
Community and Stakeholder Engagement Report

Waste & Circular Economy Strategy 2040

Consultation period: 27 October to 10 December 2023

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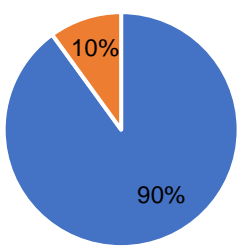

1. Summary

This report outlines the outcomes of community and stakeholder engagement on the Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040.

The feedback collected during consultation indicated a high level of support for the draft Circular Economy and Waste Strategy 2040 with comments citing the anticipated benefits for the community and environment.

90% of survey respondents supported the draft Strategy, with 88% supporting the related actions.

1.1. Key outcomes

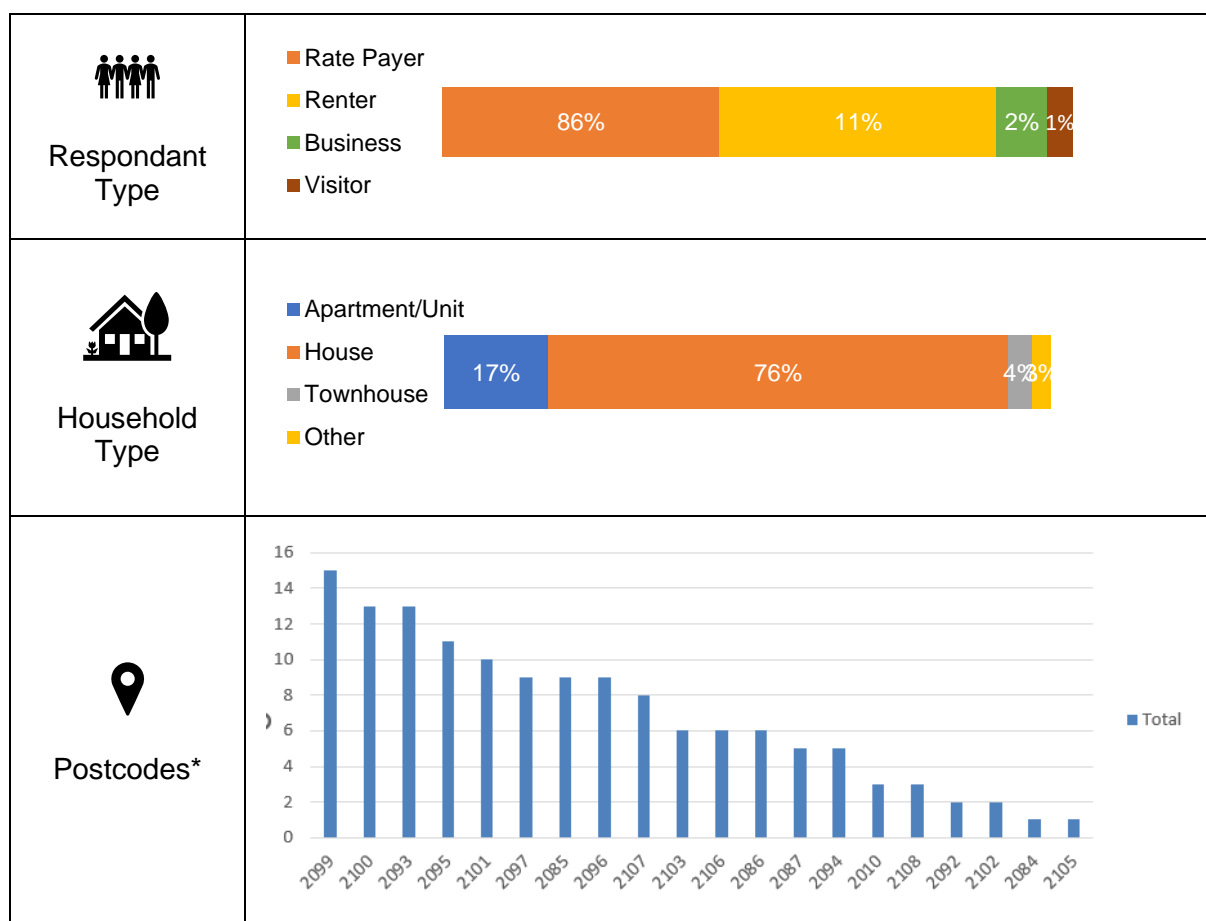
 <p>Total unique responses</p>	179 ¹	
 <p>How responses were received</p>	<p>Submission form</p> <p>Written responses (email/letter)</p>	<p>Completions: 163</p> <p>Number received: 16</p>
 <p>Online sentiment question:</p> <p>Overall, do you support our draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy?</p>	 <p>■ Support</p> <p>■ Don't support</p> <p>Total responses = 163</p>	
 <p>Feedback themes</p>	<p>Bulky Goods</p> <p>Food Organics</p> <p>Soft Plastics</p>	<p>Education</p> <p>Cost</p>

¹ Not all respondents made a comment, some respondents made more than one submission and some duplicated their submission both in writing and online.

1.2. How we engaged

 Have Your Say: visitation stats	Visitors: 3,009	Visits: 4,974
 Social media	Facebook Post: 6	Impressions 99K Engagement 6,794
	Instagram Posts: 5	Plays 87,339 Likes/Shares 1,011
	Instagram Stories: 1	Impressions 681 Clicks 3
 Videos	Informative: 1	Views: 555
 Print media and collateral	Pittwater Life: 1 editorial Peninsula Living (south ed.): 1 ad	Readership: 90,000 Distribution: 57,000
 Bus stop advertising	Dee Why, Belrose, North Manly, Forestville. Collaroy	
 Electronic direct mail (EDM)	Community Engagement (fortnightly) newsletter: 2 editions Council (weekly) e-News: 1 edition Mayors Message: 1 edition	Distribution: 22,000 subscribers Total Clicks: 4,424
 Face-to-face sessions	Pop up / Drop-in Sessions: 13 Online Information Webinar: 1	Attendance: 33 (Registered)
 Key stakeholder engagement	Business Chambers Council Contractors Strategic Reference Group – Environment Councillor Briefings	Youth Advisory Committee (YAG)

1.3. Who responded²



* Demographic data was gathered by request only. The data represented only includes those respondents who provided this detail.

2. Background

Waste management is an essential service provided by Council, critical to the health of the community and protecting the local environment. The transition to a circular economy, where we keep materials in use for longer through reuse, repair, and recycling, also presents potential economic, social, and environmental opportunities for the local community and businesses.

Informed by initial community engagement and investigations, the draft Strategy focuses on five directions, each with supporting actions: (1) Eliminating waste (2) Easy to use waste service (3) Tackling priority waste (4) Green and clean environment and (5) Council leading the way.

At its meeting held on 24 October 2023, Council endorsed the public exhibition of the draft Northern Beaches Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040 for a minimum of 28 days. The public exhibition period ran from 27 October 2023 to 10 December 2023.

3. Engagement objectives

Exhibition of the draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040 aimed to:

- Encourage the community to provide feedback on the draft *Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040 Rethink. Reduce. Reuse*
- Educate the community on the circular economy, how Council is working towards it, and how everyone has a role to play in achieving it.
- Provide accessible information so community and stakeholders can participate in a meaningful way.
- Build community and stakeholder awareness of participation activities and how to have their say.
- Identify community and stakeholder concerns, local knowledge, and values in relation to waste.
- Facilitate inclusive and ongoing dialogue using context appropriate spaces and platforms such as face to face events and other forums.

4. Engagement approach

Exhibition of the draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040 was conducted between 27 October to 10 December 2023, and consisted of a series of activities that provided opportunities for community and stakeholders to contribute.

The engagement was planned, implemented and reported in accordance with Council's [Community Engagement Strategy](#) (2022).

Community and stakeholder engagement leading to the development of the draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy was conducted between November 2022 and July 2023 in three stages.

- Stage 1 – Telephone survey
- Stage 2 – Community workshops and focus groups.
- Stage 3 – Key stakeholder engagement
- Stage 4 – Community Consultation on the draft Strategy (this report)

For exhibition of the draft strategy, a project page was established on our have your say platform with information provided in an accessible and easy to read format.

The project was largely promoted through our Councils different email newsletters (EDM) channels.

Multiple face to face engagement events were held throughout the LGA allowing residents to discuss the strategy with staff and ask questions. A series of videos were distributed via social media channels providing information to support the strategy.

Feedback was captured through an online submission form embedded onto Council's Your Say' project page. The form included a question that directly asked respondents for their level of support on the proposal.

Submitters were asked a series of questions aligned with the directions outlined in the Strategy. As well as Yes/No questions, open-field comments boxes provided community members a space to explain or elaborate on their support or opposition, as well as any other feedback they wished to contribute.

Email and written comments were also invited.

4.1. Reaching diverse audiences

A thorough stakeholder mapping exercise was completed to identify and understand the needs of the whole community.

It was determined for this project that it was particularly important to hear from people across all spectrums of the community's demographics, experience, and location.

In addition to regular channels and engagement technique to capture a range of views, we also promoted the public exhibition in a range of Council newsletters including disability, business chambers, youth (YAG) and Council's general EDM to over 60,000 residents. Notification of the strategy was also distributed to Council multicultural networks and Aboriginal groups.

5. Findings

Feedback collected during the exhibition period revealed a high level of engagement and support for the draft Strategy, confirming the draft Strategy's directions and actions. 90% of submissions supported the draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy, with 88% supporting the actions for the first 5 years.

The key themes outlined in this report were highlighted by respondents. The clear top four themes were soft plastics, bulky goods, food organics and education. Responses highlighted the need for Council to take a key leadership role in these areas, and provide feasible ongoing solutions.

Responses encouraged Council to work closely with community groups and businesses to identify and implement solutions.

Feedback also highlighted that the community wants to be educated and guided, to ensure they are doing the best they can in reusing and recycling, and informed on new events and solutions to reduce waste.

Concerns were raised in relation to the timeframes outlined in the related actions. Council does acknowledge this, however it is important that long term, sustainable solutions are implemented. This requires in-depth investigation and studies into different available options to avoid a future scenario like RedCycle.

Overall		Direction One: Eliminating waste		Direction Two: Easy to use waste service		Direction Three: Tackling priority wastes		Direction Four: Green and Clean Environment		Direction Five: Council leading the way		Actions	
Overall, do you support our draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy?		Do you think this direction will help to prevent waste and assist you to engage in the circular economy?		Do you think this direction will make waste and recycling services more accessible and easier to use?		Are we focusing on the right priority wastes (food and garden organics and plastic)?		Is our approach to tackling these wastes, right?	Are the actions and approach right for this direction?	Will our priorities and approach help drive local change to reduce the impact of waste?		Do you support the actions for the first 5 years of strategy?	
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
146	17	133	24	137	18	130	29	108	44	142	18	121	26
90%	10%	85%	15%	88%	12%	82%	18%	71%	29%	89%	11%	82%	18%

Survey questions were not mandatory (excluding overall support). Results based on numbers of questions answered by respondents.

Theme	Issues, change requests and other considerations raised	Council's response
Food Organics	<p>Support for food organics collections to be prioritised, start asap and progressed quickly.</p> <p>Need more Community Gardens to facilitate composting and more support for home composting. Although some residents who live in MUDS cannot home compost.</p> <p>Concern for a reduction in red bin servicing and capacity.</p>	<p><i>Review of feasibility</i></p> <p>Council is comprehensively reviewing the feasibility of a range of options to recover food waste (as well as other materials) from the domestic red bin. We need to ensure that whatever we do has long term sustainable outcomes and makes products which can be returned to valuable use and avoid rushing into a solution which can't be sustained.</p> <p>Studies and planning include ensuring that currently limited state and federal organics processing infrastructure and end markets can support the organic waste that is produced by the Northern Beaches.</p> <p><i>Staged approach to implementation</i></p> <p>Council will implement a phased approach to food waste collection to meet the NSW Governments requirement in its Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 that councils will need to collect both food and garden waste by 2030.</p> <p>A dedicated staff member has been approved to review, investigate, and plan for a future food collection trail.</p> <p>Once an approach has been confirmed Council will pilot a localised 12-month deployment of FO or FOGO for between 5k to 15k households to test different collection and processing systems.</p> <p>Changes to residential bins depends on the type of service that is offered, which may also depend on whether the dwelling is multi-unit or single unit.</p>

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		<p>Any introduction of a food organics collection will be supported by a comprehensive information and education program to support residents through changes to existing waste processes.</p> <p>In relation to reducing frequency of red bin collections and red bin size, Council is carefully reviewing how FOGO/FO services have been implemented in other LGAs and impacts on the red bin. This will play a strong role in design of Northern Beaches model.</p> <p><i>Support for food waste reduction</i></p> <p>In conjunction, Council will also investigate initiatives to reduce food waste being generated in the home, donate excess food, and manage organic waste in home composting.</p> <p>Council currently offers a \$90 voucher for a subsidised worm farm or compost bin to anyone that attends a composting workshop at Kimbriki. Where it can be done well, composting locally has the advantage of reducing the carbon footprint of transporting the waste and provides nutrients for backyard gardens.</p>
Soft Plastics	<p>Support for Council to provide a soft plastics collection.</p> <p>Concern about the collapse of REDcycle.</p> <p>The community would like to recycle single use plastics if possible. How are we going to provide the community with</p>	<p>There is a lack of soft plastic recycling facilities in Australia, which was the catalyst behind the collapse of REDCycle soft plastic recycling program in 2022.</p> <p>In 2023, Council completed a detailed study of the recycling process for soft plastics and conducted a limited recycling trial to see if we could find a viable alternative for recycling soft plastics.</p>

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	<p>viable and sustainable options to reduce single use plastics? Community would like to see the reduction in the usage of SUP packaging.</p> <p>Threat to our natural environment that single use plastics pose and that there are insufficient mechanisms for plastic avoidance.</p>	<p>This research and resulting trial have shown that while it is relatively easy to collect post-consumer soft plastics, the real difficulty is finding markets for the soft plastics collected, which are generally mixed soft plastic of relatively poor quality. This was demonstrated when the main collection system for soft plastics (REDCycle supermarket collections) ceased operating and huge volumes of stockpiled material were discovered.</p> <p>Our investigations and trial found that there are still no current large-scale facilities/markets within Australia for processing mixed soft plastics into viable products for return to the productive economy. Council will continue to monitor the market, however, to see if there are viable long term and sustainable solutions for soft plastics.</p> <p>Unfortunately, local government is not responsible for packaging laws and the current situation highlights the need for State and Federal governments to work with industry to provide real solutions, associated infrastructure, and viable end markets.</p> <p>In the meantime, Council will continue to advocate for the phase out of single use or unrecyclable plastics, as well as advocating for extended producer responsibility for problematic waste streams such as soft plastics. An example of this is Council's recent submission on NSW Plastics: Next Steps Discussion Paper on the 04/02/2024.</p> <p>Council also encourages the community to reduce the use of soft plastics where possible to avoid it ending up in landfill.</p>
Bulky Goods	Scheduled bulky goods collections provided a circular economy opportunity for the community and it needs to be reintroduced.	With scheduled bulky goods collections there was a history of material being placed in streets in advance of collections and then being added to by people dumping additional material on top of that legitimately placed out by

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	<p>Increase the level of recycled content collected by bulky goods collections.</p>	<p>residents. Habitual dumpers could easily find the scheduled dates for areas and regularly left large piles in front of people's homes.</p> <p>Even though there were often piles in streets for weeks, very little was removed, and the significant amount left remaining in the streets at collection time indicated that very little of the general cleanup was of any value for those searching through piles in the street for potentially valuable or reusable items.</p> <p>The result was unsafe and unsightly streets for weeks in advance of collections, resident complaints, followed by safety and time issues for collection contractors.</p> <p>The new system of cleanup has resolved many of these issues, while maintaining the same level of service to residents of two collections per 12-month period.</p> <p>The strategy outlines a number of initiatives to ensure the best recovery from the bulky goods service, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering customising our bulky goods collection service for high density areas • identifying opportunities to reduce the volume and increase recycling of household items being disposed of in Council's kerbside bulky goods collection. • providing separate collections of targeted recyclable bulky goods to divert more waste from landfill. • creating a more flexible bulky goods service. <p>Council will work toward providing more convenient and separate collections to ensure as much as possible is recycled or reused. This could include items such as timber and electronics to avoid them going to landfill. In</p>

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		<p>addition, we will look to provide regular and accessible collections for electronic waste, textiles and household chemicals by 2025.</p> <p>A new dedicated position has been approved to implement the actions identified in the Waste and Circular Economy Strategy as well as substantially increase resource recovery rates and reuse opportunities for 'problem wastes' to maximise the life and productive use of these resources in our local economy.</p>
Cost impact	Feedback was received about concern about the increase in costs associated with implementation of the actions.	<p>A guide to costs for initiatives can be found in the strategy, under the 'Implementing the Strategy' section. This section also outlines the financial year in which the initiative is expected to be implemented.</p> <p>The Local Government Act NSW requires that Council make and levy a Domestic Waste Management Charge (DWMC) on all residential properties in the LGA where the service is available. The DWMC must be calculated to cover the reasonable cost of providing domestic waste services to the community.</p> <p>Many of the initiatives will not lead to increases in waste charges. However, some key initiatives, like the introduction of food organics collections, may require an increase in the waste charge in order to achieve the environmental and climate change benefits. Council will pilot these types of initiatives, where possible, to achieve the best outcome for the community.</p> <p>Where actions are dependent on external or new funding, these will be subject to internal budget bids as part of Council's normal process and Council will seek external funding where it can primarily through grants by the NSW Environment Protection Authority). Where actions are dependent on external or new funding, the strategy states they are 'subject to available funding – in competitive budget bidding process'.</p>

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Scale and Influence	<p>Does Council have sufficient scale or funds to implement the actions associated with the Strategy?</p> <p>Concern if Council will be able to influence the outcomes? Will existing services be reduced? Incentives to residents for the amount of waste reduction and recycling done in their household.</p>	<p>The Strategy recognises that Council, local businesses, and residents need to work together to help the Northern Beaches achieve the strategy's vision and minimise the impact of waste. There are also some important areas, such as product design and precinct planning, where Council's powers and influence are limited.</p> <p>As a result, the strategy focuses on Council taking action where we can make the most impact, leading by example and influencing in other areas. Council is already allocating internal resources to help achieve the objectives of the strategy, including in key priority areas of food and garden organics, bulky goods collections, litter prevention and reuse and repair hubs.</p> <p>These roles and resources will work in ensuring comprehensive, proven, and sustainable solutions for the implementation of any actions.</p> <p>For further information on Councils influence on other levels of government and business see the theme below titled, "Advocate".</p>
Education and Behaviour Change	<p>Strong education campaign is needed. Education to prevent waste being generated and what to put in each bin.</p> <p>Concerns that plan's designed with no flexibility to change along the way. There are too many people who don't bother to reuse, repair, recycle even though there are opportunities to do so. Need to inspire the community to make change.</p>	<p>Councils Waste and Cleansing department has a designated education team responsible for the design and implementation of education programs to support existing and new waste initiatives.</p> <p>Council's education campaign will focus on best practice waste prevention and sustainable recycling, as well as supplying education resources to improve use of bin system and resident sorting to maximise recycling.</p> <p>To support this Council will use benchmarking of the domestic waste service, and audits of domestic waste collected, to understand resident practices and inform strategic decisions, community education and resourcing.</p>

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	<p>Concern that recycling is not happening after collection.</p> <p>Build a community of waste champions by creating hubs of learning. Use the Community Centres.</p> <p>Introduce the program into schools and get kids involved. Kids can drive ideas for a greener and cleaner environment upwards!</p>	<p>Feedback shows that there is confusion over what can and can't be recycled via Council bins, this will guide education resources to improve use of the residential bin system and resident sorting to maximise recycling.</p> <p>From our engagement with the community, we know that there is concern that recycling of different commodities is sometimes not occurring after collection. Council will ensure that education includes information on what happens to the collected waste.</p> <p>Other actions Council will deliver include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and deliver education resources that include examples of what waste avoidance is practised now and work to inspire the community to change their behaviour. • Provide easy to use services that adapt to community needs. • Investigate user pays incentive schemes to reduce household waste.
Energy from waste	Why does the strategy not include energy from waste?	<p>The strategy includes a statement that Council will only recover energy from waste where it is consistent with the NSW EPA's environmental, circular economy and social licence controls and guidelines.</p> <p>Currently, the State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) Amendment (Thermal Energy from Waste) 2022 bans thermal energy from waste development across Greater Sydney, including the Central Coast.</p>
Reuse and Repair	Through a fair procurement process find and promote local northern beaches businesses who can repair, mend and repurpose.	Through community engagement when drafting the Strategy, we received the feedback that the community wants a reuse and repair service and location that is convenient, assessable, and easy.

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	<p>More second-hand market opportunities – consider free opportunities.</p> <p>Venue needed for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Second hand shop, where residents can donate/buy preloved household items 2) Library of things e.g. Toy or Tool Library. 3) Local NFP Repair, Repurpose & Refurbish workshop including using old clothes to make new things, bike repair workshops, furniture restoration workshops etc. <p>Support community groups engaged in the CE and provide community centre rooms free of charge for their regular workshops.</p>	<p>Council is seeking to establish a Circular Economy Hub on the Northern Beaches and has gone to market to consider different 'hub' models (including use of temporary/pop up repair centres) and/or online networks to ensure the most suitable model is provided for the Northern Beaches.</p> <p>Feasibility studies will be undertaken on these options to find the best solutions to maximise community involvement.</p> <p>To support the implementation, a dedicated officer has been appointed for 2 years to increase the reuse and repair opportunities and to pilot and implement the reuse and repair hub model for household items in the Northern Beaches.</p> <p>Council will also continue to support community groups and not for profits with reuse and repair models.</p> <p>Council will also be considering options for more accessible collection for the community of household chemicals, electronic waste and textiles.</p> <p>Refer to Direction 1, (Eliminating Waste) in the Waste and Circular Economy Strategy for further information.</p>
Drop off points for recycling	Some support for drop off points on the Northern Beaches that provide residents with an easy to access location where a series of household items can be taken for reuse/recycling.	<p>In the Strategy, Action 2.7 Council commits to reviewing potential alternate collection models (including centralised drop offs) to meet community needs.</p> <p>As with any recycling project, Council will need to consider the feasibility of the project, including logistics of drop off and collection, are there markets for the items being dropped off, and locations where they can be recycled, and is it cost effective for our ratepayers.</p>
One bin solution	Why not have a one bin solution with sorting at a facility through the use of technology?	The separation of materials at the point of collection results in a more homogenous and higher quality waste stream. Source separated material

Theme	Issues, change requests and other considerations raised	Council's response
		<p>streams are less contaminated by other materials and are easier and less costly for recyclers to process.</p> <p>Sorting of waste after collection can also result in increased labour and cost to Council.</p> <p>Council will continue to investigate and pilot new technology and systems to improve recycling outcomes and increase efficiency and community understanding of the waste service.</p>
Actions on different waste types	Need actions to deliver on the priority waste identified. Misconception that had to either choose food or plastics and all other recycling would stop.	<p>Actions focus on a range of different waste types, not just plastics and organics. This includes household chemicals, electronic waste, textiles, and targeted bulky goods (see action 2.1 and 2.3). Council will monitor performance against the targets and will assess progress annually. Our Annual Report will include key data and updates and progress will also be reported every four years in the State of the Region report, a report on the implementation and effectiveness of the Community Strategic Plan.</p>
Advocate	Ensure manufacturers and businesses are made responsible for their waste	<p>While Council has limited ability to force manufactures and businesses to change practices, we will work with these sectors to investigate and implement improvements to reduce single use packaging and processes. In conjunction we will work with all levels of government and businesses to advocate for stronger producer responsibility legislation and incentives to design out waste in products and promote more circular product design</p> <p>Under the Strategy, Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate opportunities for local business and manufacturers to share used materials for reuse or recycling, (action 1.2) • Advocate for stronger producer responsibility legislation and incentives to design out waste in products and promote more circular product design, (action 1.4)

Theme	Issues, change requests and other considerations raised	Council's response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore models for a 'Circular Economy Start Up Fund' for innovative circular business models, (action 1.5) • Collaborate with local businesses and leading research institutions on innovative solutions to reduce waste and promote more circular product design for products commonly used in the Northern Beaches*, (action 1.6) • Advocate for phase out of single use or unrecyclable plastics, (action 3.1) • Identify opportunities to support local businesses to use alternatives to single use plastics, including reusable containers*, (action 3.4) • Work with businesses to phase out single use packaging in targeted CBDs and areas near beaches/waterways*, (action 4.3) • Promote best practice waste management at Council events and facilities, (action 5.1) <p><i>*Subject to available funding in a competitive budget bidding process.</i></p>
Management of public place litter bin network	<p>Audit all public bin and consider locations and types of bins.</p> <p>Consider how to stop the residents using public place bins to dispose of their domestic waste.</p> <p>Review Signage.</p> <p>Consider litter bin configuration to increase recovery.</p>	<p>Councils is currently developing a comprehensive litter prevention roadmap that will guide the activities undertaken to prevent public place litter. The key actions outlined the in roadmap will be priorities and implemented depending on what will provide the greatest impact.</p> <p>Council will also work with the NSW EPA to seek funding to assist in the implementation of litter prevention initiatives.</p>

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Council leading the way	<p>Council needs to be highly visible to residents.</p> <p>It was suggested that it would be great to see some statistics/information from other parts of the world that already have some of these strategies up and running. Prove to people that it can work and that it can have a positive impact. Emulate best practise from other areas both in Australia and overseas.</p> <p>Ensure Council staff are following best practise.</p> <p>Council to demonstrates leadership by reducing, reusing, repairing, and recycling more in its operations and advocacy.</p>	<p>Council will continue to work with other Councils, government departments, industry groups and experts to ensure that we are using best practice and benefiting from lessons learnt by others.</p> <p>Under the Strategy, Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve waste management and circular economy principles, in Council's LEP, relevant DCP's, Waste Management Plan and supporting framework. (action 5.4) This is to ensure that buildings and precincts can be designed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For longevity ○ To enable disassembly and reuse ○ To incorporate recycled and reusable materials • Promote best practice waste management at Council events and facilities, (action 5.1). • Council is a leading voice for best practice waste prevention and sustainable recycling, (action 5.3) • Maximise uptake of infrastructure projects using recycled materials, (action 5.5) • Establish a panel of suppliers of sustainable products and materials – to reduce and recycle more waste*, (action 5.6) • Identify and trial composting and other recycling solutions for Council-generated waste*, (action 5.7) <p>*Subject to available funding in a competitive budget bidding process.</p>

During the consultation / exhibition, Council received a number of questions either through direct contact or within feedback received.

Table 2: Questions raised and Council's answers.

Question raised in feedback	Council's answer
<p>Clean up of Wakehurst Parkway</p>	<p>Litter on these major arterial roads are managed by Transport for NSW. Northern Beaches Council has historically collaborated with the RMS via EPA grant funding to complete major roadside clean up along Mona Vale Road and Wakehurst Parkway.</p> <p>It is believed that the majority of the waste originated from uncovered loads from vehicles and included plastic films, household items and other non-recyclables. Councils is currently developing a comprehensive litter prevention roadmap that will guide the activities undertaken to prevent public place litter. The key actions outlined the in roadmap will be priorities and implemented depending on what will provide the greatest impact.</p> <p>Council will also work with the NSW EPA to gain funding to assist in the implementation of litter prevention initiatives.</p>
<p>Targets – Why do Council's targets not met The National Waste Policy Action Plan Annexure 2022 targets of 80% Resource Recovery Rate from all waste streams following the waste hierarchy by 2030.</p> <p>Council should lift their ambitions to match this, not the current 70% target.</p> <p>Suggested edit: 75% by 2025. 80% by 2030. 83% by 2035. 85% by 2040.</p> <p>Consider more ambitious waste reduction and emissions targets</p>	<p>The National Waste Policy targets of 80% is for all waste streams including Construction and Demolition Waste (C&D). Council is responsible for municipal solid waste which does not include C&D. C&D waste materials, such as concrete, masonry and bricks, are generally easier to recycle than municipal solid waste. Council's 70% target is ambitious and a realistic target to set for municipal waste streams.</p> <p>Council's waste reduction targets align with the targets in the NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy. We will review the targets on an ongoing basis over the course of the Strategy.</p> <p>The emissions target has been set to be ambitious but achievable, as technology transitions to low emissions.</p>

Appendix 1 Verbatim community and stakeholder responses*

Responses received by email.

Number	Submission
1	<p>Thank you for the great initiative for the waste and circular economy.</p> <p>i would like to mention something that we are all, as a community thinking all the time - why not have a set date for the council clean ups so that people can look through the piles of items discarded by households and recycle, reuse, sell etc the items. Rather than the online booking system which is not available for viewing by the general public if they want to see when a council clean up is happening to go and have a look.</p> <p>In the past it became an event where people could up-cycle furniture no longer required, or reuse plant pots, garden items, framed artworks, kitchen crockery etc. Now most of it goes to landfill because we don't really know when to go out and look.</p> <p>We see so much good solid furniture going into the back of the crushing rubbish truck - it is then broken and really can't be reused. Similarly the plant pots etc etc all get squashed. Old furniture can be reupholstered, painted, sanded back and made to look modern and lovely again. It is also fun!</p> <p>in the past people used to go round and (sadly) cut the cords off electrical equipment to retrieve the copper - but at least they were using them for something. Now it goes to landfill.</p> <p>I live in Balgowlah Heights. Almost everyone I know here, seaforth, north balgowlah, manly, Collaroy, dee why etc etc all wish it was a set day so that items could be re purposed. It used to be the case where we had a couple of set days each year, and seemed to really work for the circular economy.</p> <p>Food for thought.</p>
2	<p>Good morning,</p> <p>I have read your release about the Draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy and I commend it.. I have two suggestions that could be valuable initiatives. Both these ideas like many recycling projects are only viable in large quantities so by Council operating collection points such quantities could be achieved. Also, at the moment, these projects do not, as far as I know, exist in our local government area.</p> <p>1. Council should open several collection points where people could drop off used METAL COFFEE PODS such as Nespresso and other brands. I believe there are already places that can extract the metal for re—use. Also, the used coffee grounds can be used as garden fertiliser. As a small household of two, we use at least 30 of these a week. You would quickly amass a viable quantity for recycling.</p> <p>2. Another item that most households accumulate, usually thrown in the bin, are MEDICATION BLISTER PACKS. Older residents usually use multiples of these packs weekly. A method exists for extracting the metal from these packs and if Council established local collection points, a viable quantity could easily be achieved.</p>
3	To Whom It May Concern,

*Personal details and inappropriate language have been redacted where possible. Spelling and grammatical errors have been amended only where misinterpretation or offence may be caused.

<p>I wish to make a brief submission in relation to the Northern Beaches Council Draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy.</p> <p>In general, I support the aims and direction of the strategy, but believe it lacks ambition and doesn't go far enough to address some of the opportunities in front of us.</p> <p><u>Direction 1, Outcome 1: Eliminating Waste</u></p> <p>The 2030 target to reduce waste 10% per person by 2030 is in line with the NSW Government's Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy. Given the scale of work to be done in ~6 years and the current difficulties in packaging innovation and recycling markets, this target can be considered sound.</p> <p>To then only achieve an additional 10% reduction in the following 10 year period lacks ambition, and would assume a slowing rate of reduction. Given the advances in packaging innovation and further state and federal government policy, local government should be more ambitious. In particular, given the strong environmental consciousness of the Northern Beaches area, the Northern Beaches council should be more ambitious than the state as a whole.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council should aim for a much higher target, in the order of at least 30% reduction of waste per person by 2040. <p><u>Direction 2, Outcome 1.</u></p> <p>I strongly support councils aim of collecting electronic waste, textiles and household chemicals by 2025.</p> <p>Kimbriki is an excellent resource for Northern Beaches residents, however it is fairly inaccessible, particularly via public transport. Other regions in Sydney now enjoy more local drop off locations via the EPA's Community Recycling Centres program.</p> <p>Offering collections to residents is an excellent solution to address this. However collections need to be arranged, and can't always be done in the small time frames people deal with when moving homes. In addition to collections, councils should also establish more local drop off points within the Northern Beaches to collect recyclable materials, potentially in collaboration with the EPA.</p> <p>These collection services and drop off locations should be expanded to also accept other recyclable materials, in particular: scrap metal, polystyrene, soft plastics, and all Electronic waste (that is, including items not covered by the The National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme). A range of other materials can now be recycled through various industry recycling programs. The drop off points for these are often outside the Northern Beaches, or at retail outlets that are difficult to access via public transport. Council should explore serving as a hub to accept these materials, and transferring them to the industry programs. For example, printer cartridges; x-ray films; textiles and shoes; and medical blister packs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council should establish local drop off points for recyclable materials across the area, given Kimbriki is relatively inaccessible. • Proposed collections of electronic waste, textiles and chemicals should be expanded to cover other items covered by various industry recycling schemes. <p><u>Direction 3, Outcome 1</u> Food and Garden Organics</p> <p>I strongly support the rollout of FO/FOGO as soon as possible. Whilst appreciating the complexity of this, it should be noted that the Northern Beaches is currently lagging behind many councils in this Sydney region who are already running pilots or have rolled out a FOGO service.</p> <p>The proposed pilots is a sensible way forward, and should begin as soon as possible.</p> <p>For simplicity, and for consistency with other councils in Sydney, FOGO should exist as a combined scheme. There is already confusion with new residents to the area believing our existing GO stream is FOGO. This is particularly an issue in high density apartments.</p>
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	<p>Perhaps in lower density suburbs, or suburbs with higher vegetation loads, there could be a separate, or additional GO vegetation services, to avoid overwhelming the FOGO stream.</p> <p>I also urge the council to pilot FOGO street litter bins in select locations, such as Manly Corso, Dee Why beach and Freshwater village.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOGO trials should be implemented as soon as possible. • Council should pilot FOGO street litter bins at key locations such as Manly Corso. <p>Direction 4, Outcome 1 Street Litter / Public Place Recycling I am concerned there are no clear targets or goals to provide additional street litter recycling bins. Many of the local 1-bin street litter bins on the Northern Beaches are sadly often seen overflowing with recyclable materials. In particular, bins at sporting locations and outside local shops should be progressively upgraded to a 2-bin configuration over time.</p> <p>In major takeaway precincts such as Manly Corso, and key beachfronts, council should also begin installing FOGO stream bins, at the same time as FOGO is phased into kerbside collections.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council should set targets to convert street litter bins to 2-bin recycling configurations. • Council should pilot FOGO street litter bins at key locations. <p>Direction 4, Outcome 2 50% reduction of emissions from electrification of garbage trucks and street sweepers is not ambitious enough. A 50% reduction in emissions by 2030 is not in line with a 1.5c pathway for Australia. Given some sectors, like waste, are hard to abate, sectors where the technological pathways are available and commercial must take a higher burden of emissions reduction in the period to 2030. Electrification of transport is one such area.</p> <p>I urge council to urgently begin a pilot electric garbage truck as the City of Sydney has done, and begin a phase in across the fleet, aiming for a total emissions reduction of 70 - 80% by 2030.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council should aim for a much higher target, of 70-80% reduction of emissions from garbage trucks and street sweepers by 2030. • In the interim, council should begin piloting electric garbage trucks as soon as possible. <p>Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to this startagey.</p>
4	<p>Dear Council</p> <p>I welcome the Council's review of its waste disposal strategy and opportunity for improvement. I would like to make the following submission:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Even with the best will in the world it is impossible for very many council residents living in units, rentals and small houses to compost their food scraps. Others are simply not organised or motivated enough to maintain a full compost system but would work with an easy food waste disposal system. Many councils here and abroad including in London have had a compostable waste collection service for years. Please introduce a FOGO system as soon as possible. 2. Please work with other councils and pressure governments to reintroduce a soft plastic collection system as a matter of urgency. The loss of this recycling is a major backwards step and mourned by many. 3. Council must ensure that all council owned properties, facilities and events are plastic free. Eg the leases for the cafes at council swimming pools should ban disposable cups and lids.

	<p>4. The council initiative to recycle polystyrene is warmly welcomed. Please expand this so that it is more frequent and accessible as annual drop off at Kimbriki is only for the most motivated and those with storage.</p> <p>5. Council provided 'doggie bags' should be of a compostable material so as not to simply replace one pollution problem with another.</p> <p>Thank you for reading this submission</p>
5	<p>I have a suggestion:</p> <p>Reintroduce set "Chuck Out" days again by district - rebrand them as "District Recycling" days (sorry, I probably got the first name wrong!).</p> <p>This will encourage people to have a look and try to recycle rather than watch it all go to landfill and buy new.</p> <p>Just an idea for your consideration.</p>
6	<p>1. Our background</p> <p>Reverse Garbage (RG) was established close to 50 years ago by a group of enterprising teachers motivated to reduce their community's impact on the environment. They started salvaging discarded industrial resources from local factories and reusing the materials in their classrooms.</p> <p>Today, the self-funded, not-for-profit organisation has evolved into Australia's largest creative reuse and sustainability education centre, comprising a retail warehouse, which operates 7 days per week in Marrickville Sydney. The site also includes an Education Hub with two fun and quirky learning spaces, plus an outdoor terrace and edible garden, which is open to community use.</p> <p>RG attracts a diverse range of customers, including artists, crafters, home renovators, students and educators, with many travelling far and wide for an eclectic and unique shopping experience. In many circles, RG has a 'cult-like' following.</p> <p>Through our retail operation we divert close to 60,000 tonnes of waste from landfill per year, and host close to 14,000 participants through our various educational offerings and public programs.</p> <p>Being part of a CE Hub in the Northern Beaches (NB) would expand our impact to rescue additional materials from businesses, industry and the general public in the NB community. Saving items across southern and northern Sydney from immediately heading to landfill.</p> <p>Reverse Garbage also sells materials via its online shop and we provide Australia-wide shipping to customers from around the country.</p> <p>Our small but diverse team is made up of interesting, dynamic and creative people who each bring something different to the organisation. Our volunteer Board of Directors includes one of the founding members of Reverse Garbage — a passionate educator who is still heavily involved with our programs and runs regular public workshops.</p> <p>2. Educational delivery experience</p> <p>Since its inception in 1975, Reverse Garbage has been educating the masses on the benefits of reuse and sustainability. For the past two decades, Reverse Garbage has developed and strengthened its educational offerings to ensure our interactive and creative programs meet the curriculum and key learning areas specified by the NSW Department of Education.</p>

Our team of casual educators run regular incursions and excursions, public workshops, public programs including major events and festivals, Zero Waste kids' birthday parties and workplace engagement sessions. The edu-maker experiences feature an interactive 'making and creating' element while participants learn about reuse and its central place at the top of the waste (resource) hierarchy.

Our extremely popular Loose Parts Play workshop, which featured on [ABC Catalyst](#), explains the enormous benefits of our play-based approach to learning and education.

Some of our popular workshops include Float Your Boat, Big Box City, Sustainable Houses and Reuse Wearables and Accessories.

Our reach further extends across our social media platforms, with a large and engaged audience of over 100,000 people across Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn. Our content mix features a combination of sales posts, industry partnership projects, sustainability advocacy and education, with a healthy dose of RG's trademark quirkiness and creativity.

Proposed Program

Reverse Garbage services a large geographical area of customers who often travel from the Northern side of Sydney. Being part of a CE Hub within the NB would save your locals time, as well as reduce their travel carbon footprint.

In 2020, Kimbriki and Reverse Garbage commenced discussions on potential partnership opportunities. After submitting an EOI to run their reuse Buy Back Centre, Kimbriki decided to retain its operation, but offered RG the opportunity to become one of four organisations to establish a Partnerships Hub of non-profit organisations dedicated to sustainability. RG is now able to reach a wider audience in the Northern Beaches area by hosting reuse workshops and public programs at The Hub.

Our connection to the NB community continues to grow and we look forward to sharing our messages about the importance of the resource hierarchy and how to incorporate reuse into the everyday life of all NB residents.

Proposed delivery methodology

RG would approach known manufacturers to source local reuse resources to resell at budget friendly prices. By leveraging relationships with our existing network of industrial donors, we have access to many unique industrial and manufacturing discards that are not currently collected by anyone within the Northern Beaches district. The use of non-conventional and non-prescriptive materials can often lead to critical thinking and inspire creativity.

Unorthodox materials also help to generate conversations surrounding reuse and offer participants to reconsider waste materials in their general day-to-day.

Certification and compliance credentials

ABN: 70 561 9 099 00

Registered with ACNC with DGR status

	<p>Member of CRA and on CRA Co-design Team - we collaborate with cross sector partners to advocate Highest and Best Use – including First Use, Reuse and Repair</p> <p>Member of SECNA - Social Enterprise Council of NSW and ACT</p> <p>CEO Kirsten Junor- on Gateway Bank Pocket and Planet Advisory Board</p> <p>RG works with DCJ to provide volunteer hours for their clients on the CSO program.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thank you for reading our submission. Thank you for choosing to reuse.</p>
7	<p>Dear council member and Key advisors,</p> <p>I write this feedback submission in earnest to open your eyes to your community. It is currently the most active in reduce, reuse and recycle populous, simply the use of platforms such as Facebook Marketplace for high quality second hand and free items is an indicator of scope to the second-hand trading currently occurring in the community.</p> <p>Whilst your pitch and short clip ooze the on-point catch phrases of circular economies and bang political go words to make any suit frothy; it is still laced with the standardised short comings crippling and debilitating Australian's ability to take accountability for its consumption and Governments negligent ignorance in offshoring our waste for a decade too long and not investing in effective waste resource facilities alongside of population growth.</p> <p>Drowning under the weight of the landfill shit show you now find yourself in, you are projecting a reduce reuse recycle campaign regurgitated from the 90's original recycling campaigns when the yellow bins were first rolled out and wheelie bin races really took off. We are no longer the ignorant citizen.</p> <p>Yet I live in hope we have the ability to disentangle ourselves from the past, embrace the innovative and progressive present we find ourselves in, to place hope in our current council and your ability to make changes that holistically reflect the core values of the Northern Beaches community we all love. These changes, under the umbrella of circular economies, need to be all encompassing across all sectors of environment, waste management and human health.</p> <p>The onus cannot exclusively be placed consistently on the consumer to do better, be a better citizen. In order for that to occur, real change with government strategic planning needs to take place. You need to invest in education campaigns to ensure all community members are aware of how to dispose of every household category, not simply how the colour coded bins work.</p> <p>Onus needs to be placed back down the supply chain away from the consumer, all the way back to the production and manufacturing. We will not be able to slow the rate of consumption, but we can control how things are packaged, because packaging is a key component to waste and the creation of an effective circular economy.</p> <p>We need council to advocate and work with large scale commercial entities that pervade the Australian consumer lifestyle to create future change, as well as supporting small business operators to create a transition plan.</p> <p>Please read my submission thoroughly, as these are only a handful of many innovative solutions to an effective micro-circular economy that can generate employment and education across all elements of our community, whilst creating space to be a pioneer other LGAs can model off in the future.</p> <p>In order to reshape the Northern Beaches and Manly over the next 20 years, or the 2040 futures plan, council must shift their mindset away from policies that were relevant for the previous 20 years. One must pivot our mindset in order to create deep seeded changes required to reside in an urban environment in balance with complex dynamics. Population growth, the natural</p>

	<p>environment around us, future technologies and the upskilling of our population in line with automation of low skilled roles currently employing members of the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NB-LGA is poised to be a leader in how LGA's grow in line with future technologies to become a forward-thinking progressive council with sustainability at the fore front • Unique community support in how our national parks, recreation spaces and rates are invested, we have a highly educated, health conscious and progressive community that should be utilised in creating the reality in which we all want to reside • Timeline plan of immediate, short term and medium-term tasks to plan and achieve our long-term strategic goal • Opportunity to invest substantially in the future growth of waste disposal with 2 key choices in mind; eradicate soft plastic usage out of the supply chain in its entirety or embrace it and invest in a soft plastic recycling centre with the opportunity to create and generate jobs in a multitude of sectors. • To eradicate soft plastics entirely out of the supply chain council would need to invest in a team of business-to-business coordinators and liaison personnel. • B2B pod would be responsible for creating dialogue and opportunities for all businesses to be supported in transitioning soft plastics out of the supply chain • Supply chain transitions would be the diversification of packaging available not only for consumer purchase but in how products are packaged and sold across key industries such as retail and hospitality • These transitions fall into line with recent NSW and federal government plastics ban; but creates job transition with business accountability to legislation. • Packaging transitions can be subsidised by the federal government through a series of transition grants to ensure a successful uptake of policy <p>Companies to support in this could look like</p> <p>https://papackagingsolutions.com.au/compostable/</p> <p>Other key notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NB-LGA to put forward tender contract backed by federal grants applicable to soft plastic solutions • Soft plastic solutions also overlap with fast fashion and synthetic fibres that breakdown into microplastics into the environment. • companies specialising specifically in synthetic textile waste should be approached to create a futures plan for the community waste; i.e., what can't be incentivised through a circular economy approach through the resell of textile fashion, décor and manchester should be disposed of in an innovative futures-based end life capture. <p>https://www.blocktexx.com/about</p> <p>https://awre.com.au/product-innovation/is-it-time-for-government-intervention-for-circular-textiles-in-australia/</p> <p>Consulting with technology leaders such as Veena Sahajwalla whose future use functionality in the building sector could be integral in local infrastructure redevelopment of Manly. Imagine being the first large scale build investor to back a progressive end point solution to textile wastage and disposal. See link below for relevance</p>
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	<p>https://newsroom.unsw.edu.au/news/science-tech/turning-old-clothes-high-end-building-materials</p> <p>Though the hospitality sector has made large leaps in the uptake of bio-packaging, paper packaging and composite packaging solutions, the entire sector is able to be 100% sustainable and has the potential to eliminate thousands of tonnes of plastic out of the consumer waste cycle if given the right support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Glass bottle recycling and compost creation for food wastage are two key areas the industry need support in how they dispose of their waste. • The creation of a composting solution for household and industry is key to a green economy, compost that can be applied to the maintenance of NB-LGA parks, gardens and green spaces ensuring healthy soil and abundant environments • Reduce erosion and pesticide runoff into waterways impacting algae blooms and water treatment processes for human consumption • Cessation of pesticide use across the community to ensure a safe and healthy topsoil, water ways and drinking water both from a council impact and home-owner <p><i>"Pesticide exposure can be linked to cancer, endocrine disruption, reproductive effects, neurotoxicity, kidney and liver damage, birth defects, and developmental changes in a wide range of species"</i>-https://www.beyondpesticides.org/programs/wildlife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of large capacity water tanks to drought-proof the LGA, conserve dam water by utilising tank water for the exclusive maintenance of council green spaces and to support fire services in the event of bushfires <p>Investment in glass recycling could look like</p> <p>https://remarkglass.com/pages/about</p> <p>https://www.bottleunderground.org/</p> <p>Pesticide usage and the cessation of it. Links below cover the human impact which will directly impact NB-LGA employees as well as the environmental impacts, with success stories of townships that have successfully managed green spaces without the use of pesticides.</p> <p>https://cesaraustralia.com/blog/non-target-effects-of-pesticides-on-beneficial-insects/</p> <p>https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/pesticides/pesticides-nsw-overview</p> <p>https://www.aihs.org.au/news-and-publications/news/local-councils-phasing-out-glyphosate-over-health-concerns-and-legal</p> <p>https://www.pesticide-free-towns.info/methods-techniques</p>
8	<p>Just wondering if Council have ever considered recycling old/damaged wheelie bins by making them available free to residents to use as compost bins?</p> <p>The benefits being – and these just off the top of my head, I'm sure there are more:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recycling of the plastic wheelie bins (I've seen the huge pile of them at Kimbriki) 2) Encouraging people to compost some of their food and garden waste 3) The compost is used in gardens reducing need to purchase plastic-bagged garden compost 4) Reduce the amount of green bin waste that the Council needs to collect each fortnight. <p>I hope this is something we can consider!</p>

9	<p>I operate the Bikes 4 Life charity in Sydney. I'm wondering if the recycling of used bike tyres and inner tubes is something that should be included in the Circular Economy Strategy 2040.</p> <p>Bikes 4 Life is a volunteer run charity based at Kimbriki Resource Recovery Centre at Terrey Hills. We repair unwanted bikes and donate them to individuals and charities serving economically disadvantaged and remote communities in Australia and overseas. People come from across Sydney to donate bikes to us. The better ones get repaired and reused and the others are used for spare parts, or scrapped. We get a lot of unusable bikes and it's great that we can send these to Kimbriki for metal recycling.</p> <p>We also accumulate a lot of unwanted bike tyres and inner tubes which, if disposed of via Kimbriki, end up in landfill. This makes it difficult for Bikes 4 Life (or any bike owner) to properly demonstrate the recycling culture proposed in the Circular Economy Strategy 2040. However, a project which commenced this year is demonstrating that bike tyre and tube recycling is now possible in Sydney.</p> <p>Kimbriki already accepts car tyres for recycling (for a fee). These are regularly collected by Tyrecycle and taken to a recycling facility in Western Sydney (for a fee). The car tyres get broken down and reused on such things as playgrounds and in road construction.</p> <p>Tyrecycle has attempted recycling bike tyres and tubes in the past, but stopped when undetected metal contamination from inner tube valves caused equipment damage. Last year, commercial bike recycler, Revolve Recycling, convinced Tyrecycle to try again. They now partner in providing a commercial service to bike stores for the disposal of bike tyres and tubes. In January 2023 Revolve Recycling commenced aggregating the tyre and tube collections from the bike shops, whilst ensuring there is no metal contaminating the rubber. When enough rubber has been collected Revolve sends a bulk delivery to Tyrecycle for recycling. Both companies are charging a fee for their parts in this service.</p> <p>Note that individuals can leave their unwanted tyres and tubes for recycling at Revolve Recycling's workshop in Alexandria, for a fee.</p> <p>I believe that the Northern Beaches Council should consider establishing a place locally for residents to take their unwanted bike tyres and inner tubes for recycling, either as part of the Revolve Recycling project, or as something separate for locals.</p> <p>Thanks for considering this, I'm happy to follow up with more information if required.</p>
10	<p>The council needs to make sure that the weekly red bin collection remains as some inner city councils have replaced the weekly red bin collections with a new fortnightly collection which has created threat to public health and sanitation.</p>
11	<p>Thanks for the chance to comment on this. To me, it looks like a good overall strategy that covers the main areas to concentrate on. Here are my random thoughts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Reverting to 1 or 2 dates for council cleanup per year rather than individual bookings. If it's a known date, people will arrive from all over with their utes and vans and pick through to recycle. And/or a private company could be employed to do the same. When it's spread over many days over the year, this doesn't work so well. There could be other implications I've not thought about that make this a non-starter... not sure. 2) Organising some sort of soft plastic recycling again 3) Forcing servos to have bottle/can recycling as well as general rubbish. It sounds like a little thing but so many people turf out their empty cans and bottles scattered in the car while they are filling up, it would be a quick win. 4) More free car boot sales and promote them heavily 5) Have a 'freecycle' website where people can put out decent quality objects they no longer want, on the kerb and post the item on a website/FB page

- 6) Reduce the size of red bins to force more recycling (when current ones need retiring of course). Option to buy second bin for bigger families
- 7) The holy grail... an operation that can sort through all waste (green, food, metal, glass, plastics, paper etc) and sort it out so we can have just one household bin with no contamination

And, I'd love some support in my program 😊😊

In short, we divert nearly 2 tons of green waste a month from landfill to beautiful compost, helping to feed vulnerable families and teach young adults with disabilities essential life skills. 100% volunteer run. Please see attached.

Don't really need much at the moment but I plan to grow the operation 3-fold in 2024. For that we'll need primarily more bins (60 x 220l) and more volunteers (maybe 4 x 4hrs a week)

Onemeal & Fisher Rd Composting Program

The Operation

Thirty-two 220l composting bins

1 x industrial size worm farm -

<https://wormsdownunder.com.au/products/worm-mod>

400kg green waste per week from Onemeal

(www.onemeal.org.au) in Brookvale (in turn has been donated by Coles, Harris Farm etc)

Browns supplied by:

- 1) Forest Fines & Super8 fertiliser– Australian Native Landscapes (ANL) in Terrey Hills
- 2) Coir – Newleaf Nursery in Elanora
- 3) Leaf litter – gathered by groundspeople at Fisher Rd, Dee Why
- 4) Sawdust – WS Field Joinery in Brookvale
- 5) Coffee grounds – various cafes



Fisher Rd Special Education School provide the space and the support to run the program. Some of the kids help with the turning of the compost and the veggie garden.

They also house 17 chickens who benefit from some of the food scraps but also return the favour through chook poo fertiliser (harvested from a state-of-the-art chicken caravan!)

Veggies harvested are returned to Onemeal in Brookvale for distribution to vulnerable communities throughout Sydney





The People

The program is managed largely through **volunteers from Onemeal** who drop off and mix in the green waste 4 days a week. Also volunteers meet once a week to turn, bag and manage the compost

(https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NmPE09QY5i0WiO4oG_sm1aN_PheAkP7MaKMCMBQxoaY/edit) together with **participants from UpandOver** (<https://upandover.com.au/who-we-are/>) who learn valuable life skills at the same time.



Huge support from **Fisher Rd School** who continue to develop the space and on-site support needed as the program grows.

Massive expertise and practical assistance from **Kimbriki** who cast an expert eye over the program and have been instrumental in introducing and arranging engagement with suppliers. Help from the **Royal Botanic Gardens** through their community greening program. Assisted with supplies and also distribution of finished product throughout community gardens within social housing in Sydney



12

Dear Council members,


We are all trying do more to protect our environment. But I am concerned that this strategy will increase costs and cause a lot of inconvenience for rate payers, while not making any discernable difference to the number of years that Kimbriki tip will remain operational.

There is already an active circular economy in place. We sell our good but unwanted items through classifieds or cash converters, or we donate them to charities. The bulky item collections are already rummaged through by people looking for items of value. There is very little left of any value that is finally picked up. There is negligible food waste in our red bin and nothing that could be re-used. House maintenance generates a lot of waste, and a lot of things just break or are worn out. Then there are non-recyclable containers and contaminated food boxes. I find it difficult to fit the non-recyclable refuse into the red bin each week. On top of this, Kimbriki tip has a fantastic set of programs to recycle most of the material. Items of value are put up for sale, green waste is turned into mulch and concrete is sent to the crushers.

The circular economy strategy appears to take the recycling concept to an extreme for the appearance of doing something while not actually making any practical difference to the number of years that Kimbriki will remain operational.

A major issue for most people is the rising cost of living and yet at every level the government is increasing the cost of essential services because it is too hard to grow those services in line with

	<p>the growth in population. My nightmare is that you follow their lead and weaponize our garbage service against the residents. Halve the service, double the cost then hire people to inspect our garbage and issue fines for putting something into the wrong bin. Please, do not do this!</p> <p>Kimbriki has a limited life. Building waste accounts for most of the landfill and the tip will eventually be full regardless of how much we attempt to recycle our red bins. We need to plan where we go next and a plan for what we do with the old site. As much as we don't like it, Sydney is growing and all private land is being converted to houses. We need to plan for the future and reserve an area for the next landfill site before it is all built out.</p>
13	<p>In Council's Draft Northern Beaches Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040, under the subheading Green and Clean Environment, it is stated that 'maintaining public space and protecting the environment' is one of the main aims. Wakehurst Parkway is the gateway to the Northern Beaches, yet it resembles a rubbish tip.</p> <p>There is apparently no regular cleaning and maintenance cycle for the Parkway. This has led to the long-term neglect of Wakehurst Parkway's routine maintenance by Transport NSW and its contractors and by Northern Beaches Council. After many years of neglect, vegetation obscured vital road signs, vegetation, debris and litter blocked inadequate bike lanes endangering the lives of cyclists. This was only recently addressed, in some part, on the southern section of Wakehurst Parkway by recent maintenance, which required the road to be closed at night for several weeks in both directions. This work was not carried out on the northern section of Wakehurst Parkway where litter has been ever growing for decades.</p> <p>The contractors who carried out the recent maintenance work on the southern section of Wakehurst Parkway did not remove the vegetation debris and accumulated litter. All this debris and litter was simply bulldozed onto the verges and into the bushland. Vegetation debris containing plastic and other litter can be clearly seen piled up along the sides of the Parkway. Large mounds of dead branches and other vegetation can be seen beside the southbound lane heading south from Oxford Falls Road West. Whole trees and other large items of vegetation are piled on the other side of the wildlife fencing near the two Middle Creek bridges. This large amount of dead, dry vegetation and litter piled along the length of Wakehurst Parkway also greatly increases the bushfire risk.</p> <p>Litter and dumped rubbish are already, once again, steadily building up along the length of Wakehurst Parkway. Due to the lack of a regular and frequent maintenance cycle, only wind and rain move the rubbish ... into the surrounding bushland and waterways. Litter is ever growing and remains until it breaks down into elements such as micro-plastic, contaminating the surrounding bushland and also waterways such as Manly Dam, Middle Harbour, Middle Creek, Deep Creek, Narrabeen Lakes and eventually the Pacific Ocean.</p> <p>The litter and dumped rubbish includes items such as: paper, cardboard, plastic, polystyrene sheets, gyprock, coffee cups, pillows, swathes of tape, vapes, toys, shopping bags, KFC and McDonalds containers, tyres, car parts, L and P plates, buckets and tradesmen's intentionally dumped rubbish such as cement and bricks.</p> <p>There is a white cushion lying on a raised section of the road verge at Middle Creek near the wildlife fencing. This cushion is very clearly visible from the Parkway and has now been lying there for several years. A green garbage bag full of dead leaves has been lying on the other side of the road for six months. These are just small examples of the litter that has lain in place for months or years.</p> <p>Huge garbage bags full of rubbish are routinely intentionally dumped along Wakehurst Parkway. These bags are not removed. These huge bags simply lie there until they are broken down by the weather, to then release their contents. This litter then blows all over the Parkway until it fills the surrounding bushland and waterways. If you walk along Wakehurst Parkway you can clearly see slowly disintegrating plastic and other litter all along the side of the road and for several metres into the bushland.</p>

	<p>Due to the lack of regular maintenance on Wakehurst Parkway, pedestrians, bike riders, motorists who have broken down and wildlife volunteers are placed in danger every time they have to walk along this road. There is often no safe, clear path beside the Parkway due to the constant build-up of litter, dumped rubbish and ever-growing vegetation. This is made worse by road verges that are broken and sunken or that have completely fallen away leaving no pathway at all.</p> <p>I have attached photographs which I have taken along both the northern and southern sections of Wakehurst Parkway throughout this year.</p> <p>Northern Beaches Council must address the issues outlined in this submission if it is to achieve its aims of reducing litter and of protecting the environment. Thank you for considering my submission.</p>
14	<p>To Whom it May Concern</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Northern Beaches Council's ("Council's") Draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040 (Strategy). Kimbriki Environmental Enterprises Pty Ltd ("KEE") through its management of the Kimbriki Resource Recovery Centre ("KRRC") appreciate this insight into Council's future strategies, and we are deeply interested in the document and provide the following comments. We note that we find no major inconsistencies with KEE's Strategic Plan.</p> <p>KEE notes the Subtitle to the document is "Rethink. Reduce. Reuse." We note on the Your Say page of Council's website (fig. 1), the Subtitle is "Rethink. Reduce. Recycle". Conventionally if 3R's are used they are generally "Reduce. Reuse. Recycle." KEE consistently uses the 4R's combining those mentioned by Council: "Rethink. Reduce. Reuse. Recycle." We feel that this fits with the spirit of Council's strategy and would ask that Council consider the use of a consistent 4R's in all documentation and education.</p> <p><i>Fig. 1: NBC "Your Say" page.</i></p>  <p>Updated: 29 Nov, 2023</p> <h2>Draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy</h2> <p>Rethink. Reduce. Recycle.</p>

As an important contributor to waste treatment and resource recovery infrastructure for the Northern Beaches, KEE shares Council's ambition to reduce waste to landfill whilst providing services to local residents that are easy to use, promote the 4R's and tackle difficult waste streams. KEE is pleased to note that a number of key actions promote source separation of materials to reduce kerbside collection and waste to landfill.

Commitment to Waste Education

KEE notes Council's strong commitment to education which aligns with KEE's as promoted through our digital media presence, The Hub and our Eco House and Garden activities. We reiterate our willingness to continue to work with Council to ensure waste education is consistently and efficiently delivered.

Direction 1: Eliminating Waste

The Circular Economy

We note Council's commitment to developing circular economy initiatives and support these aspirations. Activities in KEE's Buy Back Centre and The Hub provide opportunities to reuse and repair materials here on site and we look to support Council in any viable proposals to promote reuse and repair either locally or regionally.

Improving Resource Recovery

KEE notes Council's commitments to the latest resource recovery targets. KEE are supportive of and aligned with this direction and the KRRC as a whole recovers approximately 80% of all incoming wastes through promotion of source separation by differential pricing combined with manual and mechanical recovery from mixed waste. However recovery has plateaued at the 80% level and we believe the remaining waste to target is the mixed waste stream in order to increase recovery and that this will require investment in infrastructure at KEE to mechanically sort mixed waste.

KEE supports Council's Waste Hierarchy as shown in figure 2 of the report. We note the inclusion of "Recovery Energy" and its location on the pyramid. KEE believes there is an opportunity for the use of a remaining fraction of mixed waste that cannot be reused or recycled to produce fuel. KEE would always consider this as a last resort before landfill but the opportunity to consider deriving fuel from waste will help support the investment in waste recovery infrastructure.

Direction 2: Easy to Use Waste Services

Problem Wastes

KEE notes Council's commitments to improving the access to disposal of problem wastes. KEE continues to consider and evaluate further opportunities to increase the range of problem wastes it accepts. We note that the KRRC's geographical position is not convenient to all residents of the Northern Beaches LGA and that additional collection points would be desirable. On that basis KEE supports Council's targets of providing regular accessible collections for problem waste streams and would welcome the opportunity to discuss with Council how Kimbriki can best support this goal.

Direction 3: Tackling Priority Wastes

Food Waste

KEE notes Council's commitment to exploring the collection and recycling of food waste. We reaffirm our offer of support, noting the receipt of food waste is currently not allowed under Kimbriki's licence.

	<p>Should Council wish to use Kimbriki as a location for aggregation and treatment of food waste for its proposed trials, KEE would need to apply for a temporary variation to the Kimbriki EPA licence, this process could take some time. This, coupled with the need to procure and construct appropriate infrastructure to accommodate the waste in the longer term make early planning of any such activities important. With Council's promotion of home composting, a key focus, KEE's Eco House and Garden Composting and worm workshops can help ensure home composters are effectively utilising their compost bins and worm farms. KEE has recently expanded their community workshops to include sites other than Kimbriki to make them more accessible to local residents.</p> <p>Plastics Recycling</p> <p>In KEE's role as receiver of comingled containers KEE is well positioned to support other plastics recycling initiatives. We endorse Council's comments on plastic consumption and the barriers to effective recycling of plastics. KEE is committed to further exploration of plastic recycling opportunities as they emerge noting the current market constraints.</p> <p>Direction 4: Green and Clean Environment</p> <p>Environmental Impacts of Waste Management Services</p> <p>KEE has invested well in excess of \$30m since its formation in 2009 to reduce the environmental footprint of the KRRC. Major projects such as Landfill Gas Capture System, the Leachate Treatment Plant and the Clean Water Diversion System have all had significant positive impacts for the environment. KEE's resource recovery initiatives also provide an environmental benefit by extending the life of the landfill at the KRRC avoiding the need for long-haul transport to other landfill sites as well as provided recovered resources back into the circular economy. KEE will continue to work to minimise the environmental footprint of the KRRC and express our willingness to work with Council to further improve these outcomes elsewhere as well.</p> <p>Direction 5: Council Leading the Way</p> <p>As a key stakeholder in Council's waste strategy, KEE shares a responsibility to provide leadership in waste management. KEE's vision for the KRRC is to maintain its reputation as a centre of excellence for the promotion and practice of sustainable resource and waste management services. KEE notes the finding from the survey that accompanied the Strategy that more than half of the respondents remained concerned about what really happens to recycled items. KEE would like to expand on the existing collaboration with Council and their other partners to educate the community on the positive outcomes of the various recycling schemes underway in the Northern Beaches.</p> <p>Implementing the Strategy</p> <p>After review of the action plans in the strategy, KEE are confident our strategic plan is substantially aligned with Council's Strategy. We note a number of the actions listed will involve the KRRC. KEE will ensure we consider these in our next Business Plan and fully addressed.</p> <p>The consultation period for the strategy has unfortunately fallen between KEE's Board Meetings. Discussion of the Strategy has been included on the agenda for KEE's 12 December Board meeting and should any further comments or questions arise, the Board will raise them with the Director, Environment & Sustainability at the earliest possible opportunity.</p> <p>The Board and staff of KEE look forward to supporting Council in the implementation of the finalised Strategy.</p>
15	<p>Community Submission Northern Beaches War On Waste Northern Beaches Council Waste Strategy December 10th, 2023</p>

Overview

Northern Beaches Council's Draft Waste and Circular Economy Strategy 2040 is designed to address the 100,000 tonnes of household waste 95,000 Northern Beaches households create each year.

An average Northern Beaches Resident creates 389 kg of waste each year. We do not have the physical or economic capacity to send this to landfill and so we must find a way to address this high level of consumption and waste higher up the waste hierarchy to narrow the influx of waste and divert everything that is re-usable to its correct waste stream, preferably processed and redeployed into new products locally.

Construction waste

Construction and demolition produces about 44% of Australia's total waste – about 27 million tonnes a year (Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment & Blue Environment, 2020). Construction waste includes concrete, bricks, plasterboard, metals, timber, glass, plastics, carpet, vegetation, rocks, soil, and sand.

The good news is about 77% of this construction and demolition waste is recovered and 76% is recycled, based on data from 2018-19 (Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment & Blue Environment, 2020). We can further increase this proportion by looking for ways to reduce, reuse and recycle waste, as well as educate residents about modifying developments rather than build new, incorporating sustainability in their house design, and finding markets for their waste rather than sending it to landfill.

Admirably, Council has a construction waste policy that is embedded in the development application process. However, timber waste alone represents 27% of all the waste dumped at Kimbriki [2020/801287]. **Council could offer a location for tradies to drop reusable but unwanted materials that can be used by others as upcycled or reclaimed assets for future construction or creative projects.**

Council could also improve local planning controls and guidelines by 2024 to enable public and private buildings and infrastructure to be designed for longevity, reducing the need for raw materials and enabling future disassembly, reuse and recycling.

It could also include controls for other sustainability features that would decrease the ongoing environmental impact and costs of living of the household by 75%.

Residential waste collection

Red bin

A review of red bin waste was undertaken by Council in 2022 while exploring a food waste collection service.

A new bin contractor was agreed to by Council in 2019 and a 10 year relationship entered into that additionally standardised Warringah, Pittwater and Manly Council's bins. The goal was to standardise the size, costs and to maximise recovery of waste items that could be recycled. The majority of the old bins were recycled, in excess of the target of 90% of bins recycled.

The current contracting system allows approximately 65% of items put in the red bin that shouldn't be there, to be automatically identified at the Materials Recovery Facility and directed into the correct waste stream, which is an increase on the previous 40%. So that's a win!

However the NSW target in 2012 was to increase waste diverted from landfill to 75% in 2020/21 so we are still a way behind. 10% behind our previous goals. Our Climate Change Strategy 2040 lists 85% diversion from landfill by 2040. We can't keep putting ambitious goals a decade further along. **We need to do more to catch up in the next 5 years.**

The National Waste Policy Action Plan Annexure 2022 lists their 3rd target as: 80% Resource Recovery Rate from all waste streams following the waste hierarchy by 2030. Council should lift their ambitions to match this, not the current 70% target.

Suggested edit: 75% by 2025. 80% by 2030. 83% by 2035. 85% by 2040.

Council's current contract facilitates an Alternative Waste Facility (AWT) Dehydration process - taking the red bin and the contained waste product and dehydrating it until the contents are inert. This process by Global Renewables successfully minimises the impact of some of the bin contents and offsets a small amount of the hefty greenhouse gasses in our local residential waste (that constitutes 3% of our local Council carbon emissions but a far greater percent of harmful methane). Non-recovered food waste in our red bins pose a significant problem.

Bin Contents:

- Food waste in Northern Beaches Council Residents' red bins is approximately 50% of red bin contents, slightly higher than the average 45% State food waste benchmarks.
- Soft plastics is 6-7% by weight, and could be even more since the RedCycle program collapsed.
- Textiles - 5-6% of our bin contents are fabrics and textiles.
- Other paper - not currently recycled. Wrapping, dirty pizza wrapping.
- Soiled paper (paper towels with oil or blood on them, meat packaging, dirty pizza boxes that Visy accept but Kimbriki do not).
- Fused paper, plastic, metals items. Broken toys, shoes.
- Batteries.
- Plastics that can be recycled make up the remainder, many of which are identified and redirected at the Materials Recovery Processing Facility.
-

We found that the recyclable items incorrectly placed in the red bins were 10% worse in units and multi-use dwellings, suggesting that seeing other people not recycling properly was demotivating for compliant households.

On average though, a large majority of residents separate recycling and green waste all of the time: 78 per cent of residents separate their recyclables from general rubbish (NSW Recycling at the Crossroads Report). Some people are time poor or don't care to separate all the waste streams themselves. So additional messaging needs to target the 22% of people who are not compliant recyclers. On top of that, **Council could better communicate how to recycle the more complex items that end up in landfill. Many residents are engaged and well-intentioned but are simply confused on how to divert them from landfill (such as batteries, fabrics, shoes, mixed material items or soft plastics). This contributes to more waste to landfill.**

Council could also make the red bin contents audit public. We have a grant that has been rolled over to this FY for \$25,717 and the audit is complete but we don't have visibility over the data that would significantly increase the transparency on this proposed waste strategy.

Yellow bin

It's my understanding that the contents of your yellow-lidded recycling bin are sent to IQRenew, an Australian Material Recycling Facility (MRF) on the Central Coast for sorting. Contamination rates are not publicly available.

Council has a good video called 'Northern Beaches Loves Recycling' about recycling. It flies over and into an average resident's house and performs a simple introduction to recycling but it does not address the large percentage of items that people don't understand how to recycle.

Do residents know if their plastics **need** to have a recycling symbol on them? If we need to look at the numbers on the recycling symbol? If we can recycle black, clear or white meat trays? If we need to clean our meat trays to be 100% free of contamination before it can be recycled? If we can put our aluminium ring pulls, champagne cages and wine bottle tops into an aluminum can to be properly recycled rather than rolling them around loosely? How many tetra paks end up in the paper bin? **We need some engaging communications, community interactions and games about compliance to increase our diversion rates, particularly for reluctant recyclers.**

Importantly, glass can be recycled many, many times, without losing quality. Glass is a preferred material over plastic. Plastic as we know is harmful to humans and habitats and ends up in our food. **In this strategy, Council should aim to phase out single use, problematic and unnecessary plastics by 2025 and develop an action plan around that. This would be in its own operations, along its supply chain, in its procurement policies, and encouraging its business network, sporting associations and community groups to do the same.**

Blue bin

I have no idea of the quantity or contamination rate of our blue bin. I assume that people try to put pizza boxes in the blue bins with food that contaminates the process, or they try to recycle waxed or plastic-lined paper.

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) issued a report 'At The Crossroads: The State of Waste and Recycling in NSW' to shed light on the state of waste and recycling services across the state. It indicated that 60% of paper is recycled in local councils, back into other lower grade paper products at a local paper mill. **Please help me to understand what is happening to the other 40% and how we might increase the recovery of the raw materials and reuse them rather than produce more paper.**

Green bin

Northern Beaches Council's green bin is collected and is re-sold locally, generating an income stream. This is the only uncontaminated waste stream in our council and it enables us to find a use for it that returns it to the economy and creates local jobs. This is one of the reasons why Northern Beaches Council has been reluctant to contaminate it with food, as they do in other Councils such as Shoalhaven, Byron Bay, Penrith and Randwick. It generates an income!

Summary

While our recent bin contracts have improved our residential recovery rates and diversion from landfill, we are 10% behind Local Government NSW's 2012 goals of landfill diversion by 2022.

We still need to achieve higher rates of recycling, increase diversion rates from landfill, and most importantly reduce the amount of waste we generate per capita.

We can't achieve these reduced waste production goals by doing what we have always done, or through technology alone. **We need to influence behaviour change in the community, and the regulatory environment for the producers and innovators of downstream waste products.**

Additionally we need to encourage people to buy things with recycled content to generate demand for processed waste material markets such as reclaimed timber, vintage clothes and re-formed glass products.

Council can perform a leadership role by significantly increasing and prioritising purchases that use recycled content and encouraging residents, industry and other levels of government to do the same (also a target from the National Waste Policy Action Plan 2022 Annexure).

Bulky Goods Collection



Kerbside collection

In 2019 the new amalgamated council introduced a concierge service of collection of bigger items that could not be collected in routine kerbside collection. This service reduced the challenges of residents travelling to Kimbriki to dispose of unwanted furniture, mattresses, broken appliances and other bric-a-brac and currently 60,000 bulky goods collections occur each year.

96% of these items are crushed into a bin and sent to landfill, even items that could potentially be diverted. Only 4% of materials from mixed waste at Kimbriki that are scrap metal or goods for the Buy Back Centre are able to be recovered. The total cost for disposal of mixed waste from Northern Beaches Council's Booked Bulky Goods Collection alone was \$2.75M in 2020. This cost is funded by a portion of the waste management charge included on annual rates notices and represents 16% of overall landfill disposal costs at Kimbriki. Bulky Goods Collection remains a key problem area and one that stands in our way of meeting cost reduction and waste reduction goals so long as this method continues.

Problematically, introducing the bi-annual collection service to landfill has reduced the quantity being sent to landfill as conscientious people who are aware of the objects' fate seek to find other places to take their functioning items. However, a large majority of the community are not aware that there is only 4% recovery rate and that their items will be crushed and broken.

Residents who call a concierge pickup service are instructed to put their items out late the night before for a next morning pickup. So vulnerable or conscientious upcyclers in the community have little to no time to divert the items to another location where it can be used in place of someone buying new.

Allowing residents to call a concierge service sporadically means that the entire suburb does not know when a collection is happening and they can not prepare for being able to collect items and save them from landfill.

As you can see, there are often valuable items left out for collection using the Bulky Goods Concierge Collection Service that can be reused but people need time and communication to help these items being diverted from the bulky goods collection service and imminent landfill.




Diversion to groups who recycle or repair appliances or bike repair services are also important and we need more time and resident education and incentive to encourage this.






In Mosman Council where they continue to use geographic locations to cluster their waste collection, many items have been able to be retrieved by savvy upcyclers and indeed resellers. Here is a list of items recovered from a single bulky waste collection and their value. How can we harness this value and use it to cover costs of hosting a one year drop off sustainability hub trial?

Lots of Golf clubs in bags \$40-\$80
 Adult avanti push-bike \$120
 Surfboards, normally \$40-\$80
 TV cabinet \$160
 Pair of Parker armchairs \$200
 Pair of Brewnich armchairs \$450
 Vintage luggage trunk \$600
 Quality exercise bike worth \$5000 new. Kept that
 LPG BBQ worth \$5000. Sold for \$300
 Any wooden wine box \$5-\$10 each
 Azzurri road bike \$300
 Mountain buggy pram \$230
 Bugaboo pram \$450
 Silverware/cutlery (brand new in box) \$100
 Playstation games \$70
 Wooden kids coat hangers (146 units) \$50

Quality stuff out for Council Clean up TODAY!
 Wanganella St Balgowlah. No Saves



FREE · SYDNEY, NSW
Council Collection

MESSAGE

We could segment the bulky goods collection service into material types, advertise the collection, and allow time for public recovery and diversion to minimise our collection costs and rate to landfill.

The primary costs of the current system are expensive (\$2.75M/p.a.), as are the impacted environmental costs on the requirement for another product and the stored carbon within both objects. Simply advertising that it's Palm Beaches' Metal recycling day on the 1st Sunday of June,

would allow people to plan their vehicle and time to collect and divert it. Ditto wooden furniture from Fairlight on the 2nd Saturday in November etc.

Additionally with forecast increases in population in the local area, this expensive problem will only worsen in the next decade. It seems inconceivable to be on track to reduce our total waste generated by 10% per person by 2030 using this current 'out of sight' method where their unwanted but sometimes-valuable-to-others items are whisked away never to be seen again.

In the case where the items are broken, of mixed material and therefore hard to recycle, or made of damaged MDF, those items can be collected for landfill (or engineers working on re-use solutions). But we should not see reusable, valuable items, dumped on the kerbside in our electorate.

Opportunities

1. **Reusable collection days:** On a Sunday host a well advertised metal recycling day. People who are interested can collect the kerbside metal and reuse it, whether it's in the shape of a bike, hills hoist or shovel. By Monday afternoon a Council truck will come around and collect all the residual metal and transport it to Kimbriki's metal recycling zone. Repeat this with other materials, such as e-waste, MDF or wooden furniture, that have some possibility of recovered materials that would form the beginnings of our circular economy, as well as supporting some residents' cost of living. **Details: Segment the bulky goods collection service into material types and allow time for public recovery and diversion.**
2. **Profile difficult user segments such as some older people, some busy people, young families, millennials with high fast fashion consumption.** Show leadership and give social license for these difficult segments to be aware of how they are contributing to the waste crisis and start those conversations. Do some community outreach to engage these cohorts and educate them about the problem, the impacts and the power they have to influence change. **Details: Targeted messaging on consumption and recycling that will empower people to make better decisions.**
3. **Teach us how to maximise the recovery rate of the yellow and blue bins** Are we doing it right? Help us do better. **Details: Engage Residents with a poll or quiz on social media or e-DMs, or at events about how to properly sort their recycling. Engage people who have recently moved to the area on how to do this as well. Link to this game or quiz via the annual waste calendar on everyone's fridge!**
4. **Simplify collection of hard to recycle items** such as batteries, fabrics, shoes, blister packs, e-waste, polystyrene. soft plastics. The current program of a sporadic collection service is counterintuitive in that it doesn't prove the size of demand, it only proves that some people could make it on that day. Personally, I don't think it's viable or helpful to our carbon reduction goals to encourage residents in Palm Beach or Manly to drive to Warriewood or Kimbriki to drop off their non-functioning appliances or polystyrene. Perhaps we could look at a model like our old milk bottle collection service where there was a labelled basket on the side of the truck where you could put the empty bottles or lids. Or we could explore having labelled buckets at Council libraries or Chambers. Separating these waste streams and engaging providers to collect the items would divert more recyclable waste from landfill **Details: Identify hard to recycle items and create a way to silo these in their own waste streams for separate collection. Alternatively, better integrate the service of companies like Recycle Smart into the education process for residents - since Council knows the contents of our red bins.**
5. **Get grants to invest in soft plastics innovations** There is at least one plastics manufacturer in Brookvale. Council could partner with this or another business, who understand how plastic is made, to innovate a solution using existing soft plastics. Residents are stockpiling or travelling to other electorates and it is increasing our red bin waste by 7% not having a solution to this problem. I understand that Councillor Glanville

put forward a motion in November for Council to investigate local options and we are due back with a response by February. Please consider what leadership role we could take in co-creating a solution. **Details: Don't take 'no' for an answer. Innovate and co-create. Issue a challenge with a financial reward on offer - anything!**

6. **Engage Community Groups to Educate Residents About Sustainable Fashion and also host Clothes Swaps** With textiles making up 5-6% of our red bins and services available such as Uparrel and WornUp, we do have options available to divert fabric and textiles from landfill. Additionally there is a H&M recycling service although we are not certain that it gets recycled and it's difficult for council to recommend to business. **Details: We could host a bulky goods pickup for clothes. People put unwanted clothes out on the kerbside on a Sunday morning and other people select if they would like it. It's collected by council, charities are offered to go through it, then the residual is sent to fabric recycling with WornUp. Messaging to residents using this service pushes them to buy for longevity and they are charged for any more than 1 bag per pickup.**

Council could also facilitate or partner with an organisation for Clothes Swap events. Fashion reduction activities, collection and education should account for 5-6% of their education programs and waste prevention budget, in line with the size of its impact.

7. **Health Medical and Laboratory Waste** Accounts for 7% of carbon emissions in Australia's economy. **Council could create a network for this industry to work through best practice resources and prevent and divert materials from landfill and hazardous disposal. Convene and facilitate the formation of committees around this.**

8. **Food Waste**

Council's new bin service aimed to recover food waste, process it so it was inert and apply this to land. However the Environmental Protection Authority's rules were changed about acceptable land use for contaminated food and this was now an unacceptable risk. It's a shame but we need to move forward.

The reality is that food waste big, small and liquid causes methane. Methane causes 26 times faster degradation of our environment than CO₂. One of the key things we can do about this is to separate food waste from landfill contents and manage it properly using aerobic or anaerobic systems until it can be used to nurture our soil. If we continue to dump it in landfill and let it become methane it will impact our community's emissions reduction targets and become expensive.

Recycling food scraps helps to:

- Preserve landfill capacity,
- Return nutrients to productive use,
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and
- Save space in your red bin and in landfill

It is my belief that we still have 7-8 years until Northern Beaches Council will implement a food waste collection service because of their current bin contracts and the money spent on the AWF process, the by-product of which is now unable to be embedded back in the land as was originally intended. But we are locked into a contract.

I think that is why, despite a bin audit, our draft strategic goals in this policy are aligned with the State's furthest deadline of 2030. Considering the size of the Northern Beaches and the level of education that is higher than other Local Government Areas in the state, residents understand the magnitude of our food waste's contribution to carbon emissions and they are actively wanting a food waste collection service that ensures this high impact waste stream is processed responsibly.

Council was proactive in distributing free worm farms or composting units, as well as offering free lessons on how to use these items through Kimbriki eco-house. But we have precious little data about the ongoing compliance of using these systems and continuing food slop in our red landfill bins. Additionally, community gardens are sporadic throughout the electorate and offer an unpleasant customer experience. This would be a deterrent for residents to change their food waste behaviour in a way that helps meet Council's climate change 2040 goals with this waste stream that has an oversized contribution to emissions.

We must find a simple, convenient way for residents to have their food waste collected even if it means asking for additional funds or partnering with an organisation who can offer it. I suggest we include a Food waste collection service by 2025 as one of our strategic goals. We have been asking for this service since 2018 and have been consistently placated all the while 50,000 tonnes of food waste every year in our Local Government Area have been degrading our environment and hindering traction on Council's Climate Change Strategies and Action Plan.

With the carbon/ecological footprint of this 50,000 tonnes of food waste equal to that of the transport sector emissions (Food And Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, Oceania Data) Council needs to prioritise delivering a solution to the Food Waste created on the Northern Beaches.

While we could direct people to Love Food Hate Waste that has a significant amount of public education resources, we could also go further to inspire locals to address the problem of food waste such as:

- Featuring local celebrities talking about food waste reduction
- Engaging local community groups to educate schools and sports groups about waste reduction.
- Hosting business forums to educate and incentivise businesses to reduce their food and other waste. This includes large facilities such as northern beaches hospital, aged care homes, Four Pines Oval, council owned assets, and shopping centres across the LGA.
- Target the hospitality industry specifically and host listening forums about their issues and obstacles to implementing better recycling and food waste diversion programs.
- Perform an advocacy service for food recovery services such as OzHarvest and ensure connections with stakeholders are empowered to increase food recovery rates, particularly in relation to companies like Woolworths, Coles, Harris Farm, Aldi, Bakers Delight, Merivale, Novotel, Sofitel and other food and hospitality organisations.
- Spotlighting and rewarding businesses and locals by telling their waste reduction stories in Council e-mail communications, social media and local news outlets.
- Create accessible content for residents about how to separate and collect their food waste at home. Create connections and opportunities for people to engage with each other about their food waste processes at home.
- Partner with all the community gardens and create a drop-off service for residents in the interim, promoting more volunteers to help at community gardens to process the food waste, like Brisbane City Council has done.
- I can see that it is 50% of our red bin contents but the waste education events currently advertised relating to reducing food waste are 0%. More effort needs to be applied to finding a solution, fast.



Gratefully, we have other councils, such as Penrith and Randwick, who have been offering collection services for many years and we can learn from their processes and providers about the most effective and cost-efficient way of doing it. I urge you to look at Lithgow Council who have just implemented a new system and consider using their recent research to guide your approach, as well as Wollongong/Shoalhaven and Byron Bay who have a separate food collection service. Please do not wait until the maximum allowed time for us to begin. Perhaps do a trial in one densely populated suburb to prove the concept can work for us on the beaches.

9. **Extend on its successful 'Toy Library' partnership**

Connect with other organisations, or purchase the items themselves, and offer a Tool Library, a Kitchen Machine Library, A Seed Library, based on successful concepts throughout USA and Europe. For example, if a local resident did not need to buy a size 8 cake tin once and then throw it away, or purchase a particular type of saw for infrequent use, the demand for purchasing infrequently used products may very well be lower. If we can borrow items as delicate as paper books, we can borrow items such as a circular saw, a steam cleaner, or a whipper snipper. With more household density, why does every house need to own these things when they can be loaned? Ditto this idea with a party kit, events recycling signage, picnic basket, size 12 ball gown, sustainable startup kit for a business etc etc.

<https://thesydneylibraryofthings.org.au>

Add a goal to use the library as a way to reduce consumption in the first place.

Cultural Shift - a system wide change

People also throw out items because it's more convenient to do so. While Council has created an informative map about where those items can be directed to move them further up the waste hierarchy, there still isn't an incentive to accelerate waste reduction or diversion, or to slow the production of waste.

Waste hierarchy



Without targeted education and a simple collection service, we will not meet our reduction goals and we will continue to delay meaningful action. Council has the power to lead a cultural shift and drive system wide change.

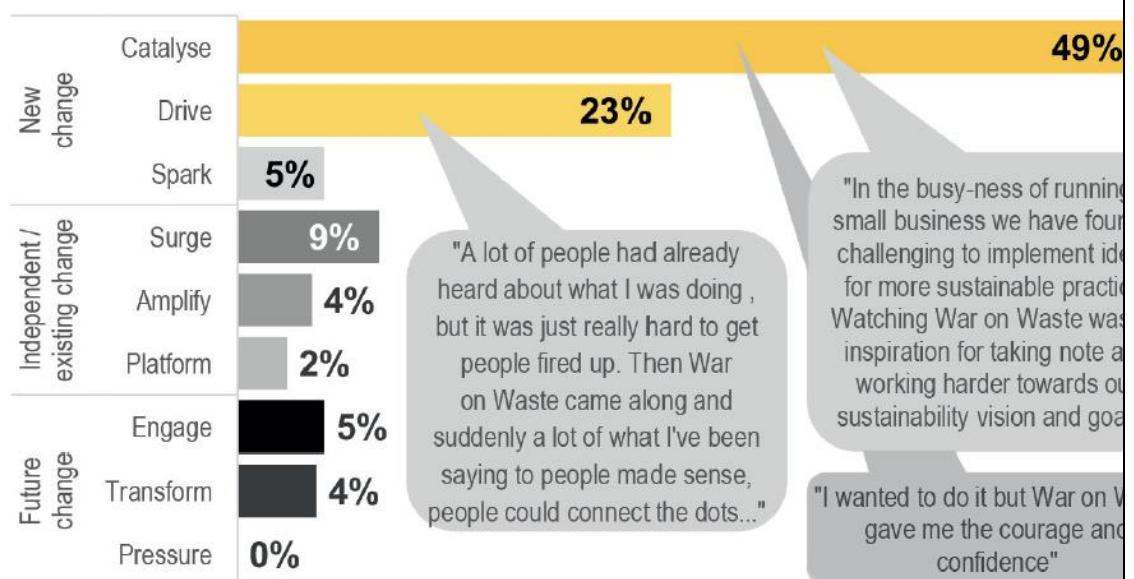
Cultural shift instigated by the TV Show War On Waste - a lesson for Council

Following the screening of the ABC's War on Waste in 2018, an ISF study confirmed that audience's personal responses were translated into systems-wide changes within Australia's private, public and community sectors, extending the show's influence as an important driver of waste reduction initiatives, models and practices Australia-wide.

The study found that by reducing waste at the source, by replacing single-use items with reusable alternatives and by recycling more and more effectively, organisations and institutions of all types are helping to reduce Australia's waste footprint. **Council's Swap For Good program has been effective in educating some businesses about alternatives to single use and enabling reusable containers in their businesses but needs to go further.**

Half the organisations and institutions – the changemakers – took actions to improve their own operations and/or the services and products they offered based on ideas from the show. Another 23% of changes were driven by individuals motivated to push for system-wide change by influencing businesses, schools, governments and community organisations to take action.

Council's role can not be just to facilitate waste management. If it wants to inspire change it has to show vision, leadership and empathy for where businesses and residents are and remove the friction and barriers to help them achieve genuine waste reduction. They have to catalyse change, and mobilise changemakers to effect waste reduction and diversion tactics in their circle of influence. **Nurture people in community groups, schools and businesses to be agents for change; Engage local sportspeople and celebrities to influence people's behaviour in a style that's entertaining, relatable and actionable. Map out the customer journey for businesses to implement ideal waste prevention strategies and connect them with resources to implement it in their businesses.**



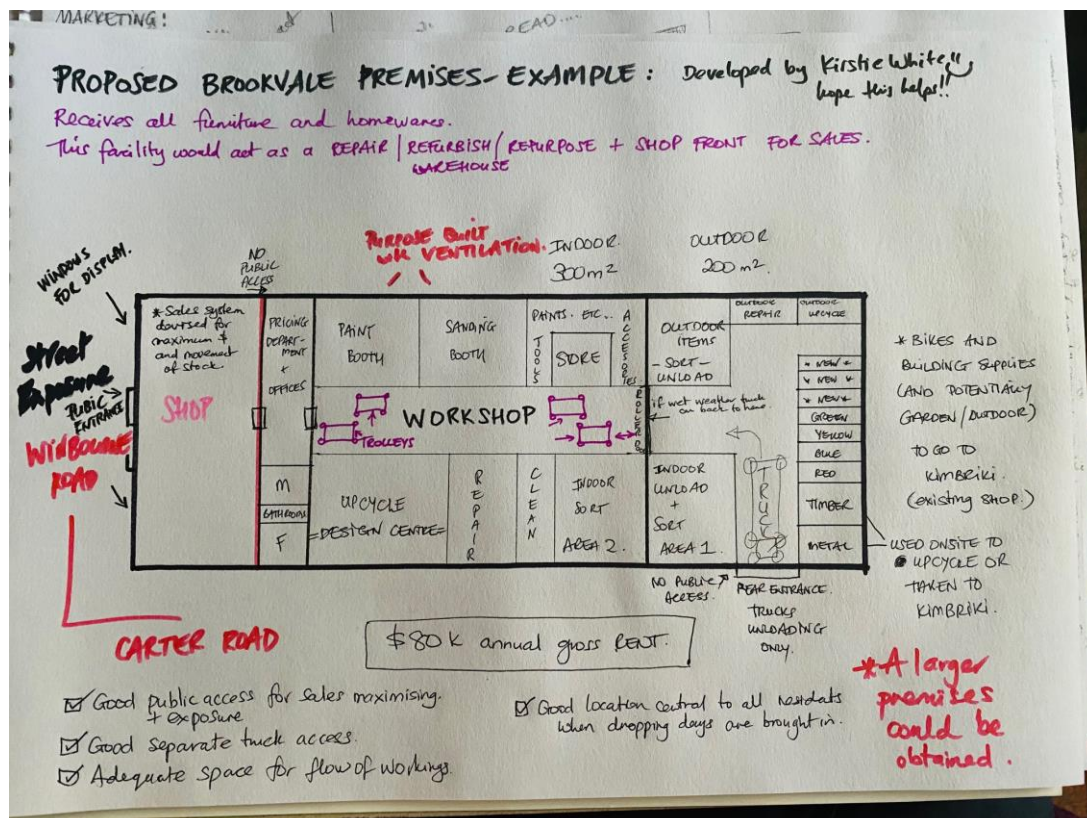
How to catalyse change?

Bold Vision

Conduct a trial of a Reverse Garbage type service for 1 year and measure the impact. Rather than a sporadic waste stream collection on a random day that may not suit people's schedules, offer a reliable store front where people know they can drop off their objects that can be re-used or have their materials recycled.

Other places such as the Green Centre in Canberra, Matraville Recycling Centre, Reverse Garbage offer a dedicated drop off centre for furniture, paints, batteries, tyres etc and add an element of community and social enterprise to it.

Consider establishing a program for volunteers to service the centre, ensure there is a drive-through drop off service, and locate the venue in an accessible space such as a shopping centre or library car park so it's a pleasant, local place to do the right thing. Distance is an issue.



We could create a community space with lessons, a garden to grow things in, a cafe, local entertainment, a place to go for vulnerable people to connect, contribute and create. Waste is a valuable resource.




Blank Canvas and the front counter, as soon as you walk in...

0113 3452627 hello@scrapstuff.co.uk 0 items - £0.00 My

SCRAP
CENTRE OF CREATIVE REUSE

Welcome Online Shop ScrapStore reSTORE ScrapShed Space Hire Contact



ScrapSheds

The ScrapShed is a metal container or wooden shed which is filled with recycled materials and equipment suitable for outdoor play. It includes plastics, reels, huge tubes, pipes, large boxes, old tyres, materials, tarpaulin, denbuilding and much more.

[Read More](#)



360 Degree Clothing Boutique - fill a bag for \$2!

Offer Repair Education and a Repair Workshop Location

All these pieces of furniture and decor have been recovered from the kerbside and repaired. It would be extremely helpful to retain these skills in this community and educate people about buying furniture that is built for longevity.



Recognise the gap between what people do and what people say they want to do

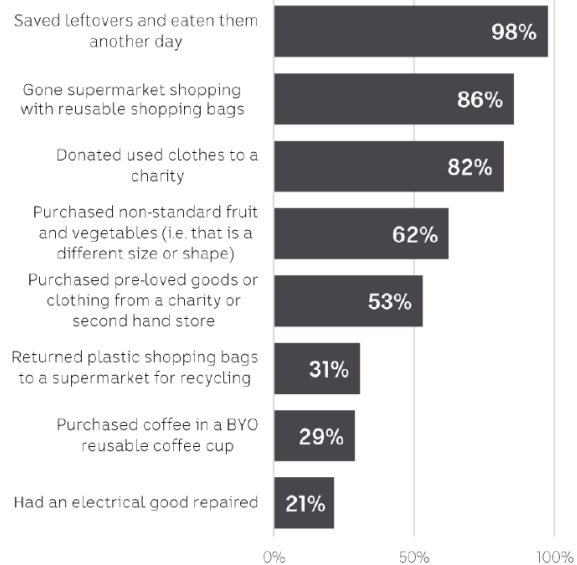
Council could recognise the gaps between self-perception and authentic actions, such as this data from ABC's War On Waste impact report, that shows people are actively involved in waste reduction tactics although it does not state how frequently they do so, yet they continue to undertake activities that negatively impact environmental outcomes.

Waste Reduction - Consumer

When reporting on their waste reduction behaviours, the majority are actively impacting by:

- eating leftovers (98%)
- using reusable shopping bags (86%)
- donating clothes to charity (82%)
- purchasing non standard fruit and vegetables (62%)

"In the past 3 months have you ..."

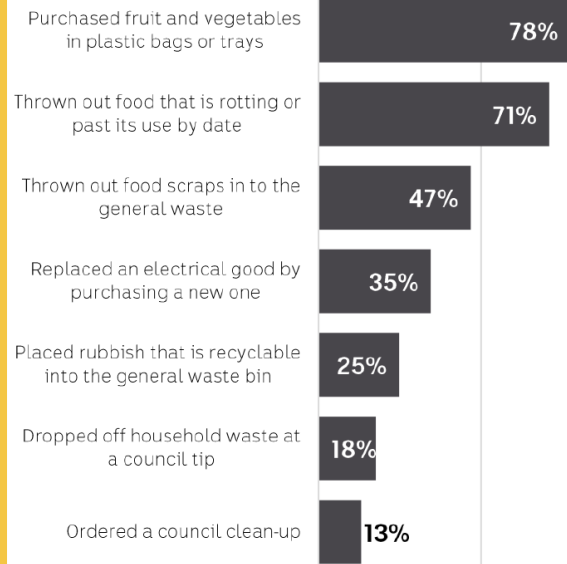


Base: All Respondents (n=36,792)

Waste Creation - Consumer

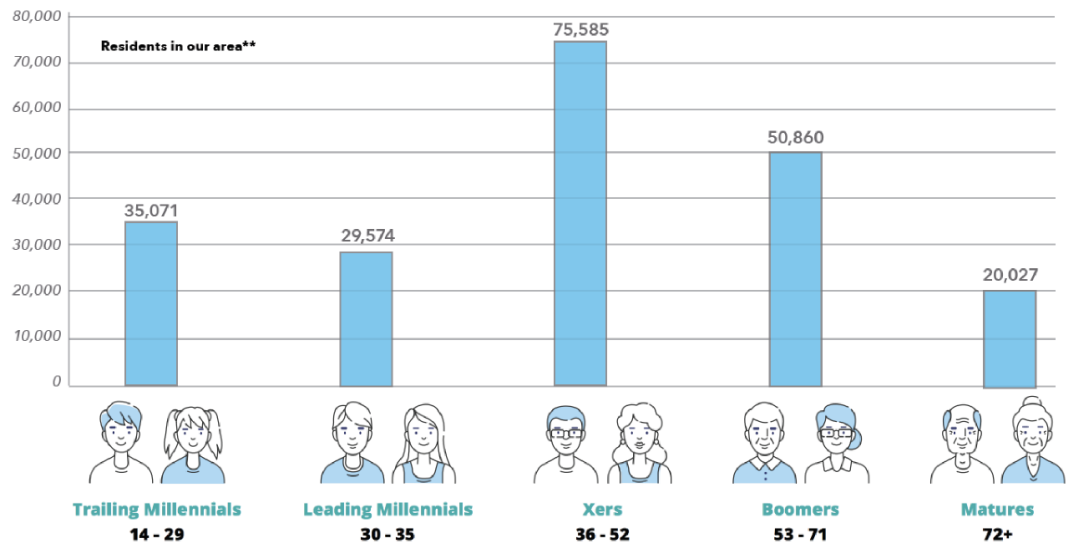
While at the same time engaging in behaviours that increase the amount of waste that they produce, such as:

- Purchasing fruit and vegetables in plastic bags or trays (78%)
- Throwing out food that is rotting or past its use by date (71%)



Understand the various segments

SEGMENTING BY -- AGE --



Target consumer segments to enact change

There are different embedded values within each generation and we need to focus on empowering those whose behaviour is most likely to change. For example, Council could target Gen X'ers with communications about Construction waste and the importance of considering sustainable design at this point, or focus on minimising single use nappies or birthday party consumables.

For matures, perhaps a composting lesson on how to minimise food waste as that's a significant but favourable behaviour change.

Communications for Leading Millennials could target slow fashion and ways to be very sociable without leaving cans and straws on the ground and accessing affordable longer lasting clothes.

Data, behaviour change and advocacy

If we are to move to a circular economy we need to **educate our community about the true price of the objects they buy** and how to identify where those objects will go at the end of their life, leading to informed purchases.

We also need to **raise awareness about the benefits of buying recycled products, to help drive demand and actively facilitate the creation of new sustainable markets.**

Importantly, we also need to **put the onus back on the producers to ensure that sustainability and circularity is designed into the product before it is approved for sale.**

Council can also perform an advocacy role to the State and Federal governments by supplying data from our LGA's waste audits and encouraging legislative change for all brands who are producing problem single use material.

They could also advocate for stronger powers for the EPA to enforce breaches, as well as encourage the state government to run a state-wide education campaign about preventing, refusing, reusing and reducing waste.

Council could also pressure the State government to update the laws surrounding the use of waste materials in new products. Under the NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 waste is still considered a waste even after it is processed, recycled, reused or recovered. It is treated as a problem that needs to be disposed of. Resource recovery orders and exemptions in NSW for materials that are recovered and reused enable these 'wastes' to be used again. However, to use the materials/waste in a way that is not covered by the orders and exemptions, manufacturers need to apply to the EPA. These exemptions can be expensive and take years to be granted so many businesses are reluctant to engage in using recovered materials in their production processes. It's important that materials are recycled safely. However, our current approach to recovered materials is a handbrake on new ways to solve our waste problems. This isn't something that individual businesses will solve, but **this regulatory change is something that Council could advocate for on the basis of its data indicating that residents want this!**

Litter

In February 2022 Council received a Litter Prevention Grant from the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to help develop an evidence-based litter strategy for Council and the community. Council has now completed the project, including the following activities:

- An audit of public litterbins across the Northern Beaches Local Government Area (LGA), with a representative sample size of bins to show the type and volume of litter disposed in bins across the LGA
- A baseline local litter check at a number of litter hotspots to identify type and volume of items littered in the LGA
- A cost of litter study, to establish the cost of managing litter to Northern Beaches Council per year.

Item in public place litter rubbish bin	% bin contents
Food/kitchen – small	19%
Dog Waste Bags	11%
Glass Beverage Containers	10%
Cardboard – takeaway food packaging	7%
Containerised food and liquid	6%
Contaminated soiled paper	5%
Disposable paper product – food related	4%
Disposable paper product – coffee cups – non-biodegradable	3%
Disposable paper product – coffee cups – biodegradable	2%

Item in public place litter recycling bin	% bin contents
Glass and aluminium beverage containers	59%
Cardboard – takeaway food packaging	4%
Containerised food and liquid	3%
Food/kitchen – small	3%
Plastic PET beverage containers	3%
Disposable paper product – coffee cups – non biodegradable	3%
Newspaper	3%
Contaminated soiled paper	2%
Disposable paper product – coffee cups –biodegradable	<2%

Some other key findings of the audit were that:

- the litter capture rate by Council's public place bins, meaning the weight of captured litter in the bins compared to total litter on the ground and in bins, is over 94%. However, the capture rate is only around 80% in sporting fields and skate parks and 90% in shopping precincts.
- where public place garbage bins and recycling bins are co-located, about 74% of recyclable materials (such as glass and aluminum drink containers) are recovered in the recycling bin, whilst 26% are incorrectly placed in the garbage bin.
- over 30% of public place recycling bin contents by weight is contaminated (e.g., not recyclable through that recycling bin system).
- Over 35% of littered items on the ground were takeaway food or drink containers. The report recommended a range of actions to maximise recycling through public place bins and minimise contamination and overflowing litter from bins. Some suggested actions include improved signage to ensure the right waste goes in the right bin and bins do not overflow, improved bin maintenance and changing recycling bin configuration. The report did not recommend providing separate recycling containers for coffee cups, however **Council can help to stop the single use cups at their source by engaging with businesses to take a greater responsibility in the waste they generate.**

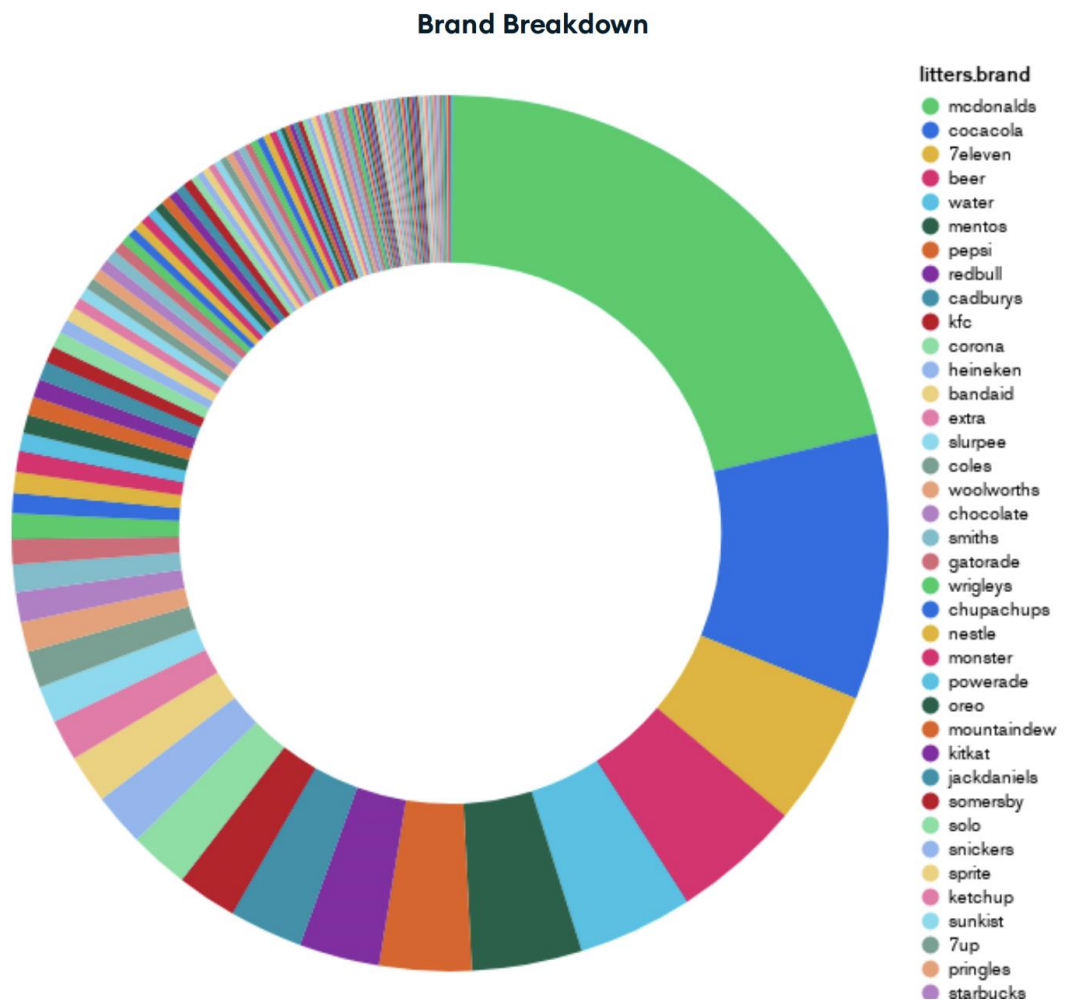
Council can also influence change by creating a leadership network of hospitality locations who do use sustainable cups with the goal of strengthening their relationships and collaboratively preventing and managing litter.

Council can ensure systems are in place to facilitate proper post-use processing such as commercial composting by connecting suppliers and creating collection points. Council can also only award licenses for events where a minimum percentage of local suppliers have compliant reusable packaging that will minimise litter.

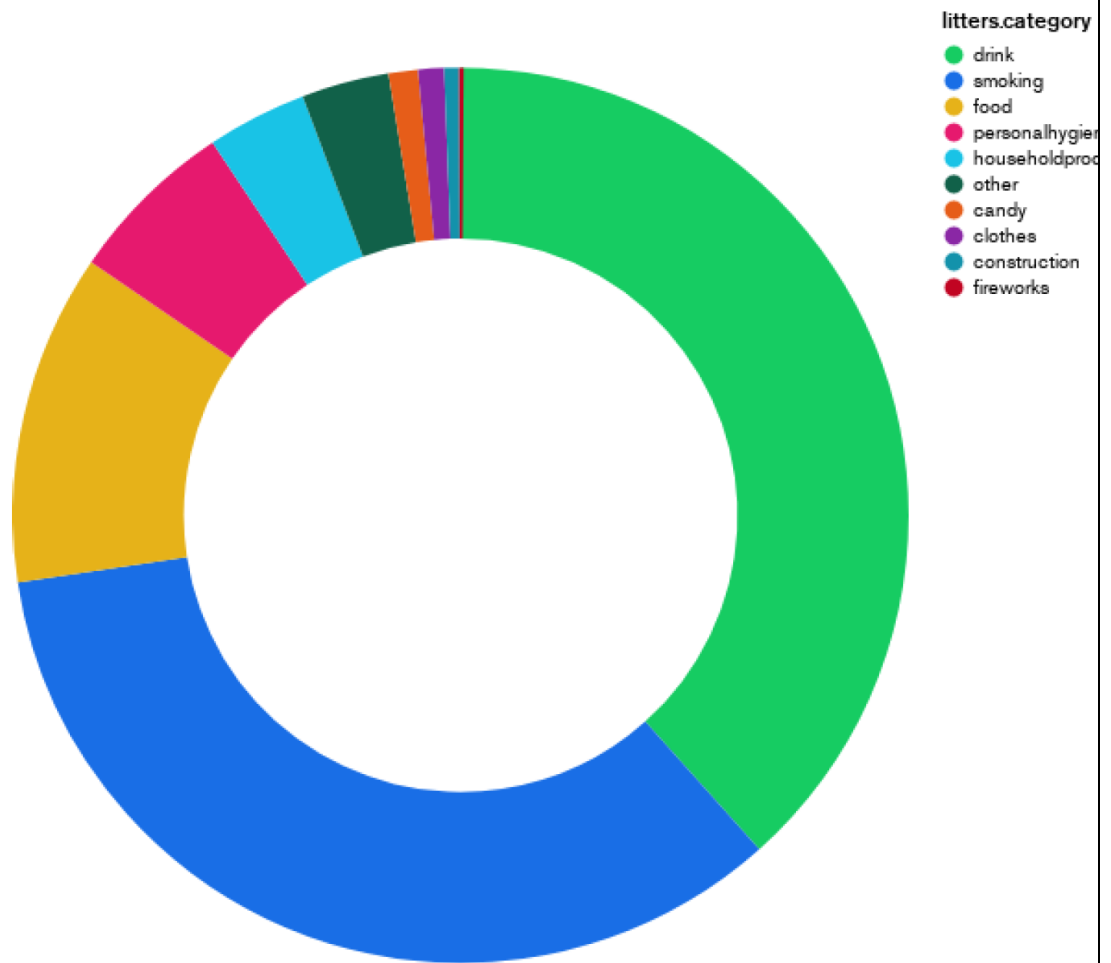
Council can continue their excellent 'Swap For Good' program that engaged businesses to employ reusable products to serve food and beverages in. This service needs to be expanded and engaged with businesses who have the identified capacity to adopt this.

Businesses

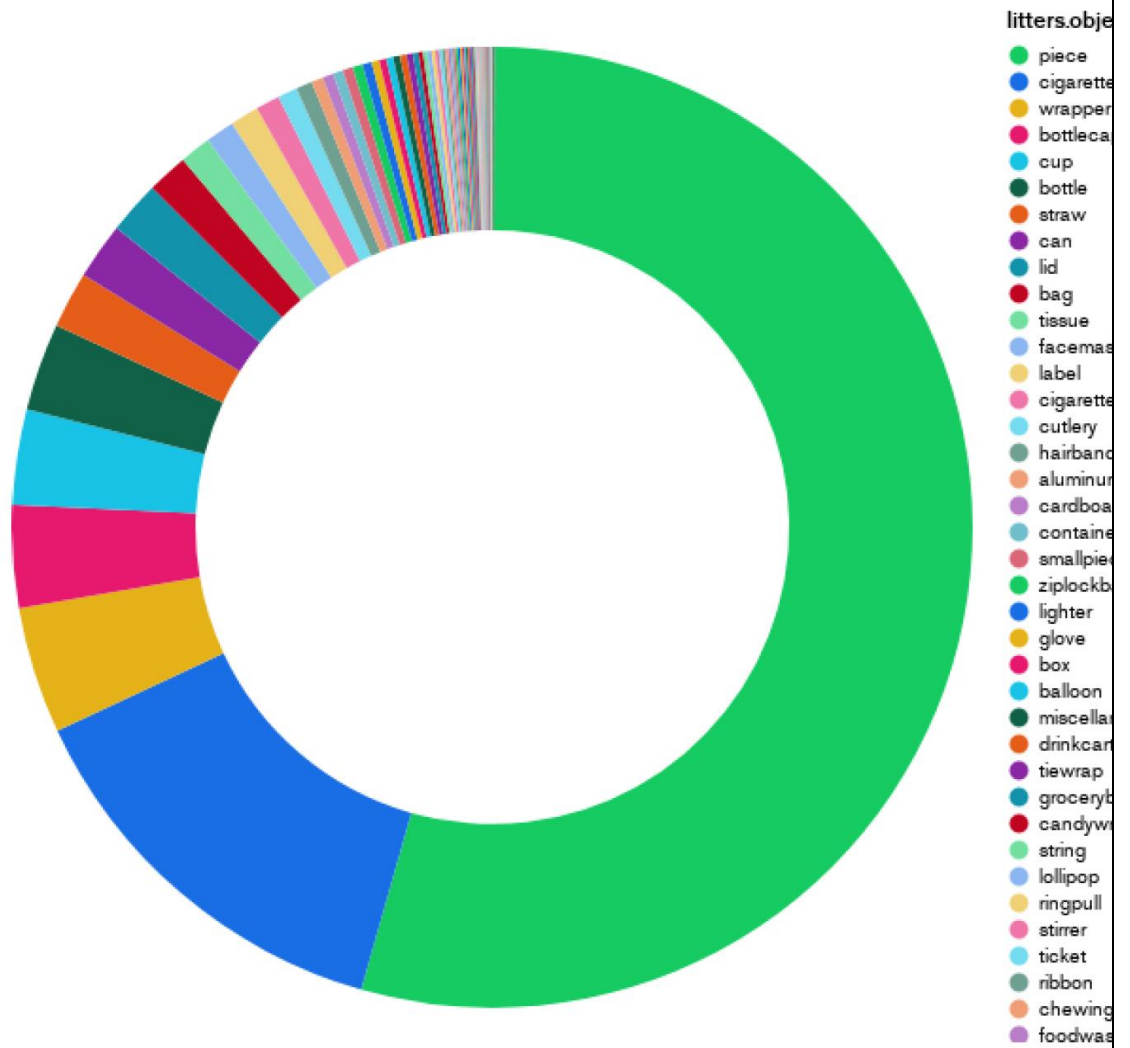
Data from Literatti indicates the key categories, brands and parent companies that are contributing to the litter problem across Sydney.



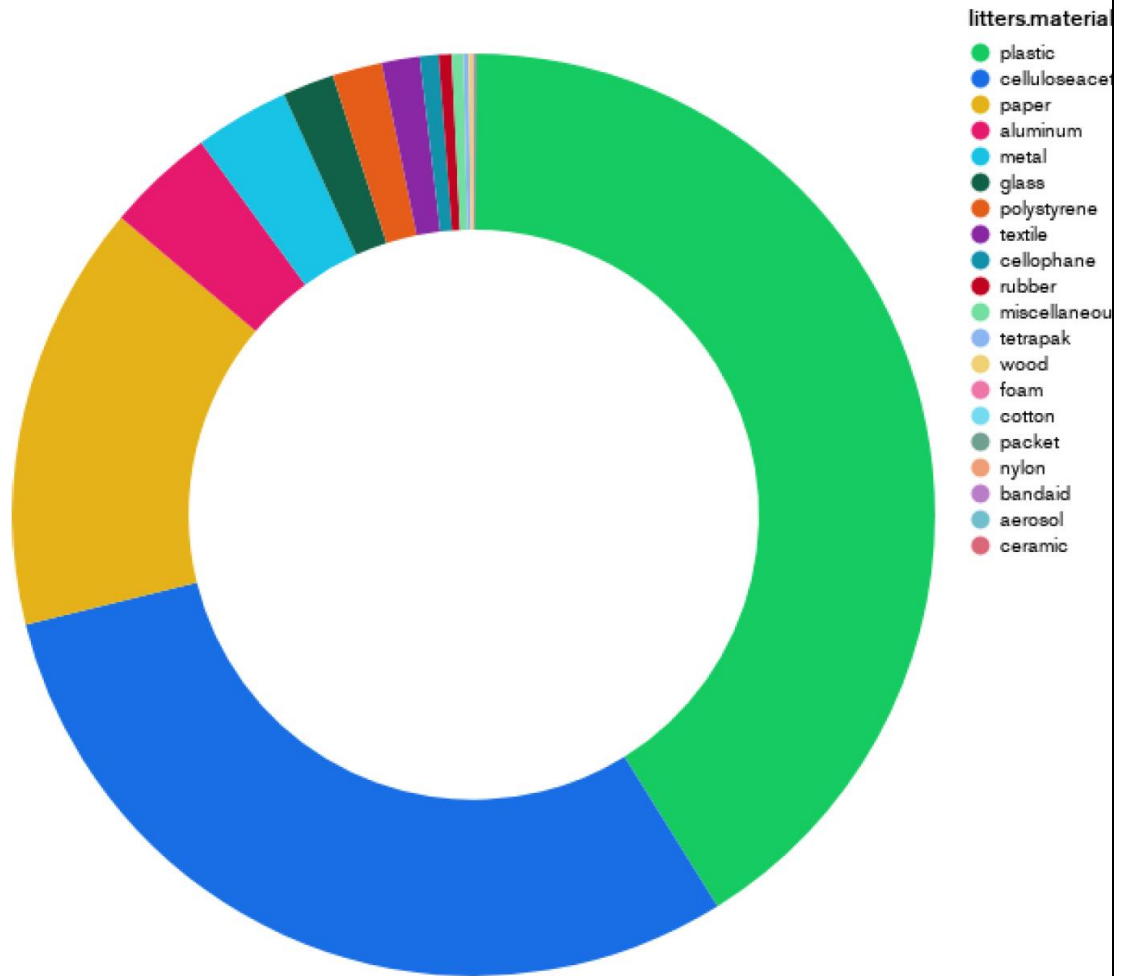
Category Breakdown



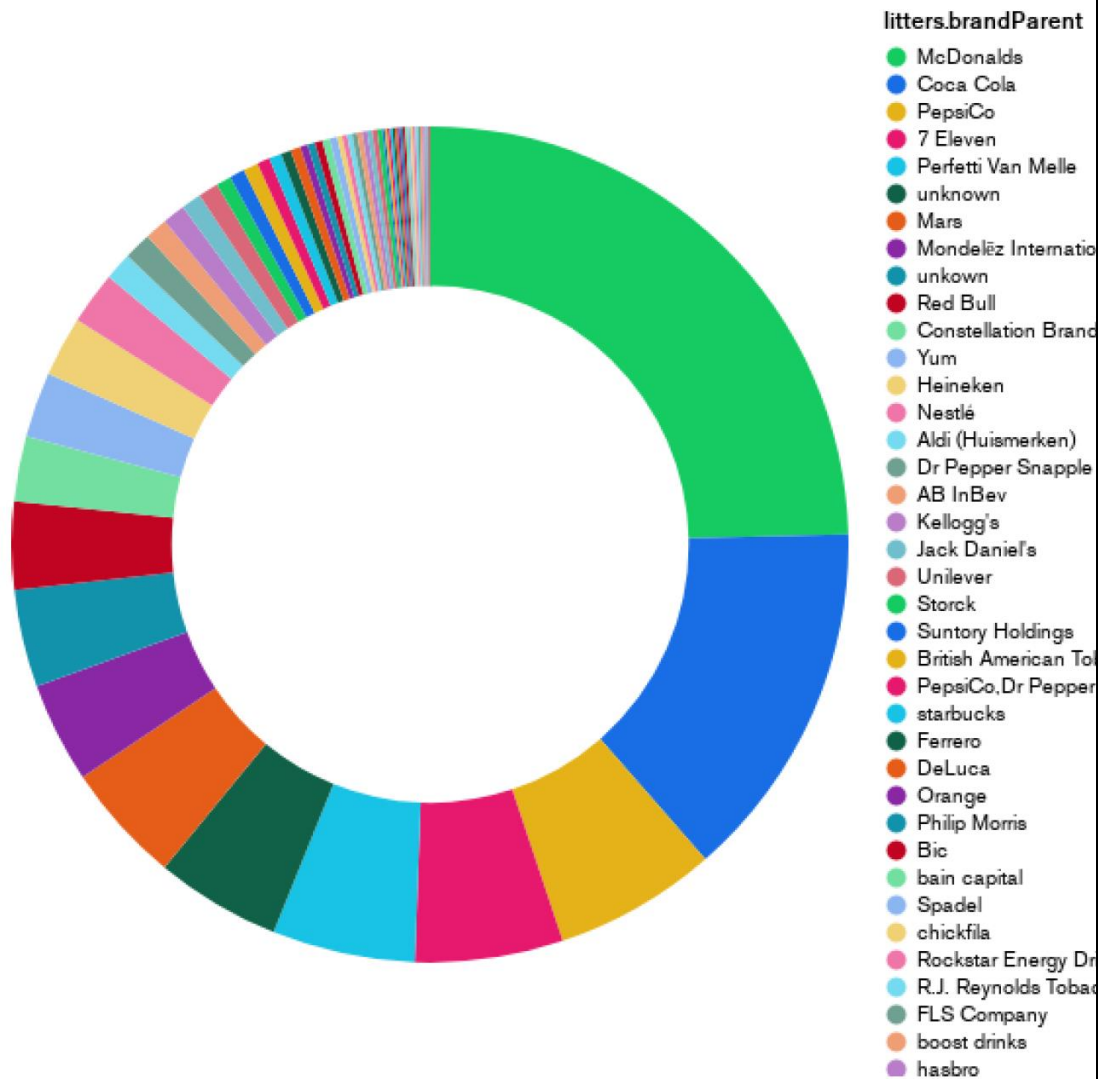
Object Breakdown



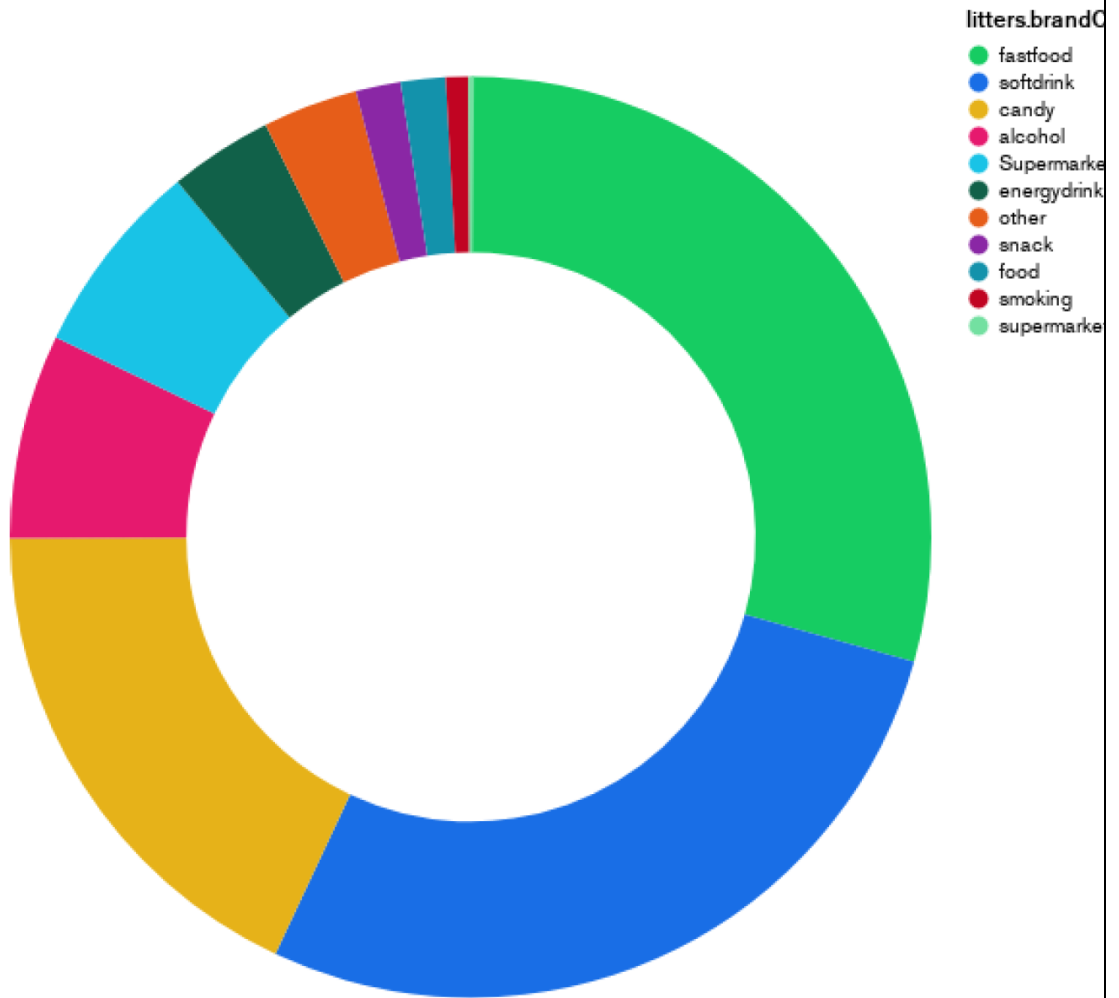
Material Breakdown



Brand Parent Breakdown



Brand Category Breakdown



We have an opportunity to engage with these suppliers and discuss how to stop this waste at the source, ensure that their packaging is designed responsibly and discuss extended producer responsibility and consequences for the lack of intervention that is resulting in litter and environmental degradation.

You can't fix what you don't discuss so please Council, shine a light on the source of the problem and let's create a plan to address it, not jut locally but statewide.

Opportunities

Public places

Public bins are contaminated by 30% (not recyclable through our recycling system). Public recycle bins could be clearly marked and designed to only fit drink bottles, to cater for all ages and languages, particularly in high-tourist-traffic areas so as to minimise contamination and maximise the ability to recycle the materials.

Giving people options of how to recycle everything will also help compliance - including food waste!



Where do I put my coffee cup? How good is this system with clear pictures and differentiated bin infrastructure? I'm certain this would increase compliance.



Education

It appears that there needs to be a public education process around shopping centres and public shopping areas specifically targeting takeaway containers and drink containers. The compliance rate drops at this point and it could be effective to allow hypertargeted advertising to focus on increasing compliance at the point of consumption.

Businesses

Council could work with the other Councils in NSW or Australia, through the Local Government Office to raise these issues and these costs with the brands directly, or with APCO, or the EPA. It seems grossly unfair that these companies can profit while degrading our environment and passing their single-use costs on to councils.

Smoking

Cigarette butts continue to be a problem source of litter. Education and fines may be the carrot and stick required to help drive behaviour change. I would like to see a map with all the hotspots identified.

Stopping water bottles and other single use items

It is difficult for Council to enact change on this front since Extended Producer Responsibility is a state jurisdiction and fines for litter come from the police and are rarely enforced. They can perform an advocacy role to these two agencies by providing their data and hotspot information to these services.

Events - an area Council can and does have influence over

Council's water refill station has been amazing and we need to normalise vendors NOT selling water. Ensure that prior to Council giving event approval, there is a strategy to minimise water bottle use and that nearby businesses are stocked with environmentally friendly cutlery and

crockery, with available bins to separate these waste streams and properly process them (compostable food plates and cups etc). Remind people before the event to BYO reusable bottles and cups, for an incentive or reward.



Line up related services around events to ensure there is no overflow of bins, and the rubbish is collected and put to the right waste streams.

Clean Up Campaigns

Council knows the hotspots for community bin overflow that could end up contaminating our local environment such as Manly's East Esplanade or Sporting Fields. Engage staff and the community to work together on solutions for this.

Photograph the brands that end up as litter - or engage a community group to do this to create pressure to change.





HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO BREAK DOWN?			
PAPER TOWEL	2 to 4 weeks	CIGARETTE BUTT	10 to 12 years
BANANA PEEL	3 to 4 weeks	LEATHER SHOE	25 to 40 years
PAPER BAG	1 month	TINNED STEEL CAN	50 years
NEWSPAPER	1,5 months	FOAMED PLASTIC CUP	50 years
APPLE CORE	2 months	RUBBER BOOT SOLE	50 to 80 years
CARDBOARD	2 months	PLASTIC CONTAINER	50 to 80 years
COTTON GLOVE	3 months	ALUMINUM CAN	200 to 500 years
ORANGE PEELS	6 months	PLASTIC BOTTLE	450 years
PLYWOOD	1 to 3 years	DISPOSABLE DIAPER	550 years
WOOL SOCK	1 to 5 years	MONOFILAMENT FISHING LINE	600 years
MILK CARTON	5 years	PLASTIC BAG	200 to 1000 years

Thank you to the Northern Beaches War On Waste Community who have continued to contribute to these ideas and push for further action on minimising waste and resultant environmental impacts in our community.

Thank you to council staff who work extremely hard with considerable constraints to deliver on what the community asks.

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Preamble

Thanks for the opportunity to express my comments. I have decided not to comment on the specifics outlined in the Strategy, but rather to express my ideas in special areas regarding

	<p>waste. I regard the need for improving our waste management as really important. Three issues really stand out as demanding immediate attention –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limiting waste to landfill • Dealing with plastics • Council showing the way <p>Limiting Waste to Landfill</p> <p>Councils plans for reducing household waste make good sense apart from the plan to pick up kerbside waste. Much more of this waste is recycled if the waste pickup is concentrated on fixed dates throughout the year. Doing so gives scavengers a better opportunity to cruise past lots of throwout material on the kerb and pick up useful objects. It may be visually more unsightly but well worth it to facilitate recycling.</p> <p>Dealing with Plastics</p> <p>This is a monumental problem and needs some immediate action. Limiting the generation is of course vitally important, and measures to do so are embodied in the Strategy. In my view regulation on industry is needed in this area, and Council should advocate for change.</p> <p>11 Council Activities</p> <p>Wherever possible I would advocate Council taking a bold stance and using recycled plastic components wherever possible – and a lot of them. In particular I see the benefit of replacing old Post and Rail fencing in the LGA with replacement products made from soft plastics – such as those from Replas. Following the collapse of Redcycle there is currently over 4000 tonnes of this stuff in temporary storage awaiting processing.</p> <p>12 Waste to Energy</p> <p>There is continuing well-meaning advocacy for dealing with waste by adopting a Circular Economy. Unfortunately this path has been for over the last 25 years at least, very slow to progress. This is resulting in huge quantities still going to landfill, or worse - entering our waterways. There are many Waste to Energy installations in Europe (and now maybe in Perth WA) that incinerate waste to produce energy and support the electrical grid (Vienna is one such facility - The Spittelau incinerator and Hundertwasser).</p> <p>In my opinion all major town and cities should have such a facility and burn 90% of waste currently going to landfill. It is a proven technology that deals effectively with emission controls. Council should advocate for one in Sydney</p> <p>13 Council Walking the Talk and Showing the Way</p> <p>There is an important role for Council to show the community what can be done by “Walking the Talk” and engaging the community showing how they can participate. There are several environmental groups that would be delighted to work with Council to make this option work (please contact the writer for details)</p>
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Responses received via online submission.

See [Community Engagement Report - Waste and Circular Economy - Verbatim comments](#)

Document administration	
Version	1.0
Date	26 February 2024
Approval	Content provided and approved by Waste Management and Cleansing Team. Responsible Executive Manager: Andrew Ward-Harvey
Status	Final
Related Projects	
Notes	Community and stakeholder views contained in this report do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Beaches Council or indicate a commitment to a particular course of action.