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FAO Kenny Wilks
Head of Street Environmental Services
London Borough of Islington
The Exchange
Watkinson Road
London
N7 8DE

12 May 2014

Dear Mr Wilks

Sainsbury's Supermarkets Ltd – Islington
Environmental Protection Act 1990
Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005

Thank you for your letter in relation to your proposed charges for the return of shopping trolleys.

As a responsible retailer, the retrieval of abandoned trolleys is an issue which Sainsbury's takes very seriously. You will be aware that the guidance on shopping trolley management issued by DEFRA emphasises that local authorities and trolley owners should work together and enter into voluntary agreement where possible.

Given that Sainsbury's already has policies in place in relation to trolley management, we would be interested in agreeing with you a trolley collection scheme.

The DEFRA guidance sets out clearly that under the EPA 1990 local authorities can agree a retailer's scheme for collection. This would normally include agreeing a time limit for retrievals. If collections are made in accordance with the retailer's scheme then an additional charge should not be imposed.

You will appreciate that the varying locations and types of Sainsbury's stores means that we cannot implement a "one size fits all" method and the policy does therefore differ across stores. It is recognised within the DEFRA guidance that this is likely to be the case. In stores where it is possible, we have an electronic 'gate keeper' system which uses electro-magnets to prevent trolleys from being removed from our premises. In addition we generally contract with a third party to retrieve trolleys found outside the store or enter into an agreement with the local authorities to use its own trolley collection scheme.

In all cases, if we are notified of trolleys found outside the boundaries of a store they are retrieved as a priority. The DEFRA guidance suggests a maximum of 72 hours for retrievals on land and we would always seek to carry out retrievals well within this time period.

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In our Islington store we contract with a third party, Trolleywise, to retrieve trolleys 5 days a week and we would be interested in entering into a voluntary agreement with you.

Given our willingness to work with you in agreeing a trolley management scheme, we would question whether trolley seizure under the EPA 1990 and a proposal to charge £105 per trolley returned to us (including administration charge and assuming we collect immediately) is necessary or appropriate in accordance with the guidance.

Should you decide that the use of statutory powers is more appropriate than a partnership approach, we would also request that you provide a breakdown of how the proposed charge of £230 (£70 for collection, £35 administration costs, £15 storage fee per week and £35 disposal fee, totalling £230 for an unclaimed trolley), which should reflect the average cost of recovering a trolley, has been reached.

I look forward to hearing from you shortly and would be grateful if you could address your response to me.

Yours sincerely



**Retail Law Advisor
Legal Services
Sainsbury's Supermarkets Limited**