GOING CIRCULAR TO 2030

Central Adelaide Waste Recycling and Circular Economy Strategy

2025 - 2030

cawra

PORT ADELAIDE ENFIELD

City of Charles Sturt

Kaurna acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Owners of the land on which we stand, the Kaurna People of the Adelaide Plains.

It is upon their ancestral lands that the two Councils of the Central Adelaide region meet. It is also the Place of the Kardi, the Emu, whose story travels from the coast inland. We pay respect to Elders past and present. We respect their spiritual beliefs and connections to land which are of continuing importance to the living Kaurna people of today. We further acknowledge the contributions and important role that Aboriginal people continue to play within our shared community.

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Chair's message

CAWRA is a regional subsidiary jointly owned by its two constituent Councils, the Cities of Charles Sturt and Port Adelaide Enfield.

CAWRA was formed in early 2020 with a vision to achieve excellence in waste and recycling services across the Adelaide central and western suburbs, growing the circular economy through ethical and transparent management of kerbside recyclables.

The pursuit of the circular economy is one of the core founding principles of CAWRA and underpins the work and decision making of CAWRA in a wide range of fields, including through the operation of the CAWRA Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Kilburn and increasingly through the wider range of services and initiatives provided to the benefit of both Councils and their communities.

We have all grown up in a 'linear economy' – one which takes resources from the natural environment, turns them into products for our use, and then disposes of those products. We now know that a linear economy is inefficient in its single-use of valuable natural materials (including rare minerals) and environmentally damaging.

Globally, there is a shift towards the development of a 'circular economy', in which materials are used for longer, then recovered and recycled multiple times to extract maximum benefit.

Doing this requires a rethink of the way in which we design and consume materials. New products need to be carefully designed to last longer, be reused and repaired multiple times and to facilitate their recovery and recycling. We also need to ensure that easy and convenient services are in place to help residents and businesses return those materials after use so they can be recovered.

The development of 'Going Circular to 2030', by CAWRA and on behalf of both Councils, is an important next step in consolidating the direction our 3 organisations will pursue over the coming 5 years. The strategy was released in draft form for review and feedback by the communities of both Councils.

Thank you to those of you within our communities that took the time to review the strategy and provide us with your thoughts and input. We have taken that into account in the preparation of the Final strategy, including a number of changes and additional actions as a result.

On behalf of CAWRA, I look forward to working together with both Councils to get the best support and services in place for our communities through the coming 5 years.

David Spear
Acting Chair - CAWRA Board

"an important next step in consolidating the direction our 3 organisations will pursue over the coming 5 years."

Strategic context

PURPOSE STATEMENT

'Going Circular to 2030' has been developed by CAWRA at the request of its two Constituent Councils (the Cities of Charles Sturt and Port Adelaide Enfield) to guide the region's waste, recycling and circular economy efforts for the coming 5 years.

The strategy identifies and prioritises key themes to be targeted and strategic initiatives to be implemented. It also clarifies the roles of each of the three organisations.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

The strategy has been prepared with input from Green Industries SA and the SA Environment Protection Authority, and with reference to the latest policy work undertaken by both agencies. This includes recent work by the EPA in late 2024 to update the *Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy* and preliminary work by Green Industries SA to prepare the new 'SA Waste Strategy', a draft of which is due for release in mid-2025.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

The themes and initiatives within this strategy closely align with the targets and priorities identified within Australia's Circular Economy Framework, as shown below:

Goal
Double the circularity of the economy by 2035

Targets	**Shrink our per capita Material footprint by 10%** Front-end target	**Lift our material productivity by 30%** Middle target	**Safely recover 80% of our resources** End target
Priorities	**Industry** • Circular packaging • Durable, re-usable and sustainable goods	**Built Environment** • Refurbishing and adaptive re-use • Circular, low carbon construction material fit-outs	**Food and Agriculture** • Reducing food waste • Valorising agri-waste	**Resources** • Minerals beneficiation • Co-extraction and resource sharing through precincts • Second-use of mineral-containing products
Sectoral enablers	• Improved product design • Verifying the provenance, properties and performance of recycled materials • Green chemistry and advanced technology	• Embedding the circular economy in new builds • Developing recycled content markets • Better design	• Shared infrastructure, equipment, data and resources • Higher quality recycled organics • Cold-chain transport	• ESG frameworks and standards • Pre-competitive information on re-extraction opportunities
Cross-cutting objectives	• Innovation • Systems thinking and circular economy skills	• Market development and investment • Collaboration and place-based approaches	• Advanced resource recovery and recycling • Behaviour change	

CITY OF PORT ADELAIDE ENFIELD

'Going Circular to 2030' contributes to the City of Port Adelaide Enfield's City Vision 2024-2034, under the 'Clean and Green City' Goal. In particular, it supports the achievement of Council's objective to 'Reduce the City's adverse environmental impact and participate in a circular economy'. Elements of this plan will also contribute to other Goals and Objectives identified below.

Equity and belonging

Building a better future for all

Participation

Listening to the community and involving them in our decision making

Sustainability

Managing our environment responsibly and sustainably

Integrity

Making informed decisions honestly, transparently and accountably

Transformative

Showing courage, foresight and innovation

The 5 Guiding Principles that form the City of Port Adelaide Enfield's overarching strategic plan 'City Vision 2024 - 2034'

CITY OF CHARLES STURT

'Going Circular to 2030' also contributes to the City of Charles Sturt's Community Vision, primarily under the 'valuing nature' connecting theme which forms part of that strategic plan. That document includes a commitment by the City of Charles Sturt to 'work together to reduce waste to landfill and promote a circular economy'. 'Going Circular to 2030' also connects with the City of Charles Sturt's plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to our changing climate.

Connecting and Belonging

Local Neighbourhoods

Valuing Nature

Vibrant Places

Our Transforming City

The 5 connecting themes that form the City of Charles Sturt's overarching strategic plan 'Our Community Vision'.

Consultation and engagement

This strategy has been developed with input from the communities, staff and elected members of both the Cities of Charles Sturt and Port Adelaide Enfield and their communities.

The key State Government agencies that work with both Councils on the design and delivery of waste and recycling services and the growth of the Circular Economy have also been directly engaged in this process, along with reference to key policy initiatives that have been developed at the national level.

Rawtec Consulting were also engaged in the early stages of the development of this strategy to prepare a Discussion Paper to provide insights into the directions being taken at a State and National level, as they may impact this region over the coming 5-10 years.

Key Theme Areas

KEY THEME AREA 1: REGIONAL CIRCULAR ECONOMY FRAMEWORK

Background

The Australian Government (through the Department for Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water - DCCEEW) and the South Australian Government (primarily through Green Industries SA and the Environment Protection Authority) are both strong proponents of the circular economy as a central focus. The DCCEEW website (August, 2024) describes the circular economy as follows:

A circular economy is a way of achieving sustainable consumption and production, as well as nature positive outcomes. In a circular economy, products are either recycled, remanufactured or re-used after they have served their initial purpose. This minimises pressure on the environment, and helps tackle global challenges like climate change, biodiversity loss, waste, and pollution.

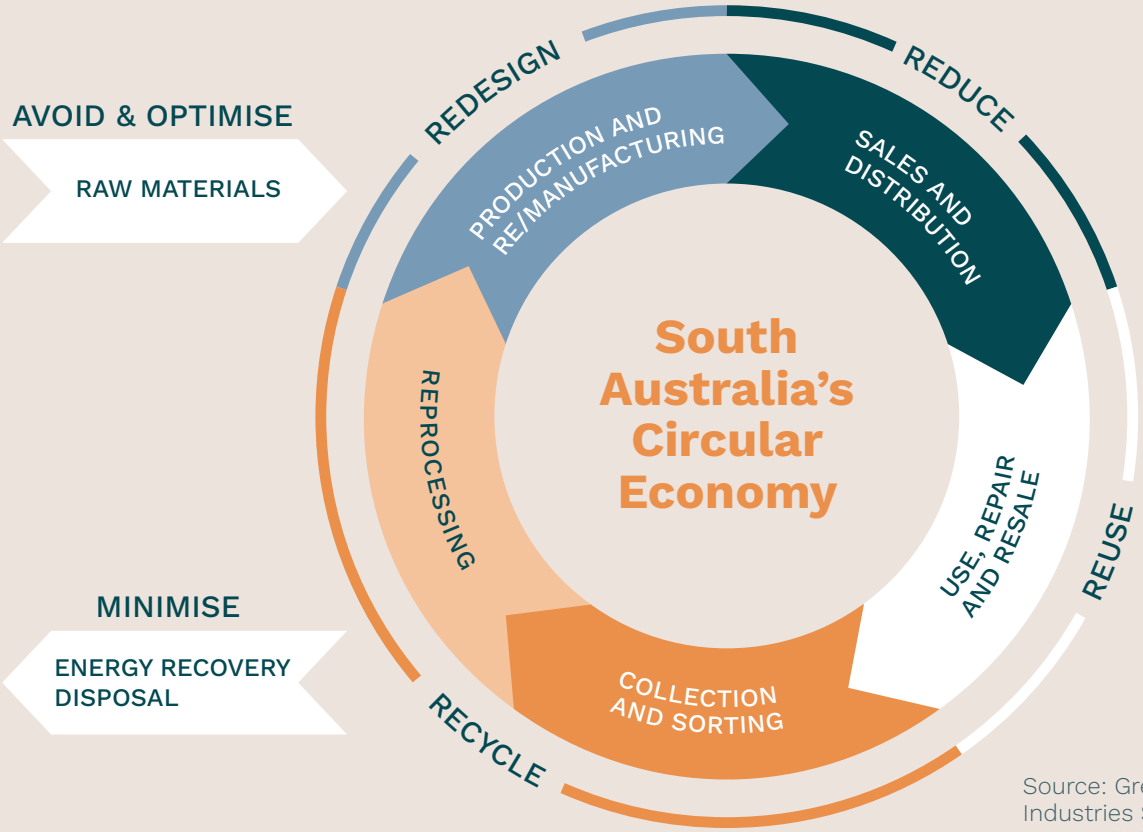
The Ellen Macarthur Foundation, which is dedicated to creating a circular economy, identifies the following 3 key principles:

- Eliminate waste and pollution
- Circulate products and materials (at their highest value)
- Regenerate nature

In order to achieve the above, a strong focus on eco-design of products is required, with the goal of designing out waste. Products can be designed for the circular economy by:

- Streamlining materials used,
- Designing out chemicals of concern, and
- Making the product easy to disassemble.
  (Source: DCCEEW website, August 2024)

Similar approaches can be taken to Council projects and developments – with the application of Circular Economy principles being used to improve environmental outcomes from a wide range of Council and other regional initiatives.



Source: Green Industries SA website, August 2024

Goal

Leverage the region's services, assets, contracts and procurement to activate the Circular Economy.

Strategic Initiatives

Strategic initiatives	Lead responsibility
Formal adoption and implementation of this Strategy	CAWRA With support and participation of both constituent Councils

Performance measures

Strategy formally adopted by CAWRA and the two Constituent Councils.

Annual tracking and reporting against the Strategy's implementation.

KEY THEME AREA 2: PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP

Background

All products require management throughout their life cycle. While traditionally it has fallen to Local Government and the private sector to provide for (and fund) end of life management for these products on behalf of the community, increasingly there is recognition that companies that import and manufacture products for sale need to take responsibility for products they make and sell.

Everyone who imports, designs, produces, sells, uses and disposes of products has a shared responsibility to reduce the environmental and human health and safety impacts of those products. Product stewardship schemes support the environmentally sound management of products and materials over their life. This includes at the end of their useful life. These arrangements may be voluntary, mandatory or shared with industry.

Source: DCCEEW website August 2024

Appendix 1 summarises the large number of voluntary product stewardship schemes in Australia and a smaller number of mandatory schemes through which importers and manufacturers are compelled to participate through national legislation.

The Discussion Paper developed for Central Adelaide highlighted a number of problematic waste streams for the region's consideration over the coming 5-10 years. This has been further refined through early consultation in the development of this strategy, resulting in the following list:

- E-waste (anything with a cord or a battery)
- Batteries (including embedded batteries and e-cigarettes)
- Plastic packaging (including soft plastics and single-use plastics)
- Clothing and textiles
- Mattresses
- Solar PV

In addition, so-called 'forever chemicals' (PFAS and related chemicals) are present in a wide range of products, as well as in our bodies and throughout the natural environment. While extremely widespread, significant concerns exist about their long-term health and environmental impacts. A regulatory approach to phasing out these materials in packaging is favoured and is being progressed at a national level.

Goal

Increase coverage and effectiveness of product stewardship schemes for problem wastes

Strategic Initiatives

Priority waste stream in order of priority	**Strategic initiatives**	**Lead responsibility**
Batteries	Educate the community about fire risks associated with batteries in bins and promote safe alternatives	CAWRA (community education)
	Advocate for accessible and convenient short and long term drop-off solutions for all batteries, including damaged and embedded batteries	CAWRA (advocacy)
	Support the urgent establishment of mandatory product stewardship legislation for all batteries, including embedded batteries	CAWRA (advocacy)
Clothing and textiles	Promote and support the implementation of the 'Seamless' product stewardship program for clothing textiles	CAWRA (community education* and advocacy)
	Increase community awareness of the harm associated with excessive consumption and disposal of clothing and textiles and promote sustainable alternatives	CAWRA (regional coordination, community education*)
	Participate in drop-off collection of linens and other textiles for recycling	City of Charles Sturt (Beverley Recycling and Waste Centre)
Plastic packaging (inc. soft plastics, single-use plastics)	Advocate for mandatory product stewardship arrangements for a wider range of packaging, including soft plastics	CAWRA (advocacy)
	Continue to work with the soft plastics industry to trial and expand recycling options	CAWRA (in collaboration with participating Councils)
	Support the phase-out of single-use plastics and packaging that is not able to be recycled or composted, where practical alternatives exist	CAWRA (advocacy)
	Advocate for the improvement of consumer labelling on packaging and for the SA Government to monitor and enforce the proper use of the 'compostable' logo	CAWRA
	Advocate for and support the establishment and use of drop-off recycling options for soft plastics	CAWRA (advocacy)
Mattresses	Support the transition of the Australian Bedding Stewardship Council Scheme from voluntary to mandatory	CAWRA (advocacy)
	Review and implement best option to recycle mattresses.	City of Charles Sturt
Solar PV	Advocate for the timely establishment of a mandatory product stewardship scheme for solar PV equipment	CAWRA (advocacy)
Electrical and electronic wastes	Advocate for the expansion of the current Product Stewardship scheme for TVs and computers, to cover all e-waste	CAWRA (advocacy)

* Community education messages will be developed within CAWRA and delivered to the communities in collaboration with Councils, and utilising Council social media and other platforms.

Performance measures

Community awareness and utilisation of drop-off options available for identified problem waste streams.

Progress of mandatory product stewardship schemes for identified problem waste streams:

A Mandatory scheme in place

B Mandatory scheme adopted and timeframe set for implementation

C Parameters of mandatory scheme released

D Ministerial endorsement for establishment of a mandatory scheme

E Voluntary scheme in place

F No product stewardship scheme in place

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KEY THEME AREA 3: PROCUREMENT (INCLUDING SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT)

Background

As major purchasers of goods and services, CAWRA and its Councils can leverage significant environmental benefits through their strategic procurement practices.

Opportunities exist to achieve increased community benefits, through:

- Collaborative regional procurement to maximise economies of scale and improve environmental and financial outcomes for ratepayers
- Procurement that is informed by Circular Economy principles, including to minimise unnecessary consumption and waste generation and 'design for recycling'
- Procurement of recycled materials, including those generated through the region's recycling programs

The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) defines Sustainable Public Procurement as:

> *...a process whereby public organisations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life-cycle basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the organisation, but also to society and the economy, whilst significantly reducing negative impacts on the environment.*

Sustainable public procurement encapsulates green procurement, circular procurement and low carbon procurement.

The Cities of Charles Sturt and Port Adelaide Enfield both have policies in place that support strategic procurement that favours local and regional environmental and employment benefits.

Goal

Procure goods and services to reduce waste and better support the growth of the Circular Economy and achieve economies of scale

Strategic Initiatives

Strategic initiatives	Lead responsibility
Update CAWRA and its two Constituent Councils' procurement policies to reflect a Sustainable Public Procurement approach	Procurement teams at both Councils
Develop a 'Sustainable Public Procurement Guide' to inform procurement decisions across the region that is informed by the priorities set by the Commonwealth Government in its 'Environmentally Sustainable Procurement Policy'	Procurement teams at both Councils, with support from CAWRA and Green Industries SA
Identify priority materials to support Circular Economy objectives and include requirements in tenders and specifications for those materials (including a requirement to incorporate recycled content)	CAWRA*
Prioritise the purchase of recycled content materials	CAWRA*
Investigate and implement best option to provide at-call advice and support for staff working through procurement issues, to support the achievement of Circular Economy objectives	CAWRA*
Undertake regional tendering for waste and resource services where there is merit	CAWRA*
Effectively manage contracts to ensure best value is achieved	CAWRA*
Work with local manufacturers to increase their use of priority recycled materials (including soft plastics)	CAWRA*

* with the support and participation of both Councils, including through their procurement teams

Performance measures

Benefits of regionally tendered and managed contracts (economies of scale, reduced duplication and resourcing, increased circular economy outcomes)

Sustainable Public Procurement approach embedded in Council procurement policies

Sustainable Public Procurement Guide developed and adopted by CAWRA and both Councils

Priority materials identified (as a focus of Council procurement to support the Circular Economy)

Inclusion of CE requirements in tenders and specifications for priority materials

Report on purchase of recycled content for identified priority materials

KEY THEME AREA 4: EVOLUTION OF KERBSIDE SYSTEMS

Background

The Councils manage a wide range of kerbside services for their communities, including:

- Kerbside 3 bin service (waste, recycling and FOGO[1] collections)
- Kerbside hard waste service
- Street litter bins

In addition, both Councils offer drop-off services for residents. These include a wide range of drop-off recycling opportunities made available at the City of Charles Sturt's Beverley Recycling and Waste Facility. The City of Port Adelaide Enfield also offers hard waste vouchers and a bulk garden waste drop-off service to residents and has recently introduced a kerbside mattress recycling service.

These services are reviewed periodically to identify opportunities to improve the type and level of service and ensure they provide value for money. From time to time, changes at the State Government level also require that changes be made.

Goal

Ensure kerbside and other waste and recycling services are sustainable and adapt to the changing needs of our communities

Strategic Initiatives

Strategic initiatives	Lead responsibility
Offer an option for residents to change to weekly kerbside organics (FOGO) collection, when coupled with fortnightly kerbside waste collection, and encourage uptake	Currently being trialled in parts of the City of Charles Sturt (with an option to expand to both Councils if desired)
Progressively change kerbside bin lids to comply with Australian Standards as new and replacement bins are issued, if required by the State Government	CAWRA (regional coordination)
Audit and improve the effectiveness of commingled recycling and FOGO services, including to multi-unit dwellings	CAWRA (regional coordination)
Update Council policies and guidance for new developments and review services offered to existing developments (on request)	CAWRA (regional coordination)
Review and continuously improve efficiency of kerbside collections (3 bin, street litter, hard waste) including via regional procurement, aiming to achieve a optimal balance between sustainability and community needs	CAWRA (regional coordination)
Reduce illegal dumping and contamination in bins	Both Councils
Trial the acceptance for recycling of commingled recyclables collected from commercial premises at the CAWRA MRF	CAWRA
Consider opportunities to improve kerbside and other services prior to new contracts	CAWRA
Trial FOGO bins in carefully selected public places and educate heavily to promote their proper use	CAWRA
Provide flexible options for residents to responsibly and conveniently dispose of bulky waste	CAWRA

[1] FOGO stands for 'food organics and green/garden organics' – it refers to material in the green bin that is made into compost.

Performance measures

For single vs multi-unit dwellings, report on:

- Community satisfaction with services provided - 3 bin, hard waste, street litter
- Kerbside diversion rate (Target: 65-70% diversion by 2030, where weekly FOGO is provided)
- 60% of food waste composted through organics bins vs. disposed of through landfill bins (where weekly FOGO is provided)
- Number of kerbside residual waste bins with blue vs red lids (Aus. Standards compliance)
- Cost per service

Illegal dumping

- Incidents per annum
- Take-back of illegally dumped material by residents – as % of total incidents

KEY THEME AREA 5: CLIMATE CHANGE (EMISSIONS REDUCTION AND ADAPTATION)

Background

Both Councils have climate change adaptation and mitigation programs in place.

The **City of Port Adelaide Enfield's 'Net Zero Emissions Plan'** is key to delivering on their 'City Vision 2024 - 34' which includes a goal for a Clean and Green City that values its natural environment.

The 'City Vision' includes the following objectives towards the achievement of a Clean and Green City:

- We reduce the City's adverse environmental impact and participate in a circular economy
- We shape the City to tackle the challenges of a changing climate
- We protect and enhance the City's natural environment

The Net Zero Emissions Plan built on previous emissions reduction programs which had already achieved a 43% reduction in emissions between 2008 and 2019 and committed that Council to striving to achieve the following additional reductions (against 2020/21 baseline levels):

- At least 30% reduction in emissions by 2025
- At least 60% reduction in emissions by 2030

The plan includes an initiative to conduct waste audits at Council sites and achieve a 60% diversion from landfill of Council's corporate waste by 2050, and at least 90% by 2030.

A review of the plan and its implementation is scheduled for 2025. That review will consider the cost to procure certified carbon offsets, in particular localised offset opportunities in blue carbon (e.g. biosequestration through restoration of mangrove systems, biodiversity plantings) and the local circular economy (e.g. mitigating emission in the local waste sector).

The **City of Charles Sturt's 'Climate Change Response Plan 2024 - 2030'** was adopted by that Council in November 2024, following a period of community feedback which commenced in May of that year.

The Plan documents progress made since Council's Climate Emergency declaration in 2019, including the achievement of a 56% reduction in Council's corporate emissions since that time (for electricity, gas and transport fuel emissions). Council's ongoing commitment to emissions reduction is coupled with addressing all climate change risks and preparing the organisation and the community to better adapt and build resilience as further warming occurs.

The Plan proposes to measure and track emissions consistent with international standards and aims to achieve a 60% reduction in corporate emissions by 2030.

Included in the Strategy are the following proposed commitments:

- Develop and implement a Circular Economy and Waste Plan, with the implementation of that plan to be under way by 2027 (note that this plan 'Going Circular to 2030' fulfills this requirement)
- Extend the FOGO trial to reduce food and organic waste going to landfill
- Achieve a 65 to 70% waste to landfill diversion target by 2030

Goal

Design and deliver the region's waste, recycling and Circular Economy programs to mitigate carbon emissions and adapt to the changing climate.

Strategic Initiatives

Strategic initiatives	Lead responsibility
CAWRA to work with Council staff to assist them in measuring their Scope 3 emissions, as they relate to waste and recycling services, activities and operations	Councils
Increase the recovery rate of food organics from kerbside collections	CAWRA (regional coordination)
Reduce the disposal of recyclable/ organic waste to landfill	CAWRA (regional coordination)
Increase the purchase of recycled goods by Councils	CAWRA (regional coordination)
Measure and reduce waste generation from Council corporate sites	CAWRA (regional coordination)
Identify opportunities to offset emissions, including by supporting the local circular economy	CAWRA (regional coordination)

Performance measures

Percentage of each Councils' corporate waste diverted from landfill (target: 60% by 2030 and at least 90% by 2050)

Percentage of each Councils' residential waste diverted from landfill (target 65 to 70% by 2030 (where weekly FOGO is provided))

Greenhouse gas emissions associated with the region's waste activities and operations (as reported by the two Councils)

KEY THEME AREA 6: EDUCATION

Background

Community education

Both Councils are committed to educating their communities to make best use of kerbside and drop-off waste and recycling services, and to reduce the disposal of recyclable and compostable material to landfill.

These education programs are currently delivered by the Councils in various ways, including:

- Household waste and recycling calendars – online and delivered to all homes annually
- Talks and visits to schools and community groups (coordinated through a shared resource engaged through the Councils' bin collection contractor)
- School and community tours of the CAWRA Materials Recovery Facility
- Education of residents that have contaminated bins (by letter)
- Regular articles in Council magazines – focusing on topical waste/recycling issues
- Adaptation and use of Green Industries SA resources to communicate key messages ('Which Bin' website and resources, icons, fridge magnets, artwork and other materials)

In addition to the above, targeted community education is also provided in support of specific projects and programs offered by the Councils to improve recycling outcomes, including:

- FOGO trial - weekly organics, fortnightly waste collection (City of Charles Sturt)
- New mattress recycling service (City of Port Adelaide Enfield)
- Soft plastics collection trials (both Councils)
- 100% recycled content MGB bin trials (both Councils)

Community awareness levels and attitudes relevant to household waste/recycling behaviours remain a concern. This is evidenced by high contamination levels in kerbside recycling and organics bins and the ongoing presence of recyclable and organic materials in residual waste bins.

An increased effort to educate and motivate residents to 'recycle right' is considered a high priority for both Councils.

Stakeholder education

Education and professional development for staff, decision makers, policy makers and other stakeholders is also critical. The following target groups are identified, noting that topics to be addressed with each group will differ depending on the issues and decisions under consideration:

- Council Elected Members
- Senior management
- Specialist environmental/waste and recycling staff
- Other staff with responsibilities for waste and recycling (e.g. planners, customer service, procurement, outdoor workers and depot staff)
- External policymakers (EPA, Green Industries SA, Ministers and ministerial staff)
- Waste/recycling contractors (bin collections, processing and MRF partners)
- Construction and other Council contractors (where circular economy opportunities have been identified)

Goal

Ensure residents, decision makers and stakeholders are trained, informed and motivated.

Strategic Initiatives

Strategic initiatives	Lead responsibility
Educate the community in the correct use of kerbside bins	CAWRA and both Councils
Undertake a major review of community waste and recycling education programs and design a comprehensive new education program for rollout from 2025 to 2030	CAWRA
Ensure staff and decision makers are trained and informed on current waste, recycling and circular economy issues	CAWRA and both Councils

Performance measures

Major review of community education programs completed by 2026

Education plan formally endorsed by CAWRA and both Councils by 2027

KEY THEME AREA 7: OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

Background

There are 3 operational waste and recycling facilities under Council ownership and management within the region, as follows:

- The CAWRA Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) – at Mill Court in Kilburn
- The City of Charles Sturt's Beverley Recycling and Waste Centre – at Toogood Avenue in Beverley
- The City of Port Adelaide Enfield's Whicker Road facility in Gillman (Construction and demolition waste)

Each of these facilities performs a different function for the region. There is no duplication of function across the two Councils currently, with respect to their in-house waste operations.

An opportunity exists to review the services provided by each of these sites and review options to ensure they provide an optimal mix of services across the region as a whole. Any such review should also aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions attributable to the region's waste and recycling facilities and operations, improve circular economy outcomes and financial sustainability.

Some examples that could be explored further through these reviews include:

Facility name	Examples of opportunities for further review
CAWRA Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)	Incoming tonnes and material mix Commercial commingled recyclables Circular Economy (offtake opportunities) Mix of materials accepted for processing Soft plastics collection
Beverley Recycling and Waste Centre	'One stop shop' for drop-off of special wastes Sale of recycled product Vouchers and other options for residents
Whicker Road C&D waste facility	Incoming material mix and processing options Marketing and use of recycled product Technology and alternatives Regional collaboration
All facilities and operations	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions attributable to the region's waste and recycling facilities and operations Improve financial sustainability

Goal

Ensure waste and recycling facilities owned and operated by CAWRA and its Councils optimise service delivery and efficiency

Strategic Initiatives

Strategic initiatives	Lead responsibility
Undertake a major review of the services provided and operating model in place at all 3 local government owned waste and recycling facilities and prepare a long term strategy for the future management of each. Each review to consider (as a minimum): • current and future community needs and desires • opportunities to improve resource recovery • achievement of circular economy outcomes • services provided by the private sector in the region • a range of future operational and commercial models	CAWRA (regional coordination)
Investigate options to improve community access to drop-off recycling services for problem wastes, including through the expanded use of community Circular Economy Hubs	CAWRA
Investigate the establishment of a 'library of things' with a focus on sustainability and tools for repairing household items	CAWRA

Performance measures

Comprehensive reviews of each waste and recycling facility undertaken by 2027

Future approach selected and formally endorsed by CAWRA and both Councils by 2028

KEY THEME AREA 8: FUTURE ROLES AND FUNCTIONS

Background

CAWRA was established by its Constituent Councils with a broad mandate included to provide a wide range of waste, recycling and circular economy services to its constituent Councils. The new Authority's initial task was to establish, commission and stabilise the operation of its new Materials Recovery Facility (MRF), located in Kilburn.

With the MRF operation now fully established, CAWRA is expanding its focus to cover the full suite of functions as laid out in the CAWRA Charter.

Central to this, is the consideration and provision for the transition of waste, recycling and circular economy functions from Councils to CAWRA, in addition to an extension of these functions where it drives an environmental and economic benefit to CAWRA and its two Constituent Councils.

This strategy outlines the goals and initiatives for CAWRA and its Constituent Councils to meet the needs of the community and enhance Circular Economy and waste management outcomes across the region.

CAWRA is well placed to coordinate and centralise waste management functions for the benefit of Constituent Councils and this plan highlights a number of key areas previously delivered by the Councils that are ideally suited to be transitioned into CAWRA for regional delivery.

Key areas to be transitioned into CAWRA for regional delivery include;

- Education
- Procurement and contract management
- Coordination of kerbside and other waste and resource management services
- Strategic reviews and potential for coordinated site management (longer term outcome)
- Advocacy and policy leadership

Goal

Consolidate a wider range of waste, recycling and circular economy functions within CAWRA

Strategic Initiatives

Strategic initiatives	Lead responsibility
Develop a resourcing plan for CAWRA, outlining the following: • Aims • Roles and functions • Proposed organisation chart / structure • Budget and funding arrangements • Timing	CAWRA (in consultation with both constituent Councils)
Adopt and implement the CAWRA Resourcing Plan	CAWRA

Performance measures

CAWRA Board Adoption of the Resourcing Plan

Constituent Council support for the plan and transition

Functions transitioned to CAWRA

Appendix A – Table of existing product stewardship schemes

List of Government and Industry led product stewardship/recycling schemes in Australia
(not complete – taken from the Discussion Paper prepared as part of this process by Rawtec Consulting)

Scheme Name (Product covered)	Scheme Type	Lead	Membership Type
Container Deposit Scheme (Beverage containers)	Product Stewardship	State and Territory Governments (SA, NT, NSW, ACT, Qld, WA, Vic)	Mandatory
National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme (Televisions, computers, & associated items)	Product Stewardship	Co-regulatory (Aust. & NZ Recycling Platform Ltd, Ecycle Solutions Pty Ltd, The Activ Group Solutions Pty Ltd)	Mandatory
Product Stewardship for Oil (Motor oil & lubricants)	Product Stewardship	Federal Government	Mandatory
Seamless (Clothing & textiles)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Aust. Fashion Council)	Voluntary (Federal Gov. Approval)
BCycle (Household batteries)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Battery Stewardship Council)	Voluntary (Federal Gov. Approval)
Tyre Stewardship Scheme (Tyres)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Tyre Stewardship Aust.)	Voluntary (Federal Gov. Approval)
MobileMuster (Mobile phones, modems)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Aust. Mobile Telecommunications Assoc.)	Voluntary (Federal Gov. Approval)
Big Bag Recovery (C&I Large plastic bags)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Industry Waste Recovery Ltd)	Voluntary (Federal Gov. Approval)
Packaging Stewardship – TBA (Packaging)	Product Stewardship	Co-regulatory (Aust. Packaging Covenant)	Voluntary (Federal Gov. Approval)
ExitCycle (Exit lighting)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Lighting Council Aust.)	Voluntary
Bedding Stewardship Scheme (Mattresses)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Aust. Bedding Stewardship Council)	Voluntary
Paintback (Paint)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Paintback Ltd.)	Voluntary
drumMUSTER (Agricultural chemical drums)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Agsafe)	Voluntary
ChemClear (Agricultural chemicals)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Agsafe)	Voluntary
TreadLightly (Shoes)	Product Stewardship	Industry (Aust. Sporting Goods Assoc.)	Voluntary

Scheme Name (Product covered)	**Scheme Type**	**Lead**	**Membership Type**
Fairview Aluminium Cladding Scheme (Aluminium composite panels)	Product Recycling	Industry (FVA Group Pty Ltd)	Voluntary (Federal Gov. Approval)
National Plastics Recycling Scheme (Soft Plastics)	Product Recycling	Industry (Soft Plastics Taskforce)	Voluntary (Federal Gov. Funding)
Game On Recycling – on hold (Sports balls)	Product Recycling	Industry (Wilson, Aust. Sporting Goods Assoc.)	Nil
Dulux Project Earth (C&I Paint drums)	Product Recycling	Industry (Dulux)	Nil (Federal Gov. Approval)

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