

Waste as a Resource: Our Waste and Resource Strategy 2023-2030 Implementation Plan

Our Waste and Resource Strategy 2023-2030 (Strategy) outlines a future vision in Knox to

Lead and support our community to move towards a circular economy by avoiding waste and maximising resource recovery.

To help achieve this vision within Knox, our Strategy sets out four goals, identifies our aims, documents Council's commitments, provides actions the community can take and sets targets.

The targets are measurable, allowing us to evaluate our progress, with most targets adopted from either state or national waste policies.

This separate Implementation Plan further details the specific actions Council will take for each goal identified in the Strategy and each Council commitment. It includes estimated timelines for implementation, resources required and delivery partners.

A separate implementation plan allows for flexibility to quickly adapt to changes in the sector, if needed, while still aiming to achieve our stated goals, maintain our commitments and meet our targets.

A review of the progress against the Implementation Plan will be undertaken annually, and revised as needed. We will report our progress to the community annually.

	ACTION	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	\$	DELIVERY PARTNERS InternalExternal	
GOAL 1 – LESS WASTE											
1.1	Reusable products										
1.1.1	Reduce disposable nappies, sanitary products and incontinence products sent to landfill: <ul style="list-style-type: none">review feasibility study finding, and implement method best suited for Knox communitywork in conjunction with other councils to support and promote the uptake of these reusable items	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management, Communications	Partner councils Sustainability Victoria
1.2	Phase out single-use items										
1.2.1	Support the avoidance of single-use items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">promote the Victorian Government single-use plastic ban introduced in 2023explore options to eliminate single-use products in Council buildings and facilities	●	●	●					\$	Waste Management, Communications, City Futures, Economic Development, Strategic Procurement, Facilities, Leisure	Victorian Government
1.2.2	Identify opportunities to avoid waste at Council-run events, including promotion of reusable items	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	\$	Arts and Cultural Services, Waste Management	Community
1.3	Support local businesses and community										
1.3.1	Promote community groups encouraging waste avoidance or waste reduction practices including share libraries (toys/tools/ equipment), community repair cafes, bulk food purchasing, second-hand stores, swap and sell networks	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Communications Waste Management, City Futures, Economic Development	Community groups, local businesses
1.3.2	Promote Council's community grants programs to attract and support waste reduction and minimisation projects in the local community	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Community Partnerships, Communications	Community groups



	ACTION	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	\$	DELIVERY PARTNERS	
										Internal	External
1.3.3	Identify opportunities to engage and encourage local businesses to implement practices to avoid, reduce and recover waste, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use the Knoxbiz communications channels for regular business-specific waste information and updates • tailor some waste education materials and workshops specifically for local businesses to ensure they are relevant and engaging • use the Knoxbiz communications channels to promote business-specific waste education workshops and events 	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Economic Development, Waste Management, City Futures	Local businesses
1.4 Advocacy											
1.4.1	Advocate at a state or national level to improve opportunities to avoid or reduce waste, maximise resource recovery, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expand national product stewardship schemes (problematic waste to consider: mattresses, soft plastics, e-waste including solar panels) • reduce consumer packaging • expand eligible containers included in Victorian container deposit scheme • flexibility of waste collections at a local government level, including delivery options for mandated separate glass service • standardise bin contents lists • further funding support through sustainability fund for local government implementation of Recycling Victoria kerbside reforms • invest in waste and resource recovery technologies and infrastructure through the sustainability fund • state and local support for Council's collaborative procurement activities in waste management 	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management	Local government Municipal Association of Victoria Victorian Government Australian Government
1.4.2	Seek funding opportunities and grants through Sustainability Victoria, Recycling Victoria, DEECA	●	● ●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management, City Futures	Sustainability Victoria, DEECA, Recycling Victoria

GOAL 2 – RECOVER MORE**2.1 Recycling Victoria kerbside reforms**

2.1.1	Change bin lid colours to meet the Australian Standard: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • food and green waste bin lid from red to lime-green • recycling bin lid from blue to yellow • rubbish bin lid from yellow to red 	●	● ●						\$\$\$	Waste Management	Contractor, Knox community
-------	--	---	--------	--	--	--	--	--	--------	------------------	----------------------------

	ACTION	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	\$	DELIVERY PARTNERS	
										Internal	External
2.1.2	Introduce universal food and garden bin service: • Phase 1 residential single dwellings • Phase 2 residential multi-unit developments	• •							\$\$\$	Waste Management	Contractor, Knox community
2.1.3	Review Council's business waste and recycling service offering, for inclusion of food and garden bin service		•						TBC	Waste Management	Collection contractor, businesses
2.1.4	Consider Council land for container deposit scheme (CDS) vending machine locations to support access for the community. Communicate CDS introduction and implementation	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	Nil	Waste Management, Communications, Property	Recycling Victoria, Knox community
2.1.5	Support and implement the standardised bin contents list: • align recycling and food and garden processing contracts to match the standard bin content lists • update and enhance waste education materials, communicate and engage with residents	•							EO	Waste Management, Strategic Procurement, Communications	Recycling Victoria, contractors, Knox community
2.1.6	Introduce separate glass service by 2027: • investigate glass service delivery options • develop plan for service and implement • communicate and engage with community	•	• •	•	• •	• •	• •	•	\$\$\$	Waste Management, Strategic Procurement, Communications	Recycling Victoria, Collection contractor, Knox community
2.2 Maximise recovery of resources											
2.2.1	Opportunities to divert food waste from landfill: • collect food waste weekly (via food and garden bin) • subsidise residents' purchase of compost bins, worm farms, bokashi bins and expand the range as required	• •	•	•	•	•	•	•	EO	Waste Management,	Contractor, Knox community
2.2.2	Identify and explore opportunities for viable long-term recovery of difficult to recycle materials currently collected in Council's rubbish service and sent to landfill (example, soft plastics, polystyrene)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	EO	Waste Management,	Contractor, Partner councils

	ACTION	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	\$	DELIVERY PARTNERS	
										Internal	External
2.2.3	Review and update <i>Eligibility for use of waste collection services provided by Knox Council policy</i> , for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> inclusion of food and garden bin service consideration of inclusion of schools to use limited service services offered across user groups in Council-owned facilities (sporting groups and community clubs etc) 		●						EO	Waste Management, Leisure Services, Property, Rates	Contractors
2.2.4	Improve resource recovery in Council-owned buildings (including those leased out to third parties) and offices, where Council performs waste collection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> review existing waste services gradually roll out infrastructure, services, collateral and education for separate recycling and food and garden bins collect data and monitor waste services 	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management, Property Management, Facilities, Leisure Services	Contractor, user groups,
2.2.5	Review and update waste collection conditions in lease arrangements for Council-owned facilities for consistency with eligibility policy		●	●					EO	Property, Waste Management, Facilities, Leisure Services	Knox community
2.2.6	Consider waste management in the design phase of major project redevelopments at Council facilities through provision of a waste management plan		●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Major Initiatives, Waste Management	Contractor
2.2.7	Improve resource recovery from multi-unit developments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> update waste policy considerations for new developments to reflect Recycling Victoria reforms investigate service options available for multi-unit developments to improve waste services 	●	●						EO	Waste Management, Planning	Property managers, developers, Knox community
2.2.8	Improve resource recovery at Knox-run events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop waste management plans in the planning phase of Council-run events provide food and garden bins provide consistent waste and resource recovery signage 	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Arts and Cultural services, Waste Management	Contractors, Knox community
2.2.9	Provide disposal alternatives for unwanted hazardous household items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> continue to host annual Detox Your Home event in Knox in association with Sustainability Victoria promote Detox Your Home events hosted by Knox and in neighbouring councils 	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management, Operations, Communications	Sustainability Victoria, Knox community

	ACTION	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	\$	DELIVERY PARTNERS InternalExternal	
2.2.10	Conduct service reviews of waste contracts to identify opportunities for continuous improvement in areas of financial and environmental sustainability, service efficiency, value for money, technological advancements, risk management, avoiding waste and diverting resources from landfill. Specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none">conduct a review of bundled branch/own container service following implementation of food and garden bin service to identify service efficiencies and value for moneyreview hard waste service offering, particularly in comparison to other Victorian councils			<ul style="list-style-type: none">					EO	Waste Management, Strategic Procurement	Contractors
2.2.11	Undertake strategic review prior to end of contract term for the future operations of the Knox Transfer Station		<ul style="list-style-type: none">						EO	Waste Management	
2.2.12	Support circular economy opportunities for local businesses including continued partnering with ASPIRE (online tool for material resource exchange)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">						\$	Waste Management, City Futures	Businesses
2.3	Increase use of recycled content										
2.3.1	Review and update Council procurement procedures to include consideration for the purchase of recycled content or recycled products where possible		<ul style="list-style-type: none">						EO	Strategic Procurement, Waste Management	
2.3.2	Review and update Council procurement systems and process to enable the capture of, and establish baseline data around, the value and quantity of recycled content purchased by Council			<ul style="list-style-type: none">					TBC		
2.3.3	Provide staff with the resources, information and or training to make informed decisions about procuring products with recycled content			<ul style="list-style-type: none">					\$		
2.4	Collaborate										
2.4.1	Collaborate with other councils and government agencies on purchasing and resource recovery initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	EO	Waste Management, Strategic Procurement	Local government, State Government/ agencies
2.4.2	Collaborate with other councils, government agencies, relevant networks, business and industry on relevant waste management topics, waste issues and planning transition to new waste services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">	EO	Waste Management	Local government State Government/ agencies, industry, businesses

	ACTION	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	\$	DELIVERY PARTNERS	
										Internal	External
2.5	Landfill alternatives										
2.5.1	Secure long-term solutions for the treatment and disposal of residual waste streams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> investigate alternative waste technology options for the management of residual waste partner with government agencies, other councils and industry to explore opportunities for landfill alternatives participate in South East Melbourne Advanced Waste Processing project (SEMAWP) (once options identified, further actions will be explored and detailed) 	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	\$\$\$	Waste Management, Strategic Procurement	Partner councils, SEMAWP, industry, Recycling Victoria
GOAL 3 – ENGAGE AND EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITY											
3.1	Provide information and data										
3.1.1	Provide regular waste and resource recovery data to the community through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> website updates continued reporting through the local government reporting framework and Recycling Victoria report on progress of actions as set out in this Plan 	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management, Communications, Digital Experience	Recycling Victoria, State Government
3.1.2	Implement biannual waste audits of rubbish, recycling and food and garden bins to provide relevant up-to-date data to aid in tailoring targeted education campaigns	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management	Contractor, community
3.1.3	Regular review and update of waste and resource recovery content on Council's website, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>A-Z Guide to Waste and Recycling</i> all waste and resource recovery-related pages waste events 	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management	
3.1.4	Investigate new tools to provide easily accessible online information about Council waste services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> online look-up function for each property waste collection service days look up function for A-Z waste guide to advise of appropriate disposal, reuse or recovery options inclusion of imagery in waste education pages (to assist in providing this information to CALD communities) advanced bookings for hard waste collections online forms 	●	●						\$	Waste Management, Digital Experience, Communications, Community Wellbeing	



	ACTION	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	\$	DELIVERY PARTNERS	
										Internal	External
3.1.5	Distribute annual waste guide and calendar to all residents in print format (via Knox News lift out), to reach residents without access to information online, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> opportunities to provide to renters through local real estate agents provide as needed throughout year as requested or required 	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management	Knox Community, local real estate agents
3.1.6	Develop template signage, posters, stickers and education materials, tailored for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> multi-unit developments Council-owned buildings including those leased out to third parties, with Council collection community clubs Knox-run community events households local businesses schools 	●							EO	Waste Management, Communications Facilities, Leisure, Arts and Cultural Services	Knox community, user groups, body corporate agencies
3.2 Engage and educate											
3.2.1	Develop and implement ongoing community engagement and behaviour change programs, and communications for waste and resource recovery in a variety of formats, including face-to-face workshops, pop-ups, Council and community events, social media campaigns and video, for the community and local businesses with a focus on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> avoid and reduce waste (including use of reusable products) reduce contamination in food and garden and recycling bins maximise resource recovery, including sorting waste into the right bin, or drop-off locations Recycling Victoria's kerbside transition program littering and illegal dumping topics identified in community feedback including Detox Your Home, composting and hard to recycle items Tailor some engagement to key audiences including those we don't typically reach, and ensure it is accessible for residents with English as a second language	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management, Communications, Community Wellbeing	Knox community
3.2.2	Develop education resources tailored for secondary schools, primary schools, early learning centres and kindergartens on waste and resource recovery	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management	Schools, early learning centres, kindergartens

	ACTION	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	\$	DELIVERY PARTNERS	
										Internal	External
3.2.3	Provide targeted and property specific tailored waste education communication to residents: • through Council's bin inspection program • to properties identified as presenting bins kerbside for collection with contamination	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management	Contractors
3.2.4	Promote success in local resource recovery, and waste avoidance via social media, online or print	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Communications, Economic Development	
3.2.5	Investigate developing a waste-specific newsletter	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management, Communications	Knox community
3.2.6	Continue Council's internal 'Waste Warriors' group to champion and lead waste avoidance, reduction and resource recovery actions within Council	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management,	
3.2.7	Provide education and capacity building for Council staff around circular economy principles		●						\$	Waste Management,	Sustainability Victoria

GOAL 4 – CARE FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT



4.1 Litter and waste dumping

4.1.1	Review of Eligibility for the placement, relocation or removal of a public litter or recycling bin policy to consider placement and coverage of litter bins across Knox with opportunities to reduce litter, maximise resource recovery and reduce contamination. Consider: • criteria for the location of bins for ease of use by public, and ease of collection by contractor • consistency of bin placement across Knox • service efficiency and value for money • limited public place food and garden bin service • signage requirements	●	●						EO	Waste Management, Open Spaces	Contractor, Knox community
4.1.2	Investigate reporting options for overflowing public bins. Including smart bin reporting systems, scanning of QR code.				●				EO	Waste Management, IT	Contractor

	ACTION	23/ 24	24/ 25	25/ 26	26/ 27	27/ 28	28/ 29	29/ 30	\$	DELIVERY PARTNERS	
										Internal	External
4.1.3	Promote anti-litter campaigns such as Clean Up Australia day to support operational services such as street sweeping	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Communications, Waste Management	
4.1.4	Review Use of Waste collection services policy (linked to the Amenity Local Law), for: • inclusion of food and garden bin service • potential future glass service		●						EO	Waste Management, Local Laws	
4.1.5	Develop an internal Litter and Dumped Waste Working Group to: • review processes, and identify areas for improvement, efficiency and consistency around the reporting, education, collection and enforcement of litter and dumped rubbish • investigate opportunities to improve data collection and reporting around illegal waste dumping and littering (volumes, hotspots, resources etc) to provide data-driven responses and decision making		●						EO	Waste Management, Operations, Parks, Customer service, Biodiversity, Local Laws	
4.2 Landfill											
4.2.1	Continue to implement routine monitoring and reporting at the frequency outlined in environmental monitoring plans for Cathies Lane and Llewellyn Park landfills	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management	Consultants
4.2.2	Implement Environmental Auditor recommendations for Cathies Lane and Llewellyn Park landfills	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management	Consultants
4.2.3	Complete requirements of Environmental Action Notice for Wantirna Reserve	●							EO	Waste Management	Consultants
4.2.4	Set aside adequate funds for the ongoing management of closed landfill sites in Knox	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	EO	Waste Management, Finance	

\$ = <\$75,000**\$\$ = \$75–\$200,000****\$\$\$ >\$200,000****EO = Existing operational budget**

Indicates the estimated costs to implement actions outlined in this plan to 2030. Some of these actions are already underway, some are mandatory, some are an existing operational cost, and some required additional budget.