

Devonport City Council



The City with Spirit



Waste Strategy 2018-2023

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1. What is the Waste Strategy?

The City of Devonport's 2018-2023 Waste Strategy provides a framework to guide efficient and cost-effective decisions for the delivery of Council managed waste services. The purpose of this strategy is to reduce the financial and environmental impacts of waste generation whilst placing Devonport City Council in the best place possible to optimise opportunities such as grants and contract alignment to improve waste outcomes.

This strategy outlines Council's activities over the next five-year period focusing on reaching three key outcomes:

1. Reducing the average amount of waste generated;
2. Reducing the amount of waste to landfill by increasing the recovery and recycling of resources across all waste streams; and
3. Protecting our natural environment by reducing the total amount of litter and illegal dumping.

2. Methodology

Development of this strategy has involved:

1. Analysis of Council's waste statistics;
2. Consultation with Council officers;
3. Review of current best practice waste management opportunities potentially applicable to size of municipality and budget options;
4. Collaboration with the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group (CCWWMG); and
5. Development of strategic outcomes, actions and targets in consultation with Council officers.

3. Implementation and Review

Devonport City Council will be responsible for implementing the strategy. Review of Strategic Outcomes and Actions will occur on an annual basis and align with Council's Annual Plan and Estimates process.

4. Policy and Legislative Context

Local, regional, state and national plans and legislation provide the policy environment for development of waste strategies for Devonport City.

4.1 Australian Government

The *National Waste Policy 2009* sets Australia's waste management and resource recovery direction to 2020. Sixteen strategies are outlined some of which include:

- Product stewardship framework legislation to allow the impacts of a product to be responsibly managed during and at end-of-life;
- Sustainable procurement and packaging management;
- Market development for potential wastes;
- Waste avoidance and reuse;
- Waste related emissions reduction; and
- Hazardous waste reduction and management.

Commonwealth legislation includes:

- *Clean Energy Legislation Amendment Act 2012*
- *Clean Energy (Consequential Amendments) Act 2011*
- *Product Stewardship Act 2011*
- *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act (NGER Act) 2007*

4.2 Tasmanian Government

The *Tasmanian Waste and Resource Management Strategy 2009* provides a framework for solid waste management and resource recovery initiatives delivered by a range of stakeholders including local government, in the areas of:

- Improved partnerships, coordination and planning;
- Waste avoidance and sustainable consumption;
- Waste minimisation and resource recovery;
- Improved regulation and management of residual wastes;
- Improved data collection and management systems; and
- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Relevant state legislation includes:

- *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*
- *Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Waste Management) Regulations 2010*
- *Litter Act 2007*

4. Policy and Legislative Context (continued)

4.3 Regional Level - Cradle Coast

The Cradle Coast Waste Management Group (CCWMG) represents seven local government authorities in north west Tasmania participating in a voluntary waste levy arrangement. The participating councils are: Burnie City, Central Coast, Circular Head, Devonport City, Kentish, Latrobe and Waratah-Wynyard.

The CCWMG is comprised of a representative from each council and includes practitioners skilled in engineering, environmental health, waste management, corporate governance and general management. The CCWMG currently receives project management expertise from Dulverton Waste Management and is hosted by the Cradle Coast Authority, who also provides this regional opportunity with administration, financial and communications support.

The CCWMG Strategic Plan 2017-2022 aims to reach the following targets under the key focus areas of waste diversions, regional planning and efficiencies, partnerships and community engagement:

- by 2022, divert 50% of all municipal solid waste from local government landfill facilities across the region;
- by 2022, increase the proportion of recycling bins receiving a pass mark as part of recycling bin assessments to 90% across the region (based on the 2015-2016 assessment pass rate of 81%);
- by 2022, reduce incidents of illegal dumping at hotspot sites by 10% across the region (upon first establishing baseline data from council reports);
- by 2022, establish a system for reporting illegal dumping on state owned land;
- by 2022, all member councils to be collecting and reporting a standardised set of data in relation to waste and resource recovery activities; and
- attend two (2) public events per year and host an information session/stall/both.

Actions under the Devonport Waste Strategy will complement and where possible assist in meeting the above regional targets.

4.4 Local Government

At a local level, the Devonport City Council Strategic Plan 2009-2030 includes relevant outcomes and strategies as listed over the page:

Outcome	Strategy
1.4 Our waste and pollution is reduced	1.4.1 Promote recycling, re-use and minimisation of waste materials within Council, to the community and businesses 1.4.2 Facilitate, and where appropriate, undertake improvements in waste and recycling collection, processing services and facilities
2.3 The infrastructure priorities to support the development of our unique city are planned and appropriately funded and maintained	2.3.3 Provide and maintain Council buildings, facilities and amenities to appropriate standards

5. Devonport and Our Waste

5.1 Demographics

The City of Devonport is located on the Mersey River covering a geographical area of 114 square kilometres, with a predominantly urban population of 25,628.

There are 12,166 premises for which waste services (kerbside collection) are available. The majority are residential dwellings (10,646), followed by 574 commercial premises and 265 industrial premises. Most residential premises (99%) and about 50% of commercial premises utilise Council's kerbside waste services.

The kerbside recycling collection service is contracted at a regional level to Veolia to deliver. There are 11,423 properties utilising this service.

5.2 Waste Statistics

Domestic Kerbside Bin Collection

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Tonnes of waste disposed at landfill	6,001.9	7,443.7	7,310.0
Tonnes of recyclables collected	1,715.3	1,750.0	1,701.0
= Kg of waste to landfill per property (10,646 properties)	563.8	699.2	686.6
= Kg of recovered resources per property (10,646 properties)	161.1	164.3	159.7
= diversion rate per property %	22.2%	19.0%	18.8%

5. Devonport and Our Waste (continued)

Commercial Kerbside Bin Collection

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Tonnes of waste disposed at landfill	1,654.8	1,932.9	1,882.2
Tonnes of cardboard collected	92.1	92.1	109.0

Hard Waste Collection

Disposal of waste at Spreyton Transfer Station comprised of the following:

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Tonnes of E-waste ¹	93.5	9.9	0
Tonnes of Steel	688.0	843.4	897.2
Tonnes of green garden waste mulched and sent to Dulverton Organics Recycling Facility for composting	3,833.6	3,768.0	2,811.0
Tonnes of other hard waste recovered (resource recovery)	832.9	929.6	909.4
Total tonnes resources recovered/recycled	5,879.0	6,050.9	5,321.6
Number of mattresses recycled	431.0	500.0	695.0
Cubic metres of crushed concrete	277.8	291.5	3
Tonnes of Asbestos	5.5	12.8	11.0
Tonnes hard waste disposed to landfill	13,033	15,703	15,911

1. Reduction in e-waste recycling due to no market to on-sell or process waste from September 2015. This will recommence in late 2017.
2. Reduction in the amount of crushed concrete sold in 2016/17 as no concrete was crushed. The stock pile of concrete will be crushed during 2017/18.

6. Current Waste Services and Challenges

6.1 Domestic Kerbside Collection

Service includes:

- Weekly kerbside collection single bin 120-240L, maximum weight 65kg.
- Overnight service - this means bins are to be placed on the kerb by residents the prior evening.
- Waste disposed of at the Dulverton landfill site.

Current Challenges:

- Inappropriate content in bins including items that exceed weight limit and high levels of green waste especially in spring. Up to 5 tonnes of green waste per day (equivalent to one garbage truck full) is going to landfill as opposed to being recycled as mulch.
- Residents purchasing non-standard bins that are too weak for mechanical handling.
- Incorrect placement of bins on kerb obstructing pick-up such as too close together, too close to fences or parked vehicles.

6.2 Recycling - Collection & Disposal

Service includes:

- Fortnightly kerbside collection service single 240L bin.
- Regional contract managed by Dulverton Waste Authority delivered by Veolia.

Current Challenges:

- Contamination of bins with non-recyclable items, such as soft plastics.
- Expectation for Council to cover the cost for replacing aging and stolen bins.
- Limited commercial collection service available (only for cardboard).

6.3 Commercial Collection

Service includes:

- Regular collection of kerbside bins and cardboard.
- Regular emptying of public litter bins in commercial precincts.

Current Challenges:

- Service levels for commercial properties have varied in the recent past. Service levels were defined as part of the 2017/18 budget process with these changes to be progressively implemented during 2017/18.

6. Current Waste Services and Challenges (continued)

6.4 Public Litter Management

Service includes:

- Regular collection from public litter bins in public open space and reserves.
- Additional collections from community events and clean ups upon request.
- Street sweeping of car parks, kerb & channel and gully pits to ensure effective operation of drains and maintain acceptable level of visual amenity.
- Dead animal and roadkill collection upon report.
- Removal and compliance of illegally dumped waste.

Current Challenges:

- Domestic and sometimes commercial waste dumped at bin sites.
- Limited collection services for recycling at public litter bins and community events.
- Littering by patrons at some community events and festivals.
- Illegal dumping of waste – environmental impact, plus additional expense and safety risks for staff involved in cleaning up.

6.5 Spreyton Transfer Station

Service includes:

- Hard waste to landfill.
- Transfer point for recyclable items including cardboard and paper, glass, plastics, concrete crushing, garden waste, metal, tyres, wood waste, oil, car batteries, car bodies, gas cylinders, DrumMuster program, Mobile muster (for mobile phones) and, e-waste.
- Tip shop for reusable items.
- Opens daily with exception of some public holidays.

Current Challenges:

- Substantial increase in hard waste to landfill.
- Less opportunities and markets to sell recyclable items.

6. Current Waste Services and Challenges (continued)

6.6 Community education, engagement and support services

Service includes:

- School group tours of Spreyton Waste Transfer Station upon request.
- Promotion of waste service through Council's communication mediums such as website, social media, newspaper, banners and brochures.
- Direct liaison with residents over waste issues.

Current Challenges:

- Residents may not understand range of waste service issues and needs such as what can and can't be recycled; contamination or inappropriate items placed in kerbside bins and at Spreyton Transfer Station; incorrect type and placement of bins etc.
- Council website difficult to navigate; limited community education and engagement around waste avoidance and minimisation in general.

6.7 Other Challenges

There are further challenges that Council faces arising from the strategic setting within which Council operates. These include:

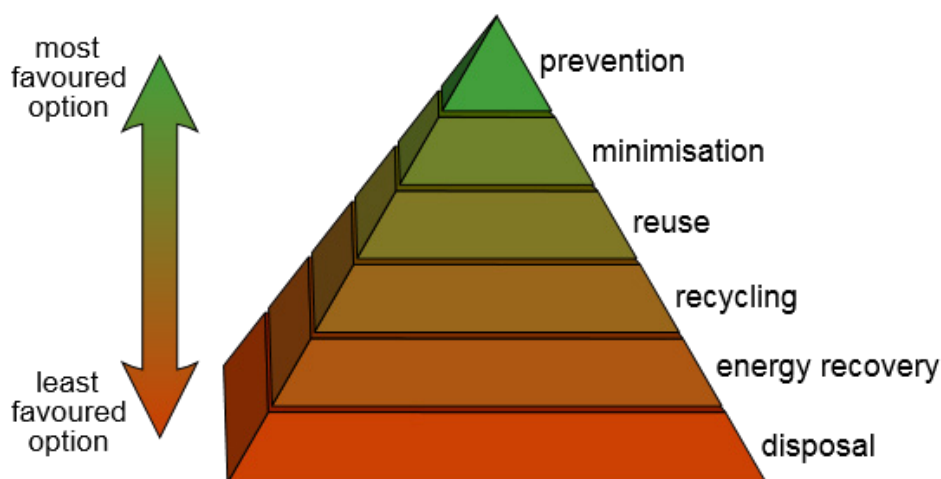
- Community expectations regarding waste management and resource recovery services;
- Community expectations regarding cost;
- Community expectations regarding environmental performance;
- Compliance with and/or adaption to Council, State and Federal policies and initiatives; and
- A need to improve the quality and accuracy of waste management data to inform improvements.

7. Guiding Principles

7.1 Waste Management Hierarchy

The Waste Management Hierarchy is a 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.

The Waste Management Hierarchy is one of the guiding principles of this strategy, however it is important to adopt flexibility when applying the hierarchy to waste management decisions based on changing local and regional economic, social and environmental conditions.



7. Guiding Principles (continued)

7.2 Waste Management Principles

To support the implementation of the Strategy the following set of principles have been established to provide guidance to Council in making waste decisions and for staff in the performance of their operational tasks.

These principles should be further refined over the next five years to be utilised in context with Council policies, processes and management priorities.

1. To reduce the social, financial and environmental impacts of waste, waste management practices and decisions should be prioritised where possible in alignment with the Waste Management Hierarchy.
2. Ensure we leverage existing investments in waste management already made; i.e. ensure we make best use or extend solutions that we have in place where appropriate.
3. Good waste management is the shared responsibility of all sectors of the community.
4. Public consultation and engagement shall be undertaken where decisions and actions may have a direct impact on ratepayers and where the public may have an interest.

8. Strategic Outcomes and Actions

Proposed strategic actions have been developed in response to the key challenges discussed in Section 6. These actions are grouped into three key outcome areas:

1. Reduce the average amount of waste generated;
2. Reduce the amount of waste to landfill by increasing the recovery and recycling of resources across all waste streams; and
3. Protect our natural environment by reducing the total amount of litter and illegal dumping.

8.1 Outcome 1: Reduce the average amount of waste generated

Action	Details	Responsibility	Priority/ Timeframe	Resources
1.1	Promote and/or deliver programs to increase community and business awareness, education and action to avoid and minimise waste	Infrastructure & Works Community Services Communications	High Ongoing	A-OPEX External funds

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority/ Timeframe	Resources
1.2	Encourage reuse of construction and demolition waste	Devonport City Council to continue to actively plan construction projects to maximise reuse of waste (e.g. soil remediation and reuse)	Infrastructure & Works	High Ongoing	A-OPEX
1.3	Explore alternative mechanisms to encourage residents to reduce waste	Mechanisms may include pricing strategies, collection frequency, bin capacity etc	All Departments	High Ongoing	A-OPEX
1.4	Progressively transition to more on-line platforms for delivery of Council services	In accordance with Council's Digital Strategy	All Departments	High Ongoing	A-OPEX
1.5	Work with event organisers to improve waste management at public events	Investigate opportunities for recycling, use of biodegradable serving equipment and composting Improve education/ awareness for patrons to reduce waste and litter	Community Services	Medium Short term (1-2 years)	A-OPEX
1.6	Support for community gardens and home composting to reduce overall food waste, including waste generated through commercial food production and generation	Promote Council's Community Food Gardens on the Nature Strip Program Continue to provide support to the Devonport Community Garden under the Devonport Community House Partnership Agreement Support and/or deliver awareness raising programs to encourage home composting and reduce food waste	Community Services	Medium Ongoing	A-OPEX
1.7	Improve the quality and accuracy of waste data collected to understand opportunities for improvement	Work with the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to develop programs to increase Council and community awareness around waste	Infrastructure & Works	Medium Ongoing	A-OPEX

8. Strategic Outcomes and Actions (continued)

Success Measures:

- The total amount of waste generated remains below 2015/2016 levels and decreases over time.
- A range of education programs are promoted and/or delivered.
- There is an increase in the number of new Council online services provided, including the number of forms converted to electronic formats from 1 July 2018.
- There is an increase in the number of community events with active waste management plans from 1 July 2018.
- The quality and accuracy of waste data is improved and changes in waste data communicated to the community.

8.2 Outcome 2: Reduce the amount of waste to landfill by increasing the recovery and recycling of resources across all waste streams

Action	Details	Responsibility	Priority/ Timeframe	Resources
2.1	Investigate opportunities to segregate green waste from land fill	Infrastructure & Works	High Ongoing	F-OPEX
2.2	Participate in bulk collection or free drop-off schemes for recyclables not collected through the domestic collection service (e.g. e-waste)	Infrastructure & Works	High Ongoing	A-OPEX
2.3	Identify opportunities to increase resource recovery and recycling through Council facilities and operations	Continuous Improvement Team	High Ongoing	A-OPEX

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority/ Timeframe	Resources
2.4	Deliver and/or support public education campaigns to encourage appropriate recycling	<p>Explore range on online platforms to expand reach</p> <p>Ensure programs are easily understood (i.e. consider visual approaches to increase readership)</p> <p>Support regional, state and national programs such as National Recycling Week</p>	<p>Community Services</p> <p>Communications</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	A-OPEX
2.5	Promote reuse through local businesses and charities	<p>Promote and/or assist community and business efforts to upcycle; organise second hand markets; collect and reuse of household items, clothing and food</p>	<p>Community Services</p> <p>Communications</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	A-OPEX
2.6	Actively implement Council's business processes and policies to reflect sustainability outcomes	<p>Increase consideration of use of recycled materials and product lifecycle in procurement</p> <p>Investigate options to integrate waste management considerations into Council's business reporting</p>	Organisational Performance	<p>Medium</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	A-OPEX
2.8	Explore and trial recycling bins in public places	<p>Work with other Councils to understand the costs and benefits of street level recycling</p>	Infrastructure & Works	<p>Low</p> <p>Medium term (3-4 years)</p>	<p>F-OPEX</p> <p>External funds</p>

Success Measures:

- Aim to keep the resource recovery diversion rate for domestic waste above 20%.
- Increase resource recovery options of business and personal items across Council facilities and operations.
- Range of community awareness and education programs delivered to encourage recycling.

8. Strategic Outcomes and Actions (Continued)

8.3 Outcome 3: Protect our natural environment by reducing the total amount of litter and illegal dumping

Action		Details	Responsibility	Priority/ Timeframe	Resources
3.1	Reduce litter and illegal dumping of waste through compliance and awareness raising activities	<p>Explore innovative community driven approaches to reporting of littering and dumping</p> <p>Continue to apply regulatory mechanisms to penalise offenders</p> <p>Participate in new regional, state and national incentive programs as they are introduced to reduce littering and recycling (e.g. container deposit schemes)</p>	Risk Management	High Ongoing	A-OPEX
3.2	Participate in community action programs to improve awareness of litter and its impact (e.g. Clean Up Australia Day, Beachwatch)	Deliver and/or support activities such as Clean Up Australia Day, Beachwatch, and other community activities	Community Services	Medium Ongoing	A-OPEX
3.3	Investigate smart options to optimise management of public waste infrastructure to minimise litter	Examples include bin level sensors, compaction units, route optimisation	Infrastructure & Works	Low Long term (4-5 years)	F-OPEX External funds

Success Measures:

- Reduction in incidences of illegal dumping of waste.
- Involvement by community in action based programs.

Action Plan Definitions

Action:

The activity or output to be undertaken.

Responsibility:

The organisation that will lead the action - also lists key potential partners.

Priority:

Actions assessed using two criteria:

1. Level of importance / strategic impact (community benefit)
2. Ease of implementation (considering time, resources, complexity)
 - High: Critical importance, high impact, easy to implement. Complete within 1-2 years
 - Medium: Complimentary to existing services, high impact, more difficult to implement. Complete within 3-5 years
 - Low: Limited impact, difficult to implement. Complete within 5 years

Resources Required:

The level of human or financial resources required:

- A-OPEX: Annual operational expenditure by Council – staffing or operational resource allocated as part of the annual plan.
- F-OPEX: Future operational expenditure by Council – identified increased requirements for future consideration in annual allocation.

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