The Government is advised that independent mediation will be undertaken next week between parties in relation to the Container Deposit Scheme.

Claims made by the parties continue to be thoroughly investigated by the Department.

As is often the case with commercial disputes, investigations often reveal other sides to the dispute.

Like South Australia, we have an industry run cash for containers scheme

We have a good framework in place through the legislation.

Under this legislation collection depots operate as businesses and need to form appropriate contractual arrangements with the relevant scheme coordinators

The investigation thus far has not demonstrated clear wrong doing under the legislation in the manner alleged.

All parties are entitled to some fairness and when there is claim and counter claim around the facts at hand, the most appropriate course of action is to get the parties around the table to try to find solutions.

That is why Government has made the offer to pay for mediation.

Government remains ready and willing to assist in resolving the issues faced by parties.

Darwin and Palmerston continues to remain well serviced for families to get their 10 cents back with collection depots operating through three companies in Winnellie, Berrimah and Pinelands.

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