Council 11 December 2023

Item 12.10

Notices of Motion

Increased City Action on Recycling

By Councillor Scott

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- the National Waste Report 2020 outlines Australia's waste production has increased to 74 million tonnes annually. Forty per cent of this waste is sent directly to landfills;
- (ii) Labor's Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek MP has outlined eight priority recycling areas for addressing, which include photovoltaic waste, electronic waste, textile, tyres, mattresses, solvents, plastics in healthcare and children's car seats;
- (iii) annually, in Australia, 1.8M mattresses are disposed of; 740,000 of which are disposed into landfill (or 22,000 tonnes of mattresses);
 - to combat the mattress waste issues, Labor' Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek MP has established the Australian Bedding Stewardship Scheme; and
 - (b) the Australian Bedding Stewardship Scheme works with mattress supply chain manufactures to utilise inputs that work towards a circular economy for mattresses and bedding:
- (iv) annually 200,000 car seats are disposed of, with more than 80 per cent able to be recycled;
 - (a) to combat improper car seat disposal, a national, voluntary, industry led product stewardship scheme, SeatCare was developed; and
 - (b) SeatCare provides free drop-off locations for car seats to be dismantled and recycled properly, to reduce the space in landfill;
- (v) almost 200,000 tonnes of textiles are disposed of each year, with more than 105,000 tonnes exported offshore;
 - (a) to combat the improper waste disposal of textiles, Labor's Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek MP launched the National Clothing Product Stewardship Scheme, Seamless; and
 - (b) Seamless aims to create a circular clothing industry by 2030, incentivising clothing designs that are more durable, recyclable and foster ethical manufacturing; and

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- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:
 - congratulate City staff who worked to ensure the City of Sydney's mattress recycling contract with Soft Landing is accredited with the Australian Bedding Stewardship Scheme, and for their efforts to ensure where possible, mattresses are recycled;
 - (ii) sign up for SeatCare and Seamless;
 - (iii) seek contract amendments to ensure all waste and recycling suppliers of the City of Sydney are members of the Australian Bedding Stewardship Scheme, SeatCare and Seamless and report back via CEO Update;
 - (iv) ensure where relevant all new contractors are signatories; and
 - (v) monitor compliance of the City and contractors, and rates of recycling across City and contracted waste, and report back to Council via the City's Green Report.

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