



Hobsons Bay
CITY COUNCIL

8th January 2009

Retail Policy Review
Dept of Planning and Community
Development
GPO Box 2392
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Ask for: Justin Burgess
Phone: (03) 9932 1169

Dear Sir / Madam

RETAIL POLICY REVIEW

I am writing in relation to the Retail Policy Review Information Sheet, October 2008. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the review.

The development of new retail policy is long over due and any review should strengthen policy to provide greater clarity and certainty to deliver desired planning outcomes. The establishment of a working group of local government professionals to discuss and develop retail policy guidelines would also assist in this process. While the review has merit it appears to lack the effective controls desired at a local level and should be strengthened.

Many industrial sites successfully contain restricted retail premises and these centres could be encouraged and developed as restricted retail precincts. If planning scheme amendments are required to develop restricted retailing in industrial areas, lengthy delays could occur and hinder economic development. Additionally such precincts could act as buffers between industrial and sensitive land uses.

Should you wish to discuss the matter further please contact Justin Burgess on 9932 11169 or email jburgess@hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au.

Yours faithfully

Peter Gaschk
DIRECTOR PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT