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Media Release

Council embraces a sustainable and circular economy future

Reducing waste going to landfill, promoting environmental stewardship, encouraging community education, and ensuring value for money are the aims of the Request for Tender for a new kerbside waste collection and processing service released this month by the Mt Barker council.

With the current contract with Solo Resource Recovery coming to an end in October 2024, the Council is exploring all options in the market to accommodate the district's high growth rates and obtain the most efficient and cost-effective proposals.

Mount Barker District Council Mayor, David Leach said that as one of our highest expenditure contracts, representing around 7 per cent of general operating expenditure, the Council recognises the significance of waste services and its impact on the environment.

“The tender will span an 8-year term, reflecting our commitment to long-term sustainability and waste management excellence,” Mayor Leach said. “We want to understand where our waste goes and encourage maximum reuse and diversion from landfill.

“Council is committed to an environmentally sustainable approach encompassing all components of waste collection and processing.”

The tender process is open to proposals from both regional and national operators who align with the council's *Waste to Resources Management Plan* goal of promoting the circular economy and significantly reducing waste to landfill. The selected service provider will be able to show that they can meet the district's current and future needs.

One of the opportunities in the council's tender lies in the potential to provide food organics and garden organics (FOGO) green bins to rural residents and businesses that create organic or food waste.

The council is open to exploring options to optimise waste management further, such as changing the frequency of bin collection. The council will be seeking pricing for different waste collection frequencies as part of the tender process so that the benefits and costs can be considered in the future.

Extensive community consultation will be undertaken before any changes to the waste collection service are considered.

Interested parties are encouraged to participate in the tender process by visiting the council's website for details

www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au/business/tendersandcontracts. Registrations can be made on VendorPanel at marketplace.vendorpanel.com with submissions accepted until 12 October 2023.

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