

FILE NO: PSC2007-3163

TITLE: WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY POLICY

POLICY OWNER: WASTE MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to detail Council's position on solid waste management within the Port Stephens Council Local Government Area in order to facilitate the delivery of a Waste Management and Resource Recovery Plan.

CONTEXT/BACKGROUND:

Port Stephens Council currently provides domestic and non-domestic waste services in accordance with sections 496 and 501 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

These services include:

- The provision of mobile garbage bins.
- Weekly residual waste (red bin) collection service.
- Fortnightly dry recycling (yellow bin) collection service.
- On-call bulky and green waste collection.
- Processing of recyclables.
- Processing of residual waste via an Advanced Resource Recovery Technology (ARRT) Facility.
- Green waste drop off days.
- Where required, the land filling of residual wastes.
- Environmental monitoring of decommissioned landfills.
- Community education about waste services provided by Council, how to correctly use the provided services and how waste generation can be reduced.

Port Stephens Council also coordinates the collection of certain hazardous and problem waste not suitable for collection in either waste or recycling household bins. These include the provision of permanent drop off sites or drop off events for the collection of household chemical, paints, oil, gas bottles, electronic waste, mattresses, tyres, car and household batteries, mobile phone, printer cartridges and fluorescent tubes.

Port Stephens Council also provides waste and recycling services to events held within Port Stephens and in public places such as parks and reserves, sporting fields and streets where Council's asset owners have determined the need for this service.

Residents and businesses of Port Stephens have self-haul access to one Council-owned Waste Transfer Station at Salamander Bay. Waste delivered to the transfer station is sorted and separated for reuse, recycling or disposal.

The management of waste provides significant outcomes for human health and for the quality of our environment. Since the mid 1990's Council's approach to waste management has moved from simple landfilling of all wastes to kerbside recycling and the utilisation of technology designed to efficiently collect and sort waste for maximum resource recovery. Through these actions Port Stephens Council has improved the sustainability of its waste management services to the community.

SCOPE:

This policy outlines what services are provided to the residents, ratepayers and businesses of Port Stephens as well as Council's position on solid waste management.

DEFINITIONS:

Domestic Waste Management	Collection, processing and disposal of solid waste collected from the kerbside of residential properties
Non-Domestic Waste Management	Collection, processing and disposal of solid waste collected from non-domestic (commercial) properties.
Public Place Waste Management	Collection, processing and disposal of waste collected from streets, parks and central business districts

POLICY STATEMENT:

Council provides the following waste management to the residents, ratepayers and businesses of Port Stephens.

1) Domestic and Non-domestic (Commercial) Waste Management.

Council is committed to:

- Providing convenient and accessible waste services that meet the needs of the community.
- Reasonable costing of waste services in accordance with Sections 496 and 501 the *Local Government Act 1993*.
- The source separation of commercially viable recyclables from residual waste both in its kerbside collections and bulk waste collections.

- Processing residual waste via Advanced Resource Recovery Technology (ARRT) Facility until at least 2027.
- The disposal of inert domestic waste to licensed landfill sites.
- The provision of waste collection services via contracts with commercial operators.
- The provision of alternative waste technology via contracts with commercial operators.
- Continually educating the community about its range of waste services and how to correctly use them.

2) Toxic/Hazardous/Medical Waste.

Council is committed to:

- Creating solutions that source separate these wastes from the domestic/commercial waste streams.
- Supporting extended producer responsibility schemes for the collection and disposal of hazardous and medical wastes.
- Run drop off events for problem wastes such as chemicals, mattresses, tyres and electronic waste.
- Continue to operate the Community Recycling Centre (CRC) at the Salamander Bay Waste Transfer Station that accepts hazardous household chemicals free of charge from residents of Port Stephens.
- Continue to have a medical sharps collection points in amenities across Port Stephens LGA to allow safe disposal of these items in public places.

3) Public Place Waste Management.

Council is committed to:

- Providing mobile garbage bins and bulk containers in public places where the need is determined by Council's asset owners including;
 - CBD areas
 - Streets
 - Parks & Reserves
 - Sporting Facilities
- The source separation of commercially viable recyclables in locations where trials have deemed it successful.
- The provision of waste services for special events where Council has approved the waste management plans for these events.
- The maintenance of all public place waste infrastructure to ensure that it is safe and clean for the users of the area.

4) Management of Waste Transfer Stations.

Council is committed to:

- The provision and operation of Salamander Bay Waste Transfer Station at 4 Tarrant Road Salamander Bay as per Council's Community Strategic Plan.

5) Landfill Management.

Council is committed to:

- The rehabilitation of decommissioned landfills to meet or exceed the licence requirements.
- The continued monitoring of decommissioned landfill sites for due diligence purposes so that the environmental impacts are known.
- Reducing the community's reliance on land filling as the primary waste management method. Financial Assistance for the Disposal of Waste in Port Stephens.

6) Financial Assistance for the Disposal of Waste in Port Stephens.

Council is committed to:

- The provision of financial assistance for the disposal of waste to charitable, not for profit or benevolent organisations in accordance with Council's Policy "Financial Assistance for the Disposal of Waste in Port Stephens" under section 356 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

7) Illegal Dumping.

Council is committed to:

- Minimising illegal dumping as it is an offence under the *NSW Protection of the Environment Operations Act 2001* and those carrying out such activities may be fined. Council's Compliance Policy addresses the issues surrounding illegal dumping, in terms of its regulation and the need to prioritise activities that educate the community.

8) Information / Education.

Council is committed to:

- Providing clear and concise information on the range, cost and availability of waste services provided.
- Providing education to residents and visitors to the area in order to maximise the potential of its services.
- Working with Environmental Services to educate the community via its association with community groups, schools and other interest groups.

9) Development Planning.

Council is committed to:

- Ensuring that waste management issues are managed in the Local Environment Plan and related Development Control Plans.

10) In pursuing this policy Council will comply with legislation, specifically.

- In the management of waste services Council will observe the principles of ecological sustainable development (as defined in the *Local Government Amendment (Ecologically Sustainable Development) Act 1997*) specifically; inter-generational equity; improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms (eg: polluter pays and full life cycle costing); the precautionary principle and the conservation of ecological integrity.
- Council will comply with NSW Environment Protection Licences for the Salamander Bay Waste Transfer Stations and the surrender notices for all decommissioned landfill sites.
- Council will comply with the *Local Government Act 1993* by continuing to provide waste services to domestic and non-domestic properties under sections 496 and 501 of the Act.
- Council will comply with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (NSW)*.
- Council will give due consideration to state and commonwealth guidelines and strategies including but not limited to:
 - *NSW Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001*.
 - *NSW Waste Avoidance and Recovery Strategy 2014-21*.
- The NSW Waste Hierarchy of Avoid, Reuse, Recycle, Dispose, will guide decision making processes (*Waste Avoidance & Resource Recovery Act 2001*).
- Council will comply with Australian Standards relating to mobile garbage bin design and standard colours (AS4123.6 2006 and AS4123.7 2006).
- Council will provide services and education material that is consistent with regional, state and national strategies and programs.
- Where opportunities exist, Council will participate in local and regional initiatives to address waste issues.

POLICY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Overall review and evaluation of this policy lies with the Community Services Section Manager.

Key areas for implementation are delegated to the following positions:

- Waste Management Coordinator – Domestic and non-domestic waste management; toxic, hazardous and medical wastes; public place waste management; landfill management; Financial Assistance for the Disposal of Waste in Port Stephens.

- Waste Transfer Station Coordinator – Management of waste transfer stations.
- Waste Management Officer – Information/education.
- Waste Projects Officer – Customer Service/Information
- Waste Compliance and Strategy Coordinator – Illegal dumping and litter management

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

- 1) Financial Assistance for the disposal of waste in Port Stephens Policy (Adopted 24/04/2017, Minute No. 268 – Amendment (currently being reviewed)
- 2) Compliance Policy (Adopted 28/8/07, Minute No. 235 – Amended 28/03/2017, Minute No. 065).

CONTROLLED DOCUMENT INFORMATION:

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EDRMS container No	PSC2007-3163	EDRMS record No	18/86846
Audience	Residents, Ratepayers and Businesses of Port Stephens.		
Process owner	Community Services Section Manager		
Author	Waste Management Coordinator		
Review timeframe	Two years	Next review date	31/3/2020
Adoption date	27/11/2007		

VERSION HISTORY:

Version	Date	Author	Details	Minute No.
1	27/11/2007	Steve Bernasconi	Policy Adopted.	337
2	24/11/2009	Steve Bernasconi	Amended Policy Adopted.	396
3	23/6/2015	Aaron Malloy	Amended Policy Adopted.	176

4	27/02/2018	Aaron Malloy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reformatting the policy into the new format. • Inclusion of additional information to cover new services under Toxic/Hazardous/Medical Waste and Public Place Waste Management. • Some minor wording changes through the document to make it reflect current trends in the waste industry and levels of services provided. • Revised draft policy for review and endorsement by Executive Leadership Team. • Draft for Public Exhibition. 	035
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