

TITLE: WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the policy is to provide guidance for Mount Barker District Council to support sustainable Waste Management practices and services across its operations. It provides a mechanism to deliver on Council's goals and objectives of the Community Plan 2020-2035 which include social, economic and environmental issues and challenges.

2. SCOPE

This Policy applies to the following Waste Management services and activities provided by Council:

- Kerbside waste collection service for domestic, commercial waste and public litter bins, including disposal and processing of general waste, co-mingled recycling and green organics waste;
- Waste recovery in public places and at community events;
- Management of waste from Council operations and activities;
- Management of waste at Windmill Hill Transfer Station;
- Hard Waste collection service;
- Management of Illegally Dumped Waste;
- Management of waste that arise from emergencies and disasters; and
- Waste and recycling education.

3. POLICY PRINCIPLES – OUR COMMITMENT

The following principles will ensure that:

- Council complies with all regulatory requirements associated with the provision of Waste Services;
- All services, fees and charges are in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999*;
- Council applies the principles of sustainability, the Waste Management Hierarchy and Circular Economy to minimise waste disposal to landfill and increased resource recovery; and
- Council provides cost effective, sustainable and efficient waste management services for the community.

4. DEFINITIONS

Council adopts the following definitions for this Policy.

Circular Economy means keeping materials at their highest value in the economic system for as long as possible and reduces reliance on virgin materials, limits greenhouse gas emissions and creates local job and investment opportunities.

Disaster Waste Management means the management of waste volumes generated directly or indirectly by an Emergency Event. It includes, but is not limited to, managing the following types of waste:

- debris generated by damage to property and infrastructure by the event, once it has been released by first responders;
- materials deployed during disaster response stages (e.g. sandbags used in flood events);
- relief waste generated during the response and recovery phases (e.g. unwanted donated goods, medical waste);
- waste from demolished buildings and structures; and
- agricultural waste (including animal carcasses) resulting from the event.

Emergency Event means an unplanned situation that poses an immediate risk to health, life, safety, property or environment.

Event means either a planned Major Tourism Event, Regional Event or Local Community Event as defined in Council's Event Framework.

Hard Waste means selected solid waste items, as specified by Council, which arise from residential premises that do not fit in kerbside bins. Further information about collection is available through the Council website or Customer Service Team.

Hazardous Waste means listed waste having a characteristic described in schedule A list 2 of the *National Environment Protection (Movement of controlled waste between States and Territories) Measure*, as amended from time to time.

Illegally Dumped Waste means waste that has been discarded or dumped to public land and may include actions related to dumping on private property.

Kerbside Waste Collection Service means a bin collection service to residents and commercial properties comprising either the three-bin or two-bin system and typically requires bin presentation on the footpath. This is predominantly a 240 litre recyclables (yellow lid) mobile garbage bin, a 240 litre green organic waste (green lid) bin, and a 140 litre domestic waste (blue lid) bin. Council provides this service in accordance with the *Kerbside Waste Management Procedure*.

AHRWMA (Adelaide Hills Region Waste Management Authority) means the Local Government Regional Subsidiary established by its Constituent Councils (Adelaide Hills Council, The Alexandrina Council, The Mount Barker District Council and The Rural City of Murray Bridge) responsible for providing and operating waste management services on behalf of the constituent Councils.

Waste Management means the collective processes of collection, transportation, handling, processing and disposal, including general (putrescible) or municipal solid waste, recyclables and organics. Liquid and trade waste is excluded.

Waste Management Hierarchy means the nationally and internationally accepted guide for prioritising waste management practices with the objective of achieving optimal environmental outcomes. It sets out the preferred order of waste management practices, from most to least preferred, namely: avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, treat, dispose.

5. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Council:

- Consider and adopt the Policy.
- Monitor and review the Waste Management Policy.

Chief Executive Officer:

- Ensure there are appropriate systems in place to implement this Policy.
- Ensure appropriate delegations and resources are in place for employees to carry out waste management activities.
- Approve, amend and review any procedures that shall be consistent with this Policy.

General Managers:

- Implement the Waste Management Policy.
- Promote awareness of this policy and related procedures in planning and operational activities of teams within council.
- Ensure council teams are trained and resourced adequately to implement this policy.

Manager Infrastructure Maintenance and Operations

- Ensure this Policy is reviewed and updated regularly.
- Coordinate the implementation of this Policy across the organisation and deliver waste and recycling education programs
- Monitor the effectiveness of this Policy and recommend required changes to ensure the Policy remains effective.

Manager Health and Public Safety

- Responsible for the compliance relating to Illegal Dumped materials and public health.

Staff

- Ensure all aspects of this Policy are considered and applied in all planning, operations, and maintenance activities.
- Communicate and implement this Policy.

6. POLICY STATEMENT

This Policy is to be read and implemented in conjunction with Council's other relevant Policies, Strategies, By-laws, Operating Procedures and documents including:

- Kerbside Waste Collection Procedure
- Emergency Management Operations Policy
- all other relevant internal and external facing operational procedures

Council commit to the following to effectively manage waste within the Mount Barker District Council area:

6.1 Waste Management Hierarchy and Circular Economy Principles

- 6.1.1** Work within the Waste Management Hierarchy and Circular Economy principles to emphasise the importance of waste avoidance, reduction and reuse. Treatment and disposal are the least preferred practices for waste minimisation.
- 6.1.2** Implement Council's *Waste to Resources Management Plan 2018-2025* through appropriate resourcing and budget allocation.
- 6.1.3** Increase procurement of secondary materials, recycled content products and support of local remanufacturing in council's projects.
- 6.1.4** Incorporate consideration of waste minimisation into Council's internal waste management operations and activities to facilitate the most efficient use of resources.
- 6.1.5** Incorporate consideration of the *South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025* which identifies the priorities and pathways to achieve higher resource recovery, waste avoidance and developing the circular economy.

6.2 Kerbside Waste Collection Service

- 6.2.1** Provide a cost effective, sustainable and efficient waste kerbside collection services for the community.
- 6.2.2** Implement and regularly update the *Kerbside Waste Collection Procedure* to ensure the services provided are contemporary and best practice in nature.
- 6.2.3** Increase recovery of comingled recycling and food and garden organics.
- 6.2.4** Implement the *SA Food Waste Strategy: Valuing our food waste* to reduce food waste generation and divert it from landfill.

6.3 Compliance

- 6.3.1** Achieve compliance with the requirements of all relevant legislation.
- 6.3.2** Ensure appropriate resourcing is made available to meet its obligations under relevant legislation in regards to waste management.

6.4 Communication

- 6.4.1** Council will communicate this Policy via Council's website and social media presence.
- 6.4.2** Council will communicate at the earliest time convenient on changes to services that will have impact on community.
- 6.4.3** Council will undertake consultation with the community where appropriate.
- 6.4.4** Council will maintain and communicate current and applicable information regarding the Kerbside Collection Service and waste minimisation initiatives on its website and at Council service centres.

6.5 Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

- 6.5.1** Council will undertake regular monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the implementation of strategic documents as they relate to Waste Management, including progress towards identified targets.
- 6.5.2** Council will identify improvements and settings to be adapted to enhance effectiveness, increase efficiency and provide accountability to the public.

6.6 Advocacy

- 6.6.1** Work regionally and at a State and Federal level with our partners to provide opportunities for ratepayers to minimise waste, illegal dumping and public place littering, and to advocate for improved and cost effective waste and recycling services.
- 6.6.2** Work with AHRWMA as a key partner in the regional advocacy of cost effective waste management and recycling and use of innovative technology for waste management practices.

6.7 Community Engagement and Education

- 6.7.1** Support the community through education and encouraging behaviour change that will minimise waste to landfill, increase recycling and resource recovery, and encourage adoption of sustainable waste management practices.
- 6.7.2** Deliver consistent messaging, reduce contamination and support residents to participate in food waste recycling systems.
- 6.7.3** Provide ongoing community education support and initiatives to encourage residents and visitors to take action to reduce waste, minimise waste to landfill and encourage reuse.

6.8 Innovation

- 6.8.1** Council will seek and incorporate innovation and technological advancements into waste management practices where it adds value across all of councils waste management activities and services.

6.9 Event Management

- 6.9.1** Promote the implementation of the *Event Waste Minimisation Guide* for all Events, as per the *Event Framework* endorsed by Council.

6.10 Fees and Charges

- 6.10.1** Where relevant, fees for services described in this Policy will be determined by Council and declared in Council's Register of Fees and Charges.
- 6.10.2** Fees and charges are reviewed and adopted annually or as legislative or operational changes occur pursuant to section 188 of the *Local Government Act 1999* as per Council's *Fees and Charges Set By Delegation Policy* and displayed on councils website

6.11 Emergency and Disaster Management

- 6.11.1** Comply with Council's *Emergency Management Operations Policy*.
- 6.11.2** Council will apply best-practice Disaster Waste Management during the operational support and recovery phases of an Emergency Event.
- 6.11.3** Council will follow direction of the State Emergency Management Committee including South Australia's State Emergency Management Plan (SEMP) and Green Industries SA 's Disaster Waste Management Guidelines (2022) in response to the management of waste in emergencies .
- 6.11.4** Council will advocate for reductions in the application of EPA Solid Waste Levy on emergency and disaster waste on behalf of residents.

6.12 Hazardous Waste

- 6.12.1** Provide appropriate vessels to collect needles, syringes and other sharps at select public place toilet facilities including the safe and legal disposal of those items.
- 6.12.2** Advise the community to dispose of hazardous waste at appropriately licenced facilities where Council's waste transfer station cannot accept those waste types, via Council's website.
- 6.12.3** Encourage and advise the community to utilise Household Chemicals and Paint Drop-off Centres for hazardous materials (such as paints, pesticides, waste oils, cleaners, solvents, pool chemicals, drain cleaners, degreasers and other car care products, batteries and polishes).

6.13 Windmill Hill Transfer Station

- 6.13.1** Operate a contemporary, sustainable and cost effective licenced waste transfer facility within the district on a fee for service basis.
- 6.13.2** Provide a minimum of six free clean green organic drop off days per annum.
- 6.13.3** Provide waste disposal services and advice to residents for the correct disposal of waste or resources, including hazardous waste and e-waste.
- 6.13.4** Develop a waste transfer and resource recovery facility that will deliver on the needs of the residents of the district into the future.

6.14 Hard Waste collection

- 6.14.1** Implement and maintain a hard waste service that aims for best practice collection and processing that maximises resource recovery.

6.15 Public Reserve and Street Bins

- 6.15.1** Provide public park, open space and street bins for the management of waste in the district's open space.
- 6.15.2** Maintain public park, open space and street bins to ensure aesthetic and public health service levels are met and maintained.
- 6.15.3** Council will install street litter bins where there is a demonstrated need for a service, which will be determined at the sole discretion of Council. Any new street litter bin must be approved by Council's Infrastructure Department.

7. TRAINING / EDUCATION

Council will provide training on an as required basis to employees to fulfil their requirements under this Policy.

8. REVIEW

This Policy will be reviewed:

- in 12 months and then every three years; or
- earlier in the event of changes to legislation or related Policies and Procedures; or
- if deemed necessary by the Manager Infrastructure Maintenance and Operations or their delegate.

9. ACCESS TO THE POLICY

The Policy is available on the Council's website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au and can be purchased on payment of a fee.

10. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this Policy, please contact:

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Author	Sarah Barrett	Senior Sustainability Officer	14 December 2022
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	OM20230206.16		6 February 2023
APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND RELATED DOCUMENTS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Government Act 1999• Environment Protection Act 1993• Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010• Single-use and Other Plastic Products (Waste Avoidance) Act 2020• South Australian Public Health Act 2011• South Australian Public Health (General) Regulations 2013• Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016• Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)• Rating Policy 2022/23• Emergency Management Operations Policy• Risk Management Policy• Procurement Policy• Kerbside Waste Collection Procedure• Environmental Strategy 2018-2023• Climate Change Action Plan• Annual Business Plan• Waste to Resources Management Plan 2018-2025• South Australia’s Waste Strategy 2020-2025 (Green Industries SA)• Waste and Resources Management Plan 2022-2027 (AHRWMA)		
COMMUNITY PLAN 2020-2035 REFERENCE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecological Sustainability: ES Objectives 2.1, 2.2, 2.3• Community Wellbeing: CW Objective 4.2• Leadership and Good Governance: LGG Strategy 1.5• Community Priority 1: Circular Economies		
REVIEW CYCLE	As this is a new policy, a review will be undertaken within 12 months but no later than January 2024. Review within 12 months of new Council term.		

	It is recognised that from time to time circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this document, such a change may be made administratively. Examples include a change to the name of a Council department, a change to the name of a State or Federal Department, and a minor update to legislation which does not have a material impact. However, any change or update which materially alters this document must be by resolution of Council (if statutory) or the Chief Executive Officer (if administrative).		
NEXT REVIEW DATE	6 February 2024		
DOCUMENT HISTORY:	This Policy supersedes the Kerbside Waste, Recycling & Green Organics Collection Service Policy 14/070152		
DOCUMENT VERSION	DATE	AUTHOR (PERSON TO WHOM CHANGES ARE TO BE RECOMMENDED)	NATURE OF CHANGE
VERSION 1.0	28/11/2022	Sarah Barrett	New policy
VERSION 2.0			
VERSION 3.0			
DOCUMENT LOCATION:	Council website [8 February 2023] Available for inspection, downloading or printing from our website www.mountbarker.sa.gov.au		
	This Policy is available for inspection, during business hours at: Mount Barker District Council, Level 1, 6 Dutton Road, Mount Barker		