



Don't Waste It!

Waste and Recycling Strategy



Wominjeka

Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge their legacy and spiritual connection to the land and waterways across the City of Port Phillip and pay our heartfelt respect to their Elders, past, present, and emerging

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Executive Summary

The City of Port Phillip's Waste and Recycling Strategy guides the ways Council will transform our waste services over the next three years.

Vision and objectives

The strategy will contribute to achieving Port Phillip's community vision of **a liveable and vibrant city that enhances community connection and wellbeing**, by reducing our environmental impact. We will responsibly manage waste and work with our community to enhance environmental outcomes through three key objectives:

- reducing the amount of waste that goes to landfill
- increasing the recovery of valuable resources
- providing a value for money service.

Targets

We want to ensure that we're moving towards our objectives, and to do that, we have to set achievable targets. The indicators to achieve these targets are:

- contamination rate in the kerbside mixed recycling stream (25% reduction)
- glass in kerbside mixed recycling (72% reduction)
- contamination rate of kerbside FOGO (29% reduction)
- amount of FOGO material in the garbage stream for properties using a kerbside FOGO service (49% reduction)
- amount of kerbside recycling in landfill bin (65% reduction)
- diversion rate – diversion from landfill
- community satisfaction with Council meeting its responsibilities towards the environment
- total dumped rubbish per capita
- kerbside collection bins missed per 10,000 bin lifts
- customer satisfaction with regular weekly garbage collection
- customer satisfaction with regular weekly recycling collection
- customer satisfaction with regular weekly food and green waste collection

Strategy Highlights:

As our population grows, so too does our waste generation and the cost to manage it. Our challenge is to minimise waste and deliver best practice waste management in a densely populated municipality, as cost of living and the cost of waste disposal continues to increase.

We currently provide a three-bin kerbside service. By 1 July 2027, we also need to:

- provide a glass kerbside bin.
- get users putting glass in the glass bin, before glass counts as contamination
- standardise our general waste bins so they all have red lids.

We also need to consider other factors:

- How do we reduce our waste going to landfill? With the landfill levy having increased by 158% since FY21, getting recoverable waste such as FOGO out of the landfill bin is critical to maintaining a cost-effective service.
- The Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) sits on Crown Land. With the Fisherman's Bend Master Plan in full swing, we must consider how much longer we can access this site and what our plan is.

The City of Port Phillip will reduce waste to landfill by:

- revising the use of the RRC
- establishing litter procedures and litter enforcement officers
- developing a Circular Economy Policy
- exploring Advanced Waste Processing
- reducing access to landfill streams through scarcity principles, including fortnightly garbage for houses and townhouses.

The City of Port Phillip will increase the recovery of resources by:

- delivering a kerbside glass service.
- improving the accessibility of existing and future glass hubs.
- working with owners corporations and real estate agents to improve behaviours with short-stay, student, international and renter cohorts.
- provide targeted and culturally appropriate resources and support to residents.

The City of Port Phillip will provide a value for money service by:

- developing a waste charge policy that provides clarity of service offerings.
- standardising kerbside offerings.

- reviewing and redesigning Council's Waste Management Planning Guidelines to provide consistency and best practice for future builds.
- reviewing bin distribution and placement, especially in laneways and for Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs).
- implementing Radio-frequency Identification (RFID) in our bin fleet.

What's the problem?

As our population grows, so too does our waste generation and the cost to manage it. Our challenge is to minimise waste and deliver best practice waste management in a densely populated municipality.

From 2021-2024, the landfill levy increased by 96 per cent and in 2025 was raised by another 26 per cent.

Contamination makes up 13 per cent of our mixed recycling bins (2024 municipal waste audit). Contamination occurs when non-recyclable items like general waste are disposed of in the recycling bin. Contamination increases our processing costs and risks waste going to landfill.

91 per cent of our residents live in medium to high density dwellings (2021 Census), in other words, units and apartments. Waste in these buildings is hard to manage as multiple residents share the same bin. They often require tailored education to make sure bins are being used correctly. While new builds have Waste Management Plans (WMPs), many of our existing buildings predate this requirement and were not built to accommodate multiple waste streams.

Imagine you have a big pile of rubbish.

Diversion rate is like a recycling score: It tells us how much of that rubbish we're putting in the right bins (recycling and food/garden organic waste bin) instead of the garbage bin. The higher the score, the better we're doing. The main way to improve our diversion rate is by putting more items in our recycling and FOGO bins, and fewer items in our garbage bins.

Recycling the right stuff: When we put plastic bottles, paper, and food scraps in the correct bins, we're helping the diversion rate go up. That means less rubbish goes to landfill.

Less room in the garbage bin: When people have less space in the garbage bin, they try harder to put things in the recycling and food/garden organic waste bin. That's why our neighbours pick up the garbage only every two weeks instead of every week. We explain this a bit more in the next section.

How we compare to other councils

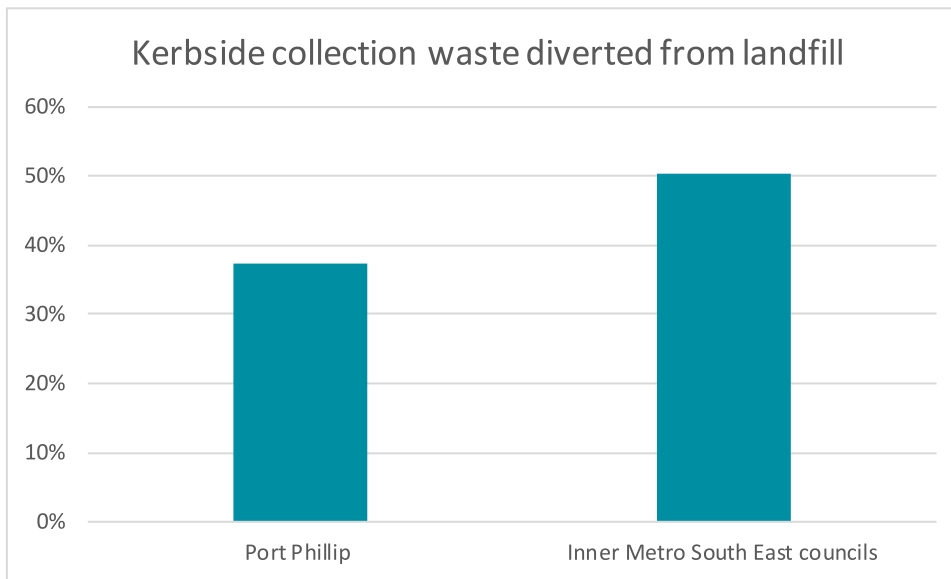
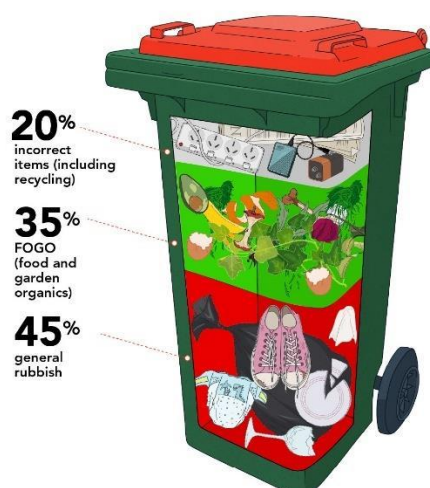


Table 1: Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill COPP compared to the average of the inner metropolitan southeast councils, using 23/24 data. Graph will be updated with 24/25 data when available.

The Victorian Government conducts an annual review comparing landfill diversion rates between councils. The landfill diversion rate is the percentage of all our waste that is recycled correctly in the mixed recycling and FOGO bin. In 23/24 our diversion rate was 37.4 per cent compared to an average of 50.5 per cent for six other Inner Metropolitan Southeast councils. Three of our neighbouring councils (Bayside, Boroondara and Glen Eira) have a fortnightly garbage collection service which can increase diversion rates through scarcity principles.

Our current waste service

Kerbside collection service:

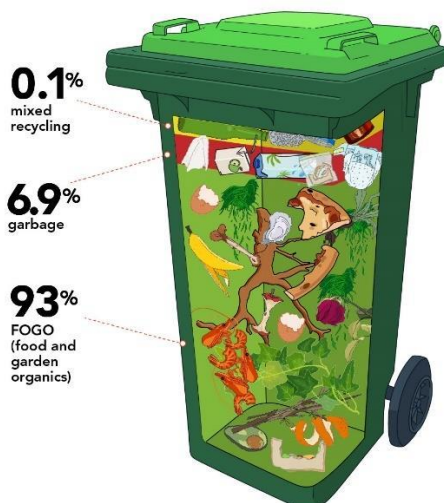


Garbage bin

- 120 litre (standard)
- Collected weekly
- Contents go to landfill
- 35 per cent of the garbage bin is food which could be recycled in the FOGO bin (2024 municipal waste audit)
- 20 per cent of the garbage bin is e-waste and recycling (2024 municipal waste audit)

Mixed Recycling bin

- 240 litre (standard)
- Collected weekly
- Certain types of paper, cardboard plastic and metal can be recycled
- 35 per cent of the mixed recycling bin is glass (2024 municipal waste audit)
- Glass will be treated as a contaminant in the recycling stream when the proposed Household Waste and Recycling Standard comes into effect on 1 July 2027



Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO)

- 120 litre (standard)
- Collected weekly
- Service introduced in 2023 for Single unit dwellings (SUDs) and 2024 for eligible MUDs
- Food scraps and garden waste is recycled into compost to be used on parks and gardens around Victoria

Additional waste services:

Hard rubbish, green waste and the RRC

Hard rubbish and green waste collections are available for residents to dispose of certain materials that can't go in their kerbside bins. We also operate a resource recovery centre for residents to safely dispose of household waste.

E-waste

There are certain hazardous items like e-waste which cannot be thrown out in kerbside bins as they are a fire risk. E-waste is any item with a plug, battery or power cord. We offer e-waste recycling at the RRC and introduced vape recycling in 2024. Vapes are increasingly causing 'hotloads' (the industry term for waste fires). When vapes get

crushed in trucks or at the recycling facility, they can cause fires with toxic smoke plumes, posing environmental and health risk to workers. We have established vape collection points for residents to safely dispose of their used vapes.

Public bins

Port Phillip's public spaces are popular with residents and visitors alike, especially during the warmer months. Access to waste disposal points is important to keep our public spaces clean and to prevent litter from ending up in nearby waterways. We have a disproportionate amount of public garbage bins compared to recycling bins. Our recycling bins have a high contamination rate of 18 per cent (2024 municipal waste audit). In June 2025 we installed metal baskets on a number of public litter bins to encourage passersby to dispose of their eligible Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) containers for anyone to retrieve, to increase recycling and reduce damage to public place bins.

Audits, education and behaviour change

Council supports the community to correctly dispose of their waste through education and behaviour change methodology. This takes several forms from waste guides to bin room posters, signage on public bins, social media videos and newsletter articles. Council also has a team of waste education officers who provide information to residents, especially to apartment managers.

We use audits to monitor and improve our waste management processes. We conduct audits to:

- understand the types and quantities of materials discarded
- help us plan for future services
- track progress against the targets set in the strategy
- plan education and behaviour change tactics

Demographics

- 21 per cent speak a language other than English
- 44 per cent of households contain only one person
- 49 per cent of residents are renters
- 48,777 households receive a kerbside service
- Covering an area of 21 square kilometres, we are geographically one of the smallest municipalities in Victoria and we are also one of the most densely populated.

Achieving our vision

We want to reduce our waste to landfill. We can do this through reducing the contamination in our recycling, finding new and innovative ways to recycle items, and by reducing the quantity of items produced in our community.

We want to empower our community. We want to help build capacity and share skills, provide efficient and effective services that enhance circularity across the city, and demonstrate leadership in waste reduction and innovation.

We want Council and our community to continue being guided by the waste hierarchy.

The Australian Government revised its Waste Hierarchy early in 2025, and we have developed our waste hierarchy based on their example.

[circular economy diagram will go here]

A Circular Economy is one that moves us away from a linear mindset and allows us to live and work within a system that:

- promotes thoughtful consideration of all inputs and outputs
- reduces environmental impacts
- supports economic growth
- prioritises future-planning
- protects and works within our natural environment.

The key to circularity is to consider not just reusability and repairability but also recycling and waste disposal. A Circular Economy is a system that aims to stop materials from becoming waste and to prolong the useful life of all materials. Through this, we lessen our impact on the environment.

We need to prioritise waste avoidance and reduction through good design and efficient production above reuse and recovery. By doing this, we reduce the quantity of materials that we generate, consume and discard. We use a combination of the waste hierarchy and circularity principles because this work is complicated. Combining the two principles allows us to navigate these areas more effectively and thoughtfully.

Through this strategy, Council aims to responsibly manage waste and support the community in enhancing environmental outcomes.

What about soft plastics?

As you read this Strategy, you might notice one obvious thing missing: soft plastics. In Port Phillip, soft plastics, including packaging and cling film, makes up about five per cent of the garbage bin. We know you're worried about soft plastics, and we're worried about it, too. Soft plastics is a complicated issue that requires a sector-wide response. Dealing with the tricky problem of soft plastics needs us to look at the market, at manufacturing, at processing and at recycling, as well as collection. Councils are just one tiny part of it. As such, we can't commit right now to tackling soft plastics. But we will look into opportunities for soft plastics diversion, and we will step in as soon as a space opens up for Councils to do this work.

Objective 1. Reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill

Focus area: [Decreasing the amount of waste produced](#). Avoiding and reducing waste is important. Looking at what waste we produce and why, and how it ends up in landfill, is critical to understanding how the community uses our waste service and how we can provide a good service. By reducing waste, we reduce our impact on the environment, we minimise our reliance on our shrinking landfills, and we reduce the cost of our waste services.

Focus area: [Appropriate disposal of items](#). We can reduce dumped waste and litter through improving access to hard waste services, litter prevention enforcement and supporting diversion of difficult to recycle items.

Table 1. Indicators to support Objective 1

Indicators	Base FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
Diversion rate (LGPRF) – Diversion from landfill (23/24 data)	40%	40%	45%	55%
Total dumped rubbish per capita	No data	TBD	TBD	TBD
Amount of FOGO material in the garbage stream for properties using a kerbside FOGO service (49% reduction)	35.43%	35%	28%	18%

Amount of kerbside recycling in landfill bin (65% reduction)	14.3%	13%	10%	5%
Contamination rate of kerbside FOGO (29% reduction)	7.01%	7%	6%	5%

Table 2: Activities to support Objective 1

#	Activities that reduce waste to landfill	FY25	FY26	FY27
1.1	Review litter and dumped rubbish procedures to ensure they align with expectations and are adequately resourced, including establishment of Litter Enforcement Officers.		x	
1.2	Investigate opportunities for diversion of hard to recycle items and problematic waste streams.	x	x	x
1.3	Reduce access to landfill streams through scarcity principles, including transitioning houses and townhouses to fortnightly garbage.		x	
1.4	Develop and implement a plan for monitoring and reducing waste to landfill from Council facilities.		x	x
1.5	Support recycling and safe disposal of waste through revision of RRC use, development of an operational strategy, and upgrades to facilities and processes.		x	x
1.6	Investigate opportunities to work with local organisations to divert high quality reusable goods that are dropped off to the RRC.		x	
1.7	Develop a circular economy policy to guide Council and community.		x	
1.8	Deliver activities and programs that promote community ownership of resources and services such as competitions to name new trucks.		x	x
1.9	Advocate to the Australian and Victorian Governments to introduce policy changes that actively foster a circular economy, including for extended product stewardship.		x	x
1.10	Investigate levers to incentivise circular economies in local businesses.			x

1.11	Explore Advanced Waste Processing to manage remnant waste streams.	x	x	x
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Objective 2. Increase recovery of valuable resources

Focus area: [Reduce contamination across all our waste types](#). Higher contamination rates reduce our ability to get precious things back from our waste streams. By assessing and consolidating Council's kerbside bin services we can ensure that all eligible dwellings have the correct bins and services. This will improve kerbside collections and help reduce contamination.

Focus area: [Making it easier to correctly separate at the source for recycling](#). Recovering what we have and using it for as long as possible is critical for reducing our reliance on natural resources. It helps us minimise our impact on the environment and reduces the cost of our waste service. Council can increase resource recovery by introducing a kerbside glass collection service and improving the communal hub system.

Focus area: [Community partnerships and behaviour change](#). Council provides permits for large community events. Establishing clear guidance on waste management for events will allow Council to model good recycling behaviours for community and visitors. Developing and implementing targeted, culturally appropriate resources for SUDs and MUDs, as well as visitors, is also a part of this.

Table 3. Indicators to support Objective 2

Indicators	Base FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
Contamination rate in the kerbside mixed recycling stream (25% reduction)	13.24%	13%	12%	10%
Glass in kerbside mixed recycling (72% reduction)	36.19%	35%	25%	10%

Table 4: Activities to support Objective 2

#	Activities that increase resource recovery	FY25	FY26	FY27
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2.1	Deliver a kerbside glass collection service and a communal hub system that is effective and accessible to all, and in alignment with the Service Standard.	x	x	
2.2	Identify and engage with appropriate users to improve information to and engagement of renters, including short-stay, students and international visitors.		x	x
2.3	Develop and provide relevant, targeted and culturally appropriate resources and support residents to improve knowledge, behaviour change and ownership of waste, recycling and circularity.	x	x	x
2.4	Develop and implement a waste management policy which applies to all permitted events.		x	
2.5	Explore and support initiatives that connect community and skill and knowledge share, including supporting non-profit and community organisations that build the capacity of residents.		x	x
2.6	Embed circularity in Council's internal processes, including in infrastructure and buildings			x
2.7	Advocate to the Victorian Government on the expansion of CDS return locations and accepted items.	x		

Objective 3. Provide a value for money service

Focus area: [Reviewing and standardising existing kerbside services, including distribution, placement and collection of wheelie bins](#). Reviewing existing services and consolidating them will allow future changes to be brought in efficiently. This work will be supported by introducing contamination management protocols and working with contractors to implement new technology. This will allow future work using AI and RFID.

Focus area: [Apply the waste charge equitably](#). The waste charge is currently not governed by any one policy and does not consistently consider properties that receive a council service such as business and commercial sites, non-rateable sites, industrial sites and schools. It also doesn't consider properties that receive a partial Council waste service.

Focus Area: [Secure Resource Recovery Centre services](#). Review the use of the RRC and how its services are best utilised across our community, with a view to ensuring our City is not negatively impacted by the reclamation of the RRC site by the Crown by 2050.

Focus Area: [Advocacy](#). There are many areas of interest to our community that the City cannot control. We will advocate to State and Federal Government on producer stewardship and circularity.

Focus Area: [Circular Economy](#). Develop, review and redesign policies and plans to guide Circularity.

Table 5. Indicators to support Objective 3

Indicators	Base FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
Community satisfaction with Council meeting its responsibilities towards the environment (Community Satisfaction Survey)	7.2	TBD	TBD	TBD
Kerbside collection bins missed per 10,000 bin lifts (LGPRF)	5	7	7	7
Customer satisfaction with a regular garbage collection	8.6	TBD	TBD	TBD
Customer satisfaction with regular weekly recycling collection	8.5	TBD	TBD	TBD
Customer satisfaction with weekly food and green waste collection	8.5	TBD	TBD	TBD

Table 6: Activities to support Objective 3

#	Activities that improve value for money	FY25	FY26	FY27
3.1	Develop and implement a waste charge policy that provides clarity of service offerings and charges to ensure consistency of charges across various property types.	x		
3.2	Standardise Council kerbside service offerings and ensure that all service offerings are administered, applied and used appropriately. This includes		x	x

	standardising all general waste bins, so they have a red lid in FY26/27.			
3.3	Work with rate payers and collection contractors to optimise bins and bin placement, looking especially at placement of bins from SUDs for collection and working with MUDs on numbers and sizes of bins.		x	x
3.4	Review our hard and green waste collection and drop off services to ensure they are equitable and relevant to the community's needs.	x	x	
3.5	Work with collection contractors to review collection day areas to balance loads during the week.		x	
3.6	Work with recycling collection contractors to implement coordinated contamination management protocols and strategies.	x	x	
3.7	Review and redesign Council's Waste Management Planning Guidelines and Planning Scheme to ensure future buildings – whether serviced by Council or not – are built to accommodate multiple and complicated waste streams.	x		
Activities that improve service efficiencies				
3.8	Work with contractors to implement systems that allow Council to provide a data driven education and service driven response to issues such as the use of RFID and AI technologies.		x	x
3.9	Improve visibility and trust in our waste service through reporting to our community. This will include establishing a reliable baseline for all waste services and ongoing accessible communications.	x	x	x

How will we know we are achieving our objectives?

The Waste and Recycling Strategy will be reported to Councillors quarterly. In addition, Council is required to report to Local Government Victoria (LGV) annually via the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF).

The reporting that Council conducts includes a combination of municipal-wide compositional audits and contractor audits. The latter sets our fees for the following financial year. There is often a discrepancy between the two. From this strategy, we will only use the data from the municipal-wide compositional audits for reporting unless otherwise required by legislation.

Costs and Funding

What are our big costs?

The main contributions to the cost of the waste service that Council provides are listed in the table below.

Table 7. Waste service costs

Stressor	Cost details	Ongoing or One-off
Landfill Levy There is a cost to dispose of waste. Since FY21 to FY25, the landfill levy has increased by 158%. In brief, the more weight in general waste bins, hard waste and dumped rubbish, the greater the cost to Council.	FY21: \$65.90 per tonne FY25: \$169.79 per tonne	Ongoing
Contamination charges Our recycling is charged at a flat rate per tonne. That cost increases the more contamination we have, and the more contamination we have in recycling bins, the more this service costs. From 1 July 2027, glass will count as a contaminant in commingled recycling.		Ongoing

It costs \$70 more per tonne to collect our commingled recycling with our current contamination rate than it would if we hit our target of 10%.		
Service Standardisation As part of the service standardisation, we must roll out glass bins to all residents that receive a kerbside service, ensure all garbage bins have red lids (not green or burgundy), and consolidate the communal hubs.	Glass: \$1.7mil Communal: \$7k per hub (# TBC)	One-off
RFID We must install RFID in all our bins. This is a contract requirement and will help us locate lost bins and identify contamination.	\$750k	One-off
Standardisation of Information We know that our services are not provided equally. For example, the waste rebate is not currently applied properly – that is, some rate payers are receiving the rebate and a kerbside waste service. We know that some rate payers have more bins than they should, and some have fewer. In order to make sure our services are provided equally; we have to gather a lot of data. This is very labour intensive.	\$1.5mil	Multi-years
Education and behaviour change It costs us money to talk to you. For every brochure we post to every house, it costs us about \$30,000. Litter Enforcement Officer to investigate and prosecute dumped rubbish issues.	\$30k per year \$80k per year	Ongoing

How do we pay for things?

The main way we recoup these costs is:

- **Waste Charge:** The waste charge is charged to all rate payers in the city. A rebate is provided to any rate payer who doesn't receive a kerbside service. The

waste charge can only fund services directly received by ratepayers. That is, it cannot fund general use costs such as emptying street litter bins.

- **Fees:** We charge fees at the RRC.
- **Grants:** Sometimes we receive funding from the Victorian and Australian governments. In 2023, we received funding from the Victorian Government for the FOGO bin roll out.

Why do we need a new Waste and Recycling Strategy?

Don't Waste It! 2022–2025 was adopted to better reflect the City's waste context at the time. This included:

- the release of 'Recycling Victoria, a new economy' in 2021
- a changed waste landscape due to federal waste export bans and the landfill levy
- changing community expectations.

It was designed as an interim update to the 2018 Strategy and was always intended to be refreshed after three years.

Table 8. Don't Waste It 2022–2025 in review

Priority Area	What We Achieved
Food organics and garden organics (FOGO)	• Rolled out communal FOGO hubs • Rolled out kerbside FOGO to eligible SUDs and MUDs • Launched and maintained FOGO audit program
Separated glass recycling	• Rolled out communal glass hubs • Targets met: Communal Glass Bins achieve less than 5% contamination rate during the first postimplementation municipal waste audit in 2023 and then continue to maintain these contamination levels until 2025
Mixed recycling	• Targeted key incorrectly recycled items such as batteries and vapes • Launched and maintained MUDs inspection program

Garbage	• Improved waste from landfill diversion rates to meet target of 40 per cent • Targeted heavy volume domestic use items such as nappies through a reusable nappy program
Public place waste	• Trialled public place recycling bin expansion in 14 locations • Trialled CDS container basket trial in 86 locations.

Reflecting on our targets

Don't Waste It! 2022–2025 was ambitious, setting 24 targets and 39 priority actions across nine priority areas, set to long term goals that exceeded the length of the strategy. Seven targets and 18 priority actions were met or completed. Whilst suitable at the time, many of these targets and actions gradually became unachievable. Since its adoption, what we need to achieve with our kerbside service reforms, and how we achieve them, has changed.

The date for the introduction of the four-stream waste collection has been brought forward from 2030 to 2027. This was partially in response to the cautious approach that many Victorian Councils have been taking to their rollouts. The draft Service Standard have also changed several times and are 18 months delayed for confirmation. Our communal glass and FOGO hubs are not likely to comply with the updated Service Standard.

This strategy will set fewer targets, with all of them being directly aligned to the 2027 targets – that is, within the lifetime of the strategy.

How this strategy was developed

Don't Waste It! 2025–2028 draws from:

- Victorian and Australian Government legislation and guidance documents
- Reviews of previous strategies
- Benchmarking against other Councils
- Waste and Circular Economy industry benchmarking
- Gender and Equity Impact Assessment
- Two phases of community engagement

Engagement process

In March and April 2025, officers went out to the community to consult on a broad range of waste issues. We heard from 601 members of the community. We received survey submissions and feedback in person at pop ups and discussion groups, including at Russian and Greek seniors groups meetings. The full engagement report can be found online at [Don't Waste It! | Have Your Say Port Phillip](#).

Phase Two will take place in the latter half of 2025. Community members and stakeholders will be encouraged to provide feedback on the Draft Waste and Recycling Strategy 2025-2028.

What we heard from the community

We heard that our community wants more education directly on bins, with signage that is easy to understand, and that education and awareness is important to people. We heard that our community worries about how much space their bins take up, and how to transport their rubbish and recycling from their kitchens to the correct disposal points.

We heard that people like the communal hubs but find them difficult to use. We heard that people want to recycle correctly, but that knowing where to put items is complicated. We heard that people want more access to recycling options and want to support the Circular Economy.

Our role

Table 9. Guiding policies for the Strategy

Government type	Guiding policies		
Federal	National Waste Policy 2018	National Food Waste Strategy	
State	Recycling Victoria: A new economy	Environmental Protection Amendment Act 2018	
Local	Council Plan 25-35	Act and Adapt Strategy 2023-28	New Waste and Recycling strategy

The Australian Government provides the national waste framework, it is responsible for implementing Australia's international treaty obligations and addressing market failures. The constitutional responsibilities regarding waste management and resource recovery sit with state and territory governments and the delivery of waste services sit with local government.

Policy, regulation and strategy

Australian Government

The National Waste Policy (2018) provides a framework for collective action to improve waste management by businesses, governments and communities by 2030. The policy focuses on avoiding waste, improving resource recovery, increasing the use of recycled materials, better managing material flows and improving information to support innovation, guide investment and inform customer decisions. The *National Food Waste Strategy (2017)* aims to halve food waste by 2030 by providing policy support, business improvements, market development and influencing consumer behaviour change.

Victorian Government

In 2020 the Victorian Government released its circular economy plan *Recycling Victoria: A new economy (2020)*, requiring a new four stream waste and recycling system for households across the state. *The Circular economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021* was then legislated to increase recycling and reuse of materials and reduce waste to landfill. The proposed *Household Waste and Recycling Standard (2024)* details how Council is to provide the four waste streams including garbage, recycling, separated glass recycling and FOGO recycling. It also determines the materials accepted in each stream and outlines the auditing process and potential infringements for not acting in accordance with the Standard.

The *Environmental Protection Amendment Act 2018* takes a prevention-based approach to environmental protection. It includes the general environmental duty (GED) which requires all Victorians to take reasonable and practical steps to reduce the human and health risks of their activities. Under the Act, Council has the authority to fine for littering and dumping.

City of Port Phillip

The Council Plan is a strategic plan that guides our work. The Plan for Port Phillip 2025–35 is a four-year Council Plan with a 10-year time horizon and includes six strategic

directions. The Waste and Recycling Strategy helps us achieve strategic direction 2 'an environmentally sustainable and resilient city' by implementing the four waste streams, optimising our hard and green waste collection service, delivering community education programs and advocating to the state and federal governments to introduce policy changes that actively foster a circular economy.

The Act and Adapt Strategy 2023–28 provides the direction for Council and community to act together to respond to the challenges our city faces due to climate change. The strategy includes five priority areas, including a sustained reduction in waste. The Waste and Recycling Strategy establishes targets and actions to improve how we manage waste to landfill, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the loss of valuable materials.

Local governments are expected to provide kerbside waste services along with other services like hard rubbish and specialised recycling to help meet the targets both set in national and federal policy. Under Port Phillip's Planning Scheme, Waste Management Plans (WMPs) are required for certain residential and commercial developments. This provides Council with an opportunity to ensure dwellings:

- are designed to encourage reuse and recycling
- have waste and recycling storage facilities that are accessible and adequate
- have waste recycling storage facilities that minimise impact on residential amenity, health and the public realm
- have waste and recycling facilities that are designed for future use and requirements.

