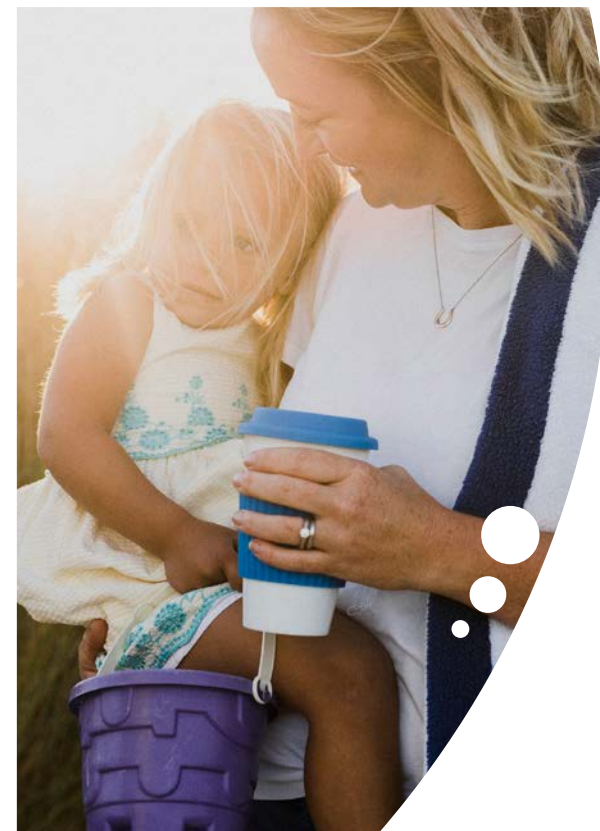




# Waste Authority Annual report 2022-23





**The Waste Authority of Western Australia**

c/o Department of Water and Environmental Regulation  
Prime House, 8 Davidson Terrace  
Joondalup WA 6027  
Locked Bag 10, Joondalup WA 6919

Phone: 08 6364 6965  
National Relay Service 13 36 77

[wasteauthority.wa.gov.au](http://wasteauthority.wa.gov.au)

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Hon Reece Whitby, MLA, Minister for Environment

In accordance with section 23 of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*, I submit the Waste Authority annual report for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, for presentation to Parliament.

Elizabeth Carr AM  
Chair, Waste Authority



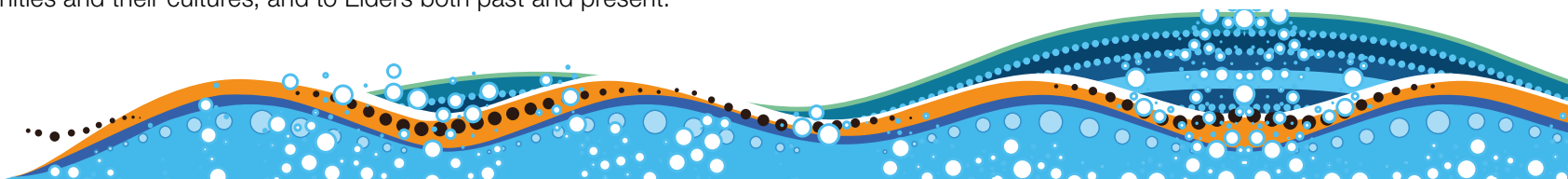


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### Acknowledgement of Country

The Government of Western Australia acknowledges the Traditional Custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of the Aboriginal communities and their cultures; and to Elders both past and present.



# Chair's report



My fellow members and I are pleased to report continued momentum in delivering the *Waste avoidance and resource recovery strategy 2030* (the waste strategy). To do so, we have worked in partnership with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department) and the Minister for Environment.

Western Australians increasingly believe that their waste sorting makes a difference. At home they are embracing services such as food organics and garden organics (FOGO) and Containers for Change as part of their everyday lives.

During the past year the Waste Authority has been proud to play its role in helping people minimise their impact by delivering on our objectives of waste avoidance, resource recovery, and protection of health and the environment.

Since the waste strategy's release in 2019, we have made solid progress towards achieving our five- and 10-year targets. However, much has changed during the past few years and we are fully engaged in a review of the waste strategy to ensure it stays current and responsive to new opportunities and challenges.

The waste strategy is updated every five years and considers how the state is performing in meeting its targets, as well as its current strengths, new opportunities and areas for improvement. This important process kicked off in May 2023 and will provide stakeholders and the community with multiple opportunities to have their say. I encourage everyone to visit the Waste Authority website to get involved. The updated strategy is due to be completed in 2024.



The Waste Authority's operating environment continues to change.

Progress towards the **avoidance targets** has been encouraging. There has been a sustained reduction in municipal solid waste (MSW) from households since 2014–15. We really are starting to change our habits. I'm pleased to see that the free local government WasteSorted toolkit resources have continued to improve; the GREAT Sorts advertising campaign has grown in reach to help deliver consistent and memorable messages across the state; and interest in accessing the WasteSorted grants has been sustained. The State Government has provided more than \$8.4 million to reduce waste through the WasteSorted community education and infrastructure grants since 2017.

The State Government's Plan for Plastics continues to support the community to avoid waste and prevent millions of pieces of single-use plastics ending up as litter or in landfill. A further 12 single-use plastic items were phased out from 1 March 2023, including non-compostable plastic takeaway coffee cups, plastic produce bags, cotton buds with plastic stems, microbeads, degradable plastics

and more. Enforcement dates will be staggered from 1 September 2023 to 1 July 2025, allowing businesses time to use up supplies and transition to compliant alternatives.

Overall recovery of waste has increased from 42 per cent in 2014–15 to 62 per cent in 2021–22 and is moving towards the 70 per cent **recovery target** for 2025. This has been underpinned by an increase in the recovery of construction and demolition (C&D) wastes, but I am concerned that recovery from MSW and commercial and industrial (C&I) sources has not shown sustained improvement since 2014–15. We expect to see increases in the recovery rate as the rollout of FOGO progresses. C&I waste is also a focus for improvement through the waste strategy review.

The material recovery rate for the C&D waste stream was very strong, at 84 per cent in 2021–22, exceeding the 2025 waste strategy target of 77 per cent.

Recovering FOGO can make the single-biggest contribution to improving the recovery rate for MSW. Ensuring organics don't end

up in landfill is also important for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and meeting Australian and state climate change objectives.

Western Australians want FOGO and support to minimise their impact on the environment. A 2022 Waste Authority survey of 1,000 households showed that 92 per cent of Western Australians support having access to FOGO bins.

We are certainly making progress on FOGO – many local governments across the Perth and Peel regions have either already adopted FOGO or committed to rolling out the service by 2025. The Better Bins and Better Bins Plus programs have directed funding to 17 local governments to introduce FOGO services and another 10 to provide garden organics services, covering more than 560,000 households across Western Australia.

Local governments are finding out for themselves that FOGO helps meet residents' expectations, while delivering high material recovery rates and real sustainability benefits to residents and Western Australia.

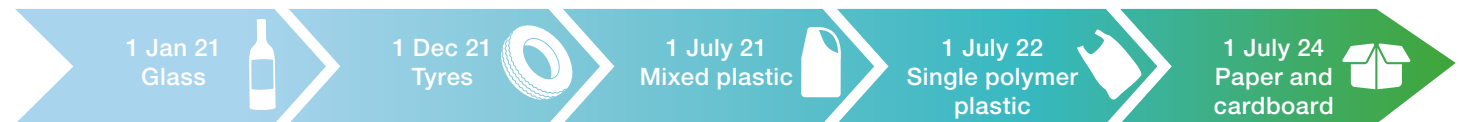
Processing capacity and end markets are also crucial to the successful adoption of FOGO across the state. The Australian and State Governments have co-invested \$11.25 million for three new organic recycling infrastructure projects that will divert up to 275,000 tonnes of Western Australia's FOGO waste from landfill each year and convert it into compost. The new facilities will be located to the north, east and south of Perth and support 146 construction jobs and 98 ongoing positions. The increased composting capacity will help meet the state's recovery targets and assist new markets (e.g. providing Western Australian farmers with a reliable source of high-quality compost).

In terms of the **protect targets**, in the Perth and Peel regions, about one-third of waste generated was landfilled. This is down from about half in 2014–15. With the introduction of a waste-to-energy facility through the new Kwinana plant in 2024, we are on track to meet our landfill diversion targets.

Infrastructure planning and investment is vital to ongoing development of state-based waste and recycling. The draft *State waste infrastructure plan*, released in April 2023, provides a framework to guide decision-making for the planning and development of waste infrastructure in Western Australia. With an outlook to 2050, it focuses on built waste and recycling infrastructure needs. Consultation on the plan closed in June 2023.

In 2022–23, the State Government released the WasteSorted Grants – organics infrastructure funding round. This resulted in \$850,000 of funding being allocated to five projects across regional and metropolitan sites to fast-track existing organics handling and processing operators to transition to better practice aligned with the recently published Guideline: *Better practice organics recycling*.

The Australian Government's *Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020* has banned the export of waste plastic, tyres, glass, paper and cardboard in stages, from 1 January 2021.



### Implementation of export bans

Eight plastics and tyre waste recycling projects were awarded grants through the [Recycling Modernisation Funding](#) to ensure Western Australia has an effective local industry equipped to respond to the bans. Two projects have started processing (one plastics and one tyre project). The other six have begun installing infrastructure, ordering machinery, and applying for licences.

The waste levy is an economic instrument designed to reduce waste to landfill that also generates funds for a range of waste and environmental purposes. In 2022–23 the waste levy was \$70 per tonne. From 1 July 2024, the rate will increase to \$85 per tonne in line with the consumer price index. The levy was last increased in 2018.

Under the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*, a

minimum of 25 per cent of the forecast waste levy revenue is allocated to support the waste strategy and implementation of the Act. In 2022–23, waste levy revenue of \$16.45 million was used to deliver important programs such as Better Bins Plus, Household Hazardous Waste, Roads to Reuse, behaviour change, WasteSorted Schools and grants for education and infrastructure. Funding was also allocated to waste data collection, waste policy, compliance and enforcement, the Plan for Plastics and implementing the litter strategy.

The Waste Authority works closely with many government agencies to achieve the waste strategy targets. I thank those organisations for their ongoing efforts to meet the commitments they have made through the [Waste avoidance and resource recovery strategy action plan 2022–23](#) (the action plan).

This is the first annual report of the current Waste Authority as our terms of appointment started on 9 August 2022. I take this opportunity to thank the Minister for Environment and my fellow Authority members Lee Broomhall (Deputy Chair), Josh Byrne, Kelly Howlett and Tim Youé for their continued commitment to implementing the waste strategy. I also thank the department's Director General, Michelle Andrews, and her excellent teams for their support of the waste strategy and the Waste Authority.

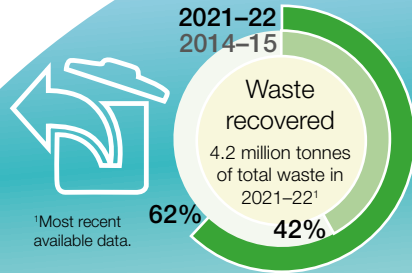
I am proud to be part of Western Australia's journey towards a more sustainable, low-waste state to ensure we leave it a better place for future generations.

Elizabeth Carr AM  
Chair, Waste Authority

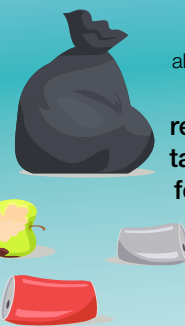




# Highlights from 2022–23



Municipal solid waste (MSW) generation has been reducing steadily since 2014–15



↑ ahead of the **10% reduction target set for 2030.**



Food organics and garden organics (FOGO) systems have been rolled out to about

**200,000**  
households across the state.



**In Perth and Peel**



**committed** to deliver FOGO by 2025, consistent with the waste strategy.

**assessing** the feasibility of delivering FOGO by 2025.

Regulations for the Plan for Plastics

**Stage 2**

**1 March 2023**



Regulations for the Plan for Plastics Stage 2 bans came into effect on 1 March 2023. This addressed a further 12 highly problematic items: coffee cups and lids, produce bags, moulded and loose expanded plastic packaging, degradable plastics, expanded polystyrene cups and meat trays, unlidded plastic trays, cotton buds with plastic stems, microbeads and lids for trays, plates, bowls, containers and cups.



Main Roads WA has contributed to the waste strategy by using more than

**160,000** tonnes of Roads to Reuse recycled C&D products since 2019.



**2021–22**  
**2014–15**

Perth and Peel regions all waste generated was landfilled

49%  
31%



State grants were delivered, including:



**\$850,000**  
for 5 organics infrastructure projects



**\$150,380**  
for 11 community education projects



**\$1.58 million**  
for 2 local governments to introduce FOGO services to more than 100,000 households



**\$149,755**  
for 48 schools to undertake projects to avoid and recover school waste



**\$357,362**  
across 7 charities through the Charitable Recyclers Rebate.



State and Australian Government co-investment funding was delivered, including:



**\$11.25 million**  
for 3 new organic recycling infrastructure projects to divert up to **275,000 tonnes** of Western Australia's FOGO waste from landfill each year and convert it into compost



support for  
**six plastics and tyre projects**

in which the responsible firms have begun installing infrastructure, ordered machinery, and applied for appropriate licences (two of these firms – one tyre and one plastics – have begun processing).

By the end of June 2023 more than

**2.39 billion containers had been recovered for recycling**

and more than

**\$8.8 million had been donated**

to more than 6,200 registered charities and community organisations.

Keep Australia Beautiful counted an average of

**17,196 items of litter**

across two litter surveys, with cigarette butts being the most common item found, and plastic being the common material. The survey showed that the State Government's container deposit scheme,

**Containers for Change, had been highly effective in reducing litter.**

The 2022 litter survey showed beverage containers, including those not eligible for the container deposit scheme, totalled 0.83% of items. Pre-scheme this figure was 12.05% of items.

**485 tonnes**

of materials were collected for safe recovery or disposal through the Household Hazardous Waste program, including gas bottles, batteries, flammable liquids and cleaning products.

In May 2023, the Minister announced the waste levy would increase by

**\$15 per tonne**

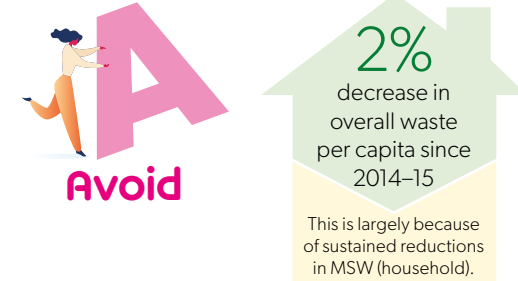
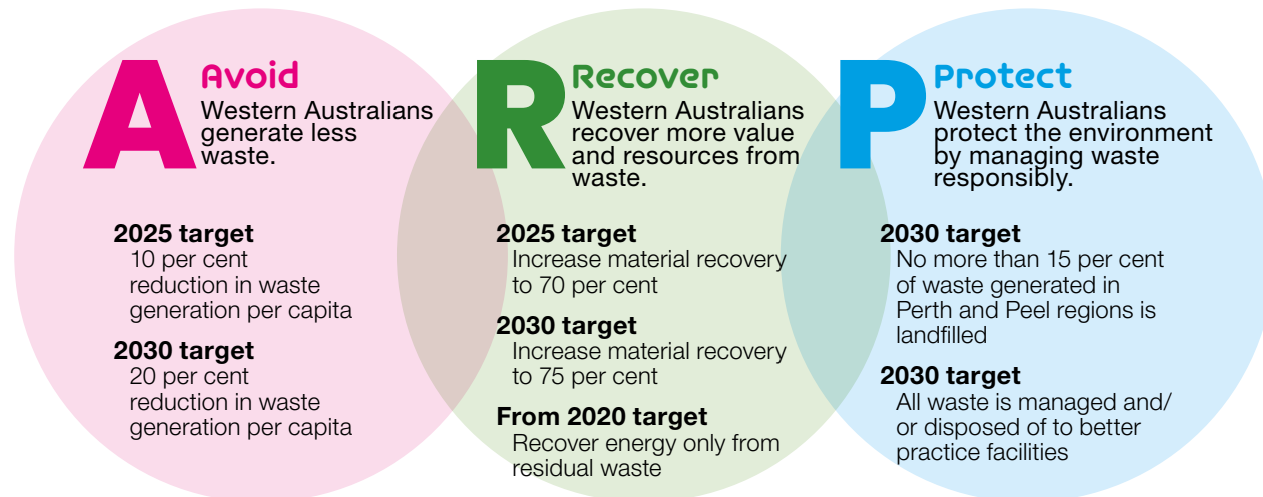
from 1 July 2024. This will be the first levy increase since 2018.

# Performance overview

The **waste strategy targets** support our move towards a sustainable, low-waste circular economy and allow performance to be monitored against baseline data.

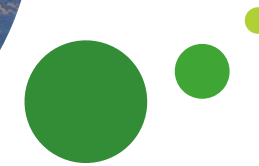
## Overall objectives and state targets

Progress towards the targets is measured using data reported to the department by the landfill and recycling industry under the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Regulations 2008. An assessment of our progress towards the targets using the most-recent available data, from 2021–22, is provided in Table 1 and summarised below.



Reported MSW generation per capita indicates a 21 per cent decrease in 2021–22 compared with 2014–15. Though there is confidence in the trend, caution must be attached to the absolute reduction in volume given the potential that reporting of waste streams across MSW and C&I has been inconsistent. This can be seen in Figure 1, which shows concurrent and opposing MSW and C&I waste per capita trends since 2019–20. However, domestic waste per capita as reported by local governments supports the declining trend and shows a 10.5 per cent decline over the same period.





Waste generation per capita for the C&D and C&I waste streams was greater in 2021–22 compared with 2014–15 (Figure 1). While the data shows a rise in C&D waste after 2019–20, this is not entirely attributable to an actual increase in C&D generation. Rather it is due, in part, to the introduction of mandatory reporting which provides a more complete picture of recycling activity.

The increase in C&I generation in 2021–22 is partly explained by increased scrap metal recovery, both from increased exports and improvements in reporting by metal recyclers. As highlighted above, another contributing factor was an increase in C&I disposal and a similar decrease in MSW disposal which may have been caused by reallocation of waste streams by reporters. In addition, it is possible that C&I waste has increased as the economy recovers post Covid-19.

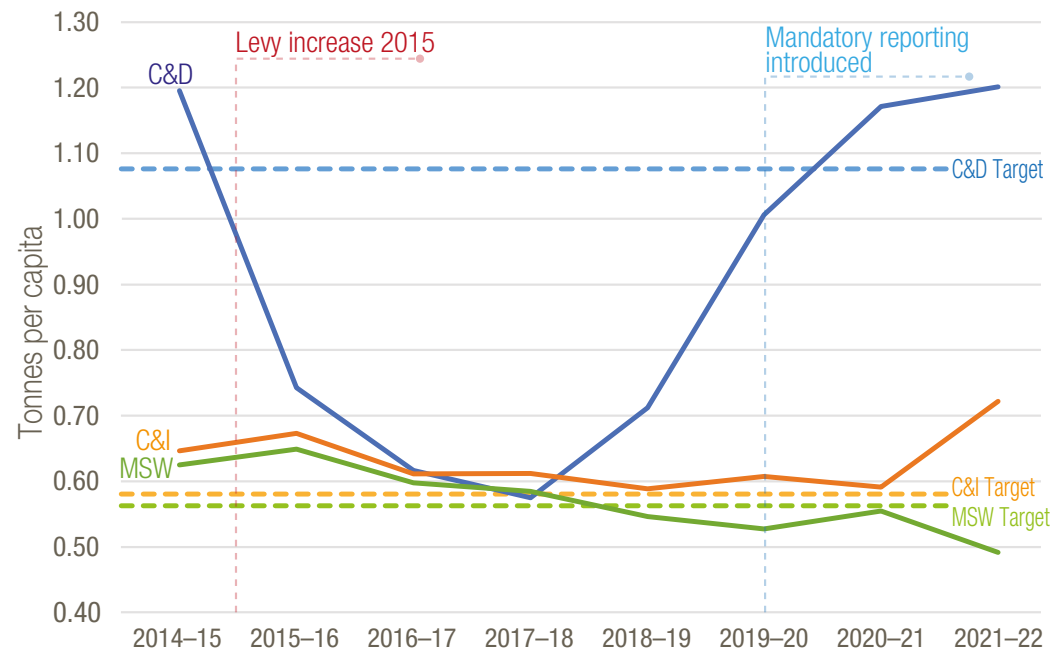
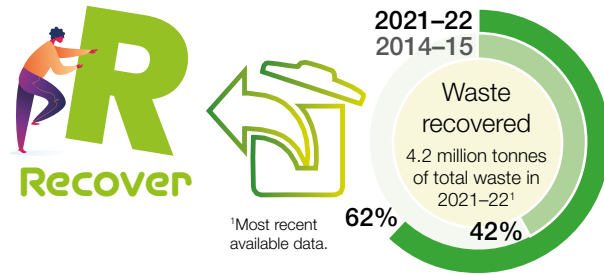


Figure 1: Waste generation per capita

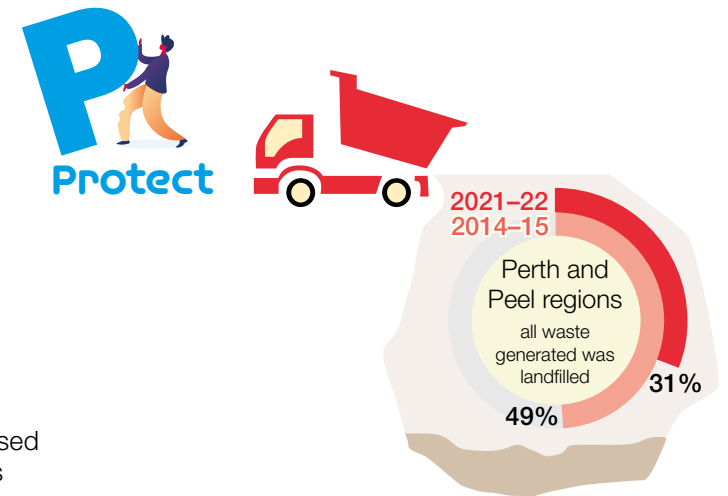


Progress towards the other recovery targets has been variable. The material recovery rate for the C&D waste stream was 85 per cent in 2021–22, exceeding the 2025 waste strategy target of 77 per cent. Recovery of C&D waste is also driving improvements in overall recovery. However, the C&D recovery rate is likely to be inflated because of the stockpiling of C&D waste and waste levy avoidance.

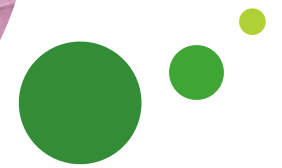
Progress towards the C&I and MSW recovery targets has been slow and inconsistent. Covid-19 and a range of other external changes, such as the waste export bans, have impacted on progress towards these targets.

Material recovery from the C&I waste stream decreased from 53 per cent in 2014–15 to 45 per cent in 2021–22, well short of the 2025 waste strategy target of 75 per cent.

In 2021–22 the material recovery rate for MSW generated in the Perth and Peel regions was 36 per cent. While the recovery rate has increased during the past three reporting periods, there is a risk the 2025 target of 67 per cent will not be met unless FOGO collection systems are adopted more widely across the Perth and Peel regions. At 30 June 2023, FOGO systems had been rolled out to nearly 200,000 households across the state. In their waste plans, another 11 local governments in Perth and Peel have committed to rolling out FOGO.



With the projected increase in recovery associated with the FOGO rollout and the establishment of two waste-to-energy facilities, we are on track to meet the 2030 protect target of no more than 15 per cent of all Perth and Peel waste landfilled.



# Performance against waste strategy targets



	Sector	2014–15 baseline	2021–22		Targets	
					2025	2030
Avoid targets	Overall	2,452 kg per capita	2,415 kg per capita	2% ↓	10% reduction	20% reduction
	MSW	621 kg per capita	492 kg per capita	21% ↓	5% reduction	10% reduction
	C&I	642 kg per capita	722 kg per capita	12% ↑	5% reduction	10% reduction
	C&D	1,188 kg per capita	1,201 kg per capita	1% ↑	15% reduction	30% reduction
Material recovery targets	Overall	42% recovery	62% recovery	2% ↑ since 2020–21	70% recovery	75% recovery
	MSW (Perth and Peel)	39% recovery	36% recovery	4% ↑ since 2020–21	67% recovery	70% recovery
	MSW (Major regional centres)	30% recovery	30% recovery	3% ↑ since 2020–21	55% recovery	60% recovery
	C&I	53% recovery	45% recovery	5% ↑ since 2020–21	75% recovery	80% recovery
	C&D	42% recovery	85% recovery	1% ↑ since 2020–21	77% recovery	80% recovery
	Perth and Peel	Nil	8 local governments	+ 3 ↑ since 2020–21	All local governments in the Perth and Peel region provide consistent three-bin kerbside collection systems that include separation of FOGO from other waste categories by 2025	
Protect target	Overall	<b>49%* of Perth regions' waste disposed of to landfill</b> *Peel region data included as non-metropolitan source before 2018–19	31% of Perth and Peel regions' waste disposed of to landfill	1% ↓ since 2020–21		No more than 15% of Perth and Peel regions' waste is disposed of to landfill by 2030

Table 1 Performance against waste strategy targets for 2021–22



# Operational structure

## Organisational structure

Sections 16(1) and 17(1) of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* (WARR Act) provide that the Minister for Environment will ensure the Waste Authority has the services and facilities reasonably necessary to enable it to perform its functions. Section 16(2) provides that the Minister may, by arrangement with the department, allow the Waste Authority to make use of the services of any officer in the department.

Services are provided by staff employed by the department under provisions of the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*, pursuant to section 16(1) of the WARR Act. Officers are subject to the department's human resources policy, information technology and administrative processes, and other policy matters regulated by the *Financial Management Act 2006* and Treasurer's instructions.

A service-level agreement for the provision of services and functions between the department and the Waste Authority is in place and reviewed annually. The agreement includes both section 16 services and section 80 functions that are approved by the Minister. The agreement sets out the parties' mutual understanding of their respective statutory and other legal functions and obligations through a statement of expectations and performance deliverables for the provision of services.

## Membership

On 9 August 2022, the Governor of Western Australia appointed the members of the Waste Authority for three- and four-year terms. Appointed for four-year terms until August 2027 were Chair Elizabeth Carr AM, Deputy Chair Lee Broomhall and member Tim Youé. Appointed for three-year terms until August 2026 were members Kelly Howlett and Josh Byrne.





### **Chair Elizabeth Carr AM**

Elizabeth Carr has significant experience at board director level in the private, public and community sectors. Her executive roles have included strategy development for international organisations such as IBM and the Macquarie Group, as well as the State Government.

Elizabeth was a member of the Environmental Protection Authority from 2011–19 and received an Order of Australia (AM) in 2017 “for significant service to the community through voluntary contributions to the health, aged care, education and social services sectors”.



### **Deputy Chair Lee Broomhall**

Lee Broomhall is the chief executive officer (CEO) of Workpower and has held this role since 2012.

Workpower is a not-for-profit organisation that owns and operates several large-scale commercial businesses in Western Australia. Its enterprises exist to employ and support people living with a disability.

With a 27-year tenure, Lee was previously the deputy CEO and held executive roles such as chief operating officer and executive manager of people, performance and strategy.

In 2010 Lee was the Western Australian winner of the Telstra Young Business Women’s Awards. Lee holds qualifications in human services, business management and professional coaching. She is a Fellow of Leadership WA.



### **Member Professor Josh Byrne**

Josh Byrne is an environmental scientist and urban design professional with a national profile as a consultant, researcher and communicator in urban sustainability.

Josh is Dean of Sustainable Futures in the Faculty of Humanities at Curtin University where he supports learning and teaching, research and partnership activities. His practice-oriented research expertise spans water-sensitive design, energy-efficient housing and sustainable urban development.

Josh is well known as the WA presenter on ABC TV’s Gardening Australia program where for the past 20 years he has demonstrated to a national audience how gardening can improve urban livability. He has a PhD in Environmental Engineering, a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Environmental Science, and Diplomas in Landscape and Amenity Horticulture.



### **Member Kelly Howlett AM**

Kelly Howlett is managing director of Earthbeat Consulting. An active and passionate environmental and sustainability practitioner, Kelly has made her life and career in the Pilbara. Most notably, Kelly served as mayor of the Town of Port Hedland for almost seven years until 2016 and CEO of Pilbara charity Bloodwood Tree Association Inc. for six years until November 2022.

Kelly was appointed a Member (AM) of the Order of Australia (General Division) in the King's Birthday Honours in June 2023, in recognition of her significant service to local government and to the community of Port Hedland.

Kelly has a Bachelor of Science (Environment)/ Bachelor Forest Science (Hons) and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors' program.



### **Member Tim Youé**

Tim Youé is the CEO of the Resource Recovery Group (RRG), a statutory local government authority with a vision of a circular economy with less waste and lower carbon emissions.

Tim is a past national director of the Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia (WMRR). He previously held senior management roles in the global logistics sector with a focus on business development, sales and marketing.

Tim is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors' program and holds Bachelor degrees in Sociology and Politics from Murdoch University and a Masters of Business Administration from Curtin Graduate School of Business.

## Enabling legislation

The WARR Act establishes the Waste Authority. Sections 19 and 20 establish the Authority's general powers and functions, while schedule 2 sets out 17 functions in full. These enable the Authority to:

- advise and make recommendations to the Minister for Environment on matters relating to the Act
- inquire into any matter relating to the Act and advise the Minister for Environment or CEO of the department (Director General) when the Minister or Director General requests advice
- advise and make recommendations to the Director General on the regulation of waste services
- advise and make recommendations to the Director General with respect to subsidiary legislation under the Act
- seek the advice of other entities that the Waste Authority thinks fit for the purpose of advising the Minister for Environment in relation to the setting and variation of a levy
- act as an advocate for the objects of the Act
- develop, promote and review the waste strategy and coordinate its implementation

- monitor and assess the adequacy of, and report to the Minister for Environment on, the operation of the waste strategy, product stewardship plans and extended producer responsibility schemes
- promote community awareness and understanding of resource efficiency, waste avoidance and resource recovery.

The Waste Authority, with support from its Program Risk and Performance Committee, monitors the implementation of programs in the annual business plan, which is approved by the Minister for Environment, and gives advice to the Minister as requested.

The Waste Authority seeks to identify and promote the economic and environmental benefits from improved waste avoidance and resource recovery practices. The Authority also works to ensure the community understands the benefits of resource recovery and avoiding waste generation.

The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account (WARR Account) is credited with at least 25 per cent of the forecast waste levy revenue. During 2022–23, the department provided administrative support, functions and services, as well as the management of programs funded from the WARR Account as outlined in the service-level agreement and the business plan.

## Responsible Minister

The Waste Authority reports to the Minister for Environment, Hon Reece Whitby MLA, as the Minister responsible for the WARR Act.



## Performance management framework

### Funding principles

The application of funds, through the programs set out in the annual business plan, is a key mechanism for delivering the waste strategy. The Waste Authority has a set of funding principles to ensure a clear link between funds provided from the WARR Account and relevant activities.

### Waste levy collection

The waste levy is payable for all waste disposed of at category 63, 64 and 65 landfills within the metropolitan region and for metropolitan waste disposed of to landfills outside the metropolitan region. In 2022–23, \$84.0997 million in waste levy was collected, a small increase on the \$83.56 million collected during the 2021–22 financial year. The levy was paid in respect to 17 landfill premises, nine of which were located in the Perth metropolitan region and eight in regional areas.

<b>Funding objectives</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the most efficient use of resources and prioritise the avoidance of waste (by reusing, reprocessing, recycling and energy recovery) over disposal.</li> <li>Protect the environment by reducing environmental harm, including pollution through waste.</li> <li>Ensure consistency with the principles set out in section 4A of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>.</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome principles</b>	
<b>Shared responsibility and partnership</b>	Funded activities should result in a reduction in the impact of waste generated and protection of the state’s environmental resources.
<b>Innovation and growth</b>	Funded activities should consider innovation that enables and expands our waste management capacity and know-how.
<b>Better practice</b>	Funded activities should promote better practice approaches in waste management, considering the full costs, benefits and impacts of waste management decisions.
<b>Waste as a resource</b>	Funded activities should consider the waste hierarchy, avoiding waste generation where possible, maximising waste recovery, and protecting the environment from the impacts of disposal.
<b>Intergenerational equity</b>	Funded activities should ensure the health, diversity and productivity of our environment is maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations.
<b>Process principles</b>	
<b>Be efficient and effective</b>	Funded activities should be cost-effective, efficient and deliver a net benefit to the state.
<b>Integrity and accountability</b>	Funded activities should be conducted in a manner that exhibits integrity and accountability and adheres to appropriate funding and governance processes.
<b>Be collaborative</b>	Funded activities should involve collaboration with relevant agencies and stakeholders where it is likely to lead to an outcome that involves greater benefits for the state and/or delivers outcomes more efficiently.
<b>Be informed</b>	Funded activities should be developed and evaluated using an evidence-based approach informed by the collection and reporting of relevant data and information.
<b>Stakeholder engagement</b>	Funded activities should be informed by stakeholder engagement and designed and implemented in a manner supported by relevant stakeholders.
<b>Manage risk</b>	Funded activities should be designed and implemented with appropriate identification, evaluation and risk management.
<b>Be flexible and responsive</b>	Funded activities should operate within the anticipated budget, although being flexible and responsive to changing circumstances is necessary. A 25 per cent variation (up or down) in any given line item is permitted with the 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.

# Waste Authority performance

This section of the annual report sets out the Waste Authority's key achievements for 2022–23 against the waste strategy's headline strategies.

The WARR Act sets out requirements for the Waste Authority to develop a waste strategy for Western Australia. The current waste strategy was released in February 2019 and will be reviewed in 2023–24. It sets targets for waste reduction, resource recovery and the diversion of waste from landfill and is supported by an annual action plan.

The waste strategy aims for Western Australia to become a sustainable, low-waste circular economy in which human health and the environment are protected from the impacts of waste. The strategy has objectives to avoid waste, recover more value and resources from waste, and protect the environment and human health from the impacts of waste. The targets specified to achieve these objectives are ambitious and important to reach.



The Waste Authority gratefully acknowledges the waste-related commitments and achievements of the departments of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; Communities; Education; Finance; Health; Justice; Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries; Planning, Lands and Heritage; Training and Workforce Development; and Transport, as well as Busselton Water, Construction Training Fund, DevelopmentWA, Lotterywest, Metronet, Healthway, Synergy, Landgate, Main Roads WA, WA Police Force, the Water Corporation and Westport. In particular, Main Roads WA has made an outstanding contribution to the waste strategy by using more than 160,000 tonnes of Roads to Reuse recycled C&D products. It has also committed to increasing the use of recycled materials in construction products.

- 1** Develop statewide communications to support consistent messaging on waste avoidance, resource recovery and appropriate waste disposal behaviours.
- 2** A consistent three-bin kerbside collection system, which includes separation of food organics and garden organics from other waste categories, to be provided by all local governments in the Perth and Peel regions by 2025 and supported by State Government through the application of financial mechanisms.
- 3** Implement sustainable government procurement practices that encourage greater use of recycled products and support local market development.
- 4** Implement local government waste plans, which align local government waste planning processes with the *Waste avoidance and resource recovery strategy 2030*.
- 5** Review the scope and application of the waste levy to ensure it meets the objectives of the *Waste avoidance and resource recovery strategy 2030* and establish a schedule of future waste levy rates with the initial schedule providing a minimum five-year horizon.
- 6** Undertake a strategic review of Western Australia's waste infrastructure (including landfills) by 2020 to guide future infrastructure development.
- 7** Review and update data collection and reporting systems to allow waste generation, recovery and disposal performance to be assessed in a timely manner.
- 8** Provide funding to promote the recovery of more value and resources from waste with an emphasis on focus materials.

1

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



**Chuck it... in a stir fry!**

**GREAT Sorts reduce food waste.**



## Behaviour change

Headline strategy 1 brings together a suite of programs to achieve consistent communication and behaviour change, including the WasteSorted toolkit, the 'Be a GREAT Sort' behaviour change campaign, the WasteSorted Awards and other high-profile waste programs.

### **'Be a GREAT Sort' behaviour change campaign and WasteSorted toolkit**

A long-term behaviour change program, with a strong research base, supports the waste strategy. The 'Be a GREAT Sort' campaign was launched in August 2020. The campaign targets five high-priority waste behaviours to encourage the community to take simple actions to make 'landfill the last resort'.

In 2022–23, the campaign was promoted statewide by way of television, cinema, radio, billboards, YouTube and social media channels, and printed materials. The campaign reached about 1.3 million users, more than 800,000 people through television and cinema advertising, and about a million viewers of online videos.

New campaign materials were developed to support the National Food Waste Strategy to halve food waste by 2030. The campaign encourages households to use up the ingredients they already have. New social media content was also created to bring the GREAT Sort characters to life by using real people to model behaviours.

The WasteSorted toolkit provides a suite of free resources for local governments and regional councils to communicate with residents about kerbside bins and services. Stakeholders are regularly consulted about the ongoing development of the WasteSorted toolkit to ensure it meets their needs. In 2022–23, the WasteSorted toolkit was updated to include the changes to soft plastics collections, the bans on single-use plastics, the latest list of materials accepted in FOGO bins and updates related to Containers for Change.

The GREAT Sort messages and WasteSorted toolkit have been adopted by many local governments and regional councils, thus amplifying key messages and contributing to consistent waste messaging across the state.

An annual evaluation of community waste behaviours was undertaken in June 2023. This used a survey of 1,000 households, media reach statistics and bin tagging data to evaluate the effectiveness of key messages in changing behaviour.

The evaluation shows that Western Australians are embracing services such as FOGO, composting at home and Containers for Change as part of everyday life.

There is a growing sense that people believe their waste sorting efforts make a real difference, and attitudes towards sorting waste remaining strong.

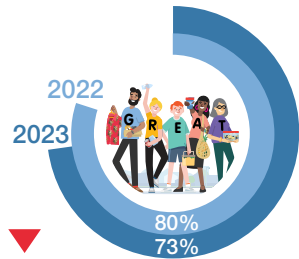
This is the cumulative impact of a range of efforts by governments, waste industry and community, to:

- grow awareness of and engagement in waste sorting behaviours
- encourage people to stop and think at the point of waste disposal.

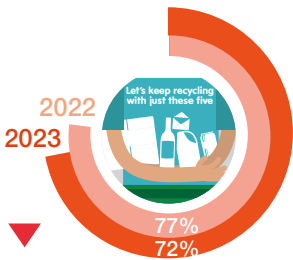
### Behaviour change evaluation 2023:

#### Key findings

The community's attitude towards waste and recycling remains strong, and the majority still agree that sorting waste is the right thing to do. There was some decrease in sentiment, possibly linked to a decline in trust in the recycling system as identified by external research at the national level, likely caused by the collapse of the REDCycle soft plastics recycling scheme.



**73%** agree that sorting waste into the different disposal options is the right thing to do.



**72%** agree it is important for the community to reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill.

The campaign is reaching people with almost half of those surveyed now recognising the GREAT Sorts campaign.



**33% → 44%**  
2022 2023

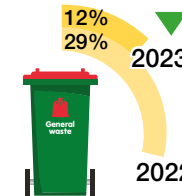
There is a growing sense that people believe their waste sorting efforts make a real difference. Improving perceptions of personal impact is a success, given the negative media around the collapse of soft plastics recycling.



**41% → 43% → 46%**  
2021 2022 2023



Bin tagging estimates show the community is making landfill the last resort, with fewer recyclables in general waste bins.



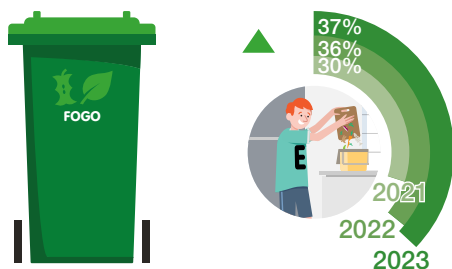
Only **12%** of bins containing recyclables.

The evaluation also showed that there is greater uncertainty about what can be recycled and recovered. This trend needs further investigation.

- ▲ Significant increase (desirable)
- ▼ Significant decrease (desirable)
- ▼ Significant decrease (undesirable)

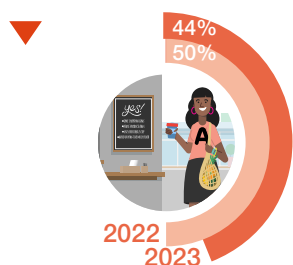


There are more households with a lime-green FOGO bin for their food and garden scraps and more households are composting at home (always or most of the time).



37% of people are composting always or most of the time (either via FOGO or composting at home)

There are fewer people engaging in avoidance behaviours.



44% of people reduce the amount bought, used and thrown away.



### WasteSorted toolkit

The WasteSorted toolkit provides a suite of free resources for local governments and regional councils to communicate with residents about sorting waste correctly to reduce contamination in kerbside bins and increase material recovery and recycling.

Stakeholders are regularly consulted about the ongoing development of the WasteSorted toolkit to ensure it meets their needs, including the Consistent Communications Collective of the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA).

In 2022–23, the WasteSorted materials were updated to include:

- waste resources in 11 languages for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities
- resources to reduce illegal dumping at charity stores and bins
- videos promoting recycling, FOGO processes and food waste avoidance
- resources to support stakeholders, such as truck decals, public place signs, interactive community displays and agreed lists for better-practice kerbside collections.

In 2022–23, more than 30 local governments and regional councils used the WasteSorted toolkit

and 'Be a GREAT Sort' campaign materials, including the Resource Recovery Group; Eastern Metropolitan, Western Metropolitan and Bunbury Harvey regional councils; the cities of Albany, Armadale, Bayswater, Bunbury, Busselton, Cockburn, Fremantle, Gosnells, Kalamunda, Kalgoorlie, Kwinana, Mandurah, Melville, Perth, South Perth, Subiaco, Swan, Vincent and Wanneroo; the towns of Bassendean, Cottesloe and Victoria Park; and the shires of Augusta–Margaret River and Colлие. The materials were also used by SUEZ, Cleanaway and WALGA.



### Bin tagging

In 2022–23, bin tagging was delivered to about 12,600 households, providing them with feedback on individual kerbside bin contents to reduce contamination and improve material recovery rates. In 2021–22 WALGA received \$120,000 for activities in 2022–23 as part of a three-year grant (2020–23) to deliver the bin tagging program in conjunction with eight local governments and regional councils.

A bin tagging app was first developed in 2020–21 and this was refined and tested during 2021–22. During 2022–23 WALGA carried out training for local government officers on how to use the app portal. WALGA assisted a further two local governments to use existing resources and the app to carry out bin tagging outside the funded program.

## WasteSorted Grants – organics infrastructure and community education

### WasteSorted Grants – organics infrastructure program

The WasteSorted Grants – organics infrastructure program helped fast-track existing organics operators to align with the department's *Guideline: Better practice organics recycling*. The program supported projects from organisations that provide FOGO handling and processing services. The emphasis was on projects that addressed odours, emissions to land and water, and various other environmental aspects (in order of priority).

Five projects were funded, totalling \$850,000.



Name of organisation	Project title	Brief project description	Approved funding
City of Albany	FOGO transfer station leachate and odour mitigation	Construct a covered structure over the FOGO sorting hardstand at the Bakers Junction waste facility to reduce leachate and odour emissions.	\$150,000
Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC)	EMRC FOGO picking station	Add a picking station to existing FOGO processing infrastructure to facilitate the removal of contaminants before processing.	\$200,000
Resource Recovery Group (RRG)	Resource Recovery Group FOGO processing facility odour upgrades	Address better practice for odour and leachate emissions by building negative pressure fast-access doors and odorous air capture, and control of leachate from FOGO deliveries.	\$200,000
Purearth	Purearth better-practice organics recycling	Construct bunker walls around the existing slabs to strengthen containment practices and support better practice in odour control and improve risk management for emissions to land and water, runoff and emissions of litter and debris.	\$200,000
C-Wise Holdings Pty Ltd	FOGO decontamination plant attachments	Address emissions of litter and physical contamination of the company's organic compost product by upgrading screens for the capture primarily of soft plastics and metals.	\$100,000
		TOTAL	\$850,000

**Table 2 – WasteSorted Grants – organics infrastructure program 2022–23**

## WasteSorted Grants – community education program

The WasteSorted Grants – community education program funds organisations to develop and implement community education projects that support the waste strategy’s objectives, address focus materials and align with WasteSorted messaging and/or the GREAT Sort behaviour change campaign.

Eleven projects were funded in 2022–23 to a total of \$150,380.



Name of organisation	Project title	Brief project description	Approved funding
<b>Adventure Kids Entertainment (Auspice City of Karratha)</b>	Patti the Pig: 'It's Not All Rubbish' children's show (Karratha Regional Tour)	Deliver the Patti the Pig: 'It's Not All Rubbish' show in eight primary schools and four libraries, targeting children aged four to seven. The show is tailored to the waste-management landscape in Karratha, focusing on the two-bin system and ways to avoid generating waste.	\$13,970
<b>Australian Association for Environmental Education WA Chapter (AAEEWA)</b>	Waste picture book for early years with STEM focus	The project is to create a digital picture book for children aged two to seven about recycling material, develop STEM activities to make puppets using waste materials and found objects, and provide practical activities for educators and parents to explore the science of materials and how to manage organic waste and paper-based products. The activities are linked to the early years learning framework and curriculum.	\$25,000
<b>Boddington RRR</b>	Boddington RRR – let's talk rubbish	Provide a minimum of 15 waste talks and visits to different organisations, groups or events in 2023, with an average of 30 people per talk. The theme of the waste talks is how to avoid, recover and protect the environment.	\$3,000
<b>City of Busselton</b>	Great Sort in Busselton	Deliver four interactive workshops to the local community on the 'A – Avoid' and 'G – Gifting' GREAT Sort topics. All the workshops include a virtual tour to highlight local places that provide opportunities to avoid waste and gift items.	\$3,235
<b>City of Gosnells</b>	Reducing contamination in commingled recycling through targeted community education and engagement	The project delivers simple waste and recycling guides in 16 languages for members of the city's CALD community, and by engaging with new residents through local real estate agents.	\$15,113

Name of organisation	Project title	Brief project description	Approved funding
<b>City of Joondalup</b>	The Joondalup GREAT Waste Challenge	Provide five community workshops – GIFT, RECYCLE, EARTH-CYCLE, AVOID and TAKE. Workshop participants will feature in five videos making a 'Be a GREAT Sort' pledge to share their commitment to reducing household waste. The videos will be launched on social media over five weeks, inviting the community to make their own 'Be a GREAT Sort' pledge.	\$13,035
<b>Dalyellup Collective</b>	South West greener events wash trailer	Purchase and create a community events 'South West all-in-one wash trailer' which provides reusable crockery and cutlery for food stalls to use. Patrons are able return their dirty dishes to the marquee for cleaning by volunteers (who will scrape food waste into FOGO bins). The group will look to share this trailer with the Bunbury Geographe's six shires to use at their events and festivals.	\$19,700
<b>Good Samaritan Industries t/a Good Sammy Enterprises</b>	A–Z charitable donations guide and donation bin stickers	Develop an A–Z guide of household goods according to how charitable recyclers would manage them. Distribute this information through local government websites, a waste booklet, flyers, and stickers for community donation bins highlighting key messages.	\$12,150
<b>Green Skills Inc. (Denmark)</b>	Partnerships for 'Be a GREAT Sort' education and behaviour change activities in rural South Coast communities	Run waste workshops, have GREAT Sorts information marquees at events and conduct business waste audits to help support confidence in what to purchase, how to be GREAT Sorts and what can be reused. The activities focus on consumer choice, food waste and waste sorting for waste reduction and recycling.	\$17,400
<b>Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale</b>	SJ Plastic Free Living Community Education Program 2023	Run a series of waste education workshops that culminate in a new event for the shire within Plastic Free July – the SJ Plastic Free Forum (PFF).  This forum will be an annual event, involving an indoor market alongside the existing farmers' market where local residents and businesses can sell plastic-free products, repurposed or upcycled products. The event will also have information stalls, free giveaways and competitions related to the workshops held between January and August 2023.	\$19,908
<b>Victoria Park Community Centre</b>	Waste education workshops	A series of six after-school/weekend hands-on waste workshops covering a variety of waste topics, designed for parents and children.	\$7,868.74

**Table 3 – WasteSorted Grants – community education program 2022–23**

For more details on these grants projects visit:

[www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2022/11/Community-educational-grants-pave-the-way-to-reduce-waste.aspx](http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/McGowan/2022/11/Community-educational-grants-pave-the-way-to-reduce-waste.aspx)



### WasteSorted Schools

The WasteSorted Schools program is a key component of the WasteSorted behaviour change program. It is a free program that supports Western Australian schools to make landfill the last resort by engaging students through provision of curriculum-aligned resources and education strategies, along with meaningful, hands-on learning experiences.

The program delivers tangible benefits for participating schools by helping them to protect the environment, reduce school costs, and promote positive waste behaviours among students, teachers and the community. Activities include avoiding waste, recycling, composting and worm farming, promoting waste-free lunches, green canteens and productive school gardens. A total of 141 schools achieved accreditation in 2022–23, including 23 schools that were accredited for the 10th consecutive year.

Program expenditure in 2022–23 was \$469,262. In 2022–23, the program:

- awarded grants totaling \$149,755 to 48 schools for projects that avoid and recover school waste, such as paper and cardboard, food waste and containers, and general recycling

- developed new primary and secondary curriculum resources to be published in 2023
- released the 'Green Canteen' case study video
- delivered 15 professional development workshops and webinars for 452 teachers and students from 249 schools, as well as 62 educational waste audits and 18 school WasteSorted incursions; the online learning module was completed by 224 teachers and students
- partnered with organisations to support schools in the Kimberley and Kalgoorlie–Boulder regions and Perth's southern suburbs, as well as to deliver workshops to early years learning services.



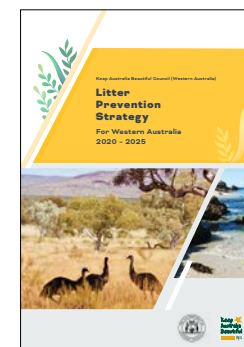
### Promotions including National Recycling Week

National Recycling Week is held in the second week of November every year. Households, schools, workplaces and local governments all get involved to learn more and celebrate recycling. The Waste Authority invested \$20,000 in promoting National Recycling Week in November 2022. This included a lift-out on recycling in *The West Australian* newspaper, radio advertising, online content and social media advertising.

The lift-out included a message from the Minister for Environment and two feature articles: one about Stage 2 of the single-use plastics ban and the other promoting the ways that community waste-sorting behaviours had improved.

Relationships with other waste media were strengthened to ensure Waste Authority programs are promoted and grow in profile. This included a feature article in *Inside Waste* covering the successes and benefits of Roads to Reuse – a flagship program that uses recycled C&D waste.

A new Waste Authority email newsletter was launched for keeping subscribers up to date with Authority news. Trash Talk is a wrap-up of the previous month's announcements and social media content so that waste stakeholders don't miss important information.



### The Western Australian litter strategy

The Keep Australia Beautiful Council WA (KABC) vision is for a litter-free Western Australia. KABC received grant funding of \$931,260 from the WARR Account towards implementation of the *Litter prevention strategy for Western Australia 2020–2025*. The strategy has four strategic objectives:

**Objective 1** – Increase community understanding of the impacts of litter on the environment and support behaviour change

**Objective 2** – Contribute to the long-term prevention of litter and marine debris

**Objective 3** – Regulation and enforcement of the *Litter Act 1979*

**Objective 4** – Monitor the level of litter in Western Australia and its marine environment and evaluate the effectiveness of programs.

Key litter strategy achievements in 2022–23 were:

- Conducted two full litter surveys using the Australian Litter Measure over 257 transects at 57 sites in 10 local government areas across Perth (November 2022 and May 2023). An average of 17,196 items of litter were counted, with cigarette butts being the most common item found, and plastic being the most common material.
- Expanded the Adopt-a-Spot program to 2,000 registered groups, bringing the total number of program volunteers to more than 57,000 since 2009.
- Received entries from 38 communities for the 2022 Tidy Towns Sustainable Communities Awards. Gascoyne Junction was named the 2022 state winner and went on to win the overall 2023 Tidy Towns title at the National Tidy Towns Awards. More than 93,000 hours of volunteer participation was recorded in the submitted projects.

- Provided funding to 10 recipients, through Community Litter Grants, for action and education on litter prevention projects. A total of \$43,363 was awarded to 10 recipients for projects to combat littering.
- Held five Clean Schools workshops, including three in partnership with Waste Wise Schools. Eighteen new schools registered for the Clean Schools program, bringing participating schools to 743.
- Launched three new campaigns in 2022–23 to increase community understanding of the impacts of litter on the environment and to support behaviour change. Material was developed to update KABC's 'Bin it you know it's the right thing to do' campaign, target roadside litter and increase program involvement.
- Worked with Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation to provide 2,000 Outback Packs and additional car litter bags for the shires of Exmouth, Carnarvon and Onslow in the lead-up to the total solar eclipse in April. These packs encourage travellers to 'keep the scene clean' and help protect local land and marine biodiversity.
- Partnered with Tangaroa Blue for WA Beach Clean Up activities. KABC visited Cervantes, Dongara, Geraldton and Kalbarri to support local schools and community groups with beach clean-ups and audits. All data gathered was added to the Australia Marine Debris Initiative database. Over four days, 3,716 items were removed from the environment, weighing 113 kg.

For further details on KABC's work, see its 2022–23 annual report.



### WasteSorted Awards

The WasteSorted Awards celebrate Western Australia's waste champions and recognise projects that avoid waste, recover value from waste streams and protect the environment.

The Awards event was moved from May to September 2023 to coincide with the Waste and Recycle Conference.

The Awards fall into 10 categories this year, including a new Closing the Loop Award to recognise initiatives that promote a circular economy.





### Household Hazardous Waste program

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program funds local governments and regional councils to collect, store, recover and dispose of flammable, toxic, explosive or corrosive hazardous waste generated by households. If not treated or disposed of correctly, these products can pose a threat to public health and the environment.

The program is delivered under a five-year funding agreement with WALGA. In 2022–23, \$1,080,937 was directed to WALGA for this program.

Since 2011, 6,463 tonnes of HHW materials have been collected from 15 permanent facilities (nine metropolitan, six non-metropolitan) and through temporary collection events. In 2022–23, 485 tonnes of materials were collected for safe recovery or disposal including gas bottles, batteries, flammable liquids and cleaning products.

The program's five-year funding agreement concluded on 30 June 2023. However, the Waste Authority has signed off on a new five-year agreement with WALGA that commits more than \$10.255 million to support the continuing success of the HHW service through to 2028.

### Better-practice local government waste services

The primary collection methods for MSW are kerbside, vergeside and drop-off services.

The Waste Authority's *Better practice FOGO kerbside collection guidelines* were introduced in 2020 to support the waste strategy's targets for MSW.

In 2021, the Waste Authority released [Guidelines for local government vergeside and drop-off services](#) to complete the suite of better-practice guidance for local government waste services. Local governments are encouraged to use these documents when preparing their waste plans and planning their waste services.

A review of the guidelines was undertaken in 2021–22 to find out whether local government services were becoming consistent with the guidelines. The review identified opportunities to encourage local governments to refer to the guidelines in their waste plans, and highlighted the support needed to align local government services with the guidelines.

The Waste Authority is building on the better-practice waste services guidelines by developing better-practice contracting guidance for FOGO services. This project will support the rollout of FOGO services across Perth and Peel by 2025 and better-practice contracting for other local government waste services.

## 2

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



The waste strategy identifies organic waste as a focus material because of the volume that remains unrecovered and its impacts on the environment. Organics can be recycled into valuable products such as compost and mulch, which reduces the impacts of disposing it to landfill and supports a more circular economy.

The department is supporting the waste strategy target to roll out better-practice three-bin FOGO services across Perth and Peel local governments by 2025. High-performing three-bin FOGO services can achieve material recovery rates of more than 75 per cent (or more if waste-to-energy is used to manage residual waste) and make the single-biggest contribution to achieving the waste strategy's material recovery targets for MSW.

The Waste Authority's annual FOGO rollout plans, informed by a FOGO Reference Group, identify actions across the themes of markets, local government services, education and engagement, and organics processing.

## Markets

Strong markets for FOGO-derived products help to 'close the loop' and are critical to the success of the FOGO rollout. FOGO-derived soil amendment products are currently available in the retail market, in both bagged and bulk form. *A Market development strategy for FOGO-derived products*, released in 2022, identifies priority markets and recommends ways to strengthen them.

The FOGO Reference Group has identified better-practice contracting as important for supporting local governments and service providers to deliver high-quality and efficient services. Better-practice contracting is also central to supplying the market with high-quality FOGO-derived products. The Waste Authority has partnered with the Waste and Recycling Industry of WA (WRIWA) and MRA Consulting to support better-practice FOGO contracting.

The Waste Authority has released a series of case studies on FOGO-derived products for the key markets identified under the *Market development strategy for FOGO-derived products*. The case studies showcase the use of FOGO-derived products in agricultural settings, landscaping, land rehabilitation for transport infrastructure projects, and in the community (through local government sales of compost).

## Local government services

The \$20 million Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO program continues to support local governments to introduce FOGO services. In three years, the program has committed \$5.1986 million towards the delivery of better-practice three-bin FOGO services.

In 2023, two local governments applied for grants totaling \$1.58 million to introduce FOGO services to more than 100,000 households.

These two local governments are expected to join the 23 local governments that have accessed funding through the program thus far. Current and previous participants include the cities of Albany, Bayswater, Belmont, Bunbury, Fremantle, Kalamunda, Melville, Nedlands, Subiaco, Swan and Vincent; the shires of Augusta–Margaret River, Collie, Dardanup, Esperance, Harvey, Mundaring and Serpentine–Jarrahdale; and the towns of Bassendean, Claremont, Cottesloe, East Fremantle and Mosman Park.

At 30 June 2023, FOGO systems have been rolled out to nearly 200,000 households throughout the Perth, South West and South Coast regions.





### Education and engagement

Many local governments have adopted the WasteSorted toolkit materials to educate and engage the community on FOGO services. See headline strategy 1 for more information of the WasteSorted toolkit.



### Improved capacity for organics processing

The Food Waste for Healthy Soils Fund is a partnership between the Australian and State Governments and industry. It supports upgrades to existing organics recycling infrastructure to increase the quantity and improve the quality of recycled organic products for use, especially on agricultural soils.

On 4 May 2023, the Australian and State Governments announced co-investment totalling \$11.25 million for three new organic recycling infrastructure projects that will divert up to 275,000 tonnes of Western Australia’s FOGO waste from landfill each year and convert it into compost.

The three projects are collectively valued at \$61 million and located to the north, east and south of Perth. They are expected to be completed by June 2025. Not only will they provide Western Australian farmers with a reliable source of high-quality compost, they will also support 146 construction jobs and 98 ongoing positions.



Name of organisation	Brief project description	Approved funding
<b>C-Wise Holdings Pty Ltd</b>	A new organic carbon recycling facility will be built in East Keralup. The \$28.61 million facility is designed as modules, each capable of processing 50,000 tonnes of blended inputs per year. The project will allow the processing of an additional 100,000 tonnes of organic waste each year and support 24 construction jobs and 36 ongoing positions.	\$5,750,000
<b>JD Organics Pty Ltd trading as Go Organics</b>	The existing facility at Boonanarring (16 km north of Gingin) will be expanded to support FOGO rollout in the region north of Perth. The \$7.42 million project will install enclosed bunker technology and expanded open windrow processing. The project will allow the processing of an additional 75,000 tonnes of organic waste each year and support 12 construction jobs and 12 ongoing positions.	\$3,500,000
<b>Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council</b>	A new FOGO processing facility will be built at Red Hill waste management facility (12 km north-east of Midland), which processes organic waste from five regional councils. The \$18 million (plus) project will take a modular approach to initially process 60,000 tonnes of organic waste each year, supporting 110 construction jobs and 50 ongoing positions. The processing facility will be scaled up over time to provide processing capacity of 100,000 tonnes per year.	\$2,000,000

**Table 4 – Food waste for healthy soils recipients**

## 3

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

### Reducing waste through procurement

The Waste Authority remains focused on supporting the procurement of recycled C&D products and organics because of the volume of these materials in the waste stream and the significant opportunities for government procurement to develop local markets.

The use of recycled C&D waste remains critical to achieving the state's material recovery targets.

The Waste Authority and the department continued to deliver the Roads to Reuse (RtR) program, in partnership with Main Roads WA, the Department of Health and WRIWA. RtR supports the procurement and use of recycled C&D products in civil applications, such as road construction. It does this by providing a comprehensive framework that C&D recyclers can use to show purchasers how their recycled product meets the RtR specification designed to protect human health and the environment.

Six independent audits were conducted throughout the year to ensure recycled products met the RtR product specification.

Three accredited RtR recyclers were operating at four sites in the Perth and Peel regions in 2022–23. Main Roads WA has used about 165,000 tonnes of RtR products since 2019 and has committed to use more in future projects.

The Waste Authority has established a C&D Reference Group to build on the success of RtR. This group is made up of stakeholders from the demolition, construction and recycling sectors, as well as State and local government representatives. The group's role is to advise the Authority in relation to the C&D objectives and targets in the waste strategy.

The Authority has developed a C&D action plan with input from the reference group. The plan outlines priority C&D actions, including those to increase the procurement and use of RtR products in State and local government projects.



## 4

## Implement local government waste plans, which align local government waste planning processes with the *Waste avoidance and resource recovery strategy 2030*.



### Local government waste planning

Local governments in Perth, Peel and major regional centres submitted their first waste plan annual reports to the department in late 2022 (for the 2021–22 financial year). The department uses the reports to assess whether the local governments are delivering their waste services consistent with the waste strategy and making progress towards waste strategy targets. The reports revealed that:

- Most of the 33 local governments across Perth and Peel are making progress towards delivering FOGO services. Nine local governments currently deliver FOGO services and a further 11 have committed to do so by 2025, consistent with the waste strategy. Thirteen are assessing the feasibility of delivering FOGO by 2025.
- Twenty-three local governments in Perth, Peel and major regional centres intend to recover energy from waste through waste-to-energy facilities. Eleven of these are likely to do so in a manner consistent with the waste strategy energy recovery target. The ability of the other 12 local governments to recover energy from waste consistent with the waste strategy will depend on the outcome of their FOGO

feasibility assessments and whether they can implement FOGO by 2025. A further three local governments are assessing the feasibility of recovering energy from waste through waste-to-energy facilities.

The waste strategy actions most commonly put in place related to education and communications, infrastructure, the delivery of waste services, data and litter and illegal dumping.

The department is preparing resources to assist with reporting for the 2022–23 financial year. These reports are due by 1 October 2023.

## 5

**Review the scope and application of the waste levy to ensure it meets the objectives of the *Waste avoidance and resource recovery strategy 2030* and establish a schedule of future waste levy rates with the initial schedule providing a minimum five-year horizon.**

### Review of the waste levy

The waste levy aims to influence waste management practices, including reducing waste to landfill, by increasing the price of landfill disposal. It also raises funds to support waste-related programs that reduce waste to landfill. During 2022–23 the waste levy was set at \$70 per tonne.

In May 2023 the Minister for Environment announced the first increase to the waste levy since 2018. The levy will increase by \$15 per tonne from 1 July 2024, in a catch-up rise in line with inflation. Future increases will be published in a rolling five-year schedule of levy rates.

In the second half of 2023, the department will develop a consultation regulatory impact statement to explore a proposal to expand the levy boundary. The Waste Authority will further consider the role of the levy in the review of the 2030 waste strategy.

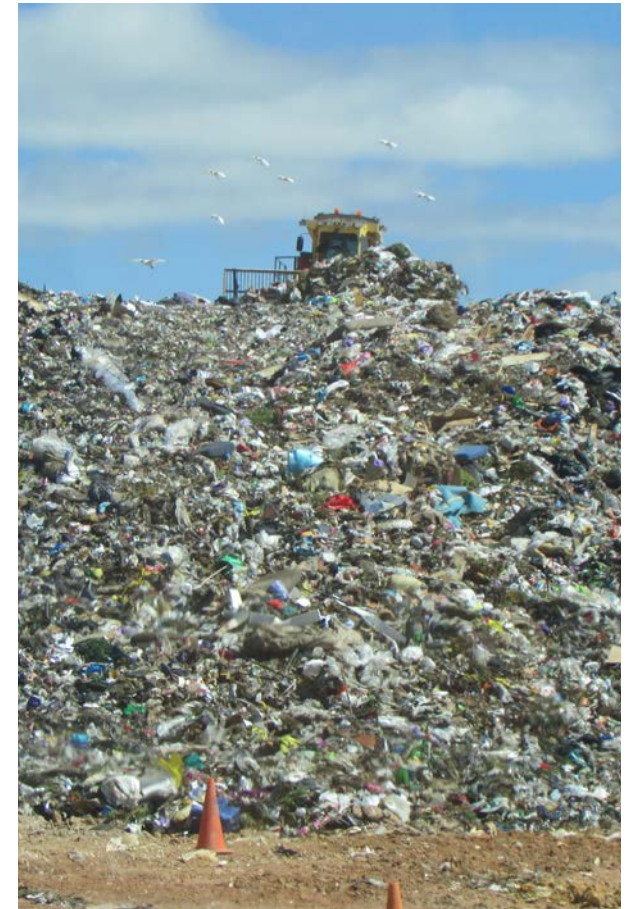
### Levy evasion

In 2022–23, the department targeted waste levy compliance at regional landfills receiving leviable waste generated in the metropolitan region.

Activities included 112 inspections and surveillance operations of regional premises, as well as extended compliance campaigns at problematic sites (which resulted in improved operations and compliance with approvals).

Several investigations into possible unlicensed landfilling and levy evasion were also carried out. The department contracted suitably qualified professionals to undertake volumetric surveys and detailed site investigations to determine whether sufficient evidence was available to prove waste disposal. If a prosecution for levy evasion is successful, it carries a maximum penalty of \$10,000 in addition to a penalty amounting to treble the amount of levy evaded or attempted to be evaded.

There is currently one matter before the Magistrates Court for offences preferred against the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*. The trial concluded on 13 September 2023 and the Magistrate has reserved her decision until 15 December 2023. In addition, ‘notices of estimation for unpaid levy’ were served on the company and director under the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Regulations 2008 (WARR Regulations) for unpaid levy. There are also several investigations that are drawing to a close that may result in further legal action.



6

**Undertake a strategic review of Western Australia's waste infrastructure (including landfills) by 2020 to guide future infrastructure development.**

7

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



### Waste infrastructure planning

Understanding current and future infrastructure needs is critical for long-term strategic planning and ensuring sufficient waste management infrastructure is available to meet the waste strategy targets.

In April 2023 the department released the *draft State waste infrastructure plan* for public consultation. The plan seeks to provide a long-term information framework to guide decision-making for the planning and development of waste infrastructure in Western Australia. It models the built waste infrastructure needed in each region of the state, to meet the 2030 targets of the waste strategy.

The public consultation period for the draft plan ended on 23 June 2023. Twenty-six written submissions and 39 responses to an online survey were received, while six online workshops attracted 85 participants. All feedback will be considered in updating the plan.

### Waste data strategy

The *Waste data strategy* is a key supporting document of the waste strategy. It guides the actions of the Waste Authority and the department to improve waste data management and meet the waste data needs of stakeholders.

Actions progressed in 2022–23 included the collection, validation and auditing of data collected under the WARR Regulations and measurement and reporting against waste strategy targets.

A review of the *waste data strategy* will be incorporated into the broader review of the waste strategy.

### Mandatory reporting of waste and recycling data

Under regulation 18C of the WARR Regulations, waste and recycling data must be reported to the department each year. In 2022, 254 annual returns were lodged. Data collected through the annual returns will be published on the Waste Authority website later in 2023. Data products will include a report, data downloads and interactive dashboards.

### Online system for waste reporting

The Waste Data Online system was built for preparing and lodging regulation 18C annual returns. In 2022 the system was enhanced to facilitate annual reporting on the implementation of local government waste plans. Following feedback from users, further enhancements were rolled out in 2023.

### MyCouncil reporting waste data

The department, on behalf of the Waste Authority, provided local government waste and recycling data for 2021–22 to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries for publication on its *MyCouncil* website.

## 8

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



## Container deposit scheme

[Containers for Change](#) started on 1 October 2020. The scheme is run by WA Return Recycle Renew Ltd, a not-for-profit company, with the department administering the legislative framework to support the scheme.

The collection network comprises 270 refund points from Kalumburu in the far north to Esperance in the south. The scheme has created more than 820 jobs, with about 30 per cent of these going to people living with a disability, Indigenous Australians or the long-term unemployed.

Before Containers for Change, the recycling rate for eligible beverage containers was 34 per cent. By the end of the 2021–22 financial year, this had increased to 61 per cent. The 2022–23 financial year will likely see a similar return rate.

By the end of June 2023, more than 2.39 billion containers had been recovered for recycling since the start of the scheme, and about \$8.8 million had been donated to more than 6,200 registered charities and community organisations.

In December 2022 the Minister for Environment announced the start of a public consultation period to consider expanding the scheme to include wine and spirit bottles, as well as all flavoured milk, juice and cordial containers up to 3 litres in size.

The department released the discussion paper [Container deposit scheme – Expanding the scope of eligible beverage containers](#) and undertook regional consultation in Bunbury, Margaret River and the Swan Valley.

At the close of the consultation period, the department’s online survey had received 2,700 responses, with more than 98 per cent of respondents supporting expansion of the scheme.

## Action on single-use plastics

Western Australia’s [Plan for Plastics](#) is addressing the environmental, waste and human health issues arising from disposable and single-use plastic items and its rollout continues to be a success. The plan includes bans on the sale and supply of a range of plastic items across two stages. Stage 1, enforced from October 2022, included plastic plates, cups, unlidged bowls and containers, cutlery, straws, stirrers, shopping bags, expanded polystyrene food containers and helium balloon releases.

**Stage 1** is estimated to have saved from landfill up to 181 million plastic cups, 300 million plastic straws, 50 million pieces of plastic cutlery and more than 110 million thick plastic shopping bags.

**Stage 2** regulations came into effect on 1 March 2023 following extensive stakeholder consultation. Stage 2 addressed a further 12 highly problematic items. These are coffee cups coffee cups and lids, produce bags, moulded and loose expanded plastic packaging, degradable plastics, expanded polystyrene cups and meat trays, unlidged plastic trays, cotton buds with plastic stems, microbeads, and lids for trays, plates, bowls, containers and cups.

Enforcement dates will be staggered from 1 September 2023 to 1 July 2025, allowing businesses time to use up supplies and transition to compliant alternatives. Stage 2 regulations will save an additional 700 million plastic items from landfill each year.

Community engagement campaigns to raise awareness of the bans used the catchphrase ‘good, better, best’, emphasising the importance of our choices relating to single-use plastics.

The Minister for Environment launched the Plastic Free Places program on 14 April 2022. The Boomerang Alliance is implementing the program, in partnership with the department. This is a

key strategy to help hospitality businesses and the events sector reduce their use of plastics. Businesses and organisations can continue to transition away from plastic and become champions of change by adopting reusable alternatives.

Western Australia's actions on single-use plastics to date have been heralded by WWF-Australia as leading policy action on this issue nationally.

## Electronic waste (e-waste)

Waste electrical or electronic equipment (e-waste) is one of the fastest-growing waste streams, with about 20 kg per person generated annually nationally in 2019. The Australian Government's [E-product stewardship in Australia evidence report](#) predicts this will rise to 23 kg per capita by 2030. E-waste contains valuable materials including gold and silver, as well as substances that are hazardous to the environment. Across all categories of e-waste, it is estimated only 54 per cent is recycled, mostly via low-efficiency recycling methods that primarily target metal recovery.

Following a 2021 election commitment, the State Government is delivering a ban on e-waste disposal to landfill by 1 July 2024. Funding of \$14 million has been committed to implementation of the ban, to be used for stakeholder consultation, grants and a community education campaign. The department will administer \$10.1 million in grant funding over the next two years through a series of competitive grant rounds. Projects funded will increase e-waste collection, storage, reuse, reprocessing and recycling capacity and capability under two streams:

- **Stream 1:** E-waste collection, storage and/or reuse grants
- **Stream 2:** E-waste reprocessing infrastructure grants.

From January to March 2023, the department released the [E-waste to landfill ban in Western Australia: consultation paper](#) for public comment, including three implementation options.

- Option 1 – Voluntary landfill ban
- Option 2 – Regulatory ban with encouragement (preferred option)
- Option 3 – Regulatory ban with extensive obligations.

A decision regulatory impact statement and announcement of the first round of grant funding is expected in the second half of 2023. The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (E-waste) Regulations 2023 are being drafted and are expected to be published in late 2023, ready for implementation on 1 July 2024. Work on developing a community education campaign has begun.

The ban will initially include televisions, mobile phones, computers, screens, data storage, white goods, batteries, medical devices, lighting and lamps. Photovoltaics, small household items and monitoring and control equipment are being considered for future phases of the ban.

## Recycling modernisation fund

On 2 February 2021, the Australian and State Governments announced \$70 million in joint funding, as part of a \$174 million investment in recycling infrastructure over five years in Western Australia. The funding will support Western Australian industry to build infrastructure to reprocess waste materials onshore and to meet the waste export bans under the Commonwealth *Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020*.

Six of the eight tyre and plastics projects that were awarded funding have started installing infrastructure, ordered machinery and applied for appropriate licences. Two proponents (one tyre and one plastics) have begun processing. Two projects have been withdrawn.

The original paper and cardboard project selected for funding was withdrawn, resulting in project implementation delays. A new paper and card project has been awarded funding but is yet to be announced. The Australian Government is currently consulting on the paper and cardboard regulations, which are expected to come into effect on 1 July 2024.

## Charitable recycling organisations

Charitable recycling organisations routinely dispose of materials that have been illegally dumped or cannot be recycled or reused, reducing their overall ability to deliver their services. To provide practical assistance to these charities, the Charitable Recyclers Rebate (CRR) program provides a rebate for the cost of the waste levy incurred by these organisations when they dispose of unusable material in the metropolitan area. The program supports the continued efforts of charitable recycling organisations to divert waste from landfill and recognises that disposal may be the only option for some items. Seven charities participated in the program in 2022–23 and received a total of \$357,362.

An independent evaluation of the CRR program was conducted during the year and found the program was performing well. Several recommendations were made to improve the program and wider work with the charitable recycling section which will be considered for 2023–24.



## Other actions supporting the strategy

### Improved regulatory framework for waste

The Waste Authority acknowledges the department's important work on legislative reforms to support the waste strategy's implementation. Many of the initiatives and programs delivered through the Waste Authority depend on improvements to the waste regulatory framework.

In late 2022 Cabinet approved a waste reform agenda which includes drafting of legislation for a recovered materials framework, with funding to implement the framework and scoping of a broader waste reform program.

The recovered materials framework will encourage the recovery and use of waste materials in a manner that is safe and beneficial, providing assurance to the community, government and industry through issuing of recovered materials declarations. The legislative changes have progressed to the Parliamentary Counsel's Office for drafting.

### Illegal dumping

The WARR Account funds the department's waste compliance program to respond to reports of illegal dumping and reduce the harmful impacts of waste on the environment. The program seeks to ensure compliance with the waste-related provisions of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* and the WARR Levy Regulations. On conviction, offences under the Act carry a maximum penalty of \$125,000 for corporations and \$62,500 for individuals. The program is reviewed and evaluated annually in response to industry changes and social trends.

In 2022–23 the department continued targeted inspections of waste-related premises. Overt patrols and covert surveillance of problematic illegal dumping sites continued. The previously established collaborative approach with private and State Government land managers continued by sharing opportunities to comment in the media, and jointly maintaining the program's social media profile.

In 2022–23, 23 people were convicted in court for waste and/or littering offences. Fines ranged from hundreds of dollars to one of \$235,115 for 19 charges relating to the unauthorised transport, storage and dumping of used vehicle tyres.

The department issued a total of 147 infringements for littering during this period.



## Summary of expenditure

The *Business plan 2022–23* focused on the actions and activities under each of the eight headline strategies that are funded through the WARR Account. Table 5 summarises project budgets and actual expenditure. Some variation between the planned budget and the final expenditure is inevitable given factors including the cost of services, the impacts of Covid-19 and changing State Government priorities. Where variations occurred, they were approved by either the Chair of the Waste Authority or the Minister for Environment as required under the *Business plan 2022–23*. By 30 June 2023, 79 per cent of the projected 2022–23 budget was expended.

**Table 5 – Project budgets and actual expenditure**

Project actions	Original 2022–23 budget \$	Final 2022–23 expenditure \$
<b>Headline strategy 1</b>		
1.1 Deliver WasteSorted behaviour change and toolkit	1,845,000	1,820,580
1.1.1 WasteSorted bin tagging	120,000	0
1.1.2 WasteSorted grants – community education	150,000	150,380
1.1.3 WasteSorted Schools	500,000	469,262
1.1.4 WasteSorted Awards	105,000	69,984
1.1.5 Promotional opportunities (e.g. Waste and Recycle Conference, National Recycling Week)	60,000	49,095
1.1.6 KABC litter strategy	884,000	931,260
1.2 Household hazardous waste	1,736,000	1,080,937

Project actions	Original 2022–23 budget \$	Final 2022–23 expenditure \$
<b>Headline strategy 2</b>		
2.1 Progress market development	150,000	43,504
2.3.1 Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO	1,875,000	288,002
2.4 Better Practice guidance	130,000	68,310
2.5 Organics Infrastructure Transition Program	1,000,000	850,000
2.5.1 Food Waste for Healthy Soils (WARR a/c component)	1,125,000	750,000
<b>Headline strategy 3</b>		
3.3 Roads to Reuse program	100,000	24,443
3.2 C&D incentive program	350,000	8,639
3.3 Guidance for C&D recycling and contracting	75,000	75,000
3.4 Recycled sand specification and testing	75,000	0
3.5 FOGO end-product specification	50,000	0
<b>Headline strategy 5</b>		
5.4 Waste legislation support	140,000	102,402
<b>Headline strategy 6</b>		
6.1 Finalise state waste infrastructure plan	100,000	146,865
<b>Headline strategy 7</b>		
7.3 Improved waste data	40,000	66,703

## Program evaluations

Project actions	Original 2022–23 budget \$	Final 2022–23 expenditure \$
<b>Headline strategy 8</b>		
8.2 Governance support to Containers for Change	55,000	45,493
8.4.2 Support for emerging and priority waste streams	600,000	591,135
8.4.4 Grant management software	15,000	318
8.5 Implement Charitable Recyclers waste levy rebate	380,000	383,612
<b>Other</b>		
Compliance and enforcement operational costs	285,000	271,408
WARR and Waste Authority misc. costs	100,000	142,454
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>12,045,000</b>	<b>8,429,785</b>
Services and functions funded under section 16 and section 80 of the WARR Act and covered in the service-level agreement	8,705,000	8,024,186
Total operational budget and actual expenditure 2022–23	<b>20,750,000</b>	16,453,972

Note 1: Table 5 provides project expenditure extracted from the department's financial management system. Its annual report provides an audited financial statement that includes expenditure from the WARR account.

Note 2: Variations between the original planned budget and the final expenditure are approved by the Chair of the Waste Authority if 25 per cent higher or lower than originally anticipated, or by the Minister for Environment.

The Waste Authority's evaluation framework provides a methodology to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of various waste programs. All programs are regularly monitored. An independent evaluation of at least one funded program per year is undertaken to understand the extent to which it supports progress towards the waste strategy targets and to inform planning of future actions.

Programs scheduled for formal evaluation are broadly determined by the number of years the program has run and the cumulative budget that has been allocated. An allocation for these evaluations is put in each budget. The WasteSorted Grants program was evaluated in 2021–22 and the recommendations are now being implemented. The Charitable Recyclers Rebate and Charitable Recyclers Dumping Reduction programs was evaluated in 2022–23 and the recommendations will be considered for implementation in 2023–24. The anticipated schedule for future evaluations is:

<b>2023–24:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KABC litter strategy</li> <li>• Container deposit scheme</li> </ul>
<b>2024–25:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WasteSorted communications toolkit and program</li> </ul>

### Changes in written law

There were no changes in any written law that affected the operations of the Waste Authority during the reporting

## Disclosures and legal compliance

Processes are in place within the department to monitor and audit the financial performance of the WARR Account, as required by section 81 of the WARR Act and in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 2006*.

The management of the WARR Account is regarded as a department service for the purposes of sections 52 and 53 of the *Financial Management Act 2006*. Accordingly, the relevant financial information is contained within the department's annual report.

### Ministerial directives

Under the WARR Act, the Minister for Environment may give written directions to the Waste Authority, either generally or in relation to particular matters. The Waste Authority did not receive any Ministerial directions during 2022–23.

### Pricing policies of services provided

Not applicable. The Waste Authority does not apply fees or charges for goods or services.

### Employment and industrial relations

Not applicable. The Waste Authority is not an employing authority and does not employ staff.

### Sitting fees

Remuneration of the Waste Authority members is determined by the Governor of Western Australia, on recommendation of the Public Sector Commissioner, in accordance with the *Public Sector Management Act 1994*. Annual remuneration for 2022–23 is outlined in Table 5.

**Table 6 – Remuneration**

Position	Name	Type of remuneration	Period of membership	Gross/actual remuneration* (\$)
Chair	Reg Howard-Smith	Sitting fees	1 July 2022 – 8 July 2022	2,105
Chair	Elizabeth Carr AM	Sitting fees	9 August 2022 – 30 June 2023	39,655
Deputy Chair	Lee Broomhall	Sitting fees	1 July 2022 – 8 July 2022	25,834
			9 August 2022 – 30 June 2023	
Member	Kelly Howlett AM	Sitting fees	1 July 2022 – 8 July 2022	20,680
			9 August 2022 – 30 June 2023	
Member	Josh Byrne	Sitting fees	1 July 2022 – 8 July 2022	20,680
			9 August 2022 – 30 June 2023	
Member	Tim Youé	Sitting fees	1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023	0 Does not receive sitting fees (ineligible)

\* Includes superannuation

### Director and officer liability insurance

Waste Authority members are covered under the department's RiskCover insurance arrangements.

## Other legal requirements

### Expenditure on advertising, market research, polling and direct mail

**Table 7 – Expenditure**

Expenditure	Program	Organisation	Amount (\$)	Total (\$)
Advertising	Waste to landfill ban consultation	Initiative Media	1,895	152,230
	Support for emerging and priority waste streams	Google	121,404	
		Facebook	15,311	
		National Retail	13,620	
Media advertising	National Recycling Week	Carat Australia	20,000	1,263,242
	GREAT Sorts Campaign	Carat Australia	1,239,695	
	WasteSorted Awards	Facebook	3,547	
Direct mail	Term 4 newsletter email to schools	Campaign Monitor	25	25
<b>Total advertising expenditure</b>				<b>1,415,497</b>

### Disability access and inclusion plan access

The Waste Authority is covered by the department's five-year disability access and inclusion plan.

### Compliance with public sector standards and ethical codes

The Waste Authority's code of conduct aligns with the Western Australian Public Sector Commission's code of ethics and has been developed in accordance with the Public Sector Commission's *Instruction no. 7 code of ethics* and *Instruction no. 8 codes of conduct*.

Waste Authority members participated in an induction session in September 2022 and signed their refreshed code of conduct for their term of membership; in doing so, they committed to act with honesty and integrity at all times. Members are aware of their legal and ethical responsibilities in carrying out official duties and understand the values, principles and standards of behaviour expected.

The Waste Authority's conflict of interest policy was also refreshed in September 2022 and signed by members for their term of membership.

### Recordkeeping plan

The Waste Authority complied with the *State Records Act 2000* through adherence to the department's recordkeeping plan.

In accordance with our code of conduct, the Waste Authority ensured that official information remained confidential, and records of decisions and all other documentation were securely retained. Minutes of Waste Authority meetings were circulated to members with meeting agenda papers. Confirmed minutes are provided to the Minister for Environment.

## Government policy requirements

### Occupational safety, health and injury management

Waste Authority staff comply with the department's three-tier occupational safety and health (OSH) system. Details on the department's OSH regulations are available in its 2022–23 annual report.

## Governance disclosures

The Waste Authority’s corporate governance arrangements ensure transparency in decision-making and operation, as well as accountability to stakeholders. The following disclosures of potential conflicts of interest were made by members of the Waste Authority during 2022–23:

**Table 6 – Remuneration**

Meeting date	Member	Disclosures of potential conflicts of interest
08/12/2022	Tim Youé	<p>Declared potential conflicts of interest, as CEO of the Resource Recovery Group (RRG), in relation to the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A FOGO update where consideration of writing to non-FOGO councils was discussed.</i> RRG provides FOGO processing for councils.</li> <li>• <i>Approval of a Waste Authority submission to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation on environmental regulation reform.</i> RRG holds an <i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i> licence.</li> <li>• <i>A presentation by the Waste Recycling Industry Western Australia (WRIWA) on the waste strategy.</i> RRG has commercial relationships with several members of WRIWA.</li> </ul>
02/02/2023	Tim Youé	<p>Declared a potential conflict of interest, as CEO of RRG, in relation to <i>discussions at a special meeting to consider the geographical area of the waste levy.</i> RRG pays the waste levy and is covered by current waste levy regulations.</p>

Meeting date	Member	Disclosures of potential conflicts of interest
05/04/2023	Tim Youé	<p>Declared potential conflicts of interest, as CEO of RRG, in relation to the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Decision item on the Better Bins Plus Go FOGO scenario analysis and five-year budget forecast.</i> RRG members include recipients of Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO funding. Members agreed that Tim be included in the discussion but abstain from voting.</li> <li>• <i>An update on the e-waste ban to landfill.</i> RRG has signed an MOU and Heads of Agreement with Scipher Technologies Pty Ltd to undertake civil works to lease space at RRG’s Canning Vale centre for the recycling of solar panels, subject to a successful e-waste infrastructure grant application.</li> <li>• <i>An update on the waste levy.</i> RRG has a waste supply agreement with one of the waste-to-energy facilities.</li> <li>• <i>An update on the waste communications strategy.</i> RRG manages Recycle Right. The update included the need for ongoing discussions with Recycle Right to ensure collaboration between WasteSorted and Recycle Right to improve harmonisation of statewide communications.</li> </ul>

Waste Authority members include a standing disclosure of interests listing in all meeting papers circulated, including memberships and associations held.

## Ethics and integrity

The Waste Authority refreshed its governance charter in April 2023. Its code of conduct and conflict of interest policy was reviewed in 2022, with new versions of both documents signed for the current three- and four-year membership terms.

The department regularly updates and shares resources with the Waste Authority on corporate integrity matters, including the conduct of its Integrity Framework, Agency Capability Review and reform roadmap. Members also participate in various refresher online training modules, including accountable and ethical decision-making.

The Waste Authority participated in the annual Public Sector Commission integrity and conduct survey during the year.

Procurement practices followed the Government of Western Australia's guidelines and procurement policies.

### Unauthorised use of credit cards

Not applicable. Waste Authority members do not hold corporate credit cards.

## Meetings

The Waste Authority held four ordinary meetings during 2022–23.

**Table 9 – Members' meeting attendance**

Member	Meetings
Elizabeth Carr AM	4
Lee Broomhall	4
Kelly Howlett AM	4
Josh Byrne	4
Tim Youé	4

During the year the Waste Authority also held a joint planning session with the Program Risk and Performance Committee to consider priorities for the 2023–24 business plan and action plan.

The Waste Authority also held special meetings during the year to discuss the Household Hazardous Waste funding agreement 2023–28; the geographic area of the waste levy; and the waste strategy review draft directions paper.

## Waste Authority publications

During 2022–23 the Waste Authority published:

- *Waste and recycling in Western Australia 2020–21*
- *Waste and recycling snapshot 2020–21*
- *Waste Authority annual report 2021–22*
- *Waste Authority business plan 2022–23*
- *Waste Strategy action plan 2022–23*
- *Household hazardous waste annual report 2021–22*
- *Food waste: In-home research summary on food waste in WA households 2021*
- GREAT Sorts behaviour change materials including charity dumping resources, battery disposal resources, and animations
- WasteSorted toolkit materials including FOGO resources and waste resources in 11 languages for CALD communities
- *Recycling processing videos (three versions of different lengths)*
- *Guidelines for local government vergeside and drop-off services – Better practice principles*
- *Market development strategy for FOGO-derived products – FOGO Reference Group comments*
- *FOGO rollout plan 2022–23*
- *FOGO rollout plan 2021–22 report*
- *FOGO case studies* (Town of Bassendean, Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council, Resource Recovery Group, City of Melville)
- *FOGO processing videos* (three versions of different lengths)
- *Food waste avoidance video* (30 seconds)
- *WasteSorted Schools guide*
- *WasteSorted Schools grant guidelines, FAQ and sample funding agreement letter*
- *WasteSorted Schools Geography ATAR curriculum booklet*
- *WasteSorted Schools worm farming at school videos* (four versions).





## Waste Authority

c/o Department of Water and Environmental Regulation  
Level 7 Prime House, 8 Davidson Terrace Joondalup WA 6027

[info@wasteauthority.wa.gov.au](mailto:info@wasteauthority.wa.gov.au)

[wasteauthority.wa.gov.au](http://wasteauthority.wa.gov.au)

(08) 6364 6965

