



MEDIA RELEASE

Australian National Retailers Association

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Peak retail group to trial plastic bag reduction campaign

The peak body representing Australia's leading retailers, including Coles, Woolworths and Franklins, will work closely with the State, Territory and Federal Governments to help reduce the use of plastic bags in Australia.

Speaking after the Environment and Heritage Protection Council meeting in Melbourne today, Australian National Retailers Association CEO Margy Osmond said the peak retailers will take part in a trial to test a charge on plastic bags and participate in a government-industry working group.

The plastic bag trial will start in August at a couple of Victorian locations.

"The trial testing different charges will provide us with valuable information on how consumers will react to a charge on plastic bags," Mrs Osmond said.

The working group will include government and ANRA representatives. The group will look at the results of the trial and make recommendations to Ministers about the next best step to reduce plastic bag use.

"ANRA's key concern has always been not adding unnecessary costs to shoppers' grocery bills," Mrs Osmond said.

"Our members are working hard to reduce the use of plastic bags and encouraging shoppers to use green bags.

"ANRA members sell millions of reusable bags to their customers each year and help their shoppers recycle old plastic bags."

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ANRA was founded in 2006 to become the voice of large scale retailers in Australia.