

# 2023 LEGATUS WASTE MANAGEMENT FORUM

Support for Sustainability





Acknowledgement of Ngadjuri Country

Welcome

**RUTH WHITTLE (OAM)** 

District Council of Peterborough



# Rodney Reid

Mayor: Wakefield Regional Council & Chair of the Legatus group



# Agenda

- Legatus Group
- Kerbside bin audits info
- Food waste behaviour
- Regional Waste Management
   Authorities
- LUNCH
- Focus on organics
- Case studies & discussion
- Collective brainstorming
- Pilot organics processing plant
- Site visit



# Legatus Group

# Waste & Resource Recovery Strategy and Action Plan 2021 - 2026

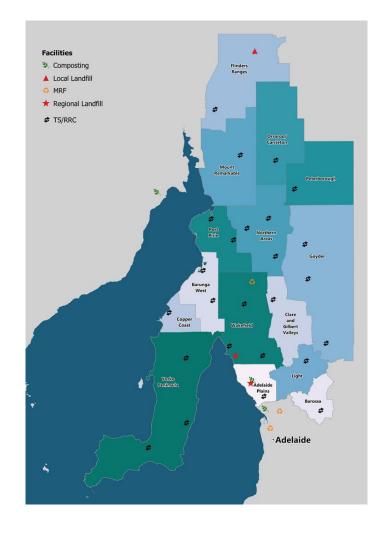


## Strategic - Advocate - Support

- Legatus Group Strategic Plan Waste
- Waste Management Advisory Committee
- Regional Alliance
- Workshops and Forums



Sub-region <sup>1</sup>	Sub-regional target	Individual targ	et
Barossa, Light,		Adelaide Plains	55%
Adelaide Plains	55%	Barossa	55%
		Light	55%
Barunga West,		Barunga West	45%
Copper Coast & Yorkes	50%	Copper Coast	55%
		Yorke Peninsula	45%
		Clare & Gilbert Valleys	45%
Mid North		Goyder	30%
	48%	Northern Areas	45%
		Port Pirie	55%
		Wakefield	50%
Southern Flinders		Flinders Ranges	35%
Ranges		Mount Remarkable	35%
J	35%	Orroroo Carrieton	35%
		Peterborough	35%



#### **Initiatives**

- Implement alternative kerbside collection services
- Develop regional resource recovery infrastructure
- Increase regional collaboration to achieve financial and service improvements
- Developing the circular economy



#### **Actions to date**

- MoU with Lions
- I State and 2 Regional Forums
- Support for Peterborough Compost Trial Site
- KESAB Options paper
- Site visits
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection



#### **Influences**

- Supporting the circular economy: SA waste strategy 2020 - 2025
- SA food waste strategy: valuing our food waste
- SA solid waste levy
- Legatus led initiatives education sustainability





# Kerbside bin audit information

Wendy Bevan

**CEO-KESAB Environmental Solutions** 



# Purpose: "To drive positive environmental change in industry & the community"



- Environmental education
- Road Watch-Adopt a road program
- Tidy Towns / Sustainable Communities
- Schools/Community/Business Education and Awareness Raising
- Community Based Social Marketing for sustainable, ongoing behaviour change
  - Waste Audits, Management Plans and Education Programs
    - Partnerships



#### **KESAB** waste audits show:

Averages	Metro councils	Regional councils
Food organics in landfill	36%	35%
Garden/compostables in landfill	9%	9%
Contamination in organics	3%	3%
Food in <b>organics</b>	13%	5%
Garden/compostables in organics	85%	92%

<sup>\*</sup>Data from 2017-2022 with regional councils having a mix of FOGO (4) & GO (3)



#### **KESAB** waste audits show:

Averages	FOGO	GO
Food organics in landfill	12%	14%
Garden/compostables in landfill	8%	9%
Contamination in organics	3%	2%
Food in <b>organics</b>	9%	1%
Garden/compostables in organics	88%	96%

\*Data from 2017-2022 regional council data (5 GO & 3 FOGO)



#### **GISA** data shows:

- ~40% of landfill bins is food waste
- This makes up 22% of total household kerbside collected material





# Food waste behaviour

Dr. Gamithri Karunasena Fight Food Waste CRC



Dr Gami Karunasena Research Project Manager Fight Food Waste CRC

Legatus group, 12 May 2023







Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water



Department of Industry, Science and Resources **AusIndustry**Congressive Research

Cooperative Researc Centres Program

# Fight Food Waste Limited: Delivery areas



**Impact** 

Measuring and demonstrating impact.

Driving the pace & scale

of change.

Mainstreaming best practice.



#### R&D

Building knowledge and capacity. Co-investment in research, innovation and the evidence base for action.



#### R&D

- Co-funding/de-risking research
- Access to world class research partners
- Project management support
  - Provision of technical support
- IP generation



#### Capacity building

- PhDs and Masters (Future Leaders)
- Industry Connection Hub and conferences
- Communities of Practice
- Australian Food Pact webinars and working groups



Changing the way business does business. Changing the way people behave. Creating supportive policies.



#### **Australian Food Pact**

- Deliverina Australia's voluntary commitment to reduce food waste and food insecurity
- Facilitating signatory collaboration
- Food Waste Action Plans for industry
- Creating new data and insights for all



#### Sector Action Plans (SAPs)

- Sector-wide collaboration for sector-wide change
- Addressing food waste hotspots
- Whole of value chain waste mapping
- Identifying root cause of hotspots
- Piloting and embedding solutions
- Finding the right policy levers



#### Nationwide Consumer **Behaviour Change** Campaign

- Consumer insight and behavioural research
- Engage in consumer and business-facing food waste prevention campaigns
- Working with food industry, government and NGO partners



#### Maximising Impact

- Measuring, evaluating and reporting impact
- Communication 'home' for food waste
- Collaboration with peak industry and sector bodies on dissemination / adoption
- Creating a new normal for business and policy makers



# Fight Food Waste Corporate Research Centre (FFW CRC)

Purpose An Australia without food waste.

#### Vision

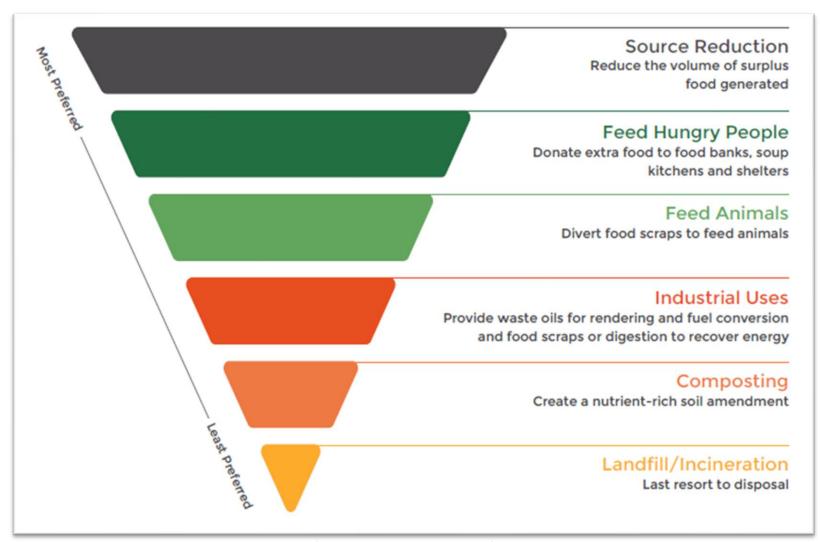
By uniting science and industry we will REDUCE food waste across the supply chain, TRANSFORM unavoidable waste into innovate products, and ENGAGE with industry and consumers to deliver behavioral change in Australia without food waste.

#### **Mission**

The Fight Food Waste CRC will increase industry profitability, address food insecurity and enhance Australia's reputation as a sustainable food producer.



# What Impact?



30 M T of reduced food waste (lower GHGs)

\$2 B
Increase in industry
profitability

20 M Kg

of rescued food distributed



40

Future Leaders graduated

**250** industry people trained p.a.

# **Evaluating Interventions Project**



Develop a tool kit to help design, implement and evaluate household food waste reduction interventions







#### Evaluate household food waste reduction interventions

- Three stakeholders
- Three interventions
- Three evaluations







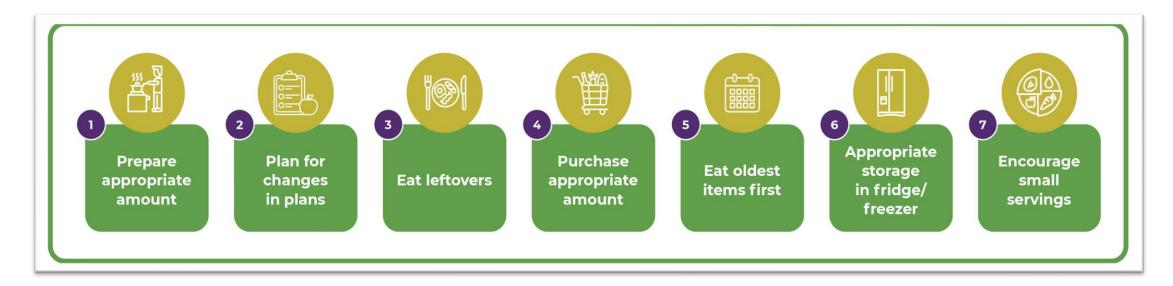






# Who and what were targeted with interventions?





## Over Providers (23%)

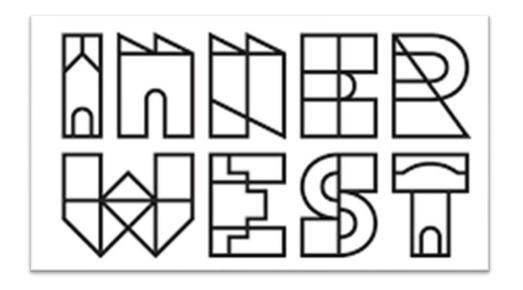
- Parents in young families, with children
- Plan meals and shopping, purchase and cook more than is needed, and don't eat leftovers



#### **Under Planners (32%)**

- Singles or couples, without young children
- Disinterested in food shopping or cooking.
- Least motivated to change









#### **Interventions**

- Three face-to-face workshops
- Food waste reduction tips shared via Email
- Cornersmith free food waste reduction course



#### **Target behaviours**

- Meal planning
- Leftovers
- Storage





#### Target group

Younger age groups











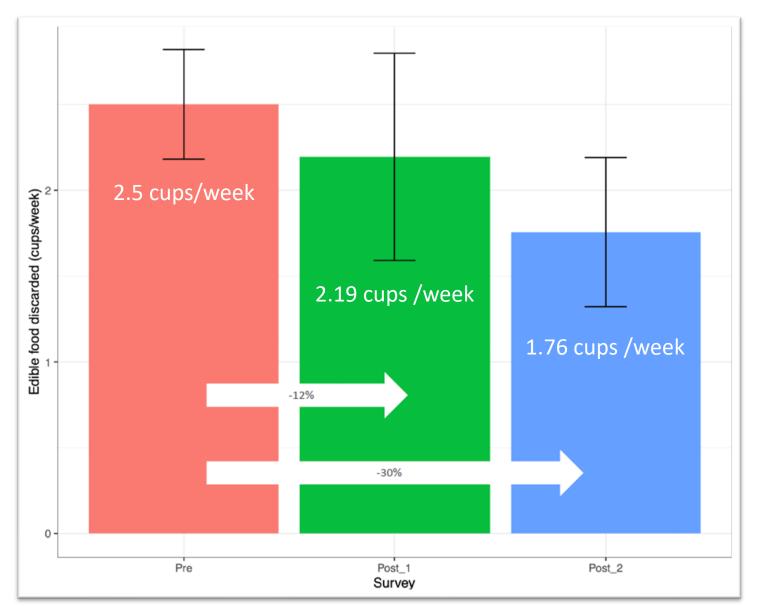








#### Average food waste pre and post Inner West Council campaign





#### Effects of IWC interventions on HHFW by campaign activity and treatment group

Group	Campaign Activity	Count	Pre-Intervention (Baseline)		Post-Intervention		Change	
			Mean	SD	Mean	SD	No. of cups	%
Intervention	Workshop(s)	10 (10%)	2.17	2.21	1.50	1.73	-0.67	-31%
Group	Multiple events	10 (10%)	1.80	1.25	1.52	1.33	-0.28	-16%
	Workshop+Info	15 (15%)	1.68	1.47	1.42	1.50	-0.26	-15%
	Information	42 (42%)	3.10	6.28	2.90	6.16	-0.20	-6%
Control	-	23 (23%)	2.01	1.49	1.93	1.72	-0.08	-4%
Group								

Workshop participants recorded the highest reduction in average FW (Post-Intervention): 31%







#### **Interventions**

Three 8-10 minute videos



#### **Target behaviours**

- Eating oldest items first
- Leftovers
- Storage





#### Target group

Younger age groups

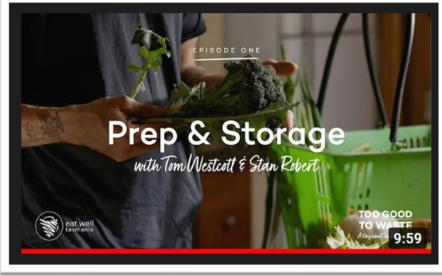












https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iWBxM4ayutA&t=13s

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LoE\_4qGF1Wc&t=2s

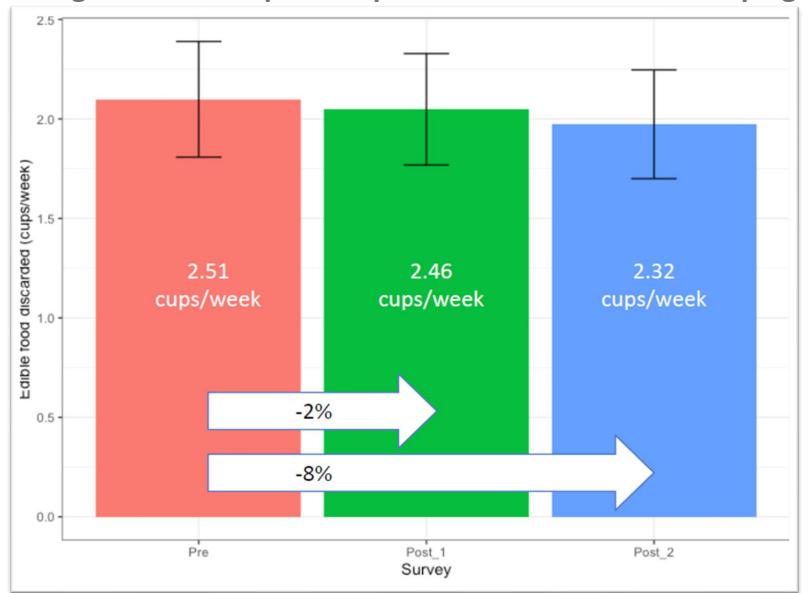




https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wUgDYWfqbZA&t=2s



#### Average food waste pre and post Eat Well Tasmania campaign







#### A Comparison: Food waste impacted by campaign type

Campaign	Campaign Type	Sample Size	Pre-Intervention (Baseline)	Post- Intervention	Change	
			FW (Mean)*	FW (Mean)*	∆FW*	%
EWT <sup>1</sup>	Video Campaign	305; 155	2.51	2.32	-0.19	-8%
Inner West Sydney	Workshop(s)	10	2.17	1.50	-0.67	-31%
	Workshop + Elec. Newsletter	15	1.68	1.42	-0.26	-15%
	Elec. Newsletter	42	3.10	2.90	-0.20	-6%
	No exposure (Control)	23	2.01	1.93	-0.08	-4%
Asda (UK) <sup>2</sup>	Social media – Facebook	510				-9%
	No exposure (Control)					-10%
'Save More Than	Informational campaign	298-452				-23%
Food' (USA) <sup>3</sup>	No exposure (Control)					+29%

Data comparison is for Pre-campaign and Post-Campaign Survey 2

Young et al. (2017) Can social media be a tool for reducing consumers' food waste? A behaviour change experiment by a UK retailer. *Resources, Conservation and Recycling* 117: 195-203. % FW changes are not actual quantities wasted but an index of number of food items discarded.

Shu, et al. (2023) Evaluation of community-based food waste campaign using a national control group. Waste Management 160: 101-111.



#### **Actions for Councils**



- Include household food waste avoidance as a key goal
- Allocate resources (financial and human) to household food waste avoidance



Collaborate with industry partners



- Focus on to 2-3 priority behaviours
  - Plan your meals (using a flexible meal plan that includes a 'Use-it-up' day)
  - Buy what's on your shopping list



Eating leftovers (get a commitment/ pledge to have a leftovers day once a week)



Have a target audience in mind



Creative and targeted communication



# Actions for Councils: Types of interventions





• E.g. "use it all day challenge' showcasing photos of meals prepped using leftover foods/ ingredients



- Social movement to establish a new social norm
  - A social media campaign "I commit to a leftovers day"



- Kitchen caddy/bin stickers
  - "throw away your food = throw away your money"



Workshops targeting families with kids or young people



Short/ funky videos on top 3 behaviours





• Educating school children (avoidance assignments/projects, workshops)



# Collaborate with us









# Regional waste management authorities

Paul Chapman

Project manager, Legatus Group

Simon Grenfell

**CEO: The Fleurieu Regional Waste Authority** 

## Outline

- What is a WMA?
- Why might you want one?
- What would it do?
- How to make a WMA?

## What is a WMA?

- A subsidiary of participating Councils
- Focus on waste management, including resource recovery
- Formed under LG Act
- An incorporated body
- Not a limited liability company
- 5 in Adelaide and surrounds
- None in regional SA ... yet

# Why have a WMA?

- Provides a framework for collaboration
- Addresses common waste management matters
- Specialist organization
- Uses a Charter
  - clear, explicit rules
  - Shares costs and benefits
- Enhances trust

Reduces the costs of doing business together

### What would a WMA do?

#### The central issue

- Current waste activities? eg
  - Collection
  - WTS
  - Minimise waste
- New waste activities? eg
  - Organics
  - Micro-MRFs
- Additional waste activities? eg
  - Methane
  - Reprocessing
  - Community engagement
  - Policy work

### How would a WMA be created?

- Engage in a process with other Councils
  - Working Group under WM Advisory Committee?
  - Scale and cost estimates
- Importance and comparisons of scale
  - Biggest WMA = 110 Ktpa
  - Smallest WMA = 23 Ktpa
  - All Legtaus = 57 Ktpa
- Draft a charter
- Workshop an agreement
- Obtain Minister's approval

# The FRWA Story

- Formed in 2010 as a result of the Southern & Hills Waste Management Strategy 2007.
- Alexandrina Council, City of Victor Harbor, District Council of Yankalilla and Kangaroo Island Council
- Four Councils, different waste collection contractors, different collections schedules, 5 waste transfer stations, initial work included cleaning of public toilets
- Council staff transferred to the Waste Authority



# The FRWA Story

- Initial Board included one Council Elected member and one Staff member from each Council
- Authority was located in Council offices for the first 4 years.



# Overview of current operations

 Consistent kerbside waste collections Strathalbyn **Waste and Recycling Depot**  Four waste recycling depots Strathalbyn Yankalilla Waste education and advocacy **Waste and Recycling Depot**  Mount Compass Myponga • \$11.0m Budget - 40 Staff
Waste and Recycling Depot Alexandrina Council Yankalilla City of Victor Harbor Goolwa Victor Harbor Council Kingscote Pennesha Goolwa **Waste and Recycling Depot** and FRWA Head Office Kangaroo Island Council

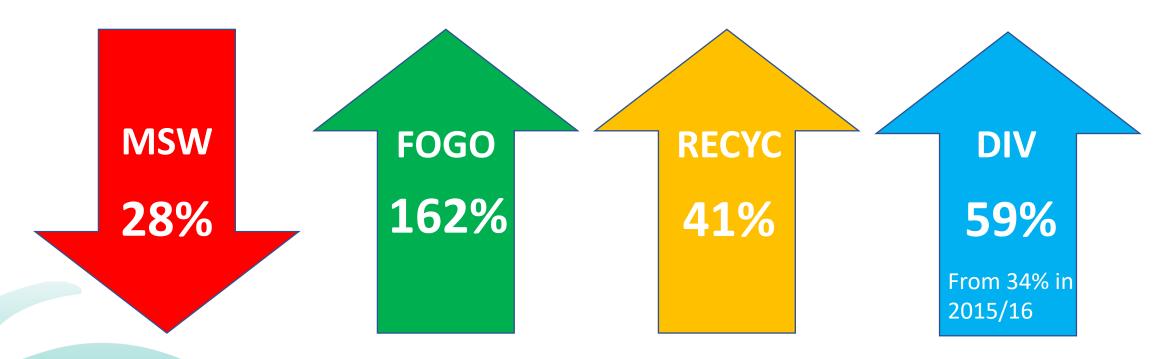
## **Achievements**

- Standard fortnightly collection of waste, recycling and FOGO across the region.
- Increase kerbside waste diversion from 34% to over 63%
- Closure of City of Victor Harbor Landfill and Transfer Station
- Redevelopment of the Goolwa Waste and Recycling Depot to a regional facility
- Dedicated waste education resources
- Access to technical waste sector experts



## Achievements

From July 2016 to June 2022:





- 3,825 tonne reduction in waste to landfill FY15 compared to FY21.
- Increase of 2,900 tonne material collected as a reflection of increase in services to the community.

# FRWA v LEGATUS

	FRWA	LEGATUS
Tonnes	56000	75000
Budget	\$10.5m (2022-23)	\$14.2m (estimate)
Population	55,000	109,000



# Why it works well

- Councils are committed to working together and have gained benefit by collaborating
- We work very closely with the Councils and the community
- The Board is focused on what is in the best interests of the Authority and Councils as a whole not Councils individually.
- We stick to what we know best and are good at and we don't do everything.



# Why it works well

- Size of Councils and Budgets allow for efficiencies to be made.
- Waste and Recycling Depots and offices are centrally located.
- FRWA Employees are predominantly locals invested in the community



# What was/is difficult

- Councils with different levels of service that impact efficiencies and subsequently other Councils.
- Maintaining engagement with Council Members, Council CEO's and staff over time.
- Liabilities



# Tips & Advice

- A Regional Subsidiary (WMA) is a small business operated by several Councils.
- Mayor & CEO ownership of the business is key to it's success.
- Ensure you have sound, trusting, secure relationships with your member Councils.
- Be very clear on what your short, medium and long objectives are.



## Other Considerations

- Waste Co-ordinator working across several Councils
- Joint contracts Local Government Procurement
- Joint waste education and publications Green Industries SA



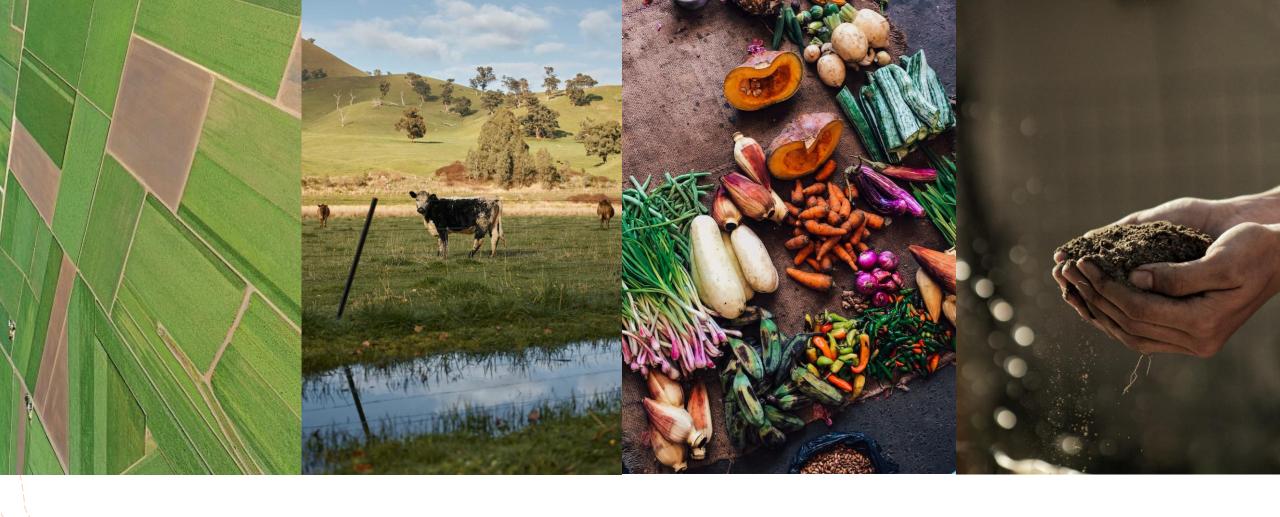
## Questions



#### **Simon Grenfell**

0436 300 359

simon.grenfell@frwa.com.au



### LUNCH BREAK

Support for Sustainability







## Focus on Organics

Paul Chapman

Project manager, Legatus Group

## Outline

Why focus on organics and regional processing?

**KESAB** Facilitated Discussion

- What makes us think regional processing is viable?
- What next?

**Stephen Rufus Pilot Organics Processing Plant** 

# Why focus on organics and regional processing?

- Achieve ambitious diversion targets
- Minimise costs by linking to fortnightly collection and GISA incentives
- Reduce costs by processing close to source
- Demonstrate the Circular Economy
- Base for more local sources and more local users



## FOGO & working together

Wendy Bevan

CEO, KESAB environmental solutions

Sarah Bruns

Environmental services officer, KESAB



# Full circle education & behaviour change



# "Education alone often has little or no effect upon sustainable behaviour"

Doug McKenzie Mohr: Community-Based Social Marketing





"Community-based social marketing is pragmatic.

#### It involves:

- identifying the barriers to a behaviour.
- developing and piloting a program to overcome these barriers.
- implementing the program across a community.
- evaluating the effectiveness of the program."

www.cbsm.com







## **IVAN NOLTE**

Coordinator waste & inspectorate
Copper Coast Council



**WORKING TOGETHER** 



## TIMELINE

June 2020
Elected members approve FOGO implementation
Contact KESAB

September 2020
1st Bin Audit
Present to the elected members
Start with education programs in schools and with business owners

July 2021

FOGO introduced and change kerbside collections from weekly to fortnightly

**Current average landfill diversion = 60%** 





# **KESAB**













## **COPPER COAST COUNCIL TEAM**







# DON'T REINVENT THE WHEEL, BUT...









#### WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD?

- CONTINUED EDUCATION
- STILL PROMOTE "TAKE THE PLEDGE" PROGRAM
- TRANSFER STATION TOURS
- VIRTUAL TOURS







#### **COUNCIL AND KESAB**

Partnering to Engage with Community



#### PORT PIRIE REGIONAL COUNCIL

- Community Plan Vision: By 2025 the Port Pirie Region is the premier regional centre in South Australia where residents and visitors want to be.
- Mission: To progressively strive for excellence, lead with integrity and deliver positive outcomes for the community.
- Goal No 5 Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2019-2024 Identify and implement best practice education programs to the community and industry.





# CLEAR COUNCIL OBJECTIVES

- To reduce tonnage of municipal solid waste to landfill.
- To reduce contamination in our kerbside recycling bins.
- To reduce contamination in our kerbside organics bins.
- To provide ongoing educational opportunities to the community to learn about best waste and recycling practices.
- Who can assist us work towards our objectives?





### IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KESAB

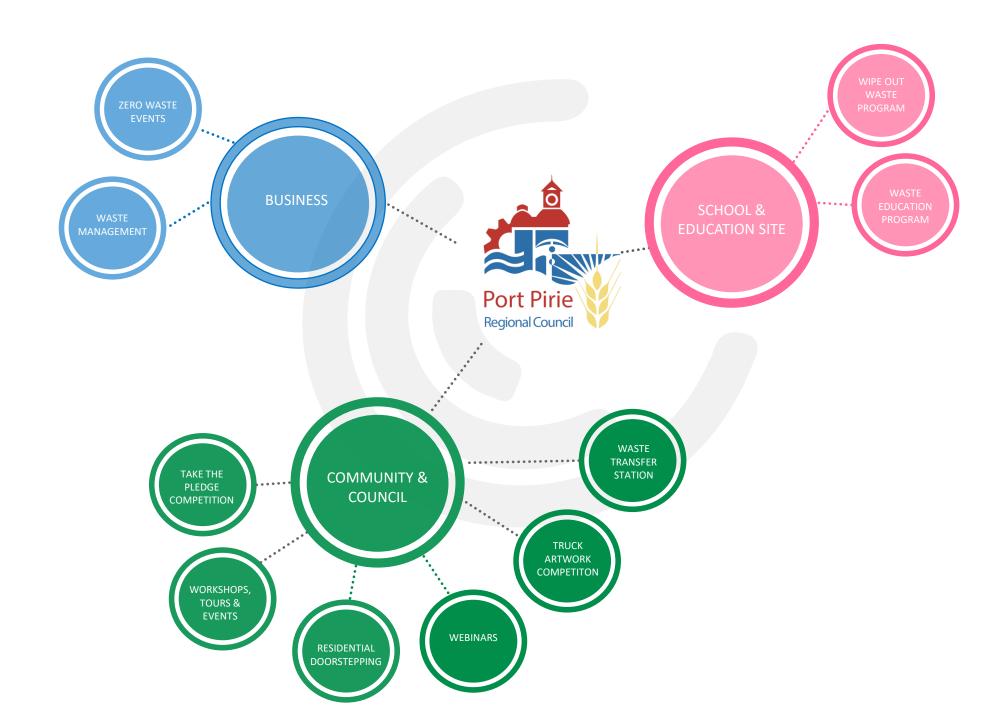
Fostering sustainable behavior in

Port Pirie Regional Council

- Bin survey 2016
- Community
- Schools
- Business to come









## **SCHOOL & EDUCATION SITES**

• 80% of Port Pirie Regional Council schools engaged.

• 56 waste and recycling.

incursions delivered.

• Focussed site support.

Wipe Out Waste program.







#### **SCHOOL SHOWCASE**



#### AIRDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

- Since 2016
- Staff development, incursions and site support
- Council assisted to establish a Recycling Shed and purchase new bins to divert waste from landfill
- Students audit weekly and record data
- School sends 80% less to landfill since 2019!





#### **COMMUNITY & COUNCIL**

- Face to face education with
- > 1500 residents.
- 29 workshops, tours, events and activities delivered or attended.
- Informed community confident to act.







#### TAKE THE PLEDGE

Public display of household commitment

Measurable program

Significant results

"As a parent I feel it is important to teach my children ways of reducing our contribution to landfill by composting our food scraps, recycling our soft plastics and using the yellow and green bins correctly. That is why I joined the program."

Megan Congdon, Pledge participant





#### TRUCK ART COMPETITION











#### TRUCK ART COMPETITION

'I made my artwork to teach people what's right and wrong. I wanted to inspire everyone to reduce, reuse and recycle so we can send less to landfill and keep our earth clean.'

Ava Kotaras, 9 years old



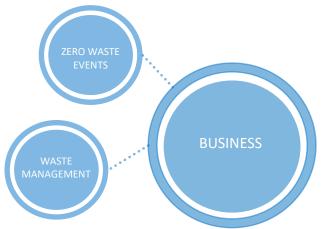
## **BUSINESS**

## Working towards:

• Waste free events

Work with our Business Port Pirie

association







### WHAT'S NEXT

- Further Commitment to Schools.
- Audits to compare Pledge and non-Pledged household waste output.
- Which Bin Material.
- Businesses.
- FOGO rollout





# FORUM Feedback: What are your regional goals?

Audience feedback and discussion



# Focus on Organics

Paul Chapman

Project manager, Legatus Group

# What makes us think this is viable?

- 'Nothing can be processed in the regions' (Chapman, 2020)
- But I was wrong about organics
- Private regional facilities already exist
  - Peri-urban and large scale with gate fees
- There are too few and far apart, too costly
- Modelling confirms the overview ...

Aggregation site	Average net cost of readying for reuse	Average cost of sending to landfill
	\$/t	\$/t
Port Lincoln	165	176
Whyalla	103	190
Port Pirie	121	194
Monash	145	195
<b>Mount Gambier</b>	116	169
Peri-urban to Adelaide	-13	173

# What then?

- Reference Group study looked at local sources, users and scale
- Councils to provide leadership to pilot the change
- Implement and fine-tune FOGO
- Connect with the community and influence behaviour
- Communicate and collaborate with neighbouring Councils
- That leads to Peterborough and Stephen Rufus, CEO, DC of Peterborough



# Pilot organics processing plant at Peterborough

Stephen Rufus, CEO

**District Council of Peterborough** 





# Thank you

Support for Sustainability

