Plastic bag levy of 10c riles shoppers

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NOT surprisingly there's a public backlash to the State Government's 10c plastic bag levy trial.

Governments love nothing more than to be able to "solve" a problem by asking the public to pay. It's convenient.

But people aren't stupid. They understand that plastic bags are factored into retail costs and that if they are paying - exorbitantly, I might add - for them, surely those costs should be reflected in the retail price.

I liked the observation of one letter writer who asked why consumers should have to pay for plastic bags when so many grocery items appeared on our shelves already wrapped in environmentally unfriendly plastic?

If the Government truly wants to change our perception and habits then, surely, it should be a two-way street. Otherwise it's just a further rip-off.