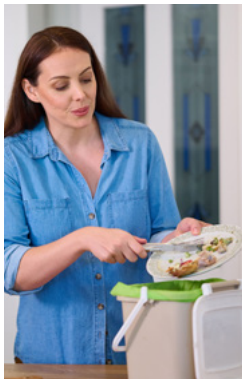
GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WASTE AUTHORITY
WA...TOO GOOD TO WASTE

Beyond WAste 2030

Western Australia's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030



November 2025

Waste Authority

C/O Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
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Acknowledgements

The Waste Authority would like to acknowledge the contribution of Department of Water and Environmental Regulation staff to the development of this document.

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This document is available in alternative formats and languages on request to the Waste Authority.

Statutory context

The Waste Authority is charged with promoting better waste management practices in Western Australia under the *Waste Avoidance and Resources Recovery Act 2007*. One of the Authority's functions under the Act is to draft, for the Minister for Environment's approval, a long-term waste strategy for the whole of the state for continuous improvement of waste services, waste avoidance and resource recovery, benchmarked against best practice and targets for waste reduction, resource recovery and the diversion of waste from landfill disposal. The strategy takes a 10-year and beyond view and must be reviewed at least every five years. This Discussion Paper supports the waste strategy review process.

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands upon which we live and work throughout Western Australia and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We recognise the practice of intergenerational care for Country and its relevance to our work and working with the community.

We continue to move forward with a shared commitment to protect and conserve Country for our future generations.

Country is a term used by Aboriginal people to describe the lands, waterways, and seas to which they are intrinsically linked. This Acknowledgement of Country has been endorsed by the Department of Water and Environment Regulation's Yarning Circle and approved by its Aboriginal Empowerment Board.

P3, 33
Artist: Madeleine Edwards

Madeleine Edwards is a proud Jaru woman from the East Kimberley, with deep ties to Halls Creek and Kununurra. Surrounded by the vibrant landscapes of the Kimberley, her artistic journey has been influenced by her father's acrylic paintings and boab nut carvings. Madeleine's connection to her heritage is also shaped by her experiences camping in Purnululu National Park and learning about Country from her grandmother. A self-taught graphic designer and multi-disciplinary artist, she blends traditional and modern techniques to honour her cultural roots while exploring contemporary storytelling.

In this document, you will find...

Beyond WAste 2030 snapshot

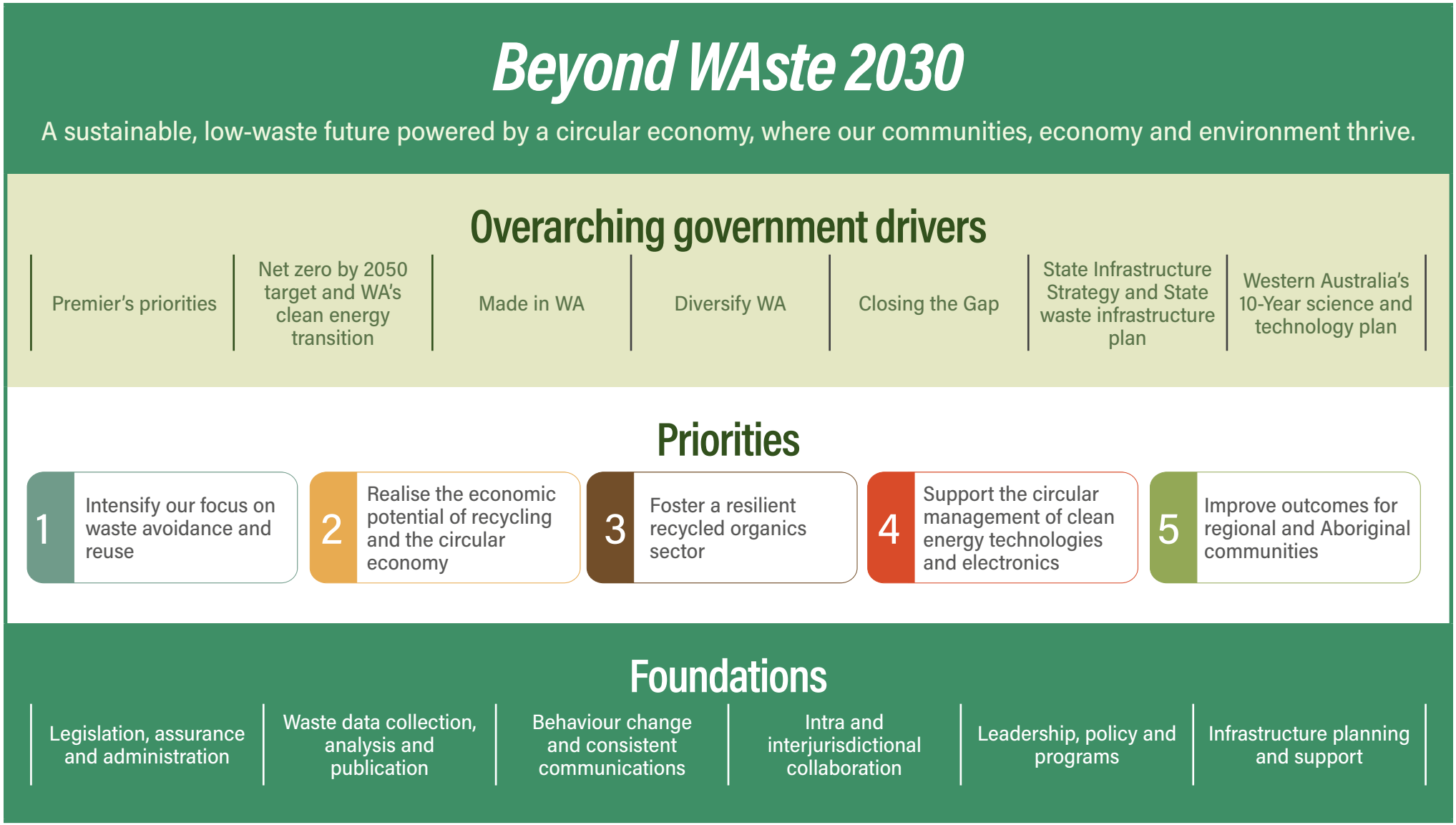


Figure 1: Beyond WAste 2030 snapshot

Introduction

In February 2019, the Government of Western Australia published the previous *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030* (WARR 2030 Strategy; Waste Authority 2019). The strategy provided the vision, objectives, goals, targets and approach for transitioning Western Australia (WA) to a sustainable, low-waste, circular economy in which public health and the environment are protected from the impacts of waste.

The Waste Authority reviews the waste strategy for the State Government every five years to assess progress against targets, determine strengths and identify new opportunities. This is a requirement under the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* (WARR Act). This draft new waste strategy – *Beyond WAste 2030* – provides an updated vision for waste management in WA. It sets the goals, targets and strategic priorities to take us to 2030.

Beyond WAste 2030 will be integral to WA's transition towards a circular economy. It recognises that WA needs waste and recycling systems that are robust, resilient and responsive to our unique geographic, economic and social context. We need to renew our focus, consider innovation and continue to invest in the sector to boost WA's transition to a thriving, resilient circular economy.

A thorough stakeholder consultation process, held over the past two years, has informed and strengthened *Beyond WAste 2030*, particularly where it describes opportunities for government, industry and the community to work together. After the release of a Directions Paper in 2023 and draft Waste Strategy in 2024, this third phase of the consultation process marks the final step to gather feedback.

The **Waste Authority**, created under the WARR Act, advises the Minister for the Environment on matters relating to the WARR Act, and develops the waste strategy for the Minister's consideration.

The Waste Authority, with support from the **Department of Water and Environmental Regulation** (DWER), develops annual business plans and position statements for the waste strategy, administers the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account for project, program and policy development funding; and monitors and responds to existing and emerging waste issues.

DWER supports the Waste Authority, working with local governments, regional councils, stakeholder groups, the waste management sector and the community to promote waste avoidance and recycling and achieve the waste strategy's goals and targets.

We invite you to comment on:

- ***Beyond WAste 2030*** (this document); and
- its companion document – the ***Beyond WAste 2030 roadmap*** – which sets out the actions that will be implemented over the strategy's five year lifetime to contribute to achieving its goals, targets and priorities.

Both documents can be found here.

This final consultation will ensure that the strategy and its roadmap have a strong base to build partnerships and implement actions.

After the 28-day consultation period, *Beyond WAste 2030* and its roadmap will be finalised and published.

Both documents are available for review until **16 December 2025**.

- Electronic written submissions can be emailed to wastestrategyreview@dwer.wa.gov.au.
- Hard copy submissions can be mailed to:

  Waste Strategy Review

  Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
  Locked Bag 10
  Joondalup DC WA 6919.

If you have any questions or need further information, please email: wastestrategyreview@dwer.wa.gov.au or contact: (08) 6364 7000.

Context

Beyond WAste 2030 is set against a backdrop of increasing population, resource consumption, and the growing challenge of managing waste. It acknowledges that the linear model of 'take-make-dispose' is neither environmentally nor economically viable for our future. The transition to a circular economy is therefore imperative, guiding the transformation of waste from a liability into a valuable resource, reducing our reliance on raw materials, and where possible eliminating waste, pollution and environmental damage. It seeks to minimise the risks presented by waste management and reveal environmental and economic opportunities for Western Australians and our environment.

The strategy is also underpinned by the principles of the waste hierarchy, which prioritises waste management actions from most to least preferable. The hierarchy emphasises a shift from disposal to recycling and where possible, avoidance or reuse, with a clear focus on the highest-value outcomes. By embedding these principles into policy and practice, we will foster innovation, create new industries, and generate employment and other economic opportunities.

***Beyond WAste 2030* is accompanied by the *Beyond WAste 2030 roadmap*.** The strategy sets out WA's vision, goals and targets for waste and its roadmap sets out the actions that will be implemented over the strategy's five-year lifetime to contribute to achieving these. The roadmap should be read alongside the strategy.

The Beyond WAste 2030 roadmap is designed to remain flexible so that actions can be adapted, expanded or refined in response to emerging challenges, new opportunities and lessons learned. This adaptability will ensure the strategy and roadmap continues to deliver meaningful outcomes over their life. We will provide a progress update at the mid-point of the strategy to assess achievements, highlight areas for adjustment, and confirm the actions remain on track to achieve the 2030 goals, targets and priorities.

Circular economy

The circular economy is a model of production and consumption that aims to keep products, materials, and resources in circulation for as long as possible – at their highest value – with waste minimised, in contrast to the traditional linear model of 'take-make-dispose'. It aims to separate economic activity from resource consumption and deliver economic, social and environmental benefits.

A thriving circular economy:

- designs out waste and pollution
- captures and maintains the highest value of products and resources
- conserves natural resources and regenerates nature and the environment.

When circularity principles are put in place, other key benefits such as measurable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions follow. Hence fostering circularity via *Beyond WAste 2030* will support achieving the State Government's commitment to net zero emissions by 2050.

A circular economy can reduce emissions through:

- avoiding or minimising consumption and reducing raw material inputs. Research estimates that 45 per cent of global climate-related emissions are associated with making products (Ellen MacArthur Foundation 2019).
- prioritising material reuse. Reusing existing materials decreases the need for raw materials, thereby lowering embodied emissions associated with their production.
- implementing sustainable design practices. Circular economy principles advocate for design strategies that facilitate durable, resource efficient, repairable and recyclable products. Such designs consider disassembly and repurposing, thus promoting material recovery and reuse and mitigating the demand for raw materials.
- driving innovation in low-emission materials. By promoting research and development in sustainable materials, the circular economy can help introduce options with lower embodied emissions, such as recycled content and plastic alternatives.
- using green energy sources and low-emissions transport. Integrating renewable energy into manufacturing processes and prioritising low-carbon transportation methods can reduce emissions throughout the supply chain.

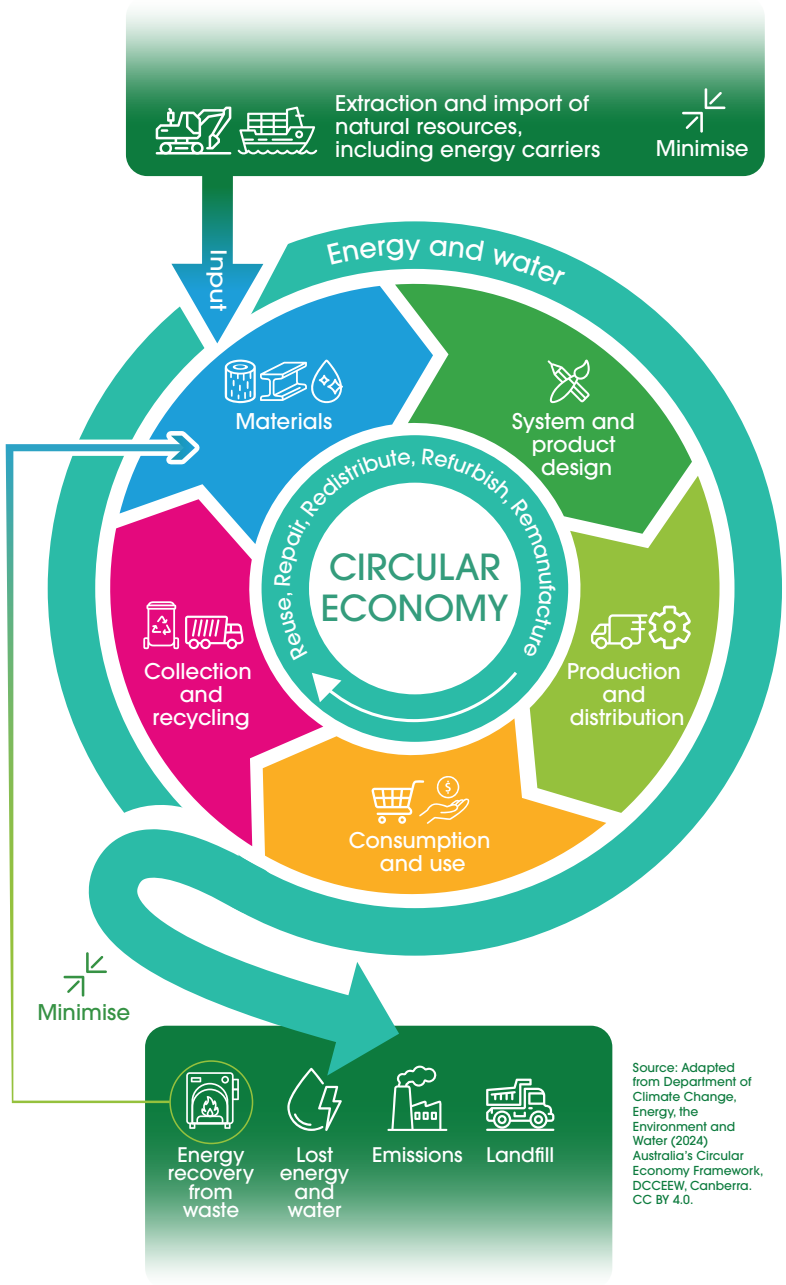


Figure 2: Circular economy diagram

The waste hierarchy and the role of energy recovery

Waste hierarchy principles are embedded in a circular economy. The hierarchy prioritises waste avoidance, followed by reuse, repair, sharing and refurbishing, and preferences recycling over energy recovery.

Energy recovery is preferable to landfill but should only be applied to residual waste, after better-practice source separation and recycling approaches have been exhausted. Landfill remains the least desirable treatment, only to be used when other options are not viable and, ideally, at landfills managed to better-practice standards.

In this way, energy recovery supports the *Beyond WAste 2030* 'protect' target by converting non-recyclable waste into usable energy, reducing reliance on landfill and recovering value.

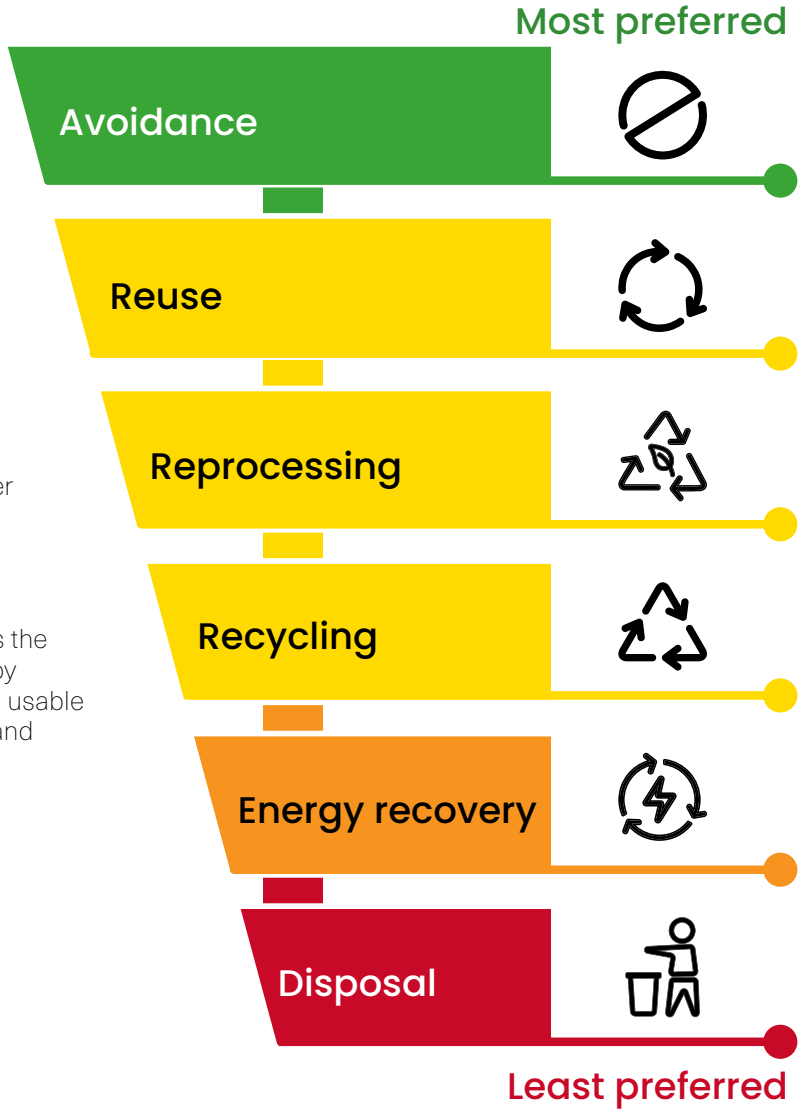


Figure 3: Waste hierarchy diagram

Benefits and opportunities

By following the waste hierarchy and moving WA towards a circular economy, *Beyond WAste 2030* will reveal many and varied environmental and economic benefits and opportunities for our state, in alignment with the WA Government's key priorities.

Creating a resilient and prosperous economy

- A circular economy can provide employment opportunities in sectors relating to infrastructure, repair, remanufacturing, recycling and new product design. These jobs are often localised and can contribute toward community and regional resilience.
- The shift from waste disposal to recycling transforms the waste industry. It creates opportunities in advanced sorting technologies, recycling infrastructure, and the creation of high-quality recycled materials for new products. Every tonne of waste that is avoided or recycled instead of landfilled represents retained value in the WA economy, through local manufacturing, innovation, and new markets.
- Business operational costs can be reduced by reusing materials, minimising waste and reducing dependency on raw materials. Decoupling growth from resource consumption can create a more resilient and sustainable economic system that is less vulnerable to resource shortages and price volatility. By creating closed-loop systems, businesses can secure their supply of materials, reducing the risks associated with global supply chain disruptions and geopolitical instability.
- Businesses can unlock new sources of income by selling refurbished products, offering 'product-as-a-service' models, and selling recovered materials or by-products to diversify revenue streams.
- Industries and businesses that innovate can gain competitive advantages and improve their brand standing with environmentally conscious consumers.

Building safe and inclusive communities

- The circular economy approach offers new opportunities to Aboriginal communities in WA through its alignment with traditional knowledge and support for local economic development. Unlike the linear 'take-make-dispose' model that has often harmed Indigenous lands and communities, the circular approach focuses on regenerative, community-led solutions. It also enables partnerships with Aboriginal corporations and businesses, particularly in waste management, ensuring economic benefits remain within communities.
- The circular economy and waste hierarchy create regional job opportunities in labour-intensive industries such as repair, reuse and recycling. By promoting local waste management and keeping materials in use longer, communities can support roles such as plant operators, waste management specialists and repair technicians.
- Circular economy initiatives are often centred around community hubs and shared spaces, such as repair cafes and tool libraries, which bring people together and promote a culture of sharing and collaboration, encouraging the community to be part of the solution.

Protecting and restoring our environment

- The core principle of a circular economy is to design out waste and pollution. By creating products that are durable, repairable and recyclable from the very beginning, waste generation can be prevented. In addition, there is less demand for raw materials, which reduces energy use and environmental degradation. This could, for example, include working with packaging producers to design out hard-to-recycle plastics in addition to supporting innovative recycling approaches.
- The focus on reuse, repair and recycling significantly reduces the volume of disposed waste. This prevents the release of harmful toxins and greenhouse gases like methane, which are major contributors to air, water and soil pollution and climate change.

Delivering quality infrastructure and services across our state

- Developing a circular economy across the state requires a change in thinking from large, centralised infrastructure to localised solutions. These might include community-run composting centres, small-scale recycling hubs and facilities that process construction and demolition waste into materials for local projects. This reduces transportation costs and emissions while creating local jobs and supporting resilient regional economies.

- Circular thinking during the phases of infrastructure design and planning incorporates principles such as modularity and deconstruction and ensures that infrastructure is designed with their end of life in mind, preventing them from ending up as waste.
- Circular thinking shifts waste management from disposal to resource recovery, driving the creation of new industries and markets.

Successfully transitioning to a circular economy requires a holistic, collaborative approach involving all sectors of society. No single entity can drive this systemic change alone. *Beyond WAste 2030* identifies opportunities for government, industry, business, and Western Australians to work together to unlock the full economic, social and environmental benefits of a circular economy.

Our drivers

Beyond WAste 2030 is guided by government drivers that link sustainability, economic growth and social equity. Waste is increasingly seen as a resource and aligning policy with the Premier's priorities and broader state initiatives will position WA to lead in circular economy practices and innovation. By aligning waste management initiatives with net zero targets, fostering local industries through *Made in WA* and *Diversify WA*, and embedding equity through *Closing the Gap* commitments, WA can unlock environmental, economic and social value from its waste streams.

Premier's priorities

In September 2025 the Premier announced the government's key priorities through to 2029. Some of these are relevant to the management of waste in WA and include:

- diversifying the economy (see 'Diversify WA' on page 13)
- safe and inclusive communities
- protecting and restoring our environment
- delivering quality infrastructure and services across our state.

Beyond WAste 2030 aims to realise these priorities through the actions in the *Beyond WAste 2030* roadmap.

Net zero by 2050 target

The *Sectoral emissions reduction strategy for Western Australia* (DWER 2023) outlines pathways for all sectors of the economy to transition to net zero emissions by 2050. The key pathways for emissions reductions from the waste sector include:

- Waste management initiatives: Effective waste management strategies, particularly through circular economy practices, are crucial for reducing the state's greenhouse gas emissions. We can avoid emissions through diverting materials from landfill sites; increasing landfill gas capture; reducing food waste and promoting recycling and reuse.
- Methane emissions reduction: The decomposition of organic waste in landfills releases methane – a potent greenhouse gas. Improving our management and recycling of organic waste material will directly contribute to the state's goal to reach net zero emissions.
- Reducing emissions embedded in products: By avoiding or minimising consumption and reducing raw material inputs, for example by choosing low-carbon materials, and designing for longevity and durability and reuse, repair or recycling, we can reduce the emissions associated with products over their entire lifecycle.

Made in WA

Made in WA (WA Labor 2025) and *Beyond WAste 2030* have a shared vision for sustainability, innovation and economic growth. *Made in WA* focuses on building a resilient and diversified economy through local manufacturing, clean energy and strategic infrastructure. *Beyond WAste 2030* complements this by promoting waste avoidance, recycling and circular economy principles – requiring a commercially viable and innovative waste and recycling industry. Achieving this vision depends on sufficient and diversified infrastructure, local processing capacity and the adoption of new technologies.

Diversify WA

Diversify WA (JTSI 2019) is the State Government's economic development framework that identifies priority sectors to support long-term prosperity. Waste management and recycling directly contribute to this agenda by helping to:

- drive investment in recycling, recovery and remanufacturing industries
- create regional and metropolitan employment opportunities in new, future-focused industries
- support the clean energy transition through considering the future impact of new energy and ensuring sufficient infrastructure to handle future demand for recycling of solar panels, batteries and decommissioning waste
- build resilience by reducing reliance on global waste export markets and developing local end-markets for recycled materials.

Closing the Gap

The *National Agreement on Closing the Gap* (Joint Council on Closing the Gap 2020) highlights the importance of improving social, cultural and economic outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The waste sector can:

- support Aboriginal-led businesses and partnerships in waste management, recycling and circular economy initiatives
- create employment, training and capacity-building opportunities in regional and remote communities through localised waste solutions
- protect Country by promoting responsible waste management practices that minimise environmental harm
- incorporate traditional knowledge and cultural values into land stewardship and resource management approaches.

By embedding these drivers into waste strategy planning, WA can simultaneously progress towards its emissions reduction commitments, strengthen its economy, and ensure equitable outcomes across communities.

State Infrastructure Strategy and State waste infrastructure plan

The *State Infrastructure Strategy – foundations for a stronger tomorrow* (Infrastructure WA 2022) outlines the state's significant infrastructure needs and priorities. It provides a long-term vision and infrastructure outlook across several infrastructure sectors, including waste and aims to improve the foundations of the state's infrastructure system. It specifically addresses areas for improvement and puts forward best-practice approaches to support the planning and delivery of appropriate infrastructure.

The *State waste infrastructure plan* (DWER 2024) was developed to help guide government decisions and investments. It sets out current and future waste generation based on achieving the previous waste strategy's objectives and targets and the infrastructure required to support the waste strategy's vision. Priorities to address critical areas of growth and opportunity are provided to further guide how this might be achieved.

Beyond WAste 2030 is informed by the findings and recommendations of these two key documents and identifies opportunities to build on them to guide decision-making for the planning and development of waste and resource recovery infrastructure in Western Australia.

Western Australia's 10-Year science and technology plan

Western Australia's 10-year science and technology plan (DEED 2024) supports the state's science, research and technology capability, performance and impact. It addresses the need for a strategic approach to science, technology, research and development, alongside new investment, to meet current and future challenges in WA.

Beyond WAste 2030 seeks to capitalise on the plan's focus on clean energy and decarbonisation, environment and sustainability, and critical and emerging technology as it applies to the waste sector. Furthermore, it will leverage opportunities to innovate and modernise the waste sector so that it is more dynamic, responsive and resilient and adds value as part of a diversified economy.

Our levers

The WA Government has six broad levers that it can use to accelerate WA's transition to a circular economy and help ensure a robust and resilient waste and recycling industry. These levers, outlined below, provide the critical foundations underpinning *Beyond WAste 2030*.

1. Legislation, assurance and administration

- Ensure that the waste levy increases diversion from landfill and encourages waste avoidance and recycling.
- Operate compliance and enforcement systems and tackle illegal waste practices to protect people, businesses and the environment.
- Work with other Australian jurisdictions to harmonise regulation and product stewardship schemes, reduce duplication, and ensure WA industries can compete on a level playing field. Where appropriate, lead national reform efforts that reflect WA's unique context and implement relevant national policies and product stewardship schemes.
- Strengthen and align the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* and other legislation to support circular outcomes. This includes delivering legislative reforms like the Recovered Materials Framework, to establish clear and efficient approval pathways that enable industry innovation, reduce regulatory burden, and support Western Australia's transition to a circular economy.
- Support innovation and new technologies that can accelerate WA's transition to a circular economy and address priorities such as illegal dumping of rubbish and harmful waste.

2. Waste data collection, analysis and publication

- Collect and report on data to enable planning and effective decision-making, and to monitor and evaluate progress against the *Beyond WAste 2030* targets and priorities.
- Collect data on waste generation and management, waste services and high-impact materials; support the administration of key programs; and publish timely and accessible data each year.

3. Behaviour change and consistent communications

- Partner with local governments to deliver centralised, consistent and evidence-based education and behaviour change campaigns, grants and program funding.
- Play a leadership role to integrate, coordinate and educate across industry, government and the community.
- Deliver proactive campaigns on priorities such as waste sorting, reducing litter and illegal dumping and promoting action on high-impact materials like food organics and garden organics (FOGO), solar panels and e-waste.

4. Intra and interjurisdictional collaboration

- Represent the state as part of national discussions on the circular economy, and related topics, and participate in relevant national initiatives.
- Participate in and, where appropriate, lead WA discussions to investigate and understand issues relevant to the sector and develop collaborative and creative responses.

5. Leadership, policy and programs

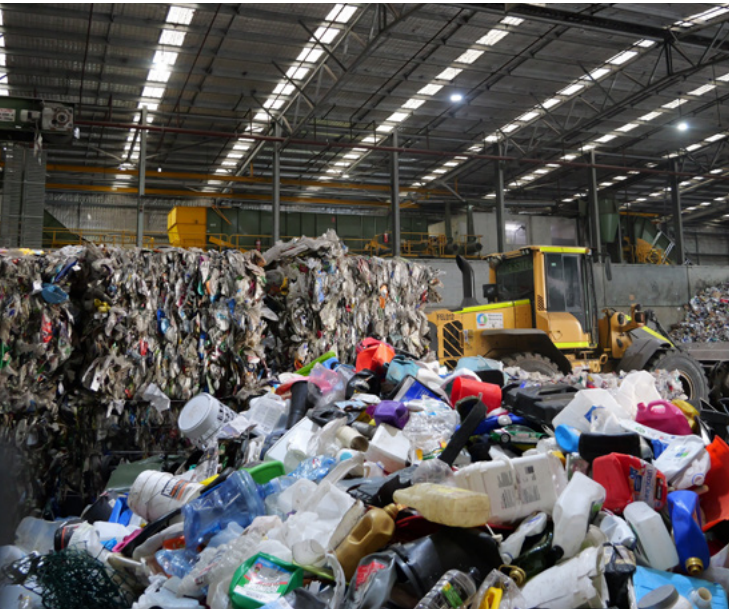
- Lead by example by avoiding waste, using recycled content and recycling more, and through better design, construction and operation of State Government facilities and use of sustainable procurement practices.
- Develop and implement policy, programs and grants that contribute to achieving waste strategy goals and targets, supported by waste levy and Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account funding and the Waste Authority. Areas of focus include:
  - » Support and invest in innovation, research and technology that accelerate WA's transition to a circular economy, with a focus on *Made in WA* solutions.
  - » Provide a clear and robust investment environment that gives industry the confidence to co-invest in recycling and waste infrastructure.
  - » Develop consistent policy, standards and regulatory settings that reduce risk, attract private capital and enable long-term investment.
  - » Partner with industry, academia and investors to trial and scale new technologies and business models that deliver improved environmental, economic and social outcomes.
  - » Strengthen market signals through procurement, financial instruments and targeted incentives that create stable demand for recycled materials and circular products.
  - » Support scaling-up and demonstration of emerging technologies that show potential to deliver strong environmental, social and economic benefits.
  - » Help to build local circular supply chains and jobs.

6. Infrastructure planning and support

- Use the *State waste infrastructure plan* (DWER 2024) to guide strategic infrastructure planning and policy direction.
- Support waste avoidance, reuse and recycling collection and infrastructure capacity through strategic funding and grant programs.

The national waste context

The *National Waste Policy Action Plan* (Australian Government 2024) and *Australia's Circular Economy Framework* (DCCEEW 2024) provide the blueprint for national action in relation to waste and recycling.



National Waste Policy Action Plan

The *National Waste Policy Action Plan* (Australian Government 2024), which was developed under the *National Waste Policy* (Australian Government 2018), sets Australia's course for waste management and its transition to a circular economy. It provides a roadmap for collective action by all levels of government, industry, and the community. The plan is structured around seven nation-wide targets to be achieved by 2030:

- Ban on the export of waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres.
- Reduce total waste generated in Australia by 10 per cent per person.
- Achieve an 80 per cent average resource recovery rate from all waste streams, following the waste hierarchy.
- Significantly increase the use of recycled content by governments and industry.
- Continued phase-out of problematic and unnecessary plastics.
- Halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill for disposal.
- Make comprehensive, economy-wide, and timely data publicly available.

The plan identifies that governments will focus their efforts on developing and implementing legislation, regulation, policies, standards and guidelines; investing in infrastructure, procurement, and funding support; and developing and supporting markets to achieve the targets.

Australia's Circular Economy Framework

Australia's Circular Economy Framework (DCCEEW 2024) is designed to guide the country's transition from a linear 'take-make-dispose' model to a sustainable, circular system. The framework's goal is to double Australia's circularity by 2035. To achieve this, it establishes three core principles:

1. Design out waste and pollution: This involves rethinking how products and systems are designed to eliminate waste from the start.
2. Keep products and materials in use: This means extending the life of products through repair, reuse, remanufacturing and recycling.
3. Regenerate natural systems: The framework recognises that a circular economy must not only minimise harm but also actively restore and enhance natural resources.

The framework sets three specific targets to be achieved by 2035:

- Reduce the per-capita material footprint by 10 per cent.
- Increase material productivity by 30 per cent.
- Safely recover 80 per cent of resources (a target to be met by 2030).

The framework also outlines a series of enabling actions and objectives to support the transition. These include:

- Innovation: fostering new technologies and business models.
- Market development: creating a strong, stable market for recycled materials by driving demand.
- Collaboration: encouraging partnerships between all levels of government, industry, and the community.
- Skills: building the necessary skills and workforce for a circular economy.
- Data: improving data collection to track material flows and monitor progress.

Where relevant and appropriate to WA's circumstances, *Beyond WAste 2030* aligns with the *National Waste Policy Action Plan* (Australian Government 2024) and *Australia's Circular Economy Framework* (DCCEEW 2024) to ensure efficiency, reduce duplication, facilitate the coordination of effort and develop a level playing field for the WA waste industry.

Photo: Michael Bain

Our progress against the targets in the previous waste strategy

An analysis of our performance against the targets in the previous WARR strategy 2030 (Waste Authority 2019) shows that while some significant gains have been made, there are still opportunities for improvement.

Avoid targets

Our waste generation per capita has increased from 2,452 to 2,586 kilograms per capita from the 2014–15 baseline established in the previous strategy. Meeting the 2030 target of reducing generation by 10 per cent will mean this needs to reduce to 2,207 kilograms per capita.

Generation of municipal solid waste (MSW) has decreased by 19 per cent since 2014–15, from 621 to 500 kilograms per capita, but generation of commercial and industrial (C&I) and construction and demolition (C&D) waste per capita continues to increase. Drivers behind the increase are likely to include the introduction of mandatory waste data reporting (waste is being accounted for and reported better), population growth and the investment in large-scale construction projects.

Waste avoidance is critical to achieving all waste strategy targets. The less waste generated, the less pressure on recycling infrastructure, waste systems, human health, climate and the environment.

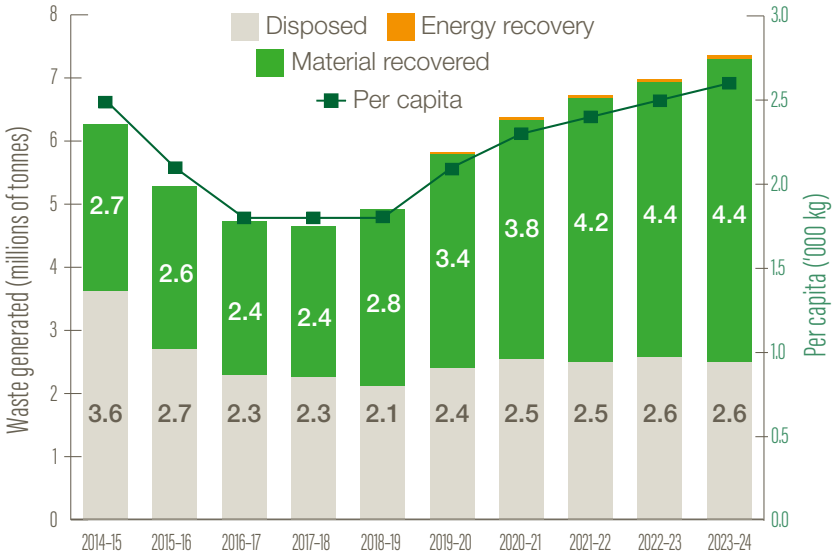


Figure 4: Reported waste generation 2023–24

Recover targets

The recycling rate for C&D waste continues to exceed the 2030 target of 80 per cent (88 per cent recycling rate in 2023–24), which has driven the rise in the overall recycling rate from 42 per cent in 2014–15 to 65 per cent in 2023–24, trending towards the 2030 target of 75 per cent. However, recycling rates for MSW and C&I waste have not shown consistent improvement. Covid-19 and a range of external changes, such as the waste export bans, have hindered progress towards these targets. The Perth and Peel MSW material recycling rate is expected to increase with the wider adoption of FOGO collection systems.

Protect targets

We have made sustained progress towards meeting the 2030 'protect' target that no more than 15 per cent of waste generated in Perth and Peel goes into landfill. In 2023–24, 28 per cent of waste generated in Perth and Peel was sent to landfill, compared with 49 per cent in 2014–15.

With the projected increase in recovery associated with the FOGO rollout and two energy recovery facilities coming online, we are on track to meet the 2030 'protect' target.

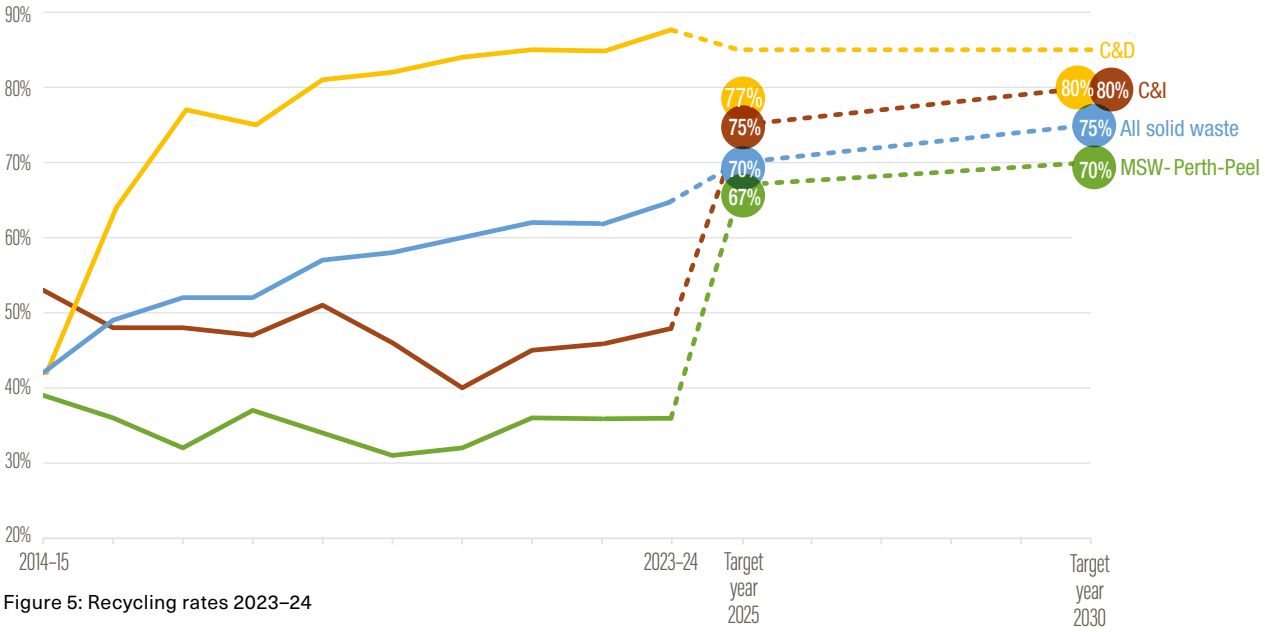


Figure 5: Recycling rates 2023–24

Our other achievements

While progress against the previous waste strategy targets provides a useful picture of how WA is tracking, and is a valuable indicator of change and progress, it is only one of several signals that we are heading in the right direction. Progress against the targets, for example, does not capture the benefits of the initiatives that have and continue to be delivered under the last strategy. Many initiatives implemented under the strategy provide significant benefits beyond those that are easily quantifiable – for example, they contribute to public health and wellbeing, enhance community cohesion and civic pride, and improve awareness of the importance of protecting the environment. Here are some of those achievements.

1. Food Waste for Healthy Soils Fund

$5.6 mil+ **Over $5.6 million** committed by the State Government with match funding from the Australian government

3 projects **3** organic recycling infrastructure **projects**

255,000t Will provide the capacity to divert up to **255,000 tonnes** of the state's FOGO waste from landfill each year and convert it into compost

97 jobs Funding will support up to **97 jobs**

2. Recycling Modernisation Fund

$70 mil **$70 million** has been invested in increasing plastic, tyre, paper and cardboard recycling

420 jobs & 211,658t Funding will support up to **420 jobs** and provide the capacity to process **211,658 tonnes** of WA's plastic, tyre, paper and cardboard waste every year

3. E-waste to landfill ban

Ban on e-waste disposal The State Government introduced its ban on e-waste disposal to landfill on **1 July 2024**

$10.1 mil **$10.1 million** in grant funding was made available to increase e-waste collection, storage, recycling and processing technologies

25 projects & $9.8 mil+ **25 projects** have received a share of over **$9.8 million** so far

4. Plan for Plastics

20 items Bans for the sale or supply of over **20 single-use plastic items** have been introduced in stages since 2022

Bans to save The bans are estimated to save up to:

- **130 million** plastic straws
- **40 million pieces** of plastic cutlery
- **100 million thick plastic shopping bags**
- **360 million beverage cups**

from landfill and the environment each year, in addition to other single-use plastic items, once fully implemented

5. Bin tagging program

65,000 households & 4 local governments

Since 2020, more than **65,000 households** from **34 local governments** have participated in the WasteSorted Bin tagging program to improve waste sorting, recycling and disposal behaviour

6. Better Bins Plus: Go FOGO

7.3 mil+

Over $7.3 million committed towards the delivery of better practice three-bin FOGO services. Under the program, three-bin FOGO systems have been rolled out to more than **330,000 households** throughout the Perth, South West and Great Southern regions. Almost another **120,000 households** are to receive FOGO services under the program

7. Roads to Reuse

220,000 t+

Three accredited Roads to Reuse recyclers were operating at four sites in the Perth and Peel regions in 2024–25

Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) has now used **over 220,000 tonnes** of Roads to Reuse products since 2019 and has committed to using more in future projects

The program continues to encourage State Government agencies, local governments, regional councils and the private sector to use recycled C&D products in civil applications such as road construction

8. Containers for Change

4.5 bil containers & 846 jobs

Launched in October 2020. There are currently 301 refund points across WA

The program has collected over **4.5 billion containers** recycling and created **846 jobs** including

- 53 for Aboriginal people
- 127 for people with disability

8,269 registered charities, schools and community groups participate in the program and **$16.7 million has been donated** via the program

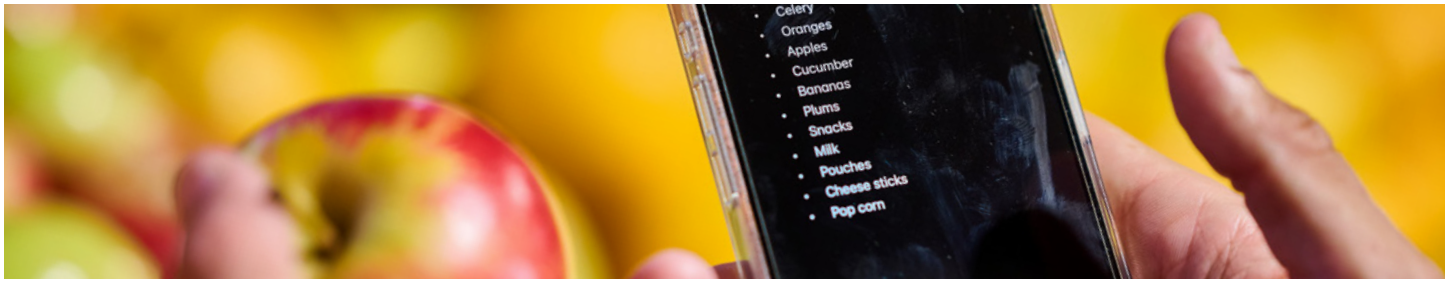
9. Keep Australia Beautiful

62,000+ volunteers

In the past 5 years:

- **1,035 new Adopt-a-Spots** have been registered
- **183** regional towns and remote communities have entered the **Tidy Towns** Sustainable Communities program
- **161** schools have registered for the **Clean Schools** program
- **419 teachers** have completed **professional development**
- **7 official litter audits** have been undertaken using the **new Australian Litter Measure methodology**

KABC now has **over 62,000 registered volunteers** undertaking litter prevention and removal action in WA



10. 'Be a GREAT Sort' behaviour change campaign

1.35 million reached

The campaign was launched in August 2020. It has:

- reached **1.35 million Western Australians** on social media via advertising
- had its videos across social media **viewed 2.1 million times**
- reached **684,922 listeners** via metro and regional radio
- resulted in **132,158 visits to the WasteSorted website**.

11. Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program

7,541 t HHW materials

Since 2011, **7,541 tonnes of HHW materials** have been collected from **15 permanent facilities** (nine metro, six non-metro) and through temporary collection events.

In 2024–25, **550 tonnes** of materials were collected for safe recovery or disposal including gas bottles, batteries, flammable liquids, aerosols and cleaning products.

12. Waste Sorted Schools

441 schools

Over the last five years, WasteSorted Schools has:

- accredited **441 schools**
- run **87 workshops** and school support events with **1,817 attendees**
- provided more than **$850,000 for school waste infrastructure**
- run **541 school incursions and events**

13. WasteSorted Toolkit

30+ LG&RC

In 2024–25, **more than 30 local governments and regional councils** used the WasteSorted toolkit and 'Be a GREAT Sort' campaign materials.

We have made some great progress since the release of the previous waste strategy however we can do even better. *Beyond WAste 2030* will focus on the areas where further action and attention is required and on new and emerging issues that require our attention.

Reconophalt™ being used in a METRONET construction project. Reconophalt™ is a road surfacing material containing high recycled content derived soft plastics, glass and toner, which would otherwise be bound for landfill or stockpiled.

The *Beyond WAste 2030 vision* for Western Australia

Beyond WAste 2030 applies across WA and to all waste-generating sectors. Although the strategy's targets are limited to MSW, C&D and C&I wastes, its vision and goals apply more broadly.

Our vision is for a sustainable, low-waste future powered by a circular economy, where our communities, economy and environment thrive.

We will work towards waste avoidance to become a collective endeavour that unlocks shared benefits across our vast, beautiful state, sustaining us for generations to come. Together, we can transition to a circular economy and low-waste society, leading with conviction to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and tackle climate change.

All Western Australians have a role to play – whether as individuals, communities, government or industry. We will harness sustainable technology, embrace innovation and provide strong leadership so our communities, economies and environment thrive, now and into the future.

Developing a more circular economy will allow Western Australia to thrive economically in a sustainable way, with better outcomes for human health and the environment. It will promote more effective business models that prioritise efficient product use and foster innovation and productivity.

Our 2030 goals and targets

Beyond WAste 2030 has maintained the goals of the previous WARR strategy 2030 (Waste Authority 2019) to avoid, recover and protect. These goals are important to guide the community and industry towards a sustainable, low-waste circular economy. They also frame the priorities that will contribute to delivering the *Beyond WAste 2030* vision:

- Avoid: Western Australians generate less waste.
- Recover: Western Australians recover more value and resources from waste.
- Protect: Western Australians protect the environment by managing waste responsibly.

By design, the targets in the previous WARR 2030 strategy (Waste Authority 2019) were ambitious and challenging to drive continuous improvement and innovation in the waste sector.

Beyond WAste 2030 builds on these targets and introduces new ones to address emerging challenges and community expectations. Where appropriate, our targets align with those of other jurisdictions; for example, the target to reduce disposal of organic waste to landfill by 50 per cent aligns with the *National Waste Policy Action Plan* (Australian Government 2024).

The targets for *Beyond WAste 2030* are set out below. The targets will be measured against a 2014–15 baseline, unless stated otherwise. The targets that are italicised are new and those that are not italicised have been adopted from the previous WARR 2030 strategy.

Whilst household waste generation is used as an indicator for waste avoidance and reuse behaviours and activities, WA's recycling targets are tracked using the following waste streams:

- MSW includes domestic household waste and other wastes arising from council activities

Table 1: *Beyond WAste 2030* targets

2030 goals	**Avoid** Western Australians generate less waste.	**Recover** Western Australians recover more value and resources from waste.	**Protect** Western Australians protect the environment by managing waste responsibly.	**Avoid – Recover – Protect** cutting across each of the three goals
2030 targets	◎ *Reduce total waste generated per person* by 10%	◎ Recover energy only from residual waste ◎ Increase the recycling* rate to 75% ▶ MSW: increase the recycling rate to 70% in Perth and Peel, 60% in major regional centres ▶ C&D: increase the recycling rate to 80% ▶ C&I: increase the recycling rate to 80% ◎ *All local governments in the Perth and Peel regions implement better practice FOGO collection systems*	◎ No more than 15% of waste generated in Perth and Peel is sent to landfill ◎ *Work towards eliminating illegal dumping* ◎ All waste is managed and/or disposed of using better practice approaches and facilities ◎ *A 20% reduction in litter (on a 2024 baseline)*	◎ *Reduce disposal of organic waste to landfill by 50% (from 2019–20 levels)*

* To avoid confusion and align with the terminology used by other jurisdictions, *Beyond WAste 2030* uses the term 'recycling' to replace 'materials recovery' used in the previous strategy. The term 'energy recovery' is commonly used to describe the energy recovered from waste processed via energy recovery (waste-to-energy) facilities, while resource recovery includes energy recovery and recycling.

such as waste collected from roads, parks and public places, beaches, waterways, street sweeping, and the collection of litter and illegally dumped waste.

- C&I waste is produced by institutions and businesses, including offices, schools, restaurants, retail and wholesale businesses, and industries such as manufacturing. It also includes waste from primary and secondary production, such as mining and minerals processing.
- C&D waste is produced by demolition and building activities, including road and rail construction and maintenance and excavation of land associated with construction activities.

Meeting our new targets

Achieving the 'avoid' targets through reduced waste generation would result in total statewide waste generation of about 6 million tonnes per year in 2030 – about the same as total generation in 2020, despite estimated population growth of 16 per cent.

Meeting the 'recover' targets and the 2030 'protect' target would mean increasing the state's overall resource recovery rate from 57 to 87 per cent. This would require:

- an increase in the amount of waste recycled – from 3.4 million tonnes in 2020 to 4.5 million tonnes in 2030 – through an additional 760,000 tonnes of new aggregation, sorting and recycling infrastructure capacity, and use of the full licensed capacity of existing waste facilities (if the proposed new target for organics recycling is adopted, more capacity will be needed)
- 164,500 tonnes of waste-to-energy capacity, in addition to the 760,000 tonnes already anticipated when the two new waste-to-energy facilities open in Perth
- implementing recycling of bottom-ash from waste-to-energy processes.

Beyond WAste 2030 commits to all local governments in the Perth and Peel regions implementing better practice FOGO collection systems. To support this target, we will work with stakeholders to investigate the measures required to facilitate FOGO system readiness and improve the quality and reliability of feedstock supply required to support the growth of, and investment in, the FOGO industry. This could include a potential future FOGO mandate for the local governments in the Perth and Peel regions.

A new direction for litter

Litter is waste that has been discarded, abandoned, or left behind by its owner or the person responsible for it. Litter is a form of waste that falls outside formal recovery systems and is not captured within the circular economy, resulting in lost resources and environmental harm.

A range of programs are needed to tackle the issue at the source (littering behaviours), provide appropriate infrastructure (bins), and respond to its impact (community clean-ups).

The 2020 introduction of Containers for Change saw a decrease in the littering of bottles and cans from 40 per cent of the volume of litter down to 5.65 per cent in 2022–23. WA's Plan for Plastics has phased-in bans on commonly littered single-use plastics since 2018. WA's Plan for Plastics has phased-in bans on commonly littered single-use plastics since 2018. Early indications show that materials subject to regulation in the litter stream have fallen from 11.5 per cent in 2022 to 9.90 per cent of the overall volume of litter in 2024–25.

We have supported local government, the community and businesses to take action on litter through Keep Australia Beautiful programs, littering enforcement, and Containers for Change and Plan for Plastics initiatives. Collectively, these efforts have realised the goal of the *Litter Prevention Strategy for Western Australia 2025* (KABC WA 2020) to reduce litter by 30 per cent on 2019 levels.

An amended litter reduction goal to further reduce litter by another 20 per cent by 2030 recognises that much of the low-hanging fruit has been achieved, but with the right programs and support for stakeholders more can be done, including responding to emerging litter issues (e.g. vapes).

For the next five years, *Beyond WAste 2030* will take the Litter Prevention Strategy's place, incorporating litter prevention objectives to better position these alongside waste and recycling efforts to protect the environment and human health.

A new annual litter prevention plan will identify stakeholder needs and attitudes, and guide State Government programs, funding and activities to meet the new 2030 target. The plan will provide continuity with the previous Litter Prevention Strategy by retaining the same principles to:

- increase community understanding of the impacts of litter on the environment and support behaviour change
- contribute to the long-term prevention of litter and marine debris
- regulate and enforce the *Litter Act (1979)*
- monitor the level of litter in WA and its marine environment and evaluate program effectiveness.

Collective responsibility – we all have a role to play

Everyone has a role to play to avoid and recover waste, as well as to protect people and the environment, as we advance to a more efficient and sustainable circular economy.

Beyond WAste 2030 will help WA minimise environmental impacts and enhance our waste management systems in the face of growing population pressures and sustainability challenges. By embracing circular economy principles, we can reduce our environmental impacts, strengthen our waste and recycling industry and realise long–term social, economic and environmental benefits.

WA's geographic isolation and limited economies of scale can lead to higher costs and operational inefficiencies. These conditions highlight the need to invest in a strong, local recycling industry that creates jobs, fosters innovation and can manage waste effectively to create local economic and environmental value.

We have a significant opportunity to address the growing volume and complexity of solid and liquid waste by accelerating investment in modern infrastructure for collection, sorting, recycling and treatment. Strategic focus on emerging sectors such as solar panel and battery recycling can position WA as a leader in the clean energy transition and boost hazardous waste risk management. Likewise, advanced technology and scaling-up FOGO infrastructure will help recover more and high-quality recycled organics which, in turn, will divert organic waste from landfill, helping to cut methane emissions.

Complex challenges remain, from battery fires and increasing volumes of decommissioning waste to market limitations and public confusion about correct sorting practices. However, these also represent opportunities to drive innovation, enhance education and build strong end-markets for recycled materials, helping to future-proof WA's waste and recycling system.

Certain challenges faced by Western Australia, such as battery fires, end-of-life tyre recovery, packaging reform and soft-plastics recycling, are shared by other jurisdictions and require a nationally-led or harmonised approach. We recognise the importance of addressing these issues and will engage with other jurisdictions to maximise consistency, efficiency and effectiveness in our response to them.

As we move towards a circular economy, success will depend on the shared efforts of government, industry, and the community. Recognising each sector's legislated roles, distinct capabilities, and spheres of influence is essential to building a resilient, effective and sustainable waste and recycling system for WA.

Table 2: Roles and responsibilities in relation to waste and recycling

Key parties	Role
Government	The **Australian Government** handles national laws, strategies and policies in line with global agreements and is responsible for the *Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020* and related product stewardship schemes. It develops policy, standards, funding and regulations to provide national consistency in approaches to waste and recycling issues in every state and territory. Along with the WA Government, it works to establish platforms for collaboration across the country. The **WA Government** regulates industry, sets policy and implements programs in alignment with national approaches and state priorities. It also manages economic instruments such as the state's waste levy and advocates for national approaches to matters such as product stewardship. It collaborates with stakeholders, influences community and business attitudes and behaviour, and supports innovation in waste and recycling. It seeks to demonstrate leadership and drive market development through procuring recycled products. **Local governments and regional councils** influence important outcomes in their jurisdictions. They do this by providing household waste services, managing waste and recycling facilities, promoting behaviour change in their communities, and using recycled products in their operations. All levels of government have a key role to play in showing leadership, demonstrating positive change and adopting circular policies and practices.
Businesses	**Businesses and industry** generate waste through their operations. Their role in bringing about a circular economy includes efforts to take responsibility for their end-of-life products, avoid waste generation, encourage innovation, engage in responsible recycling practices, and make use of recycled products. **Recyclers** collect, sort and process recyclable materials to create new products or refine the inputs for manufacturing processes. They support government to make informed infrastructure and investment decisions to meet market needs and progress the transition to a circular economy. **Waste managers** collect, sort and recover energy from residual waste through waste-to-energy facilities, or dispose of it to landfill. How these facilities are developed and managed is critical to protecting the environment and community from the impacts of waste.
Individuals and households	The **community and householders** contribute to waste reduction by making mindful product and service choices and properly sorting and disposing of their waste. These decisions normalise waste sorting as part of everyday life. Households can drive grassroots change within communities, while also influencing the behaviour of government, businesses and industry. At the same time, communities are the direct beneficiaries of the coordinated and diverse waste systems that protect the environment, improve public health and recover resources. If people do not use these systems, or do not use them properly, their potential impact is lost. This highlights why community participation is not just helpful but essential: without it, the purpose of building stronger waste systems is undermined.
Community groups and not-for-profit organisations	**Community groups and not-for-profit organisations** play a crucial role in advocating for improvements and for a sustainable and circular economy. These groups often provide key services to their local communities, such as repair hubs and sharing centres. They also run environmental care programs such as clean-ups and deliver information and behaviour change advice and support.
Research centres and education sector	**Research centres** play a key role in partnering with government and industry and the community sector to undertake research and develop innovative solutions to facilitate circularity and improved waste and recycling. The **education sector** trains and prepares current and future generations of Western Australians to implement circularity and take advantage of any opportunities offered.

The *Beyond WAste 2030* goals, targets and priorities will be achieved by delivering various actions grouped under five priority areas (all are equally important) – see below for an overview of the priorities. A more detailed discussion, and the actions to be delivered under the priorities, is provided in the *Beyond WAste 2030* roadmap, which is available from here.

The roadmap has been designed to remain flexible so that the actions can be adapted, expanded or refined in response to emerging challenges, new opportunities and lessons learned. This adaptability will ensure the strategy continues to deliver meaningful outcomes over its five-year life.

Our priorities and actions:

the *Beyond WAste 2030* roadmap, a five-year focus

1. Intensify our focus on waste avoidance and reuse

Our aim: To avoid waste generation by encouraging reuse and repair and maintaining the value of products and materials for as long as possible.

What **success** will look like

- **Research, innovation and the development of new technologies and systems will facilitate increased waste avoidance, reduction and circularity**: We will partner with other jurisdictions, industry and academia to undertake research and support innovative approaches to increase waste avoidance, reduction and circularity.

- **Businesses and government agencies will be supported to avoid and reduce waste**: We will collaborate with different levels of government, industry, research institutions, and academia to foster innovation and explore new technologies and systems that avoid and reduce waste and encourage circularity.

- **Western Australians will be empowered to avoid, reuse and reduce waste**: We will develop and implement evidence-based behaviour change programs and support organisations and initiatives to empower Western Australians to avoid unnecessary waste, donate responsibly to charitable organisations, and choose reuse or repair options where possible.

- **Charities, social enterprises, local governments and commercial operators will be supported to increase reuse and repair**: We will work with charities, social enterprises, local governments and commercial operators to undertake research and explore and trial options to increase reuse and repair.

2. Realise the economic potential of recycling and the circular economy

Our aim: To transform waste into a valuable resource to create an efficient and profitable circular economy.

What **success** will look like

- **Strong and stable markets for recycled products and materials are created**: Through the Recovered Materials Framework, we are building strong, stable markets for recycled products – working with industry to set clear standards, drive innovation, and share success stories that accelerate progress toward WA's recovery targets.
- **Government procurement and use of recycled products and materials is increased**: We will drive market growth for sustainable products and materials, build confidence in local markets, and demonstrate environmental and social responsibility by using our purchasing power (where feasible) to prefer and support waste avoidance, reuse, recycling and the use of recycled and recyclable products.
- **Innovation and research that unlocks the value of circularity is supported**: We will undertake and support research and innovation that develops effective solutions to address specific waste challenges and increases circularity.
- **Infrastructure planning will incorporate circularity principles and foster the development of circular ecosystems**: We will explore opportunities to better encourage the development of circular ecosystems and outcomes within our strategic and infrastructure planning and development processes and expand our successful Container Deposit Scheme to collect even more uncontaminated recyclable materials.

Pipes made from 100 per cent recycled raw materials from kerbside waste used in rail extension project.

3. Foster a resilient recycled organics sector

Our aim: To increase the recycling of organic material and facilitate the development of quality recycled organics and end markets.

What **success** will look like

- **The quality of FOGO–derived recycled organics is improved**: We will work with local governments and processors to support the production of high-quality FOGO–derived products by addressing contamination and developing product specifications and quality assurance.
- **End markets for recycled organic products are supported**: We will support the growth and development of sustainable end markets for recycled organic products through research and funding.
- **Industry certainty and growth is facilitated**: We will work with the organics sector to ensure adequate FOGO processing capacity, develop guidance and an assurance regime that facilitates stability and growth.
- **Recycling of organic waste from municipal sources is increased**: We will work with local governments to implement FOGO across Perth and Peel, addressing some of the current challenges associated with implementation.

4. Support the circular management of clean energy technologies and electronics

Our aim: To develop end-of-life solutions for the management and recycling of clean energy technologies and increase the recycling of and value from electronic waste.

What **success** will look like

- **The risk from end-of-life batteries is reduced**: We will continue to advocate for nationally harmonised solutions and national leadership while engaging with industry and the community to identify and progress meaningful efforts to reduce the instances and impacts of battery fires.
- **Options to recover and recycle resources from clean energy technologies are identified**: We will work with industry to identify end-of-life options for solar panels and wind energy technologies.
- **Recycling of e-waste and batteries is increased**: We will work with waste service providers and local governments to plan for and develop a collection network and product stewardship arrangements for batteries that will facilitate increased battery recycling.
- **The value from end-of-life e-waste is recovered and risks are reduced**: We will continue to implement the e-waste to landfill ban to mitigate the environmental and fire risks posed by e-waste in landfill and support the development of markets for the recycling and recovery of valuable materials from e-waste.

5. Improve outcomes for regional and Aboriginal communities

Our aim: To develop and deliver fit-for-purpose waste infrastructure and services to meet community needs.

What **success** will look like

- **Community-led solutions for managing waste are developed**: We will establish strong collaborations to enable the co-design of policy and programs that are community-owned to improve waste management in Aboriginal communities, enhance community health and protect Country.
- **Waste management initiatives demonstrate economic and environmental benefits for regional WA**: We will work with local partners to develop and implement initiatives that deliver tangible economic and environmental benefits, thereby creating a more sustainable and prosperous future for regional communities and the state.
- **Increased recycling and markets for recycled products are developed in regional WA**: We will collaborate with industry and local governments to increase recycling rates and create sustainable, local markets for recycled products across regional Western Australia. This will transform waste from a liability into a valuable resource, fostering a more resilient, circular economy and delivering clear environmental benefits.

Actions identified under one priority may also provide benefits under other or multiple priorities.

Beyond WAste 2030 includes another category of actions: **foundational actions.** These are actions that cut across or support the delivery of most or all of the priorities; or the strategy's vision, goals and targets; or are required to support the development of policy and programs or improve waste management across the state in other ways. The actions under these priorities as well as the foundational actions are set out in the *Beyond WAste 2030* roadmap which is available from here.

Governance

The WARR Act is the primary legislation for waste management in WA. The Act establishes the Waste Authority as an independent statutory authority and sets out its roles and responsibilities. One of the Waste Authority's primary functions is to draft the state's long-term waste strategy and update it every five years. The Act also provides the Waste Authority with the power to require reporting on compliance with the waste strategy.

The Minister for the Environment has the responsibility to approve the waste strategy drafted by the Waste Authority.

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation supports the Waste Authority to achieve the waste strategy's goals, priorities and targets by working to:

- regulate the industry, and develop and implement waste policy, guidance and programs
- manage economic instruments like the state's waste levy
- collaborate with stakeholders – such as other state and local government agencies, other Australian jurisdictions and waste sector enterprises – to influence community and business attitudes and to support innovation
- review the WARR Act
- update data collection and reporting systems.

Reporting

The Waste Authority will continuously monitor progress on the actions in this strategy and share the results in our annual report. Furthermore, we will share progress towards achieving the strategy's targets in the annual *Waste and recycling in WA* report.

State Government agencies must report on how they are implementing their actions toward the strategy each year. Annual reporting enables the monitoring of progress, while also revealing achievements and opportunities for further policy and program development.

All the relevant reports will be made available on the Waste Authority website: www.wasteauthority.wa.gov.au.

Review

The Waste Authority will undertake a formal five-yearly review of the waste strategy, according to the WARR Act's requirements. As part of our annual business planning process, we will update the priorities and actions, if required, to ensure they align with the government's priorities, changing circumstances and resourcing.

Conclusion

Beyond WAste 2030 provides a renewed framework for avoiding and reducing waste, recovering resources and protecting the environment, while enabling the growth of a prosperous circular economy that supports local jobs and industries.

The strategy's vision for a thriving low-waste future is central to WA's long-term prosperity. By embedding innovation, collaboration, and sustainable practices across government, industry and the community, the strategy will help build resilience, foster new market opportunities, and create more local value from the resources we use.

Achieving the strategy's ambitious 2030 goals, targets and priorities requires collective effort, innovation and commitment across government, industry and the community. It sets out actions for the next five years, the intended outcomes, and roles and responsibilities against the strategy's goals and priorities.

Guided by this strategy and its actions, we can drive meaningful change that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, protects WA's unique ecosystems, and strengthens our economy by supporting local industries and new markets. Together, we can ensure Western Australians benefit from sustainable waste management and circular economy opportunities for generations to come.

Glossary

Term	Definition
Better practice	Practices and approaches that the Waste Authority considers to be outcomes-focused, effective and high performing, based on evidence and benchmarking against comparable jurisdictions. Better-practice guidelines, measures and reporting frameworks are being developed to reflect the different capacities and challenges faced by waste generators and managers. Better practice is synonymous with the term 'best practice' but captures the dynamic nature of best practice.
Circular economy	An alternative to a traditional linear economy (make, use, dispose) in which we keep resources in use for as long as possible – extracting the maximum value from them while in use, reusing where possible, then recycling products and materials. Three core principles underpin a circular economy: design out waste and pollution, keep products and materials in use, and regenerate natural systems.
Commercial and industrial (C&I) waste	Waste produced by institutions and businesses, including schools, restaurants, offices, State Government agencies and facilities, retail and wholesale businesses and industries, including manufacturing.
Construction and demolition (C&D) waste	Waste produced by demolition and building activities, including road and rail construction and maintenance, and excavation of land associated with construction activities.
Drop-off facility	A site where residents can bring their waste or recyclables for disposal.
Energy recovery	Energy recovery refers to the process of converting waste materials into some form of energy, usually as solid, liquid or gaseous fuels or as heat. Energy recovery options are also referred to as 'waste-to-energy' (or energy from waste) and can include both thermal and non-thermal technologies such as incineration, anaerobic digestion or gasification.
Food organics and garden organics (FOGO)	Mixed food and garden organic waste, which generally comes from the municipal solid waste stream. Food organics include waste food, inedible food and parts of food that are not consumed and/or are considered undesirable (such as seeds, bones, coffee grounds, skins and peels). Garden organics include organic wastes that arise from gardening and maintenance activities, such as lawn clippings, leaves, cuttings and branches. Food organics and garden organics can also include other compatible organic wastes such as paper and cardboard.
Food organics (FO)	Organic waste, generally sourced from the commercial and industrial waste stream, which includes waste food, inedible food and parts of food that are not consumed and/or are considered undesirable (such as seeds, bones, coffee grounds, skins and peels).
Garden organics (GO)	Organic waste, generally sourced from the municipal solid waste or commercial and industrial waste streams, which arises from gardening and maintenance activities, such as lawn clippings, leaves, cuttings and branches.
Greenhouse gas emissions	Greenhouse gas emissions refer to the release of gases into the earth's atmosphere that contribute to the greenhouse effect. These gases trap heat and contribute to global warming. Common greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and fluorinated gases.

Term	Definition
Household hazardous waste	Products used in and around the home that have at least one hazardous characteristic (flammable, toxic, explosive or corrosive).
Hazardous waste	Waste that, by its characteristics, poses a threat or risk to public health, safety or the environment.
Illegal dumping	Premeditated littering where people go out of their way to dump waste in public places illegally, typically for commercial benefit or to avoid disposal fees.
Kerbside collection	A regular containerised service that collects waste from a resident's kerbside.
Litter	Waste that is left in public places and not deposited into a bin.
Liquid waste	Wastes that are not solid or gaseous. May refer to sludges and slurries, or other liquids discharged to sewer. May also refer to wastewater.
Major regional centre	Major regional centres are the cities of Albany, Busselton, Bunbury, Greater Geraldton and Kalgoorlie-Boulder, which are local governments outside the Perth and Peel region that have both a relatively large population and reasonable access to markets. Other major regional centres may be identified by the Waste Authority during the life of the waste strategy.
Material recovery	The materials extracted from processing waste (does not include recovered energy). Also commonly referred to as recycling.
Municipal solid waste (MSW)	Waste primarily collected from households and local governments through waste and recycling collections.
Organic waste	Waste materials from plant or animal sources, including garden waste, food waste, paper and cardboard.
Perth and Peel region	The Perth region, or Perth metropolitan region, is the area defined by the Metropolitan Region Scheme. The Peel region is the area defined by the Peel Region Scheme. Municipal solid waste targets are set for the Perth and Peel region to reflect current urbanisation trends and to align with waste infrastructure servicing and planning needs.
Product stewardship	Product stewardship is an approach to managing the impacts of different products and materials. It acknowledges that those involved in producing, selling, using and disposing of products have a shared responsibility to ensure that those products or materials are managed in a way that reduces their impact, throughout their lifecycle, on the environment and on public health and safety.
Putrescible waste	A component of the waste stream likely to become putrid, including wastes that contain organic materials such as food wastes or wastes of animal or vegetable origin, which readily biodegrade within the environment of a landfill.
Recovered Materials Framework	A regulatory framework enabling the safe and beneficial reuse of waste-derived materials through a formal approval process, while safeguarding human health and protecting the environment, and clearly defining when materials cease to be waste and become a resource.

Term	Definition
Recycling	The use of recovered waste materials as substitutes for extracted raw materials. It involves taking waste materials or products and reconstituting them into items that have a market value. Replaces the term 'material recovery' used in the 2019 waste strategy (Waste Authority 2019).
Reprocessing	Using an item or material that might otherwise become waste during the manufacturing or remanufacturing process.
Repurpose	Refers to the process of taking an item or resource that was originally intended for one use and adapting it for a different purpose.
Residual waste	Waste that remains after the application of a better practice source separation process and recycling system, consistent with the waste hierarchy as described in s.5 of the WARR Act. Where better practice guidance is not available, an entity's recycling performance will need to meet or exceed the relevant stream target (depending on its source – municipal solid waste, commercial and industrial or construction and demolition) for the remaining non-recovered materials to be considered residual waste under this waste strategy. The State Government policy position is that only residual waste should be sent to energy recovery facilities.
Reuse	Refers to using a material or item again. It is the most preferable form of recovery under the waste hierarchy because it requires no (or minimal) resources and therefore has no (or minimal) environmental impact.
Waste avoidance	Refers to the prevention or reduction of waste generation, or the prevention or reduction of the environmental impacts (e.g. toxicity) of waste generation.
Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Account	In accordance with the WARR Act, each year the Minister for Environment must allocate not less than 25 per cent of the forecast levy amount to the WARR Account. Funds in the WARR Account are applied to programs for the management, reduction, reuse, recycling, monitoring or measurement of waste and to support implementation of the waste strategy.
Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Levy	Also known as the 'waste levy'. A levy on waste received at landfill premises in the metropolitan region and on waste collected in the metropolitan region and received at landfill premises outside the metropolitan region, administered under the Levy Act and Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Levy Regulations 2008. The waste levy acts as an economic instrument to reduce waste disposed of to landfill by increasing the price of landfill disposal and generates funds for a range of waste and environmental purposes. In accordance with the WARR Act, each year the Minister for Environment must allocate not less than 25 per cent of the forecast waste levy amount to the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account.

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