



Rethinking Waste:

A summary of NetWaste's
Strategic Waste Plan

2014–2017



Planning strategically, acting regionally.

NetWaste is a voluntary regional waste group formed in 1995 to provide collaborative approaches to waste and resource management. Covering almost 40% of the state, benefits are delivered to 28 member councils in regional NSW. Our initial aim was to ensure the essential waste service requirements were met and to deliver service efficiencies through regional contracts. Over almost two decades, our focus has evolved considerably: NetWaste now delivers outcomes beyond regional service arrangements, through targeted waste management projects, education and community engagement programs, and member Council enablement.



Our region, our challenges

NetWaste member council areas comprise a diverse mix of urban centres, rural enterprise and agricultural pursuits, commercial businesses, industrial complexes, tourist facilities and infrastructure utilities, all of which require some form of waste management.

Waste management costs per unit are naturally greater for rural and regional residents than for their metropolitan counterparts, due to significant travel distances and low population density.

The NetWaste alliance helps to overcome some of these issues facing regional organisations.

Regional contracts have been a very successful example of this collaboration. Some NetWaste councils have already started their journey through the joint waste and recycling collection contract that binds the councils of Orange, Blayney, Parkes, Forbes and Cabonne. These five councils are currently involved in a new tender process with another three for a new regional contract, including possible inclusion of organics.

NetWaste's vision is to set the benchmark for regional waste management

This alone reinforces the value of joint contracting, particularly in regional areas. There may be opportunities for future alliances and partnerships in waste management, including infrastructure sharing.

Partnerships have also been established between individual councils outside of formal regional contracts, such as those between Gilgandra and Bogan, and Cowra and Weddin Shire Councils to process kerbside recycling. Without such partnerships, these services would not be offered in regional areas.

NetWaste recognises the importance of education as a critical support component for our region and promotes community engagement and the need for council enablement to deliver specific outcomes.

Fig 1: What NetWaste provides its members and our communities.





Our strategy

NetWaste's vision is to set the benchmark for regional waste management through meeting a range of strategic objectives.

Our objectives include:

- reducing the amount of waste being generated
- increasing resource recovery
- reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- delivering environmentally responsible waste management systems
- improving awareness of waste minimisation and resource recovery principles and influencing behavioural change
- improving recycling and composting
- reducing litter and illegal dumping
- managing problem wastes
- facilitating information exchange and skills development
- optimise procurement of grant funding.

The development of our strategic waste plan, Rethinking Waste, has taken various government policies, legislation and guidelines into account.

The NSW Government has identified waste management as a priority area under its NSW 2021 Plan. Goal 22, 'protect our natural environment' and goal 23, 'increase opportunities for people to look after their own neighbourhoods and environments' set out specific targets relating to tackling illegal dumping, littering, and to increase recycling to meet the NSW recycling targets. The draft NSW Waste Avoidance and Recovery (WARR) Strategy 2013-2021 includes long-term targets to avoid and reduce waste generation, increase recycling and divert more waste from landfill, manage problem wastes better, and to reduce litter and illegal dumping. In addition, the NSW Government's Waste Less, Recycle More initiative provides substantial funding to ensure councils and voluntary waste groups are well resourced to deliver their strategies.

Guiding principles

Rethinking Waste seeks to:

- find local solutions to address local waste problems
- balance our ambitions with our capacity and ensure realism prevails over idealism
- match effort with reward
- maximise net benefit to the whole community and consider social, economic and environmental factors
- consider state and national government goals and policies together with technological advances and trends within the waste industry
- recognise that rural and regional NSW have different influences from those affecting the Sydney Metropolitan Area and the Extended Regulated Area
- consider opportunities offered by shared responsibility through partnerships with industry and alliances with other government agencies and councils
- work cooperatively to achieve the common purpose where the advanced councils support those who are in the developing phases
- focus on source separation as a first option through cultural change and aiding source separation initiatives
- employ cost/benefit decision making
- recognise and manage risk
- make decisions today that ensure the health, diversity and the preservation of the environment are maintained or improved for the benefit of future generations.

This summary document highlights the primary guiding documents for NetWaste activities over the next three years and the key actions for implementation:

**NetWaste Strategic Waste Plan (2014-2017),
NetWaste Education Strategy (What Waste Where)
and the NetWaste Integrated Infrastructure Plan.**

The recommendations of the 2011 Richmond Review of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act have influenced six key focus areas of this strategic waste plan:





1.0 Enablement

Our goal is to empower member councils to better address the waste management challenges within their communities.

Waste management improvement opportunities have been recognised throughout the strategic waste plan, however, skills enhancement through regional training opportunities is needed to support councils in their efforts to improve waste management practices.

Of the 28 member councils, at least two-thirds of these have representatives for whom waste management is just one of their responsibilities. As their formal training and experience is not necessarily in waste management, the networking and skills enhancement through the NetWaste forum is a vital element of the strategic plan.

Recent workshops coordinated for the benefit of the councils include focus on asbestos management, landfill operations, long-term waste budgeting and small landfill upgrades, design, strategy development and fee introduction. Future focus areas will be guided by the needs of the councils.

Facilitated site tours are a valuable opportunity for members to learn what is happening elsewhere.

The quarterly NetWaste forums are a critical way to communicate not only with the councils but also between the representatives. These are moved around the region to share the travel burden between the councils. We will continue to investigate available virtual meeting possibilities, however, we believe the value gained through direct contact between our members cannot be replaced.

The NetWaste website is recognised as an opportunity to engage with both our member councils and the broader community and we aim to continually review and improve this. With social media emerging as a key way to engage, NetWaste is trialling the engagement of a qualified contractor to enhance our profile and reach a wider audience. It is anticipated this will only increase in importance in the future.





1.0 Enablement management actions

Ref.	Action	Timing Year 1, 2,3,all	Core funded? Y/N	Grant funding potential? Y/N	Responsibility All, ELA, PC, EO or NAS
1.1	Maintain and implement the Training Plan in consultation with NetWaste staff and members	All	Y	N	ALL
1.2	Maintain records of training programs undertaken and recognise those who have successful completed courses	ALL	Y	N	NAS
1.3	Further develop and maintain the NetWaste resources available to the Council members and to the general public	All	Y	N	All
1.4	Establish and maintain a web-based forum and library as the primary communication medium with member councils and utilise as the primary communication medium with member councils	1	Y	N	All
1.5	Continue to improve and maintain the NetWaste website	All	Y	N	All
1.6	Organise and host regular NetWaste forums and steering committee meetings in conjunction with learning workshops	All	Y	N	All
1.7	Conduct annual reviews of NetWaste meeting structures and content by undertaking member surveys & implementing recommendations	All	Y	N	All
1.8	Organise site inspections and study tours for NetWaste members of relevant waste management systems, practices and technologies	All	Y	N	All
1.9	Provide reports to NetWaste members on the outcomes of quarterly Renew NSW forums	All	Y	N	ELA/PC
1.10	Gauge interest, and encourage NetWaste members to attend Renew forums, whenever these are conducted by EPA in the NetWaste region, or Renew meetings held in conjunction with co-ordinated events	All	Y	N	PC

Year 1- 2014/15 FY, Year 2- 2015/16 FY, Year 3- 2016/17 FY



2.0 Infrastructure

Our goal is to provide appropriate infrastructure to meet local and regional needs.

Infrastructure availability, enhancement and establishment is an area of significant focus for the NetWaste councils. Historically there has been little accurate data that captures the baseline situation for the 28 member councils. Some data was presented as part of the original NetWaste sub-regional planning process over 10 years ago, however, it was significantly outdated.

In late 2013, work commenced on the Integrated Infrastructure Plan, with a key component being site visits by the consultant to each and every council area to aggregate a large amount of data on current situations (such as number of landfill sites, transfer stations, estimated landfill life, signage etc) and perhaps more importantly to collate the identified needs of the councils to improve overall waste management.

The outcome of this process is the written report, NetWaste Integrated Infrastructure Plan (June 2014) and the NetWaste Waste Infrastructure Model (2014). The model, presented as an Excel spreadsheet captures the information from all site visits and presents it in an easily manipulated format based on individual council and regional needs, including a financial value for improvements to be put in place.

As detailed in the model, this investigation has found that infrastructure to the value of around \$17.494 million is now required by NetWaste councils as follows:

- Organics infrastructure – \$9.416 million
- Anti-dumping infrastructure – \$0.160 million
- Anti-litter infrastructure – \$0.014 million
- Problem wastes infrastructure – \$1.140 million
- Landfill consolidation and environmental improvements – \$4.003 million
- Other infrastructure – \$2.761 million

Already in recent months NetWaste has made major leaps, securing \$2.18 million in grant funds for organics collection systems, as well as \$320,000 for household Problem Waste Community Recycling Centres. A grant of \$3.85 million is pending for an \$8.1 million regional organics processing facility proposed for Dubbo.

This study highlighted the disadvantage presented to regional councils by low population densities and large distances between communities, which make service provision relatively expensive. The NetWaste region has 99 landfills and 46 waste transfer stations servicing a population of around 380,000 people. In Sydney, this population would typically be served by a single waste transfer station.

NetWaste and member councils will utilise this report and data as a sound platform for pursuing further grant opportunities though the WLRM program, although it is abundantly clear that the available funding is in no way sufficient to fund the required upgrades. It will also be critical, however, for individual councils to ensure internal process are in place to facilitate establishment of priority infrastructure.



Above: Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) at Orange is a regional facility.

Right: Permanent storage cages allow ongoing acceptance of gas cylinders, smoke detectors, small batteries and fluorescent tubes at 18 waste facilities across the region. It is hoped to enhance this service to include paint through future funding programs.





2.0 Infrastructure management actions

Ref.	Action	Timing Year 1, 2,3,all	Core funded? Y/N	Grant funding potential? Y/N	Responsibility All, ELA, PC, EO or NAS
2.1	Support councils to implement the recommendations from the Integrated Infrastructure Plan	1 & 2	Y	Y	PC
2.2	Undertake investigations and cost benefit analysis of reducing and consolidating the number of landfills in the NetWaste region, and building, upgrading or rationalising transfer stations	1	Y	Y	PC
2.4	Review design, resource recovery, environmental controls and risks of waste facilities, and seek funding to upgrade where appropriate	1	N	Y	PC
2.5	Seek funding to assist smaller councils to engage suitably qualified consultants to undertake independent audits of unlicensed landfills	All	N	Y	PC
2.6	Support NetWaste councils to develop Waste Management Strategies	1	N	Y	PC
2.7	Seek grant funding to support the development and implementation of landfill EMPs	2	N	Y	PC
2.8	Undertake true landfill analysis for interested councils, with specific consideration of introduction of new organics services and impacts on other waste streams, landfill capacity, services etc	1	Y	N	PC
2.9	Implement the adopted recommendations of the Organics Management Options Report	All	N	Y	PC
2.10	Support council business case studies for implementation of enhanced organics collection and processing	All	N	Y	ELA/PC
2.11	Facilitate necessary studies and forums to support the roll out of kerbside collection and processing of organics, with food waste, in the NetWaste LGAs where viable	All	N	Y	ELA/PC

Year 1- 2014/15 FY, Year 2- 2015/16 FY, Year 3- 2016/17 FY



2.0 Infrastructure management actions

Ref.	Action	Timing Year 1, 2,3,all	Core funded? Y/N	Grant funding potential? Y/N	Responsibility All, ELA, PC, EO or NAS
2.12	Support pilot studies and evaluation of small scale organics collection and processing options for remote areas	1 & 2	N	Y	PC/ELA
2.13	Work with councils and approved administrators under the Product Stewardship (Televisions and Computers) Regulations 2011, to determine e-waste collection and recovery centres in the NetWaste region	All	Y	Y	ELA/PC
2.14	Implement waste education and communication to raise awareness within the community of the growing volumes of e-waste and opportunities for recycling	All	Y	N	ELA/PC
2.15	Develop and undertake a C&I pilot project with one council and assess viability and future direction	2	N	Y	PC
2.16	Work with small-medium identified businesses to identify waste streams and potential opportunities for enhanced resource recovery	All	N	Y	ELA
2.18	Encourage and/or partner with the C&I sector to reduce, reuse and recycle, taking advantage of the <i>Waste Less, Recycle More</i> business recycling program	All	Y	Y	ELA
2.19	Work with councils successful in securing funding for CRC to ensure consistent branding and regional media campaign linking with the annual Household Chemical Cleanout where possible	1	N	Y	PC
2.22	Investigate need to improve existing local public drop off facilities for problem wastes and seek grant funding to implement upgrades where appropriate	1	N	Y	PC

Year 1- 2014/15 FY, Year 2- 2015/16 FY, Year 3- 2016/17 FY



3.0 Engagement

Our goal is to develop meaningful connectivity between all stakeholders within the community, both in the delivery of waste education and in awareness of the achievement of strategic goals. We will do this by creating a sense of community ownership.

Waste education plan

Since our inception, NetWaste has used education as an effective strategic tool to drive behaviour change, carrying member councils and their communities toward improved waste management. We have now developed a comprehensive education plan, entitled *What Waste Where*, to maximise future implementation of education to achieve our broader objectives over the next decade.

What we're going to do:

- implement the education plan according to our three-year implementation plan
- evaluate outcomes in order to continually refine delivery of the education plan across the ten-year timeframe
- develop further three-year implementation plans to take effect beyond the initial period.

The strategic approach

Our strategic approach comprises three delivery models, encompassing all education delivered by NetWaste. Any additional or varied programs or projects added to the strategy over its ten-year life will be structured to work within these models.

Strategic model A: Continuation model

NetWaste has a proud history of developing and delivering high quality education. Over a number of years, initiatives such as Waste to Art, schools programs, work with preschools and businesses, home composting and organics programs have become highly valued and respected by the community and member councils. *What Waste Where* will continue and build upon our successes to date.

Strategic model B: Education across NetWaste – Regional programs model

Many of the strategic programs NetWaste offers will occur across the NetWaste region. A number of these continue and extend current initiatives and involve significant relationships with a range of organisations across sectors such as school and early childhood, business and community. Government agencies, member councils and waste contractors also form part of this network. Programs to be delivered under this model are:

- Underpinning Research and Information Program: research will provide further direction concerning what education is necessary across the region
- NetWaste Media Campaign
- NetWaste Schools Program
- NetWaste Early Childhood Program
- Waste to Art
- NetWaste Business Education Program.

**Strategic model C:
NetWaste Council Partnership Projects Model**

The intent of projects under this model is to promote and support local delivery of education by member councils so that more and better locally developed education occurs, leading to improved outcomes in waste-related behaviour.

This model, created in response to consultation with member councils, spells out each NetWaste Partnership Project, clearly identifying what NetWaste is offering and what councils will need to commit in order to deliver the project.

Councils sign up to be involved in Partnership Projects annually. It is likely that additional projects will be generated during the life of What Waste Where and that not all projects will be offered each year.

The seven projects currently offered are:

- Why recycle? Project – The Council Kit
- Organics Management – Home Composting
- Litter Reduction Project
- Cover Your Load Project
- Illegal Dumping Project
- Waste to Art Regional Event
- Working with schools in LGAs not covered by the NetWaste contract.

NetWaste has developed a Communications Plan with our recently appointed Communications specialist with focus to improve our engagement with the respective audiences through social media. Specific actions to:

- Development of NetWaste and Waste to Art Facebook pages
- Development of a Twitter page

These will be used to enhance our existing communications and media programs with specific focus on Waste to Art, Used Oil diversion from environment, Household Chemical Cleanout and contamination in recycling. The targeted priorities will continue to evolve as new projects are implemented.

Reducing the amount of waste being generated / Improving awareness of waste minimisation and resource recovery principles and influencing behavioural change / Improving recycling and composting / Reducing litter and illegal dumping / Facilitating information exchange and skills development



Talking composting at the Orange Community Garden.



3.0 Engagement management actions

Ref.	Action	Timing Year 1, 2,3,all	Core funded? Y/N	Grant funding potential? Y/N	Responsibility All, ELA, PC, EO or NAS
3.1	<p>Adopt and seek funding to implement the Waste Education Strategy.</p> <p>Specific actions for delivery and implementation include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Waste Program • Environmental education and schools program • Litter reduction based programs • Waste to Art • Sustainability in Action • Love Food Hate Waste • Village Waste Management Program • NetWaste Communications Strategy' 	All	Y	Y	ELA
3.2	Conduct annual reviews of the NetWaste Waste Education Strategy (adopted August 2013)	All	Y	N	ELA
3.3	Implement waste education programs to improve resource recovery from the domestic waste stream	All	Y	N	ELA
3.4	Undertake food waste avoidance education, audits and trials	1, 2 or as opportunities arise	Y	Y	ELA

Year 1- 2014/15 FY, Year 2- 2015/16 FY, Year 3- 2016/17 FY



4.0 Resource Recovery

Our goal is to increase the quantity of recovered resources as measured year on year and move towards attainment of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery strategy goals.

Significant achievements have been made by NetWaste councils to improve resource recovery, largely through regional service contracting. Such regional contracts include:

- Processing of garden organics and timber: first established in 2005, typically involving 16 member councils. This allows councils to chip their organics on-site and reuse the product beneficially as a raw mulch. On average, over 45,000 cubic metres is recovered in this way and diverted from landfill.
- Collection of scrap metal: the first NetWaste regional contract was established in 2004 and is recognised as a historic success for the group. Typically involving around 20 councils, the joint arrangement resulted in member councils being paid an income for this resource (often for the first time) with over 70,000 tonnes collected since the first contract was put in place.
- Regional Domestic Waste & Recycling Contract: established in 2005 involving 5 member councils, this was the first of its kind in the region and yielded significant environmental, social & economic benefits. In 2014, NetWaste is facilitating new tender process involving these five core councils, with an extra three participating with the possible inclusion of organics collection and recycling.

Some councils have also established successful local resource recovery systems, particularly with regard to domestic recyclables, including Cowra, Midwestern and Gilgandra Shire Councils.

These operations are valuable infrastructure and services for the local community and also act as an opportunity for neighbouring councils (Gilgandra processes recyclables from Bogan Shire and Cowra processes material from Weddin Shire). Partnership arrangements and a collaborative approach are integral to the overall success of these operations.

NetWaste has also trialled innovative solutions, such as mobile glass crusher, which involved five councils in 2011. This was put in place to allow local processing for local reuse, recognising the typically low commodity value. The project also yielded significant learning for the group, including logistics for sharing mobile infrastructure and legislative requirements for product reuse.

There remain areas for continual improvement in resource recovery, which will be the focus for the NetWaste group, including Construction and Demolition (C&D) sector, tyres and e-waste.

NetWaste also recognises there is a significant lack of available data to establish our baseline situation and to allow achievable, realistic targets to be set. This is a common issue across regional NSW and a significant focus area over the next three years. The state targets outlined in the WARR Strategy are recognised, however, targets endorsed by the NetWaste group as achievable and realistic shall be a focus in the near future.

4.0 Resource recovery management actions

Ref.	Action	Timing Year 1, 2,3,all	Core funded? Y/N	Grant funding potential? Y/N	Responsibility All, ELA, PC, EO or NAS
4.1	Work with other VRWG & EPA to establish appropriate data collection methodology and implement within NetWaste	1	Y	N	PC
4.2	Review waste service models in place across the region that utilise a variety of implementation approaches. Possible examples include Nyngan, Gilgandra, Cowra, Orange and Broken Hill	2	Y	N	PC
4.3	Coordinate the Orange Regional Waste Services contract development process	1	Y	N	PC
4.4	Investigate potential for regional waste services contract for Dubbo region (pending outcome of organics infrastructure grant application)	1 & 2	Y	N	PC
4.5	Continue to develop and facilitate regional service contracts across the areas of scrap metals, organics processing, kerbside domestic waste, recycling and organics services and collection of used oil	All	Y	Y	PC
4.6	Implement the regional media campaign to improve recovery of used oil and evaluate effectiveness through monitoring of used oil collection quantities	ALL	Y	N	PC
4.7	Implement waste education programs to improve resource recovery from the domestic waste stream	ALL	Y	Y	ELA

Year 1- 2014/15 FY, Year 2- 2015/16 FY, Year 3- 2016/17 FY

Mobile trailer to assist councils with recycling at public events.





4.0 Resource recovery management actions

Ref.	Action	Timing Year 1, 2,3,all	Core funded? Y/N	Grant funding potential? Y/N	Responsibility All, ELA, PC, EO or NAS
4.8	Investigate MGB sizes and collection frequencies to optimise costs and resource recovery	1	Y	U	PC
4.9	Develop generic "Waste Not" Development Control Plan requirements and standard conditions	2	Y	N	PC
4.10	Prepare template documentation to enable member councils to introduce the requirement for builders and developers to prepare "waste plans" when submitting Construction Certificate applications and Development Applications	2	Y	N	PC
4.11	Support and encourage resource recovery from skip bins by "spill and sort" or by the development of a C&D materials recovery facility	2	Y	N	PC
4.12	Prepare a template report for use by member councils that would support the introduction of differential waste disposal fees to encourage separation of recoverable materials from general waste taken to landfills and transfer stations	1	Y	N	PC
4.13	Investigate cost benefits, potential purchase of equipment, and regional contracts for further recovery and processing of C&D and C&I materials, such as tyres and hard waste, and implementation at locations where viable	All	Y	Y	PC
4.14	Include provisions for C&I and C&D in the generic "Waste Not" Development Control Plan requirements and standard conditions	2	Y	N	PC
4.15	Promote home composting of organics including food	All	Y	N	ELA
4.16	Evaluate opportunities that may arise from the NSW EPA's Energy from Waste Policy when it is finalised	1	Y	N	PC
4.17	Prepare NetWaste public event recycling guidelines and standard conditions that may be applied to Development Applications, leases, and licences	2&3	Y	N	ELA
4.18	Seek alliances with industry and undertake trial programs for events waste management and for public place recycling	1&2	Y	N	ELA
4.19	Investigate cost benefits of public place recycling and seek funding to implement at locations where viable	1&2	Y	N	ELA

Year 1- 2014/15 FY, Year 2- 2015/16 FY, Year 3- 2016/17 FY

5.0 Problem Wastes

Our goal is to remove problem waste from the waste stream through identification, separation and collection for appropriate recycling or responsible disposal.

The management of problem wastes provides significant challenges for the NetWaste group due to travel distances, availability of licenced contractors and volume of materials. Such wastes include material such as paint, pesticides, household batteries, gas cylinders and so on (collectively known as household hazardous waste), farm chemicals and containers, lead acid batteries and e-waste.

NetWaste has made significant achievements in managing these waste streams including establishment of storage cages for a range of low-toxicity, high-volume wastes (excluding paint) at 18 sites, drumMUSTER collections and annual Household Chemical Cleanout (HCC). Demand for these services generally continues to grow, with increasing volume of material in the waste stream combined with greater awareness from local communities wanting to dispose of their waste correctly.

Four NetWaste councils were recently successful in securing funding through WLRM to establish permanent Community Recycling Centres, with a trial project also being approved for establishing services at a small regional landfill. These projects will get under way in mid-2014, with the trial outcomes hoped to be used for further applications for remaining NetWaste councils in Round Two.

Funding has also been secured from the EPA to coordinate the annual HCC in late 2014, with 21 NetWaste councils confirming participation. This will be the largest campaign to date for the region, illustrating

the increasing demand for such services. Since 2006, over 104 tonnes of household hazardous waste has been removed from the environment through annual, regionally-coordinated collection campaigns.

Littering and illegal dumping are also priority issues for the NetWaste councils and also under the WLRM funding. An application for funding of \$68,000 is pending for a project focused on reducing litter from loads en route to the landfill, involving six member councils.

Significant effort needs to be dedicated to these areas over the next three years, recognising a collaborative and cross-organisational approach will be needed to ensure effective and meaningful outcomes are achieved.

NetWaste supports Drum Muster in the collection of chemical drums.





5.0 Problem wastes, littering & illegal dumping management actions

Ref.	Action	Timing Year 1, 2,3,all	Core funded? Y/N	Grant funding potential? Y/N	Responsibility All, ELA, PC, EO or NAS
5.1	Conduct communication and education regarding problem wastes	All	Y	Y	PC/ELA
5.2	Coordinate annual Household Chemical Cleanout (HCC) throughout the NetWaste region	ALL	Y	Y	PC
5.3	Support interested NetWaste Councils to deliver opportunities identified through Action 4.3	ALL	Y	N	ELA
5.4	Investigate and prepare a report around the issue of liquid waste management across the region, including quantities, how the issue is managed, opportunities for aggregation/centralisation of locations and potential service providers	1	Y	N	PC
5.5	Seek funding to develop a NetWaste regional illegal dumping strategy	1	N	Y	ELA/PC
5.6	Seek EPA funding and support for illegal dumping community education programs	1	N	Y	ELA
5.7	Work with community groups and agencies to identify and manage illegal dumping hotspots, to identify offenders and assist in the management of this issue	3	N	Y	ELA
5.8	Integrate the NSW Dumping Strategy with NetWaste education programs	All	Y	Y	ELA
5.9	Seek funding to identify and manage local illegal dumping 'hot spots' through clean-up actions, surveillance equipment and prevention infrastructure, prioritising measures that help combat asbestos dumping	All	N	Y	ELA
5.10	Seek nomination to be one of the EPA's proposed two new Regional Illegal Dumping Programs	All	N	Y	ELA
5.11	Develop and implement an anti-littering education program	2	Y	Y	ELA
5.12	Identify possible partnerships within communities to develop local initiatives in response to local issues (e.g. the Wilcannia Litter Project, indigenous communities, working with community groups)	All	Y	Y	ELA
5.13	Seek funding for anti-litter education programs and enforcement. This may involve funding of officer/s to address both litter and illegal dumping	1	N	Y	ELA

Year 1- 2014/15 FY, Year 2- 2015/16 FY, Year 3- 2016/17 FY



6.0 Financial Systems

Our goal is to provide financial management systems to enable successful delivery of the strategy objectives in the defined timeframes.

Funded through the NSW EPA, NetWaste is one of eight voluntary regional waste groups and has typically been funded on an annual basis. Recent announcements have resulted in three-year funding confirmation for the groups for 2014-2017, which provides valuable certainty for the groups and member councils in working towards implementation of priority projects. Success of the VRWG model has been reinforced through recent establishment of additional groupings in the Sydney metropolitan areas, demonstrating the value of the collaborative approach to waste management.

Financial management and reporting is a critical component of NetWaste activities, with the priorities identified through the three core documents and highlighted through this summary document. It is important to account for the ability of the NetWaste staff to coordinate and deliver projects, and the member councils' capacity to implement them. Staff availability and resources are essential considerations for project implementation.

Internal budget management will be monitored through the NetWaste Steering Committee with the assistance of Orange City Council as the group's financial host. This will ensure financial reporting obligations to the EPA are met.

External grant funding provides significant opportunities for NetWaste and member councils over the next three years and shall continue to be pursued as opportunities arise.



6.0 Financial management actions

Ref.	Action	Timing Year 1, 2,3,all	Core funded? Y/N	Grant funding potential? Y/N	Responsibility All, ELA, PC, EO or NAS
6.1	Ensure NetWaste's obligations to EPA are being met including participation in cross regional projects as appropriate	ALL	Y	N	ELA/PC
6.2	Align NetWaste programs with NSW EPA policy, strategy and funding programs to achieve mutual objectives	ALL	Y	N	ELA/PC
6.3	The Steering Committee to prepare annual budget and undertake quarterly reviews	ALL	Y	N	ELA/PC
6.4	Prepare annual reconciliation statements of financial performance	ALL	Y	N	PC
6.5	Actively seek, identify and pursue grants through appropriate opportunities where programs align with the goals of the strategic plan	ALL	Y	N	ELA/PC
6.6	Prepare a Workforce Plan following finalisation of the NetWaste Regional Strategy & Integrated Infrastructure Plan	1	Y	Y	EO
6.7	Seek funding in grant applications for administration, coordination and project management of grant requirements and execution of waste projects	ALL	N	Y	ELA/PC

Year 1- 2014/15 FY, Year 2- 2015/16 FY, Year 3- 2016/17 FY



Monitoring, review, reporting & risk management

Monitoring, review and reporting of activities noted in the strategic waste plan will ensure that its implementation delivers the desired outcomes.

Monitoring, review and reporting will:

- enable performance to be measured against objectives
- provide the basis for implementing future change to improve performance
- assess performance in line with key performance indicators
- determine if outcomes are in line with expectations
- assess whether anticipated benefits have occurred
- evaluate the strategic plan's recognition of and response to community needs.

Monitoring will be undertaken through:

- quarterly NetWaste and Renew meetings
- contractor performance assessments
- community surveys
- waste audits
- examination of trend lines
- audits of environmental performance
- reviews of key performance indicators.

Rethinking Waste establishes the pathway to continued improvement in regional waste and resource management over three years. It is important that the strategy and its programs are reviewed annually to ensure relevance, and to consider emerging factors that could affect the strategic primary aims and objectives.

Risk management

NetWaste will prioritise actions in response to a well-defined risk management framework, based on measures of the likelihood of a risk occurring assessed against the consequences in terms of damage to NetWaste's reputation, financial health, human resources and operational capacity.

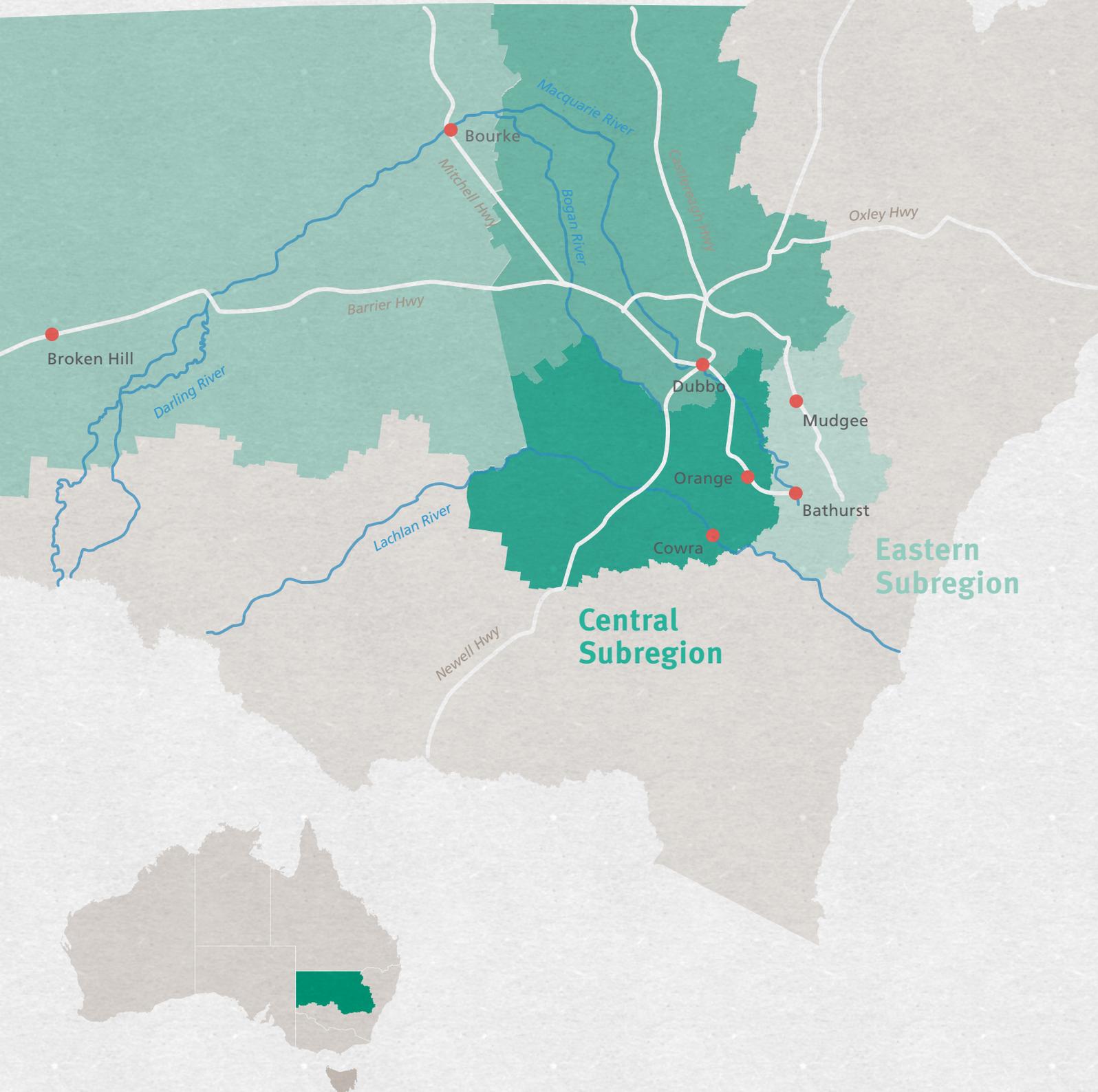
Learn more:

To obtain a copy of the full strategic waste plan, the Integrated Infrastructure Plan and Excel model, or the Education Strategy - What Waste Where, visit www.netwaste.org.au or get in touch with the NetWaste team.



Western Subregion

Northern Subregion



The NetWaste VRWG includes the following 27 member Councils:

Bathurst, Blayney, Blue Mountains, Bogan, Bourke, Brewarrina, Broken Hill, Cabonne, Central Darling, Cobar, Coonamble, Cowra, Dubbo, Forbes, Gilgandra, Lachlan, Lithgow, Midwestern, Narromine, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Walgett, Warren, Warrumbungle, Weddin, Wellington.

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