



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Water and Environmental Regulation**



Waste Authority business and action plan 2023–24

Supporting the *Waste Avoidance and
Resource Recovery Strategy 2030*



Contents

Purpose.....	3	Appendix A: Evaluation planned for 2023–24 and the next four financial years	34
Waste strategy review.....	3	Appendix B: Section 16 funded services and section 80 funded functions.....	35
2023–24 context	4	Support for the Waste Authority	35
Waste export ban	4	Program and policy design, development, and management.....	35
COVID-19	4	Administration and overheads.....	35
National initiatives	4	Director General and Ministerial liaison.....	35
Regional challenges.....	5	Communications.....	36
Soft plastics	5	Strategic policy, legislative reviews and amendments	36
Waste-to-energy facilities.....	5	Compliance and enforcement activities	36
Local government waste plans and improved waste data	5	Funding principles	37
E-waste	6		
Sectoral emissions reduction strategies	6		
Plan for Plastics	6		
Containers for Change expansion	7		
Waste reform	7		
Other emerging issues	7		
Waste Authority objectives and priorities	8		
Priorities: 2023–24 and the next four financial years	8		
Actions and budget allocations: 2023–24 and the next four financial years.....	8		
Budget for 2023–24	21		
Additional actions that support the delivery of the waste strategy	24		
Financial projections	32		
Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account	32		
Scheduled increases in the waste levy rate	32		
Waste levy review	32		
Estimated revenue and expenditure from the WARR Account 2022–23 to 2026–27	33		

Purpose

This business and action plan outlines the priorities and key initiatives of the Waste Authority and the Government of Western Australia (State Government) for 2023–24. Annual business planning is a requirement of the [Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007](#) (WARR Act).

Western Australia's (WA) [Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030](#) (waste strategy) establishes the vision for WA to become a sustainable, low-waste, circular economy in which human health and the environment are protected from the impacts of waste.

This vision is supported by the three following objectives which reflect the waste hierarchy – whereby waste avoidance is the most preferred outcome and disposal is the least preferred:

Avoid: Western Australians generate less waste.

Recover: Western Australians recover more value and resources from waste.

Protect: Western Australians protect the environment by managing waste responsibly.

Waste strategy review

In 2023 the Waste Authority embarked on its first five-year review (the review) of the existing waste strategy. This review is expected to be completed in mid-2024 and will result in an updated waste strategy. The review provides an opportunity to consider the appropriateness of current targets and headline strategies in light of changing circumstances and emerging trends at a local, national and global level.

The review involves extensive consultation with community, business and industry, including the release of an initial directions paper for comment in mid-2023.

Work to deliver on the commitments set out in the existing waste strategy, and the related actions in this plan, will continue in parallel with the review during 2023–24. The release of an updated waste strategy at the end of the review period will provide an opportunity to assess and realign the actions outlined in future versions of this plan.



2023–24 context

Waste export ban

Australia has committed to ban the export of waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres that have not been processed into a value-adding material. The [Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020](#) regulates the export of certain types of processed waste while building Australia's capacity to generate high-value recycled commodities and associated demand.

The bans on the export of waste glass, plastics and tyres are already in effect and a ban on the export of certain paper and cardboard wastes from 1 July 2024 will complete the full extent of the bans.

The State Government has committed \$35 million to this initiative and will receive matched funding from the Australian Government's Recycling Modernisation Fund to support a \$174 million boost to recycling investment for the state. The investment will fund WA industry to

build infrastructure that reprocesses waste materials onshore, aligning with the waste export bans. In February 2021, three plastic, five tyre and one paper and card project were selected for funding – this will support 220 new jobs and ensure capacity to process 210,000 tonnes of plastic, tyre, paper and cardboard waste in WA every year.

In addition to this, WA has committed \$5.625 million and received matched funding from the Australian Government's Food Waste for Healthy Soils Fund for three organic recycling infrastructure projects. These will divert up to 275,000 tonnes of the state's food organics and garden organics (FOGO) waste from landfill each year and convert it into compost instead. The three projects – collectively valued at \$121 million – are distributed to the north, east and south of Perth and will support 146 construction jobs and 98 ongoing positions.

COVID-19

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have been wide and varied, with some yet to be fully understood. In addition to impacts on waste generation, international trade and logistics, there have been difficulties accessing expertise which may create challenges for the expansion of WA's waste infrastructure.

The pandemic highlighted the essential nature of waste services and the need for collaboration to collectively protect against vulnerabilities in the waste management and logistics system. The State Government continues to work with the waste industry to develop contingencies, which will help mitigate these vulnerabilities in the future.

National initiatives

The Waste Authority places priority on contributing to national initiatives as part of the State Government's commitments under the National Waste Policy (revised 2018) and the National Food Waste Strategy, plus the Environment Minister's commitments. There is a joint national and state commitment to provide funding to support reprocessing of waste materials affected by the Australian Government's waste export ban. Other national initiatives include the development and support of product stewardship schemes such as the Australian Packaging Covenant, the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme, Bcycle (for handheld batteries), Paintback and the Tyre Stewardship Scheme. Product stewardship schemes are being developed for more types of e-waste, including photovoltaic systems.

Regional challenges

The Waste Authority acknowledges that remote and rural communities face increased challenges, including those associated with economies of scale and distance to recycling markets. These limit the range of options that can feasibly be applied to waste management. Many regional and remote areas do not yet have separate kerbside household collection services for recyclable materials. The Containers for Change container deposit scheme started in WA on 1 October 2020 and now has 264 refund points, 134 of them in regional areas.

Construction and demolition (C&D) waste, FOGO and large-scale industrial waste present opportunities for local governments and industry in regional areas to increase recycling rates by processing and reusing these materials locally. FOGO processing is scalable and an excellent initiative for regional centres to improve their material recovery rates.

Specific waste challenges faced in the regions will be considered in the review of the waste strategy following their identification in the State Waste Infrastructure Plan development process.

Soft plastics

With the collapse of the REDcycle soft plastics recycling scheme, work is underway to investigate ways to ensure soft plastics can be recovered and recycled, both at a state and national level.

On 7 March 2023, the national Soft Plastics Taskforce released its Roadmap to Restart, aiming to re-commence collection of soft plastics at supermarkets. The State Government will continue to monitor the work of the taskforce to ensure WA's needs are met through delivery of the roadmap actions.

Waste-to-energy facilities

To protect the environment, WA needs to achieve higher levels of material recovery and manage residual waste responsibly. The waste strategy's 2030 target is that no more than 15 per cent of waste generated in the Perth and Peel regions is landfilled and that all waste is managed and/or disposed of to better practice facilities.

Waste-to-energy facilities should accept only the residual waste remaining after better practice source separation and recycling has been applied to recover higher-value materials.

The start of operations at two large-scale waste-to-energy facilities in WA will provide a more sustainable option for managing genuinely residual waste and diverting it from landfill.

Local government waste plans and improved waste data

Financial year 2021–22 was the first full year of implementation of waste plans for most local governments in WA. The first annual reports including the implementation of actions in waste plans were submitted by 1 October 2022. This data, together with waste reporting improvements from landfill operators and recyclers, will improve our ability to track progress against waste strategy targets – helping inform future decision-making.

E-waste

The State Government is committed to delivering a ban on e-waste disposal to landfill by 2024.

The ban broadly aligns with waste strategy objectives to increase material recovery from waste and protect the environment from harm through responsible waste management. The ban also aligns with the strategy's vision for the state to become a sustainable, low-waste, circular economy in which human health and the environment are protected from the impacts of waste.

Sectoral emissions reduction strategies

The development of WA's sectoral emissions reduction strategies (SERS), which are expected to be released in financial year 2023–24, will guide the state's transition to net zero greenhouse gas emissions. The transition to net zero will drive investment and present considerable

opportunities for economic growth, development of low-carbon industries and diversification of the economy.

Waste sector emissions totalled 1,927 kilotons of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2020 and accounted for 2 per cent of WA's emissions. Emissions from solid waste disposal are primarily methane from the anaerobic decomposition of organic material disposed of to landfill. Opportunities to decarbonise the waste sector focus on organic waste avoidance, the recovery of organic wastes from landfill for alternative biological treatments, and better practice waste management facilities.

Reform in the waste sector has been underway in WA for more than a decade. These reform measures have delivered emission reduction benefits that can be built upon – with existing technologies and policy implementation – to drive further reductions.

Plan for Plastics

Western Australia's Plan for Plastics sets out a pathway to address the impacts posed by single-use plastics on the environment, waste streams and human health. The plan has two stages of regulations to ban the sale and supply of a range of disposable plastic items in WA:

Stage 1 regulations were introduced in December 2021 and included a transition period for retailers and suppliers to adapt to the changes. All enforcement provisions had started by October 2022. Stage 1 items include plastic plates, cups, unlined bowls and containers, cutlery, straws, stirrers, shopping bags, expanded polystyrene food containers and helium balloon releases.

Stage 2 regulations were introduced on 27 February 2023 following extensive stakeholder consultation. Stage 2 addressed additional problematic items such as coffee cups and lids, produce bags, moulded and loose expanded

plastic packaging, degradable plastics, expanded polystyrene cups and meat trays, unlined plastic trays, cotton buds with plastic stems, microbeads and lids for trays, plates, bowls, containers and cups. The enforcement provisions will start between September 2023 and July 2025, depending on the item, providing a transition period for retailers and suppliers. Retail, supplier, government and community support is accompanying this regulatory transition.

These actions have been welcomed by World Wildlife Fund Australia, which has commended WA for leading policy action on single-use plastics.

Containers for Change expansion

All Australian states and territories have agreed to consult stakeholders on a proposal to expand the scope of current container deposit schemes. The proposed expanded scope of eligible containers includes all beverage containers between 150 millilitres and 3 litres, other than plain milk and registered health tonics.

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department) released a discussion paper for comment in December 2022 and held information sessions in the main winegrowing regions of WA in the first half of 2023.

Environment Ministers will consider the outcomes of the jurisdictions' consultations and seek to agree to a scheme expansion that maintains the principle of a harmonised scope across Australia.

Waste reform

The department is progressing legislative reforms to improve the waste management framework in WA and support implementation of the waste strategy. The extensive program of waste reforms has been considered by the Waste Reform Advisory Group and developed through community and stakeholder consultation. The proposed legislative reforms will:

- ensure waste facilities are appropriately regulated and subject to compliance and enforcement oversight, to support the waste strategy
- strengthen the framework for the use of waste-derived materials and their market development; legislative reforms are required to provide certainty around when materials cease to be waste and are instead considered a resource

- ensure waste and recycling are considered essential services and can continue in the event of an emergency (such as the COVID-19 pandemic)
- target levy avoidance and illegal activities, which undermine efforts to reduce waste and improve material recovery, and reduce the effectiveness of the waste levy.

The department is progressing with the drafting process to change legislation which will create a recovered materials framework, based on the research and consultation to date.

Other emerging initiatives

Other emerging initiatives for waste in WA include:

- Encouraging the adoption of better practice to support high-quality outputs from resource recovery facilities and services.
- Supporting improved contingency planning to manage waste resulting from emergency events.
- Significantly increasing recovery to meet waste strategy targets, while continuing to meet the requirements of waste export bans and the rate at which local recycling options can be implemented.

Waste Authority objectives and priorities

Priorities: 2023–24 and the next four financial years

The business and action plan 2023–24 will continue the focus on the recycling of organics and C&D materials. These waste types are generated in significant volumes and have the most potential to improve WA's overall material recovery rates through better source separation and the maturing of markets for recycled products.

The C&D and FOGO rollout plans list the priority projects that will be addressed in the current financial year, as informed by the Waste Authority's FOGO and C&D Reference Groups. Actions that relate to the priority projects in these plans are denoted with a colour in the action plan on page 9.

The national waste export ban on glass, plastics, tyres, paper and cardboard has been implemented progressively, with the final ban of paper and cardboard planned for 2024. Significant State and

Australian Government grants and investment from industry will see improved local reprocessing facilities for organics, plastics, tyres, paper and cardboard.

The Waste Authority's priorities over the next five years will remain aligned with the waste strategy and will be considered in depth throughout the review process. The department and the Waste Authority will continue to work together to deliver waste policies and programs focused on avoiding waste generation, recovering more value and resources from waste, and protecting human health and the environment.

Essential waste policy and compliance work is underway and will continue over the next five years, primarily led by the department. This includes waste reform work and changes to the regulatory framework for waste to ensure it is appropriate, reduces environmental impacts

and risks from waste management, and allows for adequate processing facilities to sort collected materials.

The department's waste priorities include the review and reform of regulations, legislation, and national and State policies. The department will continue to develop and implement mechanisms to reduce levy evasion and stockpiling of waste, and actions to protect the environment from the impacts of illegal dumping. Such actions include detection, investigation and prosecution of illegal dumping, and working with landowners or managers to build their capacity to tackle this issue. The department also remains focused on effective enforcement improvements, ensuring compliant entities that apply better practice are not disadvantaged.

Actions and budget allocations: 2023–24


The waste strategy includes eight high-level headline strategies which describe activities required to achieve the targets set. The actions table below expands on each of these and highlights the specific priority actions for the current year.

Longer term actions will be determined through the waste strategy review.






01

Develop statewide communications to support consistent messaging on waste avoidance, resource recovery, and appropriate waste disposal behaviours.

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
<p>The department and Waste Authority</p>	<p>1.1 Deliver the WasteSorted ‘Be a GREAT Sort’ behaviour change campaign and WasteSorted local government communications toolkit</p> <p>Continue to deliver the WasteSorted behaviour change campaign using a range of communication strategies. Build on the campaign using a staged approach, which is informed by behaviour change insights and can respond to emerging priorities. This includes expanding the WasteSorted toolkit and providing support for consistent local government messaging for householders to enable better practice kerbside recycling, reduced bin contamination and FOGO implementation across Perth and Peel.</p> <p>As part of the overall behaviour change campaign, the following programs and components will be supported:</p> <p>1.1.1 WasteSorted bin-tagging program: Continue to provide funding support to the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) for the bin-tagging program to educate householders and gather data on the effectiveness of community education and behaviour change efforts.</p> <p>1.1.2 WasteSorted grants – community education: Maintain the WasteSorted grants program for a community education stream to raise awareness and support positive waste behaviour.</p> <p>1.1.3 WasteSorted schools: Continue to deliver the WasteSorted schools program, including developing more online resources, delivering an improved grants program, engaging more schools to become accredited and aligning with the suite of WasteSorted programs.</p> <p>1.1.4 WasteSorted awards: Support the annual WasteSorted awards program to recognise and celebrate achievements in waste avoidance, resource recovery and environmental protection.</p> <p>1.1.5 Promotional opportunities including National Recycling Week and the Waste and Recycle Conference: Support the Waste and Recycle Conference and other events that contribute to consistent messaging on waste avoidance, resource recovery and appropriate waste disposal behaviour. Deliver targeted messages to stakeholders with media partners such as The West Australian.</p> <p>1.1.6 Keep Australia Beautiful Council (KABC) litter strategy: Support KABC in its implementation of the litter strategy to reduce littering and manage its impacts.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	

Note: Actions that relate to the areas of specific focus in 2023–24, the recycling of organics and construction and demolition materials, are indicated by green text.


Avoid	Recover	Protect	Foundation
			

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
Waste Authority	<p>1.2 Provide guidance and support to the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program</p> <p>Support the HHW program through the multi-year funding agreement with WALGA. In consultation with key stakeholders, review, update, and publish guidance for the design and operation of premises accepting HHW. HHW guidance will be incorporated into the department's better practice guidelines for waste storage and treatment. New funding agreement with WALGA executed for 2023–28. Collection and treatment service to be re-tendered.</p>	Ongoing	
	<p>1.3 Support better practice local government waste services and uptake</p> <p>Continue to implement better practice kerbside services through the <i>Better practice FOGO kerbside collection guidelines</i> supported by the Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO program. Trial the Waste Authority's Guidelines for local government verge-side and drop-off services: better practice principles.</p>	Short term	
Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC)	<p>1.4 Progress amendments to the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> to enable improved waste services</p> <p>The finalised local government reform package includes reform proposals related to waste services including changes to council plans, streamlining local laws and transparency of waste charges. These reforms are being progressed in 2023–24 as part of the second tranche of amendments to the legislation.</p>	Medium term	
Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) – Zoological Parks Authority	<p>1.5 Implement waste avoidance and recycling communications strategies at Perth Zoo</p> <p>Perth Zoo will implement waste avoidance and recycling communications strategies. As part of this, it will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in partnership with WA Return Recycle Renew Ltd, continue to undertake waste audits to quantify contamination of recycling streams at Perth Zoo • employ lessons from the waste audit to identify areas for improvement to reduce contamination of recycling waste streams • update bin labelling and messaging to better target visitor behaviours • work with Perth Zoo food and beverage providers to reduce waste generation and ensure packaging is biodegradable or recyclable • continue Perth Zoo's organic materials recycling program, exploring options for expanding the capture of organic waste products • explore means to capture and recycle soft plastics and be a recycling point for any future soft plastics recycling program • continue to expand waste avoidance and recycling messaging in childhood education programs through the discovery and learning centre. 	Short term	

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
DBCA – Rottnest Island Authority (RIA)	<p>1.6 Deliver waste communications on Rottnest Island</p> <p>Build and maintain a relationship with the Plastic Free Places program with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working with food and beverage providers to reduce waste generation and contamination of waste streams • supporting food and beverage providers to manage the single-use plastic ban transition. <p>Continue the partnership with WA Return Recycle Renew Ltd with the Containers for Change program on Rottnest Island. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • installing bin stickers with Waste Authority icons on all public-facing bins • installing container drop-off bins • continuing to investigate the feasibility of reverse vending machines. 	Short term	

02





A consistent three-bin kerbside collection system, which includes separation of FOGO from other waste categories, to be provided by all local governments in the Perth and Peel regions by 2025 and supported by the State Government through the application of financial mechanisms.

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
Waste Authority and the department	<p>Provide FOGO rollout support The Waste Authority, supported by the FOGO Reference Group, developed and implemented a FOGO rollout plan which contained actions relating to market development, engagement and education, local government services and processing. The actions related to this are:</p> <p>2.1 Progress market development: A market development strategy for FOGO-derived materials was completed in 2020–21. Priority market development actions, informed by the strategy and the FOGO Reference Group, will continue to be implemented.</p> <p>2.2 Continue engagement and education: Continue to develop FOGO materials as part of the WasteSorted communications toolkit to help local governments communicate their waste and recycling services to residents, and support consistent and effective communications across local governments.</p> <p>2.3 Support local government services: Provide guidance through the better practice FOGO kerbside collection guidelines and develop resources to support local governments to plan and implement FOGO services. Provide funding to deliver the Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO funding program to support local governments to introduce better practice FOGO kerbside collection systems. Manage any allocated State and Australian Government funding for organics processing infrastructure under the Food Waste for Healthy Soils (FWHS) program.</p> <p>2.3.1 Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO funding program: Continue to provide funding through the Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO program to support local governments to introduce better practice FOGO kerbside collection systems and processing capacity.</p>	Ongoing	
Waste Authority and the department	<p>2.4 Better practice guidance: Develop and implement the department’s composting and better practice guidelines for solid waste treatment and storage facilities. Provide FOGO related inputs into the strategic review of WA’s waste infrastructure. Support the composting industry with regulatory processes such as works approval and licence applications.</p>		
Waste Authority and the department	<p>2.5 Support for increasing WA’s organics processing capacity: Build knowledge and capacity in the organics/ composting sector; support the development of existing and new organics processing infrastructure to manage food waste.</p> <p>2.5.1 FWHS funding program: Provide the State Government’s contribution to projects through the FWHS program to support organics processing infrastructure. The State Government’s contribution is being matched by the Australian Government.</p>		








03

Implement sustainable government procurement practices that encourage greater use of recycled products and support local market development.


Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
Waste Authority	<p>3.1 C&D rollout plan Support commitments in the C&D rollout plan, including Roads to Reuse and actions to develop markets, support better practice, address priority materials and improve data.</p> <p>3.1.1 Continue to deliver the Roads to Reuse program Continue to implement the Roads to Reuse program to support the use of recycled C&D products in civil applications such as road construction.</p> <p>3.1.2 Roads to Reuse local government incentive program Develop and implement a grants funding program that provides incentives to local governments using recycled products that meet Roads to Reuse standards.</p>	Ongoing	 
Department of Finance (DoF)	<p>3.2 Develop a better practice procurement framework Continue to develop a better practice procurement framework by supporting agencies to implement environmental elements of the social procurement framework through the provision of updated guidance and illustrative case studies.</p>	Short to medium term	 
	<p>3.3 Update common use arrangements (CUAs) Continue to assess new or redeveloped CUAs to identify opportunities to include waste reduction/sustainability provisions in both reporting and qualitative criteria, and to collaborate with CUA stakeholders and the department on opportunities to provide leadership on reducing or recycling waste.</p>	Short to medium term	
	<p>3.4 Review mandatory requirements: Government construction projects Incorporate C&D waste recycling targets into DoF standard construction contract preliminaries – completed April 2023.</p>	Long term	



Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
Department of Communities (DoC)	<p>3.5 To improve the uptake of recovered material the DoC will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collaborate with research institutions and industry to identify reliable supply chains for products with recycled C&D waste content and establish targets for recycled material content in construction projects • assess opportunities to include a weighting or pricing benefit for tenderers incorporating recycled material content and/or waste minimisation strategies in construction projects • undertake an analysis of the maintenance technical specifications to identify opportunities of reducing waste from maintenance and refurbishment activities. 	Short to medium term	 
DLGSC	<p>3.6 Report on DLGSC recycled content in building projects</p> <p>Require reporting on the use of recycled content for building projects valued above \$100 million delivered by the State Government, and in all agreements for grants valued above \$5 million.</p>	Short term	
Main Roads WA (MRWA)	<p>3.7 Increase the use of recycled materials in construction:</p> <p>MRWA continues to work closely with the department, the Waste Authority and State and local government agencies with an aim to double the 2021-22 target (subject to ongoing independent audit testing by the department or the Waste Authority, MRWA/Office of Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery to use more than 200,000 tonnes of crushed recycled concrete on selected projects) while ensuring that independent audit testing and firm action achieve full compliance with maximum permissible limits of contaminants.</p> <p>Using crumbed scrap tyre rubber for asphalt projects: MRWA will continue to embed crumbed scrap tyre rubber bituminous spray seal and asphalt binders into standard use, and encourage use by local governments, to maintain overall usage of crumbed rubber at more than 1,200 tonnes (per year).</p> <p>Expanding the use of crumbed scrap rubber in spray seals and asphalt: MRWA will work with WALGA to transfer knowledge and implement crumb rubber technology into the local government road network where it's deemed beneficial to extending service life.</p> <p>Developing alternative construction materials: MRWA will research, develop and trial the use of alternative construction materials derived from waste, such as delithiated beta spodumene, recycled plastics and FOGO.</p>	Short to medium term	 

04

Implement local government waste plans that align local government waste planning processes with the waste strategy.






Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
The department and DLGSC	<p>4.1 Support local governments to meet waste plan requirements</p> <p>As part of the local government reform package, there are proposed changes to the local government integrated planning and reporting framework (the framework) through a move to holistic council plans.</p> <p>DLGSC and the department will work collaboratively to review the framework and develop requirements for council plans to ensure that waste plans (and planning for the delivery of waste services) are embedded within the local government planning framework.</p>	Short term	
The department	<p>4.2 Implement waste plan reporting requirements</p> <p>Implement waste plan reporting to enable local governments to report annually on the progress of their waste plan and publish data on this progress through the <i>Waste and recycling in Western Australia report</i>.</p>	Ongoing	
The department and DLGSC	<p>4.3 Ongoing work to identify any relevant local government reforms</p> <p>Reform proposals relating to waste services are part of the local government reform package. The department and DLGSC will continue to work together to identify any relevant reforms for waste services which may be incorporated into reforms to the local government legislation (Act and regulations) that are being delivered in 2023–24.</p>	Ongoing	

Avoid	Recover	Protect	Foundation
-------	---------	---------	------------



05

Review the scope and application of the waste levy to ensure it meets the objectives of the waste strategy and establish a schedule of future waste levy rates, with the initial schedule providing a minimum five-year horizon.

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
The department	<p>5.1 Implement findings from waste levy review Implement the decisions resulting from the review of the scope and application of the waste levy.</p> <p>5.1.1 Consultation regulatory impact statement preparation Undertake economic analysis and draft a consultation regulatory impact assessment of options to expand the waste levy area.</p>	Short term	
	<p>5.2 Establish a schedule of levy rates Establish a schedule of future waste levy rates that provides a minimum five-year projection.</p>	Short term	
	<p>5.3 Amend Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Levy regulations Update the WARR Levy Regulations to reflect any changes to the scope and application of the waste levy.</p>	Short term	
	<p>5.4 Waste legislation support Support waste legislation development to progress critical components.</p>	Short term	
			<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Avoid</div> <div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Recover</div> <div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Protect</div> <div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Foundation</div> </div> 




06

Undertake a strategic review of WA's waste infrastructure (including landfills) to guide future infrastructure development.

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
The department	6.1 Finalise the state waste infrastructure plan Finalise the state waste infrastructure plan in consultation with State Government agencies, local government and the waste industry.	Short term	
	6.2 Further investigations arising from state waste infrastructure plan Scope priorities and opportunities related to waste infrastructure identified in the state waste infrastructure plan, develop them into actions and incorporate them into the waste strategy.		
	6.3 Develop Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) position statement for waste infrastructure Work with the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) to develop the necessary planning instruments and guidance for local government and developers to facilitate appropriate siting and design of waste facilities (including landfills).	Short term	
	6.4 Explore options for improving waste infrastructure planning Investigate options for developing a needs-based approach to planning and environmental and licensing approval of new landfills and other waste infrastructure which supports the state waste infrastructure plan, in consultation with DPLH.	Medium to long term	
	6.5 Support the department to develop guidance and investigate options for improving waste infrastructure planning Continue to provide support to the department to develop the infrastructure planning instrument, exploration of a needs-based approach and other improvements to waste infrastructure planning.	Medium to long term	
			<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Avoid</div> <div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Recover</div> <div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Protect</div> <div style="background-color: #2e8b57; color: white; padding: 5px; writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Foundation</div> </div> 

07




Review and update data collection and reporting systems to allow waste generation, recovery and disposal performance to be assessed in a timely manner.

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
Waste Authority	7.1 Implement waste data strategy Continue to implement the actions contained in the <i>Waste Data Strategy</i> to ensure that progress towards waste strategy targets can be appropriately monitored.	Ongoing	
The department	7.2 Support local governments, recyclers and landfill operators in required waste and recycling data reporting Continue to provide support and guidance to local governments, recyclers and large non-metropolitan landfill operators to fulfil their obligation to report waste and recycling data annually.	Ongoing	
	7.3 Improve waste data (includes online reporting systems, data collection, reporting and analysis) Maintain and update the online reporting system to enable liable entities to report required waste and recycling data.	Ongoing	
DLGSC	7.4 MyCouncil: Report waste data In collaboration with the department, annually report local government waste data on the MyCouncil website to provide increased transparency around local government waste and recycling performance and encourage benchmarking and improved performance.	Ongoing	
Water Corporation	7.5 Collect and share waste data Improve collection and sharing of waste data and set material recovery targets.	Ongoing	
Department of Health	7.6 Establish waste data reporting for the WA health system Collect and report on clinical, general and recycling waste data to assist with system-wide waste management.	Medium term	



08

Provide funding to promote the recovery of more value and resources from waste with an emphasis on focus materials.

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
The department	8.1 Support Containers for Change (container deposit scheme) The department will continue working with the scheme coordinator and stakeholders to maintain, promote, and regulate the Containers for Change program.	Ongoing	   
	8.2 Provide governance support to Containers for Change Oversee and evaluate the scheme coordinators' financial activities, annual report and annual business plan by June 2023.	Short term	   
	8.3 Participate in national and cross-jurisdictional waste policy and program initiatives and decision-making processes Continue to actively participate in regular inter-jurisdictional meetings to support the Environment Ministers Meeting, heads of environmental protection agencies, and Australian Government decision-making processes. Prepare briefing papers and support materials based on local research, desktop studies and industry consultation to further WA's position on national waste issues.	Ongoing	   
	8.4 Facilitate waste avoidance and recovery Continue to identify current and future needs and support requirements for waste avoidance and improved material recovery, including:		   

Avoid	Recover	Protect	Foundation
			

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
The department and Waste Authority	<p>8.4.1 Support for increasing WA’s recycling and reprocessing capacity Establish and manage the allocated State and Australian Government funding provided to increase WA’s reprocessing and recycling capacity in plastics, tyres, and mixed paper and cardboard under the Recycling Modernisation Fund. Management of any FWHS projects, through which the State and Australian Government are providing funding for new organics processing infrastructure, is captured in Action 2.3.2.</p> <p>8.4.2 Support for emerging and priority waste streams Support the development of solutions to emerging and priority waste streams. Focus on the implementation of WA’s Plan for Plastics and waste streams emerging as a result of COVID-19 recovery and State Government priorities.</p> <p>8.4.3 Policy development for e-waste landfill ban Prepare for the planned 2024 e-waste landfill ban, including policy development, regulations, compliance requirements and grant administration for e-waste recycling facilities.</p> <p>8.4.4 Grant management software Subscribe to annual grant management software to improve grant governance.</p> <p>8.4.5 WasteSorted grants – infrastructure Deliver a funding program that stimulates investment in priority local resource recovery infrastructure to support the delivery of the Waste Strategy targets, with a focus on recycling targets</p>	Ongoing	
Waste Authority	<p>8.5 Implement charitable recyclers waste levy rebate Ensure eligible charities are not financially disadvantaged by providing a rebate to the waste levy incurred when disposing of unusable items to landfill.</p>	Ongoing	

Budget for 2023–24

Business plan activity area	2023–24 \$
Programs led or directly funded by the Waste Authority	
Headline strategy 1	
1.1 Deliver the WasteSorted ‘Be a GREAT Sort’ behaviour change campaign and WasteSorted local government communications toolkit	1,795,000
1.1.1 WasteSorted bin-tagging program	120,000
1.1.2 WasteSorted grants – community education	181,000
1.1.3 WasteSorted schools	550,000
1.1.4 WasteSorted awards	150,000
1.1.5 Promotional opportunities including National Recycling Week and the Waste and Recycle Conference	60,000
1.1.6 KABC litter strategy	987,000
1.2 Provide guidance and support to the HHW program	1,995,000
1.3 Support better practice local government waste services and uptake Provide FOGO rollout support:	Covered in service-level agreement (SLA)
2.1 Progress market development	100,000
2.2 Continue engagement and education	Covered in SLA
2.3 Support local government services, including implementation of the three-bin FOGO system, which involves:	Covered in SLA
2.3.1 Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO funding program	1,884,000
2.4 Better practice guidance	80,000
2.5 Support for increasing WA’s organics processing capacity	Covered in SLA
2.5.1 Food Waste for Healthy Soils program	2,875,000

Business plan activity area	2023–24 \$
Headline strategy 3	
3.1 C&D rollout plan	100,000
3.1.1 Roads to Reuse program	100,000
3.1.2 Roads to Reuse local government incentive program	300,000
Headline strategy 4	
4.1 Support local governments to meet waste plan requirements	Covered in SLA
4.2 Implement waste plan reporting requirements	Covered in SLA
Headline strategy 5	
5.1 Implement findings from waste levy review	Covered in SLA
5.1.1 Consultation regulatory impact statement preparation	200,000
5.2 Establish a schedule of levy rates	Covered in SLA
5.3 Amend WARR Levy Regulations	Covered in SLA
5.4 Waste legislation support	50,000
Headline strategy 6	
6.1 Finalise the state waste infrastructure plan	100,000
6.2 Further investigations arising from state waste infrastructure plan	50,000
6.3 Develop WAPC position statement for waste infrastructure	Covered in SLA
6.4 Explore options for improving waste infrastructure planning	Covered in SLA

Business plan activity area	2023–24 \$
Headline strategy 7	
7.1 Implement waste data strategy	Covered in SLA
7.2 Support local governments, recyclers, and landfill operators in required waste and recycling data reporting	Covered in SLA
7.3 Improve waste data (including online reporting systems, data collection, reporting, and analysis)	40,000
Headline strategy 8	
8.1 Support Containers for Change (container deposit scheme)	Covered in SLA
8.2 Provide governance support to Containers for Change	95,000
8.3 Participate in national and cross-jurisdictional waste policy and program initiatives and decision-making processes	Covered in SLA
8.4 Facilitate waste avoidance and recovery, by providing:	
8.4.1 Support for increasing WA’s recycling and reprocessing capacity	Covered in SLA
8.4.2 Support for emerging and priority waste streams	600,000
8.4.3 Policy development for e-waste landfill ban	Covered in SLA
8.4.4 Grant management software	20,000
8.4.5 WasteSorted grants - infrastructure	1,000,000
8.5 Implement charitable recyclers waste levy rebate	380,000
Other actions supporting the waste strategy	
Operational costs for compliance and enforcement, illegal dumping, and waste levy inspections (for example, surveillance equipment and prosecution costs)	200,000
WARR Division and Waste Authority miscellaneous costs	100,000
Waste strategy review	100,000
Subtotal	14,212,000

Business plan activity area	2023–24 \$
Services and functions funded under section 16 and section 80 of the WARR Act and covered in the SLA	
Waste policy and program design, development, and management	Covered in SLA
Strategic policy (waste reform, legislation, national policy, and environmental policy)	Covered in SLA
Waste Authority support	Covered in SLA
Waste operations compliance and enforcement (Illegal dumping, waste levy inspection, waste operations oversight, and compliance and enforcement oversight)	Covered in SLA
Strategy and engagement (communication and executive)	Covered in SLA
Ministerial and Director General support	Covered in SLA
Administration and overheads (finance, IT, HR, legal services, accommodation, and corporate services executive)	Covered in SLA
Subtotal	9,020,000
Total	23,232,000

Additional actions that support the delivery of the waste strategy


In addition to the actions that directly relate to the waste strategy’s eight headline strategies, several State Government agencies are undertaking additional actions.






These actions demonstrate the important steps being taken by State Government to further the objectives of the waste strategy by avoiding waste, increasing recovery and protecting the environment.

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
<p>DBCA – Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority (BGPA)</p>	<p>Manage waste and improve recycling at BGPA sites</p> <p>Undertake the following actions to increase recycling and measure success:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to implement the award-winning Zero Green Waste project to process green waste generated from park operations and reuse the resulting mulch and compost in a closed-loop system within Kings Park and Botanic Gardens. • Continue periodic audits of the contents of public recycling bins in Kings Park and Botanic Gardens and Bold Park to measure successes of the public place recycling program. Use the outcomes from audits to inform future public communication strategies on sorting waste. • Continue recording all waste disposal from BGPA-managed sites to establish baseline data for future performance measurement in waste reduction and resource recovery. • Prepare BGPA sustainability policy to establish a guidance framework for BGPA strategies, including the BGPA waste management strategy, developed in response to relevant State policies. • Conduct a desktop review of BGPA waste management systems and associated data to identify opportunities for improved waste recovery and efficiency in waste processing at Kings Park and Botanic Gardens and Bold Park. • Conduct a review of BGPA’s waste transfer station, based on recommendations from the desktop review. • Explore opportunities for collaboration with local government to align waste management initiatives and communication strategies. 	<p>Short term</p>	 
<p>DBCA – RIA</p>	<p>Waste management on Rottnest Island:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review waste management practices and implement new practices, including evaluating moving to a three-bin system if benefits exceed costs. • Continue working with the boating community to improve waste management on Rottnest Island (encourage taking waste home for major events such as the channel swim). 		





Avoid	Recover	Protect	Foundation
			

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
DBCA	<p>Promote Containers for Change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage working collaboratively with local communities to improve recycling in national parks. • Maintain DBCA's key message for rubbish management in parks: 'leave with no trace' (that is, take all rubbish away with you). • Identify and promote volunteer groups local to parks (preferably Parks and Wildlife Service-registered) that have scheme IDs, so they benefit from contributions. • Locate mobile donation points during large events or at peak times in suitable locations in partnership with a volunteer group and/or refund point where feasible. Given the remoteness of many national parks and visitor and camping sites, DBCA will consider other opportunities on a case-by-case basis. <p>Establish Containers for Change collection at DBCA's Kensington HQ site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 12-month trial of Containers for Change collection at DBCA's Kensington HQ site was established from April 2023. Three 240-litre bins and Containers for Change-branded bin covers have been made available at key locations. A Perth-based charity has been engaged to collect and process the containers as part of the trial. <p>Support the DBCA Kensington HQ canteen to avoid single-use plastic packaging and adopt reuseable solutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DBCA's Kensington HQ canteen, Stephanie's Café, has engaged with DBCA's Plastic Free Riverpark program to reduce its use of single-use plastic packaging. • Stephanie's Café committed to no longer providing single-use cups and lids to customers from January 2023. <p>Recycle and reuse within DBCA work sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure recycling procedures are in place for e-waste, metal recycling, kitchen waste recycling, paper recycling, polystyrene recycling, cardboard recycling, fluoro tubes, pallet recycling, batteries, and mobile phone recycling. • Where possible, green waste is mulched and reused on garden beds. • Where possible, surplus stationery and excess furniture is upcycled to schools, charity organisations and the Men's Shed. 		

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
	<p>Plastic Free Riverpark program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The program is working with Swan and Canning riverfront business and foreshore events to reduce single-use plastic packaging entering the rivers. Food and beverage venues, charter operators, and sporting organisations operating on or near the Riverpark are eligible for small grants to introduce reusable or low-waste alternatives to single-use plastic packaging. Local governments and event managers are also eligible to apply for grants to eliminate single-use plastic packaging at foreshore community events. Grant projects that align with the waste hierarchy and focus on waste avoidance and reuse are prioritised. The program is also conducting community education via event stalls and talks that raise awareness around ways to avoid waste from single-use takeaway packaging by choosing reusable solutions. The program aims to eliminate more than 500,000 items of single-use plastic from events and within businesses by 30 June 2025. <p>Reel It In campaign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect and responsibly dispose of fishing line and related waste in the Swan Canning Riverpark, Peel-Harvey Estuary and popular coastal fishing locations around WA. Reel It In bins are made from 100 per cent recycled plastic. Work with Recfishwest and Ozfish to encourage major fishing gear retailers (for example, BCF) to develop and sell biodegradable fishing line and bait bags for sale and use in WA and collect and recycle old fishing line. Educate fishers and the general public to discard fishing line and related waste in specifically designated bins installed across WA. Education is in the form of social media, videos, flyers and events. <p>River Guardians:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special events will be held to engage the WA public in efforts to clean up WA waterways. Publications will be printed on recycled paper stock. Members will be encouraged to reduce fertiliser and water usage through RiverWise Gardens workshops and RiverWise Gardens behaviour change programs, delivered by River Guardians. Sustainable behaviours promoted include encouraging participants to add soil amendments like bentonite clay and soil conditioner (compost) to garden beds, use soil wetting agents, mulch their garden beds, minimise fertiliser and pesticide usage, and reduce irrigation times. Dolphin Watch eco-caps that will be provided to volunteers are made from 100 per cent recycled fabric. Clean our Rivers is a one-week social media campaign where the public is encouraged to pick up litter from their favourite riverside location, take a picture of themselves with the rubbish they've collected and post it to the River Guardians Facebook and Instagram platforms with the handle #cleanourrivers. 		
Development WA	<p>DevelopmentWA waste avoidance and resource recovery targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to target at least a 77 per cent avoidance and/or recovery target for DevelopmentWA's metropolitan, regional and industrial projects with significant C&D activity. Continue to work with the department and the C&D Reference group on achieving waste strategy targets. 	Medium to long term	

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
Department of Education	<p>Develop and implement Sustainable Schools WA</p> <p>Develop and implement a sustainability statement and framework applicable across all schools and provide a toolkit to support schools in the avoidance of single-use plastics.</p>	Short term	
	<p>Implement a trial project with the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC)</p> <p>Work closely with EMRC and the department to target waste avoidance strategies in selected schools as part of a trial project to support the waste components of Sustainable Schools WA.</p>	Short term	 
Department of Health	<p>Review waste management and avoidance policies</p> <p>Partner with area health services and facilities to review, establish and implement waste management and avoidance policies, strategies and regulations.</p>	Medium term	
	<p>Facilitate waste avoidance and reduction activities</p> <p>Identify opportunities for further waste avoidance and/or implement recovery actions for the Department of Health. This includes the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review of cleaning services and waste management contacts • establishment of recycling programs • promotion of responsible waste management behaviours in the workplace through change management and education of staff • increase in organisational participation in State Government, sectoral and community-run waste initiatives. 	Short term	
Department of Justice	<p>Implement waste avoidance and recovery measures in prisons</p> <p>Implement waste avoidance and recovery measures in prisons through the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • separation and recycling of a range of waste products, including cardboard, paper, bottles and cans, scrap metals, plastic containers, and food and vegetable waste • return of bottles, cans, and plastic containers through the Containers for Change initiative, donating the refund money to worthy charities or investing it to expand the site's waste recycling and re-use capabilities • composting of food waste and vegetable peelings, or use of them in worm farms • recycling of toner cartridges, batteries, and TVs through organisations including Planet Ark, TerraCycle, and TechCollect • identification and incorporation of safer, biodegradable alternatives to all forms of chemicals and plastics • development of recycling industries in the long term in selected prisons for downline processing of prison and other waste • collection of paper waste for conversion to paper fire bricks. 	Medium to long term	

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
Westport	<p>Develop waste and recycling systems: Westport project</p> <p>Develop waste and recycling plans for the Westport project which are consistent with the waste strategy and guidance of the Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia. The plan will be developed over the course of stage 3 of the program (2021–24) – part of the planning and design process. This work will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing a resource efficiency strategy for design, construction and operation of the project • undertaking an assessment to identify program waste risks and measures to minimise waste during design, construction and operation. 	Short to medium term	
METRONET	<p>Review resource recovery opportunities</p> <p>In collaboration with key stakeholders across the Public Transport Authority and other relevant government agencies, METRONET will identify and implement resource recovery opportunities to achieve its targets.</p>	Short to medium term	 
Water Corporation	<p>Reduce waste from wastewater management</p> <p>Continue research and implementation of better practice actions aimed at recovering resources and removing waste/pollutants from wastewater, aligned with Water Corporation’s environmental, social and governance strategy, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conducting research into recovery of magnesium from seawater desalination brine • conducting research with Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology for microplastics analysis • assessing waste recovery opportunities from C&D activities • delivering actions to achieve alignment with the WA social procurement framework • embedding a framework (including a regulatory approach in collaboration with the department) for treated wastewater reuse. 	Ongoing	
Busselton Water	<p>Improve material recovery</p> <p>Minimise waste to landfill, including cement and concrete, greenwaste, cardboard, scrap metal, wooden pallets and e-waste.</p>	Ongoing	
Synergy	<p>Implement Synergy’s waste strategy 2020–25:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement waste management improvements as documented in site-specific waste management plans, while identifying additional improvement opportunities. • Progress the implementation of Synergy-wide communications to support consistent messaging on waste avoidance, resource recovery, and appropriate waste disposal behaviours. • Continue to identify materials for reuse and recycling across Synergy sites. • Continue to work collaboratively with waste service providers to improve waste management outcomes. • Review and update waste data collection and reporting systems. 	Short term	   

Lead	Actions	Timing	Waste strategy objective
Lotterywest Healthway	<p>Continue to refine and implement our sustainability guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the Sustainable Merchandise Guideline which aims to reduce the environmental impact of Lotterywest Healthway’s promotional activities. Update and implement Lotterywest’s internal Sustainability Action Plan; a practical range of ongoing initiatives and practices to foster a sustainability culture. 	Ongoing	
Construction Training Fund	<p>Improve waste management awareness and performance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subject to the formation of the national industry skills clusters, work with key agencies to develop training for apprentices in the construction industry that train them to sort building waste, use recycled building products, and research and understand modern methods of construction that are less environmentally damaging and more sustainable for the future. Undertake consultation and research with stakeholders to introduce Certificate II Paraprofessional course training content that includes waste management awareness and understanding. 	Ongoing	
WA Police Force	<p>Improve the recovery of material for major works</p> <p>Ensure that green waste, earth, fill, brick, mortar, concrete and metal are recycled either for use onsite or by delivery to a recycling facility. Offsite disposal documentation is to be provided detailing the recycling facility destinations that received the materials.</p> <p>Consultants shall consider materials, transport, environmental impact of design, embodied energy of materials, re-use of material and other recycled materials, sustainable timbers, and design for disassembly. The design shall be rationalised to avoid excessive material use and construction risks. Consultants shall consider the use of standardised and prefabricated elements and where possible, embed eco-effective and sustainability values in demolition sections of specifications, to support closing-the-loop recycling and waste reduction.</p>	Ongoing	
Landgate	<p>Actions to onsite waste management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase recycling initiatives and promote these across all Landgate sites. Introduce electric fleet vehicles as part of the fleet replacement cycle. Reduce physical record files and storage onsite. Introduce a waste avoidance and resource recovery strategy and action plan 2023–30. 	Ongoing	
Department of Training	<p>Undertake actions to improve waste management in offices and awareness for procurement managers.</p> <p>Continue to implement sustainable government procurement practices that encourage the greater use of recycled products.</p>	Ongoing	

Financial projections

Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account

A levy on waste disposed of to landfill in the Perth metropolitan region – and on waste generated in the Perth metropolitan region and disposed of elsewhere in the state – is imposed under the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Levy Act 2007*.

Scheduled increases in the waste levy rate

Period	Putrescible rate/tonne	Approx. inert rate/tonne**	Inert rate/m ³
1 July 2018 until at least 30 June 2024	\$70	\$70	\$105
1 July 2024 until at least 30 June 2025	\$85	\$85	\$129
1 July 2025 until at least 30 June 2025*	\$88	\$88	\$133
1 July 2026 until at least 30 June 2027*	\$90	\$90	\$136
1 July 2027 until at least 30 June 2028*	\$93	\$93	\$141

* Future increases are being considered as part of the review of the waste strategy.

** One cubic metre of inert waste in situ within the landfill is treated as equivalent to 1.5 tonnes.

Waste levy review

The last scheduled increase in the levy rate was on 1 July 2018. In February 2020, the WA Environment Minister advised there would be no increase to the 2020–21 waste levy.

Following consideration of consultation outcomes from the review of the waste levy, the waste levy will be increased in line with inflation to ensure that its price signal is not eroded, particularly in years when no substantial change to the levy is made to adjust its incentive effect.

The State Government will increase the waste levy from \$70 per tonne to \$85 per tonne from 1 July 2024. The levy will also increase in line with inflation in subsequent years, and a rolling five-year schedule of rates will be published each year.

The Waste Authority may provide advice to the Minister on further changes to the levy rate beyond this period, in accordance with section 4 of the WARR Act. Further increases to the waste levy above inflation will be considered by the Waste Authority as part of the upcoming review of the waste strategy.

The department will also develop and publish a consultation regulatory impact statement on options for expanding the waste levy to locations outside the metropolitan area.

Estimated revenue and expenditure from the WARR Account 2023–24 to 2027–28

Description	2023–24 Forward Estimate \$'000	2024–25 Forward Estimate \$'000	2025–26 Forward Estimate \$'000	2026–27 Forward Estimate \$'000	2027–28 Forward Estimate \$'000
Receipts					
Waste levy revenue	77,600	76,900	79,800	69,000	67,600
Interest received	438	451	465	465	465
Total receipts	78,038	77,351	80,265	69,465	68,065
Payments					
Expenditure	20,750	20,750	20,750	20,750	20,750
Total expenditure limit	20,750	20,750	20,750	20,750	20,750
Waste levy rate (applied against Waste levy revenue)	27%	27%	26%	30%	31%

The commencement of waste-to-energy facilities and progress in implementing FOGO are expected to be successful in further reducing landfill volumes, and levy revenue will be affected. The specific timing and extent of these reduction is still unclear.

Other matters required by the Minister

The Minister did not require the Waste Authority to include any other matters in the 2023–24 business plan.

Appendix A: Evaluation planned for 2023–24 and the next four financial years

The Waste Authority evaluation framework provides logic-based methodology to enable the assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of various waste programs. Evaluations of individual programs highlight the extent to which they support progress towards waste strategy targets and will inform planning of future actions. All programs are monitored on an ongoing basis against desired outcomes.

The Keep Australia Beautiful Council (KABC) litter strategy and Containers for Change will be evaluated in 2023–24, and an allocation for this work is included in the 2023–24 program budget. The schedule for future evaluations is as follows:

Timeframe	Program to be evaluated
2023–24	<p>KABC litter strategy</p> <p>KABC is implementing the <i>Litter prevention strategy for Western Australians 2020–25 (litter strategy)</i> with a focus on four strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing community understanding of the impacts of litter on the environment to bring about behaviour change • Contributing to the long-term prevention of litter and marine debris • Regulating and enforcing the <i>Litter Act 1979</i> • Monitoring the level of litter in WA and its marine environment and evaluating the effectiveness of programs. <p>This program supports headline strategy 1.</p> <p>Containers for Change</p> <p>Containers for Change is a product stewardship scheme designed to increase recovery and recycling of empty beverage containers. This program supports headline strategy 8.</p>
2024–25	<p>‘Be a GREAT Sort’ behaviour change campaign and local government communications toolkit</p> <p>WasteSorted is the overall brand for the behaviour change campaign, comprising a community education and awareness campaign and a communication toolkit. These were developed to help local governments communicate with residents about the importance of separating waste and sorting it correctly to reduce contamination in kerbside bin services.</p> <p>This program supports headline strategy 1.</p>
2025–26	<p>Bin-tagging</p> <p>Bin-tagging is a direct, household by household intervention that helps to increase recycling and reduce contamination in the recycling, garden waste and organics bins. The program uses a combination of tools to achieve this outcome, including information provision and, ultimately, enforcement.</p> <p>This program supports headline strategies 1 and 3.</p>

Appendix B: Section 16 funded services and section 80 funded functions

Section 16 of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* (WARR Act) states that the Minister must ensure the Waste Authority is provided with such services and facilities as are reasonably necessary to enable it to perform its functions.

Section 80 of the WARR Act provides that moneys held in the WARR Account can be applied as approved by the Minister to fund a range of activities undertaken by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department).

The 2022–23 initiatives funded under sections 16 and 80 as approved by the Minister are as below:

Support for the Waste Authority

This includes:

- the development and review of the waste strategy and annual action plan
- the development and implementation of the annual business plan and annual report
- governance
- meeting administration
- members' sitting fees, travel, and accommodation expenses.

Program and policy design, development, and management

This includes the delivery of strategic policy, such as policies and programs to avoid generating waste, recover more value and resources from waste, and protect human health and the environment; and the amendment of regulations and legislations related to waste and national policy.

It also includes services to ensure that activities funded by the WARR Account are planned, implemented, and evaluated effectively and in accordance with WARR legislation, the *Financial Management Act 2006* and the State Supply Commission policy.

Administration and overheads

Administrative and overhead costs include those associated with finance and administration, business systems, human resources, legal services and accommodation provided by the department.

Director General and Ministerial liaison

This includes correspondence and advice on waste-related issues, Ministerial briefing notes, events and parliamentary question responses.

Communications

Communications services include drafting media statements, responding to media enquiries, monitoring the media, graphically designing publications, further developing and maintaining the Waste Authority website, and supporting annual events such as the Local Government Convention and the Waste and Recycle Conference.

Strategic policy, legislative reviews and amendments

WARR Account funds will be applied to support the department to undertake legislative reviews and amendments. These include strategic policy, national policy, programs and environmental policy.

Compliance and enforcement activities

These include levy compliance and enforcement activities for landfill premises. The department provides environmental investigative capability and

single-point accountability for regulatory complaints to achieve statewide enforcement outcomes in line with the WARR Act and the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.

An illegal dumping team in the department delivers statewide detection, investigation and prosecution of illegal dumping offenders. This team also seeks to reduce the incidence of illegal

dumping through knowledge-sharing with the community, industry and government about the impacts of illegal dumping. Ensuring that illegal dumping is detected, investigated and, where appropriate, prosecuted enhances the effectiveness of the waste levy as an economic motivator in increasing diversion from landfill.

These section 16 services and section 80 functions are provided through the department in line with a memorandum of understanding (23 September 2009) and an annually reviewed service-level agreement between the two parties.



Funding principles

The WARR Act states that moneys held in the WARR Account are to be applied to support waste management activities and the diversion of waste from landfill through the recycling and recovery of waste. To support this aim, the Waste Authority has developed funding principles to ensure a clear link between funds provided from the WARR Account and relevant activities. Funds are applied to the development and delivery of initiatives that support attitude and behaviour change to enhance waste avoidance, resource recovery, and protection of the environment from the impacts of waste.

Funding objectives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the most efficient use of resources and prioritise the avoidance of waste, followed by the recovery of more value and resources from waste, over disposal. • Protect the environment by reducing environmental harm, including pollution through waste. • Be consistent with the principles set out in section 4A of the Environmental Protection Act. 	
Outcome principles	
Shared responsibility and partnership	Funded activities should result in a reduction in the impact of waste generated and the protection of the state's environmental resources.
Innovation and growth	Funded activities should consider innovation that enables and expands our waste management capacity and knowledge.
Better practice	Funded activities should promote better practice approaches in waste management and consider the full costs, benefits and impacts of waste management decisions.
Waste as a resource	Funded activities should consider the waste hierarchy, avoiding waste generation where possible, maximising waste recovery, and protecting the environment from impacts of disposal.
Intergenerational equity	Funded activities should ensure the health, diversity and productivity of our environment is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations.

Process principles	
Be efficient and effective	Funded activities should be cost effective, efficient and deliver a net benefit to the state.
Integrity and accountability	Funded activities should be conducted in a manner that exhibits integrity and accountability and adheres to appropriate funding and governance processes.
Be collaborative	Funded activities should involve collaboration with relevant agencies and stakeholders where this is likely to lead to an outcome that is associated with greater benefits for the state and/or a more efficient delivery of outcomes.
Be informed	Funded activities should be developed and evaluated using an evidence-based approach informed by the collection and reporting of relevant data and information.
Stakeholder engagement	Funded activities should be informed by stakeholder engagement and designed and implemented in a way that is supported by relevant stakeholders.
Manage risk	Funded activities should be designed and implemented with appropriate identification, evaluation and risk management.
Be flexible and responsive	Funded activities should operate within anticipated budget; however, there is a need to remain flexible and responsive to changing circumstances, and a 25 per cent variation (up or down), or totalling up to \$100,000, in any given line item is permitted with the Waste Authority Chair's approval, on the basis that the overall expense limit for the year is not exceeded. If a variation of more than 25 per cent is required, Ministerial approval will be sought.

