

**Riverina Eastern Regional  
Organisation of Councils**

**Regional Waste  
Management and  
Resource Recovery  
Strategy  
2014-2021**

*This strategy has been supported by the NSW  
Environment Protection Authority (EPA) with  
funding from the Waste Levy*



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## Executive Summary

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The Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) is a voluntary association of fifteen local government bodies located in the eastern Riverina region of NSW. Originally formed in 1992 the aim of the organisation is to assist councils to operate more efficiently and effectively through working together to achieve economies of scale and scope and to provide members with a single representative voice.

REROC established the REROC Waste Forum in 1997 to undertake regional projects that addressed waste management and resource recovery issues. The catalyst for this planning activity is the release by the NSW State Government of its **Waste Less Recycle More** initiative which will result in over \$435 million in funding being invested in projects that improve waste management and resource recovery across the State.

This Plan was developed in consultation with the member councils and builds on the Waste Forum's Strategic Plan 2012-2015. As was the case with the previous plan the Waste Forum decided that the structure of this Plan would follow Focus Areas set by the EPA in its *Reducing Waste: Implementation Strategy 2011-2015*.

Six Themes have been adopted for the Plan which are as follows:

- Theme 1: Making it easier for households to separate and recover their waste.
- Theme 2: Making it easier for businesses to separate and recover their waste.
- Theme 3: Reducing or removing problem wastes to improve resource recovery and produce environmentally safe recyclable materials.
- Theme 4: Facilitating investment in waste infrastructure.
- Theme 5: Reducing litter and combating illegal dumping.
- Theme 6: Education for Sustainability.

Significantly this Strategy has been informed by data gathered through waste audits conducted in the region. Funding was provided by the EPA which allowed the Waste Forum to conduct kerbside bin audits in three LGAs; Coolamon, Cootamundra and Temora while audits of the transfer stations and landfills were conducted in Temora and Cootamundra. The Waste Forum was also able to utilise the data obtained through the waste audit it conducted in 2012 to build a better picture of the region.

The picture the audits painted was of great concern, both Cootamundra and Coolamon are experiencing high level of recyclable material, including organic material in their residual waste, while Wagga Wagga, Cootamundra and Coolamon had high levels of contamination in their recyclables with Cootamundra the worst performer at 125 above the State average. The Waste Forum believes that these numbers translate across the region as all the MRFs that service the region have been reporting high levels of contamination. The Plan has put strategies in place to deal with these issues.

Distance, high transport costs, small population centres and low quantities of feedstock continue to throw challenges up to the implementation of sustainable waste management and resource recovery solutions. This requires that the Waste Forum identify innovative solutions and this approach is evidenced in many of the projects that have already been implemented by the Forum and will be implemented in the future.

## Introduction

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This strategy has been prepared in response to the NSW State Government's **Waste Less Recycle More** initiative. The Strategy will provide direction to the REROC Waste Forum and its individual member councils with regard to waste management and resource recovery within the eastern Riverina region from 2014 to 2021.

REROC established the REROC Waste Forum in 1997 to undertake regional projects that addressed waste management and resource recovery issues. The Forum has been very successful designing and implementing a range of projects that have addressed infrastructure issues, waste avoidance measures and improved opportunities for resource recovery in the eastern Riverina.

The importance of working collaboratively has been evidenced in the number of regional projects that have been delivered by REROC, from the implementation of the regional e-waste collection to the establishment of waste oil collection facilities and the delivery of numerous environmental education programs across the region.

In setting out to develop this Plan the Waste Forum was acutely aware of the lack of hard data available in the region to support decision-making. The only member council that had undertaken research into its waste was Wagga Wagga City Council, therefore one of the activities that the Forum was keen to pursue as part of the development of the Plan was to obtain better data.

The Forum was able to allocate part of the funding provided by the EPA to undertake targeted waste audits in the region. The waste audits were undertaken in Coolamon, Temora and Cootamundra LGAs, audits of the kerbside collections were undertaken in each LGA while a transfer station and landfill audits were conducted in Cootamundra and Temora. These LGAs were chosen because of their size and the different waste kerbside collection they provided, Cootamundra provides residual and recyclables collections, Coolamon provides residuals, recyclables and organics collections while Temora provides on a residual collection. Wagga Wagga City Council had undertaken waste auditing in 2012 and this data was also made available to assist with the planning

In addition demographic studies of the region were also undertaken to inform the Planning process.

In order to facilitate the planning process the Waste Forum initiated a Steering Committee to work directly on the development of strategies and these were taken to the Waste Forum members for discussion and from there recommendations in relation to the Plan were taken to the REROC Board meeting for adoption.

The Plan that has resulted from the work is comprehensive covering virtually every area of waste and resource recovery in the eastern Riverina region.

## Background

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### Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

The Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) is a voluntary association of fifteen local government bodies located in the eastern Riverina region of NSW. Originally formed in 1992 the aim of the organisation is to assist councils to operate more efficiently and effectively through working together to achieve economies of scale and scope and to provide members with a single representative voice.

REROC's membership is comprised of twelve General Purpose councils and two Water County Councils. Our members are the councils of: Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra, Greater Hume, Gundagai, Junee, Lockhart, Temora, Tumbarumba, Tumut, Urana and Wagga Wagga as well as Riverina Water and Goldenfields Water. REROC serves a population base of approximately 140,000 and encompasses an area in excess of 43,000 sq kilometres, making it slightly larger than Switzerland.



The region includes gateways to the Snowy Mountains in Tumut and Tumbarumba Shires in the east and the flat, agriculture lands of Urana and Lockhart in the west. This means that members must identify solutions that work both in mountainous, snowy terrains as well as for low plain style landscapes. In addition the REROC region encompasses the largest inland city in NSW, Wagga Wagga and the smallest shire in the State, Urana therefore solutions that are developed for the region, not just in waste management and resource recovery but across a range of local government operational areas.

The vast distances that the region covers means that transport is a significant consideration in many of the activities that REROC undertakes. There is virtually no public transport in most of the LGAs which means that services generally need to be close to population centres. Consequently aggregating services is often not a viable solution for the region because it excludes the participation of many of its residents. REROC is committed to ensuring access and equity for all the services offered in the region, and this is evidenced in the implementation of the regional e-waste project, ensuring that the Household Hazardous Waste collection happens in every LGA every second year and that community education activities are delivered in each LGA.

## About the Region: Overview

### At a Glance

REROC Councils	Area (sq kms)	Population	Pop. Density	Number of Households
Bland	8,560	6,410	0.75	2,868
Coolamon	2,430	4,233	1.74	1,790
Cootamundra	1,524	7,729	5.07	3,533
Greater Hume	5,749	10,447	1.82	4,423
Gundagai	2,457	3,902	1.59	1,743
Junee	2,030	6,293	3.10	2,255
Lockhart	2,896	3,318	1.15	1,134
Temora	2,803	6,216	2.22	2,746
Tumbarumba	4,392	3,765	0.86	1,724
Tumut	4,567	11,480	2.51	5,379
Urana	3,356	1,261	0.38	642
Wagga Wagga	4,826	63,500	13.16	24,682
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,919</b>	<b>140,327</b>	<b>2.93</b>	<b>49,390</b>

### Regional Demographic Profile

*Based on 2011 ABS Data (full report is included in the Regional Demographics Section of the Plan)*

The average age in the region is 39 years which is .7 years older than the NSW average. The REROC region's population has larger proportions of 10-19 year olds and 70-74 year olds compared with the NSW average. It has smaller proportions aged between 25-39 years compared to the NSW average.

Between 2007 and 2011 the groups whose numbers increased the fastest were the 85+ years up 4.4%, 60-64 years up 3% and 70 – 74 years up 2.8%. The age groups that fell during that period were 45-49 years down 1.9%, 10 – 14 years down 1.7% and 35-39 years down 1.7%.

51% of residents aged 15+ held a post-secondary qualification; the most commonly held qualification was a Certificate III and IV. 11% of residents held a degree or higher, this is less than the State average of 20%. Only 2% of residents in the Eastern Riverina had a postgraduate degree, the NSW average is 3%.

In the Region 60% of residents are in the workforce. In June 2013, Eastern Riverina labour force was estimated at 76,942 person, a growth of 4,906 from March 2011.

The largest occupational group in the region were Managers 10,202, professionals 9,135 and technicians and trades' workers 9,101.

### Industries

The largest industries in the region in 2011 were rural production, health and social care, retail trade and education and training. The largest growth in jobs occurred in construction, education and training and health and social care.

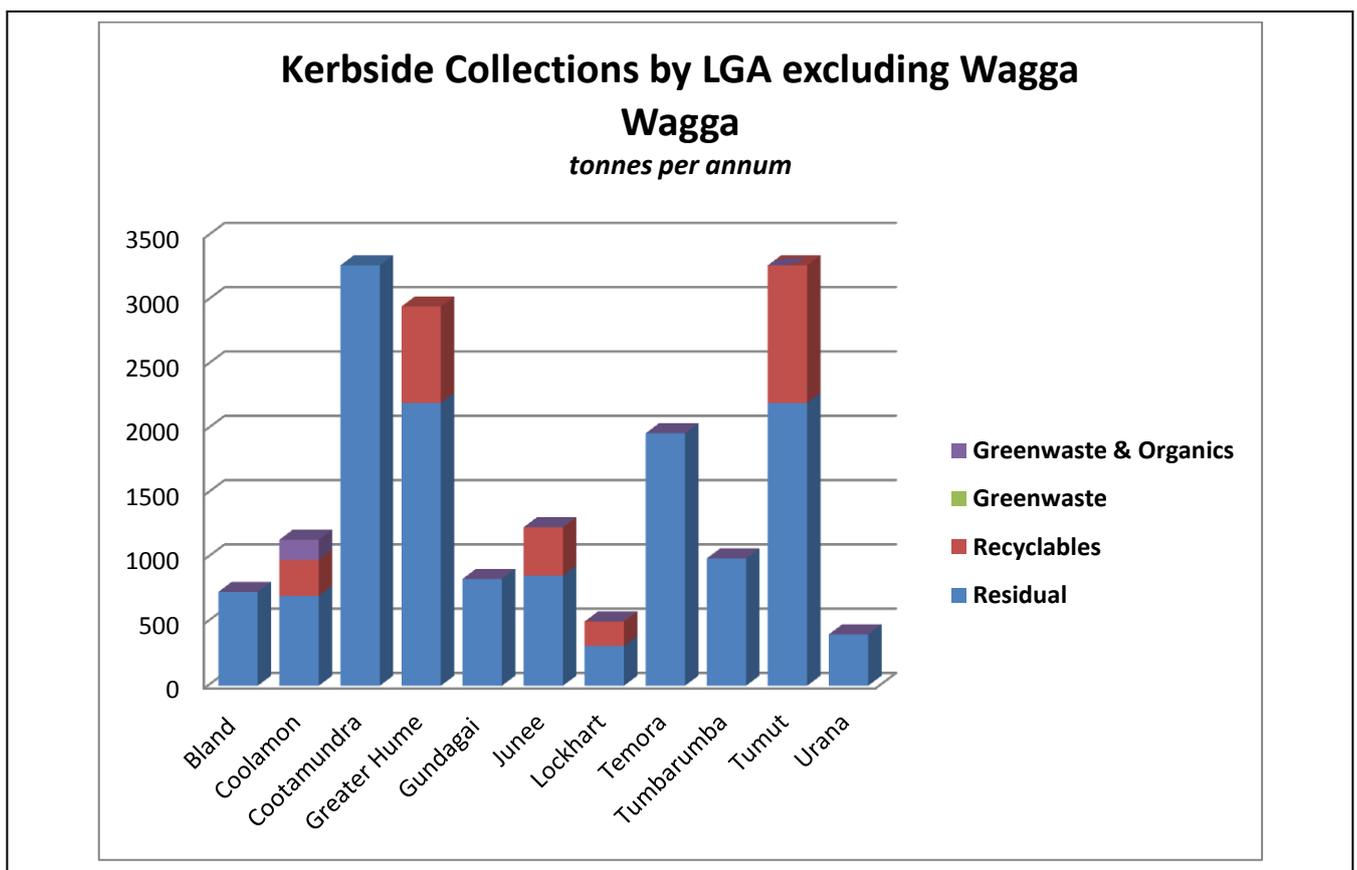
## Waste and Resource Recovery: Overview

### Kerbside Waste Collections

The LGAs in the REROC region provide the following kerbside services:

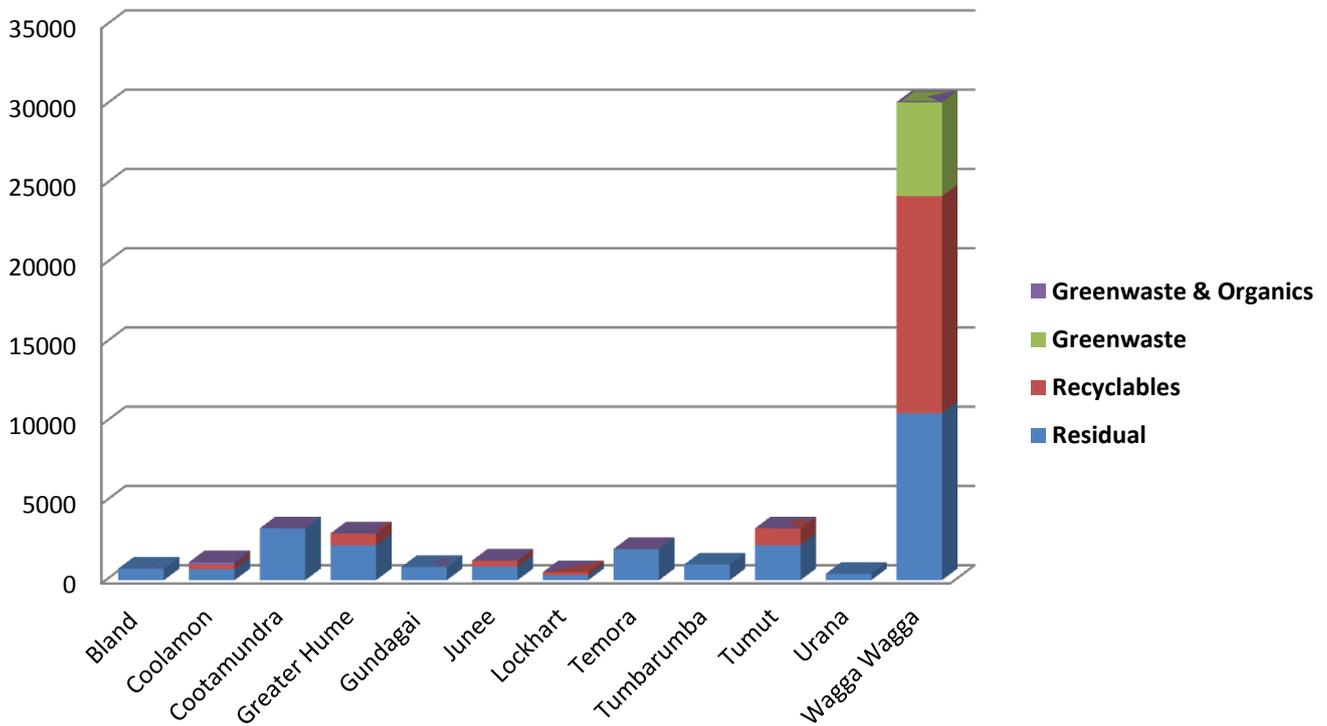
<i>Bland:</i>	residual collection only
<i>Coolamon:</i>	residual, recyclables and organics collections
<i>Cootamundra:</i>	residual, recyclables collections, organics to be introduced in late 2014
<i>Greater Hume:</i>	residual and recyclables collections
<i>Gundagai:</i>	residual and recyclables collections
<i>Junee:</i>	residual and recyclables collections
<i>Lockhart:</i>	residual and recyclables collections
<i>Temora:</i>	residual collection only
<i>Tumbarumba:</i>	residual and recyclables collections
<i>Tumut:</i>	residual and recyclables collections
<i>Urana:</i>	residual collection only
<i>Wagga Wagga:</i>	residual, recyclables and greenwaste collections

The volumes of waste collected and the percentages of waste collected in the kerbside collections are shown the following tables



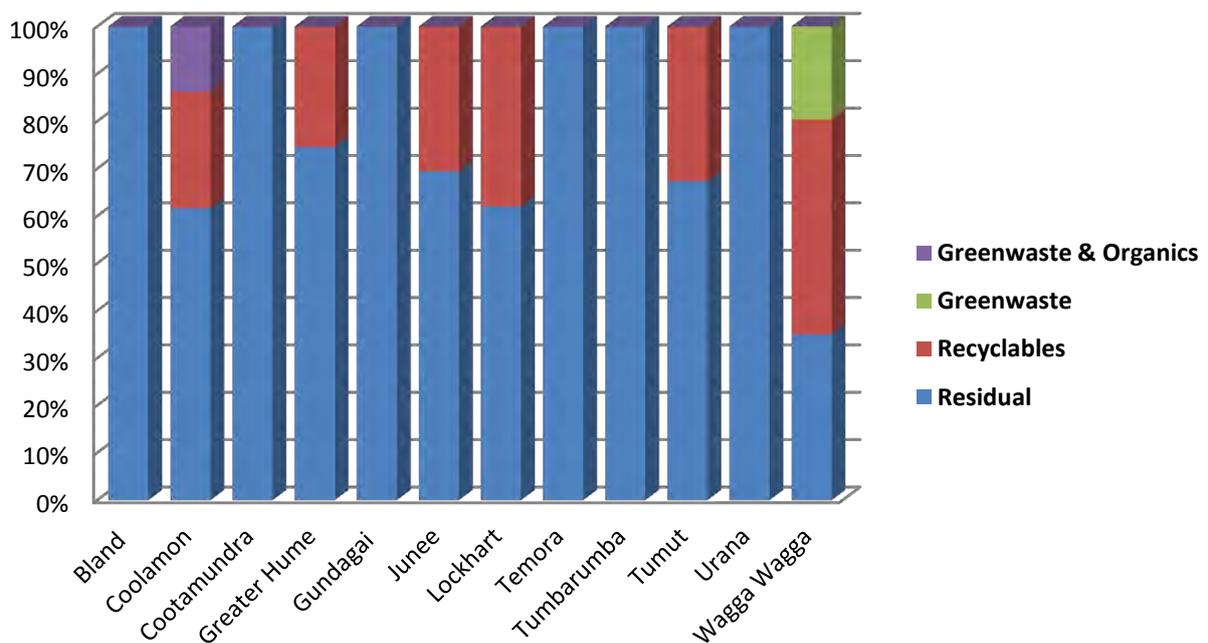
## Kerbside Collections by LGA including Wagga Wagga

*tonnes per annum*



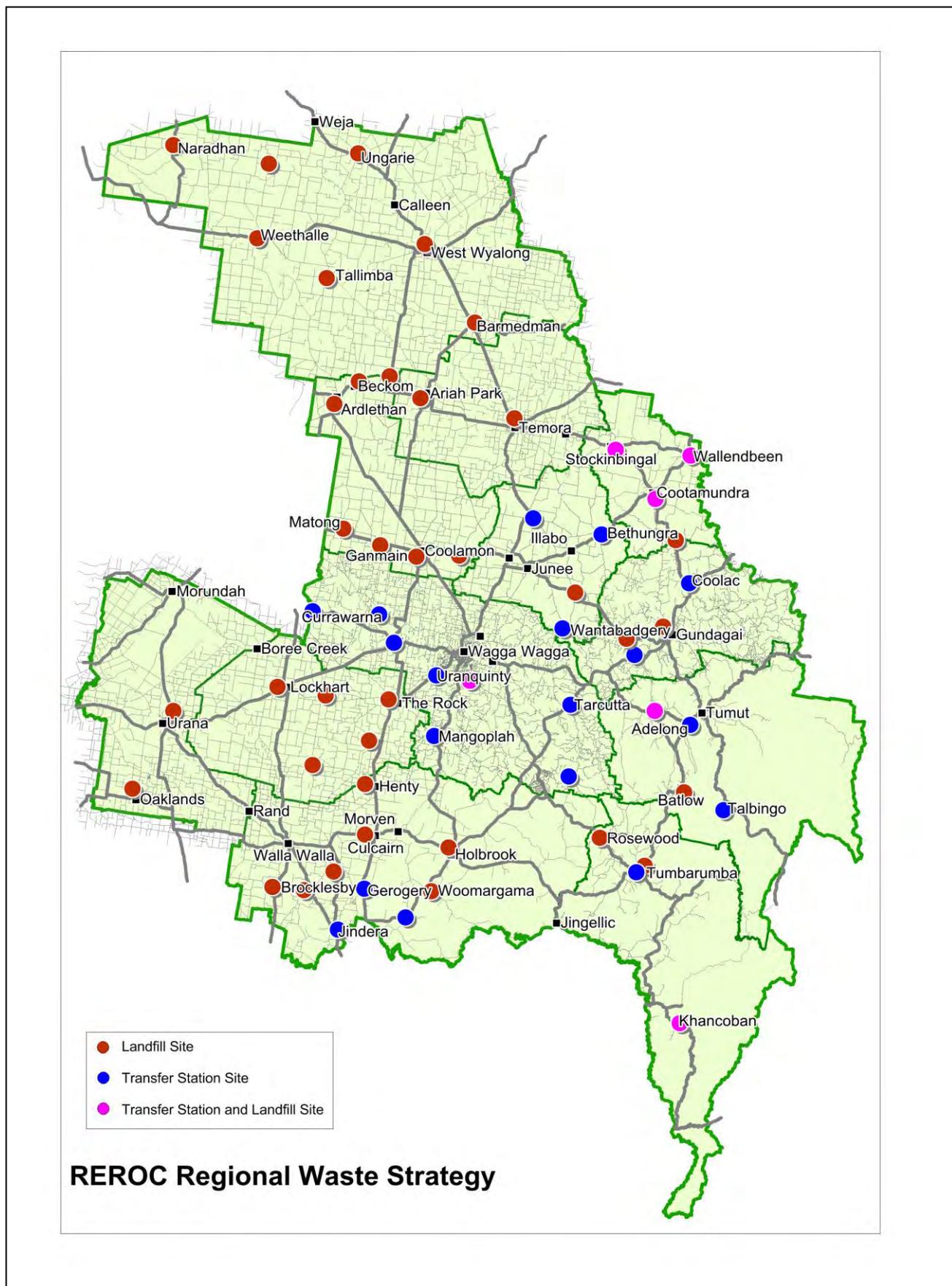
## Kerbside Collections by LGA: Percentages Collected

*tonnes per annum*



## Landfills and Transfer Stations

The landfills and transfer stations in the REROC region are mapped below:



## **Regional Arrangements**

### **Landfills**

Two landfills in the region operate regionally. The landfill operated by Wagga Wagga City Council takes waste from Junee Shire and the Bald Hill facility which is used by Cootamundra, Tumut and Gundagai in an arrangement with six other non-REROC councils. The Bald Hill facility is privately operated, however the licence is held by the Harden Shire Council.

### **Regional Contracts**

REROC manages regional contracts for the collection of the following waste:

- *Scrap Metal* – REROC has been letting regional contracts for the collection of scrap metal for 12 years. During that time approximately 20,000 tonnes of metal has been collected. The real value in the regional approach lies in the capacity of the arrangement to ensure that even the smallest council in the region has its metal collected and receives an income stream for it. Ten percent of the income that is raised through the contract is directed to the REROC Waste Forum where it is held aside to assist with the delivery of the regional infrastructure projects.
- *Household Hazardous Waste* – every second year REROC organises a regional collection of Household Hazardous Waste. A collection is organised in each LGA in the REROC region usually in May or June of each year. Over the last ten years 42 tonnes has been collected, with the largest proportion of the collection being paint products.
- *E-Waste* – REROC has entered into a contract arrangement with DHL Supply Chain for the free collection of e-waste in each of the REROC member LGAs. The collections were introduced in June 2013 and in the 12 months since, 102 tonnes of e-waste have been collected. All the e-waste is sent to Kurrajong Waratah Recycling in Wagga Wagga.
- *Waste Oil* – REROC managed a regional contract for the placement of waste oil facilities at 29 landfills in the region. Initially the contract included the collection of the waste oil but over time this arrangement has not continued with individual councils making their own arrangements.

### **Waste Management and Resource Recovery in each LGA**

The individual arrangements for each LGA are contained in the Profiles section of the Plan.

## Vision, Mission, Strategic Themes and Objectives

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### Vision

*Building a sustainable region  
through developing and encouraging  
the implementation of best practice initiatives  
in waste management and resource recovery.*

### Mission

*Achieve efficiency in resource management by  
building partnerships with the community, business and education  
to create sustainable living outcomes*

### Themes

The Plan identifies six Theme Areas which mirror the NSW Reducing Waste: Implementation Strategy 2011-2015. The Focus Areas are:

1. Making it Easier for Households to Separate, Recover and Reuse their Waste
2. Making it Easier for Businesses to Separate, Recover and Reuse their Waste
3. Reducing or Removing Problem Wastes to Improve Resource Recovery and Produce Environmentally Safe Recyclable Products
4. Facilitating Investment in Waste Infrastructure
5. Reducing Litter and Combating Illegal Dumping
6. Education for Sustainability

Each Theme contains a number of objectives to address identified needs and demands. The objectives that have been identified are as follows:

- 1. Making it Easier for Households to Separate, Recover and Reuse their Waste**
  - 1.1. Yours2Take becomes the first stop for households wanting to dispose of waste that has a reuse value.
  - 1.2. Increase the opportunities for households to recycle organic material
  - 1.3. Increase levels of recyclables collected from households in the REROC region
- 2. Making it Easier for Businesses to Separate, Recover and Reuse Waste**
  - 2.1. Increase in usage by businesses of the Yours2Take website.
  - 2.2. Encourage the Commercial and Industrial sector to more effectively manage waste and resource recovery.
- 3. Reducing or Removing Problem Wastes to Improve Resource Recovery and Produce Environmentally Safe Recyclable Products**
  - 3.1. Implement regional solutions for e-waste
  - 3.2. Facilitate and co-ordinate regional collections of problem wastes
  - 3.3. Conduct Household Hazardous Waste Collections every second year
  - 3.4. Promote the use of the Safe Sharps site
  - 3.5. Monitor developments for the disposal of other problem wastes.

#### **4. Facilitating Investment in Waste Infrastructure**

- 4.1. Explore the opportunity to establish regional collection and processing facilities including regional landfills.
- 4.2. Promote investment in regional and rural infrastructure by all tiers of government and private enterprise
- 4.3. Work with councils to implement best practice approaches to the operation of waste facilities

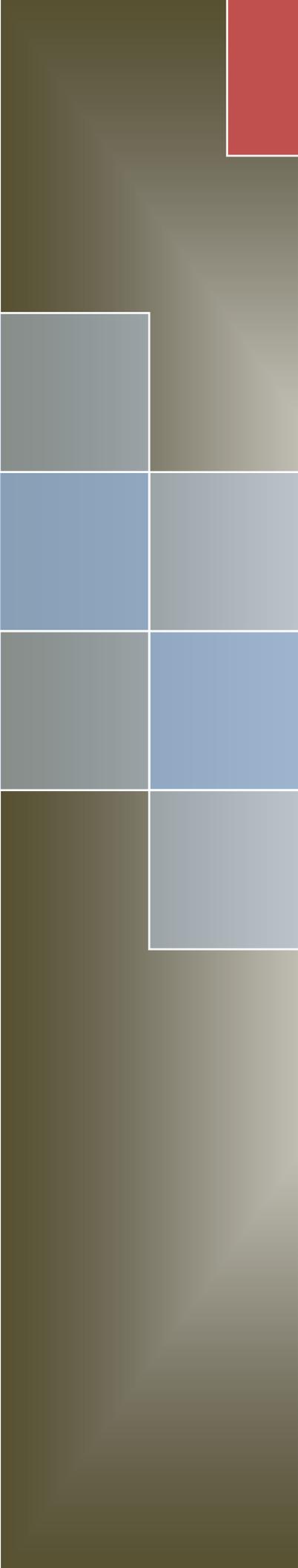
#### **5. Reducing Litter and Combating Illegal Dumping**

- 5.1. Develop and conduct regional litter campaigns
- 5.2. Develop and implement regional responses to illegal dumping

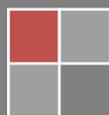
#### **6. Education for Sustainability**

- 6.1. Promote sustainable living options to the community
- 6.2. Increase councillor and council staff awareness and participation in sustainability initiatives

A number of strategies have been developed for each objective. It is through the implementation of the strategies that the objectives will be met.



# Themes, Objectives and Strategies



## Theme One:

### Making it Easier for Households to Separate, Recover and Reuse their Waste

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Three Objectives have been identified to achieve this Theme Area:

1. Yours2Take becomes the first stop for households wanting to dispose of waste that has a reuse value;
2. Increase the opportunities for households to recycle organic waste; and
3. Increase levels of recyclables collected from households in the REROC region.

Yours2Take is a landfill diversion project. It aims to encourage people to give items away they no longer want instead of throwing them away. Since its inception in 2008 Yours2Take has grown substantially, currently it has 6,500 registered users and it is consistently getting between 2,000 and 3,000 visits a month. However it is still to reach its full potential and this can only be achieved through improving access for users and by raising awareness of the site.

However the site's biggest issue has been keeping sufficient product on it to support on-going interest. Generally product that is put on the site is acquired within the first few hours, once it is acquired it is taken down from the site. In order to attract more product to the site the Waste Forum with the support of the REROC Board has made the decision to allow users to request money for a product that they put on the site.

We need to improve our performance in both the area of organic waste recycling and the collection of recyclables. This was evidenced in the bin audits that were undertaken by MRA as part of the development of the Strategy. The waste audits conducted in Temora, Cootamundra Coolamon and Wagga Wagga showed the following:

*Cootamundra* - 82% of the domestic waste residual stream by weight was potentially recyclable materials of which 49.7% was compostable material and 26.16% comingled recyclables.

*Coolamon* – 78.85% of the domestic waste residual stream by weight was potentially recyclable materials of which 41.03% was compostable material and 25.80% comingled recyclables.

*Temora* – 87.47% of the domestic waste residual stream by weight was potentially recyclable materials of which 56.02% was compostable material and 25.03% comingled recyclables.

*Wagga Wagga* - 25% of the domestic waste residual stream by weight was potentially recyclable materials of which 77% was compostable material and 16% comingled recyclables

The above figures REROC believes reflect what is happening in all LGAs and indicate that we need to do much more to improve recycling. All the above LGAs, excepting Temora, have kerbside co-mingled recycling and Coolamon provides a full organics collection and Wagga Wagga a green waste collection.

Of further concern was the amount of contamination that was found in the recycling in Cootamundra it was 17.45% well above the NSW State average of 5%, in Coolamon it was double the State average at 10.07% and in Wagga Wagga it was 13% again well above the State average. These results support the concerns of local MRF's who have been requesting that the Waste Forum initiate education programs that address contamination in domestic recycling.

This shows that the Region needs to do more to not only lift recycling rates but also to reduce contamination. Therefore, the Plan includes the delivery of an education program to households about what should go into the recycling. Community feedback indicates that residents are looking for more opportunities to recycle and therefore we will be working with councils to identify opportunities to increase recycling availability, including exploring the feasibility of introducing 360 litre recycling bins.

In addition the level of organic waste found in the residual bins indicates that the Forum needs to push more strongly for the introduction of better options for the disposal of organic material. This includes further projects that build on the Forum's successful Cluster Composting Trial as well as building the capacity of householders to compost at home. Coolamon's successful roll out and implementation of a full organics kerbside collection service, based on the findings of the Trial is evidence that the service can be delivered in a cost effective way.

We recognise that education, for both the community and the member councils, will play an important role in raising the awareness of the value and benefits of composting. Garden Smart Workshops are a proven way of disseminating information to the community and these will continue in the new planning period.

The strategies to be implemented are as follows:

**Objective 1.1: Yours2Take becomes the first stop for households wanting to dispose of waste that has a reuse value**

- Strategy 1.1.1: Expand the service to include provision for payment of listed items
- Strategy 1.1.2: Develop and implement a communications strategy to raise awareness of Y2T site to householders.
- Strategy 1.1.3: Identify community champions who are willing to promote the site.
- Strategy 1.1.4: Form alliances and partnerships with organisations that can assist in promoting the site

**Objective 1.2: Increase the Opportunities for Households to Recycle Organic Waste**

- Strategy 1.2.1: Work with and support member councils to introduce sustainable organics' collection options for their LGAs.
- Strategy 1.2.2: Work with and support member councils to introduce sustainable organics processing options for their LGAs
- Strategy 1.2.3: Raise awareness of the benefits of organics' recycling
- Strategy 1.2.4: Promote and educate households and the community about organics and home composting.
- Strategy 1.2.5: Identify opportunities to access funding to support the introduction of new services and improve existing services.

**Objective 1.3: Increase Levels of Recyclables Collected from Households in the REROC Region**

- Strategy 1.3.1: Raise the awareness of households about the value of separating, recovering and reusing waste.
- Strategy 1.3.2: Increase the opportunities for households to separate, recover and reuse their waste.
- Strategy 1.3.3: Reduce the level of contamination in household recycling collections
- Strategy 1.3.4: Promote the introduction of Container Deposit Legislation (CDL) or other Producer Responsibility Levy for containers.
- Strategy 1.3.5: Explore and promote models that provide viable Public Place Recycling (PPR) options for member councils.

## Theme 2:

### Making it Easier for Businesses to Separate, Recover and Reuse their Waste

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The Objectives for this Focus Area are:

1. Increase in usage by businesses of the Yours2Take website;
2. Encourage the commercial and industrial sector to more effectively manage waste and resource recovery.

This focus area is all about connecting with business. The Forum has identified the need to engage more with business and industry. The aim of increased engaged is to reduce waste to landfill by actively encouraging diversion by reusing and reducing through the adoption of appropriate production techniques.

We have also identified opportunities to increase the usage by business of the Yours2Take site. The site can provide businesses with a cost effective platform for disposing of written down assets to other businesses or individuals. The inclusion of a payment option should further encourage businesses to use the site because they will no longer need to “write off” assets or materials in order to give them away.

We also believe that it is important to form strategic alliances and partnerships with key influencers and stakeholders, particularly business organisations like the Australian Business Chamber in order to reach business users. We propose meeting with these types of organisations to provide them with information about the site and to encourage them to promote its benefits to their membership.

The continuing growth and acceptance of industrial ecology provides opportunities for businesses to become more waste aware and in doing so improve their bottom line. The Forum intends to work more closely with businesses particularly small to medium enterprises, we propose engaging consultants and/or staff to work one-on-one with businesses to assist them to find better ways of dealing with their waste and implementing resource recovery opportunities. Our substantial experience working with businesses has shown that the most productive outcomes are achieved when there is that high level of interaction.

It is also important to have quality resource materials available for businesses both in hard copy and online to assist them to make informed choices about how they manage waste. The plan includes provision for the development of these resources which will be made available to businesses through our member councils and the Waste Forum.

#### **Objective 2.1: Increase in Usage by Businesses of the Yours2Take Website**

- Strategy 2.1.1:* Develop and implement a communications strategy to raise awareness of the Y2T site with business.
- Strategy 2.1.2:* Expand the service to include provision for payment of listed items
- Strategy 2.1.3:* Form alliances and partnerships that will assist in promoting the site.

**Objective 2.2: Encourage the commercial and industrial sector to more effectively manage waste and resource recovery**

*Strategy 2.2.1:* Design, develop and distribute resources to better inform businesses about options and benefits of separating, recovering and reusing waste.

*Strategy 2.2.2:* Identify waste management and resource recovery programs and initiatives that could be implemented in the region.

*Strategy 2.2.3:* Form alliances and partnerships with industry bodies to assist in the promotion of best practice waste management and resource recovery.

*Strategy 2.2.4:* Support businesses and industries to develop waste management and resource recovery plans.

## Theme 3:

### **Reducing or Removing Problem Wastes to Improve Resource Recovery and produce Environmentally Safe Recyclable Products**

The Objectives for this Focus Area are:

1. Implement regional solutions for e-waste
2. Facilitate and co-ordinate regional collections of problem wastes
3. Promote the use of the Safe Sharps site.
4. Monitor developments for the disposal of other problem wastes

In rural and regional areas finding effective ways to deal with problem wastes can be particularly challenging. The small population bases together with the tyranny of distance mean that rural and regional areas often cannot attract private enterprise operations that address problem wastes. Therefore solutions must be found locally. The Plan includes strategies specifically addressing e-waste, metal waste, Household Hazardous Wastes and used sharps as well as monitoring developments for the disposal of other problem wastes.

Throughout 2011 the Waste Forum monitored and provided input towards the development of the Federal Government's product stewardship legislation for e-waste. The Forum pushed hard for the inclusion of collection targets for rural and regional communities. Unfortunately when the regulation was finally released there were no targets included, instead the government elected to require that Liable Parties through their Approved Arrangement provide one collection per year within 100 kilometres of any community with a population of more than 10,000 and one collection per year within 150 kilometres for communities with a population of more than 2,000 but less than 10,000.

The Forum recognised that because the Liable Parties do not have to meet a threshold collection amount for rural and regional communities that they may be tempted to provide a token collection service: a service that fulfills their obligations but which does little to stem the tide of e-waste in the region. In response the Forum worked firstly with ANZRP and when lengthy negotiations failed to lead to solution, DHL Supply Chain to implement a regional solution to e-waste.

As a result of that work there is a permanent, free e-waste collection in every REROC LGA and the waste that is collected, with the exception of Wagga Wagga, is taken for processing to Kurrajong Recyclers in Wagga Wagga. For the Financial Year commencing 1 July 2013, 102 tonnes of e-waste was collected and transported to Kurrajong for recycling. A regional television advertising campaign was developed and delivered as well as local promotions undertaken. The response from all the communities in the region has been extremely positive. Contamination in the collection has been extremely low.

It is with some concern that the Waste Forum notes that DHL appears to be only Liable Party that has delivered on its legislative requirements in relation to regional collections.

Twelve years ago REROC issued its first tender for the collection of metal waste. The Waste Forum was the first group of councils to implement a group contract for metal waste collection and it totally changed the way that councils managed this waste product. Prior to the group tendering approach being taken, member councils, particularly those in the more remote locations, were paying contractors to take the waste away, now that make money from it. We estimate in the last decade we have collected in excess of 20,000 tonnes of scrap metal.

The Forum has regularly gone out to tender for the collection of metal waste however in recent years the Forum has moved from 2 year contracts to one-off contracting. This approach has resulted in much higher prices for the resource because providers are not including a risk premium in their pricing as they do when we contracted over multiple years. The success of the one-off approach has ensured that it will continue through the next planning period.

The Waste Forum resolved a number of years ago to hold Household Hazardous Waste collections every second year. The collections which are very successful are held in council depots in each member council LGA. The Waste Forum recognises the importance of ensuring that hazardous products are not dumped in the municipal landfill and therefore the collection regime will continue through the next planning period.

Safe Sharps was launched by the NSW Minister for Health, Hon Jillian Skinner in July, 2011. The site has met with great success and has been actively promoted by the NSW Department of Health and the NSW Diabetes Council. REROC regularly promotes the site at conferences and other forums and as consequence recognition of its benefits is growing. Currently there are almost 1200 sites on the Safe Sharps, most are in NSW.

The Forum has committed to Safe Sharps becoming a National resource and to that end will continue to promote it until it achieves that level of coverage. Recent upgrades to accommodate Android devices will improve take up, however the Forum does face the constant pressure of upgrading the mobile applications each time a new operating system is introduced for either iPhone, iPad or Android.

The Forum members will also be monitoring developments that address other problem wastes such as tyres and asbestos. This will include working with others to determine whether there are opportunities to develop regional collection contracts, regional storage solutions or regional processing solutions for these types of waste.

**Objective 3.1: Implement regional solutions for e-waste**

*Strategy 3.1.1:* Work collaboratively with Industry and member councils to deliver regional solution for e-waste.

*Strategy 3.1.2* Work collaboratively with Kurrajong Recyclers to promote the benefits of recycling e-waste.

**Objective 3.2: Facilitate and co-ordinate regional collections of metal waste**

*Strategy 3.2.1:* Facilitate and co-ordinate a regional collection of metal waste at least once per year

*Strategy 3.2.1* Conduct regional HHW collections every second year

*Strategy 3.2.3* Implement network of Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) for the collection of low-toxic wastes.

**Objective 3.3: Promote the use of the Safe Sharps site**

*Strategy 3.3.1* Further develop alliances and partnerships with organisations that can assist in promoting the site.

*Strategy 3.3.2* Expand the platforms used to advertise and promote the site to increase awareness.

*Strategy 3.3.3* Work with State bodies to expand the service nationally.

**Objective 3.5: Monitor developments for the disposal of other problem wastes**

*Strategy 3.5.1:* Identify specific waste streams suitable for regional collection contracts.

*Strategy 3.5.2:* Monitor technological developments in waste processing to identify new methods of recycling and reusing problem wastes.

## Theme 4:

### Facilitating Investment in Waste Infrastructure

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The Objectives for this Focus Area are:

1. Explore the opportunity to establish regional collection and processing facilities
2. Promote investment in regional and rural infrastructure by all tiers of government and private enterprise; and
3. Work with councils to implement best practice approaches to the operation of waste facilities

The Waste Less Recycle More initiative will provide opportunities for further investment in waste infrastructure across NSW. The Waste Forum will be seeking opportunities to attract some of that funding either through its own initiatives or in partnership with other stakeholders.

Two opportunities present themselves immediately; the first is the establishment of Community Recycling Centres (“CRCs”) across the Region which will provide residents with a regular service that they can utilize to dispose of low toxic waste. Currently residents must wait until a Household Hazardous Waste collection is organised for their LGA in order to safely dispose of this type of waste, which only occurs once every two years.

The Waste Forum will work with its members and the EPA to identify a regional response to the establishment of CRCs. REROC recognises that the significant distances that residents have to travel between LGAs means that the most efficient outcomes would be a network of large and small CRCs servicing the region.

The second major opportunity is to utilise the EPA’s targeted funding to establishment organics’ collections and processing facilities in the region. The Forum will utilise the valuable information it has gained through the Cluster Composting Trial to explore opportunities to expand low tech compost processing across the region. In order to support this expansion the Forum will develop resource materials to assist councils to make informed decisions about establishing composting facilities. Where composting facilities are established the Forum will facilitate access to training for participating councils to ensure that the end product is of sufficient quality as to have a valued end use.

Our member councils recognise that landfills are an issue, many are reaching their end of life and viable, accessible and financially stable solutions need to be found, particularly as it can take many years to plan and then establish a landfill. The Forum believes that it is important that members explore options with regard to the establishment of a regional landfill and to that end, in each year of the strategy, we will be undertaking activities to meet that goal.

In addition members have committed to improving the operation of their landfills, particularly their small rural landfills. The members have developed a strategy for that purpose with the goal of reaching best practice outcomes for their operation. The implementation of the strategy will be a priority for this Planning period. This may result in some landfill consolidation, the Forum notes that the **Waste Less Recycle More** has funds for this purpose and we will be supporting members in their endeavours to access this funding..

Regional collection and processing facilities are important to reducing the cost of transporting waste for recycling. The region currently has a number of recycling and reprocessing facilities in operation including Renewed Metal Technologies (RMT), Southern Oil, Australian Native Landscapes (ANL) and Kurrajong Recyclers. The Forum will monitor developments and watch

for opportunities to facilitate the growth of these types of facilities. In addition the Forum establishment of CRCs in the region as a way of improving access to feedstock and reducing the cost of transport.

The Strategies for this Theme are as follows:

**Objective 4.1: Explore the opportunity to establish regional collection and processing facilities**

*Strategy 4.1.1:* Promote the establishment of organics collections and processing in the region.

*Strategy 4.1.2:* Identify opportunities to establish regional collection and processing facilities.

*Strategy 4.1.3:* Investigate the feasibility of a regional landfill

*Strategy 4.1.4:* Work with members to identify opportunities for landfill consolidations

**Objective 4.2: Promote investment in regional and rural infrastructure by all tiers of government and private enterprise**

*Strategy 4.2.1:* Monitor the development of technologies, businesses and/or industries involved in resource recovery

*Strategy 4.2.2:* Facilitate the development of partnerships that encourage investment in new waste management infrastructure.

**Objective 4.3: Work with councils to implement best practice approaches to the operation of waste facilities**

*Strategy 4.3.1:* Work with councils to implement the Rural and Regional Landfill Strategy.

*Strategy 4.3.2:* Support member councils to implement best practice management principles in relation to the operation of landfills and transfer stations.

## Theme 5:

### Reducing Litter and Combating Illegal Dumping

Two Objectives have been identified for achievement for this Focus Area:

1. Develop and conduct regional litter campaigns; and
2. Develop and implement regional responses to illegal dumping.

The Forum recognises that it has a role in reducing litter and illegal dumping in the region. Identifying hotspots for both litter and illegal dumping is an important way of assisting councils to address the problem in their own LGAs.

In 2010 the Forum partnered with the Muttuma Creek Regeneration Group to reduce litter waste in Cootamundra. The project involved the strategic placement of cigarette butt litter bins, use of posters and educational materials to reduce cigarette butt litter. The approach was very successful and the Forum may also look at developing more community partnerships to deliver similar programs during the next funding period.

The Forum recognises that there is very little data available across the region on illegal dumping activities and that in order to move forward in this area data is the key. The Forum therefore has committed to implementing a project that result in the establishment of a regional database for illegal dumping which will identify dumping hotspots and therefore inform future decision making in the area.

Our members recognise that it is important to form partnerships to deal with illegal dumping and to that end we will be looking to collaborate with other owners of public lands such as Local Land Services and Crown Lands as well as community groups such as Landcare to implement regional initiatives that address illegal dumping. The Forum will also be seeking opportunities through **Waste Less Recycle More** for funding to implement those initiatives.

#### **Objective 5.1: Develop and conduct regional litter campaigns**

*Strategy 5.1.1:* Identify litter hotspots throughout the region.

*Strategy 5.1.2:* Develop education and resource materials that address littering.

*Strategy 5.1.3:* Form partnerships with community groups to address local littering problems.

#### **Objective 5.2: Develop and implement regional responses to illegal dumping**

*Strategy 5.2.1:* Identify illegal dumping hotspots throughout the region

*Strategy 5.2.2:* Develop education and resource materials that address illegal dumping.

*Strategy 5.2.3:* Form partnerships with other public land owners and community groups to address illegal dumping problems.

## Focus Area 6:

### Education for Sustainability

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The Objectives for this focus area are:

1. Promote sustainable living options to the community; and
2. Increase councillor and council staff awareness and participation in sustainability initiatives.

Education continues to play a very important role in achieving environmentally sustainable outcomes. The Forum will continue three of its very successful programs: Garden Smart Workshops, Kindy Kits and No Waste in My Lunchbox, the latter will be expanded.

Since its inception 5 years ago over 2,600 people have attended the Garden Smart Workshops where participants learn to garden more sustainability. The topics covered include home composting, companion planting and using mulch to reduce water usage. We have been fortunate to have had Kerry Geale, the local ABC Radio gardening show personality, deliver the workshops as it has considerably added to their credibility. Mr Geale has agreed to continue running the workshops for the Forum.

Working directly with schools will increase over the next funding period. The successful Kindy Kits project will continue providing new kindergarten students and their parents with information about reducing waste at school. The Forum has reviewed the Waste as Recycled Art Program (WRAP) and resolved that it should cease. The program will be replaced by an expanded No Waste in my Lunchbox project which will focus on reducing waste at school and recycling organic waste either using compost or worm farms.

The Forum will continue to work to increase the awareness and understanding of waste management and resource recovery issues with council staff and councillors. The "No Time to Waste" annual conference, which is sponsored by the EPA, aims to bring first class speakers to the region to address topical issues about waste management and resource recovery. Almost 100 people attended the 2013 conference which provided valuable professional development opportunity for those working in waste management and resource recovery in rural and regional NSW by providing a low cost opportunity to hear from leaders in the field.

The Forum will continue to disseminate information on its activities and the activities of RENEW NSW to raise awareness of our activities and of the other Voluntary Regional Waste Groups operating in NSW.

#### **Objective 6.1: Promote sustainable living options to the community**

*Strategy 6.1.1:* Implement community education campaigns that promote sustainable living options including waste minimisation and avoidance

*Strategy 6.1.2:* Develop and implement "No Waste in my Lunchbox" schools education program to primary school students throughout the REROC region

#### **Objective 6.2: Increase councillor and council staff awareness and participation in sustainability initiatives**

*Strategy 6.2.1:* Encourage member councils to consider the environmental impact of their operations

*Strategy 6.2.2:* Facilitate and encourage participation in professional development on waste with REROC members, councillors and staff.

- Strategy 6.2.3* Raise awareness of the Forum's activities and the activities of RENEW NSW through promotion of local activities and participation in discussions on the future of waste and sustainability in NSW.
- Strategy 6.2.4* Disseminate information about Waste Forum activities, initiatives and outcomes to the REROC Board, councillors and council staff.

## Summary of strategic framework

Vision				
<b><i>Building a sustainable region through developing and encouraging the implementation of best practice initiatives in waste management and resource recovery.</i></b>				
Theme	Objectives		Strategies	
<b>Making it Easier for Residents to Separate, Recover and Reuse their Waste</b>	<b>1.1</b>	Yours2Take becomes the first stop for households wanting to dispose of waste that has a reuse value	<b>1.1.1</b>	Expand the service to include provision for payment of listed items
			<b>1.1.2</b>	Develop and implement a communications strategy to raise awareness of the Y2T site to householders
			<b>1.1.3</b>	Identify community champions who are willing to promote the site
			<b>1.1.4</b>	Form alliances and partnerships with organisations that can assist in promoting the site
	<b>1.2</b>	Increase the Opportunities for Households to Recycle Organic Waste	<b>1.2.1</b>	Work with and support member councils to introduce sustainable organics' collection options for their LGAs
			<b>1.2.2</b>	Work with and support member councils to introduce sustainable organics processing options for their LGAs
			<b>1.2.3</b>	Raise awareness of the benefits of organics' recycling
			<b>1.2.4</b>	Promote and educate households and the community about organics and home composting
			<b>1.2.5</b>	Identify opportunities to access funding to support the introduction of new services and improve existing services
	<b>1.3</b>	Increase levels of recyclables collected from households in the REROC region	<b>1.3.1</b>	Raise the awareness of households about the value of separating, recovering and reusing waste.
			<b>1.3.2</b>	Increase the opportunities for households to separate, recover and reuse their waste

			<b>1.3.3</b>	Reduce the level of contamination in household recycling collections
			<b>1.3.4</b>	Promote the introduction of Container Deposit Legislation (CDL) or other Producer Responsibility Levy for containers.
			<b>1.3.5</b>	Explore and promote models that provide viable Public Place Recycling (PPR) options for member councils
	<b>2.1</b>	Increase in usage by businesses of the Yours2Take website	<b>2.1.1</b>	Develop and implement a communications strategy to raise awareness of the Y2T site with businesses
			<b>2.1.2</b>	Expand the service to include provision for payment of listed items
			<b>2.1.3</b>	Form alliances and partnerships that will assist in promoting the site
	<b>2.2</b>	Encourage the Commercial and Industrial sector to more effectively manage waste and resource recovery	<b>2.2.1</b>	Design, develop and distribute resources to better inform businesses about the options and benefits of separating, recovering and reusing waste.
			<b>2.2.2</b>	Identify waste management and resource recovery programs and initiatives that could be implemented in the region
			<b>2.2.3</b>	Form alliances and partnerships with industry bodies to assist in the promotion of best practice waste management and resource recovery
			<b>2.2.4</b>	Support businesses and industries to develop waste management and resource recovery plans
<b>Reducing or removing problem wastes to improve resource recovery and produce environmentally safe recyclable products</b>	<b>3.1</b>	Implement regional solutions for e-waste	<b>3.1.1</b>	Work collaboratively with Industry and member councils to deliver regional solutions for e-waste
			<b>3.1.2</b>	Work collaboratively with Kurrajong Recyclers to promote the benefits of recycling e-waste
	<b>3.2</b>	Facilitate and co-ordinate regional collections of problem wastes	<b>3.2.1</b>	Facilitate and co-ordinate a regional collection of metal waste at least once per year
			<b>3.2.2</b>	Conduct regional HHW collections every second year
			<b>3.2.3</b>	Implement network of Community Recycling Centres (CRCs) for the collection of low toxic wastes

	<b>3.3</b>	Promote the use of the Safe Sharps site	<b>3.3.1</b>	Further develop alliances and partnerships with organisations that can assist in promoting the site.	
			<b>3.3.2</b>	Expand the platforms used to advertise and promote the site to increase awareness	
			<b>3.3.3</b>	Work with State bodies to expand the service nationally	
	<b>3.4</b>	Monitor developments for the disposal of other problem wastes	<b>3.4.1</b>	Identify specific waste streams suitable for regional collection contracts	
			<b>3.4.2</b>	Monitor technological developments in waste processing to identify new methods of recycling and reusing problem wastes	
	<b>Facilitating investment in waste infrastructure</b>	<b>4.2</b>	Explore the opportunity to establish regional collection and processing facilities	<b>4.2.1</b>	Promote the establishment of organics collections and processing in the region
<b>4.2.2</b>				Identify opportunities to establish regional collection and processing facilities	
<b>4.2.3</b>				Investigate the feasibility of a regional landfill	
<b>4.2.4</b>				Work with members to identify opportunities for landfill consolidations	
<b>4.3</b>		Promote investment in regional and rural infrastructure by all tiers of government and private enterprise	<b>4.3.1</b>	Monitor the development of technologies, businesses and/or industries involved in resource recovery	
			<b>4.3.2</b>	Facilitate the development of partnerships that encourage investment in new waste management infrastructure	
<b>4.4</b>		Work with councils to implement best practice approaches to the operation of waste facilities	<b>4.4.1</b>	Work with councils to implement the Rural and Regional Landfill Strategy	
			<b>4.4.2</b>	Support member councils to implement best practice management principles in relation to the operation of landfills and transfer stations	
<b>Reducing litter and combating illegal dumping</b>		<b>5.1</b>	Develop and conduct regional litter campaigns	<b>5.1.1</b>	Identify litter hotspots throughout the region
				<b>5.1.2</b>	Develop education and resource materials that address littering
	<b>5.2</b>	Develop and implement regional responses to illegal dumping	<b>5.2.1</b>	Identify illegal dumping hotspots throughout the region	
			<b>5.2.2</b>	Develop education and resource materials that address illegal dumping	

<b>Education for Sustainability</b>	<b>6.1</b>	Promote sustainable living options to the community	<b>6.1.1</b>	Implement community education campaigns that promote sustainable living options including waste minimisation and avoidance
			<b>6.1.2</b>	Develop and implement “No Waste in my Lunchbox” school education program to primary school students throughout the REROC region
	<b>6.2</b>	Increase councillor and council staff awareness and participation in sustainability initiatives	<b>6.2.1</b>	Encourage member councils to consider the environmental impact of their operations
			<b>6.2.2</b>	Facilitate and encourage participation in professional development on waste with REROC members, councillors and staff
			<b>6.2.3</b>	Raise awareness of the Forum’s activities and the activities of RENEW NSW through promotion of local activities and participation in discussions on the future of waste and sustainability in NSW
			<b>6.2.4</b>	Disseminate information about waste Forum activities, initiative and outcomes to the REROC Board, councillors and council staff

## Action Plan

### REROC Waste Forum Regional waste strategy (2013–21)

Theme		1	
Objective		Action	Detail of action
1.1	Yours2Take becomes the first stop for households wanting to dispose of waste that has a reuse value	A	Determine operability requirements
		B	Engage programmer to implement any changes required
		C	Monitor take up of pay for items service
		D	Initiate upgrades to accommodate pay for items capability
		E	Identify key message channels for businesses
		F	Identify drivers for business to use the website
		G	Identify influencers and stake holders
		H	Prepare and implement communications strategy
		I	Monitor effectiveness of the strategy
		J	Councils to act as community champions for the site
		K	Identify community groups that could champion the site
		L	Provide support materials to champions to assist in the promotion of the site
		M	Identify potential partnering organisations
		N	Contact partnering organisations to discuss benefits of the site and to identify opportunities to work together
O	Provide resource materials to partnering organisations to assist in promotion		

1.2	Increase the Opportunities for Households to Recycle Organic Waste	A	Promote cluster trial outcomes to member councils
		B	Work with councils to develop feasibility studies for introduction of services through the formation of working parties whose members are drawn from within the Forum.
		C	Develop educational materials and advertising to support introduction of collections
		D	Promote cluster trial outcomes to member councils
		E	Inform councils about processing options and their outcomes
		F	Work with councils to develop feasibility studies for the introduction of processing facilities
		G	Identify and implement training for staff
		H	Identify opportunities for regional contracting in organics
		I	Promote outcomes of the cluster trial
		J	Develop education materials on organics' recycling
		K	Run education programs for councilors and council staff and the community
		L	Develop education materials about organics and home composting
		M	Run Garden Smart workshops for the community
		N	Work with schools to introduce composting for No Waste in My Lunchbox
		O	Apply for Waste Less, Recycle More funding.
		P	Monitor funding opportunities
		Q	Support trials for organics' collections
R	Assist councils to prepare funding submissions		
S	Assist councils to prepare licensing applications		

1.3	Increase levels of recyclables collected from households in the REROC region	A	Design and implement an education campaign for households and the community about the value of separating, recovering and reusing waste.
		B	Review recycling opportunities in member council LGAs and access by community
		C	Identify opportunities to improve service provision and options for recycling in member councils
		D	Implement trials of recycling systems that could be adopted by member councils
		E	Design and implement an education campaign targeting contamination problems
		F	Work with MRFs in the region to identify technologies that remove contaminants from the recyclable stream
		G	Work with MRFs to reduce the amount of product classified as contaminant
		H	Actively promote the need for Producers to meet the cost of disposing of containers
		I	Lobby State and Federal politicians and agencies for a mandated Extended Producers Responsibility program
		J	Respond to inquiries etc on the issue
		K	Research Public Place Recycling (PPR)
		L	Identify options for introduction of PPR
		M	Support the use of pilots to test PPR options
		N	Disseminate results of pilots to councils to inform decision making on PPR
O	Identify possible funding sources to support the delivery of PPR		
2.1	Increase in usage by business of the Yours2Take website	A	Identify key message channels for businesses
		B	Identify drivers for business to use the website
		C	Identify influencers and stakeholders

		D	Prepare and implement communications strategy
		E	Monitor effectiveness of the strategy
		F	Determine operability requirements
		G	Engage programmer to implement any changes required
		H	Monitor take up of pay for items service
		I	Initiate upgrades to accommodate pay for items capability
		J	Identify key influencers and stakeholders
		K	Meet with key influencers and stakeholders to form alliances and partnerships
		L	Utilise alliances and partnerships to promote the site
2.2	Encourage the Commercial and Industrial sector to more effectively manage waste and resource recover	A	Identify appropriate resources to inform businesses about the benefits of separating, recovering and reusing waste
		B	Prepare and publish hardcopy of on-line, resource materials for business
		C	Profile business and industry in the region
		D	Review existing programs and initiatives to determine those which are most relevant to businesses in the region
		E	Identify case studies that could be utilised to demonstrate best practice waste management and resource recovery
		F	Monitor State and Federal funding opportunities that support the implementation of new initiatives and programs
		G	Identify local industry and business organisations that could assist in the promotion
		H	Recruit local industry and businesses into partnerships that promote best practice in waste management and resource recovery

		I	Identify resources that are available to assist businesses to develop their plans
		J	Connect businesses with available resources
		K	Monitor outcome of planning processes
		L	Encourage successful business to act as case studies and mentors for others
<b>Theme</b>		<b>2</b>	
<b>Objective</b>		<b>Action</b>	<b>Detail of action</b>
3.1	Implement regional solutions for e-waste	A	Monitor developments in relation to the delivery of e-waste collections by liable parties under the legislation
		B	Form relationships with industry/liable parties to develop optimal collection arrangements for communities
		C	Evaluate the effectiveness of collection arrangement and identify improvements to service delivery
		D	Work with industry/liable parties to make improvements to service delivery
		E	Renew the MoU between REROC and Kurrajong Recyclers
		F	Develop joint promotions, events and promotional material
3.2	Facilitate and co-ordinate regional collections of problem wastes	A	Identify need for scrap metal waste collection
		B	Seek quotations for scrap metal collections
		C	Monitor effectiveness of collections and record the amount of scrap metal collected
		D	Identify funding opportunities to conduct HHW collections
		E	Make application for funding and obtain funding support from member councils if required
		F	Prepare promotional materials for distribution by councils
		G	Seek quotations for the conduct of a HHW collection

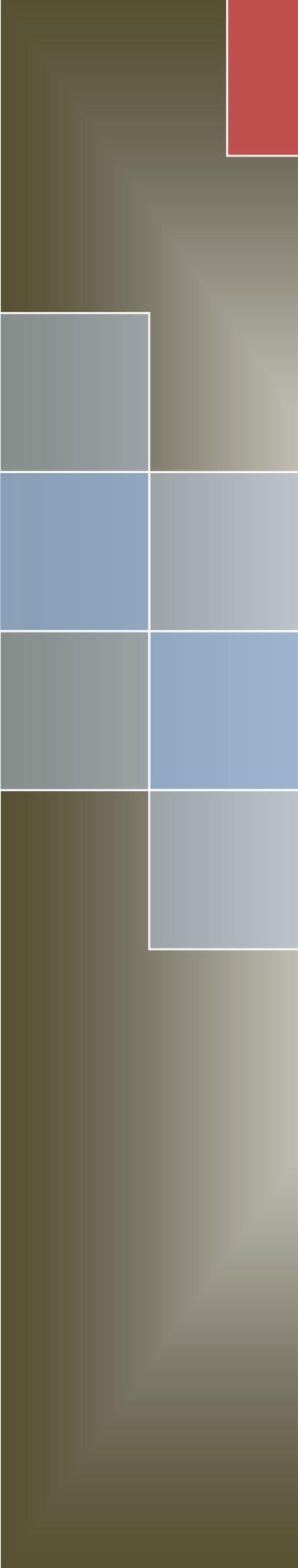
		H	Monitor effectiveness of collections and record the amount of HHW collected
		I	Identify locations for CRCs
		J	Design and cost collection facilities
		K	Apply for funding to establish facilities
		L	Design regional campaign to promote the use of the facilities to residents
<b>Theme</b>		<b>3</b>	
<b>Objective</b>		<b>Action</b>	<b>Detail of action</b>
3.3	Promote the use of the Safe Sharps site	A	Identify potential partnering organisations
		B	Contact partnering organisations to discuss benefits of the site and to identify opportunities to work together
		C	Provide resource materials to partnering organisations to assist in promotion
		D	Identify potential platforms for advertising and promotion
		E	Cost the delivery of promotion through those platforms
		F	Select the most cost-effective platform or platforms for delivery
		G	Implement promotional campaign
		H	Identify State bodies that could assist in expanding the site nationally
		I	Contact State bodies to explore opportunities to expand the site nationally
		J	Work collaboratively with State bodies to introduce the site to the State
		K	Monitor the effectiveness of the introduction of the site to a new State

3.4	Monitor developments for the disposal of other problem wastes	A	Audit waste streams to identify which waste streams have sufficient critical mass to support regional contract
		B	Determine whether there is sufficient demand for the waste stream to support a regional collection contract
		C	Prepare tender documentation for the collection
		D	Subscribe to appropriate industry journals, attend conferences and workshops to monitor new developments
		E	Disseminate information to Waste Forum members to determine which technologies could be adopted in the region
		F	Lobby for the introduction of Product Stewardship responsibilities for problem wastes
<b>Theme</b>		<b>4</b>	
<b>Objective</b>		<b>Action</b>	<b>Detail of action</b>
4.2	Explore the opportunity to establish regional collection and processing facilities	A	Promote cluster trial outcomes to member councils
		B	Inform councils about processing options and their outcomes
		C	Work with councils to develop feasibility studies for the introduction of processing facilities
		D	Identify and implement training for staff
		E	Identify opportunities for regional contracting in organics
		F	Identify waste streams that would benefit from a regional collection and/or processing facility/ies
		G	Develop feasibility studies for the operation of regional collection and processing facilities
		H	Work with members to implement regional collections and processing
		I	Explore potential locations for a new regional landfill
		J	Explore structural and governance models that support council ownership of regional landfills
		K	Identify potential council partners for a regional landfill

		L	Undertake a feasibility study for a new regional landfill
		M	Identify landfills that would benefit from consolidation
		N	Work with individual member councils to develop feasibility studies for consolidation
		O	Assist member to implement consolidation process
		P	Monitor and seek funding opportunities through Waste Less, Recycle More
<b>Theme</b>		<b>4</b>	
<b>Objective</b>		<b>Action</b>	<b>Detail of action</b>
4.3	Promote investment in regional and rural infrastructure by all tiers of government and private enterprise	A	Subscribe to appropriate industry journals, attend conferences and workshops to monitor new developments
		B	Disseminate information to Waste Forum members to determine which technologies could be adopted in the region
		C	Work collaboratively with resource recovery enterprises to facilitate the establishment of new infrastructure
		D	Promote the need for State government investment in regional and rural infrastructure
4.4	Work with councils to implement best practice approaches to the operation of waste facilities	A	Work with councils to prioritise actions for implementation
		B	Allocate actions to specific years
		C	Support councils with implementation of strategies
		D	Monitor and evaluate implementation
		E	Identify best practice procedures and disseminate to member councils
		F	Deliver education and training in landfill and transfer station design and management
		G	Identify solutions for unmanned landfills
<b>Theme</b>		<b>5</b>	

Objective		Action	Detail of action
5.1	Develop and conduct regional litter campaigns	A	Implement litter reporting mechanism where residents can report litter trouble spots in their local areas
		B	Map the locations identified by residents
		C	Report the information to councils
		D	Identify appropriate resources to inform the community about the problem of littering
		E	Prepare and publish, hardcopy of on-line, resource materials
5.2	Develop and implement regional responses to illegal dumping	A	Implement illegal dumping reporting mechanism to enable councils to map dumping hotspots
		B	Identify appropriate resources to inform the community about the problem of illegal dumping
		C	Prepare and publish, hardcopy of on-line, resource materials
<b>Theme</b>		<b>6</b>	
Objective		Action	Detail of action
6.1	Promote sustainable living options to the community	A	Run Garden Smart workshops for the community
		B	Promote Love Food Hate Waste program
		C	Conduct Kindy Kits project to all primary schools in the REROC region
		D	Develop No Waste in My Lunchbox schools program
		E	Work with schools to implement program
		F	Offer workshops to primary schools on reduce, reuse, recycle

<b>6.2</b>	Increase councillor and council staff awareness and participation in sustainability initiatives	A	Encourage the adoption of sustainable practices in water and energy
		B	Ensure that councils lead by example in the implementation of internal waste avoidance strategies and resource recovery systems
		C	Organise Rural and Regional Waste Management Conference
		D	Hold bi-monthly REROC Waste Forum meetings
		E	Conduct visits to waste facilities, both inside and outside of the REROC region
		F	Waste Forum represented at NSW Waste Conference and RENEW meetings
		G	Develop an on-line platform for Waste Forum members to share information
		H	Update REROC Waste Forum website
		I	Use the local media to promote the projects and achievements of the REROC Waste Forum to community members
		J	Update REROC Waste Forum website
		K	Provide written and verbal reports at the bi-monthly REROC Board meetings



# Member LGA Profiles



## Bland Shire

**Major Town:** West Wyalong

**Other Towns and Villages:** Barmedman, Talimba, Weethalie, Ungarie, Naradhan

**Area:** 8,560 sq kms

**Population:** 6,410

**Median Age:** 41 years

**Number of Households:** 2,868, average people per household 2.4

**Median Household Income:** \$879 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, Pace Farms (poultry and eggs) and Barrick Gold Mine.

**Employment:** 24.5% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included Metal Ore Mining 8.2%, School Education 5.6%, Local Government Administration 4.6% and Road Freight Transport 2.5%.

### Waste and Resource Recovery:

#### Kerbside Collections:

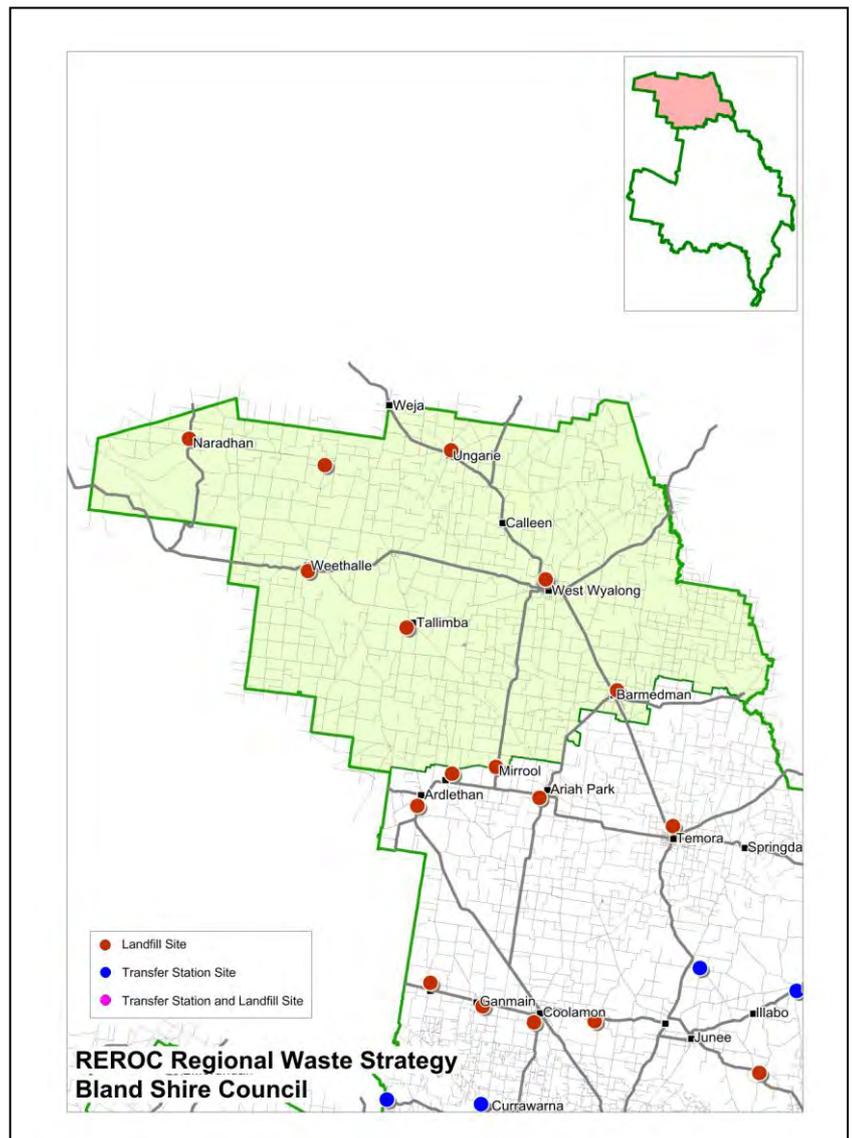
*Residual:* West Wyalong Landfill  
*Recyclables:* No kerbside collection. Source separated drop-off at the landfill. Recyclables are processed at the MRF in Orange.  
*Greenwaste:* No Collection

#### Landfills and Transfer Stations:

*See map opposite.*  
*Total Waste to Landfill p.a:* 5,452 tonnes  
*E-waste* – free drop off at Bland Landfill  
*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Bland landfill

#### Waste Processors and Services

*Access Recycling* – metal waste collector located at Barmedman



## Coolamon Shire

**Major Town:** Coolamon

**Other Towns and Villages:** Ardlethan, Ganmain, Marrar, Matong

**Area:** 2,430 sq kms

**Population:** 4,233

**Median Age:** 43 years

**Number of Households:** 1,790, average people per household 2.6

**Median Household Income:** \$857 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming

**Employment:** 21.7% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included School Education 6.3%, Local Government Administration 3.4%, Tertiary Education 2.6% and Road Freight Transport 2.2%.

### **Waste and Resource Recovery:**

#### **Kerbside Collections:**

*Residual:* Landfill at Marrar

*Recyclables:* Processed at the Elouera MRF at Cootamundra

*Greenwaste and Food Waste:*

Composted at the Coolamon Landfill

#### **Landfills and Transfer Stations:**

*See map opposite.*

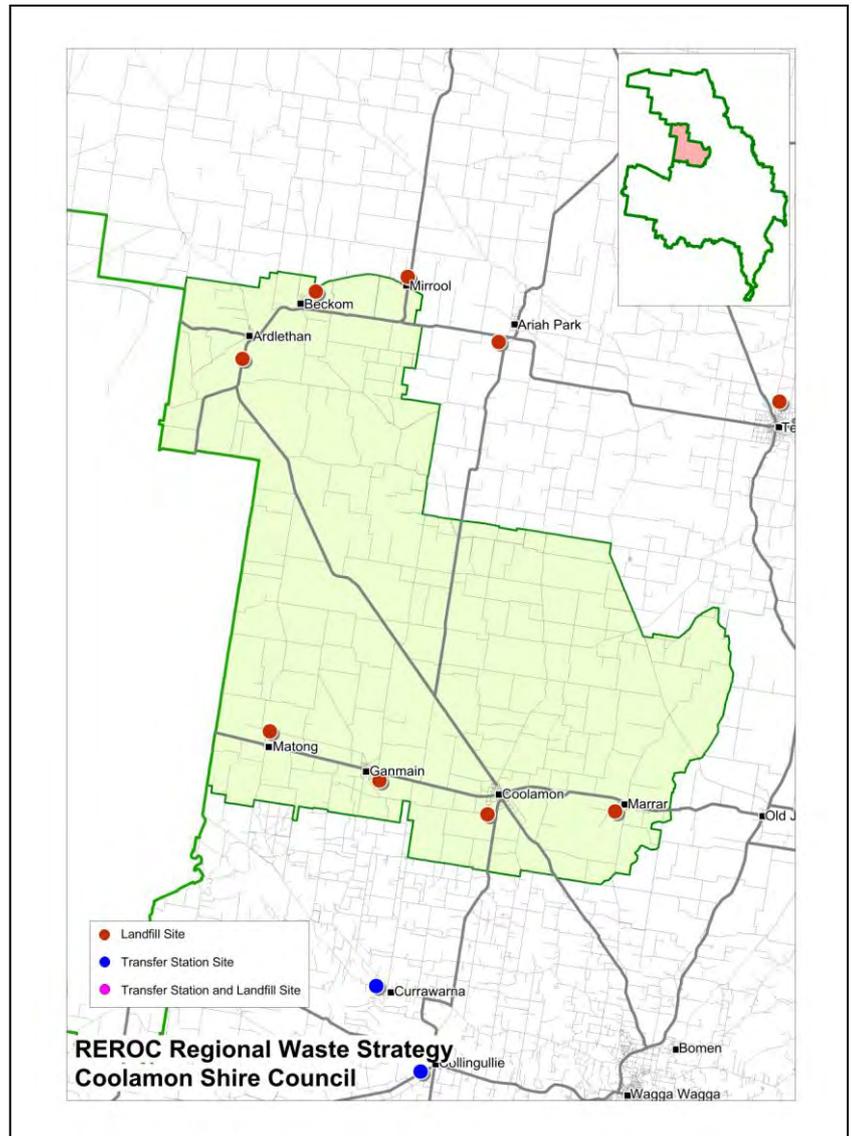
*Total Waste to Landfill p.a:* 700 tonnes

*E-waste* – free drop off at Coolamon Landfill

*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Coolamon landfill

#### **Waste Processors and Services**

*Composting Facility* – operated by Council at the landfill



## Cootamundra Shire

**Major Town:** Cootamundra

**Other Towns and Villages:** Stockinbingal, Wallendbeen

**Area:** 1,524 sq kms

**Population:** 7,729

**Median Age:** 47 years

**Number of Households:** 3,533 average people per household 2.3

**Median Household Income:** \$768 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, transport, abattoir

**Employment:** 9.1% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included School Education 6.0%, Meat and Meat Product Manufacturing 5.2%, Supermarket and Grocery Stores 4.2% and Residential Care Services 3.8%.

### Waste and Resource Recovery:

#### Kerbside Collections:

*Residual:* Bald Hill Landfill

*Recyclables:* Processed at the Elouera MRF at Cootamundra

*Greenwaste and Food Waste:* will be introduced in late 2014

#### Landfills and Transfer Stations:

*See map opposite.*

*Total Waste to Landfill p.a:* 3000 tonnes

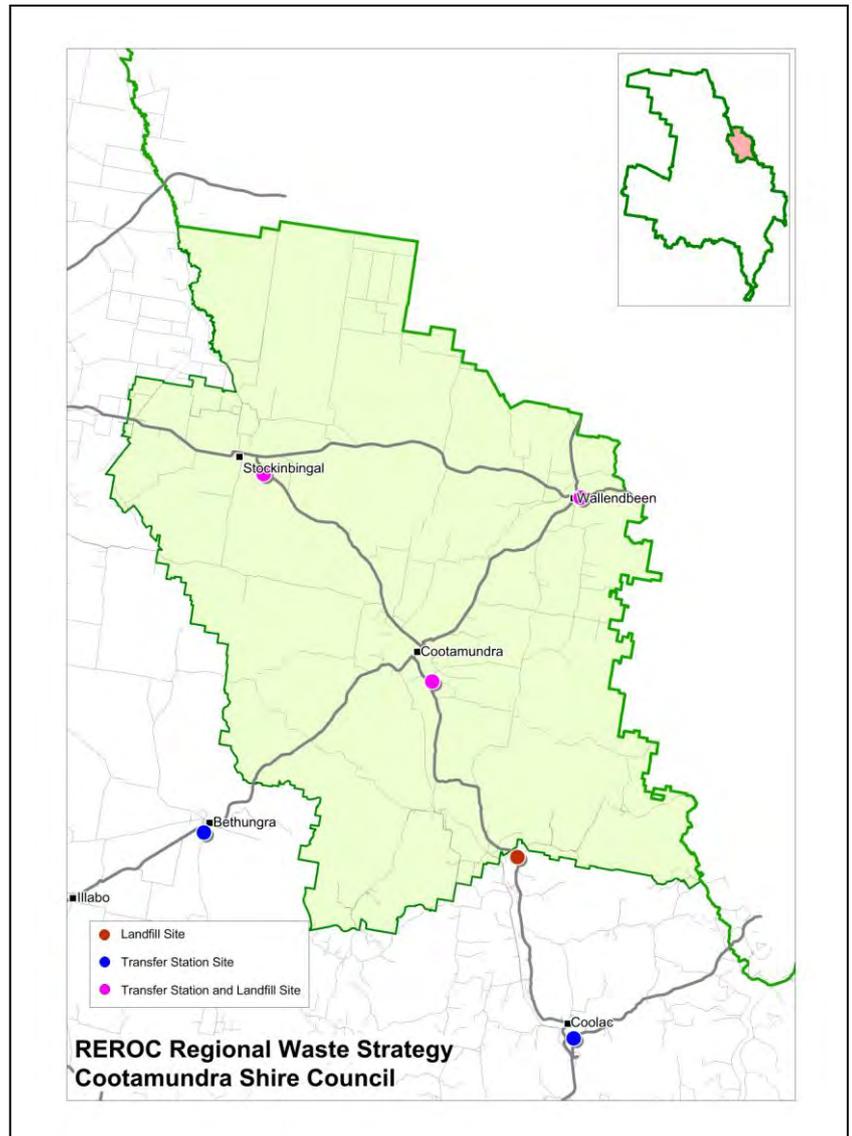
*E-waste* – free drop off at Cootamundra Landfill

*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Cootamundra landfill

#### Waste Processors and Services

*Composting Facility* – will be operated by Council at the landfill once the organics kerbside is introduced.

*Elouera Industries* – operates a MRF at the Cootamundra Transfer Station



## Greater Hume Shire

**Major Towns:** Culcairn, Holbrook, Henty, Jindera

**Other Towns and Villages:** Morven, Gerogery, Walla Walla, Brocklesby, Walbundrie

**Area:** 5,749 sq kms

**Population:** 10,447

**Median Age:** 43 years

**Number of Households:** 4,423 average people per household 2.5

**Median Household Income:** \$943 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, transport

**Employment:** 19.7% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included School Education 5.4%, Road Freight Transport 3.4%, Hospitals 2.7% and Cafes, Restaurants and Takeaway Food Services 2.5%.

### Waste and Resource Recovery:

#### Kerbside Collections:

*Residual:* Culcairn Landfill

*Recyclables:* MRF in Albury

#### Landfills and Transfer Stations:

*See map opposite.*

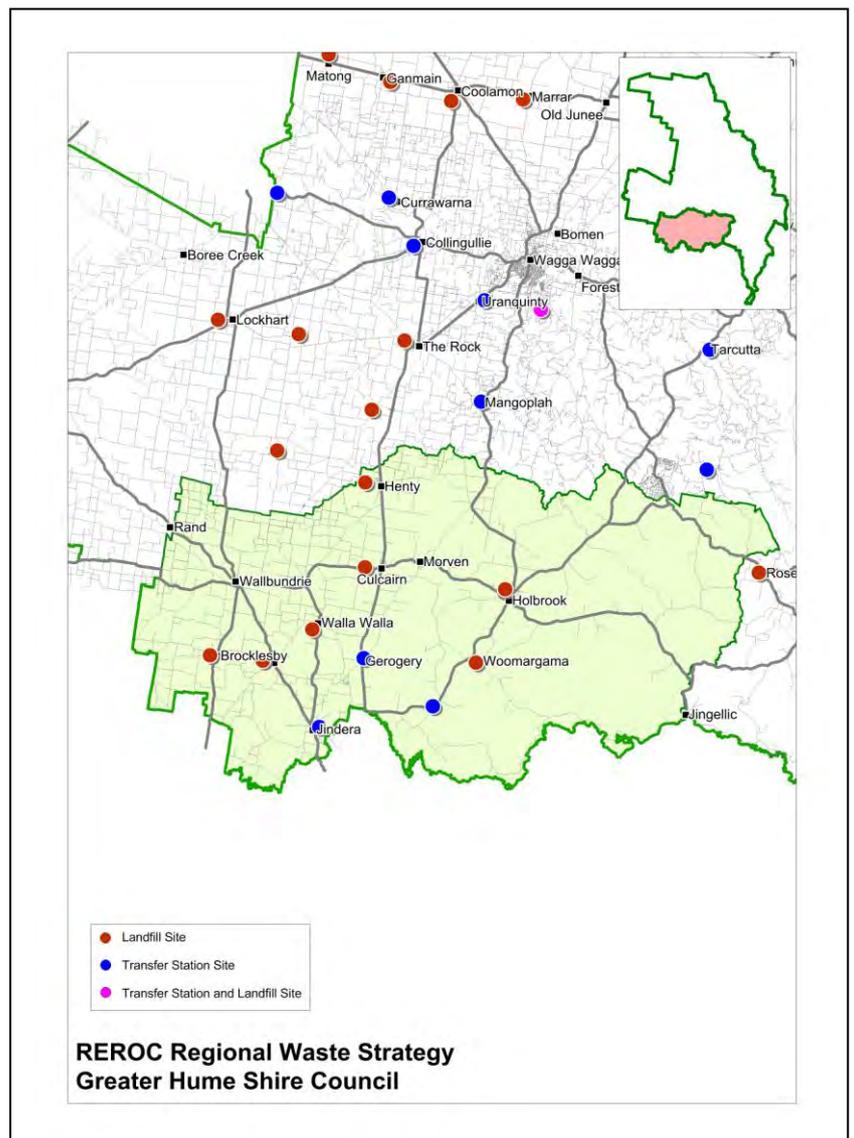
*Total Waste to Landfill p.a:* <5000 tonnes

*E-waste* – free drop off at Culcairn Landfill

*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Culcairn landfill

#### Waste Processors and Services

None operating



## Gundagai Shire

**Major Town:** Gundagai

**Other Towns and Villages:** Coolac

**Area:** 2,457 sq kms

**Population:** 3,902

**Median Age:** 42 years

**Number of Households:** 1,743 average people per household 2.5

**Median Household Income:** \$907 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, transport, abattoir

**Employment:** 19.1% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included Cafes, Restaurants and Takeaway Food Services 6.5%, Meat and Meat Product Manufacturing 6.3%, School Education 5.6% and Accommodation 3.6%.

### Waste and Resource Recovery:

#### Kerbside Collections:

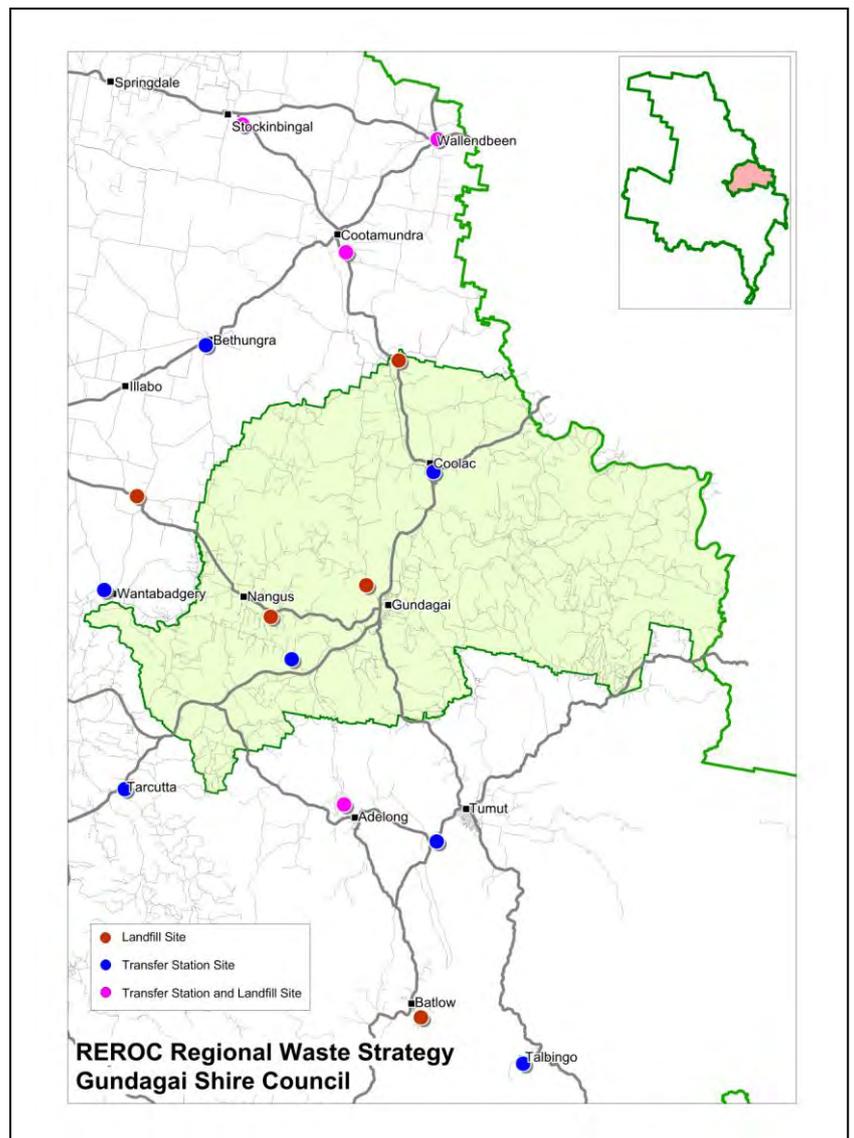
*Residual:* Bald Hill Landfill  
*Recyclables:* Processed at the Elouera MRF at Cootamundra  
*Greenwaste and Food Waste:* council is investigating the introduction of a full collection. It trialled an organics collection in 2012.

#### Landfills and Transfer Stations:

*See map opposite.*  
*E-waste* – free drop off at Gundagai Landfill  
*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Gundagai landfill

#### Waste Processors and Services

Composting Facility – may be operated by Council at the landfill once the organics kerbside is introduced.



## Junee Shire

**Major Town:** Junee

**Other Towns and Villages:** Old Junee, Illabo, Bethungra, Wantabadgery

**Area:** 2,030 sq kms

**Population:** 6,293

**Median Age:** 42 years

**Number of Households:** 2,255 average people per household 2.5

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, transport, abattoir, Liquorice Factory, Junee Gaol

**Employment:** 15.6% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included Public Order and Safety Services 6.2%, School Education 5.0%, Meat and Meat Product Manufacturing 4.4% and Hospitals 3.2%.

### **Waste and Resource Recovery:**

#### **Kerbside Collections:**

*Residual:* Gregadoo Landfill, Wagga Wagga

*Recyclables:* Processed at the Elouera MRF at Cootamundra

*Greenwaste and Food Waste:* council is investigating the introduction of a full collection. It trialed an organics collection in 2012.

#### **Landfills and Transfer Stations:**

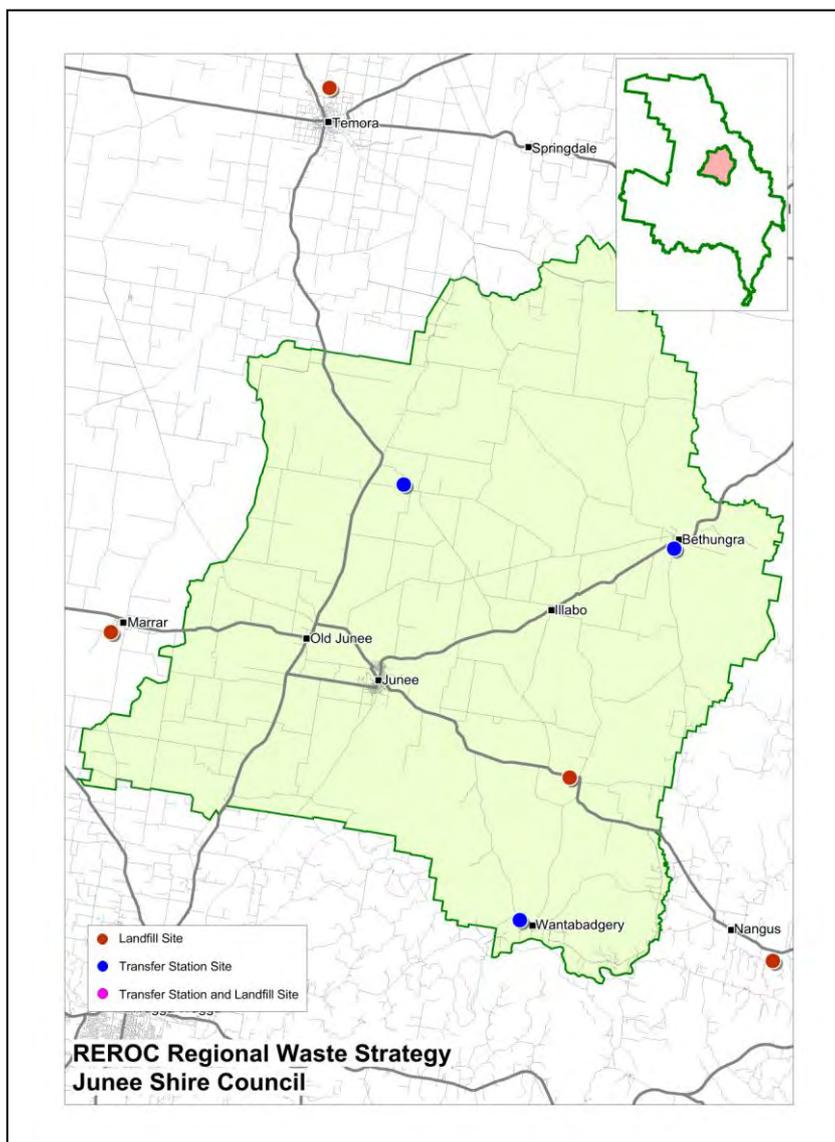
*See map opposite.*

*E-waste* – free drop off at Junee Landfill

*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Junee landfill

#### **Waste Processors and Services**

Composting Facility – may be operated by Council at the landfill once the organics kerbside is introduced or council may choose to use the facility at Cootamundra



## Lockhart Shire

**Major Town:** Lockhart

**Other Towns and Villages:** The Rock, Boree Creek

**Area:** 2,896 sq kms

**Population:** 3,318

**Median Age:** 44 years

**Number of Households:** 1,134 average people per household 2.5

**Median Household Income:** \$868 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, transport

**Employment:** 28.6% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included School Education 4.9%, Road Freight Transport 4.5%, Hospitals 3.8% and Local Government Administration 3.6%.

### **Waste and Resource Recovery:**

#### **Kerbside Collections:**

*Frequency:*

*Residual:* Lockhart Landfill and The Rock Landfill

*Recyclables:* Processed at the Kurrajong Recyclers' MRF at Wagga Wagga

*Greenwaste and Food Waste:* No Collection

#### **Landfills and Transfer Stations:**

*See map opposite.*

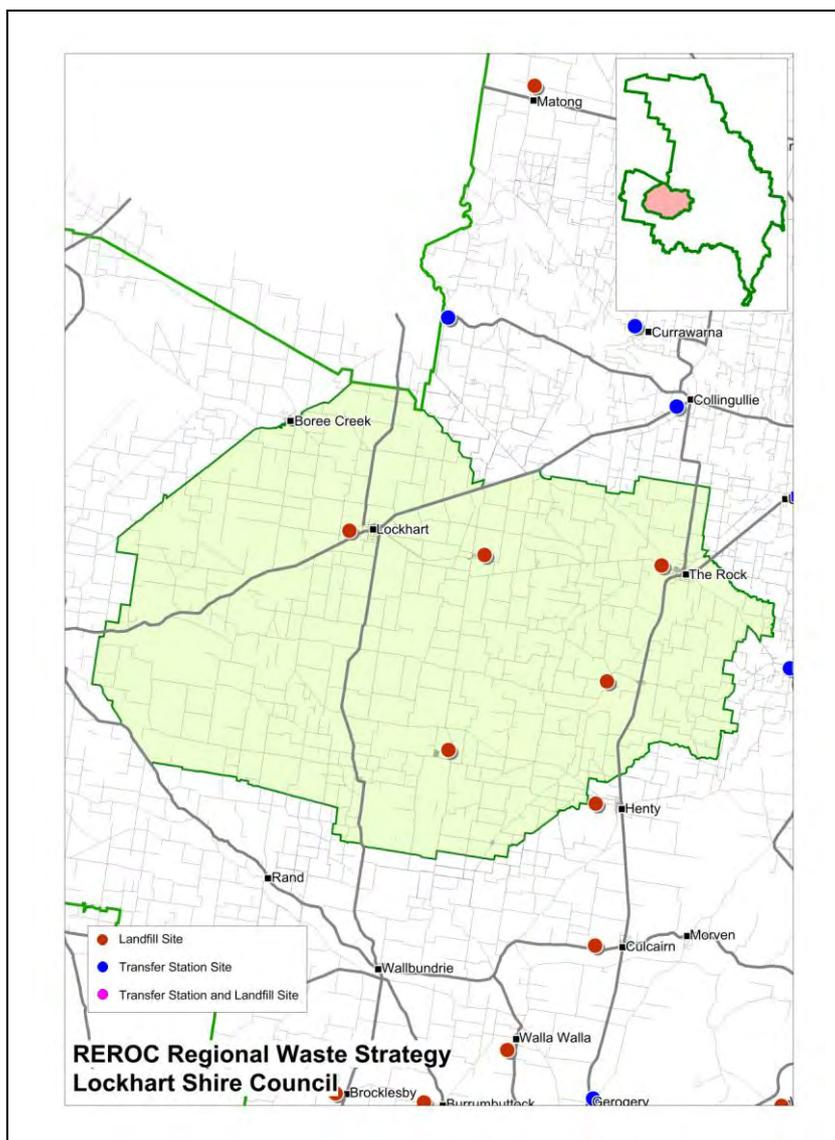
*Total Waste to Landfill p.a:* 600 tonnes

*E-waste* – free drop off at Lockhart Landfill

*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Lockhart landfill

#### **Waste Processors and Services**

None operating.



## Temora Shire

**Major Town:** Temora

**Other Towns and Villages:** Aria Park, Sprindale

**Area:** 2,803 sq kms

**Population:** 6,216

**Median Age:** 44 years

**Number of Households:** 2,746 average people per household 2.5

**Median Household Income:** \$779 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, freight transport, Temora Aviation Museum, aviation

**Employment:** 17.8% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included School Education 6.6%, Supermarket and Grocery Stores 4.6%, Local Government Administration 3.4% and Legal and Accounting Services 3.2%.

### Waste and Resource Recovery:

#### Kerbside Collections:

*Residual:* Temora Landfill

*Recyclables:* No collection, cardboard pick up once per month which goes to Visy at Tumut

*Greenwaste and Food Waste:* No Collection

#### Landfills and Transfer Stations:

*See map opposite.*

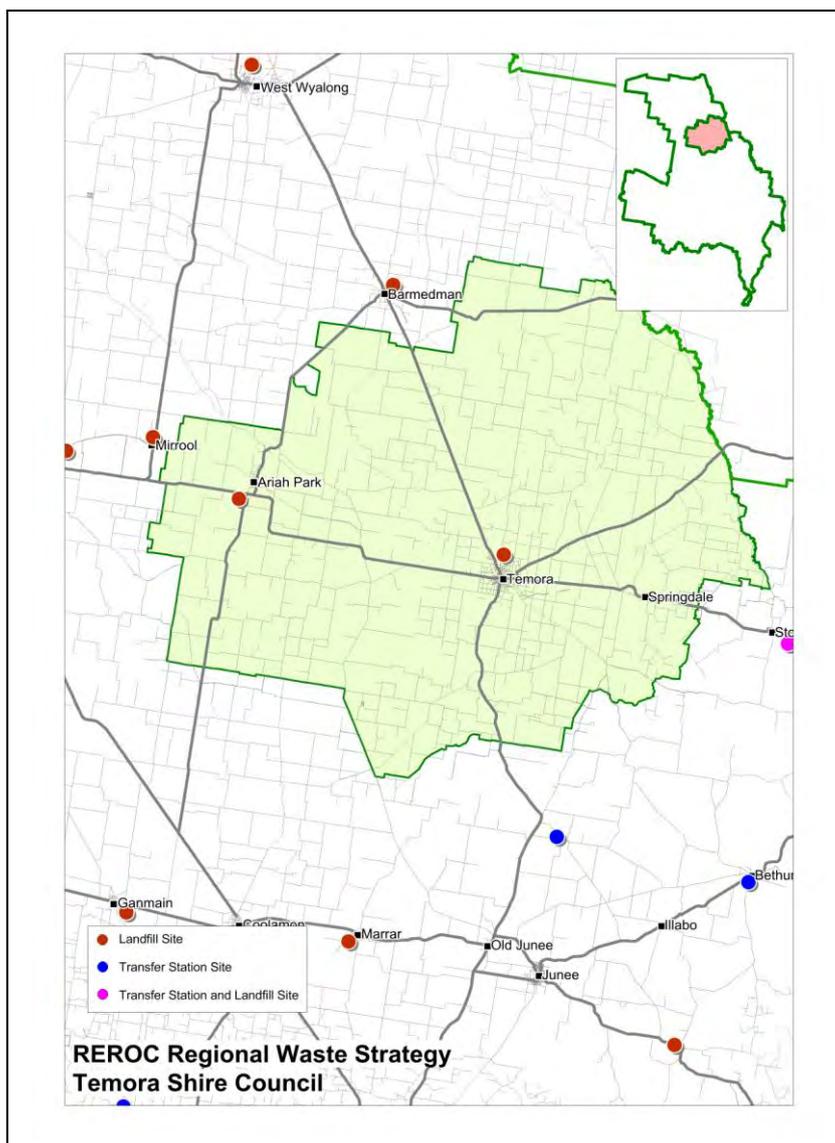
*Total Waste to Landfill p.a:* 3600 tonnes

*E-waste* – free drop off at Temora Landfill

*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Temora landfill

#### Waste Processors and Services

None operating



## Tumbarumba Shire

**Major Town:** Tumbarumba

**Other Towns and Villages:** Khancoban, Rosewood

**Area:** 4,392 sq kms

**Population:** 3,765

**Median Age:** 44 years

**Number of Households:** 1,724 average people per household 2.3

**Median Household Income:** \$884 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, wine, forestry, Hyne Industries (timber processing), freight transport

**Employment:** 14.5% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included Log Sawmilling and Timber Dressing 8.5%, Supermarket and Grocery Stores 4.4%, School Education 4.3% and Road Freight Transport 3.6%.

### **Waste and Resource Recovery:**

#### **Kerbside Collections:**

*Residual:* Bald Hill Landfill

*Recyclables:* Processed at Valmar Support Services' MRF at Tumut

*Greenwaste and Food Waste:* No Collection

#### **Landfills and Transfer Stations:**

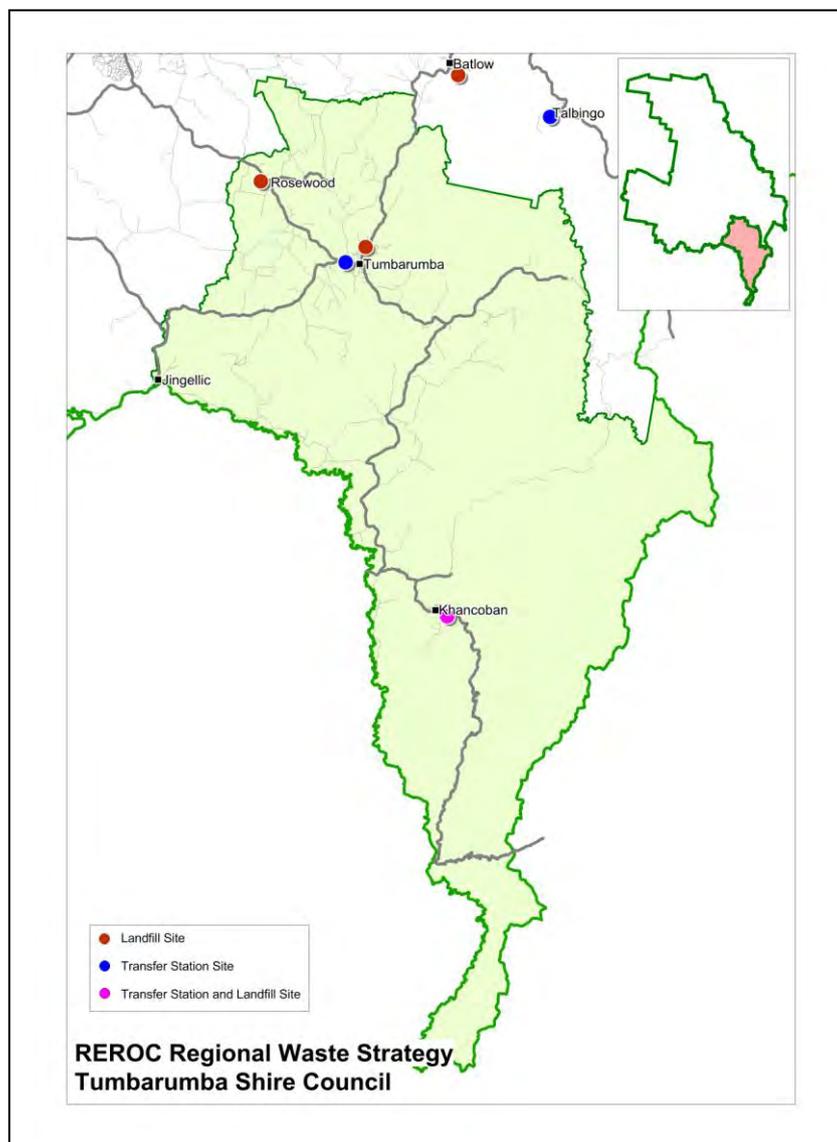
*See map opposite.*

*E-waste* – free drop off at Tumbarumba Landfill

*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Tumbarumba landfill

#### **Waste Processors and Services**

None operating



## Tumut Shire

**Major Town:** Tumut

**Other Towns and Villages:** Batlow, Adelong, Talbingo

**Area:** 4,567 sq kms

**Population:** 11,480

**Median Age:** 41 years

**Number of Households:** 5,379, Average people per household 2.4

**Median Household Income:** \$942 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, forestry, timber processing, Visy Pulp and Paper, freight transport

**Employment:** 5.2% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included School Education 4.9%, Log Sawmilling and Timber Dressing 4.2%, Converted Paper Product Manufacturing 3.8% and Cafes, Restaurants and Takeaway Food Services 3.6%.

### **Waste and Resource Recovery:**

#### **Kerbside Collections:**

*Frequency:*

*Residual:* Bald Hill Landfill

*Recyclables:* Processed at Valmar Support Services' MRF at Tumut

*Greenwaste and Food Waste:* No Collection

#### **Landfills and Transfer Stations:**

*See map opposite.*

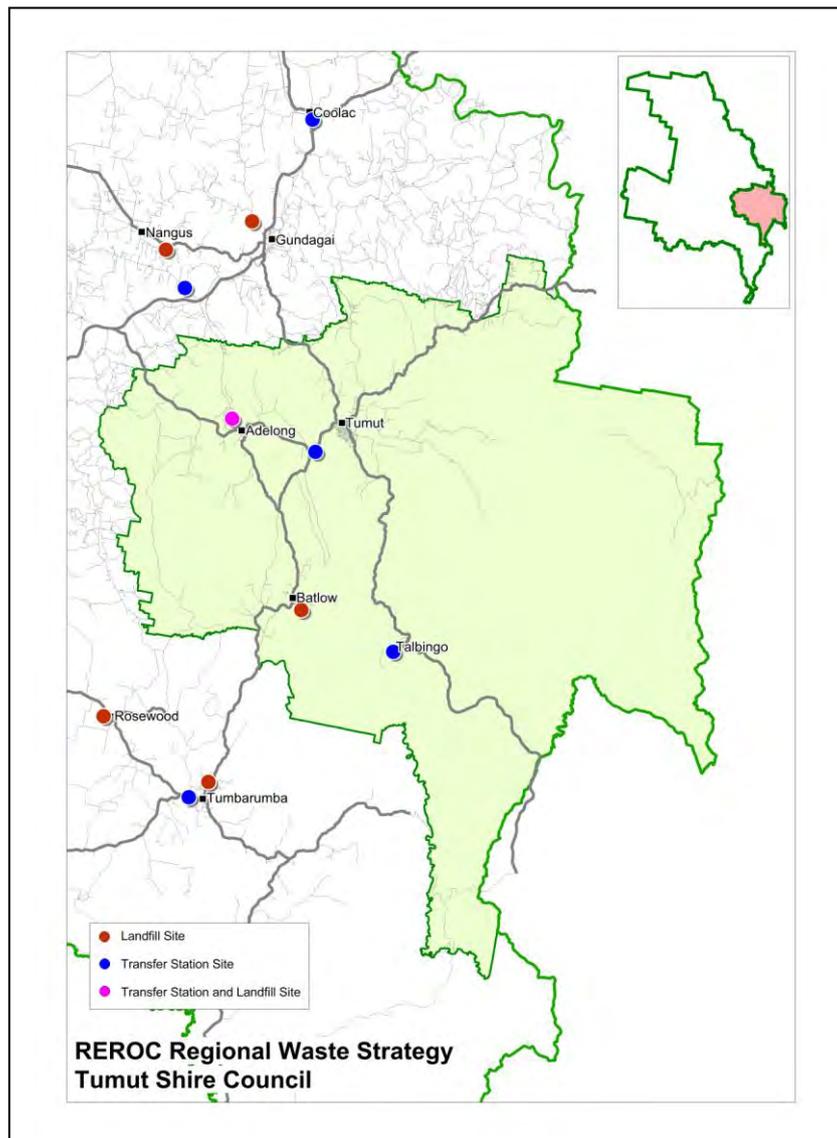
*Total Waste to Landfill p.a:* 2500 tonnes

*E-waste* – free drop off at Tumut Landfill

*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Tumut landfill

#### **Waste Processors and Services**

Australian Native Landscapes (ANL) – operate a composting facility



## Urana Shire

**Major Town:** Urana

**Other Towns and Villages:** Rand, Oaklands, Morundah

**Area:** 3,356 sq kms

**Population:** 1,261

**Median Age:** 45 years

**Number of Households:** 642, Average people per household 2.4

**Median Household Income:** \$721 per week

**Major Industries:** Agriculture and farming, freight transport

**Employment:** 38.3% worked in Sheep, Beef Cattle and Grain Farming. Other major industries of employment included Road Freight Transport 10.3%, Local Government Administration 5.8%, School Education 5.8% and Pubs, Taverns and Bars 2.2%.

### **Waste and Resource Recovery:**

#### **Kerbside Collections:**

*Residual:* Urana Landfill

*Recyclables:* No Collection

*Greenwaste and Food Waste:* No Collection

#### **Landfills and Transfer Stations:**

*See map opposite.*

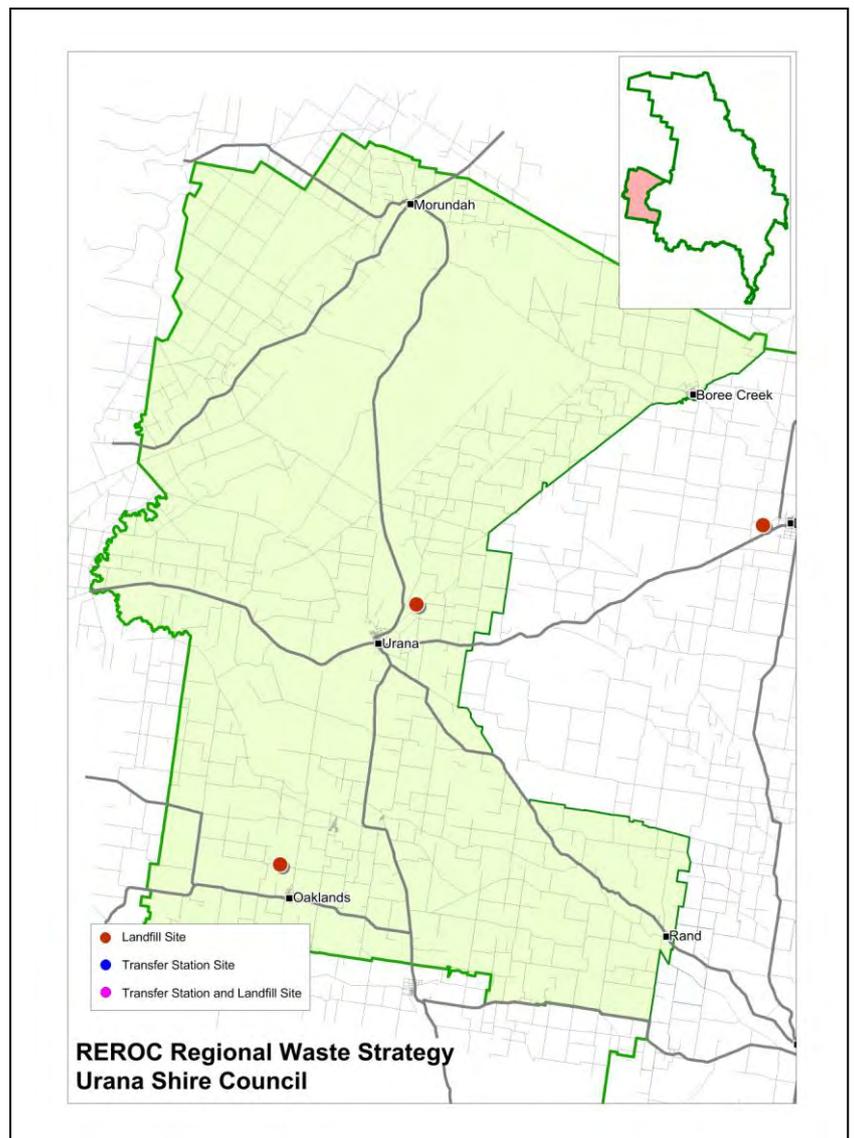
*Total Waste to Landfill p.a:* 400 tonnes

*E-waste* – free drop off at Urana and Oaklands Landfill

*Waste Oil* – waste oil collection facility at Urana landfill

#### **Waste Processors and Services**

None operating



## Wagga Wagga City

**Major Town:** Wagga Wagga

**Other Towns and Villages:** Uranquinty, Ladysmith, Collingullie, Tarcutta, Mangoplah, Currawarna

**Area:** 4,826 sq kms

**Population:** 63,500

**Median Age:** 34 years

**Number of Households:** 24,682, Average people per household 2.5

**Median Household Income:** \$1,149 per week

**Major Industries:** Charles Sturt University, Defence, food manufacturing, Teys Abattoir, health services, general manufacturing, agriculture and farming.

**Employment:** 5.0% worked in Defence. Other major industries of employment included School Education 4.9%, Cafes, Restaurants and Takeaway Food Services 4.6%, Tertiary Education 4.5% and Hospitals 3.6%.

### Waste and Resource Recovery:

#### Kerbside Collections:

*Residual:* Gregadoo Landfill

*Recyclables:* Processed at the Kurrajong Recyclers' MRF, Wagga

*Greenwaste and Food Waste:* Processed at Gregadoo Waste Management Centre

#### Landfills and Transfer Stations:

See map opposite.

Total Waste to Landfill p.a: 70,000 tonnes

E-waste – free drop off

Waste Oil – waste oil collection facility at landfill

#### Waste Processors and Services

*Yuck* – greenwaste processing, located at Gregadoo Waste Management Centre

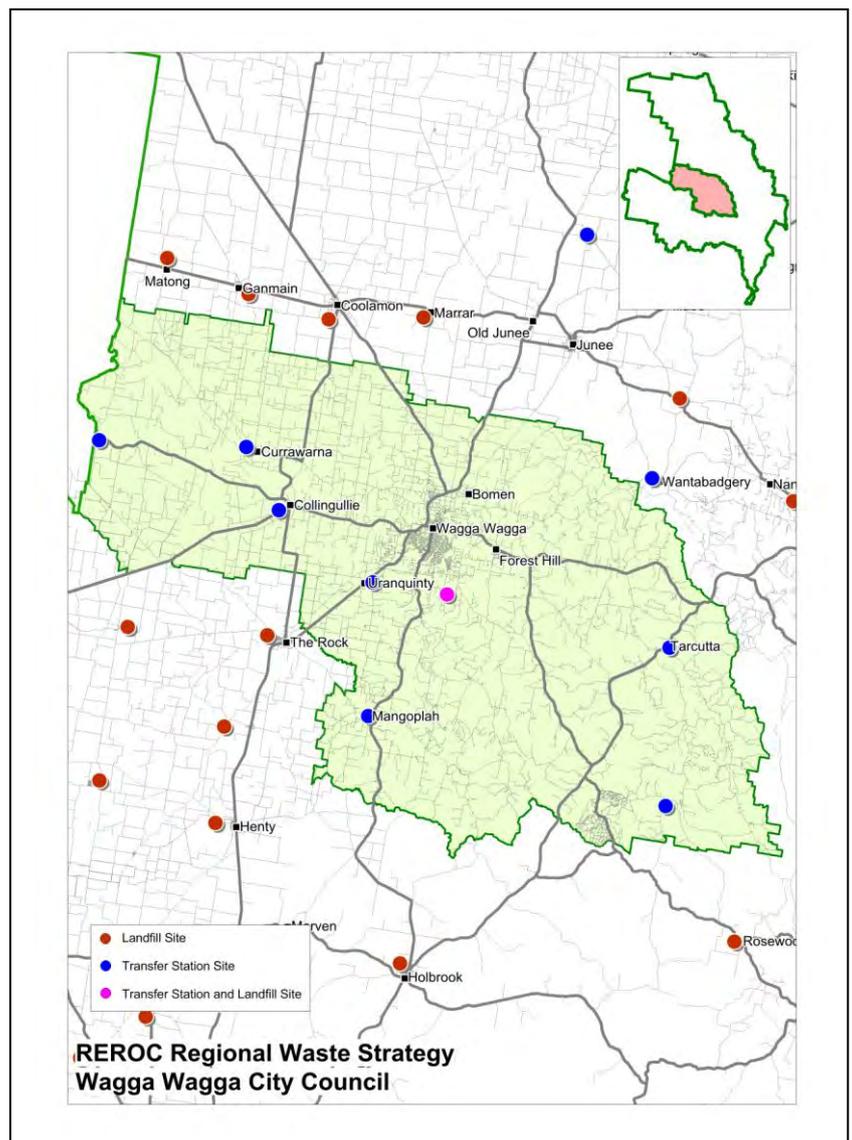
*RMT* – processes Used Lead Acid Batteries (ULABs) at Bomen

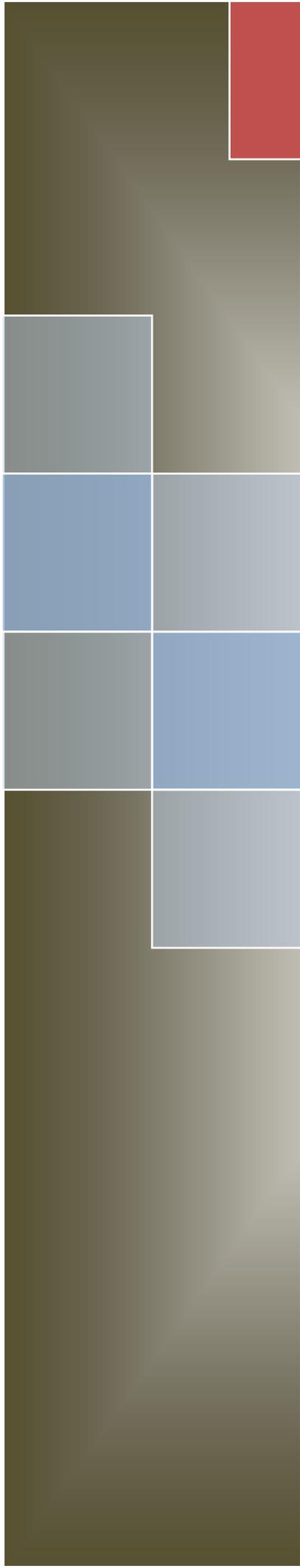
*Southern Oil Refining* – processes used oil at Bomen

*Orbitas Resource Recovery* – specialised transport of waste, particularly ULABs based at Bomen

*Kurrajong Recyclers* – operates a MRF, e-waste recycling and glass crushing in Wagga Wagga.

*Access Recycling* – metal waste collector located at Bomen





# Profile Regional Services and Processors



## Profile of Regional Services and Processors

### ***Access Recycling***

Barmedman and Wagga Wagga

- Collection of scrap metal

### ***Australian Native Landscape***

Tumut

- Composting Greenwaste

### ***Elouera Recycling***

Turners Land, Cootamundra

- Municipal Recycling Facility

### ***Kurrajong Recyclers***

Chaston St, Wagga Wagga

- Municipal Recycling Facility
- E-waste recycling and drop-off
- Glass crushing

### ***Orbitas Resource Recovery***

Station Place, Wagga Wagga

- Collection and transport of ULABs and other waste.

### ***Renewed Metal Technologies***

Bomen Rd, Wagga Wagga

- Used Lead Acid Battery Recycler

### ***Southern Oil Refineries***

Lewington St, Wagga Wagga

- Used Oil Reprocessing and Refining

### ***Valmar Support Services - Pinecom Recycling***

Tumut

- Municipal Recycling Facility

### ***Visy Industries***

Tumut

- Energy from Waste

### ***Yuck Landscape Supplies***

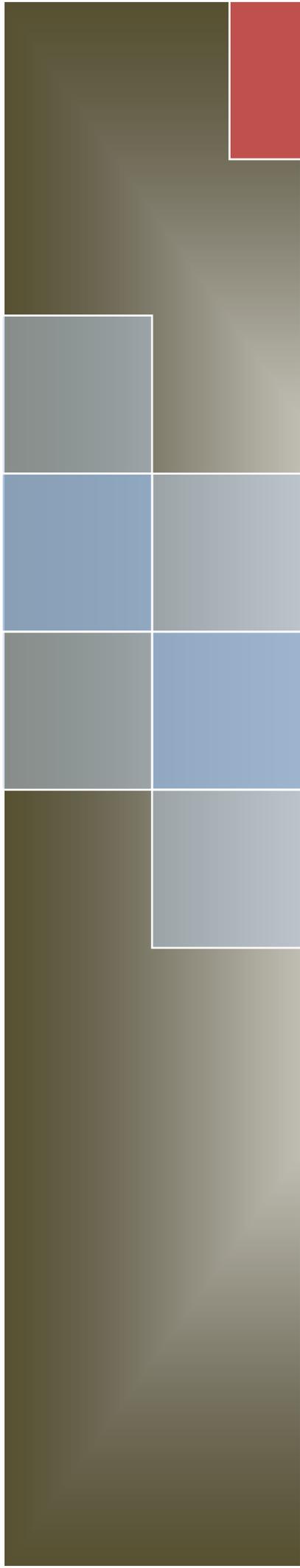
Ashfords Rd, Wagga Wagga

- Composting Greenwaste

# Waste Audit Results



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# Regional Demographic Profile



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