material types, all costs subsequently incurred are immediately expensed as net recoverable value write-downs.

Scheme administration costs include the following expenses:

	2024 $	2023 $
Employee benefits expense`		
Wages and salaries	10,208,880	9,460,468
Superannuation – defined contribution plans	1,205,733	1,065,034
Employee benefit provisions	765,459	760,316
Total employee benefits expense	12,180,072	11,285,818
Depreciation and amortisation expense		
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	793,899	253,278
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	134,629	80,811
Amortisation of intangible assets	37,051	37,844
Total depreciation and amortisation expense	965,579	371,933

Note 5. Finance costs

	2024 $	2023 $
Interest expense - leases	252,816	99,793

Accounting policy for finance costs

Finance costs attributable to qualifying assets are capitalised as part of the asset. All other finance costs are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

Note 6. Cash and cash equivalents

	2024 $	2023 $
Current assets		
Cash at bank	96,430,265	63,436,721

Accounting policy for cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of 90 days or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Note 7. Trade and other receivables

	2024 $	2023 $
Current assets		
Trade receivables	23,019,152	13,416,971
Allowance for expected credit losses	(1,101,010)	(910,011)
	21,918,142	12,506,960
GST receivable	263,626	135,333
Total trade and other receivables	22,181,768	12,642,293

Accounting policy for trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 5 days.

The Company has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue.

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

The movement in the allowance for credit losses can be reconciled as follows:

	2024 $	2023 $
Balance at beginning of period	910,011	715,889
Additional provisions recognised	190,999	194,122
Balance at end of period	1,101,010	910,011

Note 8. Inventories

	2024 $	2023 $
Current assets		
Containers on hand	1,686,830	2,502,887

Accounting policy for inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost comprises of direct Scheme costs, dissected in note 4.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

In 2024, a total of $357,336,490 of inventories was included in profit and loss as an expense (2023: $313,241,486). This includes an amount of $358,152,569 resulting from write down of inventories (2023: $312,920,223).

Note 9. Financial asset held at amortised cost

	2024 $	2023 $
Current assets		
Term deposit	60,000,000	80,000,000

Note 10. Other assets

	2024 $	2023 $
Current assets		
Accrued income	36,346,431	35,075,762
Prepayments	1,946,521	611,608
	38,292,952	35,687,370

Note 11. Property, plant and equipment

	2024 $	2023 $
Non-current assets – property, plant and equipment		
Leasehold improvements – at cost	5,391	5,391
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(5,391)	(5,391)
	–	–
Office furniture – at cost	58,765	58,765
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(51,141)	(46,360)
	7,624	12,405
IT hardware – at cost	525,382	467,164
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(478,745)	(365,611)
	46,637	101,553
Plant and equipment – at cost	351,000	–
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(16,714)	–
	334,286	–
Assets under construction – at cost	1,969,839	–
Total property, plant and equipment	2,358,386	113,958

Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below:

	Office furniture $	IT hardware $	Plant and equipment $	Assets under construction $	Total $
Balance at 1 July 2023	12,405	101,553	–	–	113,958
Additions	–	58,218	351,000	1,969,839	2,379,057
Depreciation expense	(4,781)	(113,134)	(16,714)	–	(134,629)
Balance at 30 June 2024	7,624	46,637	334,286	1,969,839	2,358,386

Accounting policy for property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment over their expected useful lives as follows:

Class of asset	*Useful life*
Office furniture	4 years
IT hardware	1 to 2 years
Plant and equipment	5 to 20 years

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the Company. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

Note 12. Intangibles

	2024 $	2023 $
Non-current assets		
Mobile application – at cost	187,235	187,235
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(146,710)	(109,659)
Total intangibles	**40,525**	**77,576**

Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below:

	Mobile application $
Balance at 1 July 2023	77,576
Amortisation expense	(37,051)
Balance at 30 June 2024	40,525

Accounting policy for intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are initially recognised at cost. Finite life intangible assets are subsequently measured at cost less amortisation and any impairment. The gains or losses recognised in profit or loss arising from the derecognition of intangible assets are measured as the difference between net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the intangible asset. The method and useful lives of finite life intangible assets are reviewed annually. Changes in expected consumption or useful life are accounted for prospectively by changing the amortisation method or period.

Mobile application

Significant costs associated with the mobile application are deferred and amortised on a straight-line basis over the period of their expected benefit, being their finite life of 5 years.

Note 13. Right-of-use asset

	2024 $	2023 $
Non-current assets		
Property – right-of-use	6,422,045	1,437,718
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(1,585,658)	(791,759)
	4,836,387	645,959

Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below:

	Property $
Balance at 1 July 2023	645,959
Additions	4,984,327
Depreciation	(793,899)
Balance at 30 June 2024	4,836,387

Note 14. Trade and other payables

	2024 $	2023 $
Current liabilities		
Trade payables	7,813,184	7,196,600
Accrued expenses	22,050,249	19,999,225
Total trade and other payables	**29,863,433**	**27,195,825**

Accounting policy for trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Company during the reporting period which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

The carrying values of trade and other payables are considered to be a reasonable approximation of fair value.

Note 15. Lease liabilities

	2024 $	2023 $
Current liabilities		
Lease liability	347,931	337,759
Non-current liabilities		
Lease liability	4,887,031	299,916
	5,234,962	637,675
Future lease payments		
Future lease payments are due as follows:		
Within one year	586,689	383,388
One to five years	2,036,976	348,176
More than five years	4,383,503	–
	7,007,168	731,564

Undiscounted future lease payments include future lease interest of $1,772,206 (2023: $93,889).

Note 16. Employee benefits

	2024 $	2023 $
Current liabilities		
Annual leave	503,573	699,292
Non-current liabilities		
Long service leave	95,449	155,775
	599,022	855,067

Accounting policy for employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Other long-term employee benefits

The liability for annual leave and long service leave not expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Note 17. Key management personnel disclosures

Compensation

The aggregate compensation made to Directors and other members of key management personnel of the Company is set out below:

	2024 $	2023 $
Aggregate compensation	683,031	1,022,195

Key management of the Company are the Directors and the Chief Executive Officer.

Remuneration of the CEO is developed and endorsed by the People & Culture Board subcommittee, before being approved by the Board of Directors. Remuneration of the Directors is developed and approved by the Members at the Annual General Meeting. Remuneration is set based on factors including benchmarking of peer entities and comparable roles, research from leading governance bodies, relevant published indices and annual performance appraisals.

Note 18. Related party transactions

The Company's related parties are described below. Unless otherwise stated, none of the transactions incorporate special terms and conditions and no guarantees were given or received.

Key management personnel

Disclosures relating to key management personnel are set out in note 17.

Receivable from and payable to related parties

There were no trade receivables from or trade payables to related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

Loans to/from related parties

There were no loans to or from related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd, the auditor of the Company:

	2024 $	2023 $
Audit services - Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd		
Audit of the financial statements	118,450	109,500
Other services - Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd		
Assistance with the compilation of financial report	6,000	5,500
	124,450	115,000

Note 20. Contingent assets and liabilities

There were no contingent liabilities for the year ended 30 June 2024.

In the 2020 financial year, a legal claim was initially filed against COEX, seeking specific performance of an agreement and payment of damages, along with interest and associated costs. However, it is noteworthy that the Plaintiff withdrew this claim in November 2022. Subsequently, the Plaintiff was ordered by the court to cover COEX's legal expenses incurred while defending against the lawsuit. The process of recovering these costs on behalf of COEX is currently underway, with the original cost ceiling assessed at roughly $1 million. As of 30 June 2024, $200,000 of these costs have been recouped.

Note 21. Events after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Company's operations, the results of those operations, or the Company's state of affairs in future financial years.

Directors' declaration

For the year ended 30 June 2024

In the Directors' opinion:

- The financial statements and notes of Container Exchange (QLD) Limited are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:
  - Giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date;
  - Complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022* (Cth); and
  - There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

On behalf of the Directors

Andrew Clark
Chair and Director

25 September 2024

Independent auditor's report

GrantThornton

Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd
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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Container Exchange (QLD) Limited

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Container Exchange (QLD) Limited (the "Registered Entity"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information and the Directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Container Exchange (QLD) Limited has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

a giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and

b complying with Australian Accounting *Standards AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities* and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Registered Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Registered Entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2024, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the financial report

The Directors of the Registered Entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – *AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities* and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Registered Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Directors are responsible for overseeing the Registered Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Registered Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Registered Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Grant Thornton

Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants

M S Bell
Partner – Audit & Assurance

Brisbane, 25 September 2024

Grant Thornton Audit Pty Ltd.

Glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms

COEX	Container Exchange
CRP	Container refund point
CRS	Container refund scheme
HDPE	High-density polyethylene
LPB	Liquid paperboard
Member number	A unique alphanumeric number assigned to Containers for Change participants that is used to facilitate electronic payments, track collection goals and more
MRF	Material recovery facility
Network	Container refund points across Queensland, including depots, bag drops, reverse vending machines and mobile sites
Operator	Operator of a Containers for Change container refund point
PET	Polyethylene terephthalate
PRO	Product responsibility organisation
RVM	Reverse vending machine
Scheme	Queensland's 'Containers for Change' container refund scheme, incorporating containers collected through container refund points and material recovery facilities
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal

Container Exchange

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