

QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

We are planning for how we manage waste now and for the next 30 years.

We are currently reviewing the waste strategies for our region. This provides an opportunity for us to address key waste issues we are facing for the next 30 years.

What are we doing?

We are developing a new Waste Management Strategy for the entire region. We are committed to sustainability so our waste needs to be managed in a responsible, environmentally safe way that considers the future.

Where are we now?

Site visits and staff discussions

Prepare briefing paper

- Community consultation

WE ARE HERE

Prepare Draft Strategy

- Community consultation

Council review including Council's Waste Strategy Group

Prepare final Strategy

Why are we developing a new Waste Management Strategy?

Consolidating and improving our waste management strategies will have a positive impact on our community and region. As local, state and national policies are continuously changing, we need to plan ahead to make sure our waste management meets environmental and government regulations.

What are the key issues we are facing?

- population growth
- landfills reaching capacity
- different waste services
- different delivery of these services
- different fees
- not achieving Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy targets

What services do we currently provide?

- kerbside collection
- bulky waste collection
- waste disposal
- access to self-haul facilities
- education programs

What makes up our waste?

On average, the waste generated by residents is 21 per cent landfill, 28 per cent recyclables and 51 per cent organics (food and garden), (2018 kerbside audit). Our waste is estimated to roughly double from 2016 to 2050. That's a lot to manage.

We are also thinking about how to best manage waste from local businesses, construction and commercial industries that produce similar types of waste as well as concrete, sand, soil and other mixed products.



Where does our waste get disposed?

- **residual waste** is disposed at Woodlawn Waste Management Facility, Braidwood Landfill or Nerriga Landfill, Mugga Lane Landfill
- **recyclables** are processed at the Hume Materials Recovery Facility
- **organics** are transferred to Oaks Estate, Woodlawn and GoTerra Worm Farm
- **bulky waste** is currently self-hauled by residents of the former Palerang LGA to Waste Transfer Stations, while waste generated by residents of the former Queanbeyan LGA is transferred to Mugga Lane Landfill

What regulations have changed?

The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Strategy released by the NSW EPA in 2014 set new recycling targets to be achieved by the year 2021-2022. The targets relate to avoidance and reduction of waste, increasing recycling, diverting more waste from landfill, managing problem waste better as well as reducing litter and illegal dumping.

Currently, we do not meet the targets set out in this strategy.

FAST FACT

Our recycling rate across the region is around 46 per cent. In comparison, the ACT recycles almost 70 per cent of their waste.

What steps are we taking?

As part of the strategy, we're looking at what we do to meet the WARR Strategy targets and our growing waste. Actions and areas we are looking at include:

- range, price, access and convenience of waste services
- additional waste services and/or facilities
- facilities and services on a user pays basis or through resident and business rates
- land available for developing and operating waste management and resource recovery facilities
- resource recovery in both the residential and non-residential sectors
- educating residents and businesses on what can and cannot be recycled, reducing litter and how to avoid generating waste.

What is the role of the community?

We want your opinions, suggestions and thoughts to help us shape the draft Strategy. By helping us to understand what our community wants from our waste services, we can better balance community wants with budget, regulatory and legislative constraints.

How do we collect feedback?

We have set up a Waste Strategy Working Group which brings together residents, business leaders and elected representatives to help us workshop ideas and prepare the new strategy.

We are also seeking feedback from residents, ratepayers and businesses. We want your opinions, suggestions and thoughts.

You can have your say online at the QPRC Your Voice website: yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au. You can also mail your submission to **PO Box 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620**, email: council@qprc.nsw.gov.au or deliver to any of our customer service centres.