



# Waste Strategy 2023 - 2029

## **Acknowledgement to Country**

We acknowledge and respect the Wakka Wakka and Auburn Hawkwood people, the traditional owners of this land that we live, work and play and respect their cultures, their ancestors and their elders past, present and future generations.

# **Contents**

<b>Acknowledgement to Country</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Contents</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1. Executive Summary</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2. Context and Background</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. Strategic and regulatory framework</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4. Waste trends and performance</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5. Focus Areas and Implementation Actions</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>6. Monitor and Review</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>APPENDIX A – Waste Facilities</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>APPENDIX B – Waste Facility Coverage</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>APPENDIX C – Policy and Legislative Framework</b>	<b>27</b>

# 1. Executive Summary



South Burnett Regional Council's Waste Strategy sets out a clear path on how the Council will lead the community to achieve improved resource recovery and circular economy across the region.



The Plan outlines a timeline from 2023 to 2029 and how we will prioritise actions to address our local waste issues, amid a changing waste management landscape



The Plan identifies significant opportunities to help improve our environment by avoiding waste and building more capacity for local resource recovery via various initiatives.



The Plan clearly identifies that our overall recycling target is 40% by 2030, below the State target of 60%. Similarly, the State target of increasing Municipal Solid Waste diverted from landfill to 70% by 2030 will not be achieved. We are aiming to achieve 40% Municipal Waste Diversion by 2030.



The Plan has been developed through the guiding principles of the waste hierarchy and circular economy and state and regional waste management plans to direct our objectives and goals.



It incorporates actions for short, medium and long-term implementation with a priority focus on improving infrastructure and service delivery.

This will move us towards targets in a financially sustainable manner and deliver improvement for the community.

## Major Priorities

The Plan has been developed with a major focus on:

- Securing a future waste disposal solution when Kingaroy landfill reaches end-of-life
- Increasing education and community engagement around waste and resources
- Improving and developing the quality of infrastructure for resource recovery across Council's transfer station network
- Expanding service delivery of resource recovery at Councils transfer station, to divert more waste from landfill
- Regional collaboration to leverage other government and private industry expertise
- Securing funding opportunities to improve resource recovery outcomes in a way that limits cost impact to ratepayers

## Secondary Priorities

Secondary priorities in this Plan address the South Burnett's need for:

- Improving data capture and reporting
- Minimising and addressing illegal dumping
- Assessing feasibility of landfill gas capture to improve carbon emissions
- Completing rehabilitation of legacy landfills

# 2. Context and Background

## What is waste?

The Plan summarises the strategic direction for solid waste management that is generated from households, commercial and industrial premises and the construction and demolition sector.

Waste from households
Kerbside recyclables - paper, cardboard, glass, plastics, steel and aluminium cans
Garden and food organics
Scrap metal
E-waste and whitegoods
Wood and timber
Building materials including concrete and masonry
Textiles and clothing
Clean soils, asphalt, silt and rocks
Fire extinguishers, paint, gas bottles and marine flares
Tyres
Bulky goods, furniture and mattresses
Product Stewardship Scheme items - drumMuster, Paintbank, Fluro cycle, Container Exchange, Battery, Mobile phones

## Types of Waste Explained



**Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)** is a combination of domestic and waste arising from other council activities managed on behalf of the general public, such as parks, illegal dumping and road sweepings.



**Commingled recyclables (Recyclables)** is a combination of consumer packaging that contains items such as cardboard, newspaper, soft drink bottles, milk and yogurt containers, tins, aluminium cans and glass bottles and containers.



**Commercial and Industrial (C&I)** is waste generated by businesses, including waste from schools, restaurants, retail, office, agriculture, manufacturing, community groups and sports clubs.



**Construction and Demolition (C&D)** is waste generated from construction and demolition activity, typically brick, timber, concrete and metals.



## Challenges into the future



### **Challenge 1 – South Burnett is running out of landfill space to manage residual waste**

South Burnett has four active landfills, all of which are unlined and would not meet the best practice standards of contemporary landfills. At current rates of generation and recycling, the main regional landfill at Kingaroy is likely to reach capacity between 2027 and 2031. Council needs to look at alternatives, either a new landfill site within the region, upgrading an existing site, transporting waste outside the region or using alternative treatment technologies.



### **Challenge 2 – Waste transfer network – distance and costs**

Across the region, Council operates 17 waste facilities that enable more than 95% of the population to access a waste facility within a 20-minute drive from the household. Some areas can access multiple sites and there are many unlocked sites that permit unrestricted dumping and scavenging.



### **Challenge 3 – Data collection**

The introduction of the Queensland waste levy has increased the need for Council to measure, record and track waste and resources flows across and outside the region. Kingaroy is the only site with a weighbridge and to meet legislation compliance, new weighbridges are needed at other landfills. There is increased scrutiny on tracking waste performance, to make better decisions that align with State targets.



### **Challenge 4 – Meeting compliance**

The need to secure a future waste disposal option, improve the standard of infrastructure and rehabilitate the current and legacy landfill sites will require high capital investment to meet regulatory standards. Coupled with higher compliance levels and social aspiration for resource recovery will put pressure on future charges and needs to be balanced with the community's capacity to pay.



### **Challenge 5 – Cultivating circular economy in a regional context**

Moving to a circular economy, in alignment with the State's aspiration will create new industries and jobs through innovation. Our challenge is how we do this in a smaller regional setting, to identify the most appropriate resource streams and then attract business to make investment.

# 3. Strategic and regulatory framework

## Strategic Alignment

The South Burnett Waste Strategy 2023 strategy focuses on waste diversion, waste disposal security and delivering well planned infrastructure and services that reflect the region's need for improved waste management.

There is no doubt that targets and regulation will change over the next 20-years, however the prioritisation of resource recovery will continue to be the guiding principle for waste management, both now and into the future.

This Plan joins with other key strategies and plans that guide Council:

- Darling Downs/South-West Regional Waste Plan;
- Wide Bay/Burnett Regional Waste Plan;
- Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2019
- National Waste Policy 2018 and Action Plan 2019; and
- South Burnett Regional Council Corporate Plan 2021-2026.

*Appendix B contains a detailed list of Federal, State, Regional and Council legislation, policy and plans that were considered in the context of developing this Plan.*





## Principles for decision making

### Alignment to Corporate and Operational Plan Actions

Council's Corporate Plan sets the strategic direction to achieve the vision for the future of the South Burnett region. It is important that decisions on waste are strategic and shape a future that is sustainable, both financially and environmentally and moves the region on a pathway to accountable resource recovery. In considering decisions in the public interest, we will be guided by these key principles:

- Ensuring the decision is lawful
- Ensuring the decision is reasonable and based on evidence, having all relevant facts available to make an informed decision
- Considering the impact the decision will have on Council's financial sustainability
- Considering the impact the decision will have on the whole community
- Considering how the decision aligns with Council's long-term direction

### Principles of Waste Management

The Waste Management Principles outlined in the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 will guide the department in Waste Management decisions:

- The polluter pays principle – all costs associated with minimising the amount, containing, treating and disposing of waste; and rectifying environmental harm caused by waste should be borne by those who generate the waste
- The user pays principle – all costs associated with the use of a resource should be included in the prices of goods and services that result from the use
- The proximity principle – waste and recovered resources should be managed as close to the source of generation as possible
- The product stewardship principle – there is a shared responsibility between all persons who are involved in the life cycle of a product for managing the environmental, social and economic impact of the product

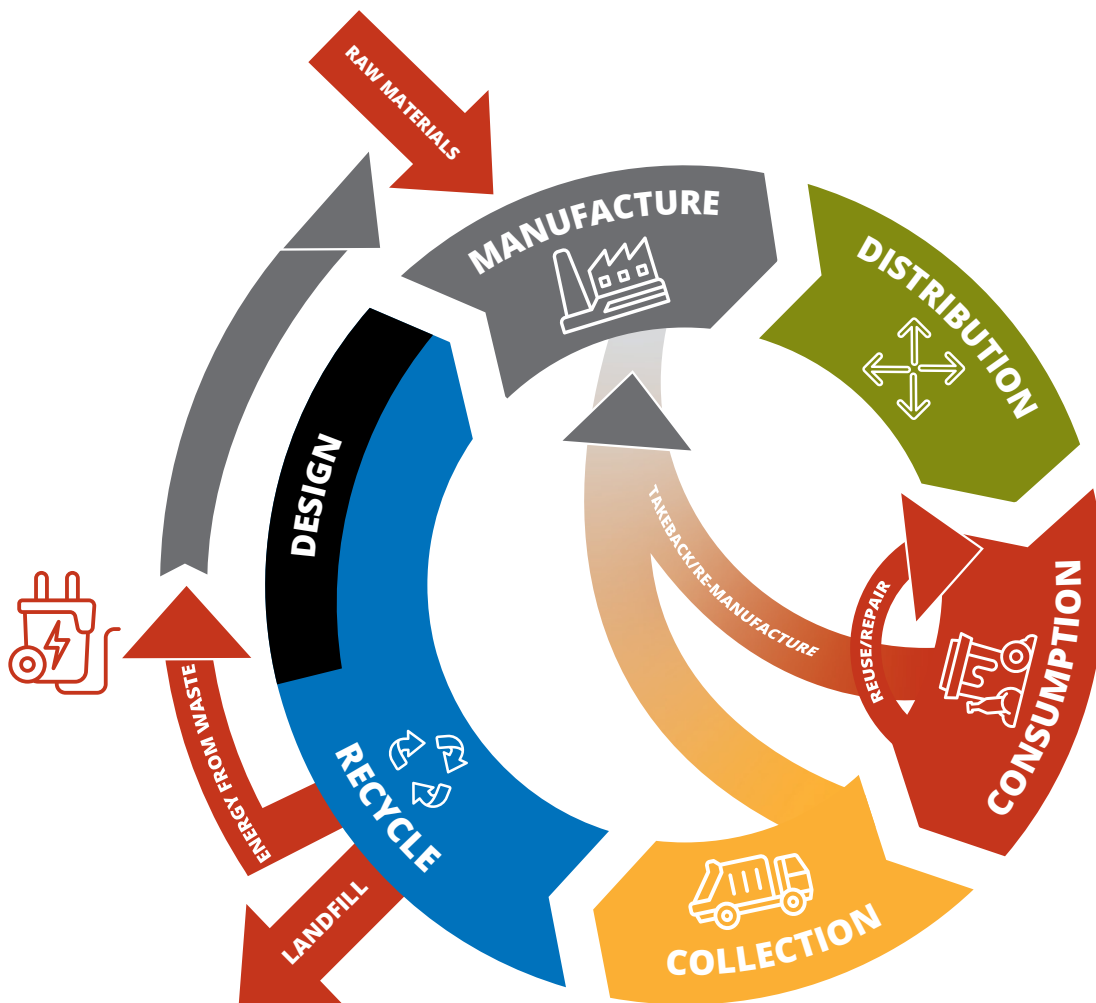
## Transition to a Circular economy

A Circular Economy is an alternative to the traditional, linear economy which refers to taking resources, making goods that are then bought and used to then be disposed of as waste. The circular economy aims to keep products, equipment and infrastructure in use for longer, thus improving the productivity of these resources. Waste materials and energy should become input for other processes: either a component or recovered resource for another industrial process or as regenerative resources for nature (e.g. compost).

The circular economy is based on three key principles:

- **design out waste and pollution**
- **keep products and materials in use**
- **regenerate natural system**

In the South Burnett, one of the main potential opportunities for circular economy is organic materials, that could be processed and retained in the region to sustain our important agricultural sector. We acknowledge that we need to crawl, before we walk and will keep an eye on circular economy opportunities over the life of this strategy and beyond. By aligning to the principals of circular economy, Council is also supporting the Queensland Government in the creation of jobs and a stronger economy to transition to a net zero waste and zero net emission economy by 2050.





# 4. Waste trends and performance

## Waste trends and performance

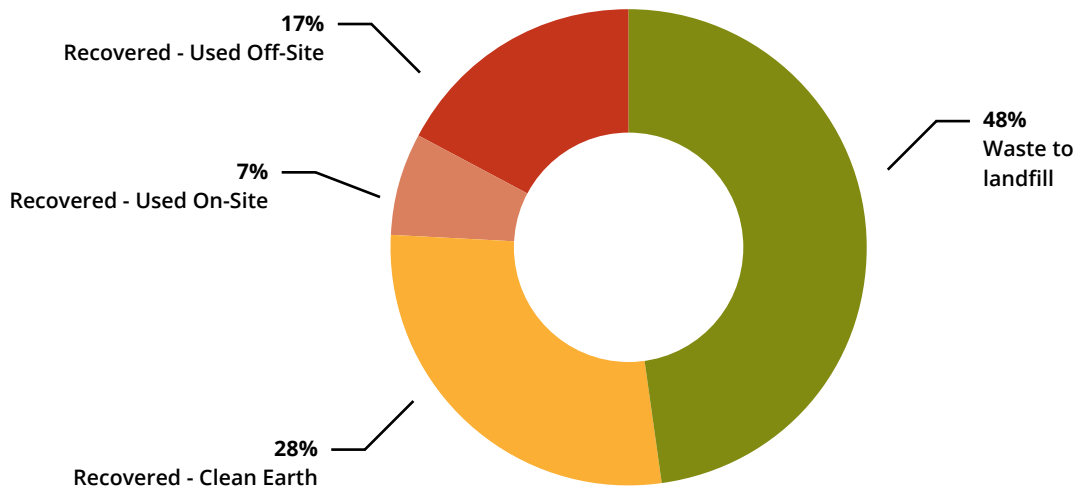
The quantities, types and sources of waste materials recovered and disposed of throughout the region are an important factor in determining future directions in waste and resource management.

In 2022/23, the South Burnett Regional Council accepted over 63,000 tonnes of waste materials across the waste facility network, recovering 41% of all materials received.

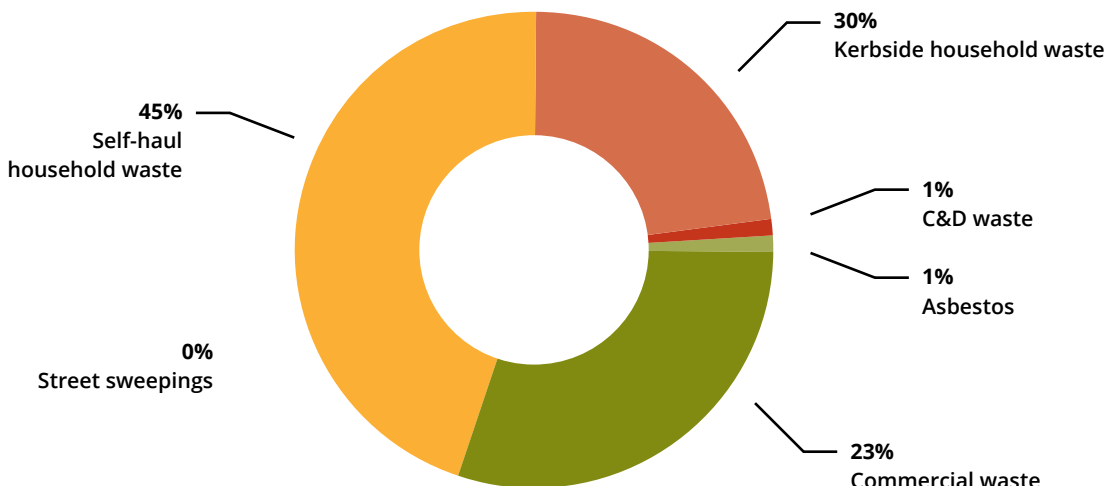
More than 65% of recovered materials are used at landfill sites for operational purposes, with clean-fill being the largest component of re-useable material.

In 2022/23, 24,596 tonnes of waste was landfilled, with kerbside household waste comprising 30% and self-haul household waste comprising 45%. Commercial waste accounts for 23% of waste to landfill.

### Waste recovered and landfilled



### Waste disposed by source



Council is the exclusive waste manager for the region and therefore, has a leadership role to promote sustainable resource recovery.

The table below illustrates how materials were used across the region.

Waste to landfill source	Tonnes	% of waste to landfill
Kerbside household	7,376	30%
Self-haul household	11,078	45%
Commercial and industrial	5,679	23%
Construction and demolition	202	1%
Asbestos	136	1%
Street sweeping	123	<1%
Miscellaneous	2	<1%

Resource recovery is categorised into materials used for on-site operational purpose and resources exported to the recycling and re-processing industry, as illustrated below:

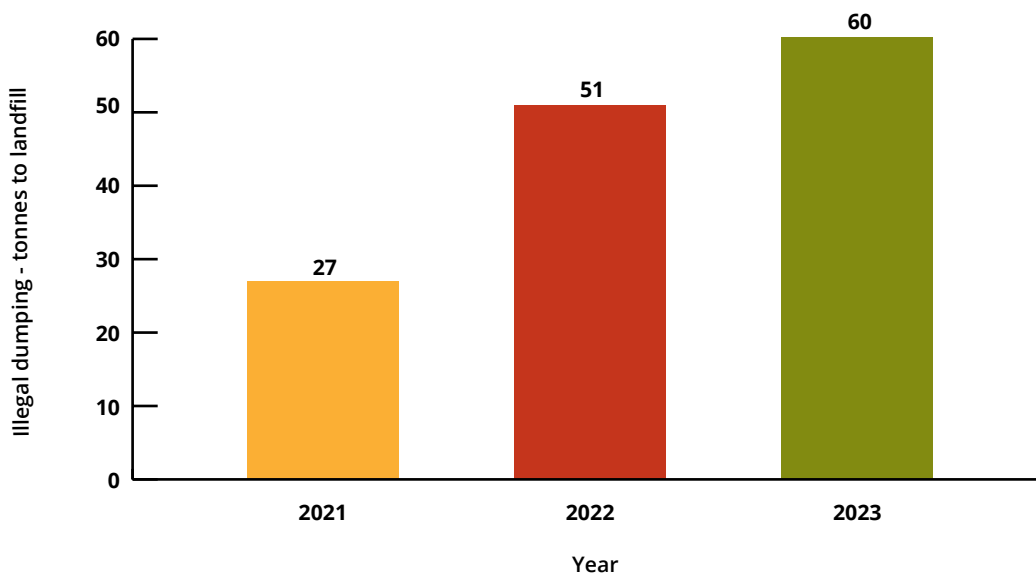
Resource type	Tonnes	% of waste to landfill
<b>On-Site Operational Purpose</b>		
Clean fill	11,078	80%
Green waste	1567	9%
Concrete	457	3%
Asphalt	22	<1%
Timber	1569	9%
<b>Total - On-Site Operational Purpose</b>	<b>17,663</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>External Resource Recovery</b>		
Green waste	6,932	80%
Scrap steel	1,029	12%
Kerbside recyclables	339	4%
Cardboard and paper	170	2%
E-waste	25	<1%
Tyres	16	<1%
Batteries	13	<1%
Tip shop	53	<1%
Waste oil	40	<1%
Other	57	<1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,964</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Illegal dumping

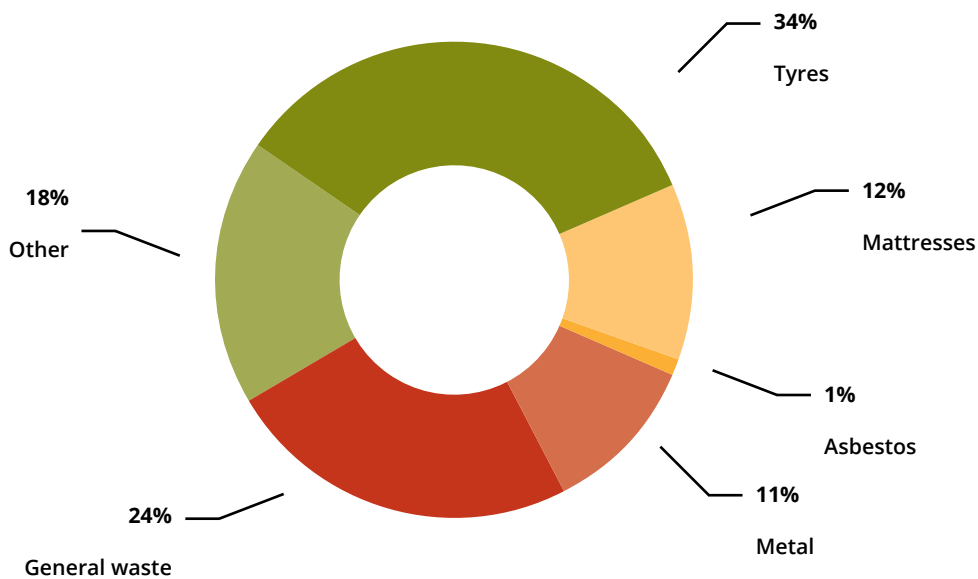
Illegal dumping and littering produces a significant resource drain on Council, through enforcement, collection and disposal of illegally dumped waste. This continues to be an issue for the region, in spite of over 95% residents being within 20-minute drive of a waste facility. In 2022/23, over 59 tonnes of waste was collected from illegal dumping, costing over \$2,000/tonne to manage.

Illegal dumping and littering hotspots are monitored through a combination of surveillance activities and regular inspection programs. Council will continue to educate the community and have ongoing enforcement in accordance with the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 (WRRRA 2011).

### Illegal dumping landfilled tonnes



### Illegal dumping by waste type collected



## Landfill Capacity is diminishing in the region

Council operates four active landfills, 15 transfer stations and 2 bin compounds, with more than 95% of the household population within a 20-minute drive from a waste facility.

A critical issue for the South Burnett region is approved landfill capacity, with the Kingaroy landfill forecast to reach capacity between 2027 and 2031. For every tonne of waste disposed to landfill, it costs an estimated \$100/tonne (ex GST), excluding the QLD State

Waste levy. This cost will increase if Council has to develop an engineered landfill cell for future waste disposal.

The capacity issues at existing landfills emphasises the need to maximise resource recovery and maintain valuable approved landfill space.

A summary of landfill airspace capacity current in July 2023 is provided in the table below:

Site	Remaining airspace	Potential additional airspace	Closure year (estimate)
Kingaroy	56,000m <sup>3</sup>	100,000m <sup>3</sup>	2027 to 2031
Nanango	377,900m <sup>3</sup>	500,000m <sup>3</sup>	2038
Wondai	388,438m	Nil	2041
Murgon	57,550m <sup>3</sup>	Nil	2026

Due to the Kingaroy landfill reaching capacity from 2027 to 2031, an essential need for disposal infrastructure planning has been identified. Options that will be examined by Council over the duration of this Plan will include:

- Resource recovery that reduces waste to landfill and increases waste diversion
- Construction of a new landfill site within the region
- Expansion of one of the existing Council operated landfills in the region
- Transporting waste out of the region to an existing landfill
- Development of an alternative waste treatment facility
- Potential to increase the life of current landfills by diverting organics to a compost facility

This critical piece of planning and a preferred strategic direction needs to be completed in 2024 to ensure a solution can be put in place by 2027.



## Our Resource Recovery Targets - 2030

South Burnett Regional Council aims to contribute towards the Queensland State Government targets by 2030, but is unlikely to achieve the targets without significant financial support from the State Government to implement services such as a kerbside FOGO (food organics/ garden organics). The Plan targets and alignment to the Queensland State Government are detailed below:

### Waste reduction target for households (kg per capita)

	2021 baseline	2025 reduction target	2030 reduction target
State Target		10%	15%
South Burnett Household Waste (kerbside and self-haul from households)	459	436	413

### Waste diversion from landfill (recovery rate as a percent of total household generated)

	2021 baseline	2025 reduction target	2030 reduction target
State Target		55%	70%
South Burnett Household Waste (kerbside and self-haul from households)	25%	33%	40%

### Recycling rates (as a percentage of total waste generated)

	2021 baseline	2025 reduction target	2030 reduction target
State Target		50%	60%
South Burnett Household Waste (kerbside and self-haul from households)	25%	33%	40%



# 5. Focus Areas and Implementation Actions

## Focus Area 1 - Waste avoidance and education

**The aim of waste avoidance and education is to encourage positive community change in waste avoidance, reduction and re-use.**

Waste avoidance, reduction and re-use will require all community members to make changes at home, work, school and at their workplaces. There must be a change in the way we live our lives to avoid the creation of waste in the first place.

Council will aim to change our view of waste and prioritise resource use, either through re-use, re-purposing, or recycling materials. To achieve this, we will prioritise actions that:

- Promote waste avoidance.
- Promote waste reduction and education.
- Enhance diverted materials by repairing them or supplying them to local charity shops.
- Enhance Council's tip shops.

Illegal dumping reduces the amenity in areas of the community and burdens Council and other land managers with clean-up costs. We will continue to fund and support surveillance, compliance, and enforcement to minimise the occurrence of illegal dumping and littering.

Education is the key to promoting this behavioural change of waste avoidance, reduction, and re-use. We will target early learning, schools, and local business to promote the message. Council can also be a leader through action within our organisation.





Theme	Action	Timeline <sup>1</sup>	Measure
<b>Waste Avoidance and Education</b>	Develop and implement an annual waste education plan focused on early learning, schools and local industry	Short	Education plan adopted, updated annually
	Develop and implement specific education program for kerbside recycling with the intention of reducing contamination and increasing diversion	Short	Kerbside recycling plan adopted, updated annually
	Promote kerbside recycling collection service to business to increase number of recycling services and avoid waste to landfill	Short	Increased recycling services to local business
	Develop Tip Shops at all supervised transfer facilities for recovered goods for sale	Medium	Tip shop developed
	Promote and develop partnerships with local community groups and thrift shops to maximise hiring, repair, re-use and recycling of materials	Short	Local groups utilising resources
	Engage with community and event planning to adopt waste practices that encourage resource recovery at events	Medium	Best practice waste management at events
	Implement landfill bins on product stewardship materials, if approved by QLD State Government – batteries, solar panels, mattresses	Medium	Liaison with State Government
	Perform waste characterisation surveys of kerbside or self-hauled waste every 2-years	Short	Annual waste survey report
	Continued focus on illegal dumping	Ongoing	Education campaigns, surveillance and local laws enforcement
	Council to capture data on it's own waste generation and develop recycling/re-use program to achieve improvements	Medium	Data capture method for Council waste streams
Council to improve re-use of recovered product within Council business activities	Medium	Identify resource streams for Council use and increase internal uptake	



## Focus Area 2 - Waste disposal security

**The aim of waste disposal security is to secure an essential waste disposal solution for the community for the next 20-years.**

Even if the South Burnett population significantly improves waste avoidance and recycling performance, we will need new capacity to manage residual waste. Our highest priority is to extend the life of our current landfills and prepare for the medium-term closure of the Kingaroy landfill.

Council's active landfills at Kingaroy, Nanango, Wondai, and Murgon are unlined and in total, are approved to accept 22,000 tonnes per annum of waste to landfill, with different acceptance levels at each landfill. Without resource diversion, this limit is insufficient to cater for the region's future need and there will likely be a need to increase the

Environmental Approval. To align with current regulatory standards, any future landfill for the region will need to be engineered and lined to better manage the environmental impacts from waste.

In the short term, Council will need to decide on the best option for residual waste management. Potential solutions being considered include developing a new landfill site for the region, expanding, and upgrading an existing landfill site or transporting waste to a landfill outside the region. Our view is that a small-scale energy from waste facility is not cost effective for the community.

Theme	Action	Timeline <sup>2</sup>	Measure
<b>Waste disposal security</b>	Improve compaction rate and operational performance at existing landfills to extend the remaining life	Short	Track compaction performance and set improvement targets
	Complete feasibility analysis of waste disposal options to determine the best environmental, social and financial option for waste disposal when Kingaroy reaches closure capacity	Short	Analysis completed Select preferred option in 2024
	Planning, approvals and procurement to implement the preferred long-term waste disposal option	Medium to Long	Deliver preferred option by 2028
	Seek amendments to the Environmental Authority for Council's landfills that reflects outcome from the preferred waste disposal option	Short	Amended Environmental Authority
	Closure of Murgon landfill around 2026	Medium	Landfill closure plan





## Focus Area 3 - Compliance and social licence

**The aim of compliance and social licence is to meet our legal obligations and maintain the community confidence to operate waste facilities safely and with high environmental regard.**

Pollution from waste can have long-term impacts on the environment and human health. Queensland has a strong regulatory framework that sets the rules and standards for how Council must manage waste, particularly at landfills. It is incumbent on Council to ensure that its operations are always compliant, as well as dealing with legacy issues such as rehabilitation and monitoring of landfills.

A critical outcome for Council during this Plan is to increase the tonnage limits on landfill licensing to meet our future needs. We will also

continue with final capping of old, closed landfills and commence final capping of the Murgon landfill. These sites represent a long-term financial liability, as well as an environmental risk that Council needs to manage.

Council will also need to ensure that it actively manages environmental risk of current operations, particularly the Kingaroy and Nanango landfill. Key issues are leachate generated from the landfill and impact to groundwater, landfill gas and stormwater discharges.

Theme	Action	Timeline <sup>3</sup>	Measure
<b>Compliance and social licence</b>	Install weighbridge at Nanango and Wondai landfills	Short	Install complete in 2024
	Maintain compliance with the Environmental Authority	Ongoing	EA amendment approved by regulator
	Develop Site Based Management Plans for all landfills and transfer stations (where relevant)	Short	Completed SBMP
	Meet the reporting and financial requirements under the Queensland Government waste disposal level	Ongoing	Timely and accurate reporting to the State Government
	Comply with site requirements regarding waste disposal and resource recovery areas (RRA's) necessary under Queensland Government legislation	Ongoing	Site operational in compliance with requirements
	Train all relevant Council and waste facility staff in the Queensland Government waste disposal levy (waste operations, Council administration and finance)	Ongoing	Annual training
	Measure and manage contractor performance to achieve contract performance standards	Ongoing	Contractor performance reporting
	Establish consistent method for waste reporting to track performance	Ongoing	Reporting method documented and applied

## Focus Area 4 - Sustainable waste services and infrastructure

**The aim of sustainable waste services and infrastructure is to achieve waste and recycling services that are safe, easy to use and cost effective and support the trajectory to increased resource recovery.**

Council's waste network of supervised and unsupervised transfer stations provides most residents with access to multiple waste facilities within a 20 to 25 minute drive from households. This delivers an excellent level of service to residents, but we will need to modernise and upgrade facilities to meet the challenge of improve resource recovery and developing circular economy.

Overall, there is a need to review the service level standards across the waste network and balance the need for service delivery to the community with the cost of running the service. Getting the right infrastructure, in the

right place will be critical to recover, reuse and extend the life of our landfill assets. An efficient waste infrastructure network is key to being able to deliver greater diversion whilst minimising upward pressure on prices.

Methane emissions from landfills can also present a future carbon emissions risk for Council and can be captured for flaring to minimise impact. Council will seek to understand if gas can be captured and treated at certain landfills to align with Council's corporate carbon emissions reduction.





Theme	Action	Timeline <sup>4</sup>	Measure
<b>Sustainable waste services and infrastructure</b>	Review service standards, transport efficiency and costs of the transfer station network and adopt a service standard	Short	Service levels adopted by Council
	Review all unsupervised bin compounds, complete safety and operational risk assessment and define service standards	Short	Completed risk assessment in 2024 and action within capital/operational budget
	Develop infrastructure upgrade program across the unsupervised transfer facilities to meet service standards	Medium	Capital works delivery program
	Masterplan for Kingaroy waste facility	Medium	Completed masterplan
	Masterplan for Nanango waste facility	Medium	Completed masterplan
	Improve resource recovery infrastructure at Kingaroy and Nanango	Medium/ Long	Increased resource recovery services and better customer experience
	Feasibility assessment of gas capture and flaring at landfill's to reduce carbon emissions and meet Council's carbon reduction initiatives	Medium	Feasibility study
	Complete ongoing rehabilitation and after-care of legacy landfills in accordance with Council's 10-year capital works program	Short Medium Long	Progressive rehabilitation of sites and approval from regulator
	Closure and final capping of Murgon landfill	Long	Landfill closure plan

<sup>4</sup> Timeline definition: Short is 1-2 years, Medium is 3 -5 years, Long is 6-years+

## Focus Area 5 - Recovery of resources

**The aim of recovery of resources is to build capacity within the South Burnett to divert resources from landfill that can be reused for better purposes.**

Council supports an approach to resource recovery that aligns with the waste hierarchy and moves us towards a circular economy future. Equally, we acknowledge the challenge of being a regional community and not having sufficient scale to achieve the highest resource recovery outcomes in an affordable manner.

A focus of this Plan will be to increase material recovered, which requires enhanced services and infrastructure. We need to make the investment in infrastructure and systems that make it easy to re-use, recycle and

recover. When these have been improved, we can apply circular economy principles to better manage extracted resources, particularly through use across Council's own business.

Key materials that will be targeted for resource recovery will include concrete, timber pallets, asphalt scrapings, scrap metals, E-waste, mattresses and organics. Council will be proactive in seeking external funding and partnering with the private sector to deliver outcomes.





Theme	Action	Timeline <sup>5</sup>	Measure
<b>Recovery of resources</b>	Upgrade resource recovery infrastructure, services and signage across the transfer station network to prioritise resource recovery	Medium	Front-end resource infrastructure at supervised sites
	Review waste streams and expand resource recovery activity at waste facilities to divert more waste from landfill including C&I and C&D	Medium	Expanded diversion of resource streams at Council waste facilities
	Investigate and promote the establishment of mattress processing in the South Burnett region	Short	Mattress processing infrastructure implemented
	Investigate and promote the establishment of polystyrene processing in the South Burnett region	Medium	Polystyrene processing infrastructure implemented
	Investigate Alternative Waste Technology (AWT) or energy from waste to see whether it is suitable for the South Burnett	Long	Explore AWT options
	Investigate the feasibility of a kerbside organics collection service (greenwaste or FOGO) and alternative home based solutions	Medium	Completed business case
	Support home and community composting initiatives	Short	Expand home composting across the region
	Council adopts sustainable procurement policies in infrastructure/construction projects that support materials sourced from circular economy	Medium	Council's procurement to establish minimum standards for reusable materials in construction projects
	Council to develop circular economy within it's own business, to demonstrate leadership	Medium	Identify resource streams for Council use and increase internal uptake

<sup>5</sup> Timeline definition: Short is 1-2 years, Medium is 3 -5 years, Long is 6-years+

## Focus Area 6 - Financial sustainability

**The aim of financial sustainability is to understand the full cost of service delivery and enhance decision making that are in the best interests of the community.**

In a regional context, the delivery of waste services to a local community is an expensive undertaking and requires ongoing spending on waste infrastructure, kerbside collection services and waste management facility operations and supervisions. Council's waste businesses are operationally complex, comprising multiple transfer stations, landfills, bin compounds and a range of resource recovery activities from green waste processing through to tyre recycling.

Throughout the life of this Plan, there will need to be significant capital investment in waste to deliver a long-term waste disposal solution and improve resource recovery. Current and legacy landfills also need rehabilitation, and this is estimated to cost

\$10 million to meet expected standards of closure. These aspects have an impact on the price that the community must pay for waste services, either through waste rates or paying for waste disposal when they use a waste management facility.

Council will advocate for funding support to deliver infrastructure improvements and relentlessly pursue grants to minimise the cost to ratepayers.

To support financial sustainability of waste operations, this Council is focused on understanding the full cost of service delivery and making decisions that are in the best interest of the community.

Theme	Action	Timeline <sup>6</sup>	Measure
Financial sustainability	Source and submit grant funding opportunities for waste infrastructure to soften impact of capital program on ratepayers	Ongoing	Annual submit minimum of two grant funding applications
	Develop and maintain a 10-year capital works plan that reflects strategy actions and asset management priorities	Short	10-year capital works plan
	Develop a full cost price model to understand the financial sustainability of the waste business	Medium	Completed full cost price model
	Adopt a price path that moves the waste operation to full cost price including implementing cost saving opportunities and revenue streams	Medium	Price path options
	Review landfill disposal fees to ensure alignment with the future preferred waste disposal solution	Medium to Long	Annual review of Fees and Charges

<sup>6</sup> Timeline definition: Short is 1-2 years, Medium is 3 -5 years, Long is 6-years+





## Focus Area 7 - Regional waste collaboration

**The aim of regional waste collaboration is to leverage better information sharing and access regional economies of scale for procurement and service delivery.**

Regional collaboration is valuable, to enable Council to learn from other local governments and industry. Relative to larger local governments, Council has a small waste team and through collaboration, we can utilise other resources, save costs and improve efficiency. Council will have a higher likelihood of attracting grant funding if we can work regionally on waste solutions. Collaboration will support Council by:

- Better information and idea sharing
- Identifying and implementing solutions to regional problems
- Leveraging existing waste infrastructure across the region and achieving greater economies of scale for procurement activities and projects
- Having a greater voice on industry and government platforms

Theme	Action	Timeline <sup>7</sup>	Measure
<b>Regional waste collaboration</b>	Strengthen the relationship with Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council to gain mutual benefits from waste and recycling infrastructure	Ongoing	Review infrastructure and capabilities and see how we can use for mutual benefit
	Maintain network membership in the Darling Downs and Wide Bay Burnett regional waste groups	Ongoing	Attend regional waste groups workshops, events
	Collaborate with regional council groups to identify opportunities for establishing and sharing regional resource recovery infrastructure	Ongoing	Identify opportunities and funding to deliver regional waste projects, specifically with a circular economy focus
	Advocate and represent Council interests at regional, state and federal levels	Ongoing	Coordinate regional submissions on waste decision
	Advocate for mandatory expanded or enhanced Product Stewardship Schemes such as solar panels, batteries, expanded Container Refund Scheme	Ongoing	Advocacy support through Local Government Association of QLD (LGAQ)
	Develop and implement a data collection method for consistent reporting requirements	Medium	State government and regional waste group support for project

<sup>7</sup> Timeline definition: Short is 1-2 years, Medium is 3 -5 years, Long is 6-years+

# 6. Monitor and Review

## Review, measure and recalibrate

The Action Implementation Plan (AIP) for each focus area outlines a structured vision for resource recovery and infrastructure investment for solid waste until 2029, with 52 actions.

The AIP has been designed and developed to be adaptive around the Plans objectives to account for any changes in the industry as well as any regulatory changes.

The Plan will be monitored through annual reviews in the following manner:

- Alignment with Council's annual budgeting cycle, including the 10-year capital works budget
- Annual reporting of waste and resource recovery to the Queensland State Government
- Corporate planning and operational plan cycle

## Funding and financial sustainability

The targets and actions outlined in this Plan are designed to be achievable and some are essential to the Council's ongoing ability to deliver the essential service of waste management to the community. Many of the larger infrastructure projects which require capital expenditure on waste facilities and will need to be included in Council's 10-year capital works program and long-term financial forecasts.

The Queensland waste levy is a market-based instrument that incentivises avoidance of waste and recycling over landfill disposal and is retained by the State Government. A portion of the waste levy revenue is set aside for local government to fund waste, resource and circular economy programs and initiatives. Council will vigorously advocate and pursue funding from the State Government to implement initiatives outlined in this Plan.





## APPENDIX A – Waste Facilities

Council currently delivers the following services across the South Burnett Region:

- Kerbside general waste collection
- Kerbside recycling collection
- 4 landfill (waste disposal) facilities
- 6 supervised transfer stations
- 9 unsupervised transfer stations
- 2 bin compounds
- Recovery shop at Kingaroy (operated by private operator)
- Recovery shop at Nanango (operated by contractor)
- Litter and illegal dumping removal
- Waste education



	Open hours per week	Customers accepted	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Weigh bridge	Front end recovery	Transfer station	Tip shop	Green waste pad	Bulky waste pad
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### Landfill/ Transfer Station

Kingaroy	63	All	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nanango	63	All	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wondai	28	All	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓
Murgon	28	All	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓

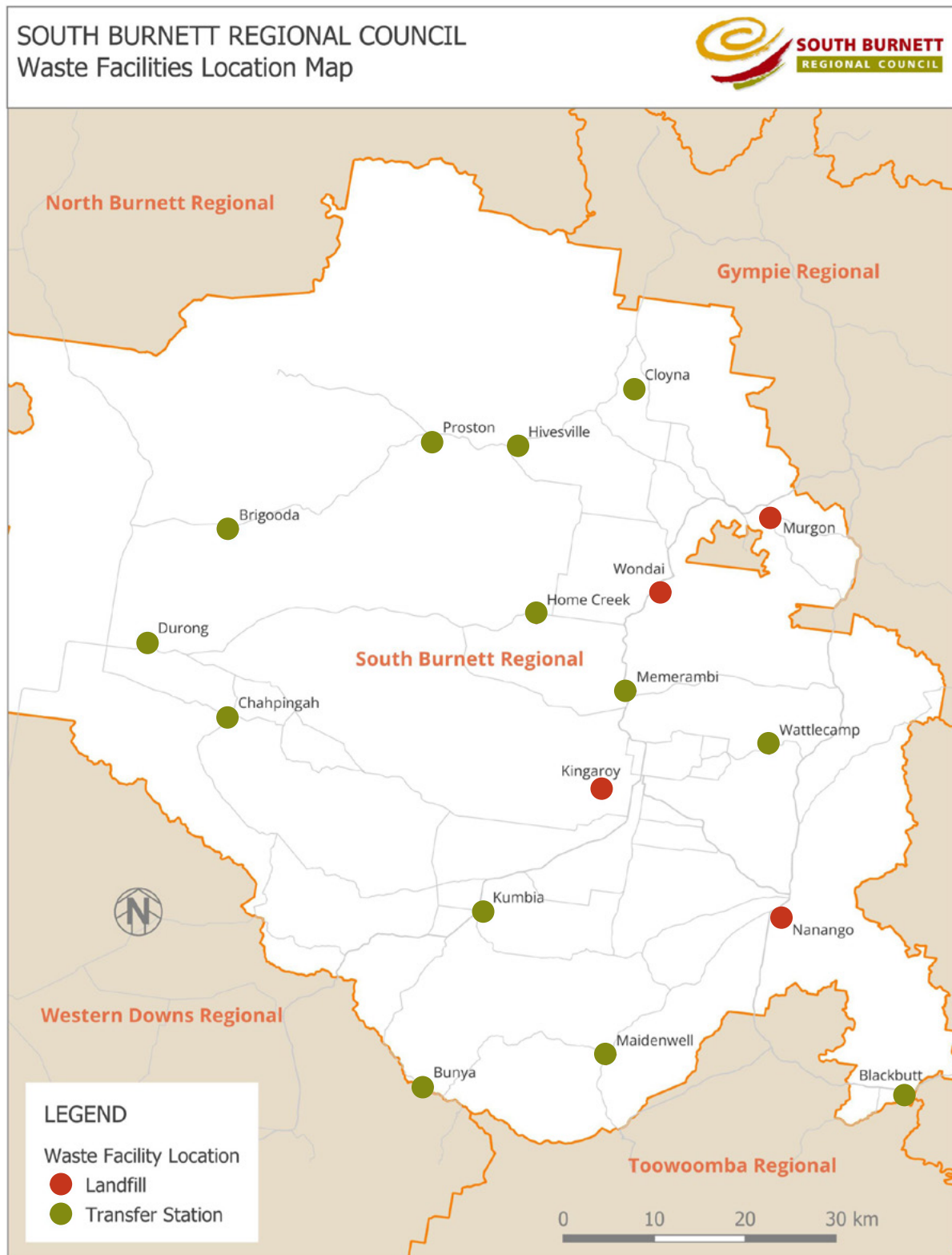
### Supervised Transfer Stations

Blackbutt	45	All	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wattlecamp	27	Domestic only	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗

### Unsupervised Transfer Station (daylight hours only)

Memerambi	27	Domestic only	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Chahpingah	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Brigooda	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Cloyna	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Hivesville	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Homecreek	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Kumbia	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Maidenwell	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Proston	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
Bunya Mtns	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Durong	24/7	Domestic only	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗

## APPENDIX B – Waste Facility Coverage



## APPENDIX C – Policy and Legislative Framework

Government level	Waste targets and responsibility
Federal	<p data-bbox="399 409 938 443"><b>Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020</b></p> <p data-bbox="399 461 1356 528">Established a national framework to manage waste and recycling. It includes export bans on recyclable products and aims to stimulate economic</p> <hr/> <p data-bbox="399 591 762 624"><b>National Waste Policy 2018</b></p> <p data-bbox="399 642 1324 710">Adopts five principles that support the vision of a circular economy where we maintain the value of resources for as long as possible. These include:</p> <ul data-bbox="399 736 1356 1055" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• avoid waste</li> <li>• improve resource recovery</li> <li>• increase use of recycled material and build demand and markets for recycled products</li> <li>• better manage material flows to benefit human health, the environment, and the economy</li> <li>• improved information to support innovation, guide investment and enable informed consumer decisions</li> </ul> <hr/> <p data-bbox="399 1111 922 1144"><b>National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019</b></p> <p data-bbox="399 1162 1348 1263">Established targets and actions to implement the 2018 National Waste Policy to guide investment and national efforts to 2030 and beyond. Targets and actions focus on:</p> <ul data-bbox="399 1290 1292 1563" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• export of waste plastic, paper, glass, and tyres</li> <li>• waste generation and resource recovery rates from all waste streams</li> <li>• use of recycled content by governments and industry</li> <li>• problematic and unnecessary plastics</li> <li>• organic waste sent to landfill</li> <li>• data for industry and community decision making</li> </ul> <hr/> <p data-bbox="399 1608 837 1641"><b>2025 National Packaging Targets</b></p> <p data-bbox="399 1659 1353 1794">These targets apply to all packaging that is made, used, and sold in Australia and APCO is the organization responsible for facilitating their delivery. Supported by Australian industry and government to deliver a new and sustainable approach to packaging, the 2025 targets are:</p> <ul data-bbox="399 1821 1340 2056" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% reusable, recyclable, or compostable packaging</li> <li>• 70% of plastic packaging being recycled or composted</li> <li>• 50% of average recycled content included in packaging (revised from 30% in 2020)</li> <li>• the phase out of problematic and unnecessary single-use plastics packaging</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX C – Policy and Legislative Framework

Government level	Waste targets and responsibility
<p><b>Federal</b></p>	<p><b>National Plastic Plan 2021</b></p> <p>A plan to address plastic waste at the source through prevention, take responsibility for our plastics through better recycling and address challenges of plastics in our homes and in our oceans and waterways. The RecycleMate App encourages people to find out what they can and can't recycle more easily.</p> <p><b>Recycling Modernisation Fund (RMF)</b></p> <p>The RMF will generate over \$600 million of recycling investment in new infrastructure to sort, process and remanufacture materials such as mixed plastic, paper, tyres, and glass.</p>
<p><b>State</b></p>	<p><b>Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011</b></p> <p>All local governments are required to adopt a Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan that sets out clear guidelines and targets to meet the objectives under the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act.</p> <p>Information required includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• population growth forecast</li> <li>• residential and commercial development</li> <li>• waste types and quantities handled</li> <li>• services and facilities in place to manage the various types of waste according to the waste and resource management hierarchy.</li> <li>• an action plan to chart a course towards meeting the State's waste and resource management strategy goals and targets</li> </ul> <p><b>Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2019</b></p> <p>A strategic plan for a better way of managing waste in Queensland by harnessing the potential value of resources that have traditionally been discarded. Key targets are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 per cent reduction in household waste by 2050</li> <li>• 90 per cent of waste is recovered and does not go to landfill by 2050.</li> <li>• 75 per cent recycling rates across all waste types by 2050</li> </ul> <p><b>Waste Disposal Levy 2019</b></p> <p>The State Government introduced a waste levy in July 2019 to disincentivise disposal of waste to landfill. To protect ratepayers from rising disposal costs, the State has been reimbursing local governments for the levy fees incurred on household waste, however, this payment is set to reduce significantly over the coming years.</p>

## APPENDIX C – Policy and Legislative Framework

Government level	Waste targets and responsibility
State	<p><b>Resource Recovery Industries 10-year Roadmap and Action Plan 2019</b></p> <p>Sets out a plan to support industry growth and job creation in resource recovery, including framework for grant funding. Interacts with resource recovery precinct planning provides for beneficial co-location of recycling and post-recycling.</p> <p><b>Single-Use Plastics Bans</b></p> <p>The State Government banned single-use plastic bags in July 2018 and passed laws in December 2020 to ban other single-use plastic products, including straws, from 1 September 2021. Other single use plastic items are continually being reviewed for inclusion in the ban.</p> <p><b>Recycling Modernisation Fund</b></p> <p>A joint initiative of the Queensland and Australian governments providing \$40 million in funding support for industry infrastructure expansions or upgrades to address gaps in the State’s waste reprocessing capacity.</p> <p><b>Organics Strategy 2022-2032</b></p> <p>Provides the overarching framework and action for improved management of organic materials along the organics supply chain and consumption chain.</p> <p><b>Organics Action Plan 2022-2032</b></p> <p>Provides a clear roadmap for how Queensland plans to avoid generating organic waste, reduce the impacts of organic waste on the environment and communities, transition to a circular economy and build economic and market opportunity for the organics recycling industry.</p> <p><b>Energy from Waste Policy 2021</b></p> <p>Non-statutory policy sets framework for role of EfW in Queensland and key performance and compliance indicators.</p> <p><b>Containers for Change collection scheme</b></p> <p>Queensland container refund scheme facilitates a 10-cent refund for eligible drink containers at approved container refund points. Recently approved inclusion of wine and spirit bottles from November 2023.</p>

## APPENDIX C – Policy and Legislative Framework

Government level	Waste targets and responsibility
<b>Regional Plans</b>	<b>Darling Downs and South West Regional Councils</b> Non-statutory plan for the Darling Downs and South West group of Councils.
<b>South Burnett Regional Council</b>	<b>Corporate Plan 2021-2026</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EN2 - Develop and implement energy efficient initiatives to reduce Council's energy / carbon footprint.</li> <li>• EN3 - Continue to provide and investigate options to improve waste reduction, landfill management and recycling.</li> </ul>





**SOUTH BURNETT**  
**REGIONAL COUNCIL**

ABN 89 972 463 351

PO Box 336 Kingaroy QLD 4610  
P 07 4189 9100 or 1300 789 279

info@sbrc.qld.gov.au

[www.southburnett.qld.gov.au](http://www.southburnett.qld.gov.au)

 [southburnettregion](https://www.facebook.com/southburnettregion)

