
9.4 SOUTHERN GOULBURN VALLEY WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY EDUCATION STRATEGY 2019-2021

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Attachments: 1. Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Mitchell Shire Council's endorsement of the Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy (the Strategy).

The Strategy was prepared by the Southern Goulburn Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer as part of a collaborative project between Mitchell, Murrindindi and Strathbogie Shire Councils, in partnership with the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group (GVWRRG).

The objective of the Strategy is to provide strategic direction for the development and delivery of waste and resource recovery education in the southern Goulburn Valley region. The Strategy provides guiding principles, strategic directions and a three-year action plan to assist in development, implementation and evaluation of waste and resource recovery education programs and activities across the region.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT endorse the Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy 2019-2021.

BACKGROUND

The Strategy was developed for the tri-council partnership of Murrindindi, Mitchell and Strathbogie Shire Councils as part of the appointment of the Southern Goulburn Valley Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer.

This Strategy has been developed in line with the National Waste Policy, Victorian Waste Education Strategy and with input from the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group's (GVWRRG) Education Steering Committee. The Strategy is guided by the waste hierarchy as well as local and national contextual drivers.

The strategic directions and actions of the Strategy are supported by and contribute to, each Council's individual waste and resource recovery strategy. The Strategy and action plan has been designed for a three-year term to align with allocated funding.

In addition to this strategic alignment, the development of the Strategy has been guided by the community engagement that was undertaken as the first stage of development

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across all three municipalities in the first quarter of 2019. Table 1. below outlines the various stages of strategy development.

	Development Stage	Date
1	Community Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Waste Education Survey (online and paper based) •Pop-up Events (12 events across 3 councils) 	COMPLETED Mitchell Murrindindi Strathbogie February/March 2019
2	Strategy drafted	COMPLETED April/May 2019
3	Individual Feedback from council officers	COMPLETED June 2019
4	Draft Waste Management Strategy forwarded to Goulburn Valley Waste Recycling and Recovery Group for review and comment.	COMPLETED July 2019
5	ELT briefing outlining the draft strategy	To be COMPLETED August/September 2019
6	Regional WRR Education Strategy presented to each Council for endorsement and adoption	To be COMPLETED August/September 2019
7	Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy 2019-2021 promoted to community via a shared southern Goulburn valley WRR Education communication campaign	September 2019
8	Implementation of action plan	September 2019 – August 2021

Table 1. Strategy Development Stages

ISSUES AND DISCUSSION

Community Engagement (Findings)

The key findings from the community engagement activities include priority waste and resource recovery education activities or programs. Each of the following activities has been represented in the three-year action plan.

1. Composting/Worm farm workshops
2. School tours of a Resource Recovery Centre (RRC)
3. School visits regarding waste and resource recovery (Incursions)*
4. Business waste and resource recovery (officer visits)
5. Community tours of a RRC

Other popular actions identified in the community engagement findings that have been included in the action plan include, more waste and resource recovery information available on council websites and more signage at Resource Recovery Centres.

**The activity* “School visits regarding waste and resource recovery (Incursions)” has been replaced by two complimenting actions; a school holiday program hosted by local councils in libraries and/or youth centres and a regional School’s toolkit linked to the

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Victorian curriculum to support local teachers to provide effective in-class waste and resource recovery education.

Each of the comments that was recorded in the survey has also been linked to an action in the three-year action plan.

Strategic Directions

The five strategic directions are informed by the guiding principles of the waste hierarchy and align with national, state and regional policies and strategies. Additionally, the actions that support each direction have been designed to reflect the priorities and concerns identified in the community engagement activities priorities and concerns of the local communities identified in the community engagement activities.

The five strategic direction are broken down into actions listed in Table 1. below with specific measurable activities described in detail in the three-year action plan (see attachment 1).

Strategic Direction	Actions
1. Increase community and local business awareness of the impact of waste and support and encourage waste avoidance initiatives	<p>1.1 Utilise and build upon existing waste avoidance materials, programs and campaigns to raise awareness among the community and local business.</p> <p>1.2 Support local food organic and garden organic (FOGO) waste education campaigns including the development of local compost and worm farm workshops.</p> <p>1.3 Lead by example. Support good practice waste avoidance initiatives within internal council operations.</p>
2. Build community understanding of waste management as an essential service for all Australians, supported by their Local Council	<p>2.1 Develop community awareness of local council's role and responsibilities within the national and regional waste and resource recovery management context.</p> <p>2.2 Develop community awareness of local volumes of waste and resource recovery and help the community connect to the scale of the service they receive.</p> <p>2.3 Establish Resource Recovery Centres (RRC) as a point of resource recovery education for residents.</p> <p>2.4 Support the development and maintenance of a trusting and respectful relationship between the local community and the participating councils.</p>
3. Increase community knowledge and confidence in kerbside recycling.	<p>3.1 Increase resident's understanding of the kerbside recycling system.</p> <p>3.2 Increase community confidence of the kerbside recycling service, through communications around what happens to the recycling after collections and local recycling contamination issues.</p> <p>3.3 Develop and promote a regional school's toolkit linked to the Victorian curriculum to support local teachers to provide effective waste and resource recovery education.</p>

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	3.4 Develop a school holidays waste and resource recovery education program to be hosted by council staff at council libraries.
4. Increase community awareness around the problems of litter and illegal dumping	<p>4.1 Support the implementation of the GVWRRG's regional litter and illegal dumping strategy or campaigns which inform the community of local illegal dumping issues and their social, environmental and economic impacts.</p> <p>4.2 Promote and support litter collection campaigns such as Clean up Australia Day and Adopt a roadside</p>
5. Strengthen the southern Goulburn valley's waste and resource recovery education capabilities	<p>5.1 Support other Goulburn valley local government authorities and regional agencies by sharing knowledge and resources where effective.</p> <p>5.2 Produce annual reporting which demonstrates the benefits of waste and resource recovery education.</p> <p>5.3 Participate in and support the GVWRRG's Education Steering Committee through attendance at steering committee meetings and participation in regional projects.</p>

Table 2. Strategic Directions

CONSULTATION

The Strategy levers off the three individual council's waste and resource recovery strategies, which all included a process of public consultation with their individual communities.

Additionally, community consultation about waste and resource recovery education was completed before the draft strategy was developed. Findings and feedback from this consultation has been comprehensively used to inform the action plan.

Activity	Description	Engagement
Survey	<p>Available online and in libraries Feb-Mar 2019</p> <p>The survey was promoted online and in customer service centres by all three councils</p>	<p>Total submissions</p> <p>Mitchell – 187</p> <p>Murrindindi - 122</p> <p>Strathbogie - 38</p>
Pop- up events	<p>Kitchen table discussions (KTD)</p> <p>Small informal meeting within a local neighbourhood, hosted at a local coffee shop. Facilitated by the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer.</p> <p>Listening post (LP)</p> <p>The Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer set up in a</p>	<p>Total Attendance</p> <p>Mitchell</p> <p>01/03 – Wallan Multicultural Festival – 3 attendees</p> <p>01/03 – LP Broadford Library – 4 attendees</p> <p>08/03 – LP Seymour Library – 5 attendees</p> <p>14/03 – KTD Oddfellows Kilmore – 7 attendees</p>

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	<p>busy shopping strip/centre/mall environment and was available for small group or one on one discussions directed by the survey questions.</p>	<p>Murrindindi 15/03 - LP Alexandra – 11 attendees 15/03 - LP Yea – 4 attendees 22/03 – KTD Flying Tarts Kinglake – approx. 20 attendees 24/03 – Marysville Market - 16 attendees</p> <p>Strathbogie 15/02 – KTD Violet town Café – 6 attendees 15/02 – LP Euroa – 12 attendees 22/02 – KTD Harvest Home Café – 4 attendees 22/02 – LP Nagambie – 12 attendees</p>
<p>Direct letters/emails</p>	<p>A direct email with a link to the survey was sent out to key stakeholder groups.</p>	<p>Mitchell Schools, Community, Sporting and Environmental groups</p> <p>Murrindindi Community, Sporting and Environmental groups</p> <p>Strathbogie N/A</p>

Table 3. Community Engagement Activities

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FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer position is funded by the tri-council partnership of Murrindindi, Mitchell and Strathbogie Shire Councils.

The current kerbside collection and acceptance and sorting contracts for each of the three Councils includes provision for a \$10,000 per annum education component per contract per Council (\$20,000 per Council). These funds are used to fund the employment of a part-time (0.8 EFT) Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer.

In addition to these funds the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group are providing funding of \$15,000 per annum over the three-year period. In total this amounts to a budget of \$75,000 per annum.

Each Council will utilise their existing operational budgets for development of waste education materials and workshops that are identified in the three-year action plan. Additionally, future funding to support this position and its associated activities may also be sought through collaborative external funding opportunities.

POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS

This Strategy has been developed in line with the National Waste Policy, Victorian Waste Education Strategy, Draft Goulburn Valley Waste Education Strategy and the three participating council's waste management plans: Mitchell Shire Council, Waste Management Strategy 2016 -2021, Murrindindi Shire Council, Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2014 -2019 and Strathbogie Shire Council, Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2019-2024

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The following risks have been identified for this project:

Risk	Risk Ranking	Proposed Treatments	Within Existing Resources?
Investing resources in regionally unaligned waste and resource recovery education may lead to inefficient use of resources, reduced collaboration opportunities with neighboring councils and/or conflict between councils.	Medium	Endorsing the Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy	Yes
The development and implementation of ineffective waste and resource recovery education, which may lead to decreased	Medium	Endorsing the Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy	Yes

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knowledge, understanding and participation in resource recovery by the local community.			
Council providing waste and resource recovery education without a clear picture of what education is currently needed or requested by the community.	Low	Endorsing the Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy	Yes

Table 3. Risk matrix

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL)

The Regional WRR Education Strategy aims to deliver environmentally sustainable and accessible services to the three participating councils.

The overarching aim of the strategy is to support each council's goal of minimising waste to landfill and maximising resource recovery opportunities. These goals provide potential positive environmental, financial and social impacts.

CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

The rights protected in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* were considered in preparing this report and it's determined that the subject matter does not raise any human rights issues.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IMPLICATIONS

In some instances, children and young people are the primary audience of waste and resource recovery education. This service will contribute to the social and mental wellbeing of children, who are often well placed in families and communities to pass on knowledge and enthusiasm for environmental topics such "recycling".

Some actions and activities within the three-year action plan, for example 3.3 "Develop a school holidays waste and resource recovery education program, hosted by council staff at council libraries or youth centers" involve working with children and young people. Any staff or individuals involved in the delivery of these programs will require a Working With Children Check (WWCC).

OFFICER DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in this matter.

CONCLUSION

The endorsement of this Strategy will ensure the development and delivery of effective and consistent waste and resource recovery education messaging in the southern

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Goulburn Valley region. The development of the Strategy further supports the tri-council partnership and collaboration to share waste and resource recovery education resources.

The Strategy provides guiding principles, strategic directions and an action plan to deliver and evaluate waste and resource recovery education programs and activities to local communities across the region for the next 3 years

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MITCHELL SHIRE COUNCIL

Council Meeting Attachment

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

16 SEPTEMBER 2019

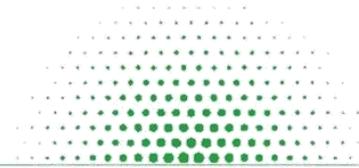
9.4

SOUTHERN GOULBURN VALLEY WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY EDUCATION STRATEGY 2019-2021

Attachment No: 1

**Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and
Resource Recovery Education Strategy**

REGIONAL WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY.
Education



Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy 2019-2021

Mitchell Shire Council
Murrindindi Shire Council
Strathbogie Shire Council

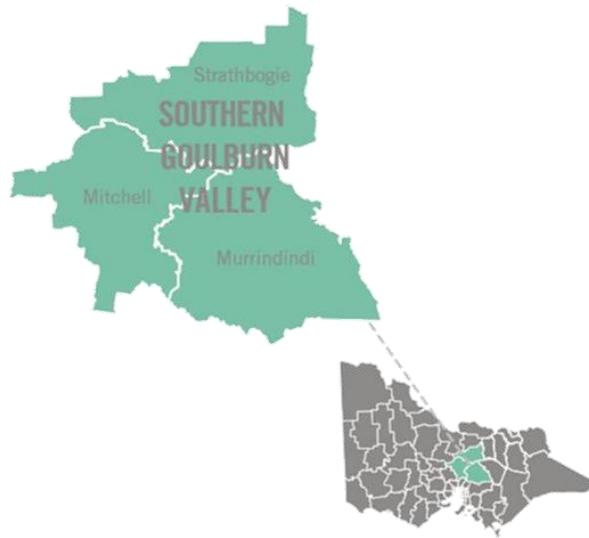


Figure 1 Southern Goulburn Valley Map

Guide Owner	Regional Waste and Resource Recover Education Officer
Creation Date	26/04/2019

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Summary

The Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy 2019-2021 (the Education Strategy) was prepared by the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer as part of a collaborative project between Mitchell, Murrindindi and Strathbogie Shire Councils, in partnership with the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group (GVWRRG).

The three councils came together in 2018 to appoint a Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer to provide a regional approach to waste and resource recovery education. This collaboration recognises the importance of waste and resource recovery education as a tool to support national, state and local waste management and implementation strategies as well as sustainability goals.

The Education Strategy provides three guiding principles, five strategic directions and a three-year action plan for the development, implementation and evaluation of waste and resource recovery education programs and activities in the region.

The strategic directions, outlined from page 12, align with the Victorian Waste Education Strategy (2016) and other important national and regional documents, whilst also reflecting the needs and priorities of the local communities identified in the related community engagement findings (2019) summarised on page 9.

Scope

The Education Strategy was developed for the tri-council partnership of Murrindindi, Mitchell and Strathbogie Shire Councils as part of the appointment of the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer. These councils are collectively part of the southern Goulburn Valley, as pictured above in figure 1. This strategy has been developed in line with the Victorian Education Strategy and with input from the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group (GVWRRG).

Responsibilities

The Education strategy was prepared by the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer for the three participating councils. Council endorsement and support for implementation of the strategy is the responsibility of each participating council.

Context

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint for a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice. The 17 goals each include a set of targets and tools, frameworks and policy.

Goal 12 calls for responsible consumption and production. It focuses on resource and energy efficiency, recycling and waste management, particularly calling for the reduced consumption of natural resources. This goal sets out an international prerogative for waste management frameworks founded on ideals of waste avoidance.

Goal 12 also notes the importance of the role of education in achieving sustainability by “educating consumers on sustainable consumption and lifestyles, providing them with adequate information through standards and labels and engaging in sustainable public procurement, among others.”¹

This goal provides overarching guidance for national and regional waste policies which focus on both waste avoidance and the role government bodies and authorities play in providing information directly to consumers and setting a best practice example.

National Context

The national understanding of, and engagement with waste issues has dramatically changed over the last 2 years. Key social drivers contributing to this change include the hugely popular ABC TV series War on Waste (2017 – Current)² and the emergence of the international “Recycling Crisis”, related to China’s change in recycling import policy, National Sword³. Additionally, the federal government’s recent announcement of Australia’s first Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction and Environmental Management highlights the importance of this portfolio at a national level.

While issues of waste management and avoidance are now more prominent in the Australian public consciousness the messages are mixed. This has potential to create a breakdown of public confidence in kerbside recycling, distrust in the waste and recycling industry and social confusion about recycling. Waste education is a foundational strategy for improving understanding of the environmental, social and economic benefits of waste management.

¹ United Nations, Transforming our world: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 2015.

² ABC Audience Data and Insights, War on Waste: The survey – understanding Australia’s waste attitudes and behaviours, 2018

³ DELWP Recycling Industry Strategic Plan, 2018

Australia's National Waste Policy 2018: 'Less Waste, More Resources'

The National Waste Policy (2018) provides Australia with a national framework for waste and resource recovery⁴. It outlines the roles and responsibilities for businesses, governments, communities and individuals. The policy recognises the important role of local governments authorities: 'Local governments play an important role in providing household waste collection and recycling services, managing and operating landfill sites, delivering education and awareness programs, and providing and maintaining litter infrastructure' (pg. 10).

The policy, in alignment with the waste hierarchy, lists waste avoidance as the most preferable waste management approach. Key strategies for achieving waste avoidance are: 'knowledge sharing, education and behaviour change' (pg. 13). The National Waste policy calls for coordinated knowledge sharing education initiatives⁴.

Victorian Waste Education Strategy 2016

The Victorian Waste Education Strategy (2016) aims to provide a statewide coordinated approach to waste and resource recovery education⁵. As with the National Waste Policy, it focuses on waste avoidance as the most preferable waste management approach. The strategy lays out in more detail how and in what conditions knowledge sharing and behaviour change programs can be implemented.

The strategic directions of the Victorian Waste Education Strategy are:

1. Increase the perception of waste management as an essential service
2. Increase community awareness of waste and support and encourage waste avoidance
3. Improve resource recovery and reduce contamination
4. Reduce litter and illegal dumping
5. Support waste and resource recovery education for schools
6. Strengthen Victoria's waste and resource recovery education capabilities⁵.

The strategic directions of the Victorian Waste Education Strategy have been used as the basis of the Southern Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education strategy, however the goals and actions have been tailored to fit the local strategic and social context.

Draft Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy 2019

At the time of writing this strategy, the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy (GVWRRES) was being developed. The GVWRRES will provide strategic direction as well as a set of guiding principles which can be utilised by all the member councils of the GVWRRG for producing coordinated and streamlined waste and resource recovery education across the Goulburn Valley region.

⁴ Australian Government, National Waste Policy: Less waste more resources, 2018.

⁵ Sustainability Victoria, Victorian Waste Education Strategy, August 2016

Local Context

The waste management goals, targets and objectives of Mitchell, Murrindindi and Strathbogie Councils have been tailored to each municipality's needs. Below is a description of the waste and resource recovery services and infrastructure managed by each council as well as each council's commitment and goals relevant to waste education.

The Education strategy strives to align the similarities between all 3 Councils and to provide education solutions to deliver effective outcomes while meeting community expectations.

Mitchell Shire Council

Mitchell Shire is one of Victoria's fastest growing outer metropolitan municipalities located 40km to the north of Melbourne. It stretches from Beveridge in the south to Seymour in the north. Key townships include Wallan, Kilmore, Broadford and Seymour.

Mitchell Shire is experiencing unprecedented population growth with estimates suggesting an increase in population from 48,000 to 270,000 in the next 25-30 years. This rapid population growth is changing the characteristics and demographics of the region and placing additional pressure on already strained waste and resource recovery infrastructure and services.

The shire is currently serviced by four RRCs located in Wallan, Broadford, Pyalong and Seymour. Mitchell provides a two bin kerbside collection service to 90% of its residents. This includes a fortnightly recycling service and weekly residual waste service.

Current waste management challenges faced by Mitchell Shire Council include aging waste and resource recovery infrastructure and increased waste volumes associated with rapid population growth.

Mitchell's Waste Management Strategy 2016-2021 is based on the Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery policy 'Getting Full Value'. Many of the goals focus on reducing waste generation and achieving financial saving through efficient resource recovery. A target of waste diversion from landfill is set at 50% (increasing from 33% in 14/15)⁶. Theme 1 of Mitchell's Waste Management Strategy is 'Waste Education' with the associated goal;

To understand why waste avoidance, reuse and recycling are important and demonstrate best practice waste and resource recovery behaviour. 6

Each of the eight associated actions within this theme have been represented in the three-year action plan below.

⁶ Mitchell Shire Council, Waste Management Strategy 2016 -2021, 2016

Murrindindi Shire Council

Murrindindi Shire is located north-east of Melbourne. Key townships include Alexandra, Kinglake (and Kinglake West), Yea, Marysville and Eildon. The municipality also includes the alpine area of Marysville and all of Lake Eildon. The shire has a population of 13,732.

The areas of Marysville and Eildon benefit from significant tourism throughout the year, leading to seasonal changes in population and therefore waste volumes across peak periods.

Murrindindi Shire Council provides a two bin kerbside collection service to township residents, and other accessible residential properties. This includes a fortnightly recycling service and weekly residual waste service. The shire is serviced by five RRCs, located in or near key townships; two RRC include a resale shop.

Current waste management challenges faced by Murrindindi Shire Council include seasonal population changes and dispersed, low density and remote communities, resulting in the transporting of small volumes of waste over longer distances within the shire.

Murrindindi's waste and resource recovery strategy 2014-2019 (currently under review) includes a goal to 'reduce waste generation and achieve financial savings through efficient resource use.' The Murrindindi strategy recognises the 'significant scope' to expand the range of waste education activities. For Murrindindi the ability to provide this education is limited by available resources. At the time of writing the report the council was dependent upon regional campaigns and resources such as those provided by GVWRRG and Sustainability Victoria (SV). A key educational goal of the Murrindindi Strategy is that:

'The community understands why waste avoidance, re-use and recycling are important and demonstrate best practice waste and resource recovery behaviour'.⁷

Strathbogie

Strathbogie Shire located in central Victoria and has a population of 10,274. Key townships include Euroa, Nagambie, Violet Town and Avenel. Lake Nagambie draws a significant number of visitors to the area through summer, leading to seasonal changes in population. Additionally, population and therefore waste volumes are impacted by several major rowing events which attract significant crowds across 3 or 4 weekends of the year.

Strathbogie Shire Council provides a three bin kerbside collection service for township residents and other accessible residential properties. This service includes a weekly food organics and garden organics (FOGO) bin, fortnightly recycling service and alternate fortnightly residual waste service. There are seven RRC

⁷ Murrindindi Shire Council, Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2014 -2019, July 2014

facilities located across the Strathbogie Shire, ranging from small drop-off points to more developed facilities that service key townships.

The waste management challenges faced by Strathbogie Shire include an ageing demographic and a small, dispersed population. Strathbogie's Waste and Resource Recovery strategy 2019 -20248 commits to;

“Supporting the engagement and continuation of a shared Waste and Resource Recovery Education Officer position with Mitchell Shire and Murrindindi Shire Councils”.

and

“Implementing the actions incorporated in the Southern Goulburn Valley Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Education Strategy”.⁸

Strathbogie's Waste and Resource Recovery strategy also recognises the importance of long term, effective waste and resource recovery initiatives. ⁸

Southern Goulburn Valley region

The largest difference in the waste operations between the three councils is the 3 bin kerbside collection system provided by Strathbogie Shire Council to its residents. In addition to a kerbside residual waste bin and a kerbside recycling bin, Strathbogie provide a kerbside food organics garden organics (FOGO) bin. Both Mitchell and Murrindindi provide a 2 bin kerbside collection service for residual waste and recycling only.

All three Councils currently have a waste management strategy and although the waste services vary, all three councils have a common goal to minimise waste to landfill and maximise resource recovery.

All three Council's waste management strategies frame waste and resource recovery education as a vital tool in order to align with global, national and regional strategies which focus on waste avoidance, behaviour change and supporting internal best practice or 'leading by example'. These goals are addressed in the strategic directions below and are also reflected in the three-year action plan.

Each strategy highlights the waste hierarchy and include a shared goal of waste avoidance and minimisation. It is proposed in each council's strategy that waste and resource recovery education can support this goal through community education programs and community engagement.

Importantly, a shared objective that resonates between the three councils is a recognition of the importance a regional approach to providing waste and resource recovery education.

⁸ Strathbogie Shire Council, Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2019-2024, July 2019

Community Engagement Summary

In order to gain an understanding of the local social context a community engagement strategy was developed and implemented across the three council areas of the southern Goulburn valley.

The objectives of the community engagement strategy were to ‘*Enhance community understanding of the term “waste and resource recovery education”*’ and ‘*Understand community preferences for a variety of waste and resource recovery education programs and educational approaches*’ while also developing working relationships with stakeholders.

The two methods which were chosen to help achieve these objectives were a survey and a series of pop-up events.

The main finding from these engagement activities included a list of prioritised waste and resource recovery education activities or programs. Each of these activities have been directly represented in the three-year action plan as summarised in table 1.

Table 1 Priority activities or programs from survey

Priority	Activity	Action plan Reference
1	Composting /Worm farm workshop	1.2b
2	School tours of the RRC (Excursions)	2.3c
3	School visits regarding waste and resource recovery (Incursions)	3.2a, 3.2a
4	Business waste and resource recovery (officer visits)	1.1c
5	Community tours of Resource Recovery Centres	2.3c

A comprehensive report on the methodology and findings of this community engagement as well as listed responses to community comments can be found in Appendix 1: Community Engagement Findings.