

Waste Management Strategy

Final version

2020 – 2025



MANSFIELD SHIRE

This Strategy was developed with the assistance of:

RM Consulting Group Pty Ltd

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Bendigo, Victoria

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mansfield Shire Council acknowledges the Taungurung, Traditional Custodians of the land on which the Council operates. We pay respects to Elders, past present and emerging.

The task of developing the Strategy involved many stakeholders and community members and without their input, this document would not have been truly reflective of the Mansfield region. The Mansfield Shire Council acknowledges, and thanks all involved.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATION	
Council	Mansfield Shire Council
FOGO	Food organics and green organics
Mansfield RRC	Mansfield Resource Recovery Centre
NEWRRG	North East Waste and Resource Recovery Group
POS	Point of sales system
Shire	Geographical area covered by Mansfield Shire Council
Strategy	Mansfield Waste Management Strategy
SWRRIP	Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan 2015-44 (SWRRIP)

Snapshot of the strategic direction

OVERVIEW

The Mansfield Shire Council (the Council) is committed to pursuing avenues for safe, cost effective and environmentally responsible ways of dealing with waste and improving waste services offered to the wider community. This Waste Management Strategy will guide Council towards greater community participation in the management of waste by outlining a five-year action plan to work towards Council's long-term vision.

VISION: We are responsible for the waste we create. We reduce, re-use or recycle our waste wherever possible and sustainably manage any residual waste. Over the next 20 years, we aim to manage all of our own waste within the Shire as locally as possible.

To work towards this vision, four targets have been set for the next five years:

- **Target 1:** Reduce the amount of waste in the average household general waste and recycling bins by 15% of the baseline (to be established in 2020/21) by 2025.
- **Target 2:** Reduce contamination in recycling bins by 100%, by 2025 (reduce level of contamination to 0).
- **Target 3:** Reduce the amount of recyclables in household general waste bins by 50%, by 2025 (halve the amount of recyclables in household general waste bins to less than 8%).
- **Target 4:** Reduce residual waste sent from the Mansfield RRC to landfill by 95% from 1860 tonnes to 1760 tonnes by 2025.

ACTION PLAN

Council currently oversees a number of services and facilities including:

- Kerbside waste and recycling collection
- Mansfield Resource Recovery Centre (Mansfield RRC)
- Woodspoint Transfer Station
- Street bin collection program

The actions in this strategy aim to better understand the waste and recycling collected through all of these services, improve services and infrastructure where possible, reduce overall waste production and maximise the diversion of waste from landfill.

ACTIONS		YEAR
Goal 1: Education and engagement		
1.1	Employ an additional waste and resource recovery project officer (1 FTE) to assist with the delivery of the strategy	1-5
1.2	Develop a waste and recycling education program detailing actions to improve waste sorting practices and discourage illegal littering. This should include the communication tools that will be used, how often communication will occur and target audiences. It will align with State and Regional education campaigns and programs.	1
1.3	Develop and source existing resources (online, hardcopy) to provide information on accepted materials and correct waste sorting practices for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Kerbside bins▪ Mansfield RRC▪ Woods Point Transfer Station▪ Disposal points for other materials e.g. Op Shops for second hand household goods, Council offices for household batteries, Benalla landfill	1

ACTIONS		YEAR
1.4	Upgrade signage at the Mansfield RRC to assist customers to separate their waste effectively upon arrival	1
Goal 2: Data capture		
2.1	Review kerbside collections: establish an audit program and undertake analysis of collection frequency, carbon footprint, service area and cost of services	1
2.2	Review all materials accepted at the Mansfield RRC and pricings	2
2.3	Review street bins including an audit of waste disposed in street bins, location of street bins and costs and types of bins provided	2
Goal 3: Infrastructure and services planning		
3.1	Develop the Master Plan for the Mansfield RRC	1-2
3.2	Implement the Master Plan for the Mansfield RRC	2-5
3.3	Plan for food organics and garden organics (FOGO) collection and processing. Business case should analyse options for food and organics collection and processing and nominate a preferred option	1
3.4	Trial a FOGO collection for households and businesses in the Mansfield township	2-3
3.5	Implement FOGO collection for households and businesses throughout the shire	4
3.6	Develop and implement a 3-year plan for upgrading street bins	3
3.7	Continue to support and expand the re-sale shop	1-5
3.8	Plan for a separate glass collection service for the Mansfield Shire	2
3.9	Implement a glass collection service in the Mansfield Township	5
3.10	Investigate waste stream options at Woods Point Transfer Station to include recyclables, FOGO, green waste and residual waste and take to Mansfield RRC for further sorting and treatment	4
3.11	Seek to identify risks associated with closed landfills within the Shire	1
3.12	Commence any remediation works required for closed landfills	5
Goal 4: Partnerships		
4.1	Establish formal arrangements with alpine resorts to manage select waste streams	1
4.2	Investigate options for the purchase 50% of office equipment from local re-used, recycled and re-purposed materials and investigate how recycled or re-purposed materials can be used in infrastructure projects	3
4.3	Include waste management as a focus of the Environment Committee to encourage partnerships within the community, to share resources, assist in developing implementation guides and run training / information sessions for the community	1
4.4	Seek to support community groups through a small grants program to undertake local waste reducing projects such as "clean up our town", school audits, event recycling, community compost and garden initiatives	2
4.5	Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement the Container Deposit Scheme	1-3



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1 Introduction

1.1 INTRODUCTION TO MANSFIELD SHIRE

Mansfield Shire Council (the Council) is located in North-East Victoria, covering 3,843 square kilometres. More than 60% of the Shire is designated crown land and 30% is in private ownership. Approximately 47% of ratepayers are non-residents.

The Mansfield Shire (the Shire) is an agricultural, lifestyle and tourist destination known for its natural assets and two prominent mountains, Mount Buller and Mount Stirling. The Shire has a population of 8,584 that has grown approximately 2% per year since 2001. Population growth is expected to continue throughout the North East region, increasing regional waste by an estimated 89,000 tonnes (36%) by 2042. Due to its location, and natural assets such as mountains and rivers, our Shire also has a high number of seasonal visitors, which brings another set of challenges for waste management.

1.2 ABOUT THE WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Council is committed to pursuing avenues for safe, cost effective and environmentally responsible ways of dealing with waste and improving waste services offered to the wider community. This Waste Management Strategy (The Strategy) will guide Council in setting waste management policies and priorities over the next five years.

In July 2019, Council assumed management of the Mansfield Waste and Resource Recovery Centre (Mansfield RRC), which was previously managed by an external contractor. This provides opportunities for Council to reconsider how it manage resources to reduce waste in the Shire and contribute to the Victorian State Government's targets for the circular economy in the recently released *Recycling Victoria – A New Economy* strategy.

The aim of this strategy is to:

- Document current processes for resource recovery and management
- Set a direction for Council to improve services and facilities to maximise resource re-use and recovery over the next five years.

1.2.1 DEFINITION OF WASTE, RECYCLING AND RECOVERY

Generally, waste is defined as “*any material or substance that is of no further use and has been discarded*”¹. Under the *Environment Protection Act 1970*, waste is defined as *any matter, whether solid, liquid, gaseous, or radioactive, which is discharged, emitted or deposited in the environment in such volume, constituency or manner as to cause an alteration of the environment.*

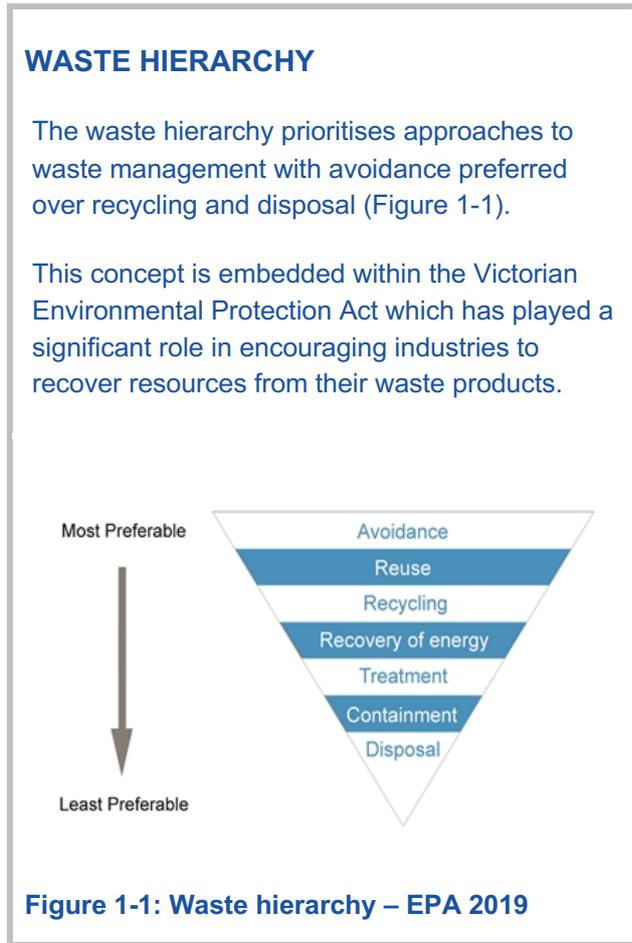
The aim of the Act is to ensure compliant and appropriate handling or processes of resources to prevent pollution and adverse impacts on the environment. Disposing of waste that could be re-used or recovered often results in resources lost to the broader community and wasted money.

¹ EPA Victoria, 2019, *Your Environment: Waste*, available: <https://ref.epa.vic.gov.au/your-environment/waste>

For the purpose of this strategy, resource recovery is defined as a process that extracts resources or energy from the waste stream and recycling is the process of converting waste materials into new materials or products.

1.2.2 CONCEPTS FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT

This Strategy has been shaped by key waste management concepts, the waste hierarchy and the circular economy. Where possible Council will seek to facilitate local, regional or national circular economies for the collection, sorting, processing and re-production of recoverable and recyclables material. Further, this Strategy outlines actions that focus on managing resources according to the hierarchy. Waste management will include delivery of traditional Council services (i.e. Kerbside collection, Mansfield RRC and Woos Point RRC, etc.) as well as education and facilitation initiatives to encourage landholders to reduce waste production and reuse waste.



1.3 HOW THE STRATEGY WAS DEVELOPED

Development of the Strategy was guided by national and state objectives for waste management (Table 2-1). A review of Council waste data and infrastructure was undertaken followed by consultation with Councillors, the community and stakeholders. The consultation informed development of the Strategy vision for waste and identification of short and longer-term goals. A detailed overview of the consultation process and what we heard is in Appendix 1.

2 Frameworks for waste management

This section outlines:

- The policies, legislation, action plans and frameworks that govern waste management in Australia and Victoria
- Council's plans and policies that are relevant to waste management
- Overview of Council's services and facilities

2.1 POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

There are a number of regulations, policies and guidelines that directs how waste materials are managed. An overview is provided in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1: National and State Waste policies and regulations

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	LOCAL GOVERNMENT
<p><i>National Waste Policy: Less waste, more resources 2018</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019</i> ▪ National Environment Protection Measures (NEMPS) ▪ Product stewardship agreements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Recycling Victoria: A new economy 2020-2030</i> ▪ <i>Environment Protection Amendment Act 2018</i> (comes into effect 1 July 2020) ▪ Waste Management Policy (E-waste) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> ▪ <i>Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008</i> ▪ Local Government Performance Reporting Framework

2.1.1 COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT

The Commonwealth Government ***National Waste Policy 2018*** provides a framework for collective action by businesses, government, communities and individuals until 2030. It identifies five principles that underpin waste management in a circular economy including:

1. Avoid waste
2. Improve resource recovery
3. Increase use of materials recycled and create a market for recycled products
4. Better manage material flows and improve information to support innovation,
5. Investment and consumer decisions.

This is supported by the ***National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019***, which presents targets and actions to implement the 2018 policy. The targets are:

1. *Ban the export of waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres, commencing in the second half of 2020*
2. *Reduce total waste generated in Australia by 10% per person by 2030*
3. *80% average resource recovery rate from all waste streams following the waste hierarchy by 2030*
4. *Significantly increase the use of recycled content by governments and industry*
5. *Phase out problematic and unnecessary plastics by 2025*
6. *Halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill by 2030*
7. *Make comprehensive, economy-wide and timely data publicly available to support better consumer, investment and policy decisions.*

National Environment Protection Measures are a set of objectives designed to aid the protection or management of aspects of the environment, including environmental impacts associated with the collection,

handling, processing and disposal of all waste. These are provided for under the National Environmental Protection Acts².

National product stewardship agreements exist between government and industry. Industries voluntarily enter into an agreement to take action to reduce the impact of their products on the environment and public health and safety. These arrangements are focussed on reducing waste to landfill, designing products for easier recycling, protecting the environment from potentially hazardous materials and community collaboration. Agreements are currently in place for products such as televisions, computers, tyres, waste oil and mobile phones³.

2.1.2 VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

Recycling Victoria: A new economy outlines a number of reforms to the recycling system that have implications for Councils including: a reform of kerbside recycling, new rules to cut waste, investment in priority infrastructure, support for councils and community, and a focus on behaviour change. Roll out of a **container deposit scheme** is also proposed from 2023. *Recycling Victoria: a new economy* sets out the following targets:

- *Divert 80 per cent of waste from landfill by 2030, and an interim target of 72 per cent by 2025*
- *Cut total waste generation by 15 per cent per capita by 2030*
- *Halve the volume of organic material going to landfill between 2020 and 2030, with an interim target of 20 per cent reduction by 2025*
- *Ensure every Victorian household has access to food and garden organic waste recycling services or local composting by 2030.*

The reforms have significant implications for councils, and this Strategy seeks to align with the targets and vision of the *Recycling Victoria* strategy.

The **Waste Management Policy (E-waste)** came into effect on 1 July 2019 and introduced a ban on e-waste in landfills and encourage the safe management of hazardous materials found in e-waste and enable greater recovery of material.

The **Environment Protection Amendment Act 2018** is the primary legislation relating to waste management and will be effective as of 1 July 2020. It focuses on preventing waste and pollution impacts rather than managing those impacts after they have occurred and will require people to *take reasonably practicable steps to eliminate, or otherwise reduce risks of harm to human health and the environment from pollution and waste*⁴.

2.1.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local government's main roles in waste management is provision of waste disposal and recycling services and regulation of waste disposal by individuals and organisations in the municipality. The **Local Government Act 1989** enables Councils to levy charges for waste management. Further responsibilities are outlined in the **Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008**, which covers aspects such as maintaining clean and sanitary conditions in the municipality, providing services and infrastructure and continuous improvement in service delivery⁵. The **Local Government Performance Reporting Framework** was established by the Victorian Government in 2014 and requires Councils to report on the following waste performance measures:

- Kerbside bin collection rate
- Kerbside collection bins missed

² National Environment Protection Council, National Environment Protection Measures

³ Sustainability Victoria, 2020, *E-waste*, available: <https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/You-and-your-home/Waste-and-recycling/Household-waste/eWaste>

⁴ Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2018, Environment Protection Amendment Act 2018 Fact sheet

⁵ Mansfield Shire Council, 2017, Waste Management Background report.

- Cost of kerbside waste bin collection service
- Cost of kerbside recyclables bin collection service
- Kerbside collection of waste diverted from landfill.

The data is presented on the *Know Your Council* website⁵.

2.2 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS AND FRAMEWORKS

There are several plans and frameworks set by the Victorian government that influence how waste is managed in Victoria:

- *Statewide Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan 2015-44 (SWRRIP)*
- *North East Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan 2017*
- *Recycling Victoria: A new economy 2020-2030*
- Other strategies and frameworks i.e. *Collaborative Procurement Framework, Victorian Organics Resource Recovery Strategy*.

Sustainability Victoria is the responsible authority for implementing Victorian Government policies on resource recovery and waste management, including the **SWRRIP**.

The *SWRRIP* outlines strategic directions for improving waste management and resource recovery infrastructure to achieve the vision of an integrated statewide resource recovery system. The *SWRRIP* provides strategic direction for the development of infrastructure to effectively manage the mixed volumes of waste, ensure that impacts on community, environment and public health are not disproportionately felt, support a viable resource recovery industry and reduce the amount of valuable materials going to landfill.

The implementation of the *SWRRIP* is supported by regional implementation plans. The Shire is covered by the ***North East Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan*** which identifies and plans for the region's waste and resource recovery infrastructure needs over the next 10 years. The *North East Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan* provides a framework to inform the development of local government plans, policies and local laws in relation to waste management. Council participates in the North East Waste and Resource Recovery Group (NEWRRG) which meets regularly to identify priorities and needs.

In response to China's National Sword Policy, the Victorian Government released the *Recycling Victoria: A new economy* in 2020. The policy limited the import of low-quality mixed recyclables including paper and plastics, and required less contamination of future waste imports. This had significant impacts on recycling industries across the globe including Australia. *Recycling Victoria: A new economy* will be rolled out by Sustainability Victoria.

Sustainability Victoria oversees a number of other strategies and frameworks that are related to waste including:

- **Collaborative Procurement Framework** – outlines a consistent approach to collaborative procurement of waste and resource recovery infrastructure and services
- **Infrastructure Facilitation Framework** – outlines a long-term approach to promoting and facilitating waste and resource recovery investment opportunities locally and abroad
- **Victorian Market Development Strategy for Recovered Resources** – aims to stimulate markets for recovered resources
- **Victorian Organics Resource Recovery Strategy** – aims to improve the management and recovery of organic waste
- **Victorian Waste Education Framework** – provides a coordinated approach to waste and resource recovery education.

2.3 COUNCIL STRATEGIES, PLANS AND POLICIES

Council has a number of plans and policies that are related to waste management within the Shire, including:

- *Mansfield Shire Council Plan 2017-2021*
- *Mansfield Environment Strategy 2019-2023*
- *Waste Management Service Policy 2019*
- *Amenity, Environment and Community Protection Local Law 2018*

The Mansfield Shire Council Plan (2017-21) includes the following strategic objective: “*We have a strong policy and decision-making framework in place to protect and enhance the unique character of our Shire for future generations.*”

With an action to “*to review and progressively implement the Mansfield Shire Waste Management Strategy.*” This action is supported by the Mansfield Shire Environment Strategy (2019) which recommended as a priority review of the Mansfield Waste Strategy. Council’s Waste Management Service Policy outlines the principles and processes for kerbside waste and recycling collection and clearly defines the conditions of waste supply and service.

2.4 OTHER RELEVANT REPORTS

Infrastructure Victoria’s latest advisory report on recycling and resource recovery infrastructure has identified Mansfield as place for new or upgraded recycling and resource recovery infrastructure, particularly for managing organics. This analysis was based on current and predicted waste generation and reprocessing capacity by material type, proximity to end market, existing resource recovery hubs of statewide significance, statewide and regional recovery infrastructure plans and stated government priorities to support regional economies.

2.5 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Finding: The implementation of the *Recycling Victoria: A new economy strategy* will have significant implications for Council due to levy rises, roll out of a container deposit scheme and recycling reforms. The region has also been identified as a potential location for infrastructure upgrades to manage organics.

The implementation of the *Recycling Victoria: A new economy* will result in a rise in landfill levies, reform to kerbside collection and introduction of a container deposit scheme. It is therefore important that Council start investigating and planning to respond to the proposed changes with the least cost impacts.

The Victorian Government’s strategic direction is aiming for a circular economy. Governments across Australia have collective buying power when it comes to products and services. Council currently have a procurement policy, which states that “*...purchasing and contracting activities will endeavour to...use strategic procurement practices and innovative procurement solutions to promote sustainability and best value, in particular making use of collaboration and partnership opportunities*”. To further support progress towards a circular economy, it is important to set a target.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRATEGY:

- Set a target for the purchase of office goods from recycled, re-used or re-purposed items wherever possible to support the circular economy
- Review current services and gather baseline data to enable informed decision making
- Consider including organics processing in the upgrade of the Mansfield Resource Recovery Centre

3 Council's current approach to waste management

3.1 OVERVIEW

Council employs a Waste Management Coordinator (1 FTE) to oversee the delivery of waste services and management facilities for the Shire. The Waste Management Coordinator manages all contracts for waste services except for the general services contract at Woods Point and management of the closed landfills. These are overseen by the engineering department.

Council waste management services and programs include:

- Compulsory kerbside general waste and recycling collection for households and businesses
- Mansfield Resource and Recovery Centre – drop off point for business and community waste
- Woods Point Transfer Station – drop off point for community waste for residents outside the kerbside collection service area
- Litter control program – provision and maintenance of street bins in key locations, education and promotion of the “carry-in, carry-out” approach for visitors.

Council's waste management program is summarised in Figure 3-1 and discussed in further detail in the following sections.

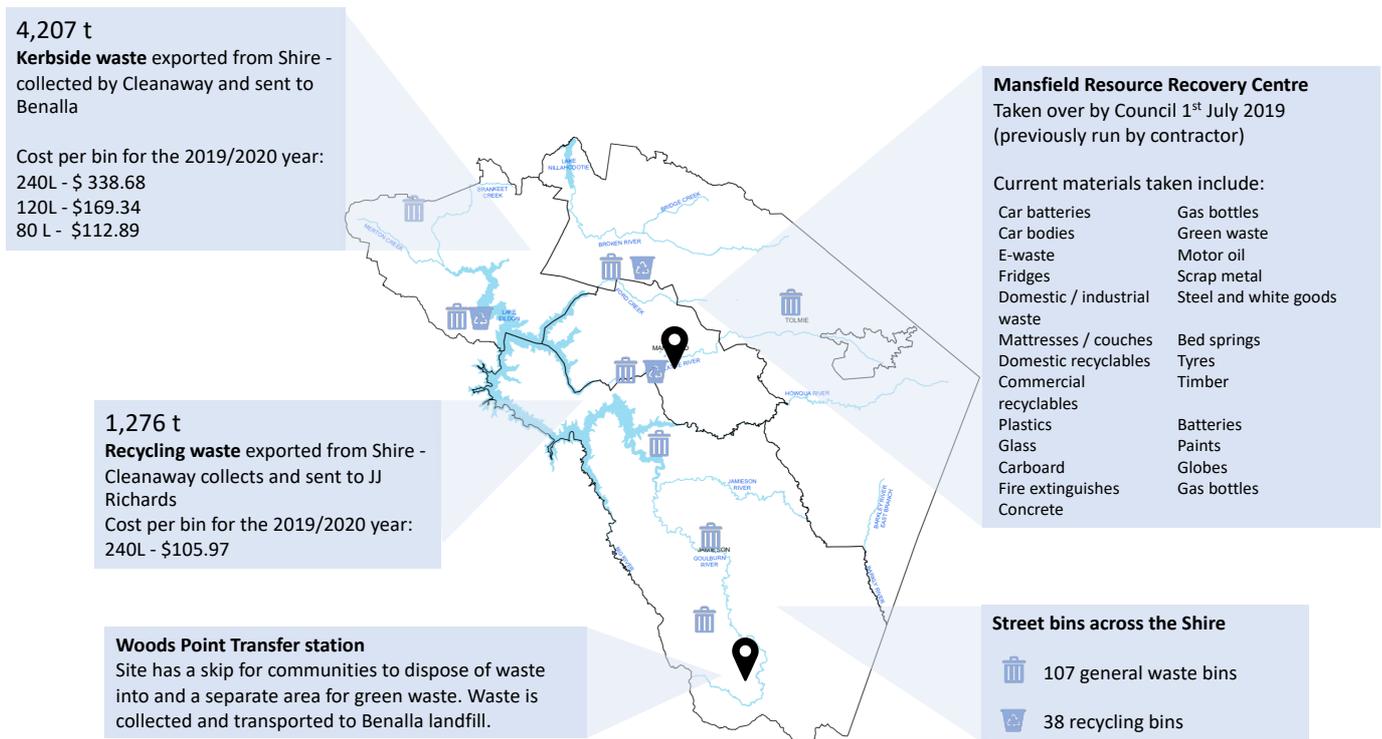


Figure 3-1: Overview of waste management in Mansfield

3.2 KERBSIDE COLLECTION AND COMPOSITION

3.2.1 OVERVIEW

Council has a compulsory kerbside collection for general waste and recycling for all addresses where there is a dwelling or business within the designated collection area. This service is provided to most addresses in the Shire. Participation in the service may be waived in exceptional circumstances such as road condition or contractor requirements. The Woods Point Transfer Station is available for residents beyond Tunnel Bend.

Businesses that require collection of waste that exceeds the rateable entitlement (i.e. more than a standard weekly collection) can participate in Councils commercial collection service, which is invoiced separately on a monthly basis and charged at a rate as per the fees and charges schedule.

General waste is collected by Cleanaway Waste Management Limited and disposed of at the Benalla Landfill and Resource Recovery Centre. The contract with Cleanaway is in place until 2024 (with an optional one-year extension). The tender process was a joint arrangement with five neighbouring councils and each Council has its own contract. The recycling collection is also undertaken by Cleanaway and taken to JJ Richards within Victoria.

There are three standard waste bin sizes: 240L, 120L and 80 L. The standard size for general waste is 120L and the co-mingled recycling bin is 240L, however residents and businesses can apply for the other sizes if needed. The collection frequency, tonnes collected annually and cost to Council are outlined in Table 3-1. In 2017, a Household Kerbside Bin System Audit⁶ found:

- General waste bins contained approximately 1,514 tonnes of FOGO material or around 36% of kerbside waste collected, which is sent directly to landfill
- General waste bin contained on average 17% recyclable materials
- Contamination rates in kerbside recycling bins was around 8%.

Table 3-1: Kerbside collection – annual figures 2018/19 financial year

TYPE	COLLECTION FREQUENCY	NO. SERVICES ⁷	TONNES COLLECTED	COST TO COUNCIL ⁸	CURRENT CONTRACTS
General waste	Weekly	6,078	4,207	\$ 1,114,076	Cleanaway (2024+1)
Recycling	Fortnightly	6,076	1,276	\$ 588,091	Cleanaway (2024+1) JJ Richards (2020 +1)

3.3 WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES

3.3.1 MANSFIELD WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE

Mansfield RRC accepts a range of materials from businesses and the community including general waste loads, recyclables, commercial waste, green waste, scrap metal, e-waste and mattresses as outlined in **Table 3-2**. A full list of items accepted and not accepted at the RRC is listed in Appendix 2. In total the facility had 6,717 customers in 2018/19.

⁶ North East Waste and Resource Recovery Group (NEWRRG) Regional – ‘Household Kerbside Bin System Audit in Autumn 2017’

⁷ Based on 2017 council data

⁸ Based on the 2018-19 Mansfield Shire Council financial report

The RRC was managed by a contractor until 1st July 2019 when the contract ended and management was taken back in house by Council. There are a number of contracts in place for some material streams to be picked up and taken to recycling facilities as outlined in Table 3-2. Council is still in the process of sourcing options for all other materials accepted at the RRC.

Most materials were charged based on load types such as domestic waste or commercial waste and volume in cubic metres. Customers then sort loads under the guidance of Mansfield RRC staff. This is why the materials leaving the facility are not necessarily reflected in the items coming into the facility. Now that Council is managing the facility, they have access to a point of sales (POS) system. This will enable Council to develop a more comprehensive recording system. More accurate data will enable Council to make more informed decisions for waste and recycling management and capitalise on opportunities for commodity payments from materials that are sent for recycling.

Table 3-2: Materials received and exported from the Mansfield RRC for the 2019 financial year

WASTE STREAM	UNIT	IN	OUT	CURRENT CONTRACTOR
Residual Waste Landfill	Tonnes		1861.1	Cleanaway
Domestic waste	cub m	2320.5		
Minimum charge loads	<.5 cub m	1686		
Commercial waste	cub m	1068		
Skips	Tonnes	1635.75		
Green waste	cub m / tonnes	1985.5	242.8	
Timber Waste	cub m / tonnes		33.32	Cleanaway
Concrete	cub m / tonnes		297.75	
Cardboard/paper	cub m / tonnes	162.5	162	Cleanaway
Commingled	cub m / tonnes	2.5	24	Cleanaway
Scrap Steel	Tonnes	0	312.32	SIMS Metal
Non-Ferrous metals	Tonnes	0	16.04	
Car bodies	Tonnes	1	2	
Oil	Litres	3	4250	JJ Richards
Tyres	Each	289		
Gas bottles	Each	68		WM Waste Services
Batteries	Tonnes		10.291	
Mattresses - All sizes	Each	530	736	WM Waste Services
Mattresses - springs	Each	61		
E-Waste	Tonnes	276	3.56	SIMS
Fridge/freezer	Each	166	82	WM Waste Services

3.3.2 WOODS POINT TRANSFER STATION

The Woods Point Transfer Station is in the southern part of the Shire providing a waste disposal facility to predominantly local residents and businesses, that are outside the kerbside collection service area. There are 196 properties in the vicinity of Woods Point that would potentially use Woods Point Transfer station rather than travel to Mansfield RRC. Two skips are provided for waste disposal and green waste is separated. There are approximately 100 tonnes of waste disposed each year at the facility and no resource recovery is currently undertaken.

The site is maintained by a local independent contractor under a services contract for Woods Point that includes collecting waste from street bins in the Woods Point township only. Council also have a contract with 4Site for the removal of the skips when they reach capacity.

3.3.3 CLOSED LANDFILLS

The Shire has four closed landfills: Maintongoon, Jamieson, Riflebuts and Paps. A risk assessment was undertaken in 2006 by the NEWRRG, which looked at the level of risk posed to the environment at each of these sites. Council will revisit this risk assessment on a regular basis and determine appropriate action as required.

3.4 LITTER AND ILLEGAL DUMPING PROGRAM

Council's litter and illegal dumping program has two components – provision of street bins for public use and the "Carry In, Carry Out" policy.

3.4.1 STREET BINS

Street bins for general waste and recycling are provided at a number of locations throughout the Shire. General waste street bins are provided in Mansfield Township, Jamieson, Kevington Hotel, Maindample (park), Merton, Bonnie Doon and Goughs Bay. Recycling street bins are only provided in Mansfield Township, Maindample and Bonnie Doon. In total there are 107 general waste bins and 38 recycling bins (Table 3-3).

Mansfield Township bins are emptied daily. Bonnie Doon general waste and recycling are emptied twice per week. All other street bins are emptied at the same time as the kerbside collection for that area. There is a maintenance program for all bins to ensure they are cleaned on an annual basis. This service is part of the kerbside collection contract with Cleanaway so the quantities of waste in street bins are included in those provided for household kerbside collection.

Table 3-3: Street bin location and quantity

LOCATION	GENERAL WASTE BINS (NO.)	RECYCLING BINS (NO.)
Mansfield Township	64	34
Jamieson	22	0
Kevington	2	0
Maindample	1	1
Tolmie	2	0
Merton	3	0
Bonnie Doon	7	3
Goughs Bay	6	0
Total	107	38

“Carry in, carry out” policy

Illegal dumping is a prevalent and costly issue in parks and state reserves in the Shire. Council currently works collaboratively with DELWP and Parks Victoria to promote, monitor and enforce a “carry in, carry out” approach to litter management in national and state parks. All park visitors are required to take home any rubbish they generate during their visit. Flyers explaining Parks Victoria’s policy are produced and distributed at Easter and Christmas to inform visitors.

Illegal dumping is also issue within the shire. Illegal dumping can be a safety risk to road users, if it left on the side of the road, a health risk to park visitors and an environmental risk, with the potential to contaminate soil and waterways. Where littering occurs on Council property, council is responsible for the cost of removing and disposing of illegal litter.

3.5 COSTS OF CURRENT APPROACH

The estimated cost of Council’s waste management service in 2019-20 is \$2,222,497⁹. In July 2020, Council is expecting to have a more accurate understanding of the cost of delivering the waste management services and will use this to review fees and charges. Council charges for waste management are calculated on a cost recovery basis only. Using Council data (

Table 3-4), the breakdown of how each \$1 charged for waste services is expended on delivering the waste program was estimated (Table 3-4).

Table 3-4: Overview of waste management expenses and income for Mansfield Shire Council*

EXPENSES		INCOME	
Item	Amount	Item	Amount
Community waste	\$ 312,118	User fees ¹⁰	\$ 122,000
Waste collections	\$ 1,179,357	Service charge income ¹¹	\$ 2,100,496
Landfill	\$ 0 ¹²		
Recycling collections	\$ 641,495		
Waste management administration	\$ 89,527		
Total	\$2,222,497	Total	\$2,222,496

*The expenses listed in Table 3-4 are from the 2019-2020 Council budget and include all contractor costs, gate fees and landfill levy. The income generated includes the re-sale shop, gate fees from the Mansfield RRC, sold recycled material (commodity sales), ad hoc invoices for waste collection and disposal for some businesses, waste charges from rates.

⁹ Mansfield Shire Council 2019/20 Budget

¹⁰ Ad Hoc bin collection invoiced through debtors, re-sale shop, commodity income

¹¹ Waste services collected through rates

¹² Rehabilitation provision separate from waste operating budget

An overview of how each dollar is spent on waste is provided in Figure 3-2.

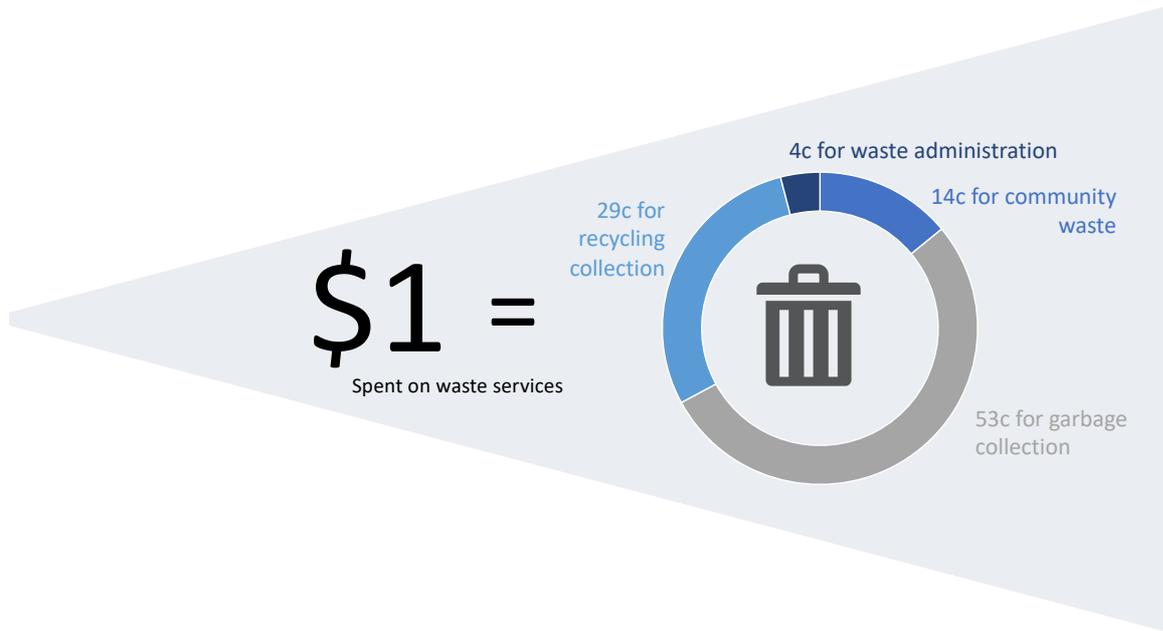


Figure 3-2: Breakdown of expenditure per \$1

3.6 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Finding: The kerbside collection service is valued by community and community satisfaction is high, however audits show that knowledge on how and what to recycle is lacking.

Council have a multi-faceted approach to waste management which has been working well. The *Community Satisfaction Survey* results for 2019 indicated that over 50% of respondents said Council performance in waste management was 'good' or 'very good'. This was reflected in the community consultation sessions where attendees commented on how valued the kerbside collection service was. However, given the changes in the waste space and the growing environmental awareness within the Shire, residents encouraged the implementation of a FOGO collection.

Currently, around 1,500 tonnes of FOGO material, which equates to around 36% of kerbside waste collected, is sent directly to landfill. In addition, 17% of the kerbside waste bin comprises recyclables materials with 8% of the average household recycling bin found to be contaminated.

This suggests that further education is needed to improve waste sorting. An education program aimed at improving waste sorting practices and increasing the volume of materials diverted from landfill is required. The program should target correct sorting of waste into kerbside bins and at the Mansfield RRC as well as providing advice on disposal points for waste material not accepted by Council.

There are a number of businesses and organisations that expressed interest in working more closely with Council to manage waste streams (e.g. alpine resorts) and to deliver education around waste (i.e. schools and community groups). There are opportunities in the Strategy to work with these groups to roll out communications or manage bulk products.

In addition, Illegal dumping and visitor waste are still a problem within the Shire. Drop-off points have been implemented in the past for visitor waste with limited success. Often, they were filled within a matter of days with a combination of waste streams and often items of household furniture. This increased costs for Council, so drop-off points were removed and have not been reinstated. Further education is needed in this space to better promote the State Government's 'carry-in, carry-out' policy and the availability of the Mansfield RRC to dispose of unwanted goods.

Finding: Services and infrastructure are meeting current needs but need to expand to include FOGO, align with state government targets and cope with a growing population.

Given the expected population growth and the restrictions for sorting at the Mansfield RRC, Council intend to develop a Master Plan for the current site, which includes upgrades to infrastructure, increasing capacity and adding a cardboard baler. The Master Plan should also consider provision of processing of FOGO and other organics, such as with an on-site self-haul green waste management and composting facility. This would divert a substantial volume of material from landfill, produce a valuable resource and help Council to align with the *Recycling Victoria: A new economy* strategy target of 100% of households having access to good and garden organic waste recycling services or local composting by 2030.

Most of Council's waste management services are or have been delivered by external providers. As a result, Council does not have a comprehensive and consistent data base of waste information to inform planning and decision making. Standardised and consistent data is required to enable Council to make evidence-based decisions, develop business cases for infrastructure upgrades and service changes and develop targeted education programs. The waste database should collate data on disposal, processing and recovery by waste sectors (municipal solid waste, construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste), waste stream (residual, recycling, FOGO, etc) and a breakdown of materials by waste sector and waste stream.

In addition, data on the quantity or composition of waste in street bins is not currently available because quantity and composition are not recorded when the bins are picked up. As a result, it is not known whether the bins are being used and are in the most effective locations to avoid littering.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRATEGY:

- Community education program and resources
- Develop partnerships with local businesses to manage waste streams
- Additional FTE to assist with the delivery the strategy
- Undertake audits for kerbside collections and street bins
- Review materials accepted at the Mansfield RRC and pricings
- Consistent data collection and comprehensive data base
- Master Plan for the Mansfield RRC
- Maintain and expand the re-sale shop
- Increase resource recovery.

4 Strategic direction

4.1 LONG TERM VISION

VISION: We are responsible for the waste we create. We reduce, re-use or recycle our waste wherever possible and sustainably manage any residual waste. Over the next 20 years, we aim to manage all of our own waste within the Shire as locally as possible.

In the medium term, Council is focussed on:

- Providing a high quality, safe and low-cost service that meets the needs of our community
- Using innovation to ensure waste and recycling is managed efficiently and with minimal impact on the environment
- Partnering with community and local businesses to significantly reduce collective waste
- Establish strong markets for recycled material commodities.

4.2 TARGETS

Four measurable targets have been set for this strategy:

- **Target 1:** Reduce the amount of waste in the average household general waste and recycling bins by 15% of the baseline (to be established in 2020/21) by 2025.
- **Target 2:** Reduce contamination in recycling bins by 100%, by 2025 (reduce level of contamination to 0).
- **Target 3:** Reduce the amount of recyclables in household general waste bins by 50%, by 2025 (halve the amount of recyclables in household general waste bins to less than 8%).
- **Target 4:** Reduce residual waste sent from the Mansfield RRC to landfill by 95% from 1860 tonnes to 1760 tonnes by 2025.

Council will review progress towards these targets each year.

4.3 GOALS

To achieve this long-term vision, the strategy sets out a five-year action plan focussed on four goals:

- Education and engagement
- Data capture
- Infrastructure and service planning
- Partnerships.

GOAL 1: EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT

Goal: Mansfield Shire, its residents, businesses and visitors undertake best-practice waste management and work together on innovative and local solutions to reducing waste.

CONTEXT

Currently, 8% of the average household recycling bin is contaminated and 17% of the household waste bin comprises recyclable materials. At the Mansfield RRC, operators spend significant time sorting incorrectly disposed material which suggests that an education program aimed at improving waste sorting practices and increasing the volume of materials diverted from landfill is required. The education program should target correct sorting of waste and options for disposal e.g. kerbside waste or Mansfield RRC.

The implementation of *Recycling Victoria: a new economy* will significantly change the way household waste is collected and managed over the next 10 years. Council is committed to rolling out educational resources and a program to help the community adjust to these household recycling reforms and the proposed container deposit scheme. The educational resources will align with the State Government program and be specific to the Mansfield community.

ACTIONS

	ACTIONS	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	TIMEFRAME
1.1	Employ an additional waste and resource recovery project officer (1 FTE) to assist with the delivery of the strategy	High	Funding required	Year 1-5
1.2	Develop a waste and recycling education program detailing actions to improve waste sorting practices and discourage illegal littering. This should include the communication tools that will be used, how often communication will occur and target audiences. It will align with State and Regional education campaigns and programs	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	Year 1
1.3	Develop and source existing resources (online, hardcopy) to provide information on accepted materials and correct waste sorting practices for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kerbside bins ▪ Mansfield RRC ▪ Woods Point Transfer Station Disposal points for other materials e.g. Op Shops for second hand household goods, Council offices for household batteries, Benalla landfill	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	Year 1
1.4	Upgrade signage at the Mansfield RRC to assist customers to separate their waste effectively upon arrival	Medium	Funding required	Year 1

GOAL 2: DATA CAPTURE

Goal: Council has a comprehensive waste database to inform decision making and planning

CONTEXT

Most of Council's waste management services are or have been delivered by a number of external providers. As a result, Council does not have a comprehensive and consistent data base of waste information to inform planning and decision making. Standardised and consistent data is required to enable Council to make evidence-based decisions, develop business cases for infrastructure upgrades and service changes and develop targeted education programs.

The waste database should collate data on disposal, processing and recovery by waste sectors (municipal solid waste, construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste), waste stream (residual, recycling, FOGO, etc) and a breakdown of materials by waste sector and waste stream.

ACTIONS

	ACTIONS	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	TIMEFRAME
2.1	Review kerbside collections: establish an audit program and undertake analysis of collection frequency, carbon footprint, service area and cost of services	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	Year 1
2.2	Review all materials accepted at the Mansfield RRC and pricings	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	Year 2
2.3	Review street bins including an audit of waste disposed in street bins, location of street bins and costs and types of bins provided	Medium	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	Year 2

GOAL 3: INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE PLANNING

Goal: Council has the waste infrastructure and services to meet current and future needs

CONTEXT

Implementation of the *Recycling Victoria: A new economy* program, will result in a rise in landfill levies and reform to kerbside collection. It is therefore important that Council start investigating and planning to respond to the proposed changes with the least cost impacts.

The Mansfield RRC requires upgrading to meet the future needs of the Shire and enable expanded recycling and re-use services. Council intend to develop a Master Plan for the current site, which would include upgrade to infrastructure, increasing capacity and adding a cardboard baler. The Master Plan should consider provision of processing of FOGO and other organics, such as with an on-site self-haul green waste management and composting facility. This would divert a substantial volume of material from landfill and produce a valuable resource. This aligns with the recent advice from Infrastructure Victoria, which has identified Mansfield as a potential location for new or upgraded infrastructure, particularly for organics.

ACTIONS

	ACTIONS	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	TIMEFRAME
3.1	Develop the Master Plan for the Mansfield RRC	High	Funding required	Year 1 – 2
3.2	Implement the Master Plan for the Mansfield RRC	High	Funding required	Year 2-5
3.3	Plan for food organics and garden organics (FOGO) collection and processing. Business case should analyse options for food and organics collection and processing and nominate a preferred option	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	Year 1
3.4	Trial a FOGO collection for households and businesses in the Mansfield township	High	Funding required	Years 2-3
3.5	Implement FOGO collection for households and businesses throughout the shire	High	Funding required	Year 4
3.6	Develop and implement a 3-year plan for upgrading street bins	Medium	Existing budget	Year 3
3.7	Continue to support and expand the re-sale shop	Medium	Existing budget	Years 1- 5
3.8	Plan for a separate glass collection service for the Mansfield Shire	High	Funding required / contingent on additional FTE resource	Year 2
3.9	Implement a glass collection service in the Mansfield Township	High	Funding required	Year 5
3.10	Investigate waste stream options at Woods Point Transfer Station to include recyclables, FOGO, green waste and residual waste and take to Mansfield RRC for further sorting and treatment	Medium	Existing budget	Year 4
3.11	Seek to identify risks associated with closed landfills within the Shire	High	Existing budget	Year 1
3.12	Commence any remediation works required for closed landfills	High	Funding required	Year 5

GOAL 4: PARTNERSHIPS

Goal: Mansfield Shire Council works in partnership with stakeholders to reduce waste and increase recycling

CONTEXT

Mansfield is a small rural council with limited income streams. Council is committed to partnering with community groups and businesses to support local reuse and recycling projects. There was strong interest through the stakeholder and community consultation to find local solutions, such as community composting programs or to manage specific waste streams.

Governments across Australia have collective buying power when it comes to products and services. To support the circular economy Council has set a goal to purchase 50% of their office goods from recycled, re-used or re-purposed items wherever possible to align with our procurement policy.

As part of *Recycling Victoria: a new economy*, the Victorian government will be implementing a Container Deposit Scheme. This is expected to be introduced in 2023 and will complement the household recycling reforms. Council is committed to working in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement this service.

ACTIONS

	ACTIONS	PRIORITY	RESOURCING	TIMEFRAME
4.1	Establish formal arrangements with alpine resorts to manage select waste streams	High	Existing budget	Year 1
4.2	Investigate options for the purchase 50% of office equipment from local re-used, recycled and re-purposed materials and investigate how recycled or re-purposed materials can be used in infrastructure projects	Medium	Existing budget	Year 3
4.3	Include waste management as a focus of the Environment Committee to encourage partnerships within the community, to share resources, assist in developing implementation guides and run training / information sessions for the community	Low	Funding required	Year 1
4.4	Seek to support community groups through a small grants program to undertake local waste reducing projects such as "clean up our town", school audits, event recycling, community compost and garden initiatives	Medium	Funding required	Year 2
4.5	Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement the Container Deposit Scheme	High	Funding required	Year 1-3

5 Assessment of options

Table 5-1 sets out the estimated capital and operating cost range for actions not currently included in Councils current waste budget. For each action, a cost range of low, medium or high has been allocated where:

- \$\$\$ = more than \$200,000
- \$\$ = between \$50,000 - \$200,000
- \$ = less than \$50,000

Table 5-1: Estimated cost range of strategy actions

Actions		Priority	Resourcing	Cost
Year 1				
1.1	Employ an additional waste and resource recovery project officer (1 FTE) to assist with the delivery of the strategy	High	Funding required	\$\$
1.2	Develop a waste and recycling education program detailing actions to improve waste sorting practices and discourage illegal littering. This should include the communication tools that will be used, how often communication will occur and target audiences. It will align with State and Regional education campaigns and programs	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	\$
1.3	Develop and source existing resources (online, hardcopy) to provide information on accepted materials and correct waste sorting practices for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kerbside bins ▪ Mansfield RRC ▪ Woods Point Transfer Station Disposal points for other materials e.g. Op Shops for second hand household goods, Council offices for household batteries, Benalla landfill	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	\$
1.4	Upgrade signage at the Mansfield RRC to assist customers to separate their waste effectively upon arrival	Medium	Funding required	\$
2.1	Review kerbside collections: establish an audit program and analysis of collection frequency, carbon footprint, service area and cost of services	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	\$
3.1	Develop the Master Plan for the Mansfield RRC	High	Funding required	\$\$\$
3.3	Plan for food organics and garden organics (FOGO) collection and processing. Business case should analyse options for food and organics collection and processing and nominate a preferred option	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	\$
3.7	Continue to support and expand the re-sale shop	Medium	Existing budget	\$
3.11	Seek to identify risks associated with closed landfills within the Shire	High	Existing budget	\$\$
4.1	Establish formal arrangements with alpine resorts to manage select waste streams	High	Existing budget	\$
4.3	Include waste management as a focus of the Environment Committee to encourage partnerships within the community, to share resources, assist in developing implementation guides and run training / information sessions for the community	Low	Funding required	\$

Actions		Priority	Resourcing	Cost
4.5	Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement the Container Deposit Scheme			\$
Year 2				
1.1	Employ an additional waste and resource recovery project officer (1 FTE) to assist with the delivery of the strategy	High	Funding required	\$\$
2.2	Review all materials accepted at the Mansfield RRC and pricings	High	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	\$
2.3	Review street bins including an audit of waste disposed in street bins, location of street bins and costs and types of bins provided	Medium	Funding required / Contingent on additional FTE resource	\$
3.1	Develop the Master Plan for the Mansfield RRC	High	Funding required	\$\$\$
3.2	Implement the Master Plan for the Mansfield RRC	High	Funding required	\$\$\$
3.4	Trial a FOGO collection for households and businesses in the Mansfield township	High	Funding required	\$\$\$
3.7	Continue to support and expand the re-sale shop	Medium	Existing budget	\$
3.8	Plan for a separate glass collection service for the Mansfield Shire	High	Funding required / contingent on additional FTE resource	\$
4.4	Seek to support community groups through a small grants program to undertake local waste reducing projects such as "clean up our town", school audits, event recycling, community compost and garden initiatives	Medium	Funding required	\$\$
4.5	Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement the Container Deposit Scheme			\$
Year 3				
1.1	Employ an additional waste and resource recovery project officer (1 FTE) to assist with the delivery of the strategy	High	Funding required	\$\$
3.4	Trial a FOGO collection for households and businesses in the Mansfield township	High	Funding required	\$\$\$
3.6	Develop and implement a 3-year plan for upgrading street bins	Medium	Existing budget	\$\$\$
3.7	Continue to support and expand the re-sale shop	Medium	Existing budget	\$
4.2	Investigate options for the purchase 50% of office equipment from local re-used, recycled and re-purposed materials and investigate how recycled or re-purposed materials can be used in infrastructure projects	Medium	Existing budget	\$
4.5	Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement the Container Deposit Scheme			\$
Year 4				

Actions		Priority	Resourcing	Cost
1.1	Employ an additional waste and resource recovery project officer (1 FTE) to assist with the delivery of the strategy	High	Funding required	\$\$
3.1	Investigate waste stream options at Woods Point Transfer Station to include recyclables, FOGO, green waste and residual waste and take to Mansfield RRC for further sorting and treatment	Medium	Existing budget	\$
3.5	Implement FOGO collection for households and businesses throughout the shire	High	Funding required	\$\$\$
3.7	Continue to support and expand the re-sale shop	Medium	Existing budget	\$
Year 5				
1.1	Employ an additional waste and resource recovery project officer (1 FTE) to assist with the delivery of the strategy	High	Funding required	\$\$
3.7	Continue to support and expand the re-sale shop	Medium	Existing budget	\$
3.9	Implement a glass collection service in the Mansfield Township	High	Funding required	\$\$
3.12	Commence any remediation works required for closed landfills	High	Funding required	\$\$\$

6 Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Council recognises the importance of monitoring and evaluating all of our work to deliver the best possible outcomes for our communities, businesses and natural environment. This is especially true for waste and resource management. The sector is changing rapidly, and we will need to ensure our work adapts to keep delivering on the targets for our communities.

The Waste Management Coordinator will be responsible for managing this Strategy’s implementation. They will develop an annual implementation plan at the start of each financial year to outline the priority actions for the year ahead. At the end of each financial year, the Waste Management Coordinator will consult with key stakeholders to determine the extent to which the four waste management targets have been achieved using the performance indicators. Council will report back to the community on the implementation of the Waste Management Strategy with respect to the focus areas and the progress towards to the following targets:

- **Target 1:** Reduce the amount of waste in the average household general waste and recycling bins by 15% of the baseline (to be established in 2020/21) by 2025.
- **Target 2:** Reduce contamination in recycling bins by 100%, by 2025 (reduce level of contamination to 0).
- **Target 3:** Reduce the amount of recyclables in household general waste bins by 50%, by 2025 (halve the amount of recyclables in household general waste bins to less than 8%).
- **Target 4:** Reduce residual waste sent from the Mansfield RRC to landfill by 95% from 1860 tonnes to 1760 tonnes by 2025.

The review may include answering some fundamental evaluation questions such as those outlined in Table 6-1.

Table 6-1: Draft evaluation questions

EVALUATION THEME	KEY EVALUATION QUESTIONS
Effectiveness	To what extent is the work making progress towards achieving the goals?
Impact	What difference has this work made?
Efficiency	What resources have been used to achieve the goals? Are these more or less than expected? What explains this variance?
Appropriateness	Are the strategic actions still appropriate for achieving the goals?

To support monitoring and evaluation, refer to Table 6-2 for performance indicators and data sources.

Table 6-2: Goals

GOAL	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DATA SOURCES
Education and engagement		
Mansfield Shire, its residents, businesses and visitors undertake best-practice waste management and work together on innovative and local solutions to reducing waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No. of times website resources accessed ▪ Information booklet produced ▪ Increase in recovered recyclables from general waste bins in the kerbside collection ▪ Reduced amount of waste (including recycling) collected through kerbside recycling and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Web analytics ▪ Kerbside collection data reports ▪ Mansfield Waste and Resource Recovery Centre point of sales system ▪ Contractor reports

GOAL	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	DATA SOURCES
	resource recovery / transfer stations	
Data capture		
Council has a comprehensive waste database to inform decision making and planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Comprehensive data base produced ▪ Clear benchmark data on waste materials collected and diverted from landfill through all services and facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kerbside collection data reports ▪ Mansfield Waste and Resource Recovery Centre point of sales system ▪ Contractor reports ▪ Bin audits
Infrastructure and service plans		
Council has the waste infrastructure and services to meet current and future needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Less waste produced per capita from baseline (including food and green waste, recyclables and general waste) ▪ Increased materials (%) diverted (from baseline) from landfill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kerbside collection data reports ▪ Mansfield Waste and Resource Recovery Centre point of sales system ▪ Contractor reports
Partnerships		
Mansfield Shire Council works in partnership with stakeholders to reduce waste and increase recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mansfield Shire Council are purchasing more recycled / second-hand products ▪ Increased collaboration within local community groups and businesses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mansfield Shire Councils purchase records ▪ Local waste project documentation

Appendix 1. Consultation overview

CONSULTATION PROCESS

RM Consulting Group was engaged by the Mansfield Shire Council to consult with the local community, Councillors and stakeholders, and develop the Mansfield Waste Management Strategy.

Three workshops were held over two days in Mansfield with Councillors, community and stakeholders. The focus for these sessions was to explore what the aspirations are for waste and resource management in the shire and to scope out preliminary actions and ideas for how Council could achieve that. The sessions were held in Council chambers as follows:

- Councillor workshop – 3 March 2020
- Stakeholder workshop – 11 March 2020
- Community workshop – 11 March 2020

After the draft Strategy is approved by Councillors to be put on public exhibition, the Strategy will be available for review for four weeks. During this time, additional consultation sessions will be held where the community can have their say.

The strategy will be finalised after it has been on public exhibition and provided to Councillors for endorsement.

KEY MESSAGES FROM THE CONSULTATION

ASPIRATIONS

Key aspirations for Mansfield were:

- To be an innovative and creative in the way we use and manage resources
- Maximise resource re-use within the community
- Develop partnerships within the community e.g. to re-use straw from the agricultural show, build community awareness, involve school groups in waste etc.
- Facilitate partnerships between businesses
- Keep organic material within the Shire

- Minimise waste miles
- Households maximise the value of products within the home i.e. cardboard re-use
- Contribute to managing waste products on a regional level
- Create a well-educated community
- Maintain the amenity value of Mansfield Shire.

OPPORTUNITIES / IDEAS FOR RESOURCE USE AND MANAGEMENT

Waste collection:

- Drop-off points for recycling and FOGO within the community
- Mulching services
- Create higher diversion targets from landfill
- Create a FOGO collection service
- Reduce waste collection services to fortnightly or once per month
- Better signage at the Mansfield RRC
- Stagger collection service.

Infrastructure / facilities

- Digester for organics
- Improve public waste facilities to maximise resource recovery
- Contain as much waste as possible within the Shire
- Sort green waste and FOGO so it does not go to landfill
- Continue and expand the re-sale shop where possible
- Add more opportunities for recycling
- Increase waste separation
- Find more end markets for materials.

Education, partnerships and advocacy

- Have more of a social media presence about waste products and what to do with them
- Publish an online and hardcopy guide on what can and cannot be re-used / recycled etc. and where materials can be taken within the Shire i.e. Op shops, re-sale shop, transfer stations etc.
- Help businesses to do something about their food waste including reducing and composting options
- Collaborate with other councils to maximise recovery of materials
- Promote “zero tolerance on disposable coffee cups”
- Promote a food sharing service where businesses can donate unwanted food products for people in need
- Advocate to state government for funding to implement better waste measures and to position Mansfield as a “small rural council leader”
- Communication strategy
- Advocate to businesses for less product packaging
- Work with kids to promote best practice resource use
- Promote include our waterways and parks in messaging to visitors about littering
- Collaborate with the renewable energy group to include waste in sustainable living
- Work with businesses like alpine resorts to collaborate on managing particular waste streams like mattresses

- Work with the business group to establish partnerships and find alternative ways to manage waste streams.

CHALLENGES

- Local infrastructure for waste streams e.g. Wangaratta composting facility (also opportunity)
- Communication with tourists, residents, non-resident ratepayers, visitors etc.
- Education to all sectors of the community
- Getting community ownership of waste
- Food waste – how to we reduce and then manage what is left
- Making new options financially viable and low cost to community
- Climate change
- Waste to energy – what does that mean for us?
- Licencing for end market options i.e. FOGO and EPA licences
- 72% diversion will be hard
- Future restrictions on what can be sent to landfill
- Finding the balance between local and regional solutions – i.e. economies of scale.
- Resourcing new ideas and opportunities
- Managing visitor waste.

Appendix 2. Mansfield Waste and Resource Recovery Centre

The Mansfield Resource Recovery Centre (Transfer Station) is located at 163 Monkey Gully Road Mansfield and is open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. All information below can be accessed through the Mansfield Shire Council website.

Below (Table A2-1) is a comprehensive list of in and out of scope items and corresponding charges. Out of scope items incur a charge of \$6 per item.

Table A2-1: In and out of scope items accepted at the Mansfield RRC

ACCEPTABLE IN SCOPE	ACCEPTABLE OUT OF SCOPE
All Televisions and Computers	Kitchen Appliances
Monitors	Cameras
Desktops	DVD players
Laptops	Video Recorders
Printers	Hi Fi speakers
Photocopiers (incl. Large)	Sound equipment
Servers	Cooling Devices*
All computer peripherals (incl. Drives)	Heating Devices**
Electronic components	Mobile & Landline phones
Network equipment	VHS tapes, DVD's
Scanners	Electronic Garden Equipment/Tools
Fax Machines	
Projectors	
Electronic Games	

Along with accepting household rubbish for recycling, the Resource Recovery Centre accepts the following materials for recycling:

- Green Waste
- Used motor oil
- Steel and White goods
- Electronic waste (e-waste)
- Mattresses
- Bed springs
- Gas bottles Fridges
- Mixed household plastics, cardboard, paper and aluminium cans
- Small domestic quantities of household commingled recyclables are free of charge.
- Soft Plastics.

Fees and charges for 2019-20 are as outlined in Table A2-2.

Table A2-2: Fees and charges 2019-2020

ITEM	PRICE
Car Bodies and car batteries	FREE
E-Waste (electronic waste)	\$6.00 per item
Fridges	\$22.00
Domestic Waste less than ½ m3	\$7.00

ITEM	PRICE
Domestic Waste in a larger vehicle or trailer	\$38.00 per cubic metre
Domestic Recyclables under 1m3	FREE
Domestic Recyclables over 1m3	FREE
Mattresses – Single Bed	\$30.00 per mattress
Mattresses – Double Bed	\$30.00 per mattress
Commercial Recyclables	\$22.50 per cubic metre
Commercial/ Industrial Waste	\$58.00 per cubic metre
Cardboard in excess of 1 cubic metre	\$14.00
Gas Bottles	\$7.00 each
Green Waste	\$13.00 per cubic metre
Motor Oil	\$1.00
Steel & White Goods	FREE
Bed Springs	\$20.00
Car Tyres	\$6.00 each
4WD Tyres	\$12.00 each
Light Truck Tyres	\$12.00 each
Heavy Truck Tyres	\$28.00 each
Super Single Tyres	\$28.00 each
Solid Forklift Tyres	\$28.00 each
Tractor Tyres	\$60.00 each
Earthmoving Tyres	\$115.00 each

Hard waste collections are not offered by the Mansfield Shire Council. Large household items can be disposed of at the Mansfield RRC, however fees apply.