

BUILDING THE CASE FOR WASTE

Resource Recovery and Waste Management
Strategy 2018 -23



AVOID • REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE



VISION

Managing our
resources for a
sustainable future.



PREAMBLE

The Campaspe Shire Council delivers quality services to manage unwanted materials and strives to meet best practice in waste reduction and resource recovery. The *Building The Case For Waste Strategy 2018-23* (the “Strategy”) has been developed in line with the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan to ensure alignment with regional and state themes.

Waste management is an essential service. To support the strategy, relevant council policies have been updated to align with current legislation, best practice and community expectations.

The purpose of this strategy is to provide guidance and direction to council and to inform the community and partners about council’s current status and how it intends to respond to current and emerging issues in waste and resource recovery.

An annual action plan will be developed to guide the implementation of this Strategy.

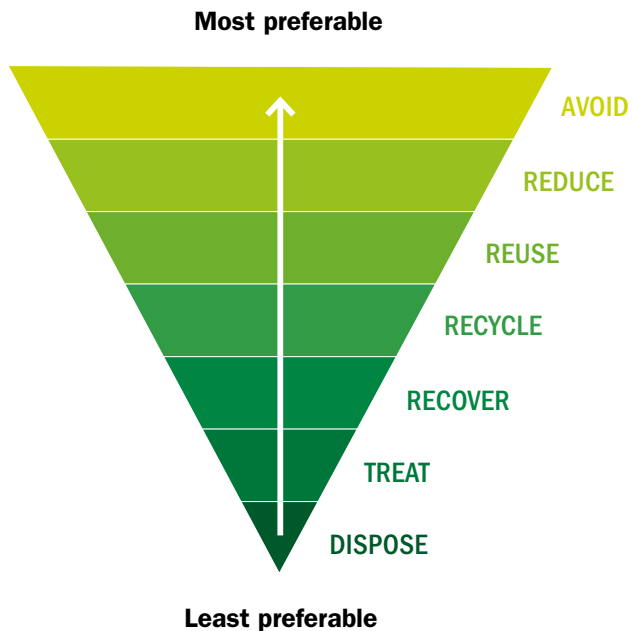
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STRATEGIC DIRECTION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

This strategy has been developed in line with relevant federal and state government legislation, strategies and policies.

Federal and state government legislation, strategies and policies generally align with the waste management hierarchy:



Key documents include:

- Less Waste More Resources (2009)
- Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan June (2015)
- Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group Implementation Plan (2017)
- Victorian Waste Education Strategy (2016-21)
- Victorian Organics Resource Recovery Strategy (2015)

- Waste and Environment Behaviour Change Program (2013-18) (WEBCP)
- Environment Protection Act 1970
- Local Government Act 1989
- Council Plan 2017-21 - Council Plan priority “Promote resource minimisation and recovery through innovative environmental practice”
- Council’s “Waste, Recycling and Garden Organics Guidelines” document (Guidelines)

Council supports the waste management hierarchy.

The state government and regional directions can be summarised as:

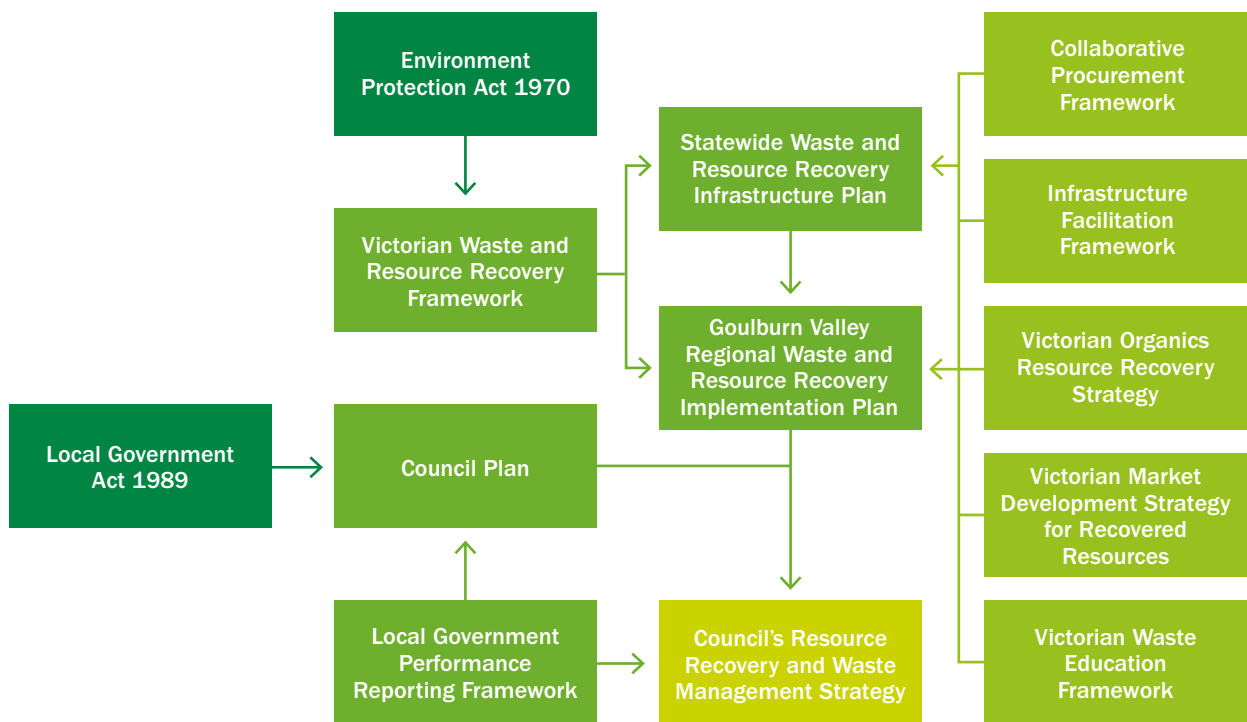
- Maximising the diversion of recoverable materials from landfills
- Supporting increased resource recovery
- Achieving quantities for reprocessing
- Managing waste and material streams
- Maximising economic outcomes, providing cost effective service delivery and reducing community, environment and public health impacts

Strategic framework for waste and resource recovery

Commonwealth context



Victorian context



■ Acts, legislation and policies
 ■ Strategies, plans and associated frameworks
 ■ Supporting documents



CURRENT STATUS

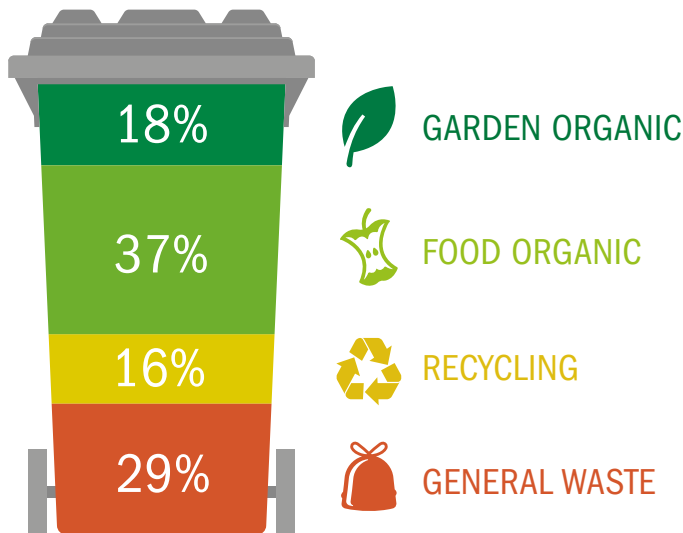
The previous Waste Management Strategy was adopted in 2012 and concluded in June 2017. This action based strategy provided guidance to Council for the delivery of activities that reduced waste to landfill, recovered materials, ensured infrastructure and services met best practice and improved processes and data collection.

The 2012-17 Strategy has ensured council is aligned with the state and regional directions captured above.

Some of the actions implemented include:	This lead to the following achievements:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The introduction of additional kerbside services — 80 litre waste bin, 360 litre recycle bin and expansion of the garden organics service to all towns. • Significant upgrade projects implemented at the Mt Scobie, Rochester, Toolleen and Colbinabbin Transfer Stations. • The development and implementation of the Waste and Environment Behaviour Change Program 2013-18. • The inclusion of specific clauses in the Recyclables Acceptance and Sorting Contract to encourage the development of a Materials Recovery Facility within the shire. • Data collection and reporting systems significantly improved. • An audit of the entire street litter bin fleet performed and assets upgraded to meet current best practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste to landfill (from kerbside and transfer stations) reduced by 7.1% or 862 tonnes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – If population growth over the term of the strategy is considered the reduction is 10.6% or 1,348 tonnes. • The recovery of recyclables (from kerbside and transfer stations) increased by 2.6% or 110 tonnes. • Recovery of garden organics through the kerbside service increased by 125% or 1,243 tonnes. • All licensed landfills (Echuca, Kyabram and Lockington) in the Shire of Campaspe comply with EPA legislation. • Over \$300,000 in state government funding obtained for waste related activities. • Waste bin audits conducted in 2010 and again in 2015 demonstrate the average bin weight has reduced from 12.93kgs in 2010 to 9.6kgs in 2015, a 26% reduction.

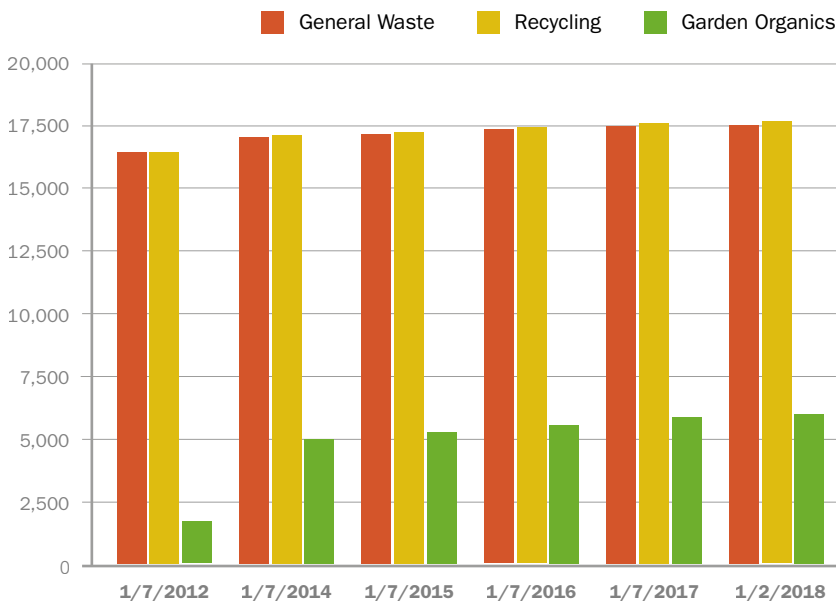


Average Campaspe Waste Bin (2015)



The number of waste services grew by 1,019 (6.2%) over the five year period of the previous strategy. The number of recycle services grew by 1,134 (6.9%) and garden organics services by 4,127 (247%).

Number of waste services



COMMUNITY PROFILE

TOTAL POPULATION
37,429

10,720 (29%)
UNDER 25 YRS

20,326 (55%)
25-69 YRS

6,002 (16%)
OVER 69 YRS

POPULATION GROWTH
1.9% (2011-2016)

HOUSEHOLDS
14,813

25% COUPLES WITH CHILDREN

29% COUPLES WITHOUT CHILDREN

26% LONE PERSONS

HOUSEHOLD GROWTH
3.3% (2011-2016)

2016 ABS Census data

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Council has developed principles to guide how waste and resource recovery services will be implemented and managed, they are:

1. Resource recovery is prioritised where it is economically viable and where it improves community, environment and public health outcomes.
2. The delivery of services and use of infrastructure will align with council's "Waste, Recycling and Garden Organics" guidelines.
3. Council is committed to education through the Waste and Environment Behaviour Change Program.
4. Successful waste minimisation and diversion can only truly be maximised through effective partnerships. Council will partner where mutually beneficial outcomes can be achieved.
5. Council will advocate on behalf of the community on waste and resource recovery issues.
6. Council seeks to be a leader in waste management and resource recovery through current best practice approaches and infrastructure.
7. Social and environmental compliance are key drivers for action and change. Council commits to being compliant at all times.
8. Council will prioritise the uptake of services, programs and behaviours that align with the waste hierarchy through incentives where appropriate rather than through enforcement approaches.
9. Council will maximise its ability to access grants and meet infrastructure and program needs through the use of a waste reserve which will receive an annual allocation of funds to be determined through the budget process.
10. The collection of data to support decision making is valued and prioritised. Decisions are made based on facts and data.
11. Where approaches fall outside these principles staff will seek direction from council in all cases.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives below are to be delivered across multiple themes addressed in the proceeding pages of this strategy. Implementation of the future directions/opportunities identified within the themes will help achieve these objectives. They are:

1. Provide an efficient and cost effective service.
2. Minimise waste to landfill.
3. Influence behaviour through the Waste and Environment Behaviour Change Program.
4. Advocate on waste and resource recovery issues that impact the community.



THEMES

LANDFILLS

Status

- All previously licensed landfills (Echuca, Kyabram and Lockington) comply with legislative tools applied by the EPA.
- All unlicensed landfills (Tongala, Rushworth, Stanhope, Gunbower, Girgarre, Tennyson, Colbinabbin, Toolleen) have been assessed to establish the risk they pose to the environment.

Future direction/opportunities

Council is legislated and has an environmental responsibility to protect human health and the environment from the impacts of landfills. Council will continue to:

- manage, monitor and report the condition of each landfill to meet legislative requirements where they exist.

KERBSIDE SERVICES

Status



**figures are for the calendar year 2017*

Future direction/opportunities

Kerbside audits conducted by council demonstrate that food and garden organics and recyclable materials are a large component of the waste stream. Council will continue to seek increased diversion of materials from landfill by:

- encouraging the adoption of garden organics services by residents.
- evaluating food organics and soft plastic recycling services that complement current services and are cost effective.
- reducing contamination in all services.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Status

Campaspe Shire Council operate eight fit for purpose transfer stations located strategically across the shire at Echuca, Mt Scobie, Rochester, Rushworth, Lockington, Gunbower, Colbinabbin and Toolleen. A significant number of materials are recovered through these facilities annually.



Agricultural chemical drums
6,200



Concrete, brick and tile
300 tonnes



E-waste
85 tonnes



Garden organics
3,500 tonnes



Mattresses
930



Motor oil
9,700 litres



Steel
1,800 tonnes



Tyres
3,200

Future direction/opportunities

A project implemented by the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group identified a number of opportunities that could enhance the customer experience, improve safety, efficiency and environmental outcomes. In striving to meet these opportunities council will:

- ensure all sites meet current best practice.
- continue to increase the diversion of materials from landfill.
- establish ways in which the diversion rate can be calculated and tracked.

EDUCATION

Status

- In 2013 council initiated an education program through the WEBCP. Council acknowledged that infrastructure and services provided within the Shire of Campaspe are high quality and education related to how these services are used would yield the greatest benefits.
- Waste education is delivered through the WICKED Program (Waste in Campaspe - Know, Educate, Do).

Future direction/opportunities

Effective education is a powerful tool for achieving long term behaviour change. It provides opportunities to shift attitudes and increase understanding ultimately leading to a change in behaviour. It cannot be underestimated how important it is to bring the community along with council, education can do this. Council commits to:

- continuing the implementation of the WEBCP
- reviewing the WEBCP in 2018 and developing a new program.


RESOURCE RECOVERY

Status

Council currently diverts all materials that are economically and environmentally appropriate to do so. These include garden organics, comingled recyclables, cardboard, polystyrene, steel, whitegoods, gas bottles, fluorescent lights, batteries, mattresses, e-waste, motor oil, tyres, mobile phones, some timber, agricultural chemical drums at Echuca, Mt Scobie and Rochester and concrete, brick and tile, clothing, soft plastic and silage wrap at Echuca and Mt Scobie.

Future direction/opportunities

The importance of recovering materials from the waste stream is well documented and all levels of government have a focus in this area. Opportunities to improve resource recovery will continually be presented to council. The following are currently foreseeable:

 **Organics (food and garden)**
 Keeping organics out of landfill has significant environmental and economic advantages.



E-waste
 Is currently the fastest growing waste stream in Australia. A ban on these items going to landfill is being implemented by the Victorian State Government.



Soft Plastics
 A large component of the waste stream that is currently not being effectively captured for recovery and reuse.



Timber
 A resource that can be reused. Contributes to greenhouse gas emissions in landfill.



Furniture
 Not all furniture is currently recovered. Bulky product with reusable components.



Detox
 Providing timely and convenient options for the disposal of household chemicals.



Agricultural/farm waste
 A significant agricultural industry exists that uses products that can be recycled and recovered.





PARTNERS

Status

The Campaspe Shire Council partners where mutually beneficial outcomes can be achieved. The Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group is a key partner that council works with. Other groups include Murray River Group of Councils, Parks Victoria, Environment Protection Authority, Sustainability Victoria and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Another important partner that council must work closely with and can help the municipality achieve its objectives are waste and resource recovery contractors. Council will work with contractors to improve services, reduce costs, reduce waste to landfill and recover materials.

Future direction/opportunities

Council has limited resources and understands the importance of partnering to assist in achieving economic, social and environmental outcomes and will:

- partner where mutually beneficial outcomes can be achieved.

COMMUNITY

Status

An involved and engaged community is crucial for council in being able to meet its objectives and maintain an efficient and effective essential service and protect the environment. Placing emphasis on resources for education engages the community and secures buy in. Council engages with the community through the WEBCP

Future direction/opportunities

Council understands the importance of engaging with the community to ensure economic, social and environmental outcomes can be achieved and have committed to the WEBCP to assist. Council will continue to:

- engage with the community through the WEBCP
- work with the community to deliver appropriate high quality services.

LITTER

Status

- Council uses a combination of education, infrastructure and enforcement as outlined in the Victorian Litter Strategy to influence behaviour change associated with litter.
- Street litter infrastructure has been upgraded to current best practice standard.
- The WEBCP has specific litter education components.
- Enforcement occurs through Council's Local Laws Unit under the *Environment Protection Act 1970* and Local Law number 8 2015.
- Council has a number of litter traps to collect and remove litter captured in the storm water system.

Future direction/opportunities

Although council has been addressing litter as outlined in the Victorian Litter Strategy, data regarding the issue in Campaspe is limited. Education, infrastructure and enforcement is considered the best approach to the problem. Council will:

- seek to gain a greater understanding of the problem through the collection of data.
- continue to address the issue through a combination of education, infrastructure and enforcement.

ILLEGAL DUMPING

Status

- Reports of illegal dumping are acted upon and cleaned up where they exist on council owned land.
- Where possible investigations to establish who dumped the rubbish are undertaken and enforcement actions instigated.

Future direction/opportunities

Council does not have accurate data regarding illegal dumping within the municipality. Council will:

- seek to gain a greater understanding of the problem through the collection of data.
- continue to address the issue of illegal dumping within the municipality through education, infrastructure and enforcement activities.





EVENTS

Status

- A contracted price for special event bin supply and emptying has been established.
- A Waste Wise Event Guide that outlines important waste avoidance and resource recovery specific requirements for events based on the measures event organisers are prepared to implement has been developed.
- A Waste Wise Event Plan for event organisers to assist them manage waste and recover materials has been developed.
- Access to waste services for events is managed by Council's Events Support Officer and all requests are directed to the Events Support Officer.
- Events are required to comply with the Waste Wise Event Guide to be eligible for services from council.

Future direction/opportunities

There are significant opportunities for council to improve the management of unwanted materials at events, to assist council will:

- encourage event organisers to implement higher standards of waste avoidance and resource recovery at events.

ADVOCACY

Status

- Council advocates on behalf of the community on waste and resource recovery issues.
- Council has an advocacy plan that incorporates waste and resource recovery issues.

Future direction/opportunities

The waste and resource recovery industry is undergoing rapid change. Governments are regularly developing and implementing policies and legislation to guide the industry and improve environmental outcomes. This change is impacting the community. To assist the community council will:

- ensure the advocacy plan incorporates waste and resource recovery issues when appropriate.

EVALUATION

1. Reduce the average amount of waste generated per household (kg/hh/yr).

- 2010 bin audit average 12.93kgs
- 2015 bin audit average 9.6kgs
- 2016-17 Ellwaste data 9.2kgs

2. Increase the diversion of materials collected through kerbside systems (current diversion rate 42.5%, increase by 2% per year).

3. Increase the diversion rate through resource recovery centres.

- Temporary weighbridges will be used twice per year to establish, monitor and report diversion rate.

4. Reduce contamination in kerbside recycling.

- Bin audits performed every two years

5. Evaluate the delivery of actions in the annual action plan.

ACRONYMS

EPA	Environment Protection Authority
RRWMS	Resource Recovery and Waste Management Strategy
WEBCP	Waste and Environment Behaviour Change Program



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