

Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2026 - 2030

Shire of Broome



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Acknowledgements

ASK Waste Management acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land in which we work and live, and pays respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

ASK also gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of the Shire of Broome staff that provided information and assistance in the development of this report.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Shire of Broome Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2026–2030* provides a strategic framework to guide waste management, resource recovery and infrastructure planning over the next five years. The Strategy reflects a period of significant change, including the closure of existing facilities and delivery of a new Regional Resource Recovery Park (RRRP). It focuses on practical, achievable actions to improve service performance, support behaviour change and ensure financial sustainability, while also recognising the role of regional collaboration and advocacy in addressing broader challenges.

Regional Context

The Shire of Broome services a geographically dispersed population across Broome, the Dampier Peninsula and remote localities. Waste management is influenced by seasonal project and population fluctuations, large transport distances, limited recycling infrastructure and the presence of numerous Aboriginal communities outside the Shire's direct service responsibility. These factors create ongoing challenges for effective waste service delivery, resource recovery and long-term financial sustainability.

The Broome Waste Management Facility (BWMF) is approaching the end of its operational life, with the Shire progressing delivery of the RRRP to provide long-term waste management and resource recovery infrastructure. The RRRP will fundamentally change how waste services are delivered within the Shire and the greater Kimberley region and is a key focus of this Strategy.

Performance

Baseline analysis highlights several important trends:

- Approximately 41,500 tonnes of waste is managed annually.
- Commercial and Industrial (C&I) waste is the largest waste stream, accounting for approximately 52% of all waste managed.

- Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) represents approximately 29% of waste generation.
- Overall resource recovery remains relatively low at approximately 35%.
- Kerbside recycling contamination rates remain high, generally ranging between 40% and 60%.
- Waste generation has increased significantly since development of the previous Strategy and is projected to continue growing.

While performance remains below aspirational State recovery targets, results are heavily influenced by regional and remote conditions, including limited processing infrastructure, distance to markets and the dominance of C&I waste streams.

Community Consultation

A comprehensive community and stakeholder engagement program was undertaken to inform development of the Strategy, including community surveys, workshops, stakeholder discussions, engagement stalls and a review of existing community feedback.

Key themes included low confidence in recycling outcomes, strong support for improved green and organic waste solutions, concerns regarding litter and illegal dumping, and the importance of clear communication and education. Access and equity were also identified as important considerations, particularly for households that rely on self-haul disposal arrangements. These findings have directly informed the actions and priorities included within this Strategy.

Actions (2026 – 2030+)

1. Waste Infrastructure and Operations

Support delivery of the RRRP and transition to a new waste management system. Key actions include facilitating delivery of the RRRP, transitioning to split waste disposal operations, managing landfill airspace, establishing contingency arrangements, progressing closure of the BWMF and Lot 400 sites, and developing an asset management framework for future waste infrastructure.

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2. Waste Services

Deliver efficient, accessible and sustainable waste services. Key actions include improving municipal waste resource recovery, investigating future green and organic waste opportunities, establishing the RRRP reuse shop, facilitating targeted C&I waste diversion, reviewing future kerbside service options, progressing the Dampier Peninsula Waste Management Plan, and providing a service framework for outer Shire communities.

3. Data, Information and Economics

Strengthen financial sustainability. Key actions include developing a sustainable financial framework for the RRRP and improving cost recovery arrangements.

4. Policy and Procurement

Strengthen governance and planning processes to support long-term waste outcomes. Key actions include developing an Emergency Waste Management Plan and maintaining alignment with evolving State and national policy requirements.

5. Litter and Illegal Dumping

Reduce littering and illegal dumping through improved planning, coordination and prevention. Key actions include developing a Litter and Illegal Dumping Strategy and strengthening collaboration between land managers and other stakeholders.

6. Behaviour Change

Support improved waste behaviours and community participation. Key actions include delivering an annual waste education and engagement program, partnering with stakeholders to deliver behaviour change initiatives, and supporting community transition to the RRRP through targeted communication and engagement.

7. Regional Efficiencies

Strengthen regional collaboration and advocacy to address challenges beyond the Shire's direct control. Key actions include progressing regional waste management

initiatives through facilitating development of an updated Kimberley Regional Waste Management Plan and advocating for State leadership, funding and improved access to regional waste management programs and services.

8. Aboriginal Communities

Support improved waste management outcomes in remote Aboriginal communities. Key actions include advocating for improved services, infrastructure and funding arrangements that contribute to Closing the Gap Target 9B outcomes.

Implementation and Monitoring

Implementation will be staged over the Strategy period:

- Short term (2026–2027): Deliver the RRRP, establish financial and governance foundations, improve resource recovery and progress key planning activities.
- Medium term (2027–2029): Transition services, deliver priority operational improvements and expand diversion initiatives.
- Long term (2030 and beyond): Optimise infrastructure performance, review services and consolidate strategic outcomes.

Implementation will be integrated into the Shire's Council Plan, Long-Term Financial Plan and annual budgeting processes. While many actions are expected to be delivered through existing staff resources and operational budgets, these actions are not cost-neutral and will require dedicated staff time, organisational capacity and prioritisation to achieve successful implementation.

This Strategy provides a practical and achievable pathway to support sustainable waste management, improved resource recovery and long-term infrastructure planning for the Shire of Broome.

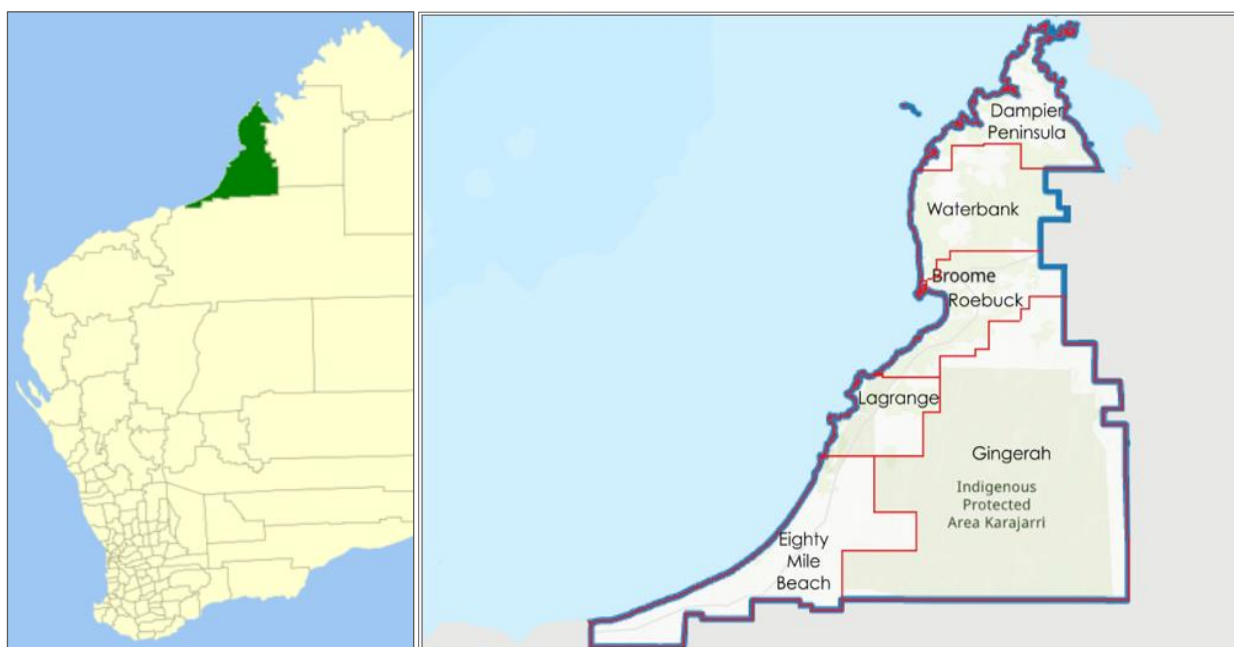
1 INTRODUCTION

The *Shire of Broome Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2026–2030* (the Strategy) provides a framework to guide waste management planning and service delivery over the next five years. The Strategy builds on the previous *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy* (2020–2030) and includes a review of progress to date, identification of ongoing challenges, and development of updated priorities and actions for the next planning period.

1.1 REGIONAL CONTEXT

The Shire of Broome is located in the Kimberley region of northern Western Australia, approximately 2,200 kilometres north of Perth. It covers over 56,000 square kilometres and includes Broome, the Dampier Peninsula and several other localities (see **Figure 1.1**).

Figure 1.1: Shire of Broome location and localities



The Shire is classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) as a ‘very remote’ local government area, reflecting its geographic isolation, limited access to services and infrastructure, and dispersed population.

The Shire services a relatively small permanent population, with significant seasonal variation driven by tourism and transient workers. Major industries include tourism, pearling, aquaculture, pastoral, and horticulture.

A total of 84 Aboriginal communities are located within the Shire, of which 78 are classified as remote. Each community has its own separate waste system not managed by the local government authority.

Broome (town) is the primary service centre for the Shire, supporting surrounding communities and regional activities. The Broome Waste Management Facility (BWMF) plays a key role in managing waste materials for both local and regional users. This Facility is nearing end of life, and to address long-term capacity needs, the Shire is progressing the development of a new RRRP.

The Shire faces a range of waste management challenges related to its regional context. These include large distances between localities, limited local recycling and processing infrastructure, and reliance on transport of materials to metropolitan or regional markets. High transport costs and

limited economies of scale constrain opportunities for recovery and contribute to ongoing reliance on landfill disposal.

Additional challenges arise from the dispersed settlement pattern and the presence of remote communities, particularly across the Dampier Peninsula, where governance, funding and service delivery arrangements are complex and not solely within the control of local government. These factors present ongoing challenges for service consistency, infrastructure provision and behaviour change.

Recognising and responding to these geographic, economic and governance constraints is essential to the development of a practical and sustainable waste strategy for the Shire.

2 DRIVERS AND INFLUENCES

This section outlines the drivers and influences that are expected to impact the Shire's waste outcomes over the next decade.

2.1 GLOBAL INFLUENCES

Australia's waste policy is shaped by global trends, agreements, and disruptions that have redefined how waste is managed and valued. These influences have driven a shift from traditional disposal models toward a more circular, sustainable, and self-sufficient approach.

2.1.1 UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (UNSDGS)

As a signatory to the UNSDGs, Australia aligns its waste strategy with goals such as *SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production*. This supports national targets for waste minimisation, recycling, and circular economy practices.

2.1.2 INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

Australia is a signatory to key global agreements that shape waste policy, including the *Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal*, which regulates the international movement of hazardous waste (United Nations Environment Programme, 1989) and the *Paris Agreement* which influences waste policy through climate action, particularly in reducing landfill emissions (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 2015).

2.1.3 INTERNATIONAL WASTE TRADE DISRUPTIONS

The 2018 Chinese waste import ban exposed Australia's reliance on overseas recycling markets. In response, Australia banned the export of unprocessed waste, prompting investment in domestic recycling infrastructure. This shift has placed greater pressure on regional areas to manage waste locally, despite limited infrastructure and economies of scale.

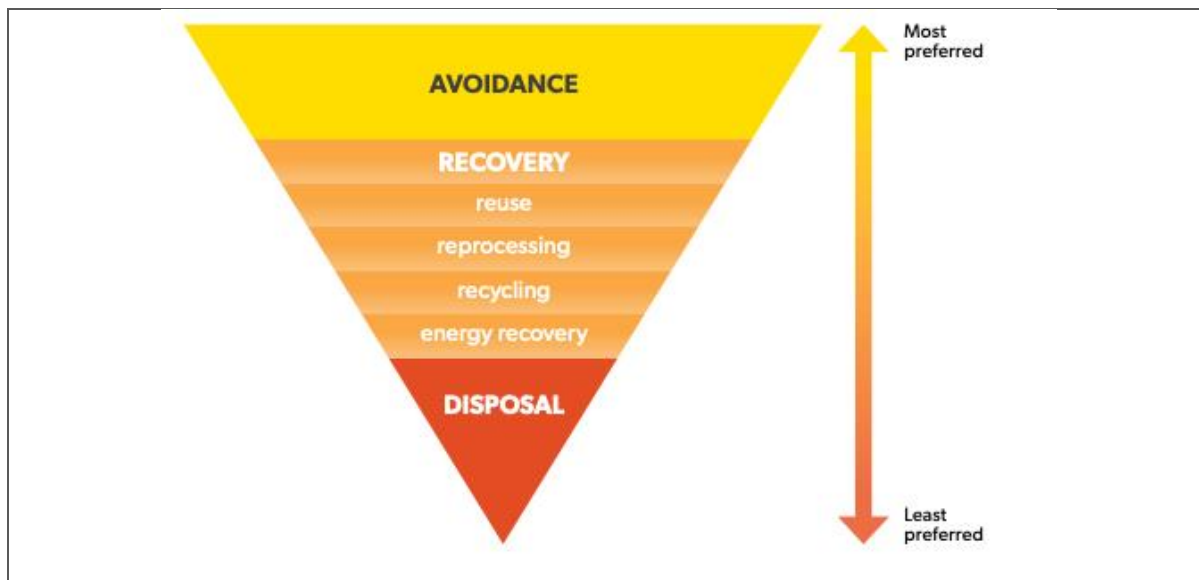
2.1.4 GLOBAL PUBLIC AND MARKET PRESSURE

Rising global concern over plastic pollution, marine debris, and environmental degradation has led to stronger public expectations and market shifts. This has accelerated the development of product stewardship schemes, single-use plastic bans, and the development of extended producer responsibility frameworks.

2.1.5 THE WASTE HIERARCHY

The waste hierarchy is a globally recognised framework that ranks waste management options by environmental preference, starting with avoidance and ending with disposal (**Figure 2.1**). Embedded in Australia's waste policy, it guides investment, infrastructure planning, and education, supporting the shift away from landfill toward more sustainable resource recovery practices.

Figure 2.1: Waste hierarchy (WARR Strategy 2030)



2.1.6 CIRCULAR ECONOMY MOMENTUM

Global momentum toward a circular economy, where materials are reused, recycled, and kept in circulation, has influenced Australia's policy direction. A circular economy refers to the flow of materials and energy, it moves away from the linear 'take, make, use and dispose' model to one that keeps materials and energy circulating in the economy for as long as possible. The key differences between the linear and circular economy and how this approach involves all sectors and consumers, rather than relying on the waste sector to recycle and recover what is possible at 'the end of the pipe', are provided in **Figure 2.2** and **Table 2.1**.

In the context of the Shire of Broome, opportunities to apply circular economy principles are constrained by limited local end-markets, high transport costs and scale, and are likely to depend on regional collaboration and partnerships with industry.

Figure 2.2: Circular economy vs current approach (WARR Strategy 2030)

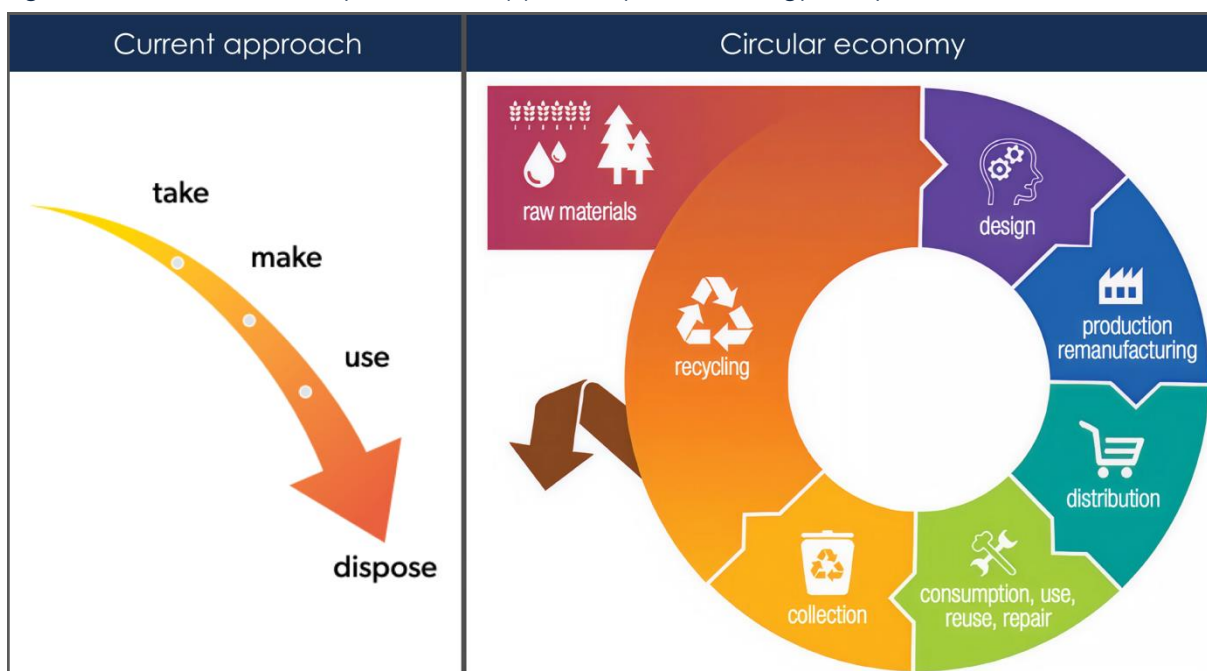


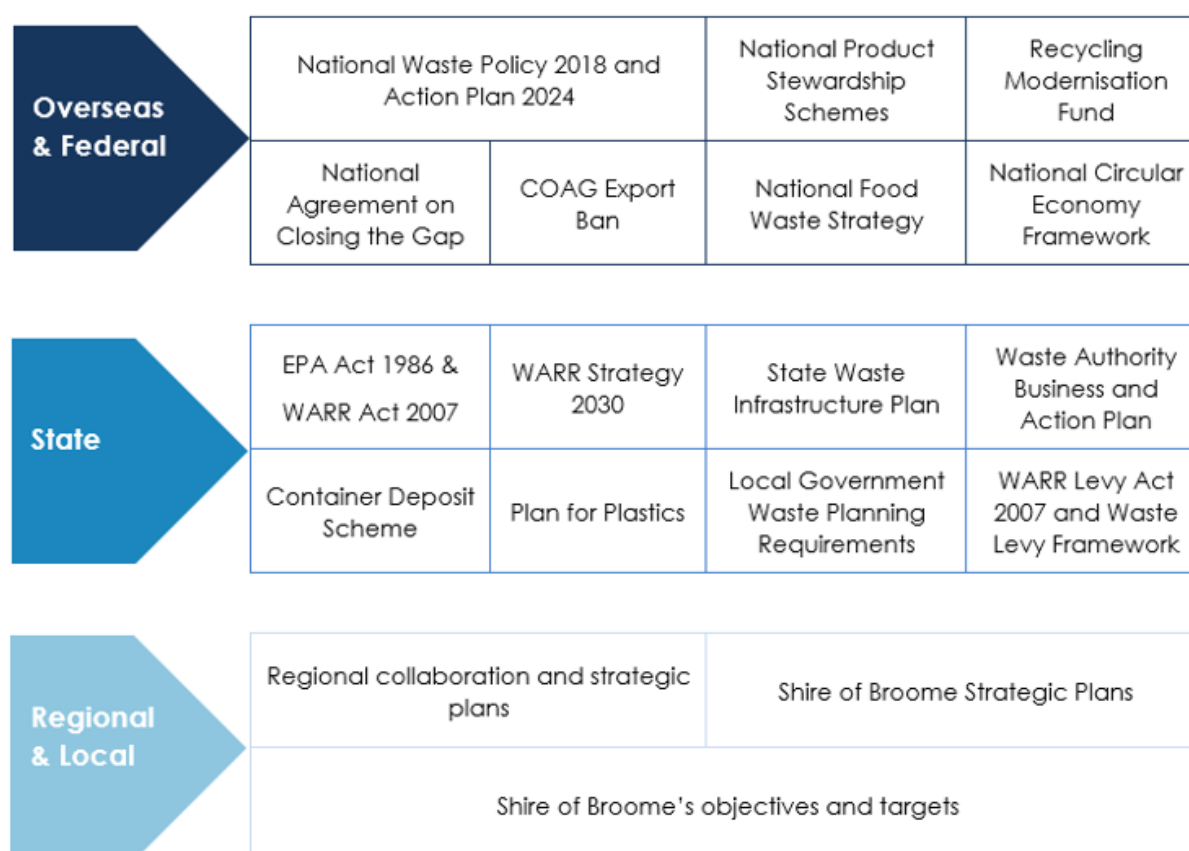
Table 2.1: Differences between the linear model and the circular economy (WARR Strategy 2030)

Aspect	Current approach	Circular economy
Material flow	Linear flow: take, make, use and dispose	Circular flow: materials sorted and retained in the economy for as long as possible
Use of renewable materials and energy	Limited use	Preferred source
Material processes	Significant volumes of material disposed of and lost to the economy	Materials recovered as high up the waste hierarchy as possible
Management of material	Managed locally and globally	Preference for local management
Economic value of materials	Employment and investment not fully accounted for	Employment and investment are accounted for
Lifecycle approach	Limited focus on the lifecycle of materials	Products are designed and manufactured to minimise environmental impacts through the whole-of-life

2.2 LEGISLATIVE DRIVERS

Waste management within the Shire is influenced by policy and legislative frameworks across international, national, state and local levels. These frameworks collectively establish the strategic direction and regulatory requirements for waste management and resource recovery. The relationship between these drivers is summarised in **Figure 2.3** with further detail provided in the sections that follow.

Figure 2.3: Configuration of policy and legislative requirements



2.2.1 FEDERAL

Australia's national waste policy is guided by the *National Waste Policy 2018* and the *National Waste Policy Action Plan 2024* (2024), released by the Australian Government through the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW). These frameworks establish shared targets and responsibilities across all levels of government, industry, and the community. Key national targets include:

- Reduce total waste generated by 10% per person by 2030.
- Achieve an 80% average resource recovery rate from all waste streams.
- Halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill.
- Phase out problematic and unnecessary plastics.
- Increase the use of recycled content through government and industry procurement.
- Improve national waste data collection and transparency.

These targets are supported by major national initiatives such as:

- The *Recycling Modernisation Fund*, which co-invests in new recycling infrastructure.
- The *COAG Waste Export Ban* on the export of unprocessed waste materials (plastic, paper, glass, tyres).
- The *National Food Waste Strategy* (2017), released by the Department of the Environment and Energy, aims to halve food waste by 2030.

- The *National Circular Economy Framework* (2024), developed by DCCEE, which serves as a blueprint for Australia's transition to a circular economy, setting out a national ambition to double Australia's circularity by 2035.

2.2.2 STATE

At the state level, Western Australia's waste policy is guided by the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* (WARR Act), which provides the legislative foundation for waste management, resource recovery, and the operation of the Waste Authority. This Act underpins the *WARR Strategy 2030*, developed by the Waste Authority and the Government of Western Australia, setting the strategic direction for transitioning to a low-waste, circular economy (see **Section 2.2.3**).

This strategic direction is supported by several key initiatives, including:

- The *Waste Authority Business and Action Plan* (2025), which outlines the specific actions, timelines, lead responsibilities and collaborations that will be progressed to achieve the waste strategy's objectives.
- The *State Waste Infrastructure Plan* (2024), which provides a long-term framework for planning and developing waste infrastructure across WA.
- The *Plan for Plastics* (2021), which phases out single-use plastics through regulation and education.
- The *Container Deposit Scheme* (CDS), which incentivises recycling through a refund system.
- The *Waste Levy Framework*, designed to encourage landfill diversion and support investment in recovery initiatives.
- The *Local Government Waste Planning Requirements*, which mandate the development of waste plans to support strategic alignment with the *WARR Strategy 2030* (see **Section 2.2.3**).

Waste activities are also regulated under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, which governs pollution control and licensing of facilities such as landfills. In combination with the *WARR Act*, it ensures waste services meet environmental standards and support broader sustainability goals. Together, these instruments guide Western Australia's transition toward more sustainable waste practices and align with national and global policy directions.

Figure 2.4: Western Australia waste policy documents



2.2.3 WARR STRATEGY 2030

The *WARR Strategy 2030* sets the strategic direction for waste management in Western Australia. The Strategy is structured around three core objectives:

- **Avoid** – generate less waste.
- **Recover** – recover more value and resources from waste.
- **Protect** – manage waste to minimise environmental impacts.

These objectives are supported by an Action Plan and principles such as shared responsibility and continuous improvement.

Local government plays a central role in achieving the outcomes of the *WARR Strategy 2030*, particularly in the management of municipal solid waste (MSW). The document establishes state targets, including:

- 10% reduction in waste generation per capita by 2030
- 70% material recovery rate for MSW by 2030
- No more than 15% of MSW to landfill by 2030
- Implementation of local government waste plans aligned with *the WARR Strategy 2030*

To support these outcomes, the *WARR Act 2007* requires local governments within the Perth and Peel regions and major regional centres to prepare Waste Plans demonstrating alignment with State objectives. They are intended to support consistent planning, service delivery and reporting across the State.

A draft update to the *WARR Strategy 2030*, titled *Beyond Waste 2030*, is expected to be finalised in 2026. This update retains the overall direction of the current Strategy while introducing revised targets and additional focus areas. Key proposed changes include:

- Continued 10% reduction in MSW generation per capita
- Recycling targets of 70% for Perth and Peel and 60% for major regional centres
- 50% reduction in organic waste to landfill (from 2019–20 levels)
- Ongoing rollout of food organics and garden organics (FOGO) services in metropolitan and major regional areas
- Adoption of litter reduction targets and national circular economy metrics

The draft *Beyond Waste 2030* strategy also introduces new priorities, including improved outcomes for regional and Aboriginal communities, increased focus on waste avoidance, better management of high-impact materials, and strengthening sector resilience.

The Shire of Broome is not currently classified as a major regional centre under the *WARR Strategy 2030* or the proposed update. As such, the Shire is not required to meet the specific material recovery targets set for metropolitan or major regional areas, nor is it currently required to prepare a Waste Plan for submission to the DWER.

While not mandatory for the Shire of Broome at this stage, aligning its waste services and activities with the *WARR Strategy 2030* remains important. This supports broader State objectives, positions the Shire for future funding and policy alignment, and contributes to long-term environmental and economic sustainability.

For the Shire of Broome, these targets are intended as alignment benchmarks only and do not represent mandatory compliance requirements.

2.2.4 CLOSING THE GAP NATIONAL AGREEMENT

The *Closing the Gap National Agreement* (2020) is a national partnership between governments and Aboriginal peak organisations that seeks to achieve equitable access to essential services, including waste management, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The agreement sets out specific targets to close the gap in disadvantage and ensure all Australians have the same opportunities for a healthy, prosperous life.

Target 9b states: By 2031, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households:

- Within discrete Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander communities receive essential services that meet or exceed the relevant jurisdictional standard.

- In or near to a town receive essential services that meet or exceed the same standard as applies generally within the town (including if the household might be classified for other purposes as a part of a discrete settlement such as a 'town camp' or 'town-based reserve').
- Essential services include waste management.

While not a regulatory instrument, the Agreement is a key driver for local government waste planning, particularly in regional and remote areas where service gaps exist. For the Shire of Broome, this is particularly relevant given the presence of remote Aboriginal communities where waste services and infrastructure currently fall below expected standards.

3 BASELINE WASTE GENERATION AND PERFORMANCE

This section outlines waste generation and resource recovery within the Shire of Broome to inform planning for the 2026 – 2030 period. It summarises current waste quantities, composition, trends and performance, and highlights changes since the baseline used for the 2020 Waste Strategy. Detailed data and supporting analysis are provided in **Appendix A**.

3.1 DATA SOURCES AND SCOPE

Baseline waste data has been compiled using information provided by the Shire for the four years between the financial year 2021/22 and 2024/25, supported by population data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and tourism-equivalent population estimates from Tourism Research Australia.

The analysis:

- Includes solid waste streams managed through Shire facilities and contracts.
- Excludes liquid waste, clean fill and waste managed outside the Shire system, such as Aboriginal communities.
- Uses four-year average values to provide a representative indication of underlying trends.

Population-based metrics incorporate both the estimated resident population of Broome town and a tourism-equivalent population, reflecting the influence of tourism on waste generation and services.

Waste has been categorised into Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), Commercial and Industrial Waste (C&I), and Construction and Demolition Waste (C&D), consistent with the definitions contained within the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030*.

3.2 BASELINE SNAPSHOT

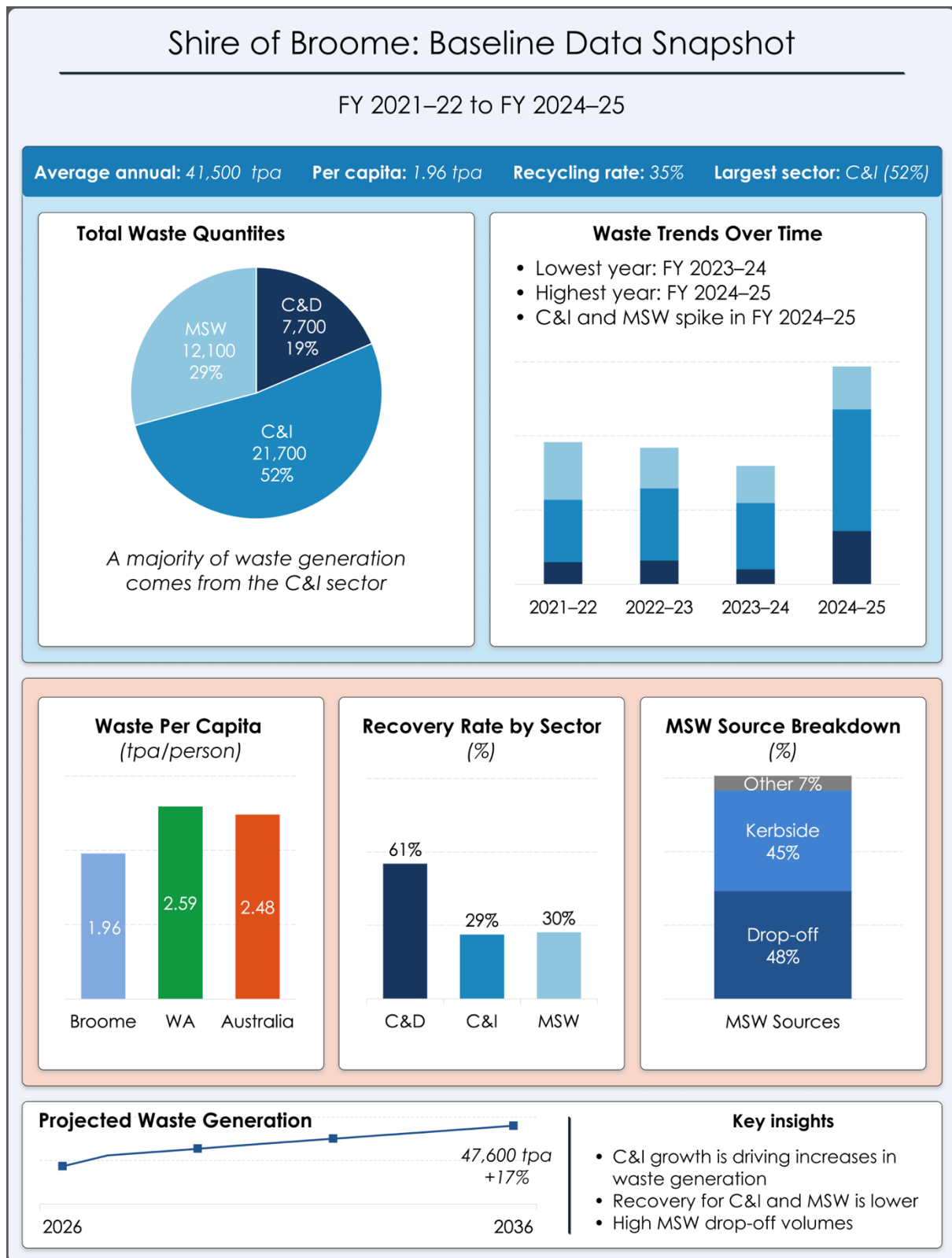
The Shire of Broome currently manages an average of approximately 41,500 tonnes of waste per annum. Key characteristics include:

- C&I waste is the dominant stream, accounting for just over half of total waste managed.
- MSW represents approximately 29% of total waste, generated through a mix of kerbside and drop-off services.
- C&D waste contributes approximately 19%, with comparatively stronger recovery outcomes where inert material reuse is available.
- Overall resource recovery averages approximately 35%, remaining broadly consistent with previous performance.

Waste generation is projected to increase over the next decade, placing continued pressure on landfill airspace and long-term infrastructure planning.

Figure 3.1 presents a snapshot of baseline waste generation, recovery performance, trends and benchmarking for the Shire.

Figure 3.1: Overview of the baseline data



3.3 KEY WASTE STREAM INSIGHTS

3.3.1 MSW

MSW represents approximately 29% of total waste generated, equating to an average of around 12,100 tonnes per annum over the baseline period.

Key observations include:

- Almost half of MSW is managed through drop-off services, limiting effective capture of recoverable material.
- Recovery remains driven primarily by green waste and scrap metal, rather than kerbside recycling.
- Overall MSW recovery performance has remained broadly static at 30%.

3.3.2 C&I

C&I waste is the largest and most influential waste stream managed by the Shire, accounting for approximately 52% of total waste generation, or around 21,700 tonnes per annum on average.

Key observations include:

- C&I waste is the primary driver of tonnage growth, dominated by mixed waste (39%), with green waste, inert materials and contaminated soils, contributing smaller amounts.
- Recovery outcomes are dominated by a small number of materials, principally green waste and scrap metal.
- The overall recovery rate for C&I waste (29%) remains comparatively low highlighting significant challenges in achieving consistent source separation across commercial generators.

3.3.3 C&D

C&D waste comprises approximately 19% of total waste generated within the Shire, equating to an average of around 7,700 tonnes per annum.

Key characteristics include:

- A comparatively strong recovery rate (approximately 60%), driven by inert material reuse.
- Significant year-to-year variability linked to construction activity.
- Ongoing importance for landfill airspace management where separation controls are applied.

3.4 COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE

To place local performance in context, baseline waste generation and recovery outcomes were benchmarked against Western Australian and national averages, using data from the *Waste Authority Annual Report 2024-25* (Waste Authority, 2025) and the Australian rates from the *National Waste and Resource Recovery Report 2024* (2025).

On a per-capita basis, the Shire generates 1.96 tonnes per capita, which is less waste per person than both the Western Australian and national averages at 2.59 and 2.48 tonnes per capita, respectively. Key observations include:

- C&D waste generation per capita is significantly lower than the WA and national averages, indicating comparatively less construction-related waste intensity.

- C&I waste generation per capita is higher than both state and national benchmarks, reinforcing its role as the dominant driver of system demand.
- MSW generation per capita is only marginally above state and national averages.

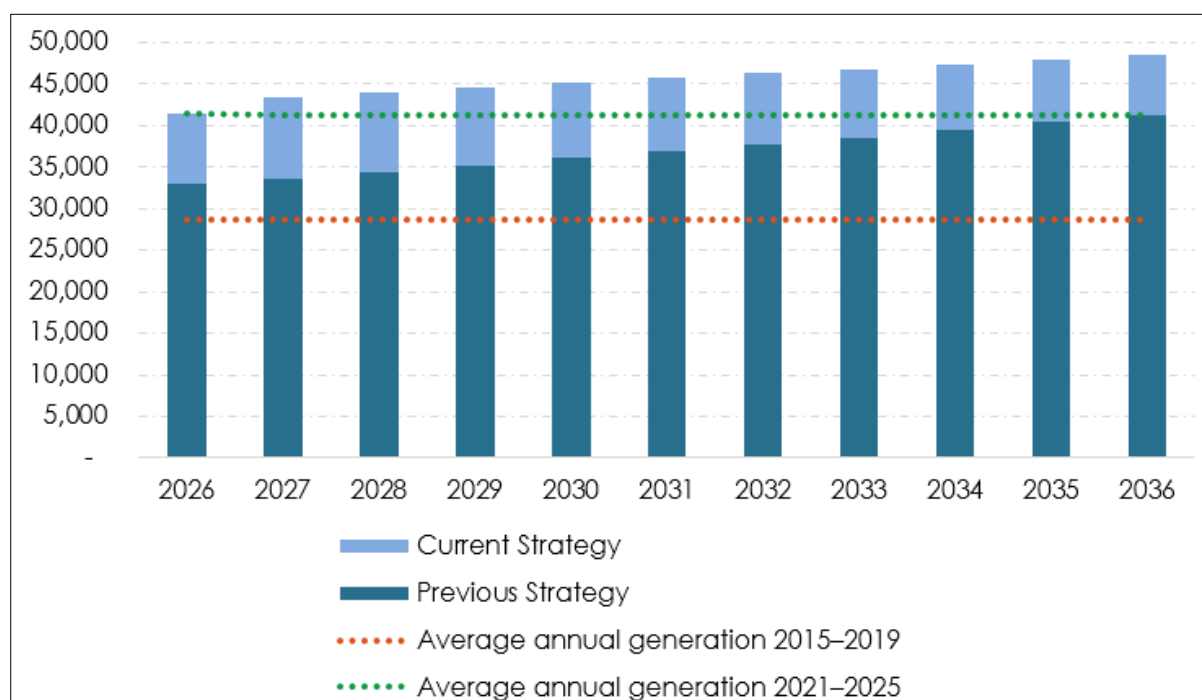
In terms of recovery performance, the Shire's overall recovery rate of approximately 35% is broadly consistent with many regional local governments but remains well below the aspirational targets of 60% set under the WARR Strategy 2030 for major regional centres.

3.5 CHANGE SINCE PREVIOUS STRATEGY

Comparison between the current baseline period (2021 – 25) and the period that informed the 2020 Waste Strategy (2015–19) highlights several material changes:

- Total waste generation has increased by approximately 45%, from around 28,700 tonnes per annum to more than 41,500 tonnes per annum.
- Growth is almost entirely attributable to C&I waste, which has more than doubled over the same period.
- MSW generation has remained relatively stable, with only minor year-to-year variation.
- Overall recovery rates have remained broadly unchanged, despite a significant increase in the absolute tonnage recovered.
- On a per-capita basis, waste generation has increased from approximately 1.54 tonnes per person per year to around 1.96 tonnes per person per year. This reflects increased commercial and service activity rather than a material shift in household behaviour.
- Future projections for waste generation have increased. The current annual average stands at 41,500 tonnes, exceeding the previous strategy's forecast of 41,300 tonnes by 2036. The latest estimate for 2036 is now set at 48,500 tonnes, up 7,200 tonnes from the earlier projection. **Figure 3.2** illustrates the differences in projections between this strategy and the previous one, as well as the average annual generation from both strategies.

Figure 3.2: Comparison of waste generation projections



3.6 BENCHMARKING

A benchmarking assessment was undertaken to provide context to the Shire of Broome's waste management performance and to determine whether observed trends are typical of similar local governments or indicative of specific improvement opportunities. Detailed benchmarking analysis and supporting data are provided in **Appendix A**.

Benchmarking indicates that the Shire of Broome's waste management performance is strongly influenced by its 'very remote' classification, as well as its underlying waste profile.

Compared to regional local governments closer to Perth, the Shire is characterised by:

- A higher proportion of C&I waste
- Higher per capita waste generation
- Moderate resource recovery performance

The Shire's high proportion of C&I waste reflects its strong tourism and commercial activity, and differs significantly from inner regional LGAs, which are typically dominated by MSW from kerbside collection systems. This distinction is important, as C&I waste streams are more variable, often directed to landfill, and more difficult to influence through standard municipal waste interventions. In addition, remoteness limits access to recycling infrastructure, increases transport costs and reduces the viability of recovery markets.

As a result, benchmarking indicates that the Shire's current performance is largely shaped by structural and external factors including waste composition, geographic isolation and infrastructure access rather than inefficiencies in service delivery.

These conditions have direct implications for the Shire's waste management system, including:

- Continued reliance on landfill for disposal of mixed C&I waste
- Limited applicability of standard MSW-based recovery solutions
- Increased importance of transport, aggregation and scale in improving recovery outcomes

These factors inform the need for a locally appropriate, targeted approach to improving waste management and resource recovery outcomes across the Shire.

4 EXISTING SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

This section reviews the Shire's existing waste services and infrastructure to assess current performance, system constraints and future pressures. It also considers progress since the 2020 Strategy, identifying key achievements and areas requiring further consideration through to 2030 and beyond.

4.1 WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE

The Shire's waste system is supported by existing disposal and recovery infrastructure, with a staged transition planned to a new RRRP.

The BWMF is the Shire's primary waste and resource recovery site and receives municipal, commercial and industrial waste from across the Shire. The Facility includes landfill disposal and associated recovery areas, including Lot 400 Buckleys Road, which supports storage and processing of materials such as green waste, metals and inert materials. These facilities are operating within a defined transition period and will ultimately require closure and rehabilitation once replacement infrastructure is commissioned.

To support long-term waste management needs, the Shire has progressed planning and approvals for the staged development of a RRRP. Initial stages include delivery of a Community Recycling Centre (CRC) and Liquid Waste Facility (LWF), followed by construction of a new Class III landfill at a later stage.

Since 2020, the Shire has:

- Completed planning and design for the RRRP, including site identification, design and staging.
- Developed and received works approvals for the construction of the RRRP.
- Updated the BWMF Landfill Closure Management Plan to improve understanding of landfill airspace constraints and transition timing.
- Introduced operational measures to manage remaining airspace capacity at the BWMF, including modified compaction practices, use of alternate daily cover material, increased recovery of inert materials at the tipping face and use of contingency landfill areas.
- Commenced planning for closure and rehabilitation of existing waste facilities.

Key issues and constraints identified through this review, and requiring further action over the Strategy period, include:

- The BWMF has finite remaining airspace. Current estimates indicate a remaining operational life extending to 2031. While a works approval for replacement landfill infrastructure has been issued, delivery remains dependent on detailed design, procurement and construction. Ongoing airspace management and timely delivery of replacement capacity will be required to support continuity of service.
- The Shire's future waste system is dependent on the delivery of the RRRP, including initial CRC and LWF infrastructure and subsequent landfill development. Delivery represents a significant capital and operational undertaking and will require appropriate resourcing, coordination and project capability over the Strategy period.
- The operating model for the RRRP has not yet been determined, including the balance between in-house delivery, contracted services, or hybrid arrangements. Early definition will be required to support workforce planning and operational readiness.

- The CRC and LWF will introduce new services to the community and operational requirements. Planning for workforce capability, procedures and systems will be required to support effective commissioning and operation.
- During the transition period, existing facilities will continue to operate alongside new infrastructure at the RRRP. This will result in concurrent operations across multiple sites and will require coordinated management and planning to support effective service delivery.
- While new landfill infrastructure is planned, contingency arrangements for landfill capacity have not yet been defined. Planning for alternative pathways will be required to support flexibility during the transition period.
- The BWMF and Lot 400 will require progressive closure and rehabilitation over time. These activities will require coordinated planning, resourcing and financial provision alongside delivery of new infrastructure.

4.2 WASTE SERVICES AND OPERATIONS

The Shire of Broome comprises three distinct zones: the town of Broome, Dampier Peninsula, and all other areas within the boundary of the Shire. Each zone is serviced by different waste management services, supported by the BWMF.

4.2.1 BROOME TOWNSITE

The Broome townsite receives the most comprehensive waste services within the Shire, including:

- Weekly kerbside general waste collection
- Fortnightly kerbside recycling
- Domestic drop-off services and recovery options at the BWMF
- Periodic free disposal weekends and free domestic waste disposal passes
- Targeted assisted disposal services, including the pensioner skip bin service.

Since 2020, the Shire has:

- Secured kerbside waste and recycling services through the review and award of a new collection contract, providing service continuity through to June 2031 (including extension options at Council's discretion).
- Undertaken a review of pre-cyclone waste clean-up services, with the current service model retained following assessment of cost and value for money and public safety.
- Reviewed usage of the free domestic waste passes, with approximately 34% of domestic waste disposed of under the free waste pass system and around 17% of ratepayers redeeming multiple passes annually.
- Recently transitioned (through contract) to processing commingled recyclables through a metropolitan material recovery facility with advanced sorting capability. This provides an opportunity to recover a higher proportion of recyclable material from mixed loads.
- Secured grant funding through the Waste Authority Waste Sorted Infrastructure grant and E-waste Infrastructure grant for improved resource recovery at the BWMF.

Several service-related actions are ongoing or partially progressed, largely where they intersect with longer-term infrastructure or behaviour-based outcomes and include:

- Kerbside recycling services are available across the Broome townsite; however, contamination rates remain high and variable between areas, with recent audits indicating

contamination levels typically ranging between 40% and 60%, with some areas consistently performing worse than others.

- Resource recovery services continue to operate, with increased recovery achieved for specific material streams (including scrap metal and green waste). However, analysis indicates that current recovery rates remain below long-term targets, and further infrastructure would be required to significantly improve diversion.
- Alignment of services with DWER expectations and evolving practice standards is ongoing, including assessment of upgrade requirements and associated costs.
- Assisted disposal services, including free tipping weekends and the pensioner skip service, continue to be provided; however, further review is required to confirm effectiveness, utilisation and value for money.
- Delivery of a reuse and recycling shop, including defining an operational approach, was deferred based on development timelines for the new RRRP.

4.2.2 DAMPIER PENINSULA

The Dampier Peninsula comprises a dispersed population, a high proportion of Aboriginal communities, tourism-based operations, and remote access conditions. The Shire of Broome does not provide municipal waste services on the Peninsula. Waste services and infrastructure are managed by individual communities, tourism operators and service providers, outside of local government care and control.

Waste management practices remain relatively basic, with limited access to compliant disposal infrastructure, minimal recovery options, and significant reliance on local disposal sites. In most locations, unmanaged disposal and burning continue to pose environmental and public health risks.

A *Dampier Peninsula Waste Management Plan* (DPWMP) (ASK, 2020) was prepared to examine waste management challenges and identify potential improvement pathways for the region. The Plan identified significant structural constraints, including remoteness, transport distances, limited infrastructure, and complex governance and funding arrangements involving multiple agencies.

Since the previous Waste Strategy, limited progress has been made in implementing actions identified in the DPWMP. The Shire has undertaken advocacy and engagement with the Department of Communities, including supporting a feasibility assessment for a waste transfer station on the Dampier Peninsula.

While initial investigation has occurred, including consideration of funding for construction and operation, the project has not progressed beyond feasibility investigation. Broader implementation of the Plan has also been constrained, with no formal multi-agency governance structure established and responsibility for progressing actions remaining largely within State agencies.

As a result, progress to date has been incremental and has not resulted in substantive changes to waste service delivery outcomes.

4.2.3 REST OF SHIRE

Outside the Broome townsite and Dampier Peninsula, the Shire encompasses a number of smaller settlements, tourism-based locations and remote areas, including places such as 12 Mile, Coconut Wells, Willie Creek, Barn Hill, 80 Mile Beach and other coastal and inland locations.

The Shire does not provide kerbside waste services to these areas. Waste management is primarily undertaken through:

- Self-haul and voucher-based arrangements

- Privately managed disposal sites associated with tourism or commercial operations
- Informal or unmanaged disposal practices in more remote locations.

Since the last strategy, the Shire has investigated extending municipal waste services to some of these areas, including 12 Mile and Coconut Wells; however, it did not receive sufficient community support to progress.

As a result, waste management in these areas continues to be constrained by large transport distances and low economies of scale, limiting options for recovery and recycling.

4.2.4 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES (OUTSIDE DAMPIER PENINSULA)

Several Aboriginal communities are located within the Shire of Broome outside the Dampier Peninsula. These include Bidyadanga, Western Australia's largest Aboriginal community, with approximately 700–850 residents and located about 180 km south of Broome.

Waste service delivery arrangements in these communities differ significantly from those in the Broome townsite and are not managed by the Shire. In many remote Aboriginal communities across Western Australia, municipal services are delivered under State-funded programs that provide a basic level of service, including waste collection and disposal, road maintenance and landfill management. These services are generally limited in scope and are not equivalent to the standard of services provided by local governments

Bidyadanga, operates under a different model to smaller communities, with established local governance and service delivery arrangements. Municipal services, including waste collection and disposal, are delivered by the community, reflecting a higher level of local control and operational capacity.

Despite ongoing State investment in housing and essential services under broader reform initiatives aligned with Closing the Gap objectives, municipal waste services in remote Aboriginal communities remain variable and constrained by limited infrastructure, remoteness, and complex governance and funding arrangements.

As a result, the Shire has no direct role in waste service delivery within these communities, and any changes to service levels or infrastructure are dependent on State Government policy, funding, and community-led decision-making.

5 WASTE MANAGEMENT FOUNDATIONS

This section outlines the key foundational conditions that influence the Shire of Broome's ability to deliver waste management outcomes over the 2026–2030 period. It highlights the achievements since 2020 and identifies issues that will be carried over into the updated Strategy.

5.1 STRATEGIC PLANNING

Waste management is aligned with the Shire of Broome's adopted strategic and planning framework, including the *Council Plan 2025 – 2035* and the *Local Planning Strategy 2021*. These documents establish waste as a core municipal responsibility, guide the transition to improved waste infrastructure and advocate for improved outcomes for remote communities.

Since the previous Strategy, a new Council Plan has been adopted, introducing updated waste-related actions and carrying forward key initiatives, including the RRRP. Key waste-related actions include:

- Review the waste strategy and action plan to determine if the objectives have been met and prepare a new plan to meet outstanding community needs
- Advocate for the progression of the Dampier Peninsula Waste Management Plan.
- Implement the Landfill Closure Plan for Broome Waste Management Facility
- Advocate for funding for the RRRP
- Construct a CRC and LWF at the RRRP
- Relocate the existing landfill to the RRRP.

Actions identified in the Council Plan have been incorporated into this Strategy to ensure alignment between strategic planning, infrastructure delivery and long-term waste management outcomes.

This Strategy will sit within the Shire's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework. Actions are delivered through the Council Plan and supported by the Long-Term Financial Plan and annual budgets.

5.2 POLICIES AND PROCUREMENT

The Shire has made progress integrating waste objectives into broader policy, regulatory and planning frameworks, including:

- Council endorsement of the Waste Strategy review process through the strategic planning framework
- Establishment of environmentally sustainable procurement guidelines to support waste reduction and recovery outcomes
- Adoption of the Shire of Broome Waste Local Law 2021, providing a contemporary regulatory framework for compliance and enforcement
- Completion of an initial review of waste and recycling service contracts
- Endorsement of amendments to the Shire of Broome Local Planning Scheme No. 7, supporting implementation of the Waste Strategy and delivery of waste infrastructure.

These initiatives provide a strong foundation to support waste management outcomes.

Development of a dedicated emergency waste management framework remains ongoing over the next strategy period. The Shire is participating in a Western Australian Local Government

Association (WALGA) led working group to inform the preparation of an emergency waste management plan, recognising the Shire's exposure to cyclones, flooding and extreme weather events.

State and national policy settings continue to evolve, particularly in relation to the circular economy, plastics reduction and resource recovery. The Shire's policy framework will require ongoing review to ensure it continues to effectively support waste management outcomes.

5.3 DATA, INFORMATION AND ECONOMICS

Over the last five years, the Shire has strengthened data and financial foundations that support waste management decision-making. Achievements include:

- Improved waste data reporting, with review and implementation of more accurate waste data collection and reporting processes.
- Development of a Waste Services Financial Model (2025) to support whole-of-life financial assessment of the RRRP and CRC. This work informs future updates to the Shire's Long-Term Financial Plan. At the time of report development, the outcome of this funding model was unknown.
- Ongoing annual review of waste management facility fees and charges, to ensure costs associated with waste processing are appropriately recovered and responsive to changing market conditions.
- Provision for future audits within the kerbside collection contract, enabling bin audits to be undertaken at the Shire's discretion to support data quality and service performance monitoring.

While these initiatives provide a strong foundation, further work is required to support integrated financial planning and long-term sustainability of the waste system. Key issues that will require action over the Strategy period include:

- The RRRP is a long-lived infrastructure asset with significant capital, operational, renewal and closure costs. While approximately \$38 million has been included in the *Long Term Financial Plan* (LTFP) (Shire of Broome, 2023) to 2038, this appears to primarily support initial delivery and does not clearly capture the full capital and operational costs required over time. Indicative modelling (Talis, 2021) suggests substantially higher whole-of-life costs. It is not yet clear how the full cost of the RRRP will be funded and supported over time.
- Cost recovery across waste services is not consistently applied. Waste generated through Shire capital projects is not routinely quantified or charged, resulting in lost revenue. There is no clear process for capturing internal charges (e.g. for green waste or mixed loads delivered by Shire departments), and no defined process for approving or managing fee waivers.

Addressing these issues will improve cost recovery and support long-term financial sustainability.

5.4 BEHAVIOUR CHANGE PROGRAMS

The Shire has recently strengthened its behaviour change capability through the appointment of a part-time waste education officer. This has supported the delivery of waste education workshops, community events and the introduction of the Community Waste Reduction and Recycling Initiative through the Shire's Quick Response Grants.

While this provides a strong starting point, behaviour change remains an emerging function and will require further development to support consistent and effective delivery over the Strategy period.

Key issues and constraints relating to the delivery of behaviour change initiatives, requiring action over the Strategy period, include:

- Waste education and engagement activities are not currently delivered through a coordinated, long-term program. A more structured approach would improve consistency, strengthen alignment with strategic priorities and support sustained behaviour change over time.
- Behaviour change activities are primarily delivered by the Shire, with limited formal involvement from external stakeholders such as contractors, schools, businesses and community organisations (not-for-profits). Greater involvement of partners would extend program reach and improve the effectiveness of engagement across the community.
- Recent community initiatives have established a mechanism to support local participation, while grant funding has been limited, community participation has been promising.
- The introduction of new infrastructure at the RRRP will change how services are accessed and used by the community. Clear and coordinated communication will support a smooth transition and effective use of the new services.

5.5 LITTER & ILLEGAL DUMPING MANAGEMENT

Litter and illegal dumping remain ongoing challenges for the Shire and continue to be a key concern for the community. These issues are influenced by factors such as tourism activity, transient populations, dispersed settlement patterns and distance to waste facilities.

Management of litter and illegal dumping is undertaken through a combination of regulation, compliance activity and access-based services including free disposal allowances. Responsibility for management is shared across multiple land tenures, including Shire-managed land and Yawuru Park Council reserves managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Management arrangements remain largely reactive.

The Shire does not currently have a standalone litter and illegal dumping strategy. The previous *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy* identified the development of a litter and illegal dumping strategy and the establishment of a cross-agency litter and illegal dumping working group as priority actions. These actions have not been fully completed and remain relevant.

Baseline data on the extent, location and drivers of littering and illegal dumping are currently being established.

Illegal dumping continues to occur in certain areas, influenced by tourism activity, transient populations, dispersed settlement patterns and distance to facilities. The large geographic area and limited resources make consistent surveillance and timely response challenging.

5.6 REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

Regional collaboration across the Kimberley has been challenging to progress, despite previous planning efforts. The *Kimberley Regional Waste Management Plan (2018–2023)* (ASK, 2018) identified a range of regional opportunities, but implementation has been limited due to governance complexity, coordination challenges and resourcing constraints.

These constraints reflect broader structural challenges across the region. Local governments operate with small rate bases, dispersed populations and large service areas, which limits the ability to deliver infrastructure and services at scale. Additional pressures include ageing landfill infrastructure, increasing regulatory requirements, limited access to processing facilities and end markets, and ongoing reliance on landfill disposal.

These challenges are compounded by limited organisational capacity, seasonal population fluctuations, and the complexity of servicing remote and Aboriginal communities, where responsibilities are shared across multiple agencies. As a result, many of the underlying drivers of poor waste outcomes are beyond the control of individual local governments.

Despite these constraints, opportunities exist where collaboration is targeted, practical and aligned with shared priorities. These include:

- Coordinated advocacy to State and Commonwealth governments to address funding constraints, disaster waste management and remote community service delivery.
- Regional data sharing and aggregation, to support consistent reporting, benchmarking and identification of opportunities for collaboration.
- Knowledge sharing and capability building, particularly in landfill operations, compliance and system improvement.
- Improved procurement and standards alignment to support recycling outcomes and consistency across the region.
- Regional logistics and material consolidation, including coordinated transport, backloading and hub-and-spoke approaches to aggregate low-volume or problem waste streams (e.g. tyres, e-waste).

Effective regional collaboration will require a clear focus on achievable outcomes, strong coordination, and alignment with available resources. In practice, available local government resources are largely committed to core service delivery within individual Shires, limiting the capacity to progress regional initiatives. As such, meaningful regional collaboration is likely to require dedicated coordination capacity and/or support through State Government funding to enable sustained progress.

Further detail on regional waste management challenges and opportunities is provided in the Situational Analysis Report (**Appendix A**).

6 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

To inform the review and development of the Strategy, ASK worked in partnership with the Shire to deliver a multi-method community and stakeholder engagement program. The engagement aimed to gather insights into community attitudes, service use, system challenges, and priorities for future waste and recycling services.

The consultation summary presented in this section is drawn from the Consultation Outcomes Report (see **Appendix B**), which provides detailed information on engagement methodology, participation levels, and key findings.

6.1 ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

A mixed-method engagement framework was adopted, structured to move from broad community input through to more detailed and targeted insights. Engagement activities were undertaken between January and March 2026. These activities included:

- **Community Survey:** The community survey was the primary quantitative input and provided a consistent baseline across a range of topics, including service use, satisfaction, recycling behaviours, barriers and future priorities. The survey was made available online, with paper copies also provided to support accessibility. The survey received 139 responses, representing approximately 0.74% of the Shires' estimated population. This is below the sample size required for statistical representativeness and may not fully reflect the views of the broader community. As such, the findings should be viewed as indicative rather than representative. A summary of key survey results is provided in **Figure 6.1**.
- **Stakeholder Conversations:** Targeted stakeholder discussions were undertaken with key organisations, including Aboriginal organisations, waste operators and relevant State agencies. These discussions focused on challenges, priorities for improvement and opportunities for coordination/collaboration.
- **Community Engagement Stalls:** These were informal, place-based conversations that allowed residents to ask questions directly and raise issues that mattered to them in their day-to-day experience.
- **Community Workshops:** Two facilitated workshops were held, which allowed for more detailed discussion about barriers, concerns, priorities and longer-term aspirations, and helped explore the reasons behind survey responses.
- **Scorecard Review:** To provide broader trend data, existing community feedback sources were also reviewed, including the Markyt Community Scorecard results (2020, 2022 and 2024) and Voicebank (open text) comments.

6.2 KEY FINDINGS

A high level of consistency was observed across all engagement methods. While each method captured different aspects of the system, the same core issues and priorities were repeatedly identified.

6.2.1 LACK OF CONFIDENCE AND TRUST IN RECYCLING OUTCOMES

A lack of confidence in recycling outcomes emerged as the most prominent and consistent finding across all engagement activities. Community feedback repeatedly expressed scepticism about whether recyclable materials are recycled in practice, with uncertainty undermining trust in the system. This issue was raised through survey responses, Voicebank comments, engagement stalls

and workshops, where misinformation and negative perceptions were identified as barriers to participation. Confidence in recycling outcomes is a central factor influencing correct bin use and overall engagement with waste services.

6.2.2 PARTICIPATION DECLINES WHERE SERVICES REQUIRE EFFORT, TRANSPORT OR PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

Engagement findings consistently show that service uptake is strongly influenced by convenience and access. Kerbside services are used most frequently, while drop-off services and specialist recycling options are used far less often, despite being available. Survey results, engagement stalls and stakeholder feedback highlight the lack of suitable vehicles and the practical burden of self-haul as key constraints. These findings indicate that existing services may be under-utilised where participation is not simple or readily understood.

6.2.3 ORGANIC AND GREEN WASTE MANAGEMENT IS A HIGH PRIORITY COMMUNITY EXPECTATION

Strong demand for improved organic and green waste solutions was evident across all engagement activities. Community feedback highlighted frustration with the need to self-haul organic material to the landfill and concern about food and garden waste being disposed of to landfill. Green waste was also the most common material type dropped off at the BWMF, reinforcing its importance to residents. The need for accessible organic waste solutions improves convenience and environmental outcomes.

6.2.4 VERGE AND PRE-CYCLONE WASTE SERVICES ARE VIEWED AS ESSENTIAL

Verge collections and pre-cyclone waste services were consistently identified as essential community services. Community feedback emphasised the importance of verge collections, bulk waste options and free disposal opportunities for safety, town amenity and equitable access. Survey findings indicating low or intermittent participation in existing annual free disposal weekends were explained by factors such as transport constraints and limited waste generation at specific times, suggesting a service-fit issue rather than a lack of need.

6.2.5 LITTER AND ILLEGAL DUMPING ARE INFLUENCED BY SEASONAL AND LOCATION-SPECIFIC PRESSURES

Concerns relating to litter and illegal dumping were raised across engagement channels, particularly in relation to seasonal pressures and high-use areas. Community feedback highlighted the role of public place bin availability, timely clean-up and visible management in maintaining amenity. Stakeholder input reinforced these observations in relation to peak periods and known hotspots.

6.2.6 EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION ARE CRITICAL

Across all engagement methods, education and communication were identified as essential to improving participation and outcomes. Survey results show that uncertainty about what materials are accepted and where to dispose of specific waste types is a greater barrier than cost or willingness to participate. Workshops and stakeholder conversations reinforced the importance of clear and consistent information to build confidence, reduce contamination and support correct service use.

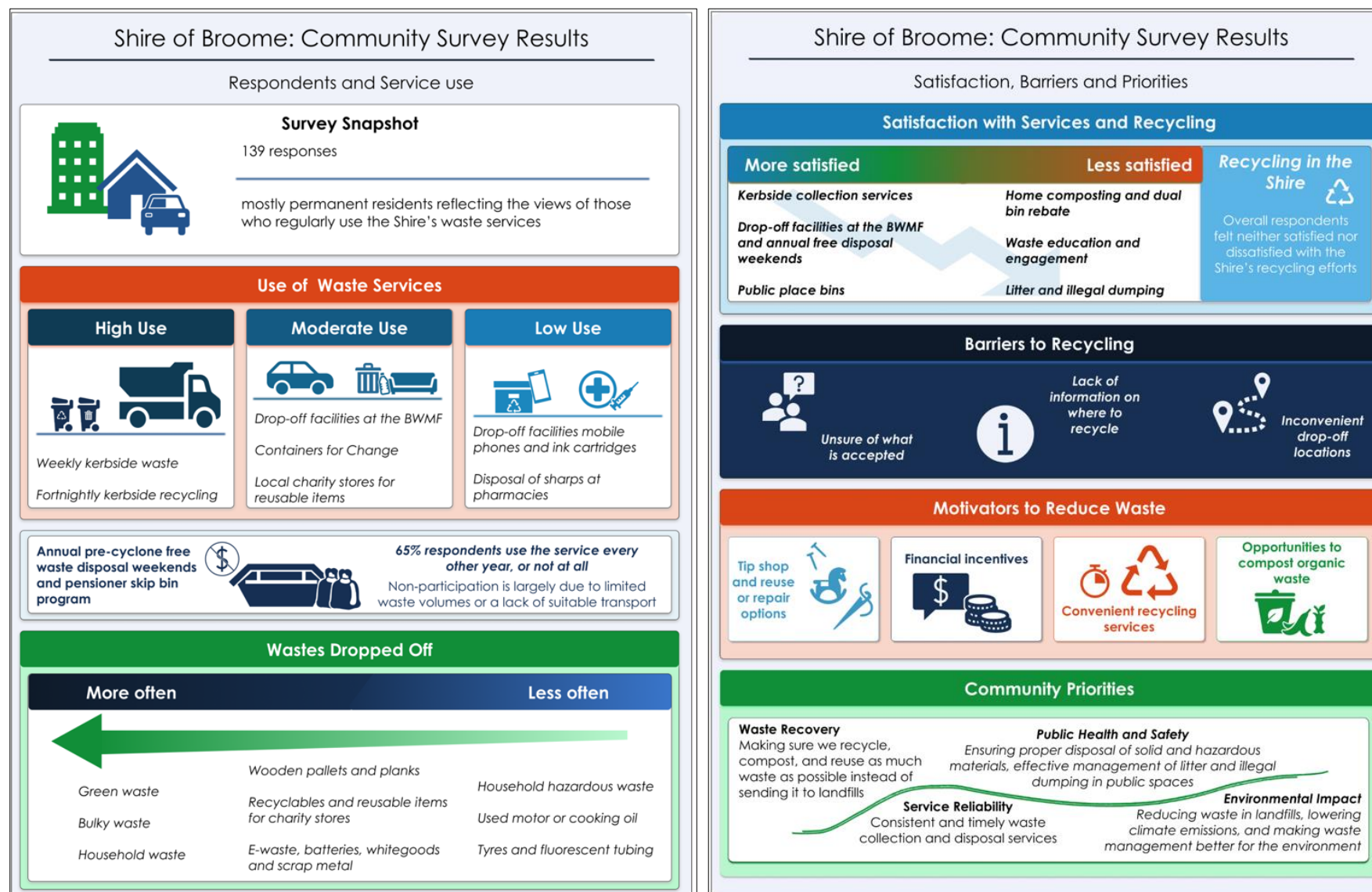
6.2.7 ACCESS AND EQUITY INFLUENCE HOW SERVICES ARE EXPERIENCED

Feedback consistently highlighted that not all households are equally able to access or use waste services. Transport availability, physical capacity and reliance on self-haul models were identified as limiting factors, particularly for lower-income households, older residents and those without

suitable vehicles. These equity considerations were raised across the survey, workshops and stakeholder conversations and influence how services are accessed and perceived.

Overall, the engagement findings indicate that community experience and satisfaction with waste services are shaped by a combination of service performance, access to appropriate services (particularly bulk, green and organic waste options), confidence in outcomes, and clarity of information.

Figure 6.1: Community survey summary outcomes



7 ACTION PLAN

This section outlines the strategic actions required to improve waste management outcomes over the Strategy period. Actions respond to the findings and priorities identified in Sections 4, 5 and 6 and are structured to support practical implementation.

Actions have been grouped into categories and presented in a consistent format. Each action table includes the following information:

- Findings: key insights identified during development of the Strategy.
- Issues: challenges or implications arising from the findings.
- Key steps: high-level implementation considerations.
- Cost: indicative cost range to support planning and prioritisation.
- Priority: timing for implementation, categorised as **short term** (one to two years), **medium term** (three to four years) or **long term** (five years or more).

A summary of each category and supporting actions is provided below to show the overall structure of the Action Plan.

The detailed tables that follow set out the findings, issues, key steps, indicative costs and implementation priorities for each action. Actions are intended to be delivered progressively and are supported by the implementation framework in **Section 8**.

1: Waste Infrastructure and Operations

Ensure the Shire's waste infrastructure and operations are environmentally responsible, compliant, and aligned with better practice standards to support long-term waste management and resource recovery. The actions include:

- Facilitate the delivery of the RRRP
- Facilitate the transition to split waste disposal operations
- Provide landfill contingency arrangements
- Regulate and optimise airspace use to support transition to the RRRP
- Facilitate the progressive closure of the BWMF and Lot 400 sites
- Provide a RRRP asset management plan

2: Waste Services

Deliver efficient, accessible and inclusive waste services that support waste avoidance, enhance material recovery, and safeguard public health and the environment. The actions include:

- Provide and facilitate improved kerbside recycling performance
- Facilitate investigations into solutions to improve bulky household waste removal and disposal
- Facilitate investigations into improved green and organic waste service options
- Facilitate the establishment of the RRRP reuse shop operating and management models
- Facilitate improved MSW resource recovery outcomes
- Facilitate targeted C&I waste diversion
- Advocate and partner to progress the DPWMP
- Provide a clear waste service framework for outer Shire communities

- Facilitate a review of future kerbside service options

3: Data, Information and Economics

Establish a robust data and information framework to support decision-making and enhance the effectiveness of the Shire's waste management planning. The actions include:

- Provide and maintain a sustainable financial framework for the RRRP
- Regulate and manage cost recovery for waste services

4: Policy and Procurement

Strengthen governance and planning processes to enable strategic waste outcomes. The actions include:

- Provide an emergency waste management plan
- Regulate and maintain waste policy alignment with state and national requirements

5: Litter and Illegal Dumping

Move towards zero illegal dumping and reduce litter by 2035. The actions include:

- Provide a litter and illegal dumping strategy
- Partner to address litter and illegal dumping

6: Behaviour Change

Empower the community to reduce waste and improve recycling through sustained education and engagement. The actions include:

- Fund and deliver an annual waste education and engagement program
- Partner to deliver behaviour change initiatives
- Provide communication and engagement plans to support the RRRP transition

7: Regional Efficiencies

Advance regional collaboration to improve waste outcomes and infrastructure investment. The actions include:

- Partner and deliver regional waste management outcomes through the Kimberley Regional Waste Management Plan
- Advocate for state leadership to address regional and remote waste management challenges

8: Aboriginal Communities

Ensure waste services and infrastructure meet the needs of Aboriginal communities. The actions include:

- Advocate for and support improved waste outcomes in remote Aboriginal communities

7.1 WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

7.1.1 FACILITATE THE DELIVERY OF THE RRRP

Delivery of the RRRP is a major strategic priority and will require a coordinated program of works to support transition to a new waste management system.

Priority: Short term			
Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>The BWMF is approaching the end of its operational life.</p> <p>The Shire has committed to development of the RRRP, including Phase 1 (CRC and LWF) and a future Class III landfill.</p> <p>Planning, approvals and technical design for Phase 1 infrastructure are in place, with construction expected during the Strategy period.</p> <p>The CRC and LWF are scheduled for delivery and commissioning within the Strategy period and will introduce new services, waste streams and operational requirements.</p> <p>A works approval for the Class III landfill has been issued, establishing a pathway for delivery of future disposal infrastructure.</p> <p>An operating model for the RRRP has not yet been defined and will need to be determined prior to commissioning.</p>	<p>Remaining landfill capacity is limited, creating a need to ensure timely delivery of replacement infrastructure to maintain continuity of service.</p> <p>Delivery of Phase 1 represents a significant undertaking and will require dedicated project management, coordination and access to specialist expertise.</p> <p>Introduction of new infrastructure and services will require alignment of operational systems, workforce capability and service settings to support effective commissioning and ongoing performance.</p> <p>Timely progression from approval to delivery is required to ensure replacement landfill capacity is available as existing airspace is exhausted.</p> <p>The absence of a defined operating model limits the ability to plan workforce arrangements, procurement and operational systems required for commissioning and ongoing operation.</p>	<p>Delivery of Phase 1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a coordinated approach to delivery, including governance, resourcing and oversight 2. Progress construction and commissioning <p>Determine operating model</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Determine a preferred operating model for the RRRP, aligned with service, financial and risk considerations 4. Establish governance and contractual arrangements to support delivery of the operating model 5. Define the operational framework, including performance requirements and responsibilities <p>Landfill Delivery (Phase 2)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Deliver landfill infrastructure to align with future capacity requirements 7. Monitor landfill airspace and align delivery timing with system needs <p>Operational readiness</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Prepare operational systems, processes and workforce capability to support new services 9. Establish service settings, including fees and charges, aligned with cost recovery principles 	<p>Capital project - refer to the LTFP and capital works program for delivery of Phase 1 and 2 (includes project management, construction and delivery costs). Construction costs are provided separately within the LTFP</p> <p>Operation: \$50k-\$200k, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating model options assessment (internal or external) • Procurement and contract development support (if required) • Development of performance and contract management frameworks <p>Operational readiness: \$100k-\$250k, includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational planning and procedures • Staff training and commissioning support • Communication and education materials

7.1.2 FACILITATE THE TRANSITION TO SPLIT WASTE DISPOSAL OPERATIONS

Priority: Short term

Findings	Issues	Key Steps	Estimated Cost
During the staged transition to the RRRP, there is expected to be a period where the RRRP is operational and receiving waste, while bulk landfilling continues at the BWMF. At the time of assessment, the operating configuration for this transition period, including site roles (e.g. weighbridge and gatehouse functions) and the most efficient approach to waste movement and disposal, has not been defined.	Transitioning to a multi-site system will increase complexity in service delivery, including coordination across facilities, changes to waste handling arrangements and additional resourcing requirements. The selected operating configuration will also directly influence operating costs and workforce requirements. Without a clearly defined and optimised approach, there is a risk of inefficient service delivery and increased costs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define an operating approach for managing multiple waste facilities during transition. 2. Assess and determine efficient waste handling and transfer arrangements across facilities. 3. Develop a transition plan outlining the staged implementation pathway, site roles, resourcing needs, communication arrangements, waste movement protocols and key decision points. 4. Implement and manage agreed arrangements. 5. Monitor and refine operations as the system transitions. 	<p>\$10k–\$25k to assess and determine the preferred operating configuration (internal or external support),</p> <p>\$150k–\$300k per annum (during transition period), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional staffing and coordination • Waste transport between facilities (if required)

7.1.3 PROVIDE LANDFILL CONTINGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

Priority: Short term

Findings	Issues	Key Steps	Estimated Cost
While planning and approvals for the RRRP have progressed, construction of the new Class III landfill has not yet commenced. Forecasts indicate that existing landfill airspace may be exhausted between 2028 and 2031. Currently, no defined contingency pathway is in place if the Buckleys Road landfill reaches capacity earlier than forecast.	Without defined contingency arrangements, there is a risk that the Shire will be unable to respond effectively if landfill capacity is exhausted earlier than forecast, potentially impacting service continuity and increasing costs.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and evaluate contingency options for landfill capacity. 2. Establish a preferred approach to maintain service continuity if required. 	\$25–\$50k including internal assessment and planning

7.1.4 REGULATE AND OPTIMISE AIRSPACE USE TO SUPPORT THE TRANSITION TO THE RRRP

Priority: Short term

Findings	Issues	Action	Estimated Cost
The BWMF has finite remaining landfill airspace, current projections indicate closure between 2028 and 2031 based on forecast waste volumes. Landfill performance, including waste composition and operational practices will influence the rate of airspace consumption and the remaining operational life. The timing of replacement landfill infrastructure at the RRRP will need to align with remaining airspace to support continuity of service during the transition period.	<p>Landfill airspace consumption directly influences the remaining operational life of the BWMF and the timing of transition to the RRRP.</p> <p>Without a coordinated approach to managing airspace and aligning it with delivery of replacement infrastructure, there is reduced flexibility during the transition period and increased pressure on timely delivery of the RRRP landfill.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish a strategic approach to landfill airspace management to support the transition period 2. Monitor landfill performance and airspace consumption to inform planning and timing of replacement infrastructure 3. Align airspace management with delivery of the RRRP landfill to support continuity of service 	<p>\$10k–\$50k per annum, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal review and planning • Minor operational improvements

7.1.5 FACILITATE THE PROGRESSIVE CLOSURE OF THE BWMF AND LOT 400 SITES

Priority: Short term		Medium term	Long term
Findings	Issues	Action	Estimated Cost
The BWMF and Lot 400 sites will require progressive closure and rehabilitation in line with approved closure planning requirements. Closure will occur over multiple years.	Closure and rehabilitation will occur over multiple years and will require significant financial, operational and material resources. These requirements will coincide with delivery of new infrastructure at the RRRP, creating competition for staff, and operational capacity. Without adequate planning and resourcing, there is a risk of delays, increased costs and potential environmental risks.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan and implement progressive closure of completed landfill areas over time. 2. Allocate and manage financial and operational resources to support staged closure activities. 3. Monitor and review closure progress and adjust staging as required. 	Capital project – refer LTFP and capital works program

7.1.6 PROVIDE A RRRP ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

Priority: Long term			
Findings	Issues	Action	Estimated Cost
The RRRP, CRC, LWF and future Class III landfill will introduce significant new waste management assets requiring coordinated lifecycle management.	Without a structured asset management approach, there is a risk of unplanned failures, increased maintenance costs, inadequate renewal funding and poor integration with the Shire's long-term financial planning processes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop an Asset Management Plan for the RRRP. 2. Establish asset registers and condition assessment requirements. 3. Define maintenance, inspection and renewal programs. 4. Forecast lifecycle costs and future capital replacement needs. 5. Integrate into the Shire's corporate asset management system and Long-Term Financial Plan. 	\$30k–\$80k, depending on the extent of asset data collection and integration with corporate asset management systems.

7.2 WASTE SERVICES

7.2.1 PROVIDE AND FACILITATE IMPROVED KERBSIDE RECYCLING PERFORMANCE

Priority: Short term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>Contamination in kerbside recycling remains high across the Shire, with recent audits indicating rates of between 40% and 60%. In highly contaminated areas, recycling loads may be unsuitable for processing and disposed of to landfill, with these practices visible to the community.</p> <p>The Shire has recently transitioned to processing commingled recyclables through a metropolitan facility with advanced sorting capability. This provides an opportunity to improve recovery outcomes.</p>	<p>High contamination continues to reduce the effectiveness of kerbside recycling, increasing processing and disposal costs and limiting overall recovery performance. Where loads are rejected or disposed of to landfill, this undermines community confidence.</p> <p>Improved processing alone will not address the underlying causes of contamination. Without targeted intervention, contamination levels are likely to remain high, reducing service efficiency and increasing costs.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess contamination drivers and priority areas for intervention across the Shire. 2. Develop and implement a targeted education and engagement approach to improve recycling behaviours. (See action 7.6.1) 3. Review and implement service controls, where appropriate, to improve material quality (e.g. service eligibility, feedback mechanisms). 4. Monitor and report on contamination rates to inform ongoing service improvement. 	<p>Internal resourcing - assessment, service review and monitoring.</p>

7.2.2 FACILITATE INVESTIGATIONS INTO SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE BULKY HOUSEHOLD WASTE REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL

Priority: Medium term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>Community consultation identified demand for more accessible bulky waste disposal options, particularly during peak periods and for households with limited capacity to self-haul waste.</p> <p>The Shire does not have a formal bulky waste collection service, with reliance on self-haul and ad hoc support mechanisms.</p> <p>A targeted pensioner skip bin program is in place, however, it has expanded in use beyond its original intent, including to support clean-ups for vulnerable households.</p>	<p>Community demand for more convenient disposal options, if not appropriately managed, has the potential to drive higher costs and inefficient service responses.</p> <p>Reliance on self-haul disposal creates access constraints for some households, contributing to inequitable services across the community.</p> <p>Existing arrangements place increasing pressure on the pensioner skip bin program, which is being used beyond its intended purpose and is not structured to manage broader community demand.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review current bulky household waste services, including scope and utilisation of existing programs. 2. Assess and evaluate options to improve access to bulky waste disposal considering cost, equity, and operational implications. 3. Define a clear policy framework for bulky waste services, including the purpose and use of the skip bin program. 	<p>\$50k–\$85k for service review and options assessment (depending on delivery scope and approach).</p>

7.2.3 FACILITATE INVESTIGATIONS INTO IMPROVED GREEN AND ORGANIC WASTE SERVICE OPTIONS

Priority: Medium term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>Community and stakeholder engagement identified strong demand for improved green and food waste management options.</p> <p>At present, households are required to self-haul green waste to disposal facilities, with green waste representing one of the most</p>	<p>Without accessible and practical organics management options, households are likely to continue relying on self-haul disposal, limiting recovery of organic material and placing pressure on landfill capacity.</p> <p>This is inconsistent with State and national policy directions to reduce the</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess green and food waste volumes and composition within the Shire. 2. Assess processing pathways and market viability. 3. Undertake a high-level feasibility assessment of identified options, considering local conditions, costs and operational constraints. 	<p>\$60k–\$80k for service review and options assessment (depending on delivery scope and approach)</p>

commonly managed materials at the landfill. Kerbside FOGO has been considered previously but is not considered feasible under existing operational and market conditions.	disposal of organic waste to landfill due to its contribution to climate emissions.		
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7.2.4 FACILITATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RRRP REUSE SHOP OPERATING AND MANAGEMENT MODELS

Priority: Medium term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
The RRRP Masterplan includes a new Reuse shop within the CRC, with construction of the facility scheduled within the Strategy period. Previous Shire planning indicates that a community-based or not-for-profit management model may be appropriate, however the operational scope and management model have not yet been finalised.	Determination of the operational management model will require sufficient lead time to support workforce planning, contract development, systems establishment and commissioning preparation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define the operational scope of the reuse shop, including material streams, expected volumes and service objectives. 2. Determine a preferred management model based on financial sustainability, diversion outcomes and community benefit. 3. Undertake an appropriate procurement or engagement process (e.g. Expression of Interest) to identify a suitable operator. 4. Establish operational and governance frameworks for the reuse shop, aligned with relevant industry guidance (e.g. WALGA reuse shop guidance), to support safe and compliant operation. 	\$40k–\$80k for operating model, service definition and market engagement (depending on delivery scope and approach).

7.2.5 FACILITATE IMPROVED MSW RESOURCE RECOVERY OUTCOMES

Priority: Medium term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>The Shire's current resource recovery rate for municipal waste streams remains below the targets set out in the Western Australian WARR Strategy 2030.</p> <p>Regional and remote constraints, including limited local processing infrastructure, transport distances and market access, restrict the range of viable recovery options available to improve performance.</p>	<p>Improving resource recovery from municipal streams will require identifying and implementing locally appropriate opportunities that can deliver incremental improvements from current performance levels.</p> <p>Without a clear and realistic pathway to improvement, there is a risk that effort and investment may not deliver meaningful gains in recovery outcomes.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement targeted initiatives identified in this Strategy (Actions 7.2.1 – 7.2.4) to improve recovery performance. 2. Identify and prioritise other locally feasible opportunities to improve resource recovery, aligned with infrastructure, market access and service constraints. 3. Monitor and report on recovery performance to track progress against benchmarks and inform ongoing improvement. 	<p>\$20k–\$60k per annum (ongoing coordination, monitoring and assessment of opportunities, largely delivered internally).</p>

7.2.6 FACILITATE TARGETED C&I WASTE DIVERSION

Priority: Medium term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>C&I waste is the largest waste stream managed by the Shire, accounting for approximately 52% of total waste generation and representing the primary driver of future waste growth.</p> <p>Recovery rates remain low, with substantial quantities of mixed commercial waste disposed of to landfill</p>	<p>Without targeted intervention, C&I waste is likely to continue driving landfill demand and limiting overall resource recovery performance.</p> <p>Commercial waste generators have different drivers and service requirements to households and are unlikely to be significantly influenced through municipal waste initiatives alone.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyse C&I waste data to identify priority sectors, material streams and major waste generators. 2. Identify practical opportunities to improve source separation and diversion of priority materials. 3. Engage with businesses and industry stakeholders to identify barriers and opportunities for recovery. 4. Develop and implement targeted diversion initiatives for priority sectors and materials. 5. Monitor and report on diversion outcomes and program effectiveness. 	<p>\$20k–\$60k per annum (ongoing coordination, monitoring and assessment of opportunities, largely delivered internally).</p>

7.2.7 ADVOCATE AND PARTNER TO PROGRESS THE DPWMP

Priority: Short term		Medium term	Long term
Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>The <i>Dampier Peninsula Waste Management Plan (2020)</i> identifies significant waste management challenges within the Peninsula, including limited access to compliant infrastructure, reliance on unmanaged disposal practices and complex governance arrangements.</p> <p>While the area sits within the Shire boundary, service delivery is shared across Aboriginal communities and the Department of Communities (Western Australia), placing many issues outside direct Shire control.</p>	<p>The Shire has limited direct ability to deliver infrastructure or services in the Peninsula.</p> <p>Progress is dependent on sustained State Government leadership, coordinated funding, and clear allocation of responsibilities across agencies and communities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advocate for improved waste management outcomes through engagement with the Department of Communities and other key stakeholders. 2. Partner with relevant organisations and communities to support coordinated and culturally appropriate approaches to service delivery. 3. Support and influence the progression of identified actions and funding opportunities, where aligned with Shire priorities. 	<p>Internal resourcing – ongoing advocacy and partnership activity.</p>

7.2.8 PROVIDE A CLEAR WASTE SERVICE FRAMEWORK FOR OUTER SHIRE COMMUNITIES

Priority: Long term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>Outside the Broome townsite and the Dampier Peninsula, the Shire services a number of dispersed and low-density settlements where conventional waste services are not feasible.</p> <p>Waste management in these areas is primarily through self-haul to disposal facilities, voucher-based arrangements and private or informal disposal methods.</p> <p>Previous investigations into expanding municipal services to these areas have not progressed due to limited community support and high service delivery costs.</p>	<p>Without a clear and documented service position, residents may have unclear or inconsistent expectations regarding the level of service provided. This may result in confusion, inequitable access, and ongoing pressure to expand services that are not financially sustainable.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Define and document a waste service position for outer Shire areas, outlining how the Shire will support residents (e.g. vouchers, facility access, information and guidance). 2. Communicate the service approach as required. 3. Review and update the service approach as needs and service arrangements change. 	<p>Internal resourcing</p>

7.2.9 FACILITATE A REVIEW OF FUTURE KERBSIDE SERVICE OPTIONS

Priority: Medium term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
The Shire currently provides a weekly general waste and fortnightly recycling service to the Broome townsite through a long-term collection contract (to 2031). Kerbside recycling contamination rates remain high (typically 40–60%), creating uncertainty around recovery outcomes and the cost-effectiveness of the existing service model.	Without reviewing future service options, the Shire may be unable to determine whether the current service configuration continues to represent the most effective, affordable and appropriate approach for the community. Early investigation is required to inform future procurement decisions and ensure service levels align with community expectations, recovery outcomes and value-for-money considerations.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the performance and cost-effectiveness of the current municipal waste service. 2. Assess alternative service models and service options. 3. Seek community input on future service preferences. 4. Evaluate options against cost, service and resource recovery outcomes. 5. Inform future service planning and procurement. 	Internal resourcing

7.3 DATA, INFORMATION AND ECONOMICS

7.3.1 PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN A SUSTAINABLE FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE RRRP

Priority: Short term		Medium term	Long term
Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>Delivery of the RRRP represents a significant long-term financial commitment. While approximately \$38 million has been included in the LTFP to 2038, this appears to primarily support initial delivery and does not capture the full capital and operational costs required over time. Indicative modelling (Talis, 2021) shows substantially higher whole-of-life costs, with ongoing operating costs making up a significant portion of total expenditure.</p> <p>Financial information for the RRRP is available across capital, operating and revenue areas, but is not currently presented as a clear picture of future costs and funding requirements.</p> <p>Advocacy for funding to support delivery of the RRRP is identified as a priority in the Council Plan</p>	<p>Financial planning does not currently provide a clear picture of the full cost of delivering and operating the RRRP over time, or how these costs will be funded. This limits the Shire's ability to plan for future investment, set appropriate fees and charges, and effectively advocate for external funding.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a consolidated economic model for the RRRP, bringing together capital, operating and lifecycle costs. 2. Use the model to identify major capital works and when they will be delivered, including staged development of the RRRP. 3. Use the model to define funding and revenue requirements, including rates, gate fees and external funding. 4. Align financial planning with model outputs, including integration with the LTFP. 5. Use this to support decision-making and advocacy for funding. 	Internal resourcing

7.3.2 REGULATE AND MANAGE COST RECOVERY FOR WASTE SERVICES

Priority: Medium term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>Current cost recovery and financial processes do not consistently capture the full cost of waste services.</p> <p>Waste associated with capital projects is not quantified or charged, and internal charging and fee waiver processes are not formalised, resulting in lost revenue and inconsistent cost allocation.</p> <p>Kerbside collection arrangements are a fixed pricing structure (e.g. payment per tenement) and may not reflect actual service use, limiting the Shire's ability to align costs with demand.</p>	<p>Without consistent cost recovery, internal charging processes and appropriate pricing structures, the Shire may not fully recover the cost of waste services or align costs with service use. This may result in revenue loss and higher overall service costs.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review cost recovery and charging arrangements across waste services, including collection contracts, internal charging and fee waiver processes. 2. Assess opportunities to improve cost recovery by aligning charging structures with service use and cost drivers. 3. Establish a consistent and transparent cost recovery approach across waste services. 	<p>Internal resourcing</p>

7.4 POLICY AND PROCUREMENT

7.4.1 PROVIDE AN EMERGENCY WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Priority: Medium term			
Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
The Shire is exposed to cyclones, flooding and extreme weather events that can generate large volumes of waste over short periods. While progress has been made through participation in a WALGA-led working group, a dedicated Emergency Waste Management framework for the Shire has not yet been finalised or embedded into existing policy and operational arrangements.	Without an established emergency waste management framework, the Shire may face increased operational, financial and environmental risk during disaster events. A lack of clear roles, procedures and disposal pathways may lead to inefficient response, pressure on existing waste infrastructure and diversion of resources from essential services during emergency situations.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop an Emergency Waste Management Plan for the Shire, aligned with regional and State frameworks. 2. Integrate the emergency waste plan into existing emergency management frameworks and operational planning. 	\$35k–\$70k development, depending on scope and delivery approach

7.4.2 REGULATE AND MAINTAIN WASTE POLICY ALIGNMENT WITH STATE AND NATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Short term		Medium term	Long term
Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
The Shire has implemented a range of policies and guidelines to support waste avoidance, recycling and sustainable procurement. State and national policy settings continue to evolve, particularly in relation to plastics reduction, circular economy and resource recovery.	Without ongoing review and alignment, existing policies may not reflect current regulatory requirements or best practice, reducing their effectiveness in supporting waste management outcomes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor changes in State and national waste policy and regulatory requirements. 2. Review and update Shire policies and practices as required to maintain alignment. 	Internal resourcing (business-as-usual monitoring and updates)

7.5 LITTER AND ILLEGAL DUMPING

7.5.1 PROVIDE A LITTER AND ILLEGAL DUMPING STRATEGY

Priority: Short term		Medium term	Long term
Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>Litter and illegal dumping remain ongoing challenges for the Shire and continue to be a key concern for the community.</p> <p>A comprehensive litter and illegal dumping strategy was identified as a priority in the previous Waste Strategy but has not yet been developed or implemented.</p>	<p>The Shire does not have a coordinated framework to guide the management of litter and illegal dumping, including clear roles, priorities and response approaches.</p> <p>This limits the ability to deliver a consistent and proactive approach, and reduces the effectiveness of investment in prevention, education and enforcement activities.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a Shire-wide litter and illegal dumping strategy to guide coordination, prioritisation and management of activities, including data capture, prevention, education, enforcement and response measures. 2. Identify and prioritise key drivers, locations and actions to improve management and prevention. 3. Implement and review the strategy over time to improve outcomes and inform ongoing service delivery. 	<p>\$30k–\$60k for development, depending on scope and delivery approach.</p> <p>The Keep Australia Beautiful Council Western Australia provides Community Litter Grants for projects and initiatives which aim to change littering behaviour.</p>

7.5.2 PARTNER TO ADDRESS LITTER AND ILLEGAL DUMPING

Priority: Medium term

Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>Responsibility for litter and illegal dumping management is shared across multiple stakeholders, including DBCA, the Shire, Main Roads and Yawuru Park Council.</p> <p>Consultation identified opportunities to improve collaboration through shared reporting, coordinated clean-ups and clearer communication in known hotspots and conservation areas.</p> <p>A multi-stakeholder working group was previously proposed but not established.</p>	<p>Limited coordination between land managers can result in delayed responses, duplicated effort and continued dumping in high-risk locations.</p> <p>Strengthening collaboration has the potential to improve response efficiency, reduce repeat dumping and better protect environmental and recreational assets with limited additional resource demand.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage key land managers to confirm interest and commitment to a coordinated approach for managing litter and illegal dumping. 2. Establish a coordinated approach to collaboration between key land managers. 3. Define roles, responsibilities and communication pathways to support coordinated response and management. 4. Facilitate ongoing collaboration through a working group or similar mechanism. 	<p>Largely internal, plus ongoing coordination.</p>

7.6 BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

7.6.1 FUND AND DELIVER AN ANNUAL WASTE EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

Priority: Short term		Medium term	long term
Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>Education and communication are key enablers of effective waste service use. Community consultation identified low confidence in recycling outcomes, confusion regarding correct service use and limited awareness of available waste services. Residents expressed uncertainty about whether materials placed in recycling bins are actually recycled and reported limited visibility of recycling processes and outcomes.</p> <p>Uptake of Community Waste Reduction & Recycling grants is limited, with awareness and clarity identified as key gaps</p> <p>Previous strategies identified the need for a coordinated waste education and engagement program; however, implementation has been limited, with education activities occurring on an ad-hoc basis rather than as a structured, long-term program.</p>	<p>Without a coordinated and consistent approach to behaviour change, service use and outcomes are unlikely to improve, reducing the effectiveness of investment in waste services and infrastructure.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Build and deliver a structured education and engagement program, focused on improving communication, building confidence in recycling, and increasing participation in initiatives such as grants 2. Deliver the program aligned with priority behaviours and service outcomes 3. Review and refine the program annually based on feedback and observed behaviour change 	<p>Internal program development \$20k–\$50k annually for implementation.</p>

7.6.2 PARTNER TO DELIVER BEHAVIOUR CHANGE INITIATIVES

Priority: Short term		Medium term	long term
Findings	Issues	Action	Estimated Cost
<p>Effective behaviour change is not solely a Shire delivery function, and outcomes depend on coordination with a range of external stakeholders</p> <p>Consultation identified opportunities to improve behaviour change outcomes by better use of partner networks with the community. Previous actions to establish a community waste and recycling action group were not progressed, and behaviour change initiatives have largely relied on Shire-led delivery with limited formal integration of partner roles.</p>	<p>Without a coordinated, partner-based approach, behaviour change initiatives may rely disproportionately on internal resources and have limited reach or effectiveness.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and engage key external partners to support delivery of behaviour change initiatives. 2. Establish partnership approaches to coordinate messaging, engagement and delivery of initiatives. 	<p>Delivered within existing resources and integrated into the annual education and engagement program (Action 7.6.1).</p>

7.6.3 PROVIDE COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT PLANS TO SUPPORT THE RRRP TRANSITION

Priority: Short term			
Findings	Issues	Key steps	Estimated Cost
<p>The CRC and LWF components of the RRRP are planned to become operational during the Strategy period, introducing new services and changing how waste is managed and accessed by the community.</p>	<p>The introduction of new infrastructure will require the community to adapt to new service arrangements.</p> <p>Without effective communication and engagement, there is a risk of confusion, incorrect service use and reduced effectiveness of the new facilities during the initial operating period.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and deliver a targeted communication program to support community transition to new service arrangements during the initial operating period. 2. Review and refine communication based on user feedback and operational performance. 	<p>Delivered within existing resources and integrated into the annual education and engagement program (Action 7.6.1).</p>

7.7 REGIONAL EFFICIENCIES

7.7.1 PARTNER AND DELIVER REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT OUTCOMES

Priority: Medium term			
Findings	Issues	Action	Estimated Cost
<p>Previous attempts to progress the <i>Kimberley Regional Waste Management Plan 2018–2023</i> experienced limited uptake and engagement across the Kimberley Zone, with delivery constrained by resourcing limitations and differing local priorities.</p> <p>Opportunities exist to refocus regional collaboration on targeted, practical outcomes, including coordinated transport, material consolidation and shared approaches to managing problem waste streams.</p>	<p>The KRWMP provides an appropriate mechanism to investigate these opportunities at a regional scale. Without coordinated regional action, structural constraints such as high transport costs and limited economies of scale are likely to persist, limiting the effectiveness of local initiatives and the ability to improve recovery outcomes.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engage regional stakeholders through the Kimberley Zone group to confirm interest and commitment to refocusing regional collaboration on waste issues. 2. Develop a new KRWMP to guide regional priorities and actions over the next five years. 	<p>Staff time for regional coordination and participation. \$85k–\$130k (regional plan development), shared across participating Kimberley local governments.</p>

7.7.2 ADVOCATE FOR STATE LEADERSHIP TO ADDRESS REGIONAL AND REMOTE WASTE MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

Priority: Short term		Medium term	long term
Findings	Issues	Action	Estimated Cost
<p>Regional and remote waste management across the Kimberley is affected by a consistent set of structural constraints, including limited funding capacity, small rate bases, long transport distances to recycling markets and limited economies of scale.</p> <p>Additional challenges include ageing infrastructure, increasing compliance requirements, complex governance arrangements and waste management issues in remote and Aboriginal communities that fall outside local government control.</p> <p>Regional communities have limited access to specialist waste recovery programs and infrastructure for problematic waste streams, including Household Hazardous Waste (HHW).</p> <p>These constraints are long-standing and significantly influence what can realistically be delivered at a local and regional level.</p>	<p>Structural regional and remote waste challenges cannot be addressed by local government alone and require sustained State leadership, funding and policy direction.</p> <p>Without State-funded recovery pathways and service models, regional communities will continue to face barriers to safely managing problematic waste streams such as HHW.</p> <p>Without support at a State level, these constraints are likely to persist, limiting the ability to improve waste management outcomes.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advocate for coordinated State Government leadership, funding and policy support to address remote waste management challenges (through regional collaboration initiatives, including Action 7.7.1). 2. Advocate for State-funded Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection, transport and processing programs to improve access to safe disposal pathways for regional and remote communities. 	<p>Ongoing advocacy and engagement, delivered within existing resources.</p>

7.8 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

7.8.1 ADVOCATE FOR AND SUPPORT IMPROVED WASTE OUTCOMES FOR REMOTE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

Priority: Short term		Medium term	long term
Findings	Issues	Action	Estimated Cost
Remote Aboriginal communities within the Shire experience waste management challenges that sit below jurisdictional standards outlined under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. Waste services and infrastructure are not delivered or controlled by the Shire and are instead managed through a combination of community-based arrangements, and State agencies. As a result, these communities sit largely outside the Shire's statutory authority, funding mechanisms and service delivery models.	Without sustained State leadership, clear governance arrangements and dedicated funding pathways, waste management outcomes in remote communities are unlikely to be improved through local government action alone. The Shire's role in these locations is therefore limited to advocacy, information sharing and coordination with responsible agencies.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advocate for improved outcomes and sustained State Government support for remote communities. 2. Support and coordinate with responsible agencies, Traditional Owners and communities to progress priority actions where aligned with Shire priorities. 3. Contribute to and influence regional and State-led initiatives to support Closing the Gap Target 9B outcomes. 	Ongoing advocacy, coordination and support, delivered within existing resources.

8 IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND REVIEW

8.1 IMPLEMENTATION

This Strategy sets out a coordinated program of actions to improve waste management and resource recovery outcomes across the Shire of Broome over the next five years. Implementation will be staged and aligned with available funding, resource capacity and operational requirements.

Delivery of the Strategy will be integrated into the Shire's corporate planning framework, including the Council Plan, Long-Term Financial Plan and annual budgeting processes. As actions progress, further detailed planning, including feasibility assessments and business case development, will be undertaken to inform delivery and funding decisions.

8.2 IMPLEMENTATION PRIORITIES

The next five years represent a period of significant transition in how waste services are delivered across the Shire, particularly through the development of the RRRP.

The Shire's key priorities over the Strategy period are:

- Deliver and operationalise the RRRP, including infrastructure delivery, operating model development and transition to new service arrangements.
- Ensure the system is financially sustainable through development of an economic model to define costs, funding and revenue requirements, supported by improved cost recovery.
- Improve service effectiveness for the community through targeted service design and improved access where it is practical and sustainable.
- Drive behaviour change to improve outcomes through a coordinated education and engagement program and targeted communication addressing key issues such as contamination and recycling confidence.
- Strengthen coordination and planning, including litter and illegal dumping strategy development, and emergency preparedness.
- Advocate and collaborate regionally and with the State, recognising that many structural challenges require coordinated regional approaches and sustained State Government leadership.

Implementation will be staged and prioritised to balance infrastructure delivery, operational demands and available resources, while supporting long-term system improvement.

8.3 IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE AND COST OVERVIEW

Staged implementation and indicative cost ranges for Strategy actions are provided in **Table 8.1**.

The table is intended to inform annual operational planning, workforce planning and long-term financial planning by summarising key actions across short-term (2026–2027 FY), medium-term (2027–2029 FY) and long-term (2030 and beyond) timeframes. Indicative cost ranges and key cost assumptions are provided to guide future budgeting and resource allocation.

Actions are identified as either requiring additional operating or capital funding, being delivered through internal resourcing, or being supported through existing committed funding programs. Actions identified as internal resourcing are not considered cost-neutral and will require dedicated staff time, organisational capacity and prioritisation through annual business planning and

budgeting processes. These actions therefore represent a commitment of resources beyond routine business-as-usual activities and should be considered when planning future workforce and operational requirements.

Cost estimates are indicative only and are intended to support strategic planning. Actual costs will depend on project scope, procurement approach, market conditions, funding availability and implementation requirements at the time of delivery.

8.4 MONITORING AND REVIEW

Implementation of the Strategy should be monitored to assess progress against identified actions and priorities.

Monitoring should focus on overall progress and key outcomes, rather than detailed operational metrics. Reporting should align with existing corporate planning and performance frameworks where appropriate.

The Strategy should be subject to periodic review to ensure it remains relevant and responsive to changing circumstances, including emerging waste management issues and service requirements.

Table 8.1: Implementation staging and cost estimates

Category and Action	Action	Indicative costs 2026 – 2027FY	Indicative costs 2027 – 2029FY	Indicative costs Beyond 2030+FY	Key Cost Assumption
Waste Infrastructure and Operations					
Facilitate the delivery of the RRRP	7.1.1	•	•	•	Capital construction costs for Stage 1 and Stage 2 infrastructure.
		\$50,000 - \$200,000			Costs for operating model assessment, governance and procurement support
		\$100,000 - \$250,000			Costs for operational readiness
Facilitate the transition to split waste disposal operations	7.1.2	\$10,000 - \$25,000			Costs for assessment of the preferred transition operating model
			\$150,000 - \$300,000 per annum		Costs for additional resources required to operate split waste disposal operations
Provide landfill contingency arrangements	7.1.3	\$25,000 - \$50,000			Assessment only, excludes any implementation actions, assumed internal resources
Regulate and optimise airspace use to support the transition to the RRRP	7.1.4	\$10,000 - \$50,000	\$10,000 - \$50,000		Allowance for strategic airspace planning, and minor operational improvements, assumed internal resourcing
Facilitate the progressive closure of the BWMF and Lot 400 sites	7.1.5	•	•	•	Funding for this action is provided through the LCMP
Provide a RRRP asset management plan	7.1.6			•	Costs are dependent on the scope of the plan.
Waste Services					
Provide and facilitate improved kerbside recycling performance	7.2.1	•	•	•	Costs for assessment, review and monitoring
Facilitate investigations into solutions to improve bulky household waste removal and disposal	7.2.2		\$50,000 - \$80,000		Costs for service review and option assessment, investigations can be undertaken internally.
Facilitate investigations into improved green and organic waste service options	7.2.3		\$60,000-\$80,000		Costs for service review and option assessment, investigations can be undertaken internally.
Facilitate the establishment of the RRRP reuse shop operating and management models	7.2.4		•		Costs for development of operating model, procurement support, and governance and operational frameworks
Facilitate improved MSW resource recovery outcomes	7.2.5		\$20,000 - \$60,000 per annum	\$20,000 - \$60,000 per annum	Costs for identification and assessment of improvement opportunities
Facilitate targeted C&I waste diversion	7.2.6		\$20,000 - \$60,000 per annum	\$20,000 - \$60,000 per annum	Costs for identification and assessment of improvement opportunities
Advocate and partner to progress the DPWMP	7.2.7	•	•	•	Staff time for support and advocacy
Provide a clear waste service framework for outer Shire communities	7.2.8			•	Staff time required to progress action
Facilitate a review of future kerbside service options	7.2.9		•		Staff time required to progress action
Data, Information and Economics					
Provide and maintain a sustainable financial framework for the RRRP	7.3.1	•	•	•	Internal financial planning and modelling
Regulate and manage cost recovery for waste services	7.3.2		•		Staff time required to progress action
Policy and Procurement					
Provide an emergency waste management plan	7.4.1		\$35,000 - \$70,000		Costs for external consultant
Regulate and maintain waste policy alignment with state and national requirements	7.4.2	•	•	•	Staff time required to progress action
Litter and Illegal Dumping					
Provide a litter and illegal dumping strategy	7.5.1	\$30,000 - \$60,000			Costs for strategy development dependent on scope and internal resources
Partner to address litter and illegal dumping	7.5.2		•	•	Staff time required to progress action
Behaviour Change					
Fund and deliver an annual waste education and engagement program	7.6.1	\$20,000 - \$50,000 per annum	\$20,000 - \$50,000 per annum	\$20,000 - \$50,000 per annum	Development and implementation of an annual waste education and engagement program.
Partner to deliver behaviour change initiatives	7.6.2	•	•	•	Integrated into existing education and engagement activities; no additional budget assumed.
Provide communication and engagement plans to support the RRRP transition	7.6.3	•			Integrated into existing education and engagement activities; no additional budget assumed.
Regional Efficiencies					
Partner and deliver regional waste management outcomes through the Kimberley Regional Waste Management Plan	7.7.1		•	•	Staff time for regional coordination and participation.
			\$85,000 - \$130,000		Costs for the KRWMP are expected to be shared across participating local governments.
Advocate for state leadership to address regional and remote waste management challenges	7.7.2	•	•	•	Staff time for advocacy and support.
Aboriginal Communities					
Advocate for and support improved waste outcomes for remote Aboriginal communities	7.8.1	•	•	•	Staff time for advocacy and support.

• or \$ - Resourcing or funding secured

\$ - Additional operating or capital budget required

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APPENDIX A – SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Situational Analysis: Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2026 – 2030

Shire of Broome



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Acknowledgements

ASK Waste Management acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land in which we work and live, and pays respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

ASK also gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of the Shire of Broome staff that provided information and assistance in the development of this report.

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1 INTRODUCTION

This Situational Analysis has been prepared to support the review and update of the Shire of Broome's *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy*, (BWMRRS or the Strategy) to guide actions for the period 2026 to 2030.

The Shire of Broome adopted a *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy* in 2020, with actions extending to 2030. That Strategy established the strategic direction for waste services, infrastructure planning, resource recovery, and engagement.

The purpose of this document is to:

- assess progress made since adoption of the 2020 Waste Strategy
- describe the current waste management context, including waste generation, services and infrastructure
- identifies key issues that will influence outcomes over the next five years

It provides an evidence base to inform the development of the updated *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy and Action Plan 2026–2030*.

2 BASELINE WASTE GENERATION AND PERFORMANCE

This section provides an updated overview of waste generation and resource recovery within the Shire of Broome to inform planning for the 2026 – 2030 period.

It summarises current waste quantities, composition, trends and performance, and highlights changes since the baseline used for the 2020 Waste Strategy. Detailed data and supporting analysis are provided in **Appendix A**.

2.1 DATA SOURCES AND SCOPE

Baseline waste data has been compiled using information provided by the Shire for the four years between the financial year (FY) 2021–22 and 2024–25, supported by population data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics and tourism-equivalent population estimates from Tourism Research Australia.

The analysis:

- Includes solid waste streams managed through Shire facilities and contracts.
- Excludes liquid waste, clean fill and waste managed outside the Shire system, such as aboriginal communities.
- Uses four-year average values to provide a representative indication of underlying trends.

Population-based metrics incorporate both the estimated resident population of Broome town and a tourism-equivalent population, reflecting the influence of tourism on waste generation and services.

Waste has been categorised into Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), Commercial and Industrial Waste (C&I), and Construction and Demolition Waste (C&D), consistent with the definitions contained within the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030*.

2.2 BASELINE SNAPSHOT

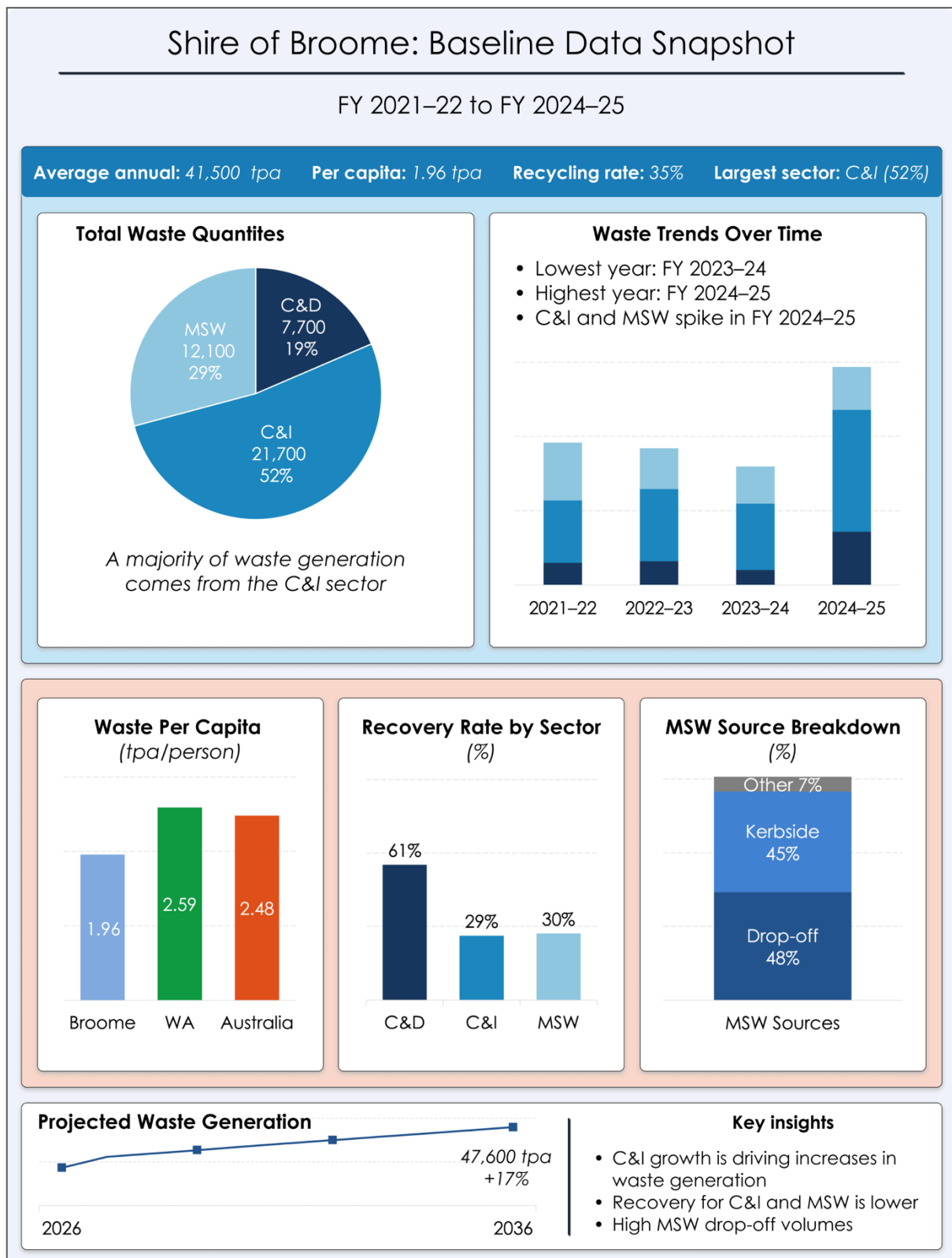
The Shire of Broome currently manages an average of approximately 41,500 tonnes of waste per annum. Key characteristics include:

- C&I waste is the dominant stream, accounting for just over half of total waste managed.
- MSW represents approximately 29% of total waste, generated through a mix of kerbside and drop-off services.
- C&D waste contributes approximately 19%, with comparatively stronger recovery outcomes where inert material reuse is available.
- Overall resource recovery averages approximately 35%, remaining broadly consistent with previous performance.

Waste generation is projected to increase over the next decade, placing continued pressure on landfill airspace and long-term infrastructure planning.

Figure 2.1 presents a snapshot of baseline waste generation, recovery performance, trends and benchmarking for the Shire.

Figure 2.1: Overview of the baseline data



2.3 KEY WASTE STREAM INSIGHTS

2.3.1 MSW

MSW represents approximately 29% of total waste generated, equating to an average of around 12,100 tonnes per annum over the baseline period.

Key observations include:

- Almost half of MSW is managed through drop-off services, limiting effective capture of recoverable material.
- Recovery remains driven primarily by green waste and scrap metal, rather than kerbside recycling.
- Overall MSW recovery performance has remained broadly static at 30%.

2.3.2 C&I

C&I waste is the largest and most influential waste stream managed by the Shire, accounting for approximately 52% of total waste generation, or around 21,700 tonnes per annum on average.

Key observations include:

- C&I waste is the primary driver of tonnage growth, dominated by mixed waste (39%), with green waste, inert materials and contaminated soils, contributing smaller amounts.
- Recovery outcomes are dominated by a small number of materials, principally green waste and scrap metal.
- The overall recovery rate for C&I waste (29%) remains comparatively low highlighting significant challenges in achieving consistent source separation across commercial generators.

2.3.3 C&D

C&D waste comprises approximately 19% of total waste generated within the Shire, equating to an average of around 7,700 tonnes per annum.

Key characteristics include:

- A comparatively strong recovery rate (approximately 60%), driven by inert material reuse.
- Significant year-to-year variability linked to construction activity.
- Ongoing importance for landfill airspace management where separation controls are applied.

2.4 COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE

To place local performance in context, baseline waste generation and recovery outcomes were benchmarked against Western Australian and national averages, using data from the *Waste Authority Annual Report 2024-25* (Waste Authority, 2025) and the Australian rates from the *National Waste and Resource Recovery Report 2024* (2025).

On a per-capita basis, the Shire generates 1.96 tonnes per capita (tpc) which is less waste per person than both the Western Australian (2.59 tpc) and national averages (2.48 tpc). Key observations include:

- C&D waste generation per capita is significantly lower than the WA and national averages, indicating comparatively less construction-related waste intensity.

- C&I waste generation per capita is higher than both state and national benchmarks, reinforcing its role as the dominant driver of system demand.
- MSW generation per capita is only marginally above state and national averages.

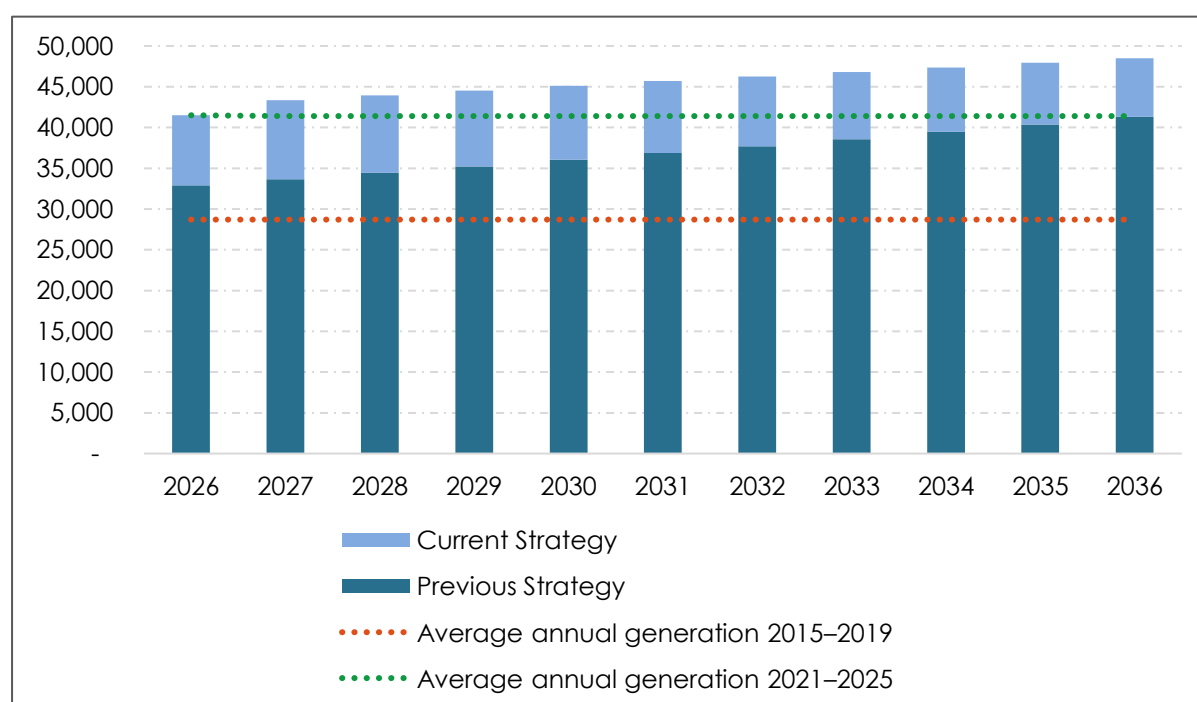
In terms of recovery performance, the Shire's overall recovery rate of approximately 30% is broadly consistent with many regional local governments but remains well below the aspirational targets of 60% set under the WARR Strategy 2030 for major regional centres.

2.5 CHANGE SINCE PREVIOUS STRATEGY

Comparison between the current baseline period (2021 – 25) and the period that informed the 2020 Waste Strategy (2015–19) highlights several material changes:

- Total waste generation has increased by approximately 45%, from around 28,700 tonnes per annum to more than 41,500 tonnes per annum.
- Growth is almost entirely attributable to C&I waste, which has more than doubled over the same period.
- MSW generation has remained relatively stable, with only minor year-to-year variation.
- Overall recovery rates have remained broadly unchanged, despite a significant increase in the absolute tonnage recovered.
- On a per-capita basis, waste generation has increased from approximately 1.54 tonnes per person per year to around 1.96 tonnes per person per year. This reflects increased commercial and service activity rather than a material shift in household behaviour.
- Future projections for waste generation have increased. The current annual average stands at 41,500 tonnes, exceeding the previous strategy's forecast of 41,300 tonnes by 2036. The latest estimate for 2036 is now set at 48,500 tonnes, up 7,200 tonnes from the earlier projection. **Figure 2.2** illustrates the differences in projections between this strategy and the previous one, as well as the average annual generation from both strategies.

Figure 2.2: Comparison of waste generation projections



2.6 BENCHMARKING

A benchmarking assessment was undertaken to provide context to the Shire of Broome's waste management performance and to determine whether observed trends are typical of similar local governments or indicative of specific improvement opportunities. Detailed benchmarking analysis and supporting data are provided in **Appendix A**.

Benchmarking indicates that the Shire of Broome's waste management performance is strongly influenced by its classification as a 'very remote local government' under the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), as well as its underlying waste profile.

Compared to inner regional local governments, the Shire is characterised by:

- A higher proportion of C&I waste
- Higher per capita waste generation
- Moderate resource recovery performance

The Shire's high proportion of C&I waste reflects its strong tourism and commercial activity, and differs significantly from inner regional LGAs, which are typically dominated by MSW from kerbside collection systems. This distinction is important, as C&I waste streams are more variable, often directed to landfill, and more difficult to influence through standard municipal waste interventions. In addition, remoteness limits access to recycling infrastructure, increases transport costs and reduces the viability of recovery markets.

As a result, benchmarking indicates that the Shire's current performance is largely shaped by structural and external factors including waste composition, geographic isolation and infrastructure access rather than inefficiencies in service delivery.

These conditions have direct implications for the Shire's waste management system, including:

- Continued reliance on landfill for disposal of mixed C&I waste
- Limited applicability of standard MSW-based recovery solutions
- Increased importance of transport, aggregation and scale in improving recovery outcomes

These factors are reflected in the key issues identified in **Section 6** and inform the need for a locally appropriate, targeted approach to improving waste management and resource recovery outcomes across the Shire.

3 SERVICES, INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS

Waste services and infrastructure were reviewed against current operating conditions, performance, and anticipated pressures over the next five years. This section summarises key achievements against the 2020 strategy, and outlines aspects of services and infrastructure that remain relevant to strategic planning, rather than restating full service descriptions previously documented in the 2020 Strategy.

3.1 WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE

The Shire's waste system is supported by existing disposal and recovery infrastructure, with a staged transition planned to the Regional Resource Recovery Park (RRRP).

The Broome Waste Management Facility (BWMF) is the Shire's primary waste and resource recovery site and receives municipal, commercial and industrial waste from across the Shire. The Facility includes landfill disposal and associated recovery areas, including Lot 400 Buckleys Road, which supports storage and processing of materials such as green waste, metals and inert materials. These facilities are operating within a defined transition period and will ultimately require closure and rehabilitation once replacement infrastructure is commissioned.

To support long-term waste management needs, the Shire has progressed planning and approvals for the Regional Resource Recovery Park (RRRP), which is intended to replace existing waste infrastructure on a staged basis.

Since 2020, the Shire has:

- completed planning and design for the RRRP, including site identification, approvals and staging.
- upgraded the Broome Waste Management Facility Landfill Closure Management Plan to improve understanding of landfill airspace constraints and transition timing.
- introduced operational measures to manage remaining airspace capacity, including modified compaction practices, recovery of inert materials at the tipping face and use of contingency landfill areas.
- commenced planning for closure and rehabilitation of existing waste facilities.

3.1.1 BWMF AIRSPACE

The BWMF has finite remaining airspace. Since 2020, the Shire has reviewed and updated the Landfill Closure Management Plan for the site to improve understanding of landfill airspace constraints and transition timing. Current estimates indicate a remaining operational life extending into 2028 and 2031, with the upper and lower range dependent on waste volumes, composition and operational practices.

Commercial and industrial (C&I) waste represents the dominant waste stream received at the landfill and is the primary driver of airspace consumption. Growth in C&I waste volumes has increased pressure on remaining landfill capacity.

A works approval for the development of replacement landfill infrastructure was granted in 2024, with an approval period extending to 2029. This establishes a clear pathway for new disposal capacity, however, progression from approval to delivery, including finalisation of detailed design, procurement and construction, will be required within the Strategy period.

A residual risk remains that existing landfill airspace could be exhausted before new cells are constructed and commissioned, particularly if waste volumes increase above forecast levels. This risk is further influenced by limited construction windows in the Kimberley, where seasonal conditions

can constrain landfill construction activities. Ongoing monitoring of airspace consumption and timely delivery of the approved works will be critical to maintaining continuity of service.

3.1.2 INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSITION

The RRRP has been planned as a staged development. Initial stages include delivery of a Community Recycling Centre (CRC) and Liquid Waste Facility (LWF), followed by construction of a new Class III landfill at a later stage.

Since 2020, Planning, approvals and technical design documentation for the CRC and LWF have been in place. Progression to construction is subject to funding availability and project staging. Works approvals for these facilities were granted in 2024, establishing a clear pathway to construction. Progression to delivery is subject to funding availability and project staging.

Construction and commissioning of the CRC and LWF will be a significant undertaking during the Strategy period and will require dedicated project, operational and financial resources. Existing waste facilities will continue to operate during this period, resulting in an overlap where both existing and new infrastructure are managed concurrently.

3.2 WASTE SERVICES AND OPERATIONS

The Shire of Broome comprises three distinct zones: the town of Broome, Dampier Peninsula, and all other areas within the boundary of the Shire. Each zone is serviced by different waste management services, supported by the Broome Waste Management Facility

3.2.1 BROOME TOWNSITE

The Broome townsite receives the most comprehensive waste services within the Shire, including:

- weekly kerbside general waste collection
- fortnightly kerbside recycling
- domestic drop-off services and recovery options at the BWMF
- periodic free disposal weekends
- targeted assisted disposal services, including the pensioner skip bin service

Since 2020, the Shire has:

- Secured Kerbside waste and recycling services through the review and award of a new collection contract, providing service continuity through to June 2031 (including extension options at Council's discretion).
- Undertaken a review of pre-cyclone waste clean-up services, with the current service model retained following assessment of cost and value for money.
- Reviewed usage of the free domestic waste passes, with approximately 34% of domestic waste disposed under the free waste pass system and around 17% of ratepayers redeeming multiple passes annually.
- Recently transitioned to processing commingled recyclables through a metropolitan material recovery facility with advanced sorting capability. This provides an opportunity to recover a higher proportion of recyclable material from mixed loads.

Several service-related actions are ongoing or partially progressed, largely where they intersect with longer-term infrastructure or behaviour-based outcomes and include:

- Kerbside recycling services are available across the Broome townsite; however, contamination rates remain high and variable between areas, with recent audits indicating

contamination levels typically ranging between 40% and 60%, with some areas consistently performing worse than others.

- Resource recovery services continue to operate, with increased recovery achieved for specific material streams (including scrap metal and green waste). However, analysis indicates that current recovery rates remain below long-term targets, and further infrastructure would be required to significantly improve diversion.
- Alignment of services with DWER expectations and evolving practice standards is ongoing, including assessment of upgrade requirements and associated costs.
- Assisted disposal services, including free tipping weekends and the pensioner skip service, continue to be provided; however, further review is required to confirm effectiveness, utilisation and value for money.
- Delivery of a reuse and recycling shop was deferred based on development timelines for the new RRRP.

3.2.2 DAMPIER PENINSULA

The Dampier Peninsula comprises a dispersed population, a high proportion of Aboriginal communities, tourism-based operations, and remote access conditions. The Shire of Broome does not provide municipal waste services on the Peninsula. Waste services and infrastructure are managed by individual communities, tourism operators and service providers, outside of local government care and control.

Waste management practices remain relatively basic, with limited access to compliant disposal infrastructure, minimal recovery options, and significant reliance on local disposal sites. In most locations, unmanaged disposal and burning continue to pose environmental and public health risks.

A *Dampier Peninsula Waste Management Plan* (DPWMP) (ASK, 2020) was prepared to examine waste management challenges and identify potential improvement pathways for the region. The Plan identified significant structural constraints, including remoteness, transport distances, limited infrastructure, and complex governance and funding arrangements involving multiple agencies.

Since the previous Waste Strategy, limited progress has been made in implementing actions identified in the DPWMP. The Shire has undertaken advocacy and engagement with State agencies, including supporting a feasibility assessment for a waste transfer station on the Dampier Peninsula.

While initial investigation has occurred, including consideration of funding for construction and operation, the project has not progressed beyond feasibility investigation. Broader implementation of the Plan has also been constrained, with no formal multi-agency governance structure established and responsibility for progressing actions remaining largely within State agencies.

As a result, progress to date has been incremental and has not resulted in substantive changes to waste service delivery outcomes.

3.2.3 REST OF SHIRE

Outside the Broome townsite and Dampier Peninsula, the Shire encompasses a number of smaller settlements, tourism-based locations and remote areas, including places such as 12 Mile, Coconut Wells, Willie Creek, and other coastal and inland locations.

The Shire does not provide kerbside waste services to these areas. Waste management is primarily undertaken through:

- self-haul and voucher-based arrangements

- privately managed disposal sites associated with tourism or commercial operations
- informal or unmanaged disposal practices in more remote locations.

Since the last strategy, the Shire has investigated extending municipal waste services to some of these areas including 12 Mile and Coconut Wells, however did not receive sufficient community support to progress.

As a result, waste management in these areas continues to be constrained by large transport distances and low economies of scale, limited options for recovery and recycling.

3.2.4 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES (OUTSIDE DAMPIER PENINSULA)

A number of Aboriginal communities are located within the Shire of Broome outside of the Dampier Peninsula, most notably Bidyadanga, the largest Aboriginal community in Western Australia, with a resident population of approximately 700–850, located approximately 180 km south of Broome.

Waste service delivery arrangements in these communities differ significantly from those in the Broome townsite and are not managed by the Shire. In many remote Aboriginal communities across Western Australia, municipal services are delivered under State-funded programs that provide a basic level of service, including waste collection and disposal, road maintenance and landfill management. These services are generally limited in scope and are not equivalent to the standard of services provided by local governments

Bidyadanga, operates under a different model to smaller communities, with established local governance and service delivery arrangements. Municipal services, including waste collection and disposal, are delivered by the community, reflecting a higher level of local control and operational capacity.

Despite ongoing State investment in housing and essential services under broader reform initiatives aligned with Closing the Gap objectives, municipal waste services in remote Aboriginal communities remain variable and constrained by limited infrastructure, remoteness, and complex governance and funding arrangements.

As a result, the Shire has no direct role in waste service delivery within these communities, and any changes to service levels or infrastructure are dependent on State Government policy, funding, and community-led decision-making.

4 WASTE MANAGEMENT FOUNDATIONS

This section outlines the key foundational conditions that influence the Shire of Broome's ability to deliver waste management outcomes over the 2026–2030 period. It highlights the achievements since 2020 and identifies issues that will be carried over into the updated Strategy.

4.1 STRATEGIC PLANNING

Waste management is aligned with the Shire of Broome's adopted strategic and planning framework, including the *Council Plan 2025 – 2035* and the *Local Planning Strategy 2021*. These documents establish waste as a core municipal responsibility, guide the transition to improved waste infrastructure and advocate for improved outcomes for remote communities.

Since the previous Strategy, a new Council Plan has been adopted, introducing updated waste-related actions and carrying forward key initiatives, including the Regional Resource Recovery Park. Key waste-related actions include:

- Review the waste strategy and action plan to determine if the objectives have been met and prepare a new plan to meet outstanding community needs.
- Advocate for progression of the Dampier Peninsula Waste Management Plan.
- Implement the Landfill Closure Plan for Buckley's Road Waste Management Facility.
- Advocate for funding for a Regional Resource Recovery Park and community recycling centre, liquid waste facility and landfill facility.
- Construct a Community Recycling Centre and Liquid Waste Facility at the RRRP.
- Relocate the existing landfill to the Regional Resource Recovery Park.

Actions identified in the Council Plan have been incorporated into this Strategy to ensure alignment between strategic planning, infrastructure delivery and long-term waste management outcomes.

The BWMRRS sits within the Shire's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework. Actions are delivered through the Corporate Business Plan and supported by the Long-Term Financial Plan and annual budgets.

4.2 POLICIES AND PROCUREMENT

The Shire has made progress integrating waste planning objectives into broader policy, regulatory and planning frameworks, including:

- Council endorsement of the Waste Strategy review process through the strategic planning framework.
- Establishment of environmentally sustainable procurement guidelines to support waste reduction and recovery outcomes.
- Adoption of the Shire of Broome Waste Local Law 2021, providing a contemporary regulatory framework for compliance and enforcement.
- Completion of an initial review of waste and recycling service contracts.
- Endorsement of amendments to the Shire of Broome Local Planning Scheme No. 7, supporting implementation of the Waste Strategy and delivery of waste infrastructure.

Development of a dedicated emergency waste management framework remains ongoing. The Shire is participating in a Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) led working

group to inform preparation of an emergency waste management plan, recognising the Shire's exposure to cyclones, flooding and extreme weather events.

4.3 DATA, INFORMATION AND ECONOMICS

The Shire has strengthened the data and financial foundations that support waste management decision-making. Key achievements include:

- Improved waste data reporting, with review and implementation of more accurate waste data collection and reporting processes.
- Development of a Waste Services Financial Model (2025) to support whole-of-life financial assessment of the Regional Resource Recovery Park and Community Recycling Centre. This work informs future updates to the Shire's Long-Term Financial Plan. At the time of report development, the outcome of this funding model was unknown.
- Ongoing annual review of waste management facility fees and charges, to ensure costs associated with waste processing are appropriately recovered and responsive to changing market conditions.
- Provision for future audits within the kerbside collection contract, enabling bin audits to be undertaken at the Shire's discretion to support data quality and service performance monitoring.

The RRRP is a long-lived infrastructure asset with significant whole-of-life costs, including capital, operations, maintenance, renewal and closure over several decades. Current long-term financial planning focuses on initial delivery and does not fully reflect these lifecycle costs.

Cost recovery across waste services is not consistently applied. Waste generated through Shire capital projects is not routinely quantified or charged, resulting in foregone revenue. There is no clear process for capturing internal charges (e.g. for green waste or mixed loads delivered by Shire departments), and no defined process for approving or managing fee waivers.

Addressing these issues will improve cost recovery and support long-term financial sustainability.

4.4 BEHAVIOUR CHANGE PROGRAMS

Foundational capability for waste education and engagement has been established through the recent appointment of a part time waste education officer. This has supported delivery of waste education workshops and community events and the introduction of Community Waste Reduction/Recycling Initiative to the Shire's Quick Response Grants. The grants are designed to support community clean-up events and recycling initiatives, and to foster environmental responsibility. There has however been very limited uptake.

Behaviour change is integral to the success of the strategy. While foundational capacity has been established the planned five-year community education and engagement program will be a focus of the next Strategy.

4.5 LITTER & ILLEGAL DUMPING MANAGEMENT

Litter and illegal dumping continue to be managed through a combination of regulation, compliance activity and access-based services including free disposal allowances. Responsibility for management is shared across multiple land tenures, including Shire-managed land and Yawuru Park Council reserves managed by Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. Management arrangements remain largely reactive.

The Shire does not currently have a standalone litter and illegal dumping strategy. The previous *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy* identified the development of a litter and illegal dumping strategy and the establishment of a cross-agency litter and illegal dumping working group as priority actions. These actions have not been fully completed and remain relevant.

Baseline data on the extent, location and drivers of littering and illegal dumping are currently being established.

Illegal dumping continues to occur in certain areas, influenced by tourism activity, transient populations, dispersed settlement patterns and distance to facilities. The large geographic area and limited resources make consistent surveillance and timely response challenging.

4.6 REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

Since the adoption of the 2020 Waste Strategy, progress on regional initiatives has been slow. The *Kimberley Regional Waste Management Plan 2018–2023* (ASK, 2018) has struggled, due to challenges with governance, coordination, and resourcing constraints. These hurdles have stopped effective implementation, despite intentions to move forward.

The *Dampier Peninsula Waste Management Plan* (ASK, 2020) (DPWMP) faces similar delays. Achieving its goals depends on strong collaboration between communities, agencies, and service providers, as well as having a clear lead organisation. At present, these requirements have not been met, preventing meaningful progress.

These constraints provide important context for understanding the shared challenges and opportunities identified at a regional level, as outlined in **Section 5**.

5 REGIONAL CONTEXT

ASK reviewed waste strategies prepared by local governments to identify recurring priority areas and actions. The review focused on common themes from Local Governments in the Kimberley and Pilbara. A high-level summary is provided below to illustrate shared challenges and opportunities and to inform the Strategy's directions and actions.

5.1 SHARED CHALLENGES

Regional local governments face a common set of structural challenges, that limit waste system improvement. Key challenges include:

- Funding and scale constraints: Small rate bases and high infrastructure costs, combined with dispersed populations and large service areas.
- Organisational capacity: Limited staffing focused on operations, reducing capacity for planning, system improvement and data analysis.
- Landfill infrastructure and compliance: Ageing facilities not designed to current standards, with closure and rehabilitation often deferred.
- High C&I waste generation: Complex mixed waste streams with limited recovery options, increasing pressure on landfill capacity.
- Low MSW recovery: Limited access to organics processing and recycling infrastructure, resulting in continued landfill disposal.
- Recovery market constraints: Limited end markets and high transport costs reducing the viability of resource recovery.
- Behaviour change and litter and illegal dumping: Limited education programs and reactive management of litter and illegal dumping.
- Seasonal population fluctuations: Tourism and transient populations increase peak demand and operational pressure.
- Remote Aboriginal communities: Waste services often below jurisdictional standards and outside local government control.
- Emergency waste management: Limited preparedness despite exposure to severe weather events.

Despite these constraints, a number of shared opportunities were identified across regional local governments, particularly where coordination can improve efficiency or reduce duplication.

5.2 SHARED OPPORTUNITIES

While regional collaboration is not practical in all circumstances due to large distances between local governments, shared opportunities exist where coordination improves preparedness, reduces duplication or strengthens advocacy.

A low-cost opportunity lies in sharing technical knowledge and capability, particularly in relation to landfill operations, compliance and system improvement, supporting more consistent practice across councils.

Coordinated advocacy to State and Commonwealth governments represents a further opportunity, particularly in relation to funding constraints, disaster waste management, servicing remote communities and managing waste associated with resource and industrial activity.

Aligned procurement approaches offer a practical way to support recovery outcomes without shared infrastructure. Consistent specifications and standards can stimulate demand for recycled materials through council capital works and operations.

Beyond governance-based opportunities, there may be potential to improve regional efficiency through coordinated logistics and material consolidation. Shared transport arrangements, including backloading and coordinated haulage, may reduce freight costs and improve utilisation of existing transport networks.

Opportunities may exist for regional stockpiling or consolidation of materials to achieve sufficient volumes for cost-effective transport and processing. This is particularly relevant for low-volume or problem waste streams such as tyres and e-waste. In practice, this may support a hub-and-spoke model, with Broome functioning as a regional aggregation point for selected materials, while maintaining locally appropriate service delivery across remote areas.

Emergency waste management preparedness is another shared opportunity. Compatible plans, agreed triggers and clear communication pathways can enable mutual assistance when local capacity is disrupted by extreme events, reducing delays and operational risk while retaining locally led response arrangements.

These opportunities must however be considered in the context of the governance, coordination and resourcing constraints outlined in **Section 4.6**.

6 SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

The following tables present the findings drawn from the baseline assessment of the Shire's current waste management services and infrastructure and progress on implementation of the previous strategy. These findings highlight key issues and will form the basis for discussion with Shire staff. The agreed findings will be developed into actions for integration into the new Strategy, ensuring alignment with the Shire's objectives and state policy targets.

To ensure clarity and ease of reference, findings are presented by category as follows:

1. Waste Infrastructure and Operations
2. Waste Services
3. Data, Information and Economics
4. Policy and Procurement
5. Litter and Illegal Dumping
6. Behaviour Change
7. Regional Efficiencies
8. Aboriginal Communities

Each category includes a table that separates:

- Findings: Observed facts and data from the baseline assessment/situational analysis.
- Issues/Impacts: Interpretation of why these findings matter, including risks and strategic implications.

This approach provides a clear link between the current state and the implications for future service delivery and planning.

6.1 WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

Table 6.1: Waste Infrastructure findings, issues and impacts

Findings	Impact
6.1.1 Progress delivery of the RRRP Phase 1 (CRC and LWF)	
<p>The RRRP has been planned as a staged development with initial delivery of a Community Recycling Centre (CRC) and Liquid Waste Facility (LWF), followed by construction of a new Class III landfill at a later stage.</p> <p>Since 2020, planning, approvals and technical design documentation for the CRC and LWF are now in place. Progression to construction is supported by initial funding allocations; however, full delivery of the RRRP, including later stages and whole-of-life costs, is dependent on securing additional funding and staged implementation.</p>	<p>Construction and commissioning of the CRC and LWF will be a significant undertaking during the Strategy period and will require dedicated project, operational and financial resources. Delivery is dependent on the availability of funding and alignment with long-term financial planning.</p> <p>Existing waste facilities will continue to operate during this period, resulting in an overlap where both existing and new infrastructure are managed concurrently, with associated cost, staffing and coordination implications.</p>
6.1.2 Deliver RRRP phase 2 (Class III landfill)	
<p>A works approval for a replacement Class III landfill at the Regional Resource Recovery Park (RRRP) was granted in 2024, establishing an approved pathway for development of new disposal capacity.</p> <p>Current estimates indicate the remaining operational life of the existing landfill extends between 2028 and 2031, based on observed airspace consumption and surveyed capacity.</p> <p>Progression from approval to delivery, including finalisation of detailed design, procurement and construction, is required within the 2026–2030 Strategy period.</p>	<p>If delivery of the approved landfill infrastructure is delayed, there remains a risk that existing landfill airspace could be exhausted before new disposal capacity is available.</p> <p>This would create a disposal capacity gap, with implications for service continuity, including reliance on interim or higher-cost waste management arrangements.</p> <p>Delivery timelines may be further constrained by the availability of suitably qualified contractors to undertake landfill construction in a remote setting, as well as seasonal construction windows. The Shire must therefore prioritise timely progression of design, procurement and construction to align delivery of new infrastructure with forecast airspace availability.</p>
6.1.3 Optimise airspace use at the Broome Waste Management Facility	
<p>The Broome Waste Management Facility (BWMF) has finite remaining landfill airspace.</p> <p>The Landfill Closure Management Plan (ASK, 2025) projects a closure date between May 2028 and January 2031, based on surveyed remaining airspace and an observed average airspace consumption rate of approximately 26,000m³ per year. Subject to operational performance and waste composition, there is scope to extend the operational life to approximately 2034 if excess clean fill disposal is reduced.</p>	<p>If airspace consumption exceeds forecast assumptions, the operational life of the BWMF may be shorter than the earliest projected closure date, increasing the risk of landfill capacity being exhausted before replacement disposal infrastructure is approved and constructed.</p> <p>This would heighten the risk of a disposal capacity gap if replacement infrastructure is not delivered in time, potentially resulting in higher-cost interim arrangements and reduced service continuity.</p>

<p>Operational life is influenced by waste volumes, composition, compaction practices, use of cover materials and the acceptance of clean fill. Reducing excess clean fill disposal has the potential to extend landfill life.</p>	
6.1.4 Manage transition to split waste disposal operations	
<p>During the staged transition to the Regional Resource Recovery Park (RRRP), there is expected to be a period where the RRRP is operational and receiving waste, while bulk landfilling continues at the Broome Waste Management Facility (Buckleys Road). This will require waste to be transferred between sites to access remaining landfill airspace, resulting in a temporary multi-site waste disposal system.</p>	<p>Transitioning from a single-site to a multi-site waste system will increase operational complexity, requiring additional coordination, staffing, plant and transport between facilities. This is likely to increase operating costs and place additional pressure on waste service budgets during the transition period. If not effectively managed, these changes may reduce overall system efficiency and increase reliance on contractor services.</p>
6.1.5 Develop landfill transition contingency arrangements	
<p>While planning and design for the Regional Resource Recovery Park (RRRP) have progressed, construction of the replacement landfill have not yet commenced. At the time of this review, no documented contingency pathway is in place should the Buckleys Road landfill reach capacity earlier than forecast.</p>	<p>In the absence of a defined contingency pathway, there is a risk that the Shire will not be able to respond effectively if existing landfill capacity is exhausted earlier than planned. This could result in a disposal capacity gap, requiring emergency or interim waste management arrangements, with associated cost, operational and service continuity risks.</p>
6.1.6 Determine and implement the RRRP operating model	
<p>The Community Recycling Centre (CRC) and Liquid Waste Facility (LWF) at the Regional Resource Recovery Park (RRRP) are scheduled for delivery within the Strategy period. The operating model for the RRRP, including in-house, contracted or hybrid delivery, has not yet been determined and will need to be defined prior to commissioning.</p>	<p>Without a clearly defined operating model, the Shire may face delays in commissioning the RRRP or inefficiencies in early-stage operations. Timely determination and implementation of the preferred model is required to support workforce planning, contract development and operational readiness, and to ensure the facility can be integrated effectively into the waste management system.</p>
6.1.7 Plan and deliver progressive closure of BWMF and Lot 400	
<p>The Broome Waste Management Facility and Lot 400 will require progressive closure and rehabilitation in line with approved closure planning as replacement infrastructure is commissioned. Closure and rehabilitation will require ongoing financial planning and allocation over the life of the asset.</p>	<p>Closure and rehabilitation will occur over multiple years and will require significant financial, operational and material resources. These requirements will coincide with delivery of new infrastructure at the RRRP, creating competition for staff, funding and operational capacity. Without adequate planning and resourcing, there is a risk of delays, increased costs and potential compliance or environmental risks as legacy facilities approach end of life.</p>

6.2 WASTE SERVICES

Table 6.2: Waste services findings, issues and impacts

Findings	Impact
6.2.1 Investigate options to improve bulky household waste removal and disposal	
<p>Bulky household waste management presents a combined service and access challenge within the Shire.</p> <p>Community and stakeholder engagement indicates strong demand for improved bulky waste disposal options, particularly during peak periods such as cyclone preparation and seasonal clean-ups.</p> <p>Consultation feedback highlights that reliance on self-haul to disposal facilities disadvantages households without access to suitable vehicles, trailers or physical capacity.</p> <p>The existing pensioner skip bin service is being used more broadly to address access constraints, including supporting vulnerable households and being utilised in partnership with external agencies to facilitate property clean-ups. This indicates that demand for assisted bulky waste services extends beyond the original scope.</p>	<p>Without appropriate and accessible bulky waste service options, households may delay disposal, stockpile materials or rely on informal or inappropriate disposal pathways, contributing to illegal dumping and reduced amenity.</p> <p>Increasing reliance on targeted services, such as the pensioner skip bin program, without review may result in expansion beyond intended scope and unplanned cost pressures.</p> <p>While broad verge-side bulk waste collection is often supported by the community, it can involve high costs, low participation and operational challenges, meaning it may not deliver value for money. A more targeted and locally appropriate service approach is required.</p> <p>Inequitable access to waste services can result in poorer environmental outcomes, reduced community satisfaction and increased reliance on informal or inappropriate disposal practices.</p>
6.2.2 Investigate feasible green and organic waste service options	
<p>Community and stakeholder engagement identified strong demand for improved green and organic waste management options.</p> <p>At present, households are required to self-haul green waste to disposal facilities, with green waste representing one of the most commonly managed materials at the landfill.</p> <p>Kerbside organics collection (e.g. FOGO) has been considered previously but is not currently considered feasible under existing operational and market conditions.</p>	<p>Without accessible and practical organics management options, households are likely to continue relying on self-haul disposal, limiting recovery of organic material and placing pressure on landfill capacity.</p> <p>This is inconsistent with State and national policy directions to reduce the disposal of organic waste to landfill due to its contribution to climate emissions.</p>
6.2.3 Finalise the management model for the reuse shop	
<p>The Shire does not currently have a permanent 'Reuse Shop' for recovery of materials from landfill.</p> <p>The RRRP Masterplan includes a new Reuse shop within the CRC, with construction of the facility scheduled within the Strategy period.</p>	<p>Determination of the operational management model will require sufficient lead time to support workforce planning, contract development, systems establishment and commissioning preparation.</p>

The operational scope and management model for the reuse shop have not yet been determined.	
6.2.4 Reduce contamination in kerbside recycling services	
<p>Contamination in kerbside recycling remains high across the Shire, with recent audits indicating rates of between 40% and 60%. In highly contaminated areas, recycling loads may be unsuitable for processing and may be disposed of to landfill, with these practices visible to the community.</p> <p>The Shire has recently transitioned to processing commingled recyclables through a metropolitan facility with advanced sorting capability. This provides an opportunity to improve material recovery outcomes compared to previous local processing arrangements.</p>	<p>High contamination continues to reduce the effectiveness of kerbside recycling, increasing processing and disposal costs and limiting overall recovery performance. Where loads are rejected or disposed of to landfill, this may undermine community confidence and correct participation.</p> <p>While improved processing capability may increase recovery rates, it does not address the underlying causes of contamination. Without targeted education, engagement and service optimisation, there is a risk that contamination levels will remain high, limiting the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of the service.</p>
6.2.5 Improve resource recovery performance relative to benchmarks	
<p>The Shire's current resource recovery performance is below the targets set out in the <i>Western Australian Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Strategy 2030</i>. Regional and remote constraints, including limited local processing infrastructure, transport distances and market access, restrict the range of viable recovery options available to improve performance.</p>	<p>Improving resource recovery will require identifying and implementing locally appropriate opportunities that can deliver incremental improvements from current performance levels.</p> <p>Without a clear and realistic pathway to improvement, there is a risk that effort and investment may not deliver meaningful gains in recovery outcomes.</p>
6.2.6 Define and manage waste service approach for the Rest of Shire	
<p>Outside the Broome townsite and Dampier Peninsula, the Shire services a number of dispersed and low-density settlements where conventional municipal waste services are not feasible.</p> <p>Waste management in these areas is primarily undertaken through self-haul to disposal facilities, voucher-based arrangements and private or informal disposal methods.</p> <p>Previous investigations into expanding municipal services to these areas have not progressed due to limited community support and high service delivery costs.</p>	<p>Expansion of conventional waste services to these areas is not cost-effective or sustainable due to low population density and transport distances.</p> <p>As a result, a clear and appropriate service position is required, recognising these constraints and ensuring residents retain access to appropriate disposal pathways and enables targeted responses where issues arise.</p>

6.3 DATA, INFORMATION AND ECONOMICS

Table 6.3: Data, information and economics findings, issues and impacts

Findings	Impact
6.3.1 Align long-term financial planning with waste infrastructure commitments	
<p>Delivery of the Regional Resource Recovery Park (RRRP) represents a significant long-term financial commitment. While approximately \$38 million has been allocated in the Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) to 2038, this primarily supports initial stages of delivery.</p> <p>Whole-of-life cost estimates indicate substantially higher costs over the facility lifespan, with indicative costs of approximately \$327 million over 40 years (Talis, 2021), demonstrating that long-term operational, renewal and closure costs are not yet fully reflected in current financial planning.</p>	<p>Without improved alignment between infrastructure commitments and long-term financial planning, the Shire may face future funding gaps as additional stages of the RRRP are delivered and brought into operation.</p> <p>While revenue from gate fees and waste service charges will offset some costs, it is unlikely to fully cover the total lifecycle cost of the facility. This increases reliance on staged delivery, ongoing financial planning and external funding to support long-term sustainability.</p>
6.3.2 Align landfill closure costs with long-term financial planning	
<p>Closure of the Buckley's Road Waste Management Facility represents a defined future liability. Funding for closure and rehabilitation has been identified within the Shire's Long-Term Financial Plan and associated reserves, reflecting current cost estimates.</p> <p>Closure costs will be incurred over time and remain sensitive to changes in scope, regulatory requirements and market conditions, requiring periodic review and adjustment within long-term financial planning.</p>	<p>Without ongoing review and alignment of closure cost estimates within the Long-Term Financial Plan, there is a risk that actual costs may diverge from current provisions, leading to funding pressure or reallocation of financial resources in future years.</p> <p>Maintaining accurate and up-to-date cost estimates will be important to ensure long-term financial sustainability and compliance with closure obligations.</p>
6.3.3 Improve cost recovery and internal charging for waste services	
<p>Current cost recovery and financial processes do not consistently capture the full cost of waste services.</p> <p>Waste associated with capital projects is not always quantified or charged, and internal charging and fee waiver processes are not formalised, resulting in foregone revenue and inconsistent cost allocation.</p> <p>Service delivery and pricing models, including kerbside collection arrangements, influence cost efficiency. Fixed pricing structures (e.g. payment per tenement) may not reflect actual service use, limiting the Shire's ability to align costs with demand and optimise value for money.</p>	<p>Without consistent cost recovery, internal charging processes and appropriate pricing structures, the Shire may not fully recover the cost of waste services or align costs with service use.</p> <p>This may result in revenue loss, higher overall service costs and increased pressure on waste budgets, limiting effective financial and service planning.</p>

6.4 POLICY AND PROCUREMENT

Table 6.4: Policy and procurement findings, issues and impacts

Findings	Impact
6.4.1 Provide an Emergency waste management plan	
<p>The Shire is exposed to cyclones, flooding and extreme weather events that can generate large volumes of waste over short periods.</p> <p>While progress has been made through participation in a WALGA-led working group, a dedicated Emergency Waste Management framework for the Shire has not yet been finalised or embedded into existing policy and operational arrangements.</p>	<p>Without an established emergency waste management framework, the Shire may face increased operational, financial and environmental risk during disaster events. A lack of clear roles, procedures and disposal pathways may lead to inefficient response, pressure on existing waste infrastructure and diversion of resources from essential services during emergency situations.</p>
6.4.2 Maintain and update policy settings in line with changing State and national direction	
<p>The Shire has implemented a range of policies and guidelines to support waste avoidance, recycling and sustainable procurement, including event guidelines and procurement practices.</p> <p>State and national policy settings continue to evolve, particularly in relation to plastics reduction, circular economy and resource recovery.</p>	<p>Without ongoing review and alignment, existing policies may not reflect current regulatory requirements or best practice, reducing their effectiveness in supporting waste management outcomes.</p>

6.5 LITTER AND ILLEGAL DUMPING

Table 6.5: Litter and illegal dumping findings, issues and impacts

Findings	Impact
6.5.1 Improve internal management of litter and illegal dumping	
<p>Litter and illegal dumping are managed through a range of internal operational activities, including bin infrastructure, routine cleaning, and reactive response to reported issues.</p> <p>These activities are undertaken across different teams and programs, and are generally responsive to issues as they arise rather than guided by a coordinated, data-informed approach to identifying and addressing priority areas.</p> <p>A comprehensive litter and illegal dumping strategy was identified as a priority in the previous Waste Strategy but has not yet been developed or implemented.</p>	<p>Without a coordinated framework to guide roles, priorities and responses, litter and illegal dumping are likely to continue requiring repeated clean-up effort without addressing underlying drivers.</p> <p>This places ongoing pressure on operational resources, affects amenity and environmental values, and limits the effectiveness of investment in prevention and education measures.</p>
6.5.2 Establish multi-stakeholder collaboration for litter and illegal dumping	
<p>Responsibility for management of litter and illegal dumping in the Shire is spread across many different stakeholders dependent on land ownership/vesting including DBCA, the Shire, Main Roads, and Yawuru Park Council.</p> <p>Consultation identified opportunities for improved collaboration, including shared reporting, coordinated clean-ups and clearer communication between agencies in known dumping hotspots and conservation areas.</p> <p>A formal multi-stakeholder working group was previously proposed but not established.</p>	<p>Limited coordination between land managers can result in delayed responses, duplicated effort and continued dumping in high-risk locations.</p> <p>Strengthening collaboration has the potential to improve response efficiency, reduce repeat dumping and better protect environmental and recreational assets with limited additional resource demand.</p>

6.6 BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

Table 6.6: Behaviour change findings, issues and impacts

Findings	Impact
6.6.1 Develop and deliver an annual waste education and engagement program	
<p>Education and communication are key enablers of effective waste service use. Community consultation identified low confidence in recycling outcomes, confusion regarding correct service use and limited awareness of available waste services.</p> <p>Previous strategies identified the need for a coordinated waste education and engagement program; however, implementation has been limited, with education activities occurring on an ad-hoc basis rather than as a structured, long-term program.</p>	<p>Without a coordinated and consistent education and engagement approach, misunderstandings about waste services and outcomes are likely to persist.</p> <p>This undermines correct service use, contributes to contamination and limits the effectiveness of investment in waste services and infrastructure.</p>
6.6.2 Improve transparency and community confidence in recycling outcomes	
<p>Community consultation consistently identified low confidence in recycling outcomes as a key barrier to correct service use. Residents expressed uncertainty about whether materials placed in recycling bins are actually recycled and reported limited visibility of recycling processes and outcomes.</p> <p>The Shire has recently endorsed a change to recycling processing arrangements, with commingled recyclables to be processed through a metropolitan facility with higher material recovery capability. This is expected to improve overall recycling outcomes.</p>	<p>Low confidence in recycling outcomes undermines participation, correct bin use and overall recovery performance, contributing to higher contamination rates and reduced effectiveness of the service.</p> <p>If changes to recycling processing and improved recovery outcomes are not clearly communicated and made visible to the community, there may be limited improvement in community confidence or behaviour, and contamination levels are likely to remain high.</p>
6.6.3 Increase uptake of community waste and recycling grants	
<p>The Shire has introduced a Community Waste Reduction / Recycling Initiative to the Shire's Quick Response Grants. The grants are designed to assist in organising community clean up events, launching recycling projects, to foster and maintain environmental responsibility within the local community.</p> <p>However, uptake to date has been limited. Engagement feedback suggests that awareness of available grants and clarity around eligible activities could be improved.</p>	<p>Low uptake of grant funding may limit the effectiveness of the program as a mechanism to support behaviour change and community-led waste initiatives.</p>
6.6.4 Strengthen partnerships to deliver behaviour change initiatives	

<p>Effective behaviour change is not solely a Shire delivery function, and outcomes depend on coordination with a range of external stakeholders, including State agencies, land managers, contractors, businesses and community organisations.</p> <p>Consultation identified opportunities to improve behaviour change outcomes by better leveraging partner networks and points of contact with the community. Previous actions to establish a community waste and recycling action group were not progressed, and behaviour change initiatives have largely relied on Shire-led delivery with limited formal integration of partner roles.</p>	<p>Without a coordinated, partner-based approach, behaviour change initiatives may rely disproportionately on internal resources and have limited reach or effectiveness.</p> <p>Opportunities to deliver consistent messaging, implement place-based responses and improve outcomes through existing partner networks may not be fully realised.</p>
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6.7 REGIONAL EFFICIENCIES

Table 6.7: Regional efficiencies findings, issues and impacts

Findings	Impact
6.7.1 Refocus regional collaboration through the Kimberley Regional Waste Management Plan (KRWMP)	
<p>Previous attempts to progress the <i>Kimberley Regional Waste Management Plan 2018–2023</i> experienced limited uptake and engagement across the Kimberley Zone, with delivery constrained by resourcing limitations and differing local priorities.</p> <p>Opportunities exist to refocus regional collaboration on targeted, practical outcomes, including coordinated transport, material consolidation and shared approaches to managing problem waste streams.</p>	<p>The KRWMP provides an appropriate mechanism to investigate these opportunities at a regional scale. Without coordinated regional action, structural constraints such as high transport costs and limited economies of scale are likely to persist, limiting the effectiveness of local initiatives and the ability to improve recovery outcomes.</p>
6.7.2 Advocate and partner to progress waste management outcomes for the Dampier Peninsula	
<p>The <i>Dampier Peninsula Waste Management Plan (2020)</i> identifies significant waste management challenges within the Peninsula, including limited access to compliant infrastructure, reliance on unmanaged disposal practices and complex governance arrangements.</p> <p>While the area sits within the Shire boundary, service delivery is shared across communities and State agencies, placing many issues outside direct Shire control.</p>	<p>The Shire has limited direct ability to deliver infrastructure or services in the Peninsula.</p> <p>Progress is dependent on sustained State Government leadership, coordinated funding, and clear allocation of responsibilities across agencies and communities</p>
6.7.3 Advocate for State leadership to address regional and remote waste management challenges	
<p>Regional and remote waste management across the Kimberley is affected by a consistent set of structural constraints, including limited funding capacity, small rate bases, long transport distances to recycling markets and limited economies of scale.</p> <p>Additional challenges include ageing infrastructure, increasing compliance requirements, complex governance arrangements and waste management issues in remote and Aboriginal communities that fall outside local government control.</p> <p>These constraints are long-standing and significantly influence what can realistically be delivered at a local and regional level.</p>	<p>Structural regional and remote waste challenges cannot be addressed by local government alone and require sustained State leadership, funding and policy direction.</p> <p>Without this, these constraints are likely to persist, limiting the effectiveness of local initiatives and the ability to improve waste management outcomes.</p>

6.8 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES (OUTSIDE OF THE DAMPIER PENINSULA)

Table 6.8: Aboriginal communities findings, issues and impacts

Findings	Impact
6.8.1 Enhance advocacy and support for waste outcomes in remote aboriginal communities	
<p>Remote Aboriginal communities within the Shire experience waste management challenges that sit below jurisdictional standards outlined under the National Agreement on Closing the Gap (including Target 9B).</p> <p>Waste services and infrastructure are not delivered or controlled by the Shire and are instead managed through a combination of community-based arrangements, and State agencies. As a result, these communities sit largely outside the Shire's statutory authority, funding mechanisms and service delivery models.</p>	<p>Without sustained State leadership, clear governance arrangements and dedicated funding pathways, waste management outcomes in remote Aboriginal communities are unlikely to be improved through local government action alone.</p> <p>The Shire's role in these locations is therefore limited to advocacy, information sharing and coordination with responsible agencies, rather than direct service delivery or infrastructure provision, constraining the Shire's ability to directly influence progress toward Closing the Gap outcomes.</p>

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APPENDIX A – BASELINE WASTE DATA

Baseline Waste Data: Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2026 - 2030

Shire of Broome



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Acknowledgements

ASK Waste Management acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land in which we work and live, and pays respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

ASK also gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of the Shire of Broome staff that provided information and assistance in the development of this report.

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1 INTRODUCTION

This Baseline Waste Data analysis has been prepared to support the review and update of the Shire of Broome's *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy* (the Strategy) to guide actions for the period 2026 to 2030.

It provides a comprehensive assessment of waste management and resource recovery within the Shire of Broome and forms the evidence base for the forthcoming Strategy. The document establishes the baseline data required for strategic planning, including waste quantities, sector sources, recycling performance, trend analysis and future projections. It also benchmarks the Shire's performance against other local government areas (LGAs), the Shire's previous *Waste Strategy 2021 – 2031* (2020) and the *Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030* (WARR Strategy 2030) (Waste Authority, 2020).

2 BASELINE WASTE DATA

2.1 POPULATION DATA

The Shire of Broome is an LGA in the Kimberley region of northern Western Australia (WA). The estimated resident population (ERP) figures from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and tourism equivalent population figures are shown in **Table 2.1**, and census figures for each locality are in **Table 2.2**. **Figure 2.1** presents a map of the Shire's localities.

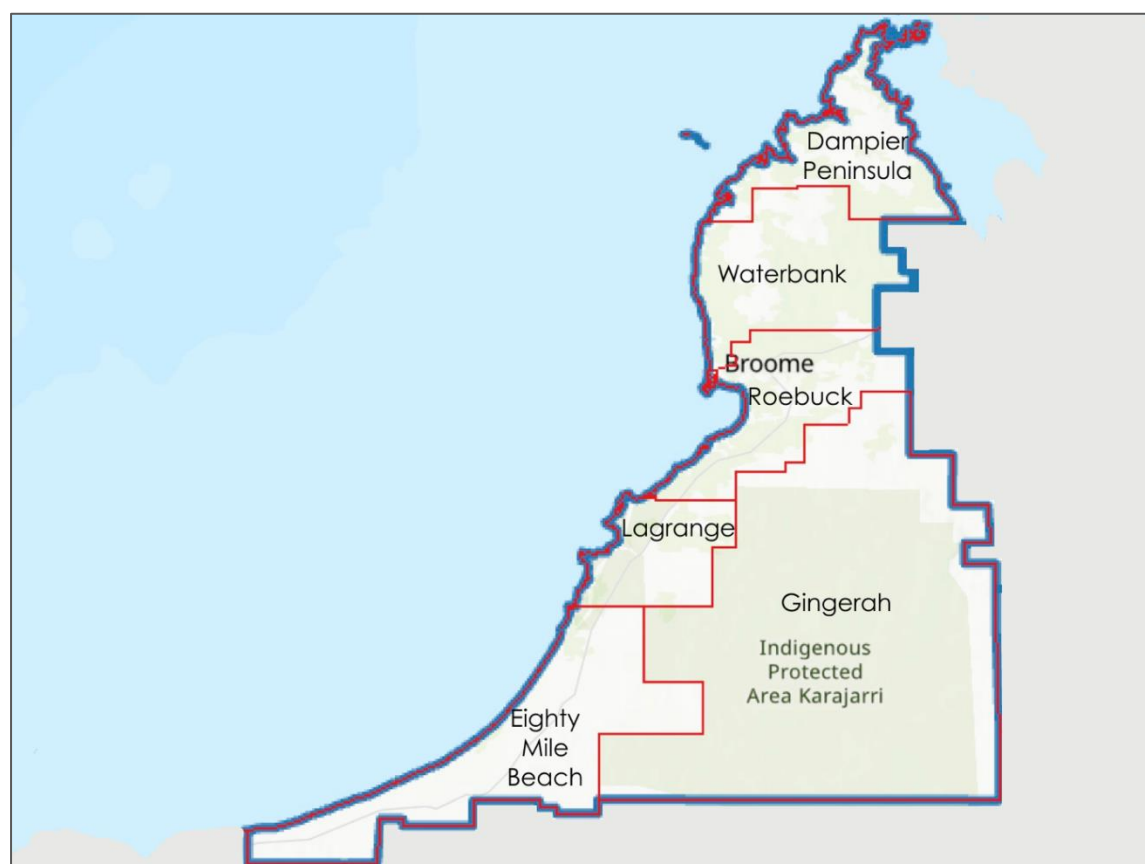
Table 2.1: Shire population data (ABS, 2025 and Tourism Research Australia, 2024)

Location	ERP	Tourism equivalent ¹	Total
Shire of Broome	18,870	4,926	23,796
Broome (town)	16,238	4,926	21,164

Table 2.2: Population of Shire of Broome localities (ABS, 2021 for localities)

Area	Broome	Dampier Peninsula	Eighty Mile Beach	Gingerah	Lagrange	Roebuck	Waterbank
Population	14,660	1,051	120	No data	634	606	110

Figure 2.1: Map of localities within the Shire

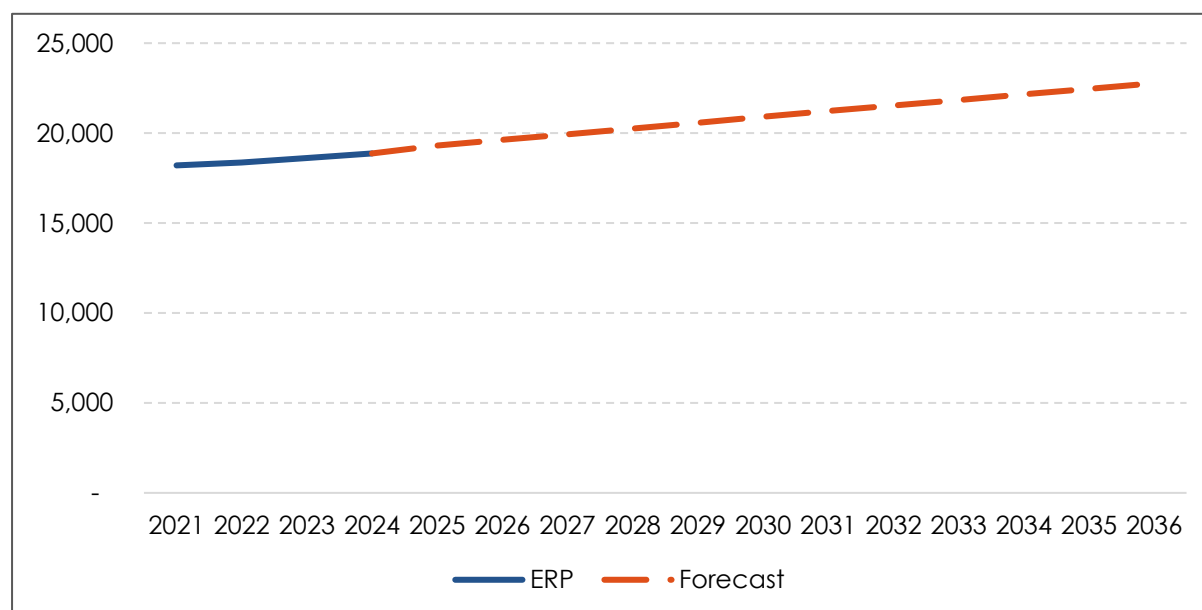


¹ Data from Tourism Research Australia 2024 LGA profiles. Visitor nights are divided by 365 to allow tourism numbers to be incorporated into population statistics.

The population of the town centre of Broome (in addition to the tourist population) is most relevant to waste generation and future infrastructure planning, given that waste from Aboriginal communities, pastoral stations, national parks, camping grounds, and remote roadhouses is generally not received at the municipal landfill.

According to the Western Australia Tomorrow 12 Population Forecasts, the population of the Shire of Broome is projected to steadily rise, with an anticipated increase of 20.6% from the 2024 ERP to 2036 (Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage, 2025) (**Figure 2.2**).

Figure 2.2: Population growth and projections for the Shire of Broome (2021–2036)



2.1.1

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES

The latest ABS Census data indicates that 28.6% of the Shire's population identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. This is much higher than the WA or national percentages, which are 3.3 and 3.2%, respectively.

There are 84 Aboriginal communities in the Shire of Broome, with 78 classified as remote. Strong ties to the land have led to numerous native title claims, some still pending. The Yawuru people hold Native Title for the townsite of Broome and have lived throughout the area for thousands of years, maintaining a dynamic relationship with their Country.

2.2.1 Each community has its own separate waste system, not managed by the local government.

2.2 SOLID WASTE QUANTITIES

CATEGORIES

Waste data has been compiled into the following sector source categories:

- **Construction and Demolition Waste (C&D)** refers to materials generated from activities such as demolition, building construction, road and rail projects, maintenance work, and land excavation related to construction².
- **Commercial and Industrial Waste (C&I)** refers to the waste generated by businesses and institutions, including schools, restaurants, offices, retailers, wholesalers, and manufacturers.

² All definitions from the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030* (Waste Authority, 2020)

- **Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)** is primarily waste collected from households and the Shire through waste and recycling collections.

TOTAL WASTE QUANTITIES

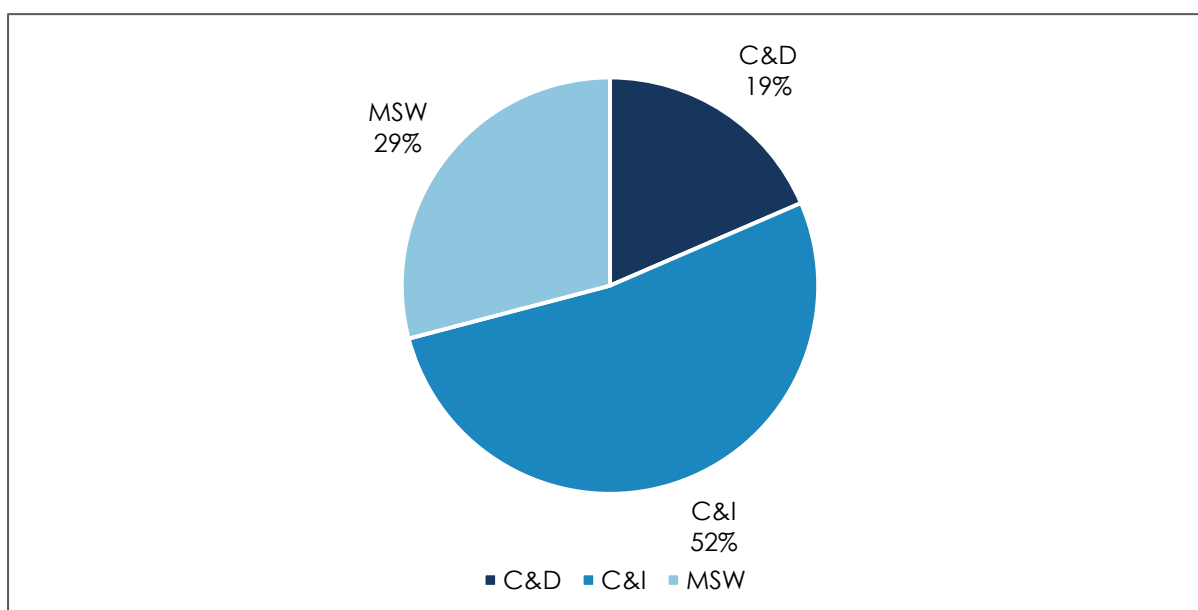
The average annual quantity of solid waste that was managed by the Shire between the financial year (FY) 2021–22 and 2024–25 is 41,500 tonnes. This value does not include liquid wastes, clean fill or wastes that were generated and managed directly by industry with their own disposal sites. Over the four years, the C&D, C&I and MSW sectors comprised 19%, 52% and 29%, respectively, of the total waste quantities.

Table 2.3 provides the four-year average estimated tonnes of waste generated within the Shire and the percentage breakdown by sector source. The average percentage breakdown by sector source is shown graphically in **Figure 2.3**.

Table 2.3: Average annual estimated tonnes of waste and percentage breakdown generated within the Shire Broome (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25) (rounded to the nearest 100 tonnes)

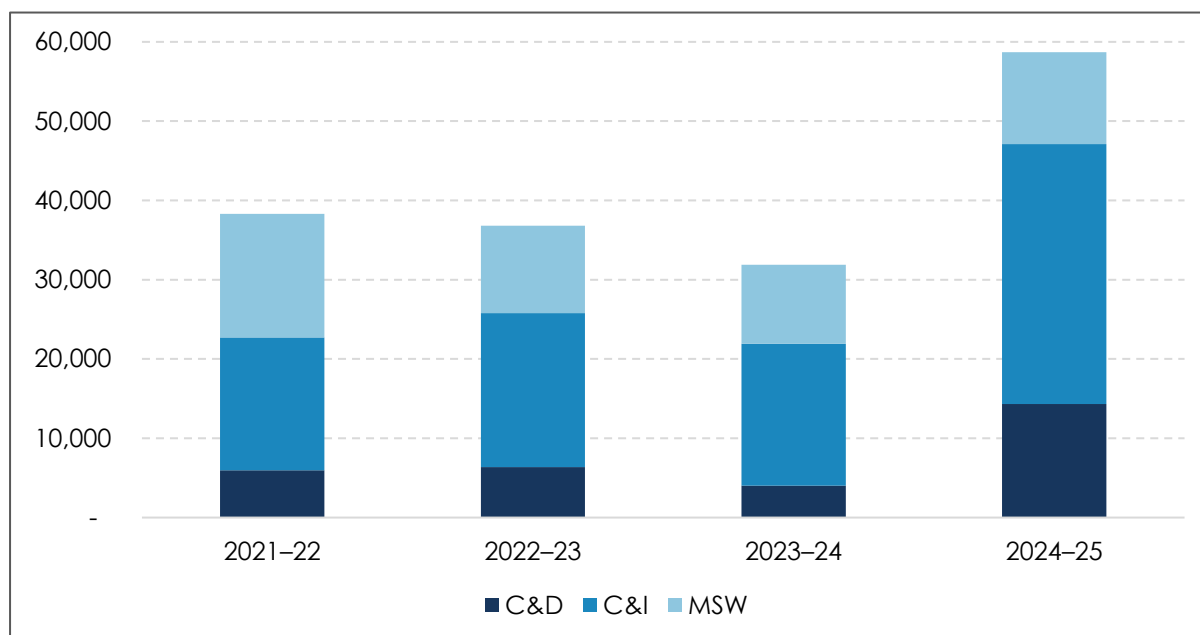
C&D	C&I	MSW	Total
7,700	21,700	12,100	41,500
19%	52%	29%	100%

Figure 2.3: Average percentage breakdown by sector source (FY 2022–21 – FY 2024–25)



Over the past four years, the Shire's annual waste generation has fluctuated, peaking in the 2024–25 FY at 58,700 tonnes and reaching its lowest during this period in the FY 2023–24 with 31,900 tonnes (**Figure 2.4**).

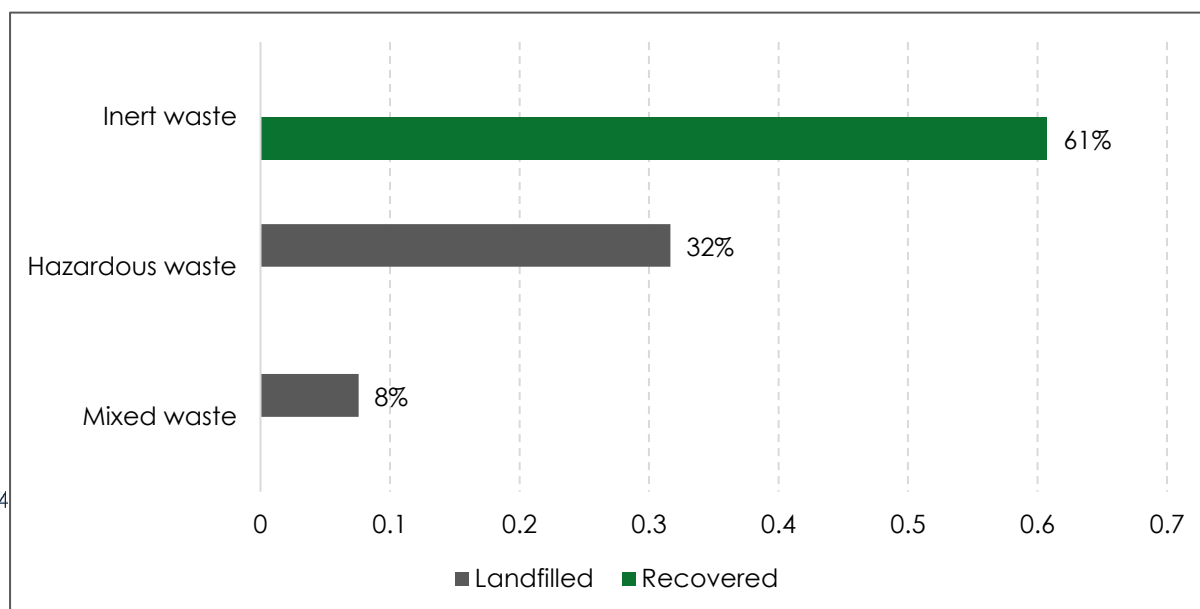
Figure 2.4: Annual waste generation tonnes by sector source (FY 2020–21 - FY 2024–25)



C&D WASTE

2.2.3 Waste generated from the C&D sector comprises, on average, approximately 19% of the total waste handled by the Shire. **Figure 2.5** provides a breakdown of the Shire's average annual C&D sector source composition by material type from FY 2021–22 to FY 2024–25.

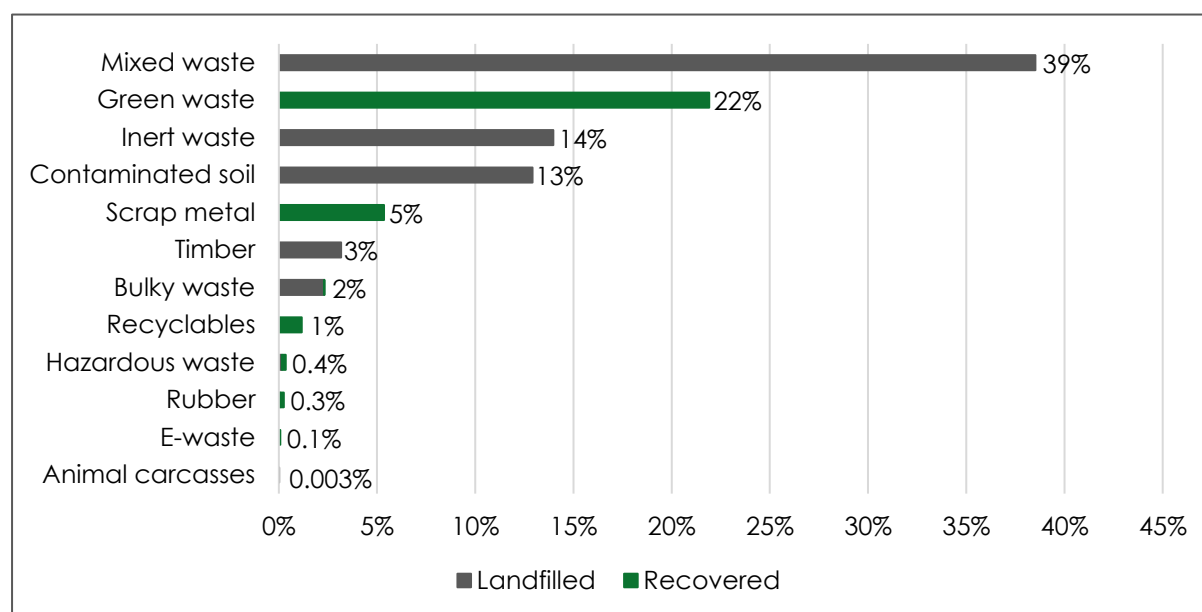
Figure 2.5: Average composition of C&D by material type (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)



C&I WASTE

Waste generated from the C&I sector accounts for approximately 52% of the total waste handled by the Shire. **Figure 2.6** provides a breakdown of the Shire's average annual C&I sector source composition by material type over the four years, FY 2021–22 to FY 2024–25.

Figure 2.6: Composition of C&I by material type (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)



MSW WASTE

2.2.5 Waste generated from the domestic sector of the community comprises, on average, approximately 29% of the total waste produced within the Shire, as shown in **Figure 2.3**. Almost half of this waste is dropped off at the Shire's facilities (48%), followed by kerbside waste collection services (45%), with a small additional amount coming from floor (4%), spoilage (2%) and the free disposal weekend (1%) (**Figure 2.7**). Kerbside residual waste and general mixed waste constitute a majority of the MSW stream (64% together), followed by green waste, kerbside recycling, scrap metal, and contamination from the kerbside recycling collection service, as well as mulch (16%, 6%, 6%, 5% and 1%, respectively) (**Figure 2.8**). Waste that made up less than 1% of the MSW sector source included recyclables, e-waste, mattresses and rubber (tyres).

Figure 2.7: Average composition of MSW by source (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)

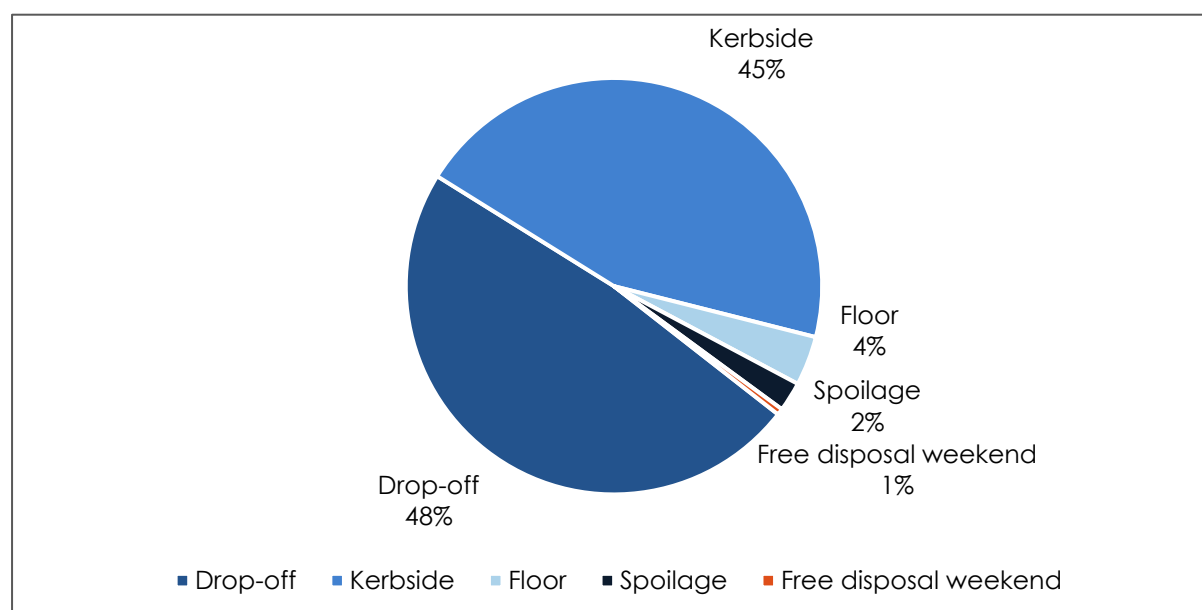
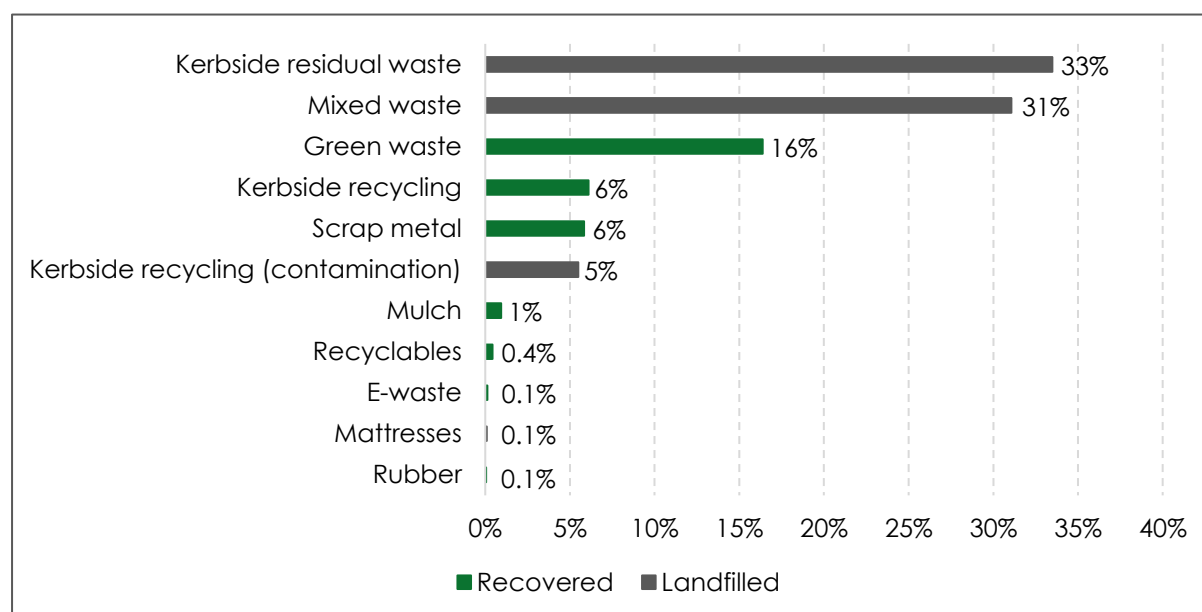


Figure 2.8: Average composition of MSW by material type (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)



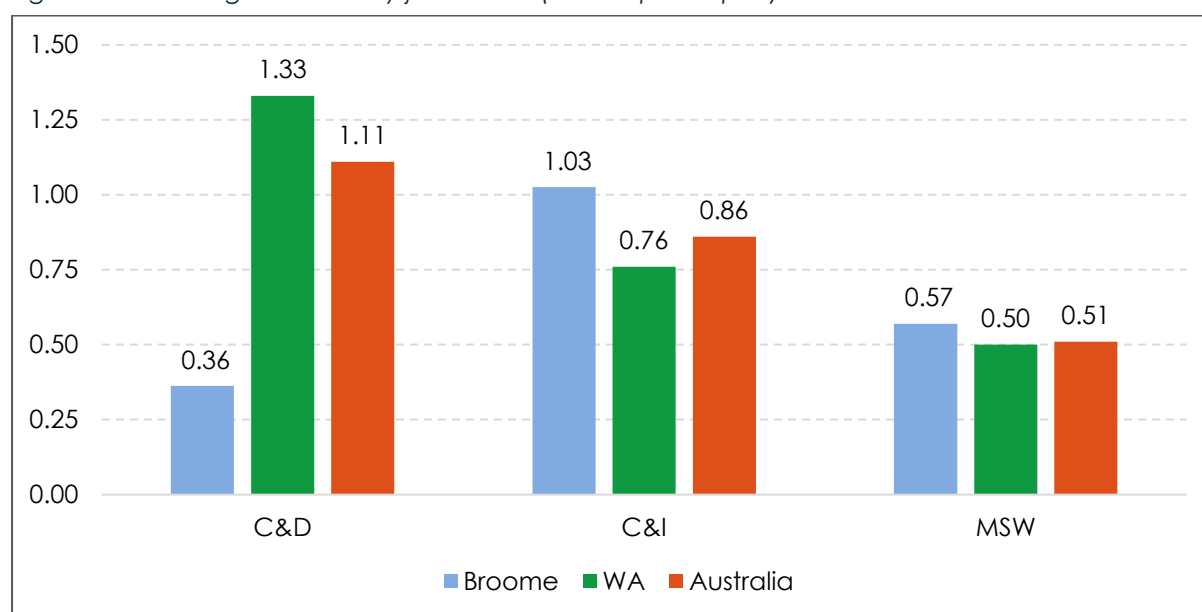
2.3 WASTE GENERATION RATES

The Shire's waste generation rates have been benchmarked against the state's performance outcomes as listed in the *Waste Authority Annual Report 2024-25* (Waste Authority, 2025) and the Australian rates from the *National Waste and Resource Recovery Report 2024* (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW), 2025) (**Table 2.4** and **Figure 2.9**). These rates have been calculated using the four-year average waste data from the Shire, divided by the town of Broome's population and tourism nights presented in **Table 2.1**.

The benchmarking indicates that the total waste generated per capita in the Shire is approximately 500 to 600kg below the state and national averages at 1.96 tonnes per capita. The rate of C&D waste generated is significantly lower than both the WA and Australian averages. C&I generation is higher than both WA and Australian averages, and MSW is only slightly above.

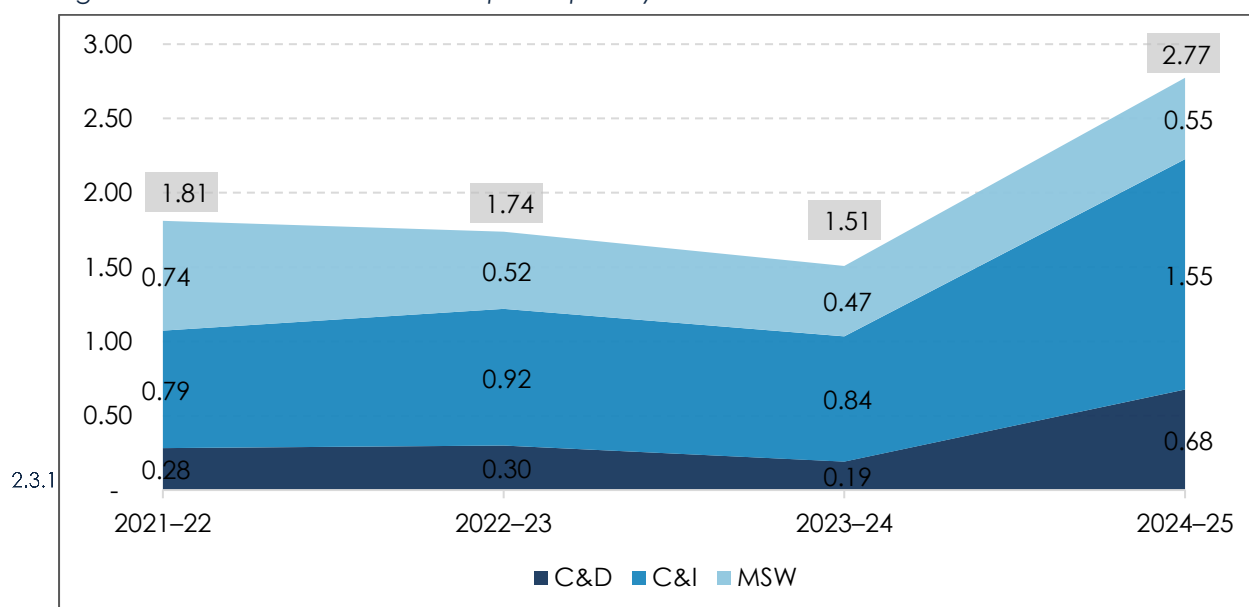
Table 2.4: Waste generation values of the Shire compared to state and national averages (four-year average FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)

Region	Shire of Broome		WA		Australia	
Period	2021–25 average		2023–24		2022–23	
Sector Source	Tonnes per capita	%	Tonnes per capita	WA %	Tonnes per capita	%
C&D	0.36	19%	1.33	51%	1.11	45%
C&I	1.03	52%	0.76	29%	0.86	35%
MSW	0.57	29%	0.50	19%	0.51	21%
Total	1.96	100%	2.59	100%	2.48	100%

Figure 2.9: Waste generation by jurisdiction (tonnes per capita)³

Over the past four years, waste generated per person varied. It declined steadily from 1.81 tonnes per annum in 2021–22 to 1.74 tonnes in 2022–23 and 1.51 tonnes in 2023–24, before increasing to 2.77 tonnes in 2024–25. C&D waste remained relatively stable, moving from 0.28 to 0.30 tonnes, then falling to 0.19 tonnes before rising to 0.68 tonnes. C&I waste increased substantially, almost doubling from 0.79 to 1.55 tonnes per person over the period. MSW remained comparatively stable, peaking at 0.74 tonnes per person in 2021–22 before plateauing at 0.52, 0.47 and 0.55 tonnes in subsequent years, as shown in **Figure 2.10**.

Figure 2.10: Broome annual tonnes per capita by sector source



WASTE GENERATION PROJECTIONS

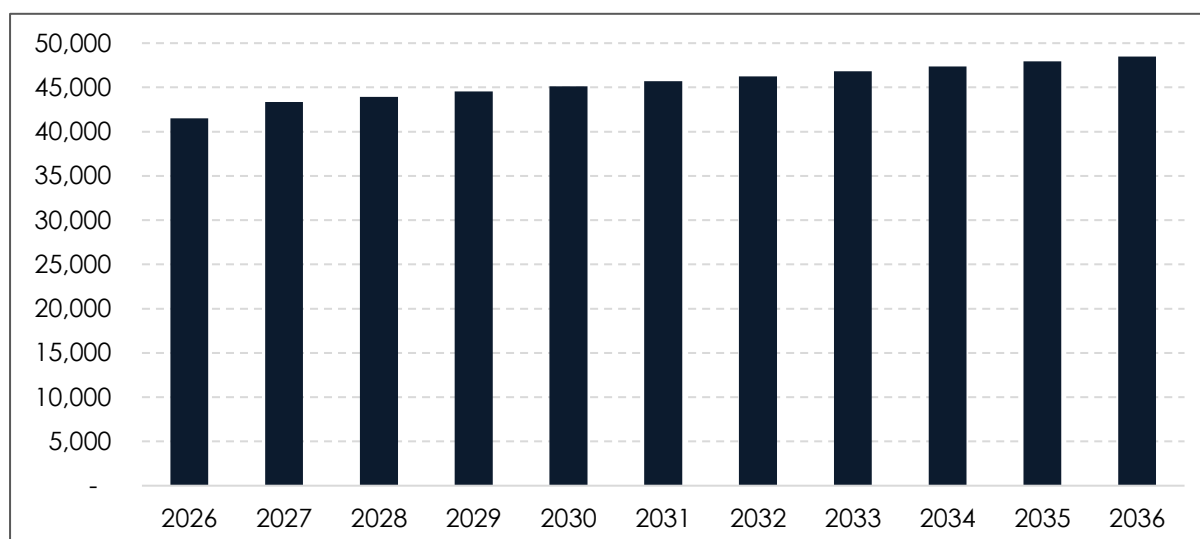
Waste generation projections have been made for the next 10 years based on the population growth data provided by the *Western Australia Tomorrow 12 Population Forecasts* (Department of

³ Western Australian rates from the Waste Authority's Annual Report 2024–25 (Waste Authority, 2025) and Australian rates are sourced from the National Waste and Resource Recovery Report 2024 (DCCEEW, 2025)

Planning, Lands and Heritage, 2025). A median growth scenario has been adopted. For this projection, it has been assumed that over the 10 years, waste generation per capita and tourism will, on average, remain constant.

The projection estimates indicate approximately 47,600 tonnes of waste per annum will be generated by 2036. This is an increase of 17% or 6,900 tonnes, from the estimated average waste generation per annum for FY 2021–22 to 2024–25 of 40,700 tonnes. **Figure 2.11** shows the projected total annual waste generation through 2036.

Figure 2.11: Total waste generation predictions within the Shire to 2036



2.4 SHIRE RECYCLING RATE

2.4.1

OVERALL RECYCLING RATE

The data provided by the Shire shows the average waste diverted from landfill was 14,500 tonnes across all sector sources. This represents a 35% recycling rate (**Figure 2.12**). Material flows by sector source are illustrated in **Figure 2.13** and detailed in **Table 2.5**.

Table 2.5: Average tonnes, percentage and per capita values of waste recovered

Average from FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25	C&D	C&I	MSW	Total
Average tonnes of waste recovered (rounded to nearest 100 tonnes)	4,700	6,300	3,600	14,500
Average percentage diverted from landfill	61%	29%	30%	35%
Average per capita diversion from landfill (tonnes per annum)	0.22	0.30	0.17	0.69

Figure 2.12: Average annual recovery rate from all sector sources (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)

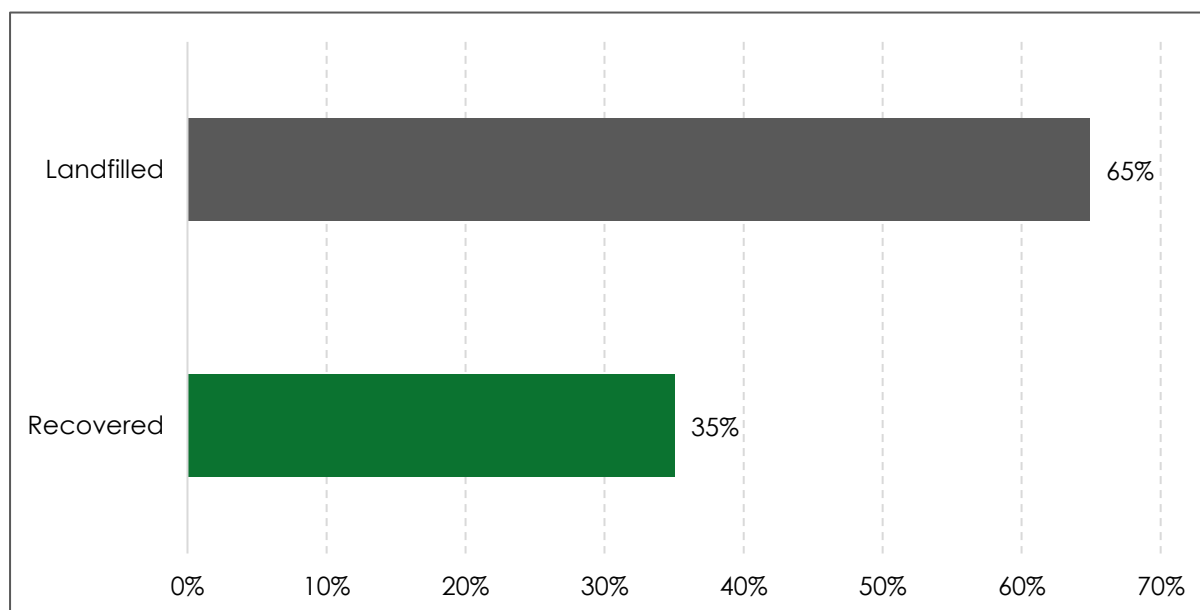
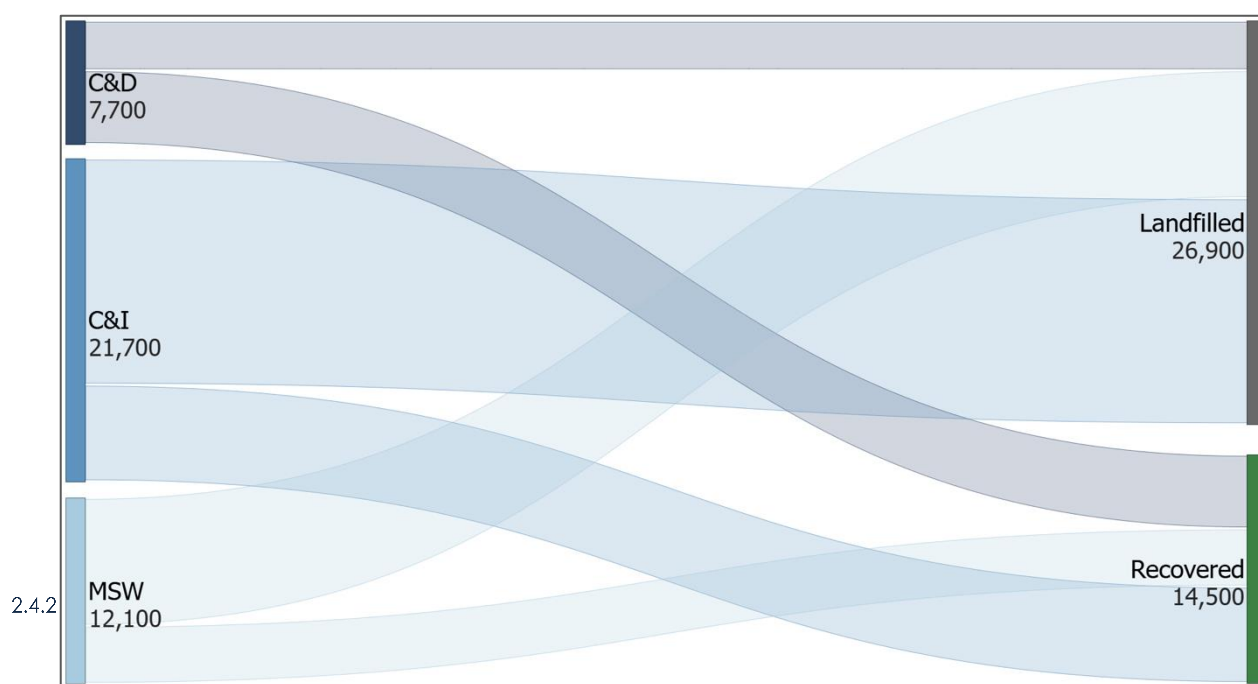


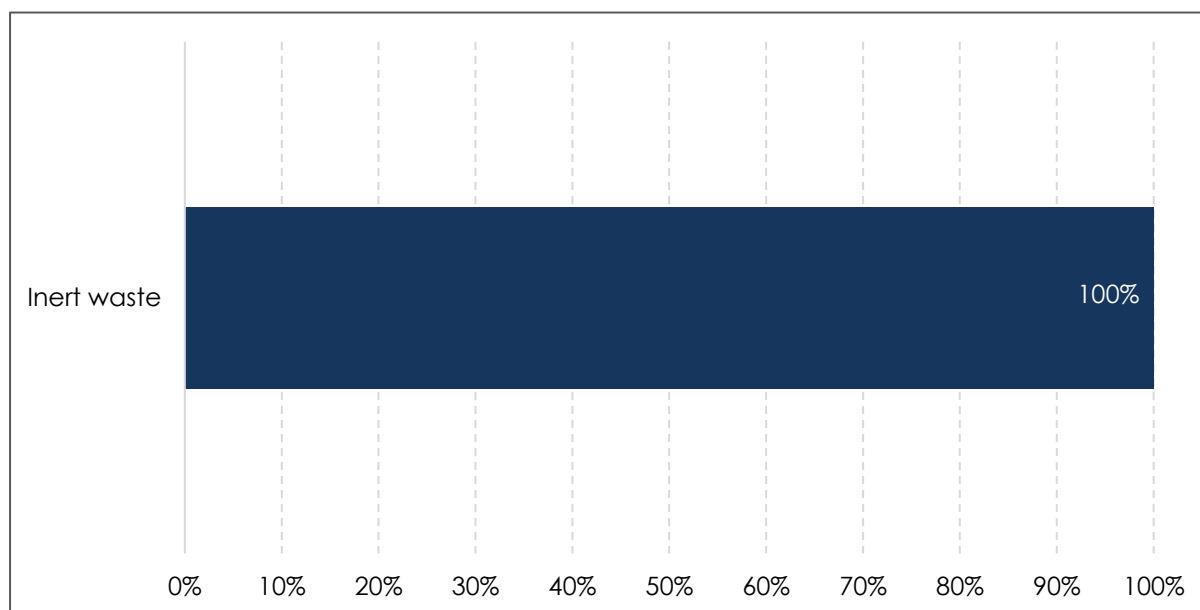
Figure 2.13: Material flows by sector source



C&D RECYCLING RATE

An average of approximately 4,700 tonnes per annum of C&D material was diverted from landfill for recycling and reuse between 2021–22 and 2024–25. This represents an average recycling rate of 61% for the C&D waste stream managed by the Shire. All recovery for this sector source is from inert waste (100%) (**Figure 2.14**).

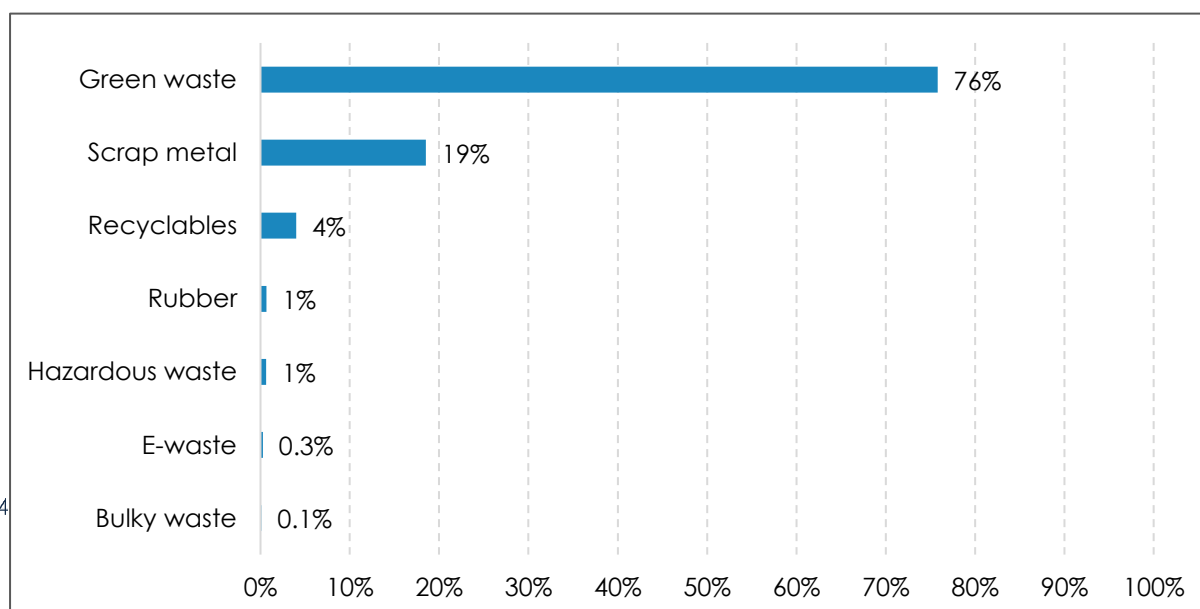
Figure 2.14: Composition of recycled C&D by material type (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)



C&I RECYCLING RATE

2.4.3 Waste classified as C&I has a recycling rate of 29% over the four years from 2021–22 to 2024–25, which equates to an average of 6,300 tonnes per annum. Green waste and scrap metal make up the majority of recovered materials from this sector source at 76% and 19% respectively (**Figure 2.15**).

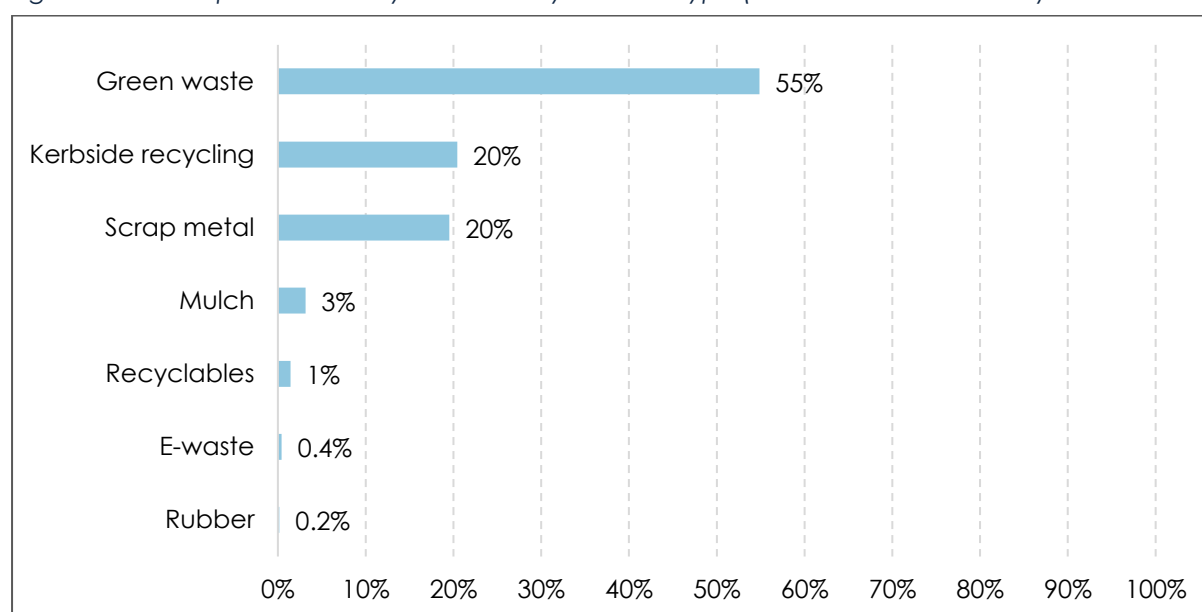
Figure 2.15: Composition of recycled C&I by material type (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)



MSW RECYCLING RATE

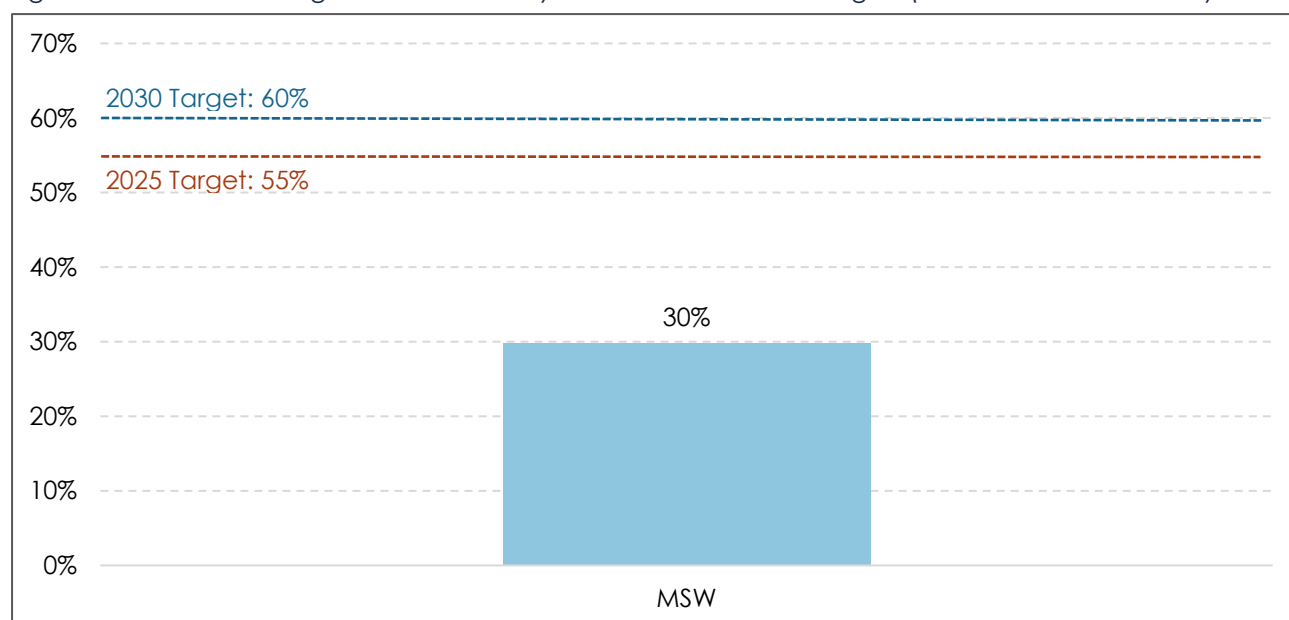
The data provided by the Shire shows that the four-year average for MSW waste diverted from landfill for recycling and reuse is 3,600 tonnes. This represents an average recycling rate of 30%. Most of the materials recycled were green waste (55%), kerbside recycling (20%) and scrap metal (20%) (**Figure 2.16**).

Figure 2.16: Composition of recycled MSW by material type (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)



The Waste Authority's WARR Strategy 2030 (2020) includes a target to increase the MSW recycling rate to 70% by 2030 in Perth and Peel regions and 60% by 2030 for major regional centres. **Figure 2.17** shows the Shire's resource recovery rate compared to the WARR Strategy 2030 targets set for major regional centres. It should be noted that the Shire of Broome is not classified as a major regional centre within the WARR Strategy 2030. Therefore, these targets are considered aspirational for the Shire.

Figure 2.17: Shire's average annual recovery rate and WARR 2030 targets (FY 2021–22 - FY 2024–25)



3 PERFORMANCE 2020 – 2025

This section explores trends and performance over time.

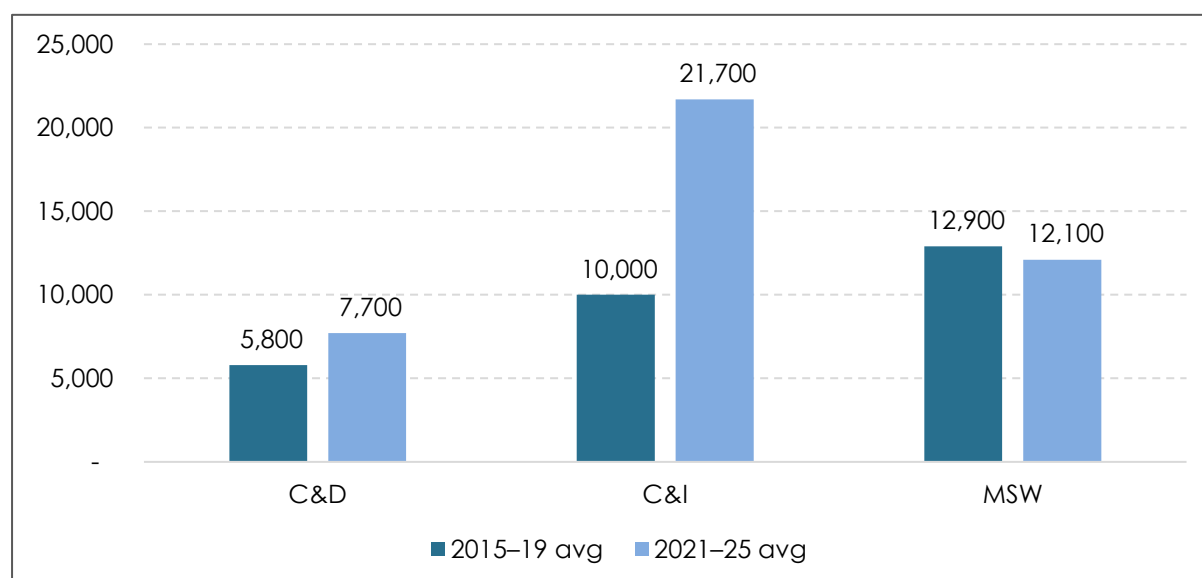
3.1 WASTE GENERATION

The Shire of Broome's *Waste Strategy 2021–2031* (2020), based on 2015–19 data, reported an average annual waste generation of 28,700 tonnes. The estimate for 2021–25 is significantly higher at 41,500 average tonnes per year, an increase of 12,800 tonnes. The increase is mostly due to a rise in C&I waste generation, climbing from 10,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) to 21,700. C&D generation has only slightly increased, while MSW has slightly decreased. The comparison between the data is presented in **Table 3.1** and **Figure 3.1**.

Table 3.1: Comparison of average tonnes per annum, composition and difference

Sector Source	2015–19		2021–25		Percentage increase/decrease
	Average tpa	%	Average tpa	%	
C&D	5,800	20%	7,700	19%	+ 33%
C&I	10,000	35%	21,700	52%	+ 117%
MSW	12,900	45%	12,100	29%	- 6%
Total	28,700	100%	41,500	100%	+ 45%

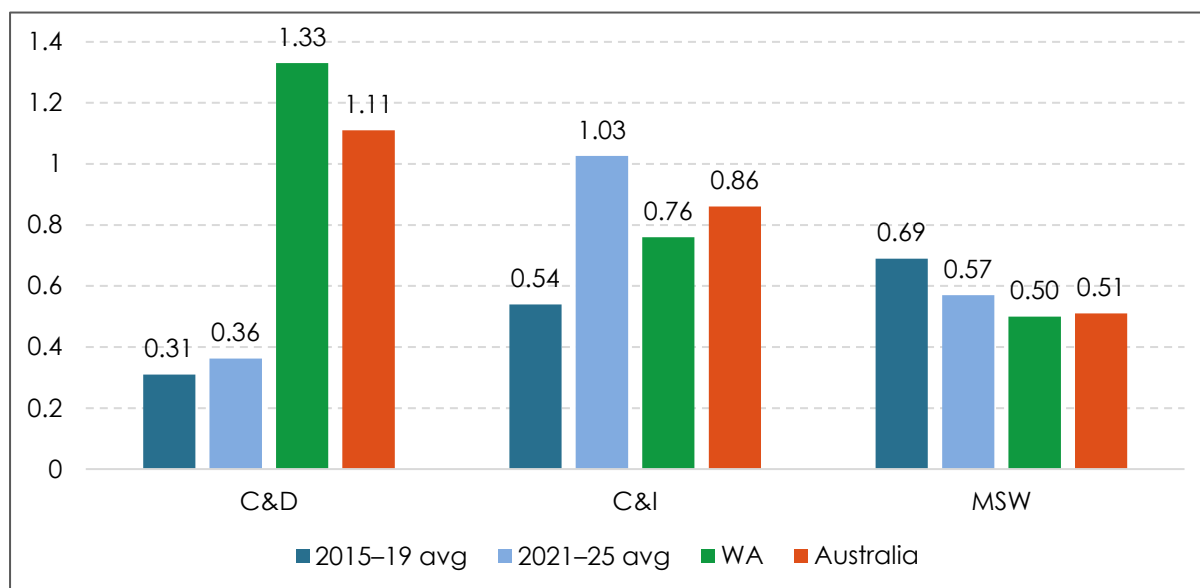
Figure 3.1: Comparison of waste generation, average annual sector source tonnes



3.2 WASTE GENERATION PER CAPITA

The Shire's average annual waste generation rate was estimated as 1.54 tonnes per capita in the *Waste Strategy 2021 – 2031* (Shire of Broome, 2020). The data from FY 2021–22 – 2024–25 shows the rate is now on average 1.96 tonnes per capita. **Figure 3.2** shows the figures from both datasets; per capita tonnes are shown per sector source. Waste generation has increased by 0.42 tonnes per capita between the two periods, while the population of Broome town with tourism has increased by 2,510 people.

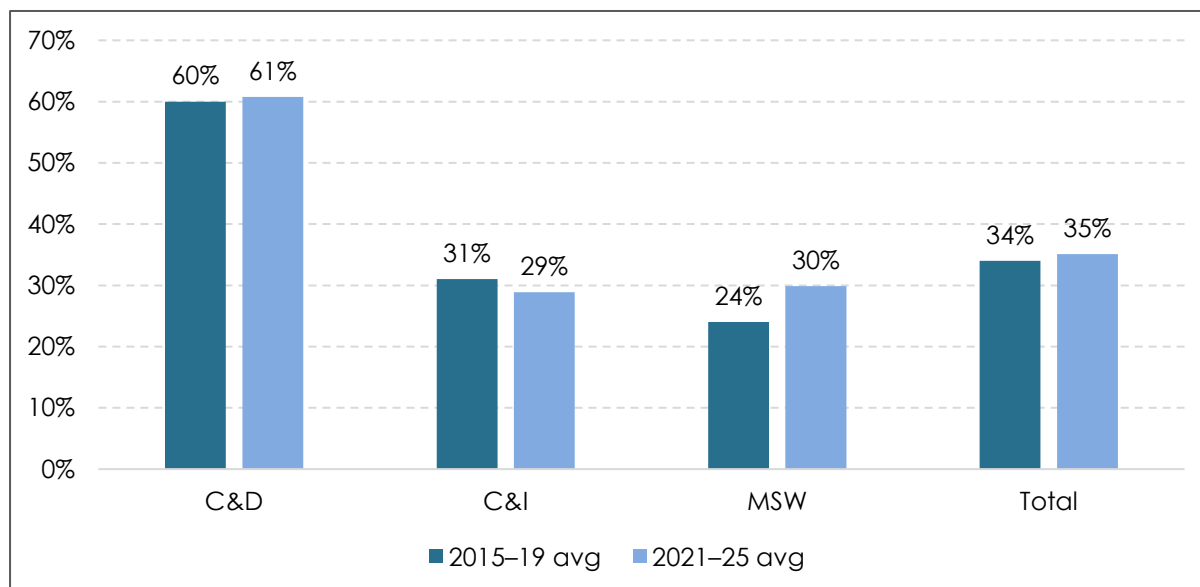
Figure 3.2: Comparison of per capita waste generation tonnes



3.3 RECOVERY RATES

The data provided by the Shire for the FY 2021-22 to 2024-25 showed a recovery rate of 35%, which is almost the same recovery rate provided in the previous *Waste Strategy 2021 - 2031* (Shire of Broome, 2020). The recovery rates from both datasets are shown broken down by sector source in **Figure 3.3**.

Figure 3.3: Comparison of recovery rates

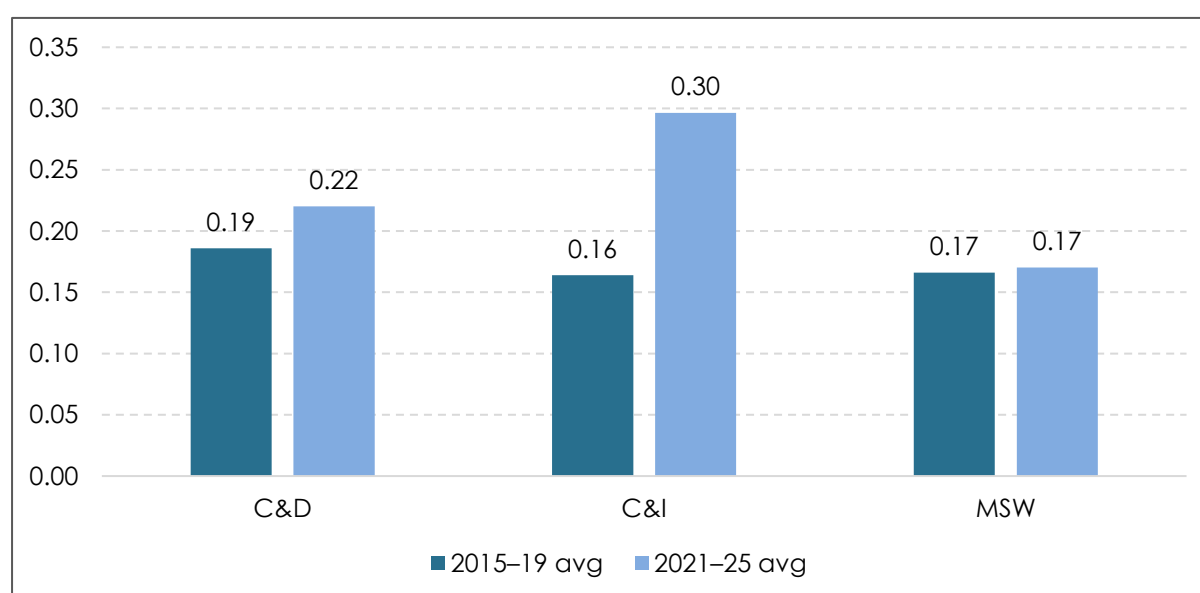


While the recovery rate remained consistent, variations occurred in per capita figures and yearly tonnes recovered. The average amount of material redirected from landfill rose by 33% compared to the previous strategy, reaching an annual average of 0.69 tonnes per person during FY 2021-22 to 2024-25, up from 0.52 tonnes. Annual tonnes diverted increased from 9,700 to 14,500, a 42% jump. This is presented in **Table 3.2** and the per capita changes visually in **Figure 3.4**.

Table 3.2: Comparison of annual tonnes recovered and per capita tonnes recovered

Average per capita diverted from landfill (tonnes/person)				
Year	C&D	C&I	MSW	Total
2015–19 average	0.19	0.16	0.17	0.52
2021–25 average	0.22	0.30	0.17	0.69
Percentage increase/decrease	+ 16%	+ 87%	0%	+ 33%
Average tonnes diverted from landfill (tonnes/year)				
Year	C&D	C&I	MSW	Total
2015–19 average	3,500	3,100	3,100	9,700
2021–25 average	4,700	6,300	3,600	14,500
Percentage increase/decrease	+ 34%	+ 103%	+ 16%	+ 49%

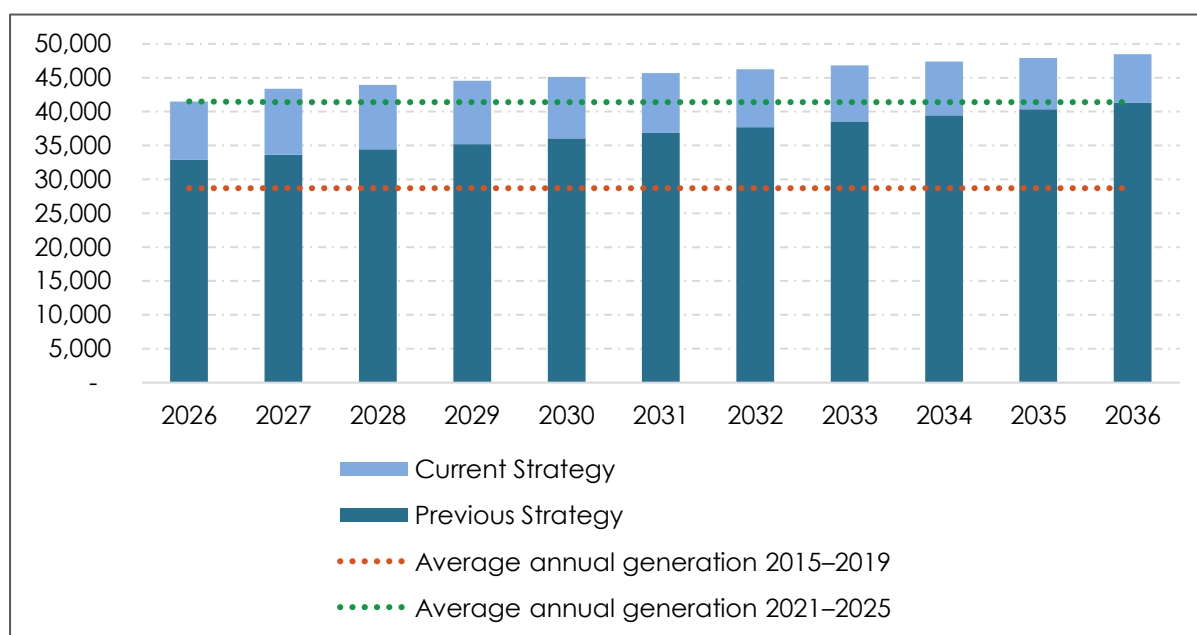
Figure 3.4: Comparison of tonnes recovered per capita



3.4 WASTE PROJECTIONS

Future projections for waste generation have increased. The current annual average stands at 41,400 tonnes, exceeding the previous strategy's forecast of 41,300 tonnes by 2036. The latest estimate for 2036 is now set at 48,500 tonnes, up 7,200 tonnes from the earlier projection. **Figure 3.5** illustrates the differences in projections between this strategy and the previous one, as well as the average annual generation from both strategies.

Figure 3.5: Comparison of waste generation projections



4 SHIRE BENCHMARKING

A benchmarking assessment was undertaken to provide context to the Shire of Broome's waste management performance and to determine whether observed trends are typical of similar local governments or indicative of specific improvement opportunities.

The analysis compares the Shire to a selection of local government areas (LGAs) with varying population sizes, geographic locations and waste system characteristics. The Shire of Broome is classified as 'Very Remote' under the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Remoteness Structure, as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). This classification is important, as remoteness strongly influences waste management outcomes through factors such as transport distances, infrastructure access and market availability.

4.1 METHODOLOGY

To support comparison, LGAs ranging from less than 5,000 tonnes to more than 20,000 tonnes per annum have been included in the analysis. Each LGA has been assigned an anonymised identifier and grouped by average annual tonnes managed (refer **Table 4.1**).

Per capita waste generation was calculated using the 2024 estimated resident population (ERP) from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Kerbside waste collection data has been excluded from the analysis, as it was not consistently available across all LGAs.

Table 4.1: LGA groupings

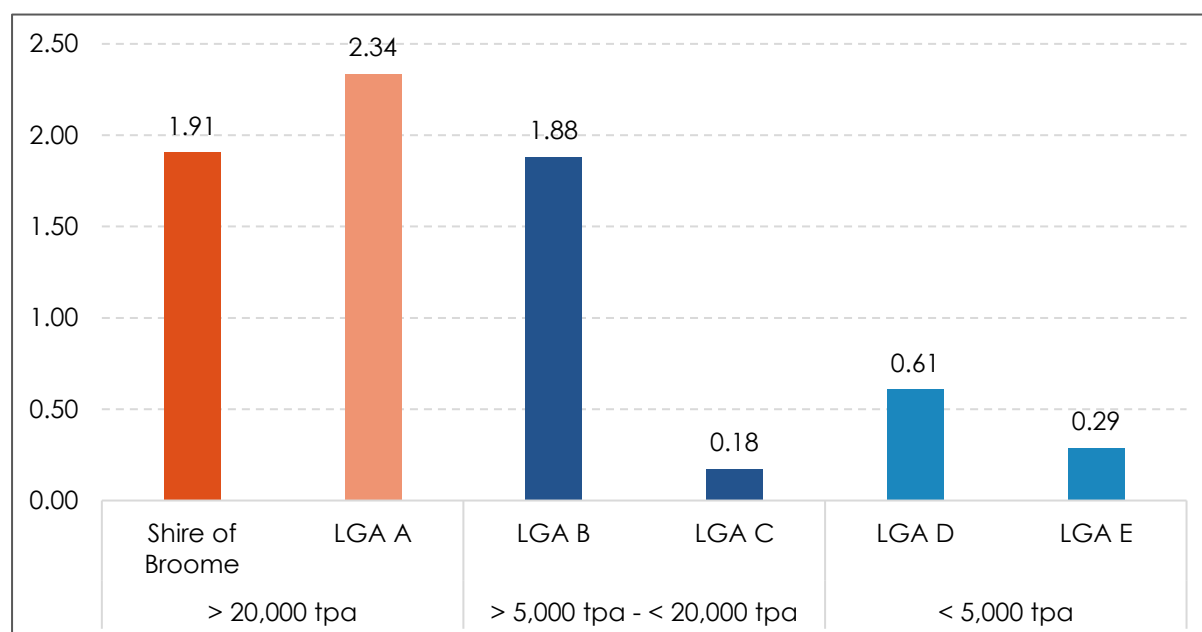
LGA alias	Population grouping	Location	Bin system	Time period analysed	Average tpa grouping
Shire of Broome	> 10,000 – < 20,000	Very remote	2-bin	FY 2021-22 - 2024-25	> 20,000
LGA A	> 10,000 – < 20,000	Very remote	2-bin	FY 2019-20 - 2024-25	
LGA B	< 10,000	Very remote	1-bin	FY 2021-22 - 2024-25	> 5,000 - < 20,000
LGA C	> 20,000	Inner regional	3-bin	FY 2022-23 - 2024-25	
LGA D	< 10,000	Inner regional	2-bin	FY 2023-24 - 2024-25	< 5,000
LGA E	> 10,000 – < 20,000	Inner regional	4-bin	FY 2022-23 - 2024-25	

4.2 PER CAPITA WASTE GENERATION

Per capita waste generation across the LGAs differed significantly; the Shire of Broome had the third-highest average annual tonnes per person at 1.91, behind LGA A and B with 2.34 and 1.88 tonnes respectively **Figure 4.1**. The lowest figure was for LGA C, with just 0.18 tonnes of waste generated per person per year.

This indicates that the Shire's high per capita generation is not unusual for very remote LGAs managing significant C&I waste streams and is therefore likely driven by structural factors rather than service performance alone.

Figure 4.1: Benchmarking annual average per capita waste generation

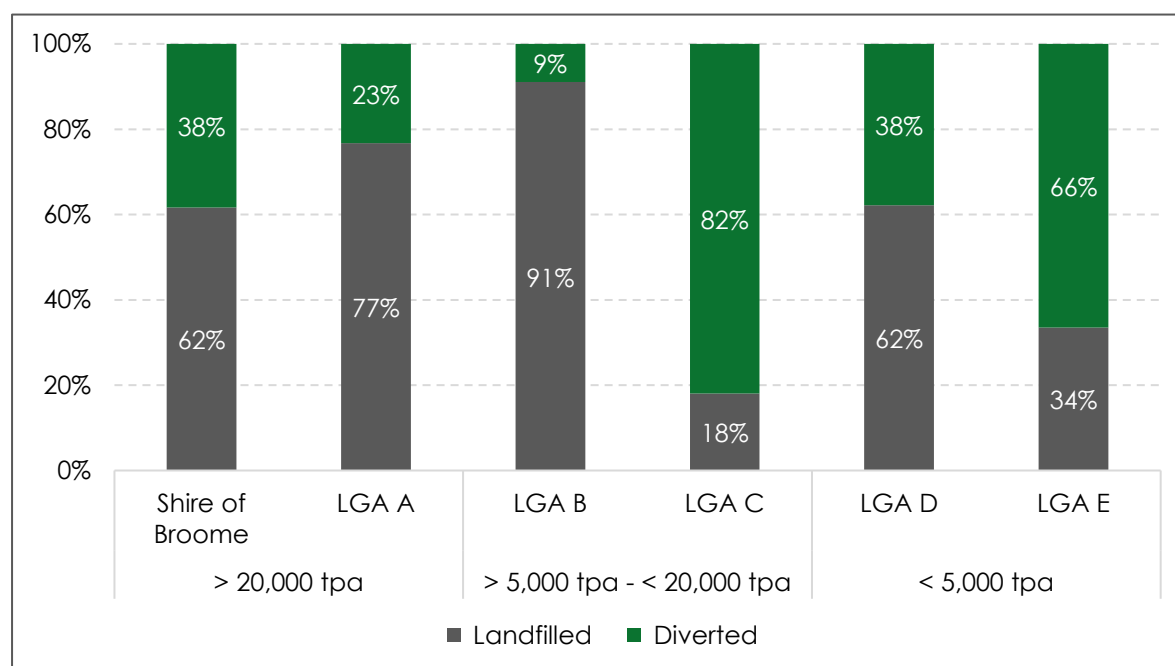


4.3 RECOVERY RATES

The highest recovery rate for the LGAs was 82%, followed by 66%. The Shire of Broome tied for the third-highest rate at 38% out of the six LGAs analysed (**Figure 4.2**). The lowest recovery rate was 9%, attributed to LGA B.

While the Shire's recovery rate sits below the highest-performing LGAs, these are typically inner regional areas with access to established recycling markets and infrastructure. This suggests that direct comparison of recovery performance should be treated cautiously, and that improvements in Broome are likely to be incremental and material-specific rather than system-wide.

Figure 4.2: Benchmarking recovery rates

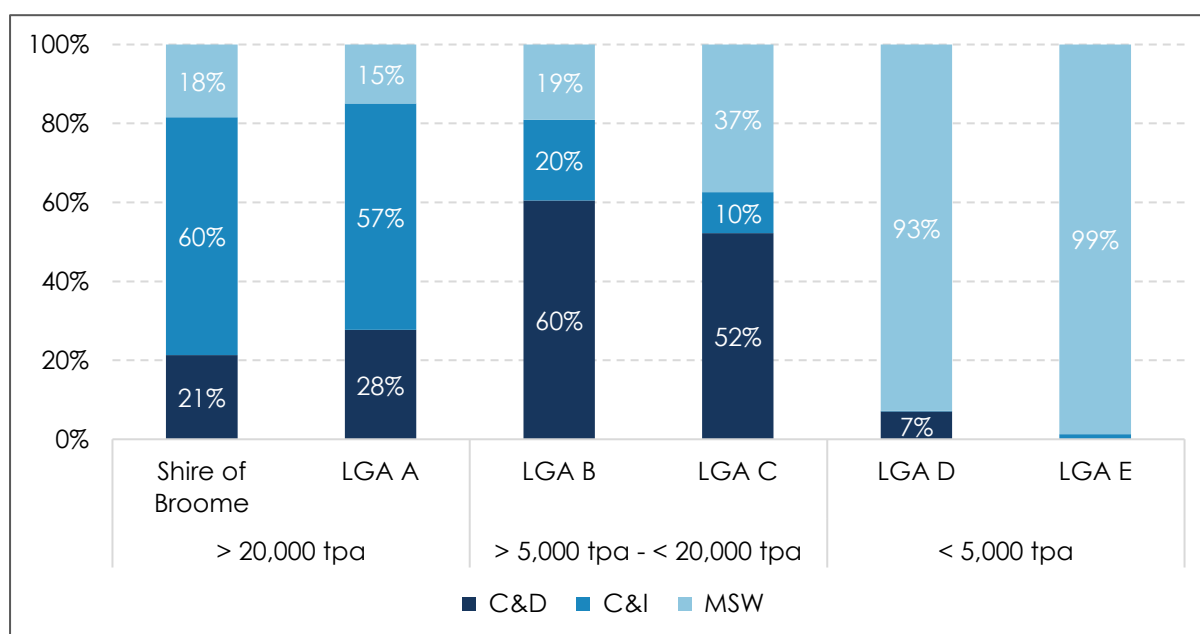


4.4 SECTOR SOURCE

In this benchmarking exercise, the Shire of Broome stood out with the highest percentage of C&I waste (60%) and the second-lowest percentage of MSW (18%). While the composition of LGA A and the Shire of Broome is very similar, they contrast sharply with LGAs D and E, which comprise 93% and 99% MSW, respectively (**Figure 4.3**).

This highlights a fundamental difference in waste profile between very remote and inner regional LGAs. The Shire's higher proportion of C&I waste indicates a greater influence from commercial activity, with less reliance on kerbside MSW systems, which in turn affects both waste management approaches and recovery opportunities.

Figure 4.3: Benchmarking sector source composition

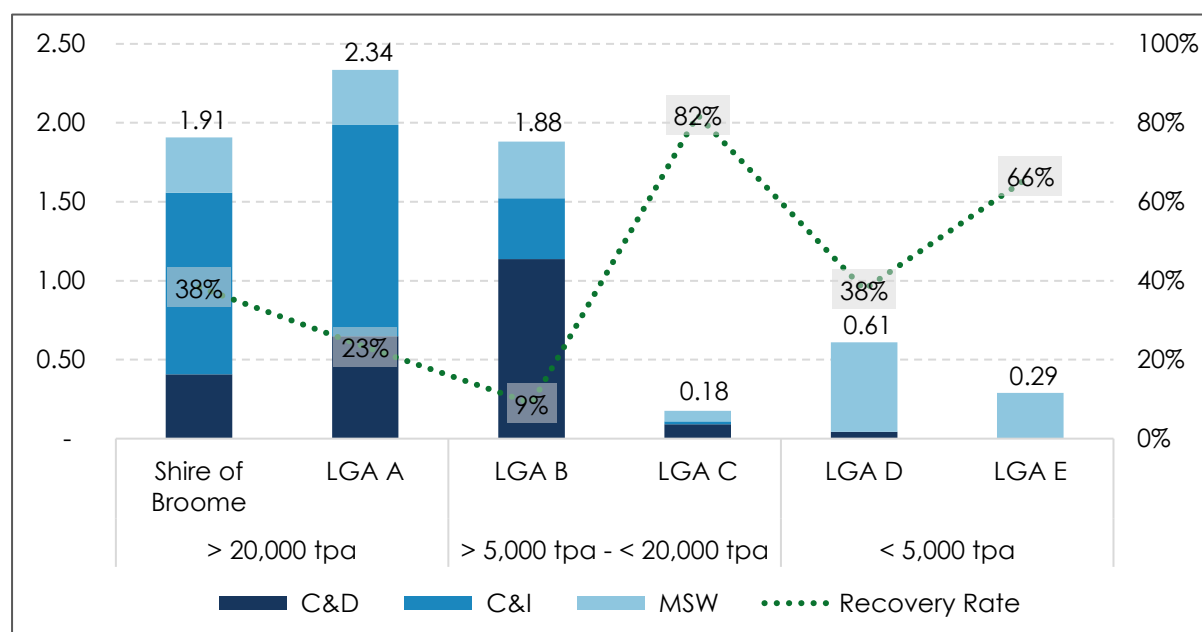


4.5 PER CAPITA TONNES PER ANNUM AND RECOVERY RATES

The per capita, average annual tonnes for each LGA and the recovery rate achieved are provided in **Figure 4.4**. While LGAs with lower per capita waste generation in this sample also tended to achieve higher recovery rates, this pattern is likely influenced by underlying factors such as remoteness, infrastructure access and waste composition, rather than a direct relationship between the two variables.

For the Shire of Broome, high per capita waste generation and moderate recovery rates are therefore likely to reflect structural conditions, rather than indicating inefficiency in service delivery.

Figure 4.4: Benchmarking per capita tonnes per annum and recovery rates



4.6 BENCHMARKING INSIGHTS

The benchmarking indicates that the Shire of Broome's waste management performance is strongly influenced by its 'very remote' ABS classification, as well as its underlying waste profile.

Compared to inner regional LGAs, the Shire is characterised by a higher proportion of C&I waste, higher per capita waste generation and moderate recovery rates. The Shire's high proportion of C&I waste reflects its strong tourism and commercial activity.

These characteristics are consistent with other very remote LGAs and reflect structural factors including geographic isolation, long transport distances, limited access to recycling infrastructure, and reliance on C&I waste streams that are typically directed to the municipal landfill and can vary significantly depending on construction and development activity.

In contrast, inner regional LGAs, typically dominated by Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and supported by established recycling systems, generally achieve lower per capita waste generation and higher recovery rates.

This indicates that the Shire's current performance is largely shaped by external and structural factors rather than inefficiencies in service delivery. Accordingly, improvements in resource recovery are likely to require targeted, location specific approaches, including:

- Improved engagement with the C&I sector
- Development of local or regional aggregation and processing solutions
- Optimisation of transport and economies of scale for recyclable materials

The benchmarking therefore supports the need for a tailored approach that reflects the Shire's remote context, rather than direct comparison with, or replication of, inner regional or metropolitan waste management systems.

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APPENDIX B – STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES REPORT

Community and Stakeholder Engagement Outcomes Report – Broome Waste Strategy 2026 - 2030

Shire of Broome



April 2026



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Acknowledgements

ASK Waste Management acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land in which we work and live, and pays respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

ASK also gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of the Shire of Broome staff that provided information and assistance in the development of this report.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To inform the review and development of the Shire of Broome's *Waste Strategy and Action Plan 2026 – 2030*, ASK worked in partnership with the Shire to deliver a multi-method community and stakeholder engagement program. The engagement aimed to gather insights into community attitudes, service use, system challenges and priorities for future waste and recycling services.

Engagement activities were undertaken between January and March 2026 and combined quantitative and qualitative methods, including:

- An online community survey
- Facilitated community workshops
- Engagement activities and stakeholder conversations with key local and regional stakeholders.

Across all engagement channels, consistent themes emerged. Community feedback demonstrated strong support for improving waste and recycling outcomes, with priorities focused on reducing reliance on landfill, improving confidence in recycling outcomes and accessibility of services.

A recurring theme was trust and transparency in recycling outcomes. Participants expressed concern about uncertainty regarding whether materials are recycled in practice, noting that a lack of visibility undermines confidence and participation. There was strong support for making recycling processes and outcomes more visible to counter misinformation and build trust.

Service accessibility and practicality were also key issues. Challenges associated with self-hauling and limited transport options

were raised consistently, particularly in a cyclone-prone environment, with access constraints influencing how services are used rather than willingness to participate.

Bulk waste, pre-cyclone and organic waste services were consistently identified as priority areas for improvement. Feedback highlighted the need for accessible bulk waste options and the absence of convenient green and organic waste services, with participants noting the burden of transporting material to landfill. These issues were frequently linked to Broome's climate, cyclone risk and periods of increased waste generation.

Education and communication were identified as important supporting factors across engagement activities. Participants emphasised the need for ongoing, clear and culturally appropriate messaging to support correct service use, build confidence in outcomes and reduce contamination.

Litter and illegal dumping were raised as ongoing concerns, particularly in high-use locations and during peak periods. Feedback highlighted the role of public place bin availability and convenient disposal options in supporting appropriate behaviour and maintaining amenity.

Overall, the engagement findings indicate that community experience and satisfaction with waste services are shaped by a combination of service performance, access to appropriate services (particularly bulk, green and organic waste options), confidence in outcomes, and clarity of information. These insights will inform the development of actions and priorities in the *Waste Strategy and Action Plan 2026–2030*.

1 INTRODUCTION

The Shire of Broome (the Shire) has engaged ASK to update its *Waste Strategy and Action Plan* (the Strategy), which will guide waste management for the period from 2026 to 2030. The Strategy will guide and support improved waste management outcomes and resource recovery across the Shire.

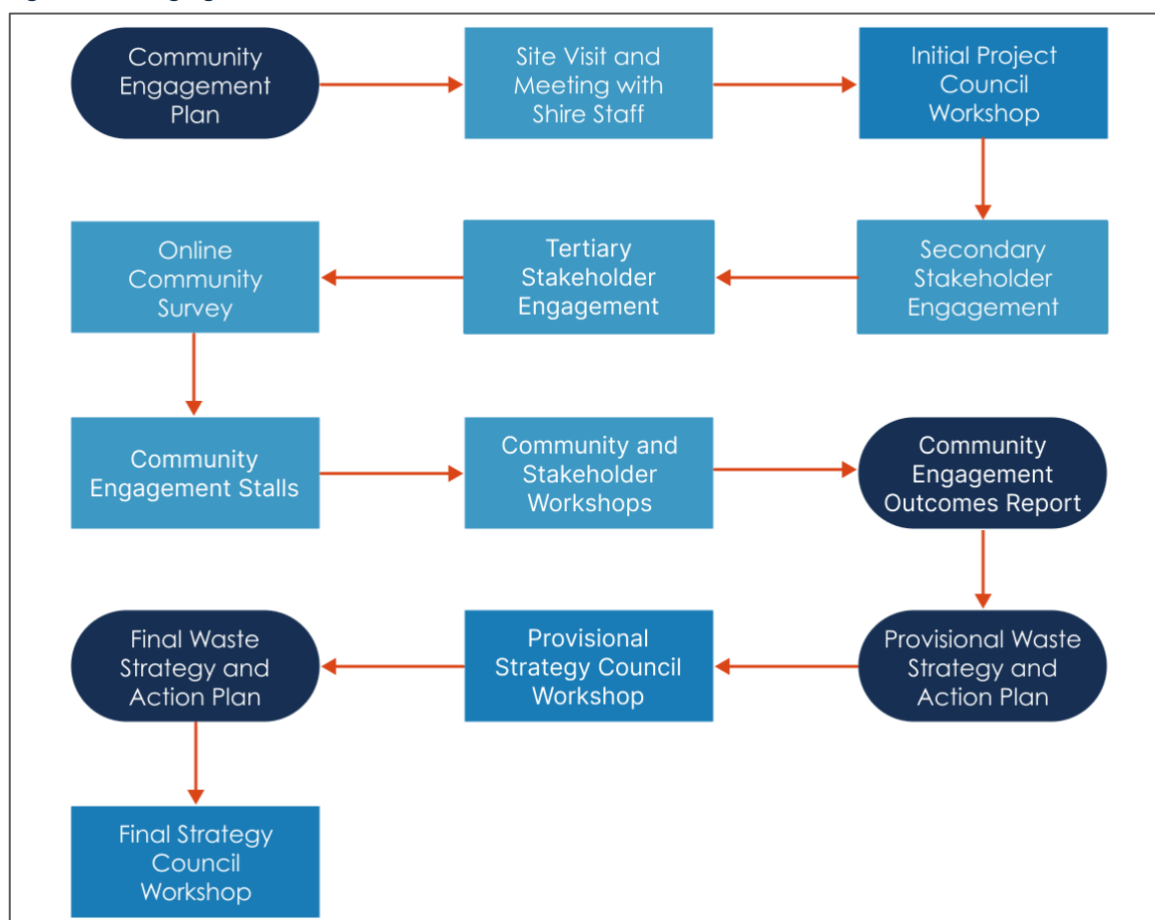
Community and stakeholder engagement formed a core component of the Strategy review. A range of engagement methods was undertaken to understand current experiences with waste services, community perceptions, and priorities for future service improvement. This included a review of recent Community Scorecard outcomes, alongside a community survey, engagement stalls, workshops and targeted stakeholder conversations.

Each engagement method provides a different perspective on waste management performance and challenges within the Shire. When considered together, the findings help identify factors influencing satisfaction, participation and behaviour, and provide important context for the development of the Strategy. The results presented in this report are considered indicative and are intended to inform strategic decision-making rather than serve as a statistically representative sample of the broader community.

1.1 ENGAGEMENT FLOWCHART

The engagement process for the project is guided by a series of activities, as depicted in **Figure 1.1**. This flow chart provides a visual representation of the steps involved, demonstrating the way engagement outcomes inform the formulation of the Strategy.

Figure 1.1: Engagement flowchart



2 ENGAGEMENT METHODOLOGY

A *Community Engagement Plan* (CEP) was previously established to direct project consultation efforts. A copy of this plan is contained in **Appendix A**.

A mix of quantitative and qualitative engagement methods was used to capture a broad range of perspectives, recognising that different approaches provide different insights into service performance and usage.

Engagement activities were undertaken between January and March 2026. Findings from all approaches were considered collectively to develop a consolidated understanding of key service challenges and improvement priorities.

2.1 STAKEHOLDER CONVERSATIONS

Targeted stakeholder conversations were undertaken to gather insights from a range of stakeholders, including Aboriginal organisations, commercial waste operators and State agencies.

These conversations focused on current concerns and feedback, future actions and priorities and opportunities for collaboration relevant to waste management in the Shire. A summary of key themes is provided in **Section 4**, with stakeholder details included in the appendices

2.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STALLS

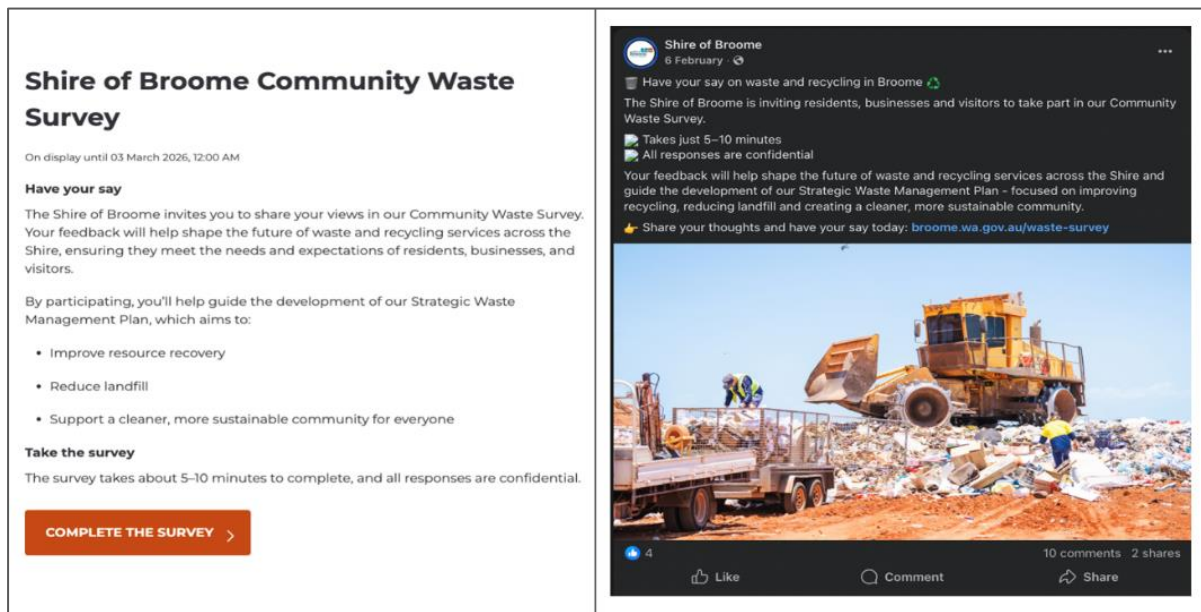
The community engagement stalls were held across the town of Broome. Representatives from the Shire attended each of the three place-based pop-ups organised to facilitate community engagement and collect qualitative feedback on waste and recycling. Key themes arising from engagement stalls are summarised in **Section 5**.

2.3 COMMUNITY SURVEY

An online community survey was developed jointly by the Shire and ASK to gather feedback on the use of waste services, satisfaction levels, waste and recycling behaviours, and priorities for future improvement. The survey included multiple-choice, rating scale, checkbox, and open-ended questions to support both quantitative analysis and qualitative insights.

The survey was promoted through Shire communication channels (see **Figure 2.1**) and in-person engagement activities. Detailed survey results are presented in **Section 6**. A copy of the survey questions is provided in **Appendix B**.

Figure 2.1: Survey promotion examples



2.4 PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

Two facilitated community workshops were delivered to support more detailed discussion on waste management challenges, future priorities and long-term aspirations. The Shire promoted the workshops with posters, Facebook posts, events and via other platforms (Figure 2.2). Workshops provided participants with background information on the project and encouraged open dialogue in a group setting. A summary of feedback from the workshops is provided in **Section 7**.

Figure 2.2: Workshop promotion examples



3 COMMUNITY SCORECARD FEEDBACK

Recent MARKYT® Community Scorecard results were reviewed as part of the Strategy consultation to provide a broader context on community perceptions and trends over time. The Community Scorecard is a biennial survey used by the Shire to inform the Strategic Community Plan and understand resident satisfaction with local services and governance.

For this project, Community Scorecard Reports from 2020, 2022 and 2024 were reviewed. The Community Scorecard surveys attracted an average of approximately 1,100 respondents across the last three survey periods, representing a comparatively high level of participation. **Figure 3.1** provides an overview of the review.

3.1 SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The Community Scorecard asks respondents to rate various criteria using the Performance Index Score, which is a standardised score out of 100 for comparison and tracking, and a 'Positive Rating', which shows the proportion of respondents rating performance as *Okay*, *Good* or *Excellent*. This standardised methodology allows performance to be tracked over time and benchmarked against other Western Australian local governments.

3.2 OVERALL PERFORMANCE TRENDS

Overall ratings for the Shire as a place to live and as a governing organisation show a downward trend, with both measures recording their lowest scores in the 2024 survey. This indicates a general decline in community satisfaction over time. These broader perceptions establish the background against which waste management services are viewed.

3.3 WASTE RELATED PERFORMANCE

3.3.1 WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

Performance ratings for waste collection services were relatively stable between 2020 and 2022 but declined in the 2024 survey. While services continued to be rated at an okay level overall, the decrease in both Performance Index Score and Positive Rating suggests a reduction in satisfaction compared with earlier survey periods.

This decline is consistent with broader trends in community satisfaction.

3.3.2 EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Ratings for the Shire's efforts to promote sustainable practices were lower than for waste collection services across all survey periods. While some variation was observed between survey years, overall performance remained comparatively weak, indicating limited community confidence in environmental and sustainability initiatives.

3.4 VOICEBANK COMMENTS

The 2024 Community Scorecard included open-ended comments related to waste management. A review of these comments provides qualitative insight into the quantitative trends identified in the Scorecard results.

Recycling-related issues were the most frequently raised topic in the Voicebank data. Comments reflected both a desire for improved recycling options and scepticism regarding whether materials collected through existing systems are recycled in practice. Some respondents questioned the

transparency of recycling outcomes and expressed uncertainty about how materials are processed after collection.

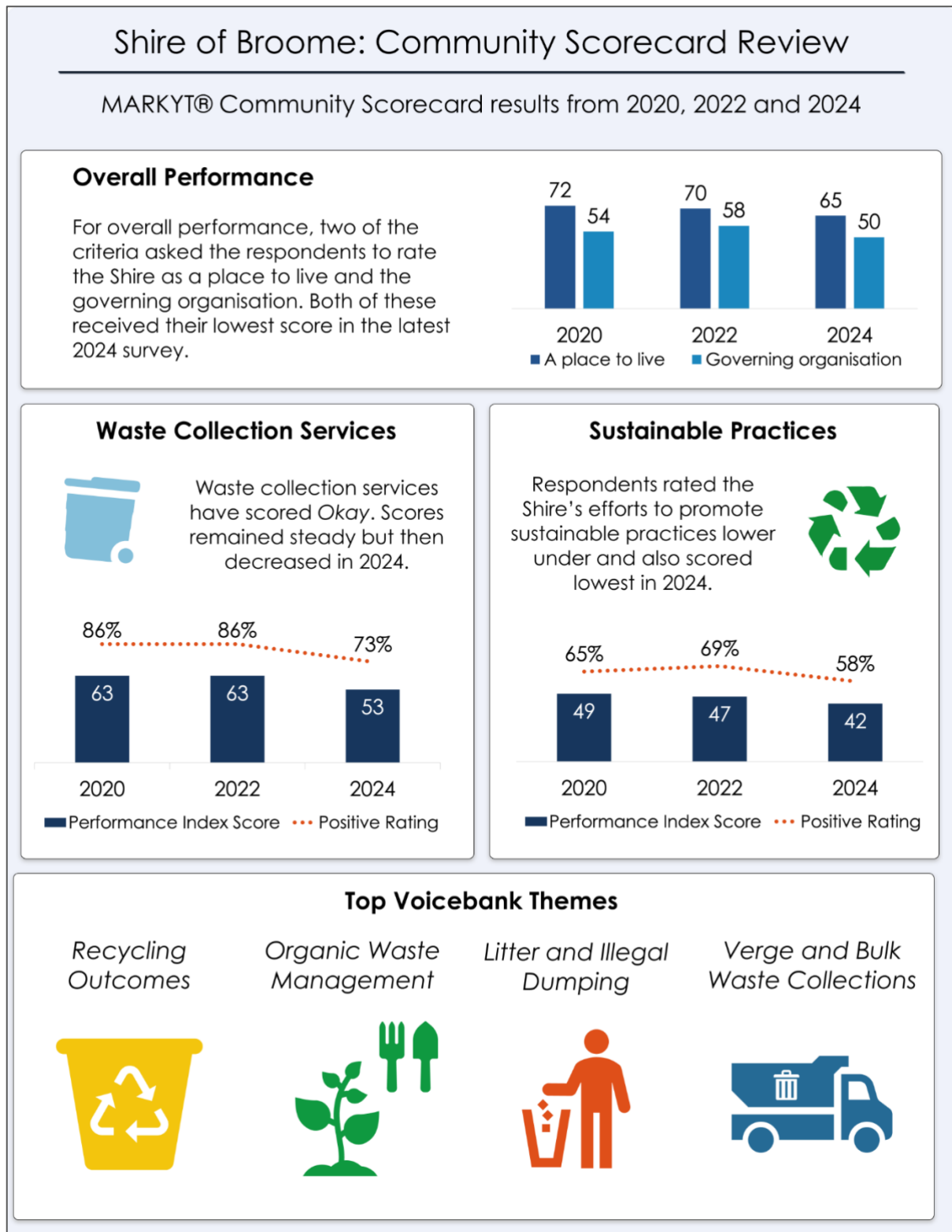
Organic waste management was also a recurring theme, with respondents raising concerns about the disposal of food and garden organics in general waste and the associated environmental impacts. Several comments highlighted frustration with the need to self-haul green waste and suggested that improved organic waste solutions could reduce landfill disposal.

Litter, illegal dumping and public place bin capacity were recurring concerns, with respondents citing overflowing bins during the dry season, litter from uncovered loads to landfill, and a need for improved messaging and enforcement around dumping.

Verge and bulk waste services featured prominently in the feedback, with some respondents calling for the reinstatement of verge collections and dedicated pre-cyclone clean-up services. These comments frequently highlighted equity considerations, particularly for residents without access to suitable vehicles or trailers and emphasised the perceived role of verge services in maintaining town amenity and safety.

Feedback indicated a need for clearer and more consistent education about waste and recycling services, particularly regarding what materials can be recycled. Respondents highlighted opportunities to improve understanding and participation through clearer guidance, simple on-bin information, school-based education, and stronger community messaging aligned with the waste hierarchy and illegal dumping.

Figure 3.1: Overview of the Community Scorecard Review



4 STAKEHOLDER CONVERSATIONS

Targeted stakeholder conversations were undertaken to inform the development of the Strategy. Stakeholders included Aboriginal organisations, commercial waste operators, and relevant State agencies. Engagement focused on identifying:

- Key waste and recycling challenges within the Shire
- Priorities for improvement from a service delivery perspective
- Opportunities for coordinated or collaborative approaches to waste management.

4.1 KEY STAKEHOLDER THEMES

4.1.1 SERVICE ACCESS AND EQUITY

Stakeholders highlighted that access to waste services is not uniform across the community. Aboriginal organisations and service providers noted that while many residents may own cars, access to trailers or suitable vehicles to transport green or bulky waste is limited, particularly for lower socio-economic households and older residents.

The absence of kerbside green waste services was identified as a key constraint, with stakeholders noting that existing community initiatives (such as garden tool hire programs) could be better supported if green waste collection services were in place.

4.1.2 TRANSPORT LOGISTICS

Stakeholders identified transport distances as a key operational and cost constraint for liquid and other regulated waste streams. The lack of local treatment infrastructure requires material to be transported long distances.

Stakeholders acknowledged the Shire's planned liquid waste facility at the Broome Resource and Recovery Park but noted that extended delivery timelines continue to affect logistics planning and service certainty.

4.1.3 LITTER, ILLEGAL DUMPING AND SEASONAL PRESSURES

State agencies identified increased littering and illegal dumping during both the dry tourism season and the wet season, particularly in coastal and high-use recreational areas. Seasonal population increases, illegal camping, and limited bin infrastructure were identified as contributing factors.

Stakeholders also noted that green waste and general waste dumping tends to increase following holiday periods and during cyclone preparation, suggesting that service timing (e.g. free disposal weekends), alongside bin capacity and population pressure, may influence dumping behaviour.

4.1.4 EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

Stakeholders consistently identified a need for clearer and more consistent education regarding waste separation. State agency feedback highlighted that uncertainty about where and how to dispose of different waste streams contributes to incorrect disposal and increased littering and illegal dumping.

Improved communication of existing services, including free disposal opportunities, was identified as a priority, particularly during peak periods such as the dry season and cyclone preparation. Greater visibility of waste information was viewed as an important for improved compliance and community behaviour.

4.1.5 COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION OPPORTUNITIES

Stakeholders identified opportunities to improve outcomes through stronger coordination between the Shire, contractors, Yawuru ranger services, and external agencies. The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions noted that clearer communication between operational teams could support quicker identification and response to illegal dumping, particularly in known hot spots and conservation areas.

Collaborative approaches such as coordinated clean-ups, shared reporting mechanisms, and better alignment between waste collection crews and land management staff were identified as practical opportunities to improve efficiency and reduce repeat dumping, particularly in high-use and seasonal pressure areas.

5 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STALLS

Community engagement stalls were used to gather informal, place-based feedback through one-on-one conversations with residents. Key themes from these conversations are summarised below.

5.1 RECYCLING AND TRANSPARENCY

Recycling was a common topic of discussion at engagement stalls. Participants questioned whether recyclable materials collected through kerbside services are recycled in practice and sought greater transparency regarding recycling outcomes. Questions were raised about collection methods, including the use of the same vehicles for different waste streams.

A lack of confidence in recycling systems was evident, with some participants indicating that uncertainty and scepticism influence how they use bins and engage with existing services.

5.2 VERGE AND DROP-OFF SERVICES

Many participants raised questions about verge collections, pre-cyclone clean-ups and access to drop-off services.

Suggestions included additional or more conveniently located drop-off points and longer access periods for skip bins to support households with limited transport options.

5.3 FOOD AND GARDENS ORGANICS (FOGO)

Engagement stall participants frequently asked if the Shire plans to introduce FOGO bins or separate green waste bins.

5.4 LITTER AND PUBLIC PLACE BINS

Concerns about litter and the availability of public place bins were raised during engagement stalls. Participants identified specific walking paths and recreational areas lacking bins resulting in litter and residents needing to carry rubbish for extended distances to dispose of it correctly.

5.5 GENERAL FEEDBACK

While some raised concerns, one participant stated they were happy with the services provided.

6 COMMUNITY SURVEY – KEY INSIGHTS

An online community survey was undertaken as part of the Strategy consultation to provide quantitative and qualitative insight into waste service use, satisfaction, behaviours and priorities. The survey received 139 responses, primarily from permanent residents, and provides indicative insight into community experiences and perceptions.

Detailed survey results are provided in **Appendix D**, with key insights summarised below and illustrated in **Figure 6.1** and **Figure 6.2**.

6.1 RESPONDENT PROFILE

Survey respondents were predominantly permanent residents, with smaller proportions of tenants, non-resident ratepayers and visitors. Therefore, the data likely reflects the views of residents who interact regularly with the Shire's waste services and infrastructure.

6.2 USE OF SERVICES

Survey results indicate that kerbside waste and recycling collections are the most frequently used services, reflecting their accessibility and convenience for households. In contrast, services that require residents to transport materials to disposal or recycling facilities, or to actively seek out information about how and where to recycle specific items, are used far less frequently by the majority of respondents.

This pattern suggests that service uptake is strongly influenced by effort, convenience and awareness. From a strategy perspective, the low utilisation of certain services does not necessarily indicate a lack of demand, but may reflect barriers associated with access, knowledge or perceived complexity.

6.3 USE OF ANNUAL FREE DISPOSAL SERVICES

Responses relating to the Shire's annual free waste disposal services indicate that a substantial proportion of respondents either never use these services or only access them intermittently. Approximately 65 per cent of respondents reported that they either do not use free disposal weekends or the pensioner skip bin program or only participate every other year.

When respondents were asked about reasons for non-participation, the most commonly cited factor was that they did not have sufficient waste to justify using the service. Transport constraints were the next most significant reason, with respondents indicating they lacked suitable vehicles or trailers to take advantage of the free disposal opportunities. Other factors, such as timing, awareness and advance notice, were identified less frequently.

These findings suggest that low participation is not primarily driven by a lack of need or interest, but rather by how well the service model aligns with household circumstances. For some households, waste generation may be incremental rather than episodic, while for others, transport access limits their ability to participate even where services are free. From a strategy perspective, this highlights the importance of considering service timing and accessibility when assessing the effectiveness of these services.

6.4 USE OF DROP-OFF SERVICES FOR RECYCLABLE AND PROBLEM WASTES

Survey results show limited use of landfill drop-off services for a range of recyclable and problem waste streams, including used motor oil, fluorescent tubing, tyres, whitegoods and e-waste, despite these services being available at the Broome Waste Management Facility. Green waste is a notable exception, with many respondents reporting regular use of green waste drop-off facilities.

The consistently low reported use of other drop-off services raises important considerations for the Strategy. It may indicate limited awareness of available services or uncertainty about accepted materials. There is also a risk that under-utilised services result in some materials being incorrectly disposed of via general waste or stockpiled at home, with implications for landfill environmental outcomes and safety.

6.5 SATISFACTION WITH SERVICES

Survey responses show a clear distinction between satisfaction with routine service delivery and satisfaction with broader aspects of the waste system. Kerbside waste and recycling collections received higher satisfaction ratings, indicating general confidence in the reliability of core collection services.

In contrast, lower satisfaction was recorded for waste education and engagement, litter management and illegal dumping, and confidence in recycling outcomes. This indicates that dissatisfaction is less related to whether waste is collected and more closely associated with how well the system is understood, how effective it is perceived to be, and how visible outcomes are to the community.

6.6 CONFIDENCE IN RECYCLING OUTCOMES

Confidence in recycling performance is relatively low, with respondents expressing uncertainty about whether recycling efforts effectively reduce waste to landfill. Satisfaction with the information provided about recycling options and the promotion of recycling initiatives was also comparatively low.

These perceptions are significant, as confidence in outcomes directly influences participation and behaviour. Where trust in recycling systems is limited, motivation to correctly separate materials is likely to decline, increasing the risk of contamination and disengagement.

6.7 BARRIERS TO RECYCLING AND WASTE REDUCTION

The most identified barriers to increased recycling relate to information and clarity, particularly uncertainty about what materials are accepted and where specific items can be recycled. Practical constraints such as cost, time and transport were reported less frequently.

At the same time, respondents identified several factors that would encourage households to reduce waste. The strongest motivators were better options to reuse or repurpose items, along with financial incentives, improved access to food and garden organics options, and clearer information on how to reduce household waste.

Overall, the survey suggests that participation is shaped largely by how clear and practical the services are to use for residents. Improving information, simplifying how services are accessed and supporting reuse and recovery options are likely to play an important role in improving waste outcomes.

6.8 FACTORS INFLUENCING WASTE MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

Survey respondents rated a range of factors influencing how waste is managed within the Shire as important. Waste recovery was identified as the highest priority, followed closely by public health and safety and service reliability.

Environmental impact and ease of use were also rated highly, while cost efficiency, community engagement, and innovation were regarded as slightly less important but still relevant considerations. Overall, the results suggest that actions that improve recovery outcomes and maintain safe, reliable services are most closely aligned with community values.

6.9 PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

The community survey included an open-ended question asking respondents to identify the single most important improvement they would like to see in waste services over the next five years. Responses were thematically analysed to better understand the issues that matter most to the community when residents are not constrained by predefined response options.

6.9.1 RECYCLING

Recycling emerged as the most prominent theme in the responses. Many respondents highlighted the need for improvements to recycling systems, including greater confidence that materials placed in recycling bins are actually recycled. Comments frequently reflected scepticism and a desire for more transparency regarding recycling outcomes. This reinforces quantitative survey results and other engagement feedback, which indicate that trust and confidence in recycling systems are key influences on participation.

6.9.2 GENERAL FEEDBACK

General feedback covered a broad range of views on current waste services. Some respondents indicated they were satisfied with existing arrangements and expressed positive anticipation for the development of the Regional Resource Recovery Park. Alongside this, others raised concerns about service reliability and management, including missed or inconsistent kerbside collections, landfill maintenance, and limited communication during cyclone-related closures.

6.9.3 PRE-CYCLONE AND BULK WASTE COLLECTIONS

Pre-cyclone and bulk waste services were also a major focus of feedback, reflecting strong community concern about the availability of disposal options during periods of increased waste generation. Respondents raised the need for annual verge-side bulk waste and green waste collections, and additional free disposal opportunities.

6.9.4 ORGANICS

Green waste and organic waste management were another consistently raised issue. Respondents commonly expressed frustration with the need to self-haul organic material to the landfill and identified the absence of kerbside green waste or FOGO services as a significant gap. These responses often linked convenience and environmental concerns, indicating strong community support for improved organic waste solutions.

6.9.5 WASTE EDUCATION

Education and communication featured across many responses as a supporting issue. Education was frequently referenced as important for better outcomes in areas such as recycling, organic waste management and litter reduction.

6.9.6 ACCESSIBILITY

Accessibility and support were also raised as a concern, particularly for residents without access to a car, trailer or suitable assistance. Suggestions focused on improving equity of access to existing services through options such as supported disposal for older residents, assistance with heavy or bulky items, and temporary access to trailers or skips, especially in the lead-up to the wet season.

6.9.7 OTHER

Several other issues were raised less frequently. These included interest in reuse opportunities such as a permanent tip shop or informal reuse areas, concerns about waste fees and rates, and calls for improved management of litter and illegal dumping. Respondents suggested more public

place bins in high-use areas, clearer signage and messaging, and stronger deterrents for littering and dumping, particularly in public and bushland areas.

Overall, the open-ended responses highlight community priorities focused on recycling performance and confidence, access to bulk, pre-cyclone and green waste disposal, and improved organic waste solutions. Supporting these priorities, respondents consistently raised the need for equitable access and clearer communication to better manage waste during peak and seasonal demand periods.

6.10 WILLINGNESS TO PAY MORE

Survey responses show mixed views on paying more for waste services, with around one-third of respondents unwilling to pay any additional amount and a similar proportion indicating a willingness to pay higher amounts. This suggests that while cost sensitivity remains important, there is conditional support for increases where service improvements and benefits are clearly demonstrated.

6.11 LIMITATIONS OF SURVEY FINDINGS

While the community survey outcomes provide valuable insights into local perspectives, it is important to acknowledge its limitations. The survey received 139 responses, representing approximately 0.74%¹ of the Shire of Broome's estimated population, this is below the sample size required for statistical representativeness. This smaller sample size may not fully reflect the views of the broader community, and the findings should be viewed as indicative rather than representative.

¹ Shire of Broome Estimated Residential Population, ABS 2024 (18,870)

Figure 6.1: Overview of Community Survey results - Respondents and service use

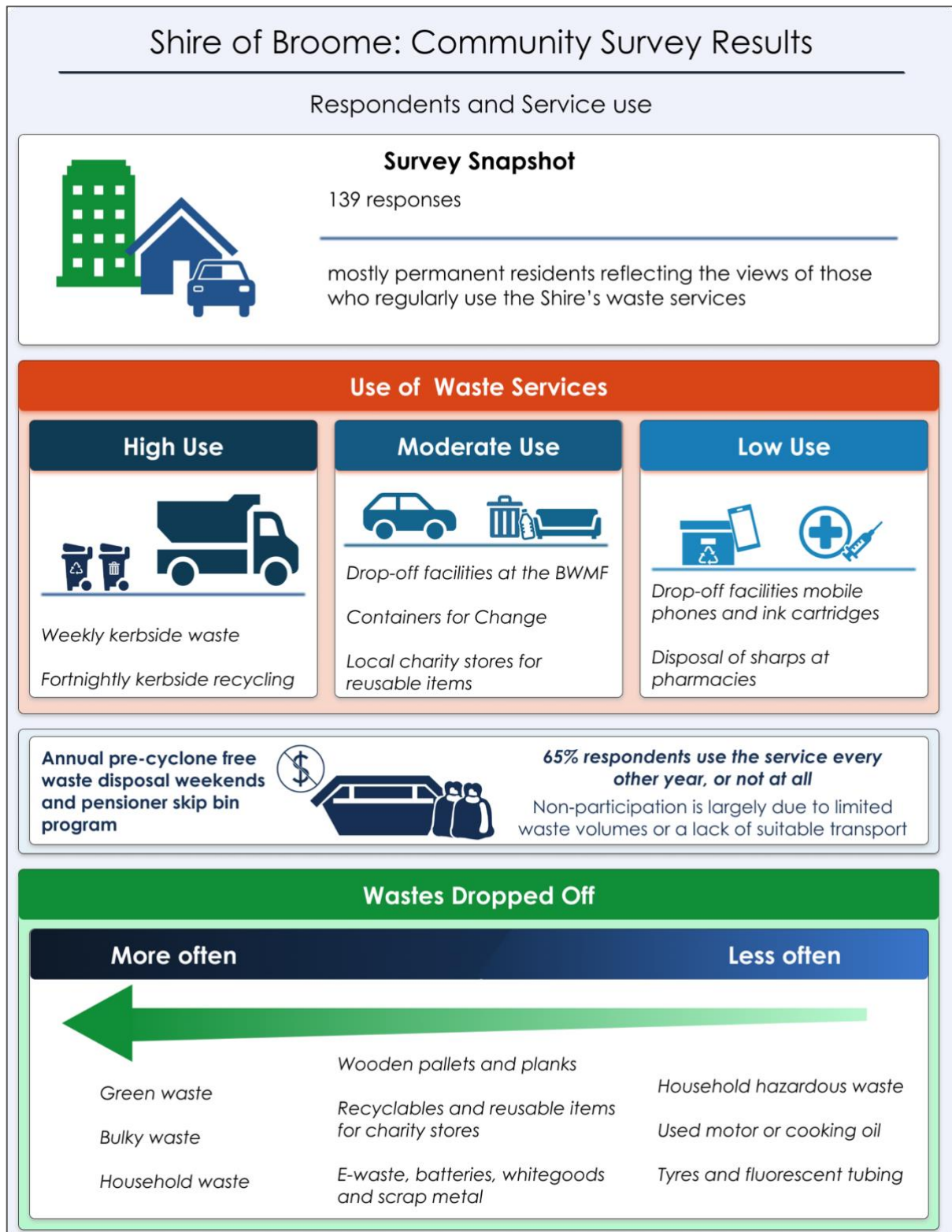
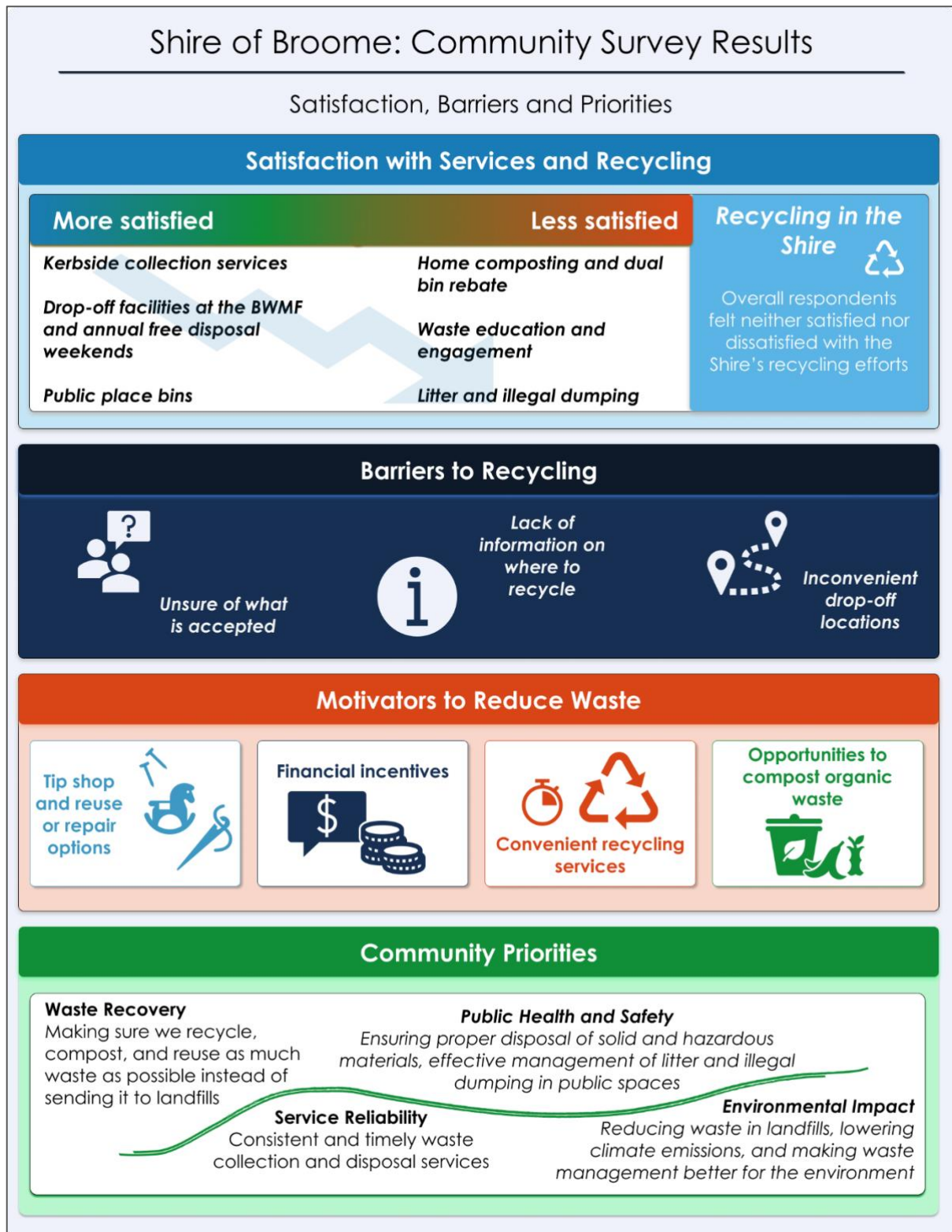


Figure 6.2: Overview of Community Survey results: Satisfaction, barriers and priorities



7 COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Two facilitated community workshops were held to provide participants with information on the Strategy review and to gather more detailed, qualitative feedback on current waste and recycling challenges. Participants were asked four open questions to understand barriers, concerns, priorities and opportunities for improvement. Responses are summarised below.

7.1 BARRIERS TO RECYCLING

When asked what makes recycling difficult, even when people want to do the right thing, participants consistently raised access and information barriers. Distance to facilities, uncertainty about where to drop off specific items such as e-waste, and confusion about what happens to materials after collection were commonly noted. Participants also highlighted the influence of misinformation and negative rumours about recycling outcomes, alongside confusing packaging labels and a lack of clear, accessible information about available services.

7.2 KEY CONCERNS WITH CURRENT WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES

Participants expressed low confidence in whether recycling actually occurs, with uncertainty and lack of visibility undermining trust in the system. Other recurring concerns included limited options for e-waste, low community buy-in, and perceptions of tokenistic approaches. Several participants noted that while positive recycling activity is occurring, it is not visible to the community, and that the current system can feel complex and difficult to navigate. A strong underlying concern about protecting the local environment was also evident.

7.3 CHANGES THAT WOULD MAKE THE BIGGEST POSITIVE DIFFERENCE

When considering what would make the biggest positive difference, participants emphasised the importance of making recycling processes more visible and tangible, supported by clearer and more accessible information. Expanded education and engagement was a dominant theme, including school-based education, practical guidance, workshops, facility tours and culturally appropriate communication.

Participants also identified practical service improvements as important, including verge-side bulk waste services, improved green waste options, particularly in a cyclone-prone environment with significant rainfall, and better management of litter associated with tourism pressures. Improved provision of bins in high-use areas, including truck bays along the Kimberley, was raised as a way to reduce bulk disposal in town.

7.4 PRIORITIES GIVEN REGIONAL AND FUNDING CONSTRAINTS

In terms of priorities over the coming years, participants supported continuing and strengthening recycling efforts, including for materials beyond kerbside systems such as e-waste and bulky items. Education and engagement were again highlighted, with support for dedicated, adequately resourced education roles. Participants also expressed interest in reuse and resource recovery approaches, while noting the importance of maintaining focus on major long-term projects already underway.

7.5 BROADER DISCUSSION POINTS

Broader discussion reflected frustration that waste management is often framed negatively in Broome, alongside widespread myths about where waste goes. Participants noted that motivation to do the right thing is influenced by social norms and visibility of outcomes and emphasised the

need to highlight recycling successes. There was also interest in concepts such as waste as a resource, tip shops, reuse initiatives and greater consistency in recycling rules, particularly where this helps make the waste lifecycle more visible and locally meaningful.

Overall, workshop feedback reinforced themes identified through other engagement activities, particularly around confidence in recycling outcomes and access to green and bulk waste services. Participants also emphasised the role of clear education and information in supporting the correct use of the waste system. Further details on the feedback from the community workshops are provided in **Appendix E**.

8 ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS

The engagement undertaken as part of the Strategy review provides an understanding of how waste services are experienced across the Shire. While individual engagement methods captured different levels of detail, the findings below represent themes that emerged repeatedly across the community survey, Community Scorecard feedback, engagement stalls, workshops and stakeholder conversations.

8.1 LACK OF CONFIDENCE AND TRUST IN RECYCLING OUTCOMES

A lack of confidence in recycling outcomes emerged as the most prominent and consistent finding across all engagement activities. Community feedback repeatedly expressed scepticism about whether recyclable materials are recycled in practice, with uncertainty undermining trust in the system. This issue was raised through survey responses, Voicebank comments, engagement stalls and workshops, where misinformation and negative perceptions were identified as barriers to participation. Confidence in recycling outcomes is a central factor influencing correct bin use and overall engagement with waste services.

8.2 PARTICIPATION DECLINES WHERE SERVICES REQUIRE EFFORT, TRANSPORT OR PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

Engagement findings consistently show that service uptake is strongly influenced by convenience and access. Kerbside services are used most frequently, while drop-off services and specialist recycling options are used far less often, despite being available. Survey results, engagement stalls and stakeholder feedback highlight the lack of suitable vehicles and the practical burden of self-haul as key constraints. These findings indicate that existing services may be under-utilised where participation is not simple or readily understood.

8.3 ORGANIC AND GREEN WASTE MANAGEMENT IS A HIGH PRIORITY COMMUNITY EXPECTATION

Strong demand for improved organic and green waste solutions was evident across all engagement activities. Community feedback highlighted frustration with the need to self-haul organic material to the landfill and concern about food and garden waste being disposed of to landfill. Green waste was also the most common material type dropped off at the Broome Waste Management Facility, reinforcing its importance to residents. The need for accessible organic waste solutions improves convenience and environmental outcomes.

8.4 VERGE AND PRE-CYCLONE WASTE SERVICES ARE VIEWED AS ESSENTIAL

Verge collections and pre-cyclone waste services were consistently identified as essential community services. Community feedback emphasised the importance of verge collections, bulk waste options and free disposal opportunities for safety, town amenity and equitable access. Survey findings indicating low or intermittent participation in existing annual free disposal weekends were explained by factors such as transport constraints and limited waste generation at specific times, suggesting a service-fit issue rather than a lack of need.

8.5 LITTER AND ILLEGAL DUMPING ARE INFLUENCED BY SEASONAL AND

LOCATION-SPECIFIC PRESSURES

Concerns relating to litter and illegal dumping were raised across engagement channels, particularly in relation to seasonal pressures and high-use areas. Community feedback highlighted the role of public place bin availability, timely clean-up and visible management in maintaining amenity. Stakeholder input reinforced these observations in relation to peak periods and known hotspots.

8.6 EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION ARE CRITICAL

Across all engagement methods, education and communication were identified as essential to improving participation and outcomes. Survey results show that uncertainty about what materials are accepted and where to dispose of specific waste types is a greater barrier than cost or willingness to participate. Workshops and stakeholder conversations reinforced the importance of clear and consistent information to build confidence, reduce contamination and support correct service use.

8.7 ACCESS AND EQUITY INFLUENCE HOW SERVICES ARE EXPERIENCED

Feedback consistently highlighted that not all households are equally able to access or use waste services. Transport availability, physical capacity and reliance on self-haul models were identified as limiting factors, particularly for lower-income households, older residents and those without suitable vehicles. These equity considerations were raised across the survey, workshops and stakeholder conversations and influence how services are accessed and perceived.

9 CONCLUSION

The engagement undertaken as part of the Strategy review has provided a clear understanding of community experience, priorities and system challenges. Feedback collected through the community survey, Community Scorecard review, engagement stalls, workshops and stakeholder conversations was broadly aligned, reinforcing confidence in the findings presented in this report.

Recent Community Scorecard results indicate a decline in community satisfaction and confidence in waste-related performance over time. Taken together, engagement findings demonstrate that community experience and satisfaction are strongly influenced by confidence in recycling outcomes, access to practical waste services, and the reliability and clarity of information supporting service use. In particular, access to bulk waste, green waste and organic waste services, and the design and timing of these services, emerged as key factors shaping participation and outcomes.

Clear communication and education were consistently identified as important supporting elements across all engagement activities, particularly in building confidence, improving service use and reducing contamination.

Collectively, the engagement findings demonstrate that community satisfaction and performance outcomes are shaped not only by service availability, but by confidence in outcomes, ease of access, equity and clarity of information. These insights provide a strong evidence base to guide the priorities, actions and service design considerations to be addressed through the Waste Strategy and Action Plan 2026–2030.

APPENDIX A – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Broome Waste Strategy Community Engagement Plan

Shire of Broome



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Acknowledgements

ASK Waste Management acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land in which we work and live, and pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

ASK also gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of the Shire of Broome staff that provided information and assistance in the development of this report.

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1 INTRODUCTION

This Community Engagement Plan (CEP) has been produced by ASK Waste Management (ASK) in collaboration with the Shire of Broome (the Shire) to guide engagement activities for the review and update of the Broome Waste Strategy and Action Plan (2026 – 2030). The plan identifies the key stakeholders for this project, outlining a communication plan designed to ensure stakeholders are engaged throughout the lifecycle of the project.

1.1 THE PROJECT

The Shire has engaged ASK to update its Waste Strategy and Action Plan (the Strategy), which will guide waste management for the period from 2026 to 2030. The primary objective of the project is to establish a framework of actions to be undertaken by the Shire, in collaboration with agencies and the community, to improve resource recovery and community perceptions of waste management.

Community engagement is a critical component of the project. Through engagement, the Shire will gain valuable insights into community knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours regarding waste and recycling. These insights will directly inform the development and direction of the Strategy.

1.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF ENGAGEMENT

The engagement process aims to provide opportunities for the community and stakeholders to contribute to the development of the Strategy.

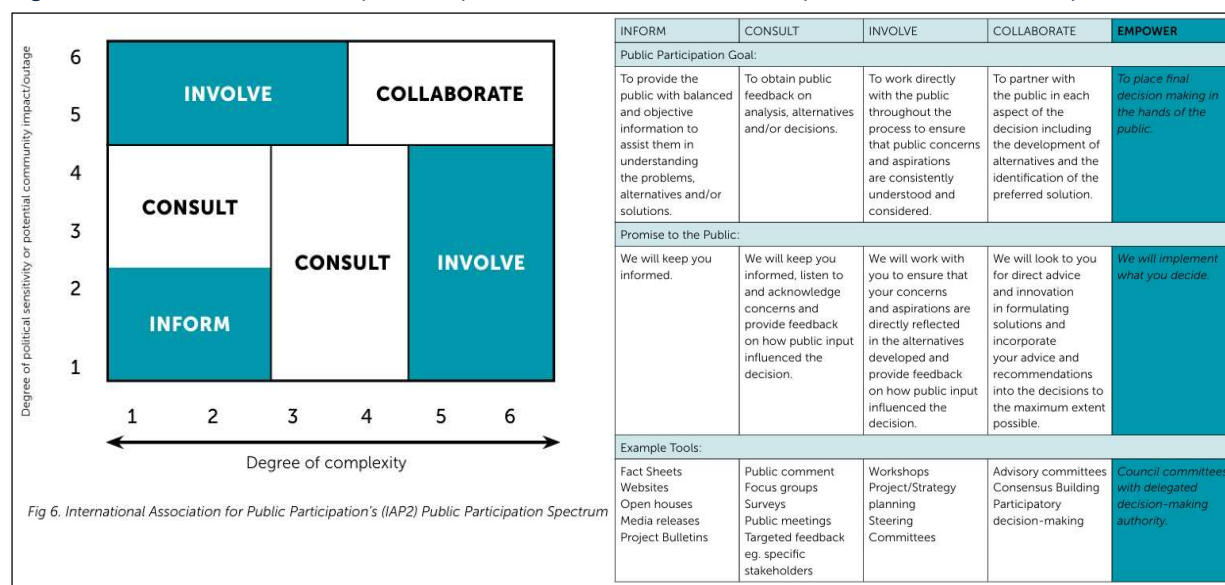
The objectives of the engagement process are to:

- Gain an understanding of the community's perceptions, concerns and priorities regarding waste management.
- Ensure community interests and aspirations are understood and considered in the development of the Strategy.
- Facilitate two-way communication and meaningful input from the community and stakeholders.
- Make participation inclusive and accessible to all community members.
- Utilise a range of engagement methods (such as surveys, workshops, and stalls) to gather meaningful feedback from the community.
- Ensure alignment with the Shire of Broome *Corporate Community and Engagement Framework Strategy 2022 - 2027*.

1.3 ABOUT THE ENGAGEMENT PLAN

This CEP serves as the foundation for all communication and engagement activities associated with the project. Developed in alignment with the Shire's *Corporate Community and Engagement Framework Strategy 2022 – 2027* (2019), it ensures consistency with established principles and practices, including the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum of Public Participation, which underpins the Shire's public participation spectrum (**Figure 1.1**).

Figure 1.1: Shire Public Participation Spectrum and how it is used (Shire of Broome, 2022)



Based on the Shire of Broome's public participation scoring matrix, this project has been assessed as having a high level of complexity and a moderate degree of potential community impact and political sensitivity. As a result, the appropriate level of engagement for this project is 'involve', ensuring that stakeholders are actively engaged throughout the process and their concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.

1.4 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FLOWCHART

The key steps in the engagement process are outlined in **Figure 1.2**, which illustrates how engagement outcomes will inform the Waste Strategy and Action Plan. The dark blue ovals in the flow chart represent reporting requirements, the light blue squares indicate consultation activities, and the medium squares are Council workshops.

1.5 ENGAGEMENT PROCESS OVERVIEW

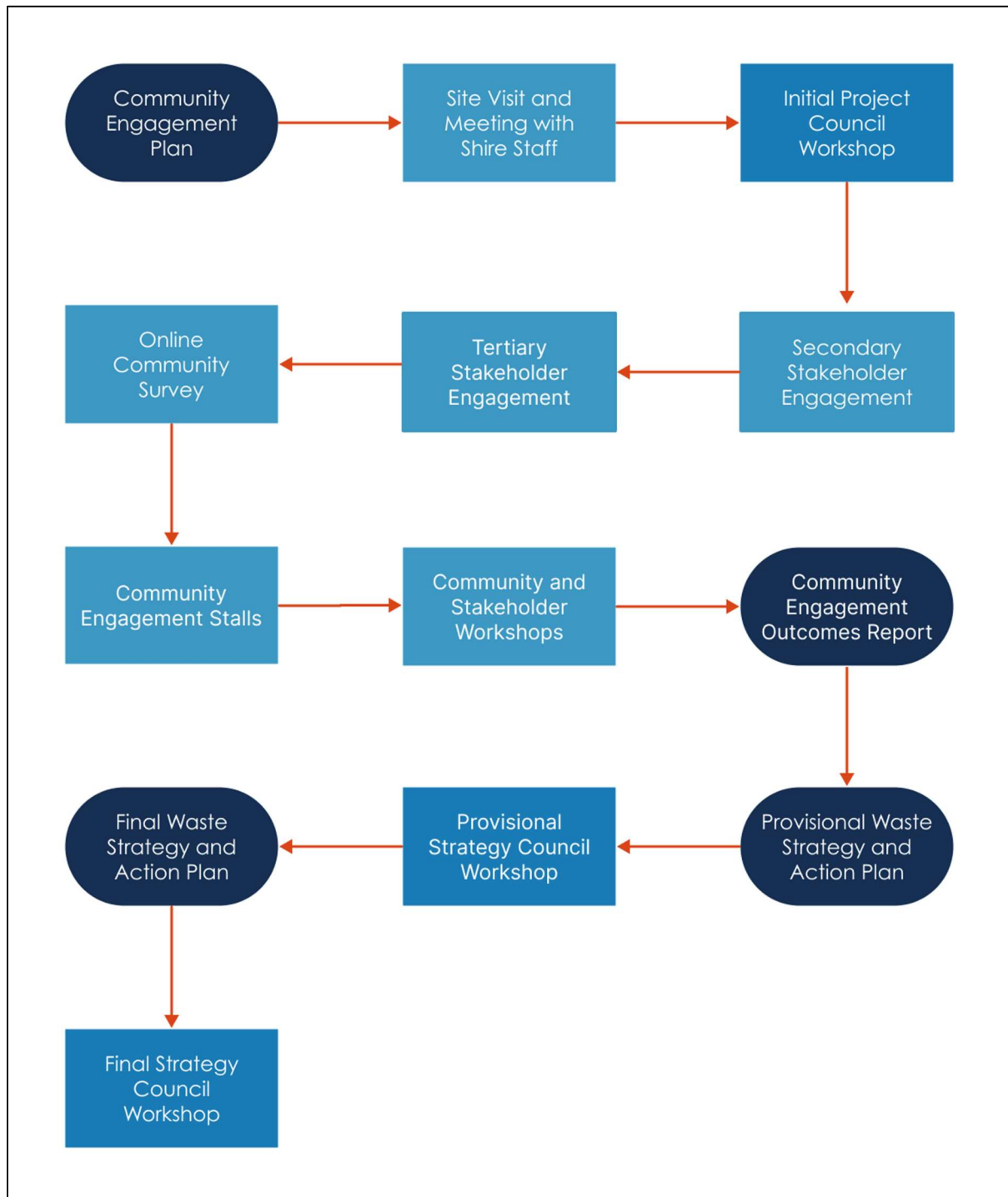
The engagement process for the development of the Waste Strategy and Action Plan is guided by a structured sequence of activities, as depicted in **Figure 1.2**. This flow chart provides a visual representation of the steps involved, demonstrating the way in which engagement outcomes directly inform the formulation of the Strategy and Action Plan.

Within the flow chart, various elements are distinguished by colour and shape to clarify their roles in the process. The dark blue ovals denote reporting requirements, highlighting key stages where information and outcomes are formally documented and communicated. Light blue squares represent consultation activities, indicating points where input is actively sought from the community and stakeholders to shape the direction of the project. Additionally, medium squares illustrate Council workshops, which serve as collaborative sessions where feedback is reviewed and integrated into strategic decision-making.

Overall, this structured approach ensures that engagement is systematic and that outcomes from each activity are used to inform subsequent steps, ultimately leading to a Waste Strategy and Action Plan that reflects the views and priorities of the community and stakeholders.

Further specific details on the planned engagement activities and methodologies for the project are provided in **Section 3**.

Figure 1.2: Engagement flowchart



2 STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT

This section identifies and analyses stakeholders involved in the project, and provides an overview of the risks associated with their participation and the corresponding mitigation measures.

2.1 STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION

Stakeholder identification for this project was undertaken by the Shire of Broome and provided as part of the project brief. Stakeholders have been classified as primary, secondary, or tertiary, reflecting their direct engagement with the project or the degree to which they may be affected by outcomes and recommendations in the Action Plan. The specific stakeholders relevant to this project are listed in **Table 2.1**.

Table 2.1: Stakeholder list

Stakeholder group	Stakeholders
Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shire of Broome Elected Members • Shire of Broome
Secondary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider Broome Community • Nyamba Buru Yawuru • Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation • Commercial Operators - Cleanaway • Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions • Department of Communities • Department of Housing
Tertiary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other state and federal agencies, e.g Waste Authority, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, Regional Development Australia • Potential funding bodies

2.2 STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

A stakeholder analysis was undertaken to determine an appropriate engagement approach for each stakeholder group, based on their level of influence and interest in the project (**Table 2.2**). **Table 2.3** provides the stakeholder mapping undertaken and the resulting engagement level and approach determined as appropriate for the project.

Table 2.2: Stakeholder influence and involvement levels

Influence levels	Involvement levels
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very high: A stakeholder with very high influence has a significant amount of control over key project decisions. • High: A stakeholder with high influence can cause others to take action. • Moderate: A stakeholder with medium influence is often part of the decision-making process. • Low: A stakeholder with low influence can offer opinions on decisions and express their concerns, but you may not always consider their ideas. • Very low: A stakeholder with very low influence can engage in the project when they desire, but they won't have control over any decisions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading: A leading stakeholder is aware of the project and is actively working towards the success of the project. • Supporting: A supporting stakeholder is aware of the project and supports its efforts. • Neutral: A neutral stakeholder is aware of the project but is neither resistant nor supportive. • Resistant: A resistant stakeholder is aware of the project but resists proposed changes. • Unaware: An unaware stakeholder is unaware of the projects or their potential impacts.

Table 2.3: Stakeholder matrix

Stakeholder group	Level of Influence and Power	Level of Involvement and Interest	Engagement level and approach (See Section 3 for further details on activities)
Primary	Very High	Supporting	Involved through the Council Workshops, Community Survey and Engagement Stalls
Secondary	Moderate	Neutral	Consult throughout the engagement process
Tertiary	Low	Neutral	Inform throughout the engagement process

2.3 STAKEHOLDER RISKS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

Through the stakeholder analysis, potential risks and barriers that may impact participation in the engagement process have been identified. **Table 2.4** outlines these specific risks, and provides a range of measures to mitigate their impact.

Table 2.4: Stakeholder risks and mitigation measures

Issue	Stakeholders affected	Mitigation measures
Low levels of project interest and participation rates	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular communication between stakeholders, the Shire of Broome and ASK. Key messages emphasise the opportunity for community members to shape the outcomes of the Strategy, so it is mutually beneficial. Ensure adequate timeframes and advance notice of engagement are provided.
Lack of workshop stakeholder availability	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate lead-in time for workshop stakeholders to be aware of engagement meeting times, locations. Contact stakeholders initially to introduce the project and provide a list of likely questions to be considered.
Stakeholders are not able to access engagement processes via online systems	Community members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paper copies are available at Shire service facilities (e.g. library, recreational centres, administration offices and at the gatehouse of waste facilities). Accessible theme and colour palette used in the survey design to improve readability for all community members, including those with vision impairments or colour blindness.
Stakeholders raising matters outside of the scope of the project	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues will be heard out by the consultants and deferred to the Shire's representative where appropriate to ensure focus is maintained on the waste topics and the aspects of the project that require engagement. Social media comments, customer request submissions (CRMS), and calls to customer service are to be monitored by the Shire.
Stakeholders are resistant to change	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear, transparent messaging will be employed throughout the engagement process, with two-way communication utilised to allow stakeholders to ask questions and voice any concerns. Workshops are included in the engagement plan to ensure stakeholder involvement in decision-making processes.
Language and literacy barriers	Community members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer translated materials and/or use plain language. Provide support where required.

Issue	Stakeholders affected	Mitigation measures
Competing priorities are reducing engagement capacity	Community members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide a sufficient period for stakeholders to participate in the survey.• Highlight the relevance and benefits of participation.

3 ENGAGEMENT TOOLS AND ACTIVITIES

A variety of communication and engagement techniques will be employed for the project to mitigate identified stakeholder risks and issues. These techniques are outlined in **Table 3.1**.

Table 3.1: Engagement activities

Activity	Details	Engagement approach	Responsibility
Initial Project Council Workshop	<p>A workshop will be held with Elected Members. This session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outline the aims and objectives of the project and the community engagement process including the methods and approaches to be used • outline how updates will be provided to the Council at various stages throughout the project • solicit feedback from Councillors regarding significant issues they would like the Strategy to address. 	Involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASK will prepare the material and facilitate the Councillor's presentation • The Shire to invite workshop attendees • The Shire to provide a meeting room and project for ASK to use if required • ASK will collate the feedback from the session
Secondary Stakeholder Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASK will contact the listed secondary stakeholders via email and/or phone to inform them about the project and the stakeholder engagement plan • ASK will gather feedback relating to any waste opportunities or issues the stakeholders have identified 	Consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Shire is to provide contact details for the stakeholders • ASK to gather and collate the feedback from the engagement
Tertiary Stakeholder Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASK will contact the listed tertiary stakeholders via email and/or phone to identify additional drivers and factors to consider in the development of the Strategy, and any potential funding streams for future strategic actions 	Inform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASK will contact tertiary stakeholders • ASK to gather and collate the feedback from the engagement

Activity	Details	Engagement approach	Responsibility
Online Community Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online interactive feedback tool utilising Survey Monkey to capture feedback from residents Survey structured to gain quantitative data The survey would be up to 10 questions and only record quantitative data, not qualitative (free text feedback) The survey will focus on obtaining high-level feedback to better understand the community knowledge, use, and satisfaction of current services provided by the City, views and importance of waste and recycling and identify future waste management priorities Given the high impact and high-interest nature of the topic, the survey will be open for 4 weeks to ensure maximum opportunity for participation is provided to the community The Community Survey will provide respondents with an opportunity to register interest in the Community Workshops 	Consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASK to develop an online survey via SurveyMonkey The Shire will review the questions and content and will test the survey The Shire will approve the survey for publishing ASK will provide the Shire with an electronic link to the online survey The Shire to distribute this open source survey via their own marketing channels The Shire is to provide paper copies at Shire facilities (if required for residents without smartphone or computer access) The Shire is to enter any paper responses into the online system manually ASK will collate and analyse the results, which will be provided to the Shire as a summary document
Community Engagement Stalls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement stalls are to be held at multiple sites across the Shire 	Involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Shire is to organise and deliver the engagement stalls The Shire to record the feedback from the stalls and send it to ASK as electronic files

Activity	Details	Engagement approach	Responsibility
Community and Stakeholder Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two Place-based workshop/s will be held to provide the community with the ability to provide more qualitative feedback Information provided will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key drivers for improved waste management and recycling How the Shire is performing in relation to the State Waste Strategy Overview of survey themes and outcomes Clarification and feedback concerning survey themes and outcomes Input would be gathered on participant concerns regarding waste management and preferences for future services Workshops will run for up to one hour, with a maximum of 30 attendees per workshop 	Involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASK will prepare the workshop material and facilitate the workshops The Shire will review and provide feedback The Shire to manage the invitation process, provide a location, IT and refreshments The Shire to provide representative/s at the workshop to introduce the workshop and speaker and assist in answering Shire-specific questions where required ASK will collate and analyse the results and provide the Shire with a summary
Provisional Strategy Presentation Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An online session will be used to present the draft Broome Waste Strategy and Action Plan to elected members The session will end with a Q&A for Elected Members to ask any questions after the presentation Assumes a one-hour workshop 	Consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASK will prepare the material and facilitate the Councillor presentation The Shire to invite workshop attendees
Public Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Shire will coordinate and complete the formal advertising of the draft Broome Waste Strategy and Action Plan for public feedback The advertising period will run for four weeks 	Consult	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The results of the feedback will be collated by the Shire, and a summary will be provided to ASK
Finalised Strategy Presentation Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An online information session will be held for Elected Members and the Executive team to present the final document and outline any changes proposed as a result of public advertising outcomes This may be completed online or in person 	Involve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASK will prepare the material and facilitate the Councillor presentation The Shire to invite workshop attendees

3.1 COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE ENGAGEMENT

ASK is committed to an engagement approach that is accessible, inclusive, and respectful. ASK commits to:

- Engaging with key stakeholders throughout the life cycle of the project.
- Promoting full and active participation of stakeholders, as it leads to more sustainable, inclusive solutions.
- Using respectful and inclusive language, this includes avoiding 'flash language' like jargon and technical terms.
- Updating the Community Engagement Plan to align with any obstacles to inclusivity or accessibility that may arise during the project.
- Encourage the Shire to provide paper copies of surveys for community members to create opportunities for engagement for individuals without access to the internet or technical literacy.
- Formatting community engagement materials to improve readability for people with visual impairments.
- Encouraging the Shire to choose wheelchair accessible venues close to public transport for focus groups and workshops.
- Encouraging the Shire to provide translated materials for non-English speakers from the community.
- Creating a safe engagement environment so community members feel comfortable expressing their views and concerns.
- Establishing clear channels for stakeholders to provide feedback.

4 COMMUNICATIONS

Clear, consistent, and transparent communication is essential to the success of the Community Engagement Plan. This section outlines the key messages for the project and responds to frequently asked questions to support effective engagement with all stakeholders.

4.1 KEY MESSAGES

The Shire's Waste Strategy and Action Plan aims to provide a framework for effective, efficient and sustainable waste management. The outcomes of community engagement will inform the Strategy development. Key messages for the engagement activities include:

- Community perspectives are central: The Shire values community input and recognises its importance in shaping the Strategy and Action Plan.
- Understanding values and priorities: The Shire seeks to better understand the community's values, priorities, and views on waste and recycling.
- Commitment to sustainability: The engagement process demonstrates the Shire's commitment to effective and sustainable waste management.
- Engagement outcomes inform strategy: Feedback from the engagement process will directly inform the development of the Broome Waste Strategy and Action Plan.
- Shared responsibility: The Shire encourages everyone to play their part in reducing waste and recycling responsibly.

4.2 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Table 4.1 lists anticipated questions and suggested answers regarding the project processes and outcomes.

Table 4.1: FAQs

Question	Suggested Response
Why is the Shire developing a new Waste Strategy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Shire is committed to improving its waste management practices to ensure they are effective and sustainable for the next four years • We need a strategy that makes it easier for residents and businesses to reduce waste and recycle more • This Strategy will help the Shire achieve the targets set out in federal and state waste strategies
What specific changes to my waste services might I see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Strategy aims to explore ways to improve waste diversion from landfill and increase resource recovery • We want to ensure that any changes are practical, efficient, and beneficial to our community and environment • No decisions have been made yet, and this is why we need your input through the engagement process
Will my rates increase in cost?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Strategy aims to provide a cost-effective and sustainable waste management system for the future • No decisions have been made, and this is why we need your input through the engagement process
How can I stay up-to-date with future changes or provide feedback?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community engagement process will provide clear channels for feedback at multiple stages of the project • Information will be available on the Shire's website and through other communication channels

Question	Suggested Response
What if I have accessibility needs or require information in another language?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Shire is committed to making engagement accessible. Please contact the Shire if you require materials in other accessible formats.
What happens after the engagement period ends?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After the engagement closes, feedback will be analysed and a summary report will be prepared. The findings will be used to shape the final Strategy, and updates will be provided to the community.

5 IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the Community Engagement Plan will be guided by a clear allocation of tasks and responsibilities, as well as a structured project schedule. This approach ensures that all engagement activities are delivered effectively and on time, and that any issues are addressed promptly.

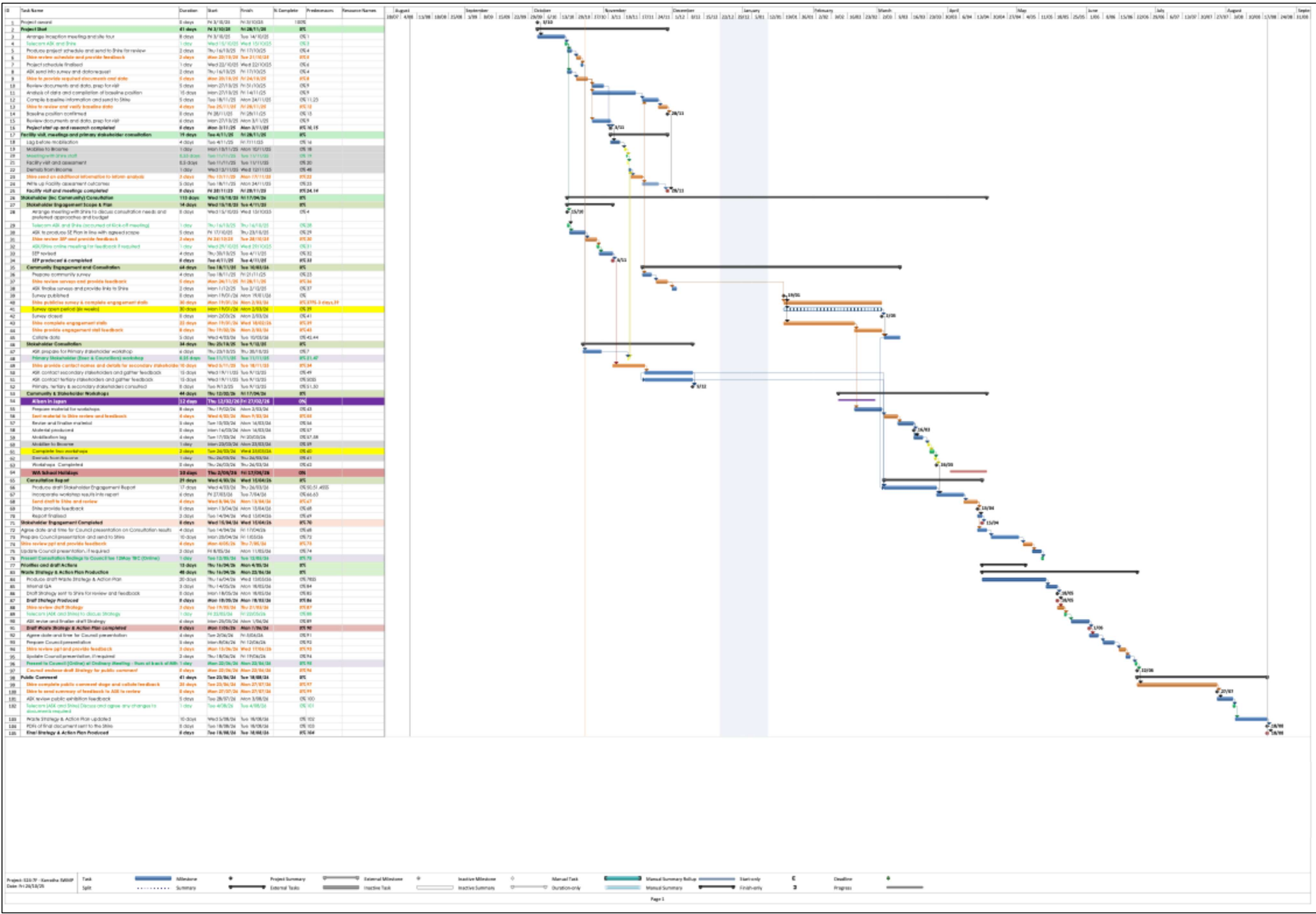
The list of engagement activities, along with the responsible organisation, is provided in **Table 5.1**. The project schedule illustrated in **Figure 5.1** will be used to track the progress of these activities. Any delays or implementation issues will be addressed in the monthly project progress report produced by ASK.

Table 5.1: Task list and responsibilities

Activity	Responsible
Initiation and preparation	
Produce Community Engagement Plan	ASK
Council Workshop and Stakeholder Engagement	
Provide contact names and details for stakeholders	SoB
Prepare agenda for Initial Project Council Workshop	ASK
Organise date, venue and technical requirements for the Initial Project Council Workshop	SoB
Finalise agenda for Initial Project Council Workshop	ASK/SoB
Invite attendees to attend the Initial Project Council Workshop	SoB
Hold the Initial Project Council Workshop	ASK/SoB
Contact secondary stakeholders and gather feedback	ASK
Contact tertiary stakeholders and gather feedback	ASK
Community Survey and Engagement Stalls	
Prepare questions for the Community Survey	ASK
Finalise questions for the Community Survey	ASK/SoB
Build the Community Survey in Survey Monkey	ASK
Distribute the Community Survey	SoB
Promotion and marketing of the Community Survey	SoB
Collate and analyse data from the Community Survey	ASK
Hold Engagement Stalls	SoB
Collate and provide feedback from Engagement Stalls	SoB
Community Workshops	
Finalise format/agenda for the Community Workshops	ASK/SoB
Finalise location for Community Workshops	SoB
Organise the venue, technical requirements and refreshments for the Community Workshops	SoB
Invite community members to attend the Community Workshops and confirm attendance	SoB
Hold Community Workshops	ASK/SoB
Collate and analyse data to produce a Community Engagement Outcomes Report	ASK
Council Workshop – Provisional Strategy presentation	
Agree on date/time and location for the Council Workshop	ASK/SoB
Finalise format/agenda for the Council Workshop	ASK/SoB
Invite attendees to attend the Council Workshop	SoB

Activity	Responsible
Hold the Council Workshop	ASK/SoB
Public advertising	
Prepare a report for the Council to endorse the Draft Waste Strategy and Action Plan for public advertising	SoB
Council endorsement of draft Strategy for public advertising	SoB
Draft report released for public advertising	SoB
Meeting to discuss the feedback from the public advertising and any changes required to the Strategy	SoB/ASK
Council Workshop – Final Strategy Presentation	
Prepare agenda for the Council Workshop	ASK
Agree on date/time and location for the Council Workshop	ASK/SoB
Finalise format/agenda for the Council Workshop	ASK/SoB
Invite attendees to attend the Council Workshop	SoB
Hold the Council Workshop	ASK/SoB

Figure 5.1: Project Schedule, including key engagement tasks



6 EVALUATION AND REPORTING

Feedback and data will be gathered during the engagement process. The next section outlines how the project's evaluation and reporting will be undertaken.

6.1 EVALUATION

The effectiveness of the community engagement process will be assessed using the following measures of success:

- All identified stakeholders have been consulted.
- Information collected is recorded in a form that enables meaningful analysis.
- Communication is timely and in accordance with this Community Engagement Plan.
- The Shire receives a report that meets the project scope, including the conclusions of the community engagement.

6.2 REPORTING

A high-level Community Engagement Outcomes Report will be produced summarising the key findings and insights from stakeholders, and provided to the Shire for review. The engagement findings and insights will inform the development of actions and priorities to be outlined in the Broome Waste Strategy.

APPENDIX B – SURVEY QUESTIONS

Question	Question type	Response options
1. Are you a:	Multiple choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent resident • Ratepayer (non-resident) • Tourist/visitor • Tenant
2. How often do you use the following waste management services provided within the Shire to dispose of waste and/or reusable items or recyclables? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly kerbside waste collection services • Fortnightly kerbside recycling collection service • Drop-off facilities at the Broome Waste Management Facility • Drop-off reusable items to local charity stores • Container for Change refund points • Local pharmacies for disposal of sharps • Drop off points for old mobile phones and ink cartridges at Shire facilities 	Matrix rating scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never • At least once a year • At least twice a year • At least once a month • At least once a week
3. How often do you participate in the Shire's pre-cyclone free waste disposal weekends or the pensioner skip bin program?	Multiple choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never • Every other year • Every year
4. How often do you drop off the following types of household waste at the Broome Waste Management Facility? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household waste (items normally placed in rubbish bins) • Bulky waste (old furniture, mattresses) • Wooden pallets, planks and offcuts 	Matrix rating scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never • At least once a year • At least twice a year • At least once a month • At least once a week
5. How often do you drop off the following types of recyclables at the Broome Waste Management Facility? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recyclable items (glass, plastics, paper, cardboard) • Green waste • Household hazardous waste (household chemicals, gas cylinders) • E-waste & batteries • Whitegoods • Tyres • Used motor oil or cooking oil • Reusable items for the second hand area • Fluorescent tubing 	Matrix rating scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Never • At least once a year • At least twice a year • At least once a month • At least once a week

Question	Question type	Response options
<p>6. How satisfied are you with each of the current waste management services provided by the Shire?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly kerbside waste collection services • Fortnightly kerbside recycling collection service • Drop-off facilities at the Broome Waste Management Facility • Annual free disposal weekends • Litter management and illegal dumping • Public place bins • Waste education and engagement • Home composting and dual bin rebate 	Matrix rating scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very dissatisfied • Dissatisfied • Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied • Satisfied • Very satisfied
<p>7. Thinking about recycling in the Shire, how would you rate the following?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effectiveness of current recycling efforts in reducing waste to landfill • Adequacy of opportunities for residents to recycle in Broome • Information provided on waste and recycling options in the Shire • Advertising of waste education and engagement opportunities 	Matrix rating scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very dissatisfied • Dissatisfied • Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied • Satisfied • Very satisfied
<p>8. What prevents you from recycling more often? (select any that apply)</p>	Checkbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of information on where to recycle • Inconvenient drop-off locations • Unsure what is accepted • Cost • No means of transport to the waste facility • Time constraints • Other
<p>9. What would encourage your household to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill, including both everyday household waste and bulky items that don't fit in your bin? (select any that apply)</p>	Checkbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to clear information or tips on how to reduce household waste • Better options to reuse or repurpose items (tip shop, repair café) • More opportunities to compost food and garden waste • Financial incentives (rebates, discounts, rewards) • More frequent or larger recycling bin collections • More convenient recycling services • Access to community programs (workshops, swap events, clean-up days)

Question	Question type	Response options
10. Do you generally participate in the annual pre-cyclone free disposal weekends? (if no, select any reasons that apply)	Checkbox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • No - I was not aware of this service • No - I don't know when it occurs • No - The timing is inconvenient • No - I didn't have enough waste to dispose of • No - I didn't receive enough advance notice to prepare and gather waste • No - I don't have suitable transport to take items to the disposal site • No - The disposal location is too far away
11. How important do you believe each of the following factors is when deciding how waste is managed within the Shire of Broome? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact • Waste recovery • Cost efficiency • Service reliability • Community engagement • Public health and safety • Ease and convenience • Innovation and technology 	Matrix rating scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very unimportant • Unimportant • Neutral • Important • Very important
12. What is the single most important improvement you would like to see in waste services over the next 5 years	Comment box	
13. While the Shire aims to deliver services that best meet the needs and priorities of the community, council budgets are limited and funded through rates. How much more would you be willing to pay each year for improved services? (this could include extra services, services that increase resource recovery and recycling or more community education)	Slider	\$0 - \$100
14. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your feedback is valuable and will help shape the future of waste management in the Shire of Broome. The Shire will run workshops in March to gather further feedback on waste management in the Shire. If you are interested in attending, please provide your email to obtain further information.	Single text box	Email address

APPENDIX C – SUMMARY OF STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

This appendix provides a summary of feedback received through targeted stakeholder conversations undertaken as part of the Strategy engagement process. Feedback has been consolidated and reformatted for clarity and consistency. The information is presented as contextual input to inform strategy development and does not imply endorsement or commitment to specific actions.

C1 Aboriginal Organisations

Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation

Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation highlighted access and equity considerations associated with existing waste services, particularly in relation to green waste and bulky waste management. While many households may have access to a car, access to trailers or suitable vehicles required to transport waste to disposal facilities was identified as a barrier, particularly for lower socio-economic households.

It was noted that kerbside green waste services would significantly improve accessibility and complement existing community initiatives, including the hire of garden maintenance equipment such as whipper snippers. They also observed that improved waste service access could assist households in managing yard maintenance more effectively.

Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation noted its involvement in remote communities and recent engagement within the townsite, indicating that resourcing constraints influence the ability to expand services or programs. The organisation also holds the contract for Containers for Change within the region.

C2 Commercial Operators

Great Northern Logistics

Great Northern Logistics raised concerns regarding the logistics and costs associated with waste transport in the region. Certain liquid waste streams, such as grease trap waste and oily waters, currently require transport to facilities located significant distances from Broome, resulting in higher costs and operational inefficiencies.

For some waste types, transporting material to regional centres may be more cost-effective than using locally available services, depending on pricing structures and acceptance criteria.

Concerns were also raised regarding uncertainty around timelines for the development of the Regional Resource Recovery Park, which can affect operational planning for businesses.

Cleanaway

Cleanaway advised that a new manager had recently started and expressed willingness to work collaboratively with the Shire on waste management and recycling issues.

Operational challenges discussed included high levels of kerbside recycling contamination in certain areas, which can impact the viability of recycling loads. It was noted that ongoing contamination may require service-level responses where contamination cannot be managed effectively.

At the time of engagement, no sorting of recyclables was occurring at the Broome Materials Recovery Facility, with collected recyclables baled and transported to a metropolitan facility for processing. Cleanaway advised that education officers are employed within the organisation and that opportunities exist to collaborate with the Shire on education and communication initiatives.

C3 State Agencies

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions identified increased levels of illegal dumping and littering as a recurring issue, particularly during peak seasonal periods. Key pressure periods included the wet season and post-Christmas period for household and green waste dumping, and the dry season for litter accumulation in coastal and high-use recreational areas.

Illegal camping during the dry season was identified as a contributing factor to littering in areas without adequate bin infrastructure.

Suggested priority areas included improved education on waste separation and disposal, and greater awareness of existing free disposal services (including pensioner skip bin program).

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions identified potential opportunities for increased collaboration, including:

- Improved coordination and reporting between ranger services, waste facility staff and collection crews
- Joint clean-up activities in known dumping hot spots
- Use of Parks and Gardens mulching crews to assist with the management of illegally dumped green waste
- Increased visual presence and routine patrols in high-risk areas
- Timely response to dumping incidents, to discourage repeat behaviour.

Awareness of conservation park boundaries by operational crews was also identified as an area for improvement to ensure appropriate waste management responses.

C4 Stakeholders that did not Provide Feedback

The following stakeholders were approached as part of the engagement process, but did not provide formal feedback within the engagement period:

- Nyamba Buru Yawuru
- Department of Communities
- Department of Education
- Department of Housing

APPENDIX D – SURVEY OUTCOMES REPORT

Community Waste Survey Outcomes Report

Shire of Broome



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Acknowledgements

ASK Waste Management acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land in which we work and live, and pays respects to Elders past, present, and emerging.

ASK also gratefully acknowledge the cooperation of the Shire of Broome staff that provided information and assistance in the development of this report.

Disclaimer

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the findings of the Community Waste Survey, developed to guide the update of the Shire of Broome's *Waste Strategy and Action Plan 2026 – 2030*. ASK was engaged by the Shire to lead this process, incorporating a programme of community engagement to ensure the strategy reflects local perspectives and priorities.

A key component of this engagement was the community survey, designed to capture both quantitative and qualitative insights regarding current service use, satisfaction, obstacles, and suggestions for improvement.

The community survey was available for six weeks, from late January to early March 2025, and gathered responses from 139 participants. Survey promotion took place across digital channels and at local facilities.

Most respondents identified as permanent residents, and the range of questions addressed waste service usage, recycling behaviours, satisfaction levels, and perceived barriers and motivators affecting waste practices within the Shire.

The survey results indicate varying levels of service use, with most participants regularly using the kerbside waste and recycling services provided. Annual and drop-off services were also used, though to a lesser extent. Satisfaction with services was generally positive, but waste education, litter and illegal dumping and recycling received lower approval. The most common obstacles to recycling included confusion over sorting practices and the inconvenience of drop-off points, while the main motivators to reduce waste were better opportunities and incentives.

Feedback regarding willingness to pay more for improved services was mixed, suggesting a need for careful consideration of future services and providing value for money.

The open-ended question captured qualitative data from the respondents, asking them to identify the single most important improvement they would like to see in waste services over the next five years. A thematic analysis was undertaken to better understand the respondent's priorities. The most common topics mentioned were:

- Recycling
- General feedback
- Pre-cyclone and bulk waste collections
- Green waste and FOGO.

The survey's response rate equated to approximately 0.74% of the Shire's estimated resident population in 2024. It is important to note that this sample size is below the threshold for statistical representativeness and, as such, the findings should be regarded as indicative. They offer valuable insight into the experiences and preferences of engaged community members, but may not fully reflect the views of the broader community.

The insights provided by this consultation activity will inform the Shire's waste management priorities and strategic actions over the coming years.

1 INTRODUCTION

The Shire of Broome (the Shire) has engaged ASK to update its *Waste Strategy and Action Plan* (the Strategy), which will guide waste management for the period from 2026 to 2030. The Strategy will guide and support improved waste management outcomes and resource recovery across the Shire.

Community engagement is a critical component of the project. A variety of communication and engagement techniques were employed as part of the project consultation, including a community survey.

The survey was created using the Survey Monkey engagement platform and was structured to gain quantitative and qualitative data with question types including multiple choice, checkbox, matrix rating scale and open-ended. The survey was released on the 28th of January 2025 and ran for approximately six weeks, closing on the 11th of March 2025. The Shire promoted the survey via various platforms and offered paper copies at community engagement stalls and Shire facilities.

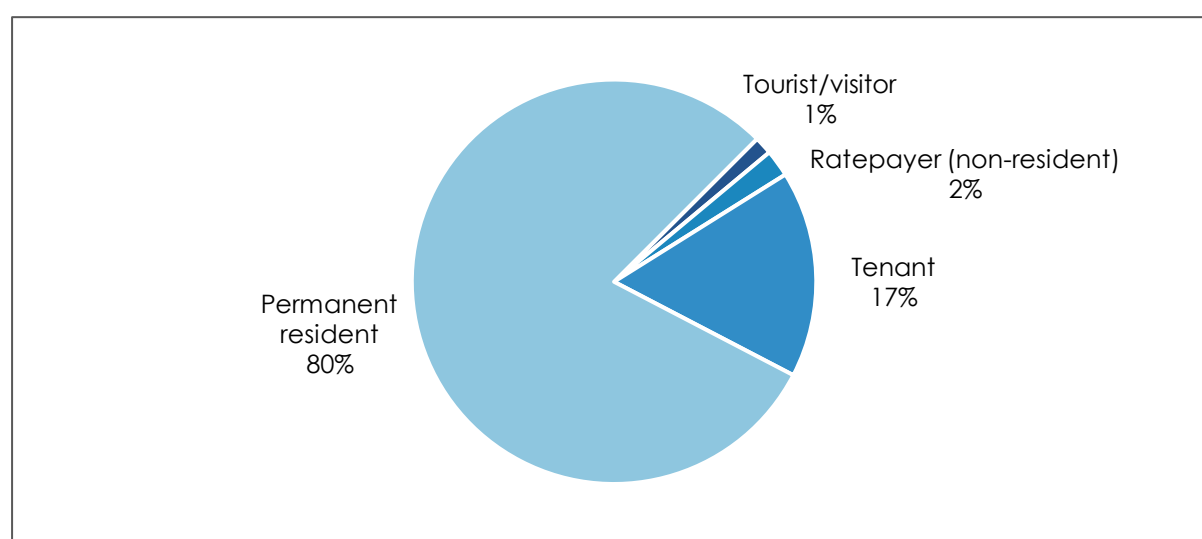
2 SURVEY RESULTS

2.1 RESPONDENTS

The survey received 139 responses over the six weeks it was open. This represents a response rate of approximately 0.74% of the Shire population according to the 2024 Estimated Resident Population from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. As this is below the sample size required for statistical representativeness, the data may not fully reflect the views of the broader community, and the findings should be viewed as indicative rather than representative.

Respondents to the survey were most likely to be permanent residents at 80%, the rest identified as tenants (17%), non-resident ratepayers (2%) and tourists or visitors (1%) (**Figure 2.1**).

Figure 2.1: The respondents' living situation



2.2 SERVICE USE

The respondents were asked a series of questions about their use of the Shire's waste management services. The questions were designed to provide an overview of the services they are provided and to understand how they use them.

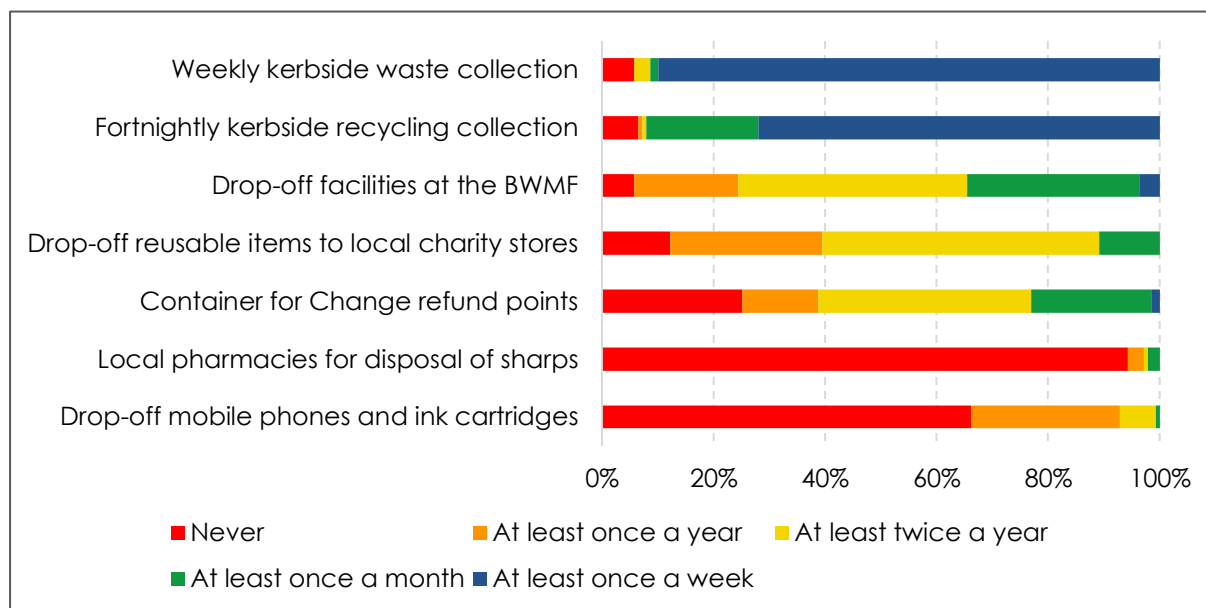
2.2.1 REGULAR WASTE SERVICES

The first question in this section asked how often respondents use a range of services provided by the Shire. They could choose from five options: *never*, *at least once a year*, *at least twice a year*, *at least once a month*, or *at least once a week*.

As weekly and fortnightly services, the kerbside waste and recycling collections received the highest use, with 91% and 92% choosing *at least once a week* or *at least once a month*, respectively. The drop-off facilities at the Broome Waste Management Facility (BWMF) were also quite commonly used by respondents, 35% indicated weekly or monthly use.

The Containers for Change refund points and dropping off items to local charity stores were moderately used, while local pharmacies for disposal of sharps and locations for dropping off mobile phones and ink cartridges were rarely utilised, as shown in **Figure 2.2**.

Figure 2.2: Use of regular services

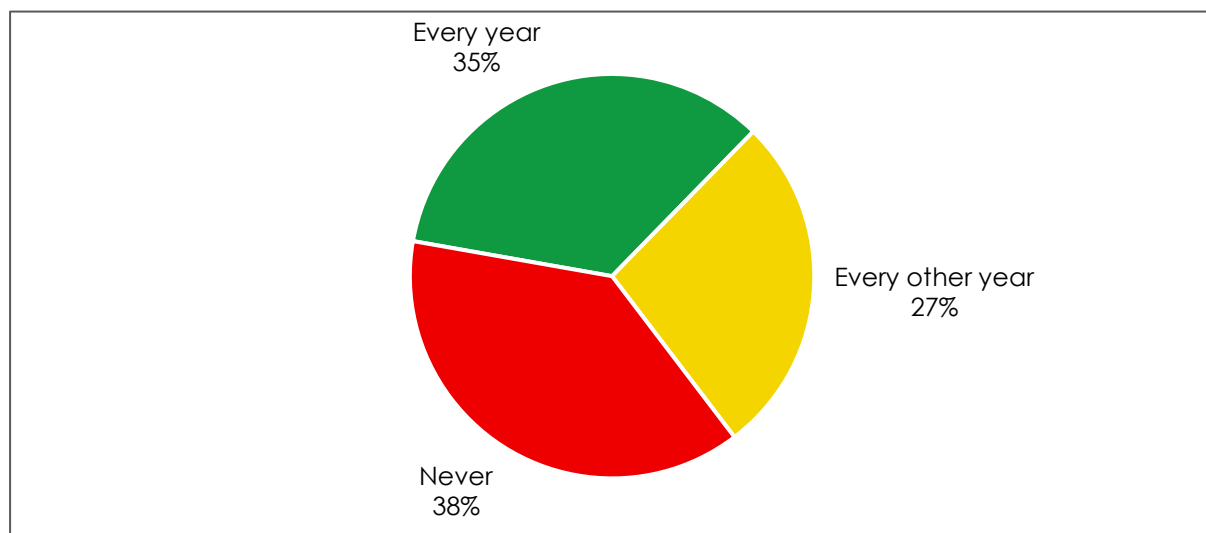


2.2.2 ANNUAL WASTE SERVICES

The following question asked specifically about the use of the Shire's pre-cyclone free waste disposal weekends or the pensioner skip bin program. These services are available each year, the questions allowed respondents to select between every year, every other year and never.

The responses showed a fairly even split, 35% indicated every year, 27% every other year, and 38% choosing never (**Figure 2.3**).

Figure 2.3: Use of annual services



2.2.3 DROP-OFF SERVICES

The next two questions asked about the frequency with which respondents disposed of various waste types at the BWMF.

2.2.3.1 Household waste

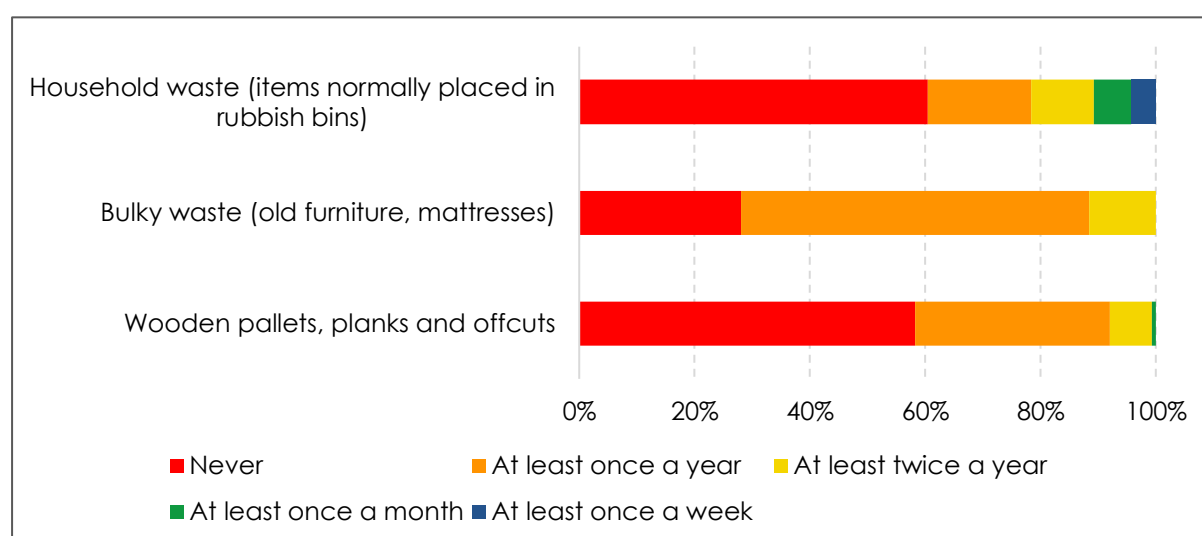
The types of household waste and how often respondents disposed of them were the focus of the first question about drop-off services. Again, this used the scale from *never*, *at least once a year*, *at least twice a year*, *at least once a month*, to *at least once a week*.

General household waste like items normally placed in rubbish bins were most frequently dropped off at the BWMF, 21% of respondents indicated doing so at least twice a year or more (*at least twice a year* 11%, *at least once a month* 6% and *at least once a week* 4%) (**Figure 2.4**).

Although bulky waste, including old furniture and mattresses, was less likely to be dropped off frequently, it was the waste type most likely to be dropped off at least once a year (72% total, with 60% for *at least once a year* and 12% *at least twice a year*).

A majority of respondents indicated that they never dispose of wooden pallets, planks and offcuts (58%).

Figure 2.4: Use of drop-off services for household waste



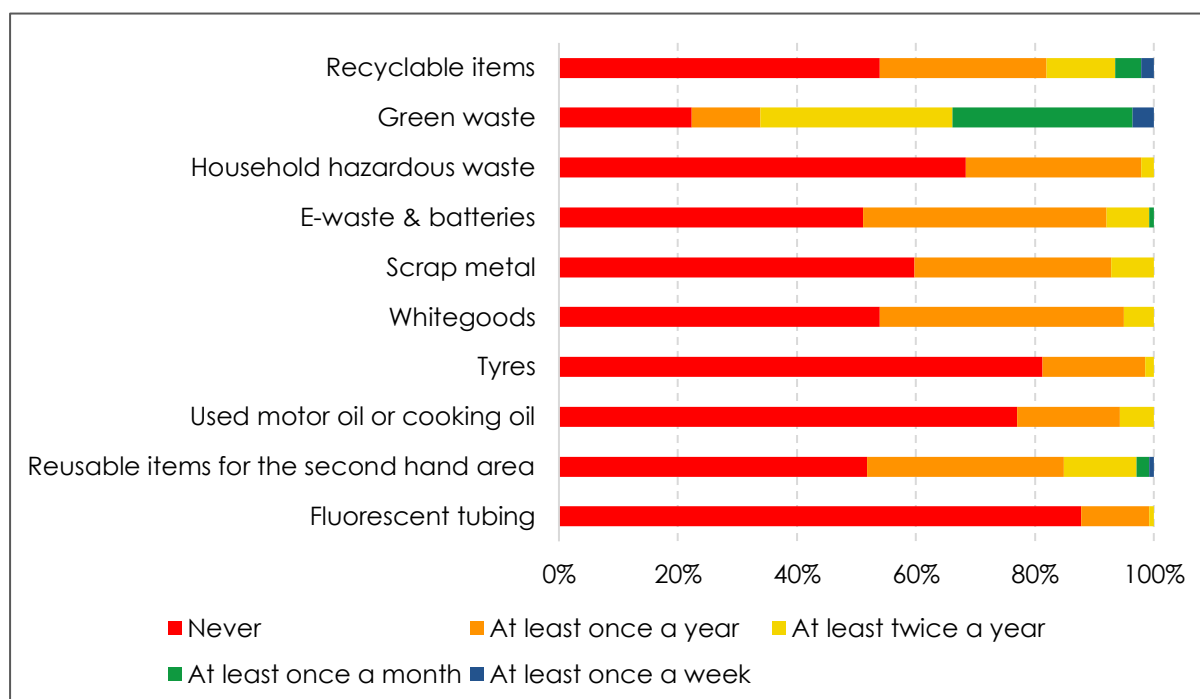
2.2.3.2 Recyclables

The next question inquired about recyclables dropped off at the BWMF for recovery, with the same scale as used in the previous question.

The most frequent recyclable taken to the BWMF was green waste. A majority of the respondents indicated dropping off green waste at least twice a year (66% total, 32% chose *at least twice a year*, 30% *at least once a month* and 4% *at least once a week*).

All the other recyclables listed in the question had a majority of respondents indicate that they never dispose of them at the BWMF. The most frequently recycled waste types were recyclable items and reusable items for the second-hand area, the least frequently recycled were fluorescent tubing, tyres and used motor oil or cooking oil (**Figure 2.5**).

Figure 2.5: Use of drop-off services for recyclables



2.3 SERVICE SATISFACTION

Questions were formulated to gain an understanding of the respondents' satisfaction with the waste management in the Shire.

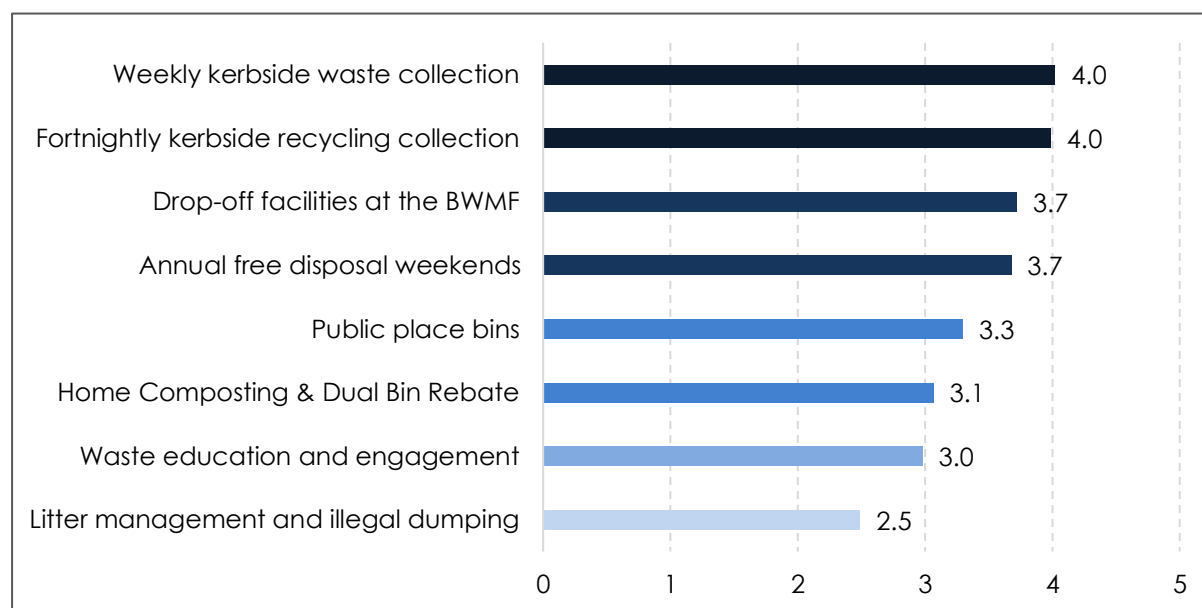
2.3.1 WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

The current waste management services provided by the Shire were listed, and respondents were to rate their satisfaction on a scale from 1 *very dissatisfied*, to 5 *very satisfied*. Weighted average scores were calculated for each service.

The kerbside collection services ranked highest, each earning a weighted score of 4.0. Coming in next with scores of 3.7 were both the drop-off facilities at the BWMF and the annual free disposal weekends.

The lowest scores went to waste education and engagement (3.0) and litter management and illegal dumping (2.5). Overall, the respondents indicated satisfaction with almost all of the provided services (**Figure 2.6**).

Figure 2.6: Satisfaction with waste services

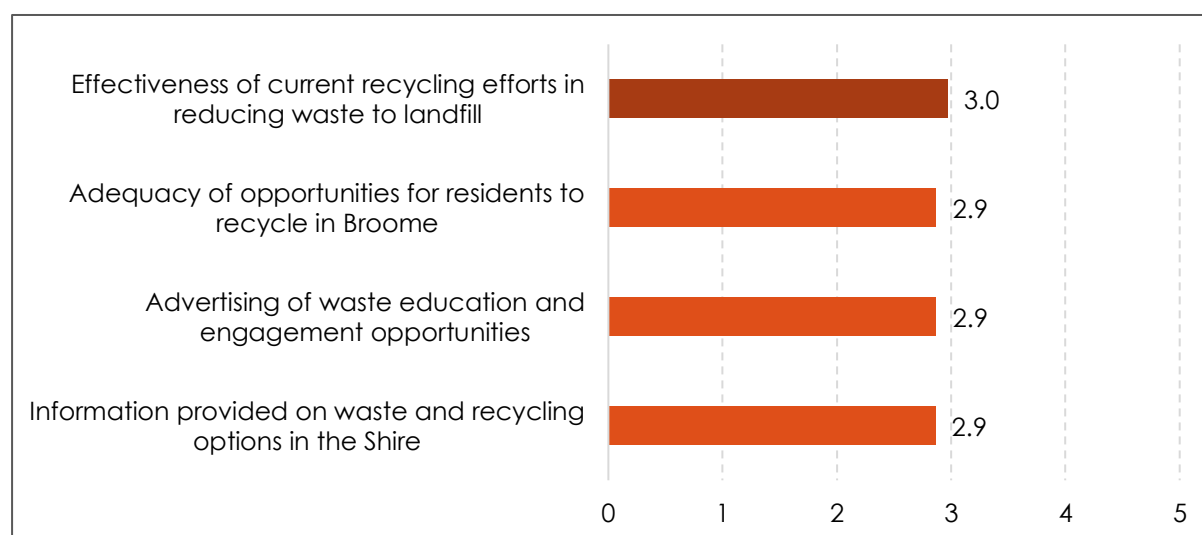


2.3.2 SATISFACTION WITH RECYCLING

Using the same satisfaction rating scale, the next question asked respondents to rate aspects of recycling in the Shire. Compared to the previous question, where most of the listed services scored above 3.0, none of the options in this one did (**Figure 2.7**).

The effectiveness of current recycling efforts in reducing waste to landfill received the highest score of 3.0. Adequacy of opportunities for residents to recycle in Broome, advertising of waste education and engagement opportunities and information provided on waste and recycling options in the Shire all scored 2.9.

Figure 2.7: Satisfaction with recycling



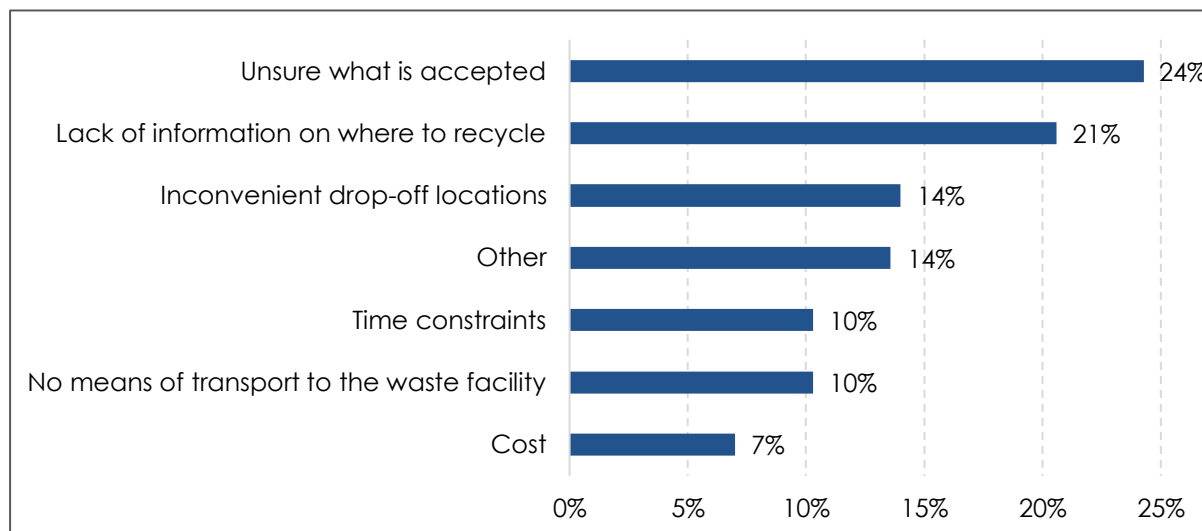
2.4 WASTE AND RECYCLING BEHAVIOURS

The following questions looked into the waste and recycling behaviours of respondents and the motivators or obstacles influencing their decision-making.

2.4.1 OBSTACLES TO RECYCLING

Respondents were given a list of reasons and were asked to select any that have prevented them from recycling more often. The top two reasons selected were *unsure of what is accepted* (24%) and *lack of information on where to recycle* (21%). *Cost, no means of transport to the waste facility* and *time constraints* were the least chosen reasons (7%, 10% and 10%, respectively) (**Figure 2.8**).

Figure 2.8: Obstacles to recycling

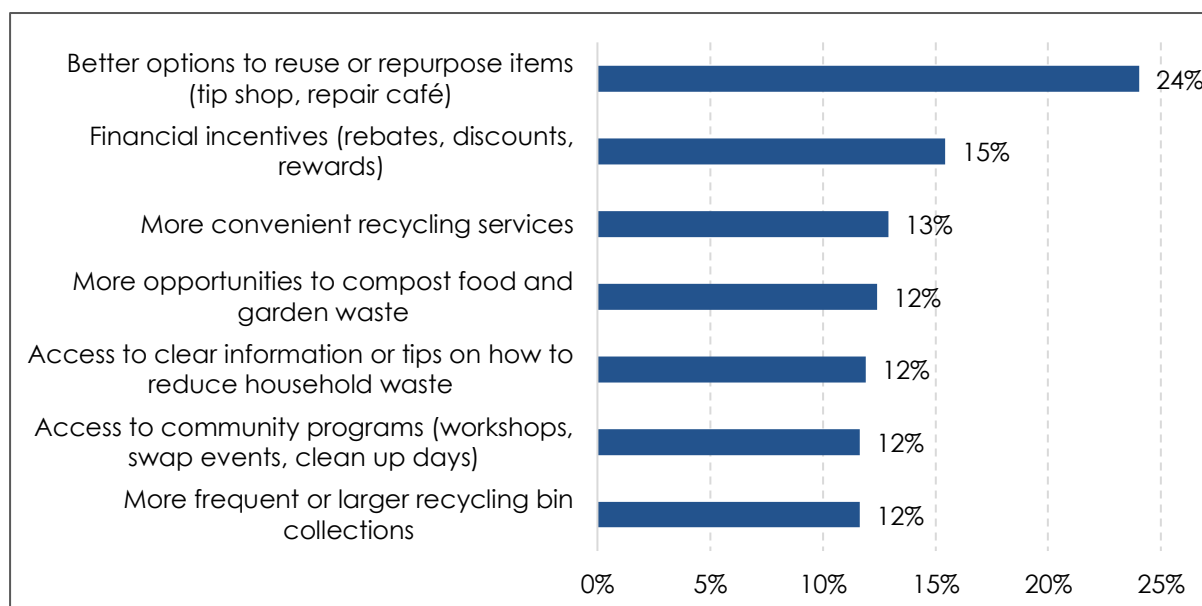


2.4.2 MOTIVATORS TO REDUCE WASTE

The next question asked respondents what would encourage their households to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill. They could choose any relevant reasons from the list provided.

The most popular reasons were *better options to reuse or repurpose items* (24%) and *financial incentives* (15%). Four reasons tied last with 12% each: *more opportunities to compost food and garden waste*, *access to clear information or tips on how to reduce household waste*, *access to community programs* and *more frequent or larger recycling bin collections* (**Figure 2.9**).

Figure 2.9: Motivators to reduce waste

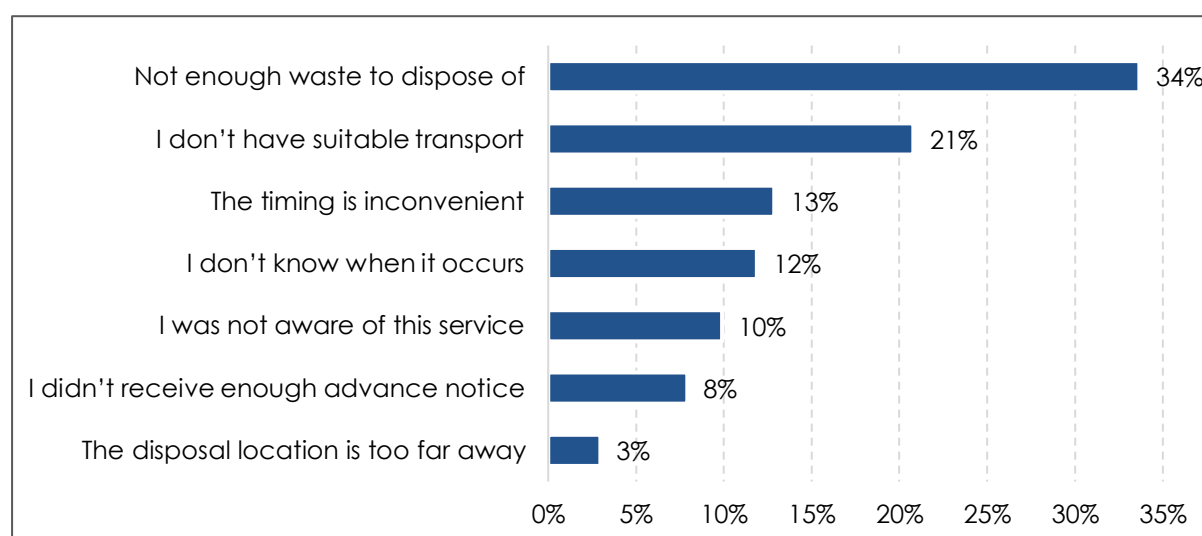


2.4.3 REASONS NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL PRE-CYCLONE FREE WASTE DISPOSAL WEEKENDS

To understand why respondents don't use the annual pre-cyclone free waste disposal weekends, the survey provided a list of potential reasons, and the respondents were asked if they participated and, if not, which of the reasons applied to them.

While 38% indicated that they do use this service, the remaining 62% was split between the seven reasons listed (**Figure 2.10**). The top choices were *not enough waste to dispose of* (34%), and *I don't have suitable transport* (21%). The least popular reasons were that *the disposal location is too far away* (3%) and *I didn't receive enough advance notice* (8%).

Figure 2.10: Reasons not to participate in annual pre-cyclone free disposal weekends



2.5 FUTURE PRIORITIES AND VALUES

The last questions of the survey were focused on the future priorities and values of the respondents. This section of the survey included an open-ended, qualitative question.

2.5.1 IMPORTANCE OF FACTORS IN WASTE MANAGEMENT

On a scale from 1 *very unimportant* to 5 *very important*, the respondents were asked to indicate how important they believe each of the listed factors is in deciding how waste is managed in the Shire. Eight factors were listed under this question, and each was given a short description; these are provided in **Table 2.1**. Average weighted scores have been calculated for each factor.

The respondents scored all of the factors as *very important*; all received a 4.0 or higher (**Figure 2.11**). Waste recovery was considered most important by respondents (4.5), followed by public health and safety and service reliability (both scored 4.4).

The lowest-scoring factors were innovation and technology (4.0), cost efficiency (4.1), and community engagement (4.2).

Figure 2.11: Importance of waste management factors

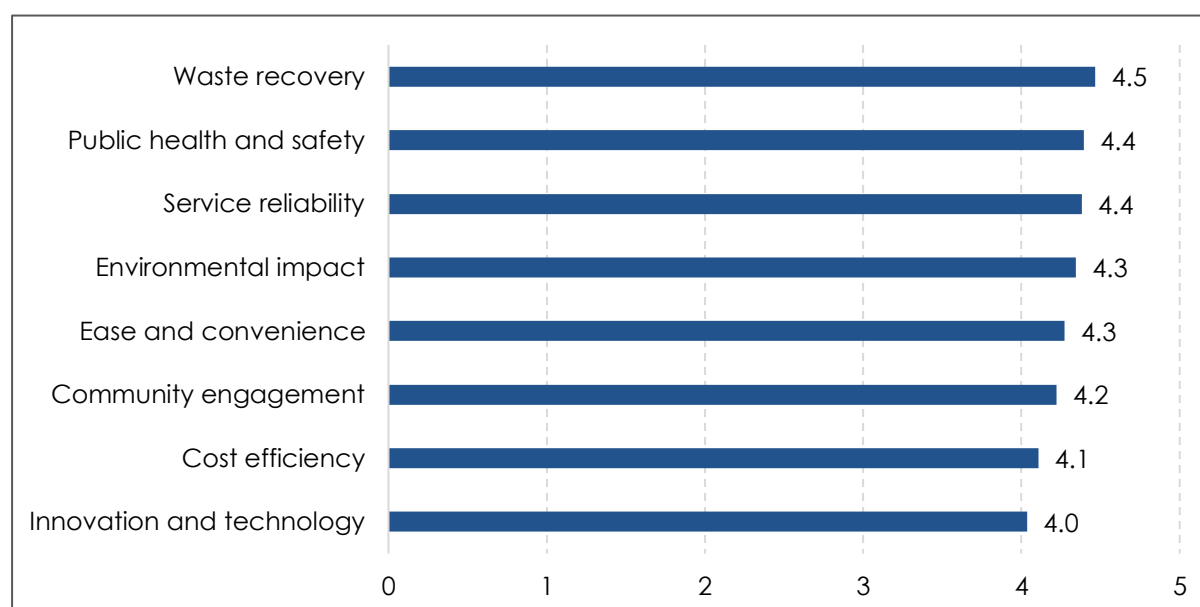


Table 2.1: Factors in waste management and descriptions

Factor	Description
Environmental impact	This means reducing waste in landfills, lowering climate emissions, and making waste management better for the environment.
Waste recovery	Making sure we recycle, compost, and reuse as much waste as possible instead of sending it to landfills
Cost efficiency	Making sure waste management is affordable helping keep costs low for people and the local government
Service reliability	Consistent and timely waste collection and disposal services
Community engagement	Effective community engagement and education to encourage participation in recycling and waste reduction programs
Public health and safety	Ensuring proper disposal of solid and hazardous materials, effective management of litter and illegal dumping in public spaces
Ease and convenience	Accessibility and user-friendliness of waste management services, including the availability of facilities, services and convenient collection schedules
Innovation and technology	Research and implementation of new and advanced technologies and other innovative solutions that enhance efficiency and sustainability.

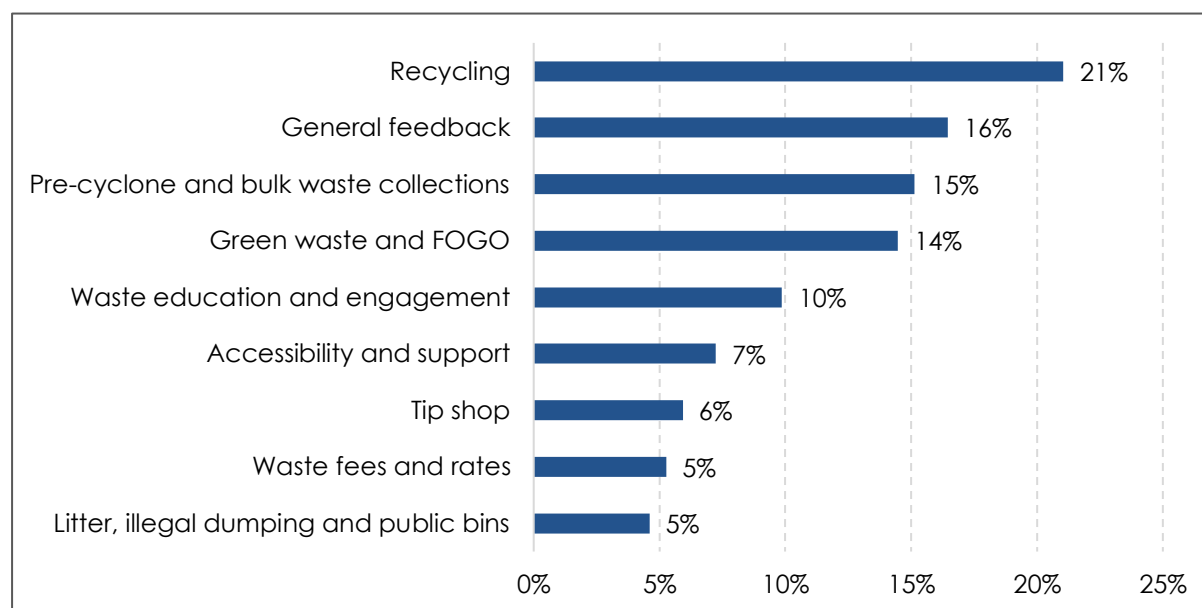
2.5.2 MOST IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENT FOR WASTE SERVICES

The open-ended question of the survey asked respondents to explain what the single most important improvement they would like to see in waste services over the next five years. Unlike the other questions in this survey, respondents could choose whether to answer or not; the question had a 74% response rate.

Thematic analysis of the data from this question revealed nine categories of improvement ideas. The chart in **Figure 2.12** shows each of the categories and the percentage of responses that fall into each, allowing for multiple themes per response. A more detailed examination of the open-ended question is provided in **Section 2.6**.

The most common topics mentioned were recycling, general feedback, pre-cyclone and bulk waste collections and green waste and FOGO (21%, 16%, 15% and 14%, respectively). The least common topics were waste fees and rates, and litter, illegal dumping and public bins (5% each).

Figure 2.12: Categories of improvement ideas

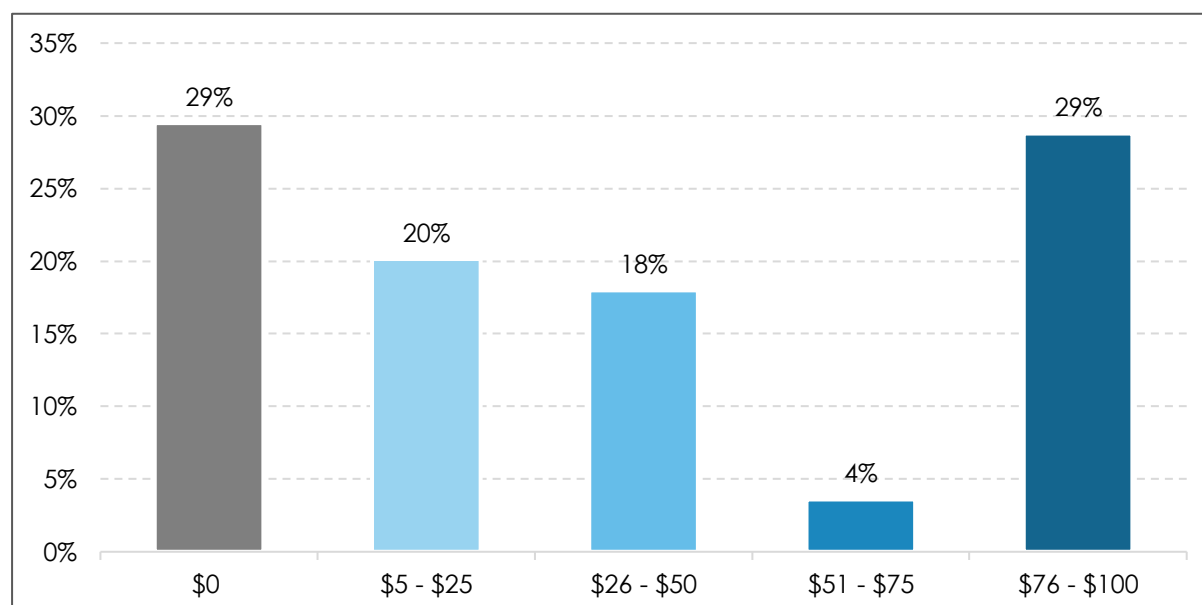


2.5.3 WILLINGNESS TO PAY MORE

The last question of the survey explained that while the Shire aims to deliver services that best meet the needs and priorities of the community, council budgets are limited and funded through rates. It then asked how much more respondents would be willing to pay each year for improved services. The format of the question allowed respondents to choose a number anywhere from \$0 to \$100.

While 29% of the respondents indicated that they were unwilling to pay any more for waste services, another 29% indicated that they would pay \$76 to \$100 more a year (**Figure 2.13**).

Figure 2.13: Willingness to pay more for better services



2.6 ANALYSIS OF THE OPEN-ENDED QUESTION

An open-ended question was included in the survey to gather qualitative data. Respondents were asked to provide the *'single most important improvement they would like to see in waste services over the next five years'*.

Responses were coded into nine thematic categories. As some responses contained multiple themes, they were assigned to more than one category, resulting in 152 total mentions across the categories. The suggestions and ideas provided by the respondents are summarised below according to the categories listed in **Figure 2.12**.

2.6.1 RECYCLING

Recycling was the most common topic raised in the open-ended question, 21% of all themes identified, highlighting its importance to respondents. Respondents suggested several improvements under this broad category. These included:

- Expanding the range of recyclable items
- Weekly kerbside recycling collection
- Drop-off points for recycling closer to town
- Adding wine bottles to the Containers for Change scheme
- Encouraging commercial operators to recycle more
- Increasing the sorting of construction waste
- Utilising recycled products throughout the Shire.

A significant concern involves transparency, with several respondents questioning if items are actually recycled, and one doubtful as it is the *'same truck that empties both bins'*. Another commented that *'people don't believe items are recycled here so they don't care'*. These respondents showed a clear lack of faith in the recycling system in the Shire.

2.6.2 GENERAL FEEDBACK

While some respondents expressed that they are *'happy'* with current services, others criticised the Shire's management of the waste facilities and services. Several respondents expressed their anticipation for the development and opening of the Regional Resource Recovery Park. Issues raised by respondents included:

- Inconsistent timing of kerbside bin collections
- Missed kerbside bin collections
- Poor maintenance of the landfill
- A lack of notice is provided when the landfill closes due to cyclone warnings.

Another respondent noted the emphasis on community behaviour change and believed it to be misguided; they perceived the Shire was *'shifting the blame'* onto consumers rather than targeting industry and business waste.

Opportunities for improvement or change under the general feedback category from the respondents included:

- Bin tagging or audits to improve contamination rates
- Improved signage
- Expanding waste and recycling services to 12 Mile
- More frequent kerbside bin collections.

2.6.3 PRE-CYCLONE AND BULK WASTE COLLECTIONS

Pre-cyclone and bulk waste collection services accounted for 15% of all the themes identified across the responses, making it one of the most popular categories for improvement. Respondents provided several specific suggestions regarding these services:

- Reinstating the annual free vergeside cyclone collection
- Providing bulk waste or bulky item pick-ups once or twice a year
- Running an annual green waste collection
- Placing free skip bins along streets during cyclone season
- Offering more free waste disposal weekends beyond the pre-cyclone specific ones already offered.

2.6.4 GREEN WASTE AND FOGO

Green waste and FOGO represented 14% of total theme occurrences. Improvements proposed by respondents included:

- Introducing a third bin for FOGO or just Garden Organics (GO) for regular kerbside collection
- Offsetting the cost of a new FOGO or GO service by reducing the residual red bin collection service to fortnightly
- Providing more education and opportunities for community composting.

Some respondents expressed concern that organic material currently takes up significant space in their residual kerbside red bins and unnecessarily fills up landfill. One respondent described the 'weekly headache' of taking green waste to the tip without a ute or trailer.

2.6.5 WASTE EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Waste education and engagement were mentioned several times. This topic was often linked to other identified themes, such as recycling initiatives, green waste and FOGO, and litter, illegal dumping and public bins. Several engagement strategies were proposed:

- Implementing bin tagging to provide direct feedback to residents on their recycling habits
- Providing waste education for children in schools, including visits to the BWMF or other recycling facilities
- Continuing and expanding workshops on recycling and making sustainable products
- Using videos and examples to show the community exactly what happens to their recycled items
- Education and incentives for schools and businesses to reduce, reuse and recycle.

One respondent frankly stated that '*engagement is required*', others emphasised education and engagement on what can and cannot be recycled.

2.6.6 ACCESSIBILITY AND SUPPORT

Accessibility and support were raised as an issue and accounted for 7% of all themes mentioned. Respondents suggested improvements to make waste disposal more equitable:

- Providing hireable trailers or skip bins for those who lack appropriate vehicles
- Offering dedicated assistance for older people to dispose of their waste at the BWMF
- Providing support for the disposal of heavy or bulky items

- Assisting residents who need help cleaning their yards.

The limited accessibility of existing services, especially for individuals lacking a driver's license, car, or trailer, was noted as a concern, particularly in the lead-up to the wet season.

2.6.7 TIP SHOP

Tip shop improvements made up 5% of the topics mentioned in the data. Respondents shared ideas for a reuse facility, including:

- Developing a dedicated, permanent tip shop
- Maintaining a '*free help yourself*' drop-off area for reusable items
- Allowing residents to take items they want from the pre-cyclone collections to save them from landfill.

2.6.8 WASTE FEES AND RATES

Mentions of waste fees and rates were less common (5%), but one respondent described rates as '*sky high*' while others hoped for reduced costs or signalled they were unwilling to pay any more than they already do. Suggestions for improvement included:

- Removing disposal fees at the BWMF
- Standardising fees for residential and commercial users
- Providing more tip passes to ratepayers.

Some linked costs at the waste facility with illegal dumping, believing that if disposal fees at the BWMF were removed, then dumping would decrease.

2.6.9 LITTER, ILLEGAL DUMPING AND PUBLIC BINS

The last theme encompasses litter, illegal dumping and public bins, representing 5% of all topics mentioned. Respondents suggested the following:

- Placing more public bins at bus stops and along scenic paths, such as Cable Beach Road
- Increasing signage to encourage responsible litter disposal and warn of penalties
- Providing more bins in areas where people congregate to consume alcohol
- Implementing fines or community service penalties for '*litterbugs*'.

Other responses under this theme had simple answers such as reduce '*dumping on vacant and bushland*', '*stop illegal dumping*' or '*less litter*'.

APPENDIX E – WORKSHOP FEEDBACK SUMMARY

Topic	Summary of feedback
What makes recycling difficult even when people want to do the right thing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance to facilities Uncertainty about where to drop off items (e-waste, phones, computers) Not knowing what happens after collection Negative rumours about recycling outcomes Confusing packaging Lack of clear information about the services provided by the Shire Misinformation and myths about where waste goes Negative framing of waste issues Confusing labels and systems
What concerns you most about how waste and recycling currently work in the Shire?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of confidence that recycling actually occurs Limited e-waste options Low community buy-in Concerns about tokenistic approaches Insufficient education resources Recycling system feels complex and hard to navigate Positive activity is occurring but is not visible Strong concern for protecting the local environment
What changes would make the biggest positive difference?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make recycling processes visible and tangible Clearer, more accessible information Expanded community education (schools, social media, pamphlets, tours, workshops) Culturally appropriate communication Verge-side bulk waste services (e.g. verge valet) Improved green waste options, particularly in a cyclone-prone environment with significant rainfall Education, including early-age education and practical guidance Improved management of litter associated with tourism pressures Better provision of bins in high-use areas, including truck bays along the Kimberley, to reduce disposal in town
What should the Shire's top waste priorities be (given constraints)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue recycling as much as possible Improve recycling of items beyond kerbside systems (e-waste, bulky items) Resource recovery approaches (e.g. waste as a resource) Dedicated, full-time education roles Education and engagement Maintain focus on major long-term projects Explore reuse and resource recovery where feasible
General discussion points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste management is often framed negatively in Broome Myths circulate widely about where waste goes Motivation is influenced by money, shame and social norms Need to highlight recycling "wins". Interest in waste as a resource (biochar, bio-gas, local processing) Interest in tip shops, bin tagging and reuse initiatives Desire for national consistency in recycling rules Importance of making the recycling lifecycle local and visible