



Waste Management Strategy 2019 - 2024

 City of Ryde





➤ **The Northern Sydney Community Recycling Centre, a joint initiative between City of Ryde and five other Councils within the Northern Sydney Region of Councils.**

Introduction

Waste management is an essential service the City of Ryde provides their community. With a growing population of 127,446 residents, the challenge is how to manage the City's waste effectively and efficiently while limiting any adverse impact on the environment.

Waste diversion from landfill is a key focus of the NSW Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the City of Ryde. Currently, the City of Ryde manages 44,140 tonnes of domestic and commercial waste a year and sends 53% of this to landfill, which equates to 183 kilograms per capita.

The major focus of the 2014 Waste Management Strategy was to revise service parameters, rebrand our services and initiate improvements. We established contracts that prioritised resource recovery and regional collaboration.

Over the past five years the waste industry has faced a number of challenges:

- The introduction of legislation by the NSW Government has seen the launch of the container deposit scheme to reduce litter, which has had an impact on existing recycling contracts.
- The existing regional disposal contract has also been detrimentally affected by the revoking of licenses for mixed waste organic material application on agricultural, forestry and mining land.
- The China National Sword Policy has initiated a widespread ban on the importation of recyclable materials from Australia into other countries. This along with the lack of end markets for these materials has created uncertainty in the waste industry.

This Waste Management Strategy 2019 - 2023 addresses these challenges in the waste industry and proposes an ambitious target of a 20% per capita reduction in waste sent to landfill. This is what we believe we can achieve within the context of our current processing contracts.

Extensive community and industry consultation has contributed to the development of this Waste Management Strategy. It captures a common sentiment about our waste held by many people in our community: that we should be avoiding, reducing, reusing, recycling and recovering more to minimise waste to landfill.

Achieving a 20% reduction per capita requires a significant shift in what we do and how we approach the problem of waste to landfill. The City of Ryde will partner with our community in undertaking this challenge in order to meet our diversion target.

HIGHLIGHTS **What we have achieved since 2014**

- ✓ **NSROC Waste Alliance Processing and Disposal** Contract implemented to achieve regional benefits
- ✓ **Rebranded our waste services** 'Smarter Cleaner Greener' to reflect our new approach
- ✓ **Partnered with Northern Sydney councils** to establish the Northern Sydney Community Recycling Centre for the collection of household problem waste
- ✓ **Moved to a Pre-booked Household CleanUp Collection** resulting in cleaner streets (78% resident satisfaction with this new service)
- ✓ **Implemented Pre-booked electronic kerbside waste collection** of computers and televisions for recycling
- ✓ **Delivered litter prevention education projects** in Gladesville, West Ryde and Eastwood
- ✓ **Established working partnerships with strata managers of multi-unit dwellings** to reduce illegal dumping (tonnages decreased by 24% from 2016/17)
- ✓ **Waste to landfill has decreased by 8%*** since 2013/14 despite a considerable population increase (*This figure includes organics processing for land remediation)

Community Profile



127,466
Residents



101
Nationalities



72
Languages



48,727
Dwellings

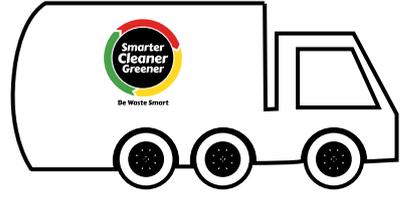
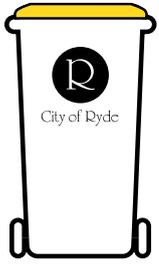


52.9%
Multi-unit dwellings

Waste Services

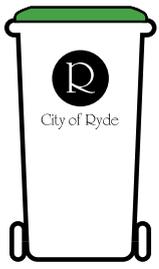
RECYCLING

970,000 available bin services per year



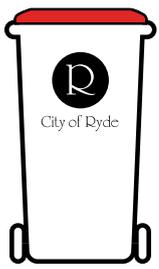
GARDEN ORGANICS

720,000 available bin services per year



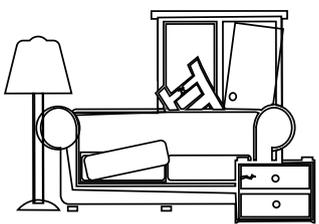
GENERAL WASTE

1.8 million available bin services per year

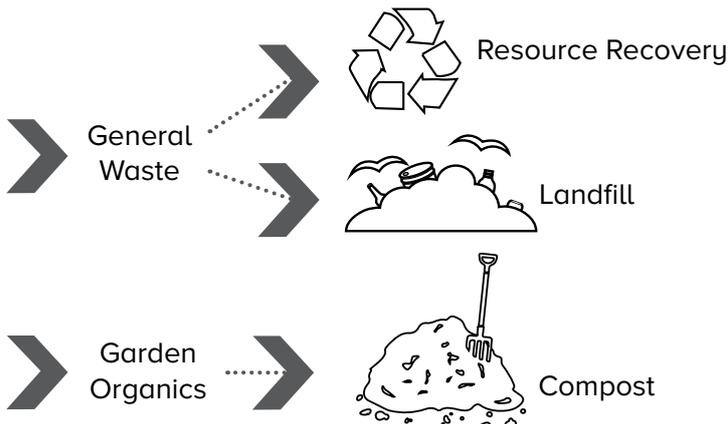
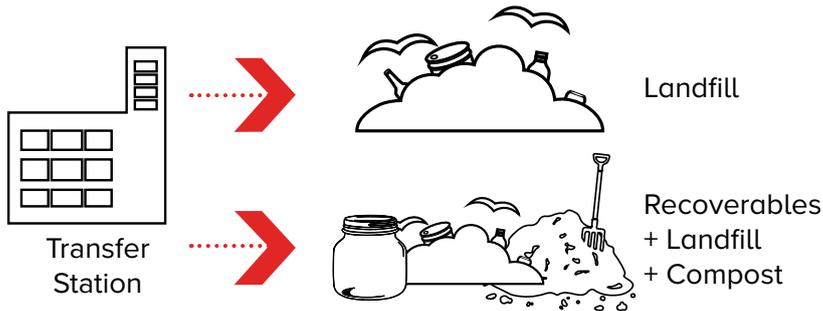
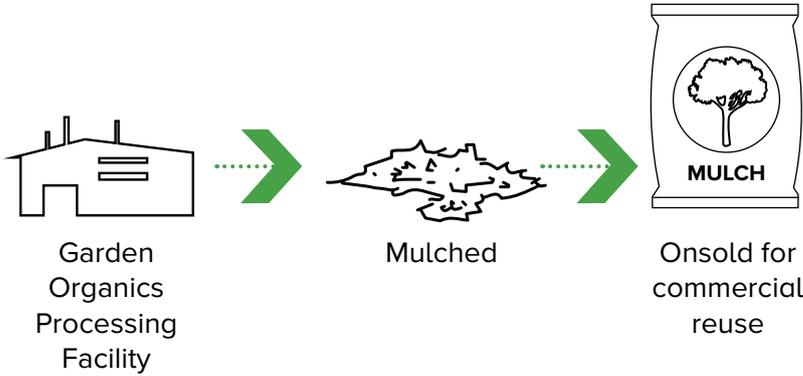
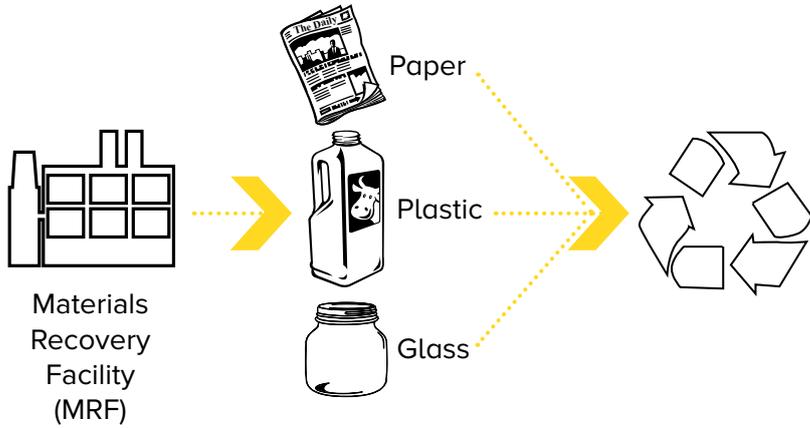


HOUSEHOLD CLEAN-UP COLLECTION

27,000 collections



Disposal & Processing



Other Council Services

2018-2019 financial year



18 Educational Programs and workshops were attended by 454 people



27 Water Stations



99 registered Responsible Cafés

AVOIDANCE & REDUCE



828 Chipping & Mulching Collections



Council partnered with the Bower to upcycle approximately 4,800 kgs of unwanted goods



70 Secondhand Garage Sales promoted and advertised

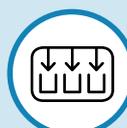


33 Clothing Bins

REUSE



7 Problem Waste Drop Off Centres



Partnered with 4 Councils to collect hazardous waste at Artarmon Community Recycling Centre (CRC)



751 residents attended, 27 tonnes collected at the Chemical Cleanout



181 parks and street Public Place Recycling Stations provided



665 TV & Computer Collection bookings, 33 tonnes collected



14 Pharmacies collecting Medical Waste



45,740 tonnes of Construction Waste recycled

RECYCLE

➤ 13 trucks in the City of Ryde fleet





OVER 60%
OF WASTE IN OUR
RED BINS CAN BE
RECYCLED
OR AVOIDED

City of Ryde

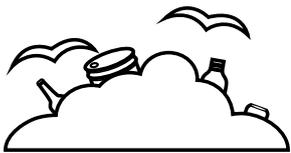
Be Waste Smart

Our Strategy

OUR VISION A smarter, cleaner, greener City of Ryde

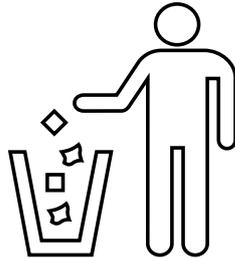
OUR OBJECTIVES What we want to achieve

Decrease waste to landfill



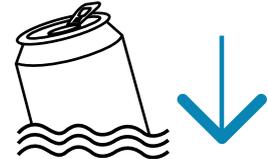
by 20% by 2025 (per capita)

Provide easy to access waste services



that allow people to manage their waste responsibly

Keep our environment clean



by reducing illegal dumping and littering by 25% by 2025

OUR COMMUNITY

How we engaged with the community

**400
phone
surveys**

**1 focus
group**

**100
in-depth
interviews**

**Pop-up
stalls**

What our residents wanted Council to do:

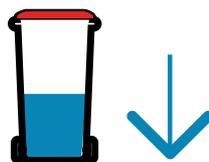
Decrease waste to landfill



79%

concerned about waste

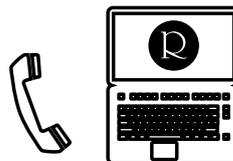
Minimise waste generation



43%

thought residents would benefit from more education

Provide accessible information on City of Rydes services



34%

did not know about other Council Waste Services

Decrease food waste to landfill



85%

of residents still put food waste in the red lid garbage bin

HOW?

Three aims for achieving our objectives

Each priority targets a different level of the Waste Hierarchy. The Hierarchy orders the efficient use of resources, from the most preferable option of 'avoid and reduce waste' to the least preferable which is to 'dispose of waste'.



Change attitudes and behaviours

to empower the community to make a difference.

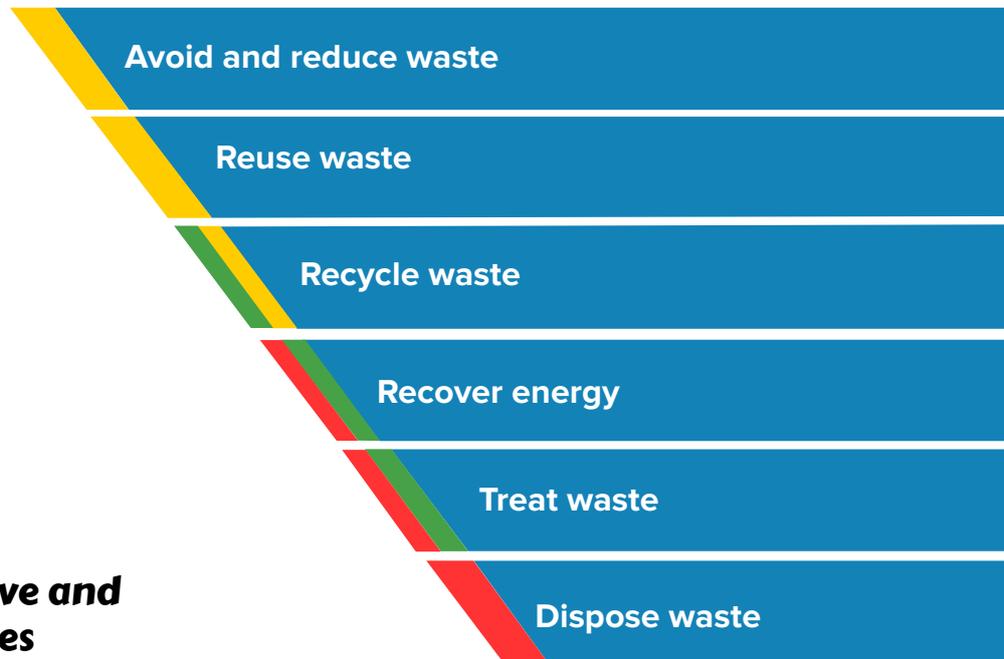


Lead innovation and transformation

of our waste services.



Provide comprehensive and efficient waste services



The following strategies and policies support and inform this waste strategy:



City of Ryde Community Strategic Plan

This is our long-term strategy for the City of Ryde. One clear vision is a 'natural and sustainable city', and this strategy for managing the City's waste, is a key part of achieving that outcome.



National Waste Policy 2018

Provides a framework for action by businesses, governments, communities and individuals to move Australia towards a circular economy and away from a 'take, make, use and dispose' approach to resources.



NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2014-2021

Sets out how NSW can minimise waste generation and maximise resource recovery to benefit the environment and society.

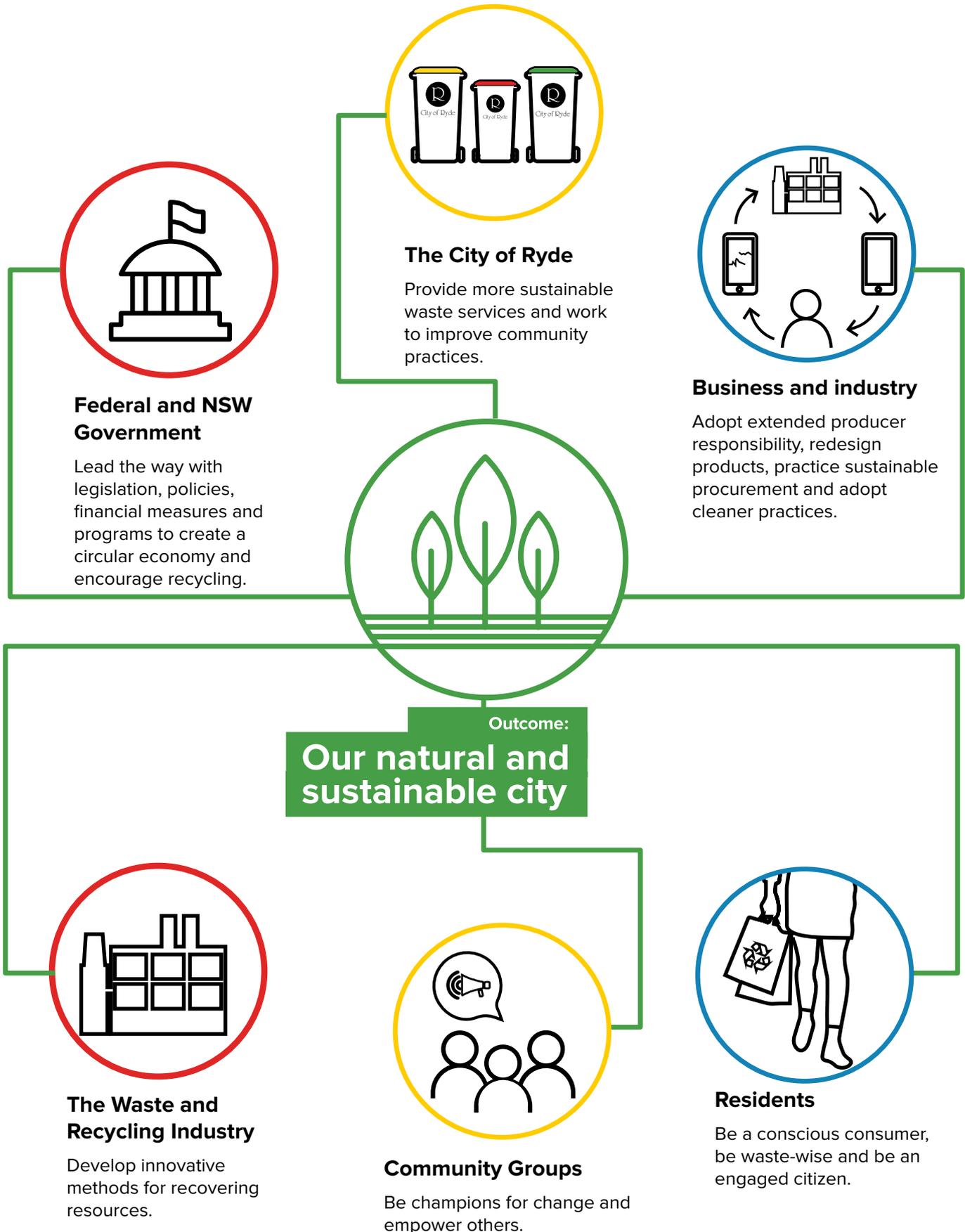


Northern Sydney Regional Waste Strategy 2014-2021

Aims to advance sustainable waste management practices in the region through joint action by the member councils.

Towards Zero Waste

We all have a responsibility and a role to play





➤ **The Chipping and Mulching Service - pruned branches are processed on the kerbside and returned to households for use as mulch**

Provide comprehensive and efficient waste services

- The City of Ryde has a key role in ensuring that the waste services available for our residents cover a wide range of waste items, are convenient and facilitate the diversion of waste from landfill
- The options that people have available to them “in the moment” will often determine how people dispose of waste items. This means that waste services must be accessible and user friendly
- Our waste services need to provide cost-effective solutions that meet the needs of our community



Residents



2018 **2031**
127,446 → 160,000

Generally, an increase in residents results in the generation of more waste. This makes minimising waste to landfill increasingly difficult. The challenge is to break the correlation between population growth and increasing waste generation.

Without intervention, increasing collection, transportation and landfilling of waste will result in greater greenhouse gas emissions.

Opportunity

To provide specialised services that give the community more ways to avoid, reduce and reuse waste.



Households



2018 **2031**
48,727 → 62,000

The City of Ryde grew by approximately 5,000 households between 2011 and 2016 and is expected to grow by a further 17,000 households by 2031. This increase was mostly in multi-unit dwellings.

People who live in units usually generate less waste than people who live in standalone houses. However, the design of some multi-unit dwellings results in problems for onsite waste storage and bin access for waste collection. The design can also encourage lower rates of recycling as well as irresponsible disposal of waste items.

Opportunity

To make sure future developments are planned in ways that facilitate sustainable waste management practices.



Access to recycling drop off facilities



2018 **2031**
10 facilities → 35 facilities

How people will dispose of items depends on having convenient means to do the right thing. For example, not having easy access to recycling drop-off facilities for the disposal of hazardous waste means most people incorrectly dispose of these items in their bins.

What we can recycle also depends on how materials are able to be processed downstream. The cost and availability of infrastructure and a limited market for recycled products are significant issues that impact what can currently be recycled. For these reasons household items such as mattresses, polystyrene and soft plastics are currently not recycled by the City of Ryde.

Opportunity

To broaden our services to provide the community with more opportunities to recycle.

Case Study: Minimising the impact of household problem waste



2,380kg collected and diverted from landfill



186 tonnes Problem Waste and 198 tonnes E-Waste collected

Household problem waste can be harmful to the environment and human health, so it is important that we dispose of it in a responsible manner and not place it in the red lid garbage bin. Also, some materials from problem waste can be recycled or reused saving precious resources.

To enable households to dispose of problem waste, such as household cleaners, paints, gas cylinders, fire extinguishers, pool and hobby chemicals, pesticides, batteries, mobile phones, televisions, computers, light globes, printer cartridges and motor and cooking oils, the City of Ryde provides the following services free of charge:

- Seven Problem Waste Drop-off Stations throughout the City of Ryde
- Access to the Northern Sydney Community Recycling Centre in Artarmon
- A kerbside pre-booked TV and Computer Collection Service
- An annual Household Chemical CleanOut supported by the NSW EPA.

Increasing availability of more disposal facilities, raising community awareness of the need to dispose of household problem waste correctly and increasing awareness of the City of Ryde's free disposal services are high priorities for Council.



Planned actions

Update planning requirements

- Update Local Environment Plan (LEP) and improve Development Controls for new multi-unit developments ensuring adequate onsite space for bin collection and storage of source separated household waste

Helping residents do more

- Trial initiatives to provide additional source separation of materials in multi-unit dwellings to make reuse and recycling more convenient
- Encourage uptake of reduced-size red lid garbage bins to residents to reduce waste going to landfill
- Develop an additional Community Recycling Centre within the City of Ryde to capture household problem waste

Filling in the gaps in our services

- Implement measures to increase the range of materials that can be recycled by households e.g. mattresses, polystyrene, soft plastics, metals and bulk cardboard and clothing
- Implement measures to increase resource recovery from Pre-booked Household CleanUp Collection
- Develop additional partnerships with organisations focused on waste avoidance and reuse



180 tonnes diverted



Metals

General waste

CleanUp Sticker

Bundled and tied garden organics

Aim

Change waste attitudes and behaviours to empower the community to make a difference

- The attitudes that people hold and decisions they make are critical to minimising waste and increasing recycling
- Diverting more materials from landfill requires residents to make a conscious decision to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle
- The City of Ryde has a key role in helping people embrace a minimal waste lifestyle so that it becomes the norm in a more sustainable community that consumes less, wastes less and shares more

CHALLENGE It's not easy to change habits & behaviours

Research shows people want easy and convenient ways to dispose of items. When there are barriers such as cost, accessibility and lack of awareness and motivation, the likelihood that people will do the right thing decreases. The challenge is to discover what will motivate people to overcome barriers to managing their waste responsibly.

Opportunity

To use best practice engagement methods to change habits and behaviours.

CHALLENGE Consumerism and economic growth

Waste generated



➔ **41%** is from commerce and industry (within City of Ryde)

With economic growth, the amount of waste produced through commerce and industry has risen.

Over recent decades there has been a significant increase in the rate at which we buy and dispose of items. This is further compounded by the increase in single-use items and excessive packaging that accompanies consumer items.

Opportunity

While the City of Ryde's ability to influence consumer and business practices is limited, we can support the community in making waste conscious consumer choices.

CHALLENGE A changing and diverse population

Dwellings



➔ **More than 50%** of dwellings are multi-unit dwellings

Residents



➔ **Nearly 50%** of residents speak a language other than English at home

People from different backgrounds within our community have a wide range of differing attitudes and norms about waste practices. Our population is culturally and linguistically diverse. This provides a challenge when communicating messages about waste and recycling.

The increase in multi-unit dwellings is associated with a higher proportion of short term residents. This has an impact on the number of illegal dumping incidents of materials such as household furniture.

Opportunity

To establish common knowledge, values, attitudes and norms around minimising waste as the foundation for long-term behaviour change.

Case Study: Phasing out single-use plastics



In May 2018, the City of Ryde resolved to ban the use of single-use plastic drinking straws and phase out balloons, plastic bottles, plastic cups and plastic bags in all Council operations and Council-sponsored events. The City of Ryde also resolved to educate the community and businesses on how to reduce their use of single-use plastics.

Plastics that find their way into waterways and bushland through littering have an adverse effect on our environment and wildlife. Globally, about eight million tonnes of plastic a year ends up in the ocean. The solution to this problem is action by all levels of government, by industry and by residents, where consumer behaviour can have a huge impact.

City of Ryde has developed a Single-Use Plastics Reduction Policy, updated its Waste Wise Events Guidelines and developed a register of suppliers for compostable, disposable food packaging for events. Developing education and behaviour change programs for business and the community will be a priority. The City of Ryde is also updating the Sustainable Procurement Policy and providing training for those at Council who make purchasing decisions.

Phasing out single-use plastics in the community, local businesses and in Council will be a challenge, however we are committed to working together to find solutions.



Planned actions

Education, promotion and enforcement

- Deploy targeted waste education programs utilising multiple channels. This will include translations for our Culturally and linguistically diverse community
- Promote City of Rydes waste services to increase the number of residents utilising these facilities
- Encourage best practice recycling behaviours to increase percentage of items recycled
- Deliver an expanded education campaign targeting food waste avoidance to decrease food waste to landfill
- Implement a revised education, enforcement and monitoring program targeting litter and illegal dumping to decrease the amount of waste entering the environment.

Support business to reduce waste

- Model good corporate behavior by phasing out the use of single-use plastics in Council operations and events
- Deliver an education program to the community and local businesses to reduce their use of single-use plastics
- Revise Council's Sustainable Procurement Policy to include waste avoidance measures as an example of sustainable business practices
- Deliver a waste audit program to assist businesses in reducing waste to landfill.

Lead innovation and transformation of our waste services

- Refining current methods of processing waste will only get us part of the way to achieving our target of 20% per capita waste to landfill reduction. We also need to look at new ways of doing things.
- What resources we can recover critically depends on Federal and State Government policy and legislation, the infrastructure available and whether markets exist for recovered materials.
- The City of Ryde has a key role in supporting system-wide change so that waste to landfill becomes a thing of the past. This includes working with the Federal Government, State Government and other regional councils to shape policy and legislation, while advocating for investment in resource recovery facilities and technologies.

CHALLENGE Products not designed for reuse or recycling

The increasing use of non-recyclable mixed-material products and packaging is a problem. Furthermore, products are increasingly designed for disposal after a single use, or for short-term obsolescence and many products cannot be repaired.

Opportunity

While the City of Ryde's ability to influence business practices is limited, our opportunity is to advocate for Federal and State Government to drive waste conscious product design.

CHALLENGE National leadership required

Local governments have limited influence on national policy. Leadership at a national level is required to build a circular economy that minimises waste and extracts the most out of resources, instead of the current 'take - make - waste' economy.

Opportunity

To support the Federal and State Government in setting the right policy, legislation and incentives for commerce and industry to build a robust circular economy within Australia, that makes efficient and effective use of resources.

CHALLENGE Limited resource recovery facilities & technologies

With overseas markets increasing their bans on the importation of recyclable waste materials that do not meet high quality standards, we need to improve our recycling. Onshore waste and recycling solutions that maximise resource recovery are needed. This requires significant capital investment by government and industry.

Opportunity

To work with the waste industry and Federal, State and Local governments to identify and invest in technologies and facilities that enable maximum resource recovery.

In addition, legislative changes have created an environment of uncertainty in the domestic waste and recycling industry. This, in combination with a lack of end markets, has compromised the future development of resource recovery facilities.

Case Study: Tackling Food Waste



In the City of Ryde around 40% of the contents of our red lidded garbage bin is food waste. The average NSW household throws away about \$3,800 of food per year. Food in the red lidded garbage bin that goes to landfill decomposes producing methane, which is a contributor to harmful greenhouse gas.

In line with the waste hierarchy, the first step is to avoid and reduce food waste and then consider the most environmentally sound solutions for dealing with the remaining unavoidable food waste. The Love Food Hate Waste program supports households to make small changes that can save them money and time, while reducing the amount of food that is thrown away. Over the next five years the City of Ryde will work to expand the food waste avoidance program, delivering workshops and targeted education.

One of the most environmentally friendly ways of dealing with unavoidable food waste is to compost or worm farm at home to make nutrient-rich garden fertiliser. The City of Ryde delivers workshops to residents and sells subsidised compost bins. In the future, the City of Ryde will extend the current program by trialling communal composting and community gardens in selected multi-unit dwellings.

In 2017/18, of organic material disposed of in red lid garbage bins, 3,101 tonnes were extracted and processed for land remediation. At the end of our existing contracts, the City of Ryde will explore the option of introducing a combined food organics and garden organics (FOGO) household collection.



Planned actions

Finding innovative ways of doing things

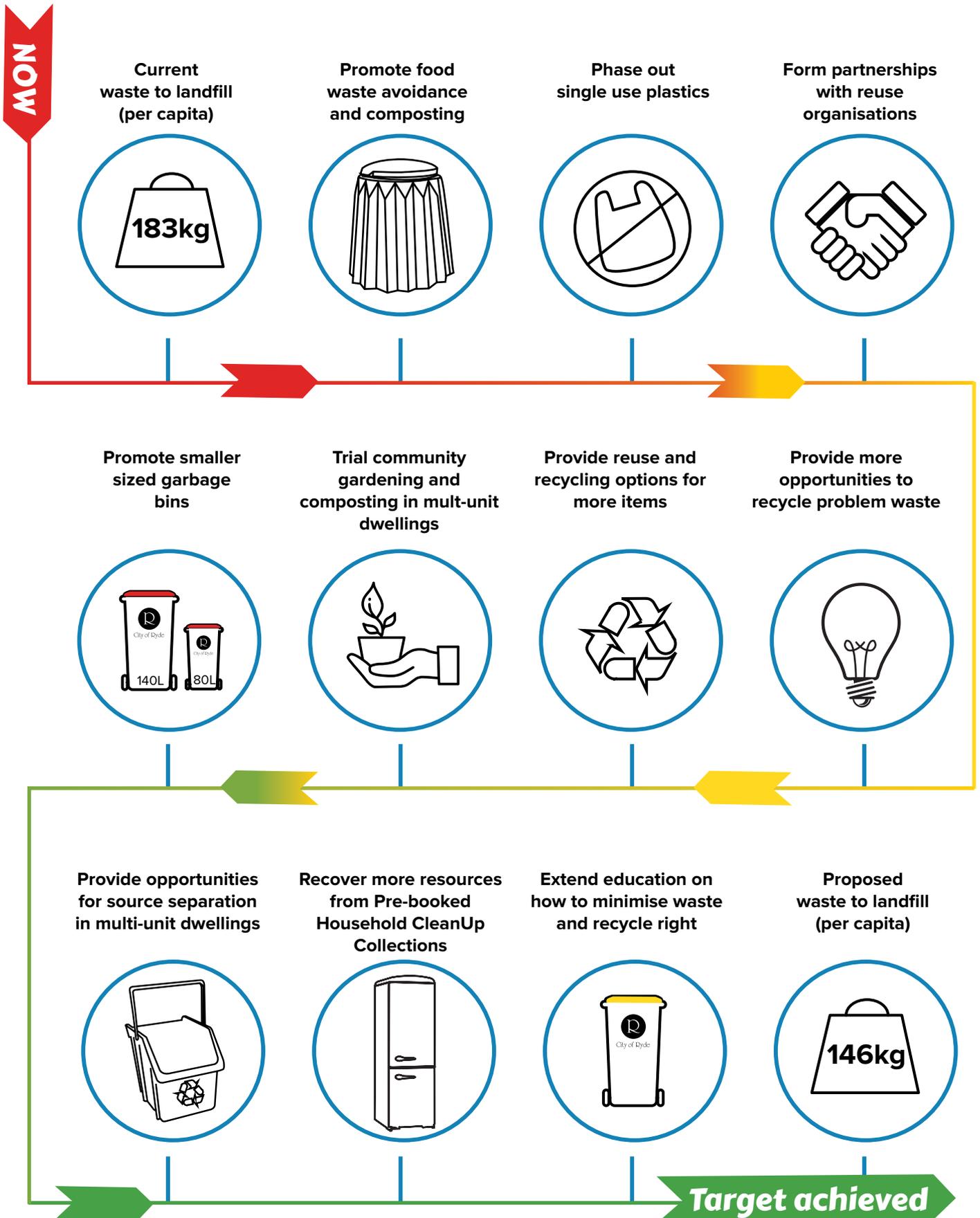
- Investigate new and alternative methods of resource recovery e.g. microfactories
- Trial community-based solutions to divert food waste from landfill such as composting, worm farming and community gardens in multi-unit dwellings
- Explore the option of a combined food organics and garden organics (FOGO) household collection and other resource recovery options at the end of our existing contracts
- Investigate waste to energy as a means of increasing resource recovery, while considering that emissions must be contained and that recycling cannot be compromised
- Monitor industry developments for areas of innovation. Keep a close watch on emerging alternative waste technologies (AWTs) that can maximise resource recovery.



Advocating for and leading change

- Work with Federal and State Governments and regional councils, to identify and secure suitable regional waste and recycling facilities
- Foster regional collaboration and partnerships to influence change and advocate for the Federal and State Government to:
 - Establish new product stewardship schemes
 - Legislate for recycling standards and recycled content in products
 - Invest in best practice waste and recycling facilities and technologies to maximise resource recovery
- Work with the State Government and regional councils to ensure new collection and disposal contracts achieve a significant reduction in waste to landfill

How can we reduce waste to landfill?





**➤ Anti-littering mural
in Gladesville**



 City of Ryde

Lifestyle and opportunity
at your doorstep

