

Resource & Waste Management Strategy 2023–2032



The Wingecarribee community generates over **30,000 tonnes** of waste materials each year.

The population of around **52,000** is spread across numerous population centres.

The community has identified the importance of planning initiatives to support waste minimisation and resource management. All members of the community create waste materials and there is a broadly accepted responsibility to value sustainable waste management practices.

Council has engaged with the community, considered policy and strategic settings and reviewed current operations, services and facilities in developing a *Resource and Waste Management Strategy* and action plan to guide Council and the community for the next decade.

Background



The *2018 National Waste Policy: Less Waste, More Resources* provides a framework for collective action by businesses, governments, communities and individuals until 2030. The *2018 National Waste Policy* seeks to embody a shift in thinking towards a circular economy including

the need for better resource-efficient systems, products and services to avoid waste, conserve resources and maximise the value of all materials.

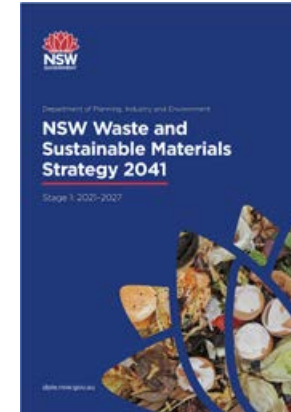
Five overarching principles underpin waste management in a circular economy. These include:

- 1 avoid waste**
- 2 improve resource recovery**
- 3 increase use of recycled material and build demand and markets for recycled products**
- 4 better manage material flows to benefit human health, the environment and the economy**
- 5 improve information to support innovation, guide investment and enable informed consumer decisions.**

The *NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041* set broad directions for NSW waste management. Relevant strategic directions including that households be provided with a food and garden organics diversion system by 2030.

Targets have been adopted in the *NSW Strategy*, as set out in the *National Waste Policy Action Plan*. The *NSW Strategy* relies on local councils contributing to meeting the targets. The key result areas and aims for the *NSW Strategy* remain:

- increase recycling rates to
 - 70% for municipal solid waste
 - 70% for commercial and industrial waste
 - 80% for construction and demolition waste
- increase waste diverted from landfill to 75%.



Council's *Wingecarribee 2041 Community Strategic Plan* includes ideas specific to waste management, including for the community to:

- work collaboratively to reduce pollution and its impact in the environment
- develop partnerships and implement education programs that enable people to live sustainably
- minimise waste through education, promotion of alternatives and prosecute illegal dumpers

- maximise recovery of resources from the waste stream
- support circular economy initiatives
- collaborate ... to reduce carbon emissions.

Regional strategies are also considered in Council's resource and waste management planning.

NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy 2030 targets



Increase recycling rates to:

70%

for municipal solid waste

70%

for commercial and industrial waste

80%

for construction and demolition waste

Increase waste diverted from landfill to:

75%

What does Council do?

Wingecarribee Shire Council provides a range of services to residents to collect or manage waste materials and resources.

In addition to the collection and processing of residential waste, Council implements other opportunities for residents to sustainably manage their waste. Council also implements services to support businesses across the commercial districts.



Materials recycling

Reviva shop

Community Recycling

Return and Earn

Chemical CleanOut



CURRENT SERVICE

Kerbside collections



Domestic • Commercial • Public Place

Consolidation and haulage of waste for processing/disposal



OTHER SERVICES

Special events



Illegal dumping management



Moss Vale Resource Recovery Centre



Education and communication



Council waste, compliance and other responsibilities



What will Council do next?

Wingecarribee will build on well-established waste management foundations.

- The community's priorities are acknowledged and future plans will answer to identified ambitions.
- Strategy directions will seek resource recovery improvements, minimise waste to landfill and maintain high service standards.
- Broad directions for the community will inform waste management initiatives that respond to the local conditions.
- Setting the pathway will allow for actions to achieve community expectations.

Wingecarribee Shire Council has determined strategic directions for waste management. The strategic directions provide opportunities for improved management, such as, targeting waste materials for recovery. The following *Resource and Waste Management Strategy* directions are established:



This *Resource & Waste Management Strategy* will be implemented by Wingecarribee Shire Council across the identified directions through staged timelines and action plans.

Direction: Circular Economy	Direction: Resource Recovery	Direction: Waste Responsibility
Align with regional, NSW and national strategies including strategies to target waste streams not yet recovered e.g. FOGO, plastics etc	Pursue a staged resource recovery rate/target through adopting the NSW targets – to minimise waste, divert more waste from landfill and improve resource recovery	Address Council's infrastructure and assets requirements, including understanding and managing all compliance responsibilities, for the medium to long term
Promote and reinforce circular strategies, language and change approaches as relevant to WSC's waste materials	Implement systems to capture the widest possible range of materials for recovery	Resource and control costs for value for money outcomes – implement services efficiencies to address other directions
Identify and participate in viable circular economy, avoidance and re-use project initiatives, including utilising the RRC and Southern Highlands Innovation Park (SHIP) to embrace resource recovery and the circular economy	Progress strategies within well-developed communications and education activities that raise awareness and drive behavioural change (including contamination management)	Identify and implement opportunities to manage problem waste management
Implement waste management collection and processing services suitable – through the most appropriate suite of services – to achieve circular outcomes	Seek operational efficiencies and maintain quality controls, to ensure the highest order re-use of materials	Seek opportunities for innovation in the recovery of residual waste as an alternative to landfilling, that are cost effective and environmentally responsible
Support long term investment in circular responses and regional solutions – allowing flexibility to capture new waste materials where a recycling solution can be provided	Develop strategies and work with all stakeholders to influence and support improvements in recovering a broad range of waste materials e.g. construction and demolition waste	Assess and develop new strategic partnerships where opportunities will support Council's other strategic directions
Review and update relevant Council policies to align waste services with circular pursuits	Broaden services to provide opportunities for additional waste materials to be recycled	Participate and contribute to regional strategies – such as, litter reduction efforts and respond to illegally dumped waste challenges