



NORTHERN TASMANIAN Waste Management

Regional Waste Strategy


Annual Report - 2017/2018
& Annual Plan - 2018/2019



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The role of the Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group (NTWWMG) is to provide advice, funding and education on better managing waste and recycling within Northern Tasmanian communities, businesses and local governments. The NTWWMG is able to provide these services through a \$5/tonne levy on waste disposed to landfill from northern Tasmania.

The NTWWMG formed in 2007 and its members include seven councils from Northern Tasmania: Break O'Day, Dorset, George Town, Launceston, Meander Valley, Northern Midlands and West Tamar.

The NTWWMG's 2012–2017 five year strategy expired on 30 June 2017. The strategy was the first long term strategy for the NTWWMG and enabled the NTWWMG to undertake research on waste management best practice to inform its activities. The 2012–2017 strategy also included a range of projects that have evolved and grown into well established projects that reduce waste to landfill from the north using a mix of education, recycling services and infrastructure.

This report addresses the 2017-2022 strategy projects that were achieved in 2017/2018 and also describes planning towards implementing 2018/2019 projects outlined in the 2017-2022 Regional Waste Management Strategy. The 2017-2022 strategy was ratified in February 2017 by the northern regional councils participating in the voluntary waste levy.

The 2017-2022 regional waste strategy goals:

- 1. Improve resource recovery**
- 2. Improve council waste and recycling infrastructure, operations and data systems to best practice**
- 3. Facilitate education, engagement and partnerships about waste recycling and reuse**

Major actions and projects proposed for 2018/2019 are listed below:

- Monitor bin contamination and provide regular feedback to residents
- Continue support of data collection at waste transfer stations
- Facilitate sustainable management of recyclables that are difficult to process locally i.e. e-waste for all NTWWMG councils
- Implement 2017-2022 state wide communications strategy projects
- Award community grants for activities that reduce waste to landfill
- Facilitate special collections of high profile waste streams
- Paint back - paint collection and processing for all NTWWMG councils
- Regional polystyrene collection and recycling for all NTWWMG councils
- Recognise and reward organisations via the Waste Not Awards
- Investigate and develop soft plastics recycling for all major transfer stations
- CD & DVD recycling trial for all major transfer stations in the region
- Re-engage Flinders Island as part of NTWWMG
- Participation in Statewide Waste Arrangement Feasibility Study

The NTWWMG is responsible for the implementation of its strategy, including the development of this annual plan.

1 INTRODUCTION

The NTWVG was created in 2007 when eight northern region councils joined together to form a regional waste group to address regional waste and recycling as a collective, the NTWVG consists of seven Northern Tasmanian councils: City of Launceston, West Tamar, Meander Valley, Dorset, Break 'O Day, Northern Midlands and George Town Councils.

In 2012, the NTWVG updated its original 2009 strategy and developed the Regional Waste Management Strategy 2012 to 2017 which expired 1 July 2017. The current 2017-2022 strategy adopts a number of previously established projects while focussing on emerging areas of sustainable waste management to further divert waste streams from landfill.

The implementation of the current strategy projects is funded via the \$5 per tonne landfill levy which all NTWVG councils contribute towards. This income is approximately \$480,000 per year. The group operates through a voluntary partnership formalised by a regional waste agreement and governed by a Terms of Reference.

This annual report details how the NTWVG 2017-2022 strategic goals were achieved in 2017/2018 and outlines the planned projects for 2018/2019.

The 2017-2022 NTWVG strategy has 3 goals linked to 8 targets:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Improve Resource Recovery | 1.1 Waste avoidance, recovery and recycling |
| | 1.2 Support kerbside organics collection |
| | 1.3 Continue recycling of problem wastes |
| 2. Improve council operations and data | 2.4 Best practice safe transfer stations |
| | 2.5 Consistent operating standards |
| | 2.6 Improve data collection |
| 3. Education, engagement & partnerships | 3.7 Kerbside recycling bin assessment |
| | 3.8 Community, government & industry engagement, education & awareness of sustainable waste management |

The NTWVG is responsible for the implementation of its strategy, including the development of this annual plan. In 2017/2018 the equivalent of 1.0 full time staff equivalent was employed to implement the strategy in addition to two part time staff members who completed community education and kerbside recycling contamination assessments.

2 ANNUAL REPORT: ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2017/2018

2.1 Kerbside recycling education

The NTWMG is serious about reducing contamination in kerbside recycling bins and keeping contamination out of the kerbside recycling stream is a major commitment of the regional waste group.

Continuing on from a successful earlier integration of the program, the NTWMG re-established the kerbside recycling assessment program in May 2013, following appointment of two part time officers to undertake the assessments. The aim of the assessments is to visually inspect kerbside recycling bins for signs of contamination and educate residents on the correct use of the bins. In 2015 the communication materials for the program were updated and an "improvement required" sticker was added to align with the data collected.

Each recycling bin in the program is assessed three times over a six week period. Once a recycling bin has been assessed, a "pass", "improvement required" or "fail" sticker is left on the bin and a form outlining the reasons why the bin has failed or requires improvement is given to the household. Additionally, a flyer is left in each letterbox outlining everything residents need to know about correct kerbside recycling. The Northern region is well placed to decrease significant impacts such as the recent China recycling crisis as the project has been investing in educating the public about kerbside recycling and reducing contamination for many years.

Indications from recurrent audits demonstrate this approach is achieving a reduction in the level of contamination in residential kerbside recycling bins.

Break O'Day Council offered a kerbside recycling collection service for the first time in December 2017. The kerbside auditing officers started work at Break O'Day, assessing bins at St Helens (486 out of a total possible 572 in 3 visits) and all the bins presented at Fingal (275 out of 444 possible in 3 visits). Results were good in these areas, particularly as recycling was a new service to the area. Most people responded well to the bin assessments which were supported with visits to all the schools, some community groups and erecting displays in several towns at several locations. The NTWMG also supported the role out of the service by funding a recycling promotional competition offered through local primary schools. An example of the education materials left with households can be seen in Figure 1.

Figure 1.



Figure 1: Examples of information given to households as part of the kerbside assessment

The NTWMG's experience is that, in the majority of cases, a lack of education and understanding of what can go into recycling bins is the major cause of contamination.

This program operated throughout the northern region in Dorset, George Town, Launceston, Meander Valley, Northern Midlands, West Tamar council and for the first time Break O Day Council in the 2017/2018 financial year. See figure 2 for kerbside audit map of Northern Tasmania.

The kerbside assessment team assessed 11,428 households in 2017-2018 failing 860 bins, or 7.5% of the total bins assessed.

The results of the 2017/2018 kerbside audits can be found in Table 1. The 1st, 2nd and 3rd fail columns refer to the number of bins assessed in each round that received a fail. The data demonstrates a steady decline in the number of failed bins after each assessment and the volume of contamination in the bin reduces from the first assessment to the third assessment.

Table 1 - 2017/2018 Kerbside contamination assessment results

Location	Bins assessed	1st fail	2nd fail	3rd fail
Northern region total	11,428	448	222	190
Dorset	909	39	20	11
George Town	191	12	13	0*
Launceston	6,613	266	125	124
Meander Valley	1,453	53	29	20
Northern Midlands	1,449	58	23	14
West Tamar	243	5	1	1
Break O'Day	761	27	24	20

In the five years that the program has been operating 31,434 bins have been assessed across the region. This represents 53.9% of all households in the region that have a recycling service. Table 2 shows number of households visited across the council areas since the beginning of the program in April 2013.

Table 2 - Kerbside contamination assessments April 2013 - June 2018

Location	Households available	Households assessed	Households assessed
Northern region total	58,286	31,434	53.9%
	Households assessed as % of households available in each municipality		
Dorset	55.8%		
George Town	40.7%		
Launceston	63.1%		
Meander Valley	67.7%		
Northern Midlands	53.8%		
West Tamar	44.9%		
Break O'Day	8.1% (new service)		

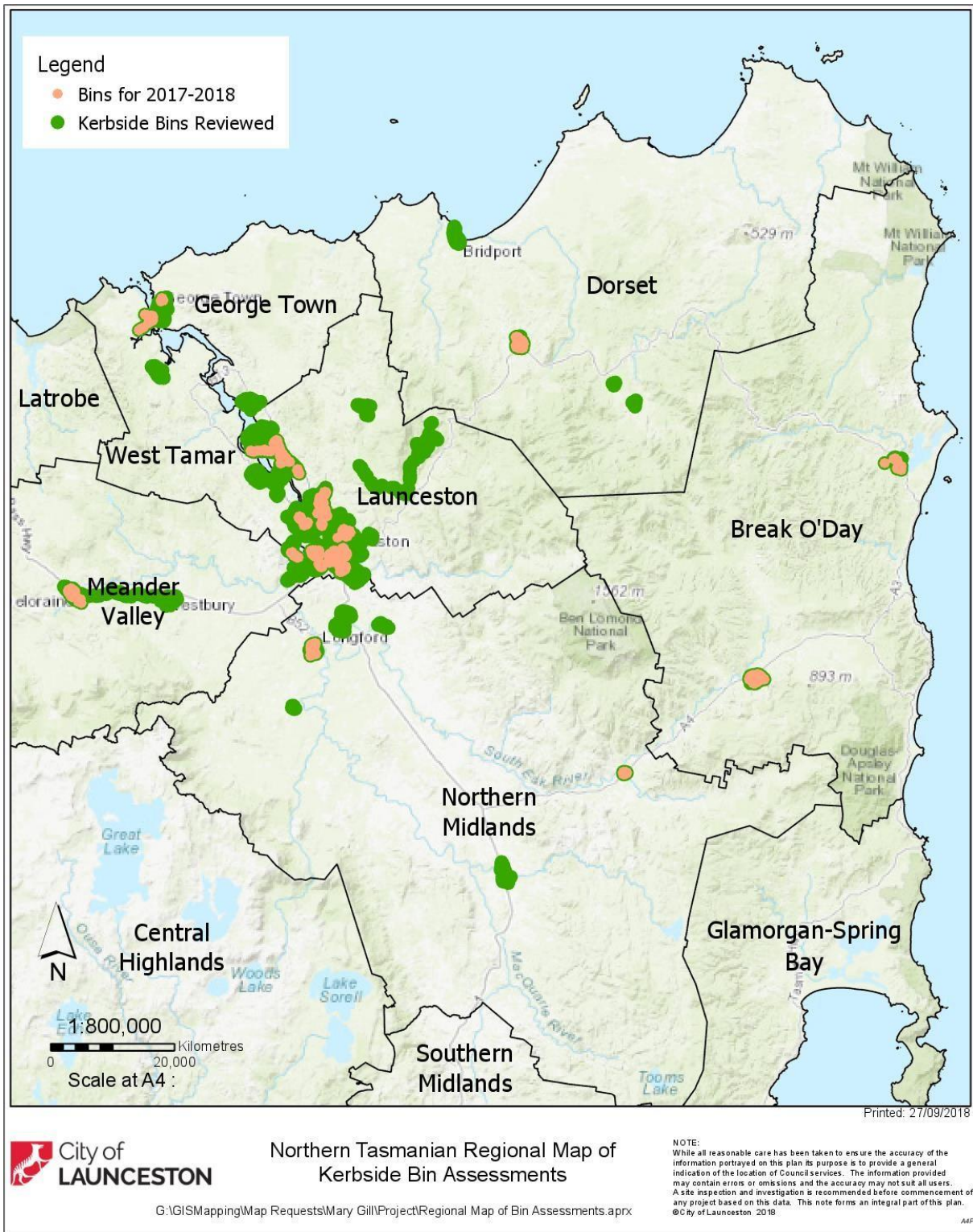


Figure 2. Kerbside Audit Map

Figure 3 - Pass/fail inspection stickers, audited recycling bins and the custom signed kerbside recycling audit car



Figure 4 - Non-recyclable items identified during the assessment process and improvement sticker notification over 3 visits



2.1.1 Community engagement

NTWGM education staff visit organisations in Northern Tasmania offering waste and recycling education and awareness through presentations, displays and demonstrations. The officers visit early learning centres, primary and secondary schools, community groups and have a presence at public events. The television series, War on Waste has increased the public's interest, awareness and expectations in recycling. This has led to an increase in talks to schools and community groups. Officers found while speaking to the public that there appears to be a greater awareness of soft plastic and the fact that it can be recycled. While many people are now using the soft plastic bins at the major supermarkets and the transfer stations, officers are unsure if this is reducing the amount of soft plastic in kerbside bins. We have always found that soft plastic continues to be the most common contaminant in kerbside recycling bins.

In 2017-18, officers recorded 491 interactions with the public and of these, 462 were very positive, 15 had questions, 7 had FOGO specific questions and 7 were negative. Of the negative comments, 3 were unhappy with officers looking in their bin, 2 thought it was a waste of time.

In 2017/2018 NTWGM kerbside education officers attended 70 community events. For a full list of 2017/2018 community engagement activities see Appendix A.

2.2 Communications

2.2.1 Good SORT advertising campaign.

The NTWGM deliver consistent waste and resource recovery education across Tasmania. Accompanied by the recognisable 'Good SORT' slogan, communications activities ranging from television, radio, newspaper and online advertisements target:

- Commonly occurring kerbside recycling bin contaminants
- Items residents may not realise are recyclable such as empty aerosol cans
- Hazardous materials to keep out of kerbside recycling i.e. batteries and gas cylinders
- Illegal dumping

2.2.2 Joint Communication with CCWGM & WSS

During 2017/2018 NTWGM contributed \$30,000 towards a joint communications project with CCWGM and WSS allowing for resource, cost sharing and consistency around waste minimisation and resource recovery messaging. The group has developed the "Be a Good SORT" brand and television advertising campaign and managed the Rethinkwaste.com.au website and in early 2018 established the Rethink Facebook page to further bolster sustainable waste communication.

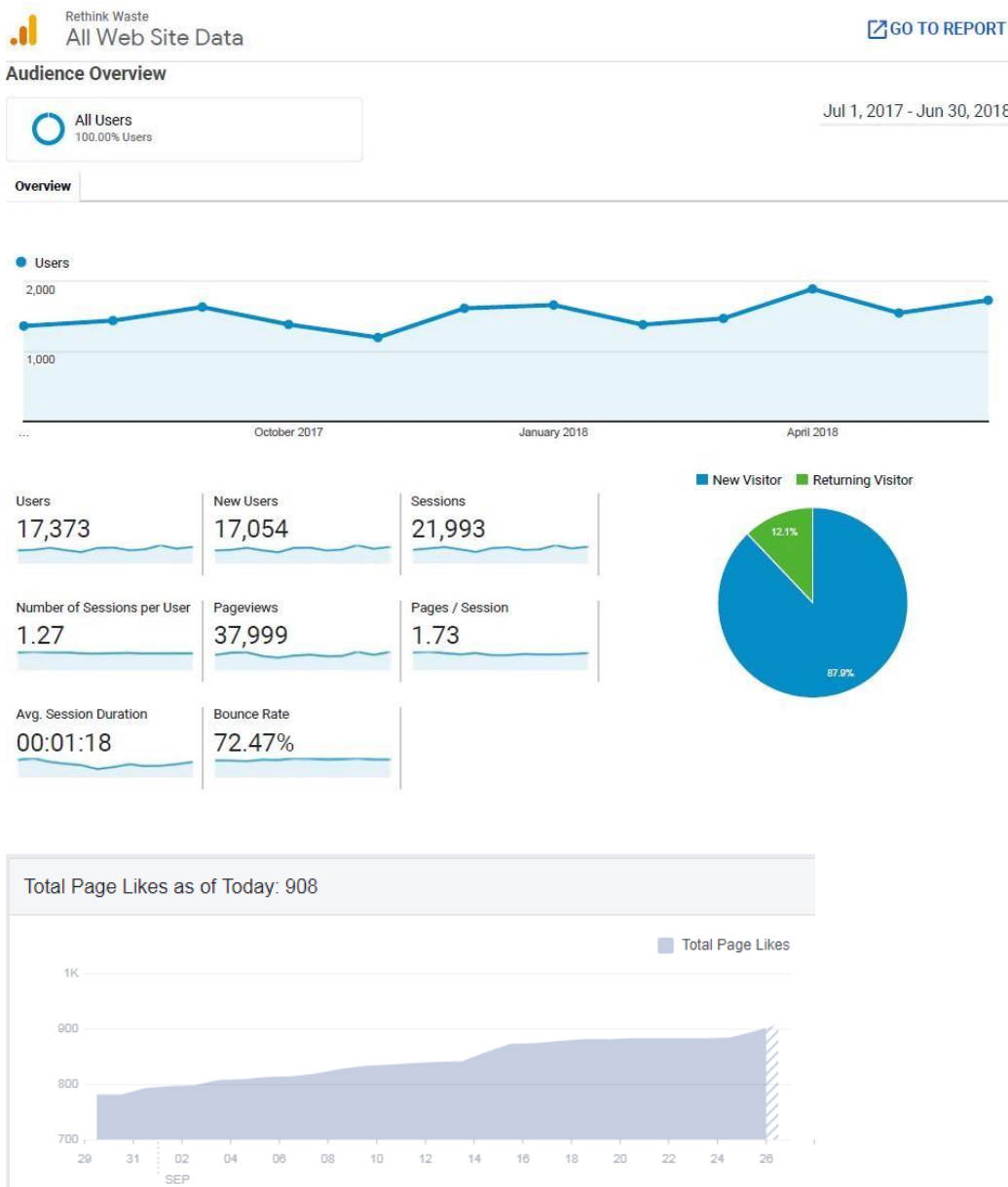
The joint communications also managed media campaigns on topical and emerging waste and resource recovery issues through television, radio, newsprint and social media platforms. Campaigns included: China recycling crisis, glass recycling, e-waste, coffee keep cups and recycling, what can be recycled and case studies of organisations in both regions practicing great waste and resource recovery activities.

2.2.3 Rethinkwaste website and Facebook

Rethinkwaste.com.au and www.facebook.com/rethinkwastetasmania are the central online communication tools and social media platforms for people to find out about and interact around recycling and waste management in Northern Tasmania. The website gives information on the NTWMMG and provides waste resources for people to download in the form of reports, 'how to' document and video demonstrations. The site enables users to search by municipality to find information on what can and cannot be recycled, waste collection services, and operating times, location and services of council Waste Transfer Stations (WTS). The website is also used for correspondence and submissions for grant applications and promoting waste management events. The Facebook page offers an interactive platform which is linked to the website and engages people by showing case studies and linking and sharing with other Facebook pages.

In the 2017/18 financial year the Rethinkwaste website had 37,999 views, 17,373 users and 21,993 sessions with 88% new visitors recorded. The Facebook page launched in February 2018 and at the time of preparing this report has 1,173 followers.

Figure 3 Rethink website and Facebook metrics



2.2.4 Recycle Coach mobile application

The NTWVG purchases a yearly subscription to the mobile app Recycle Coach. The app allows users to set customised reminders for regular waste and recycling collections and contains a searchable index of detailed disposal instructions specific to the user's area. The app also includes functionality to inform subscribers of special e-waste collection events such as one-off household hazardous waste, e-waste and hard waste collections. In 2017/2018 there were 16,517 total users with 93,635 resident interactions.

2.2.5 Garage Sale Trail

In October 2017, the NTWVG participated in the Garage Sale Trail for the fifth time at a cost of \$12,750. Garage Sale Trail is a national initiative which coordinates garage sales around Australia with the aim of promoting community connections and reuse of items that otherwise might end up in landfills. Garage Sale Trail registers 10,000 garage sales in communities across Australia annually. In 2017 the garage sales occurred on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October.

Garage Sale Trail partners with 150+ local councils nationally and in 2017 all NTWVG councils took part in the program. 4,862 people participated across the NTWVG region in 2017 (including sellers and shoppers). There were 206 registered garage sales in the NTWVG region: City of Launceston 46, West Tamar 78, Meander Valley Council 32, Northern Midlands 22, Dorset 2, Break O'Day 7 and George Town Council 19.

2.3 Resource recovery and waste minimisation grants program

In 2012/2013, 21 applications were received, totalling \$301,040.65 in funding requests. The NTWVG committee reviewed the applications and awarded \$54,438 to 16 applicants.

In 2013/2014 three applications were received totalling \$23,708.50 in funding requests. The NTWVG committee reviewed the applications and awarded \$23,708.50 to three applicants.

In 2014/2015 four applications were received totalling \$92,845.50 in funding requests. The NTWVG committee reviewed the applications and awarded \$78,345.50 to three applicants.

In 2015/2016 four applications were received totalling \$61,369 in funding requests. The NTWVG committee reviewed the applications and awarded \$59,985.40 to four applicants. Due to an internal funding shortfall, the City of Launceston reduced the scope of their public place recycling infrastructure project. As a result the awarded funding for that project was reduced.

In 2016/17 12 applications were received totaling \$272,842 in funding requests. The NTWVG committee reviewed the applications and awarded \$143,032 to eleven applicants. The 2016 awarded funding was higher than in previous years to include two commercial reuse projects with significant resource recovery potential.

In 2017/2018 sixteen applications were received totalling \$149,910 funding requests. The NTWVG steering committee reviewed the applications and awarded \$30,138 to nine applicants as seen in Table 3. The projects awarded estimate a diversion of 13,189 tonnes away from landfill. A surplus was of \$37,132 remained due to last minute changes to the guidelines from the steering committee including eliminating projects relating to compliance related council infrastructure.

Table 3: Summary of projects funded through the 2017/18 NTWGM Grants Program

Organisation	Project	Cost of project	Funds requested	Funds allocated	% Project funded
Steve Colwell	Swap Meet Tas	\$810.00	\$736.36	\$736.36	100
Scottsdale High School	Water bottle refill station	\$3763.60	\$1881.80	\$1881.80	50
City of Launceston	Solar compaction bins	\$23,036.00	\$11,518.00	\$11,518.00	50
Goodstart Early Learning Prospect	The sustainability initiative	\$1325.72	\$602.60	\$602.60	50
Tasmanian Conservation Trust	Community car tyre clean-ups	\$8,400.00	\$5,000.00	\$4,200.00	50
Scotch Oakburn College	Waste Not, Want Not	\$9,613.65	\$4,806.80	\$4,806.80	49
Self-help workshop	Recycling paper project	\$833.50	\$416.75	\$416.75	50
Riverside Primary School	Reduce, reuse, recycle	\$1,996.05	\$976.05	\$976.05	49
Launceston College	STEAM	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	50
TOTAL		\$59,778.52	\$30,938.36	\$30,138.00	

2.4 Support implementation of regional organics collection through purchase of kitchen caddies and provision of education material (\$68,000)

In 2017 the City of Launceston commenced a kerbside organics collection service. To support the introduction of this service the NTWGM funded the purchase of 10,000 kitchen caddies (\$68,000) and the printing of education material to be delivered to all residents in the Launceston area who registered for the service. As other councils in the northern region introduce a similar service in the future similar funding assistance will be provided to purchase the FOGO kitchen caddies.

2.5 Support household hazardous waste collection program

2.5.1 Paint

The NTWGM established a new paint-recycling program in March 2018 through partnering with Cleanaway which disposes of the paint waste through the Paintback scheme funded through a 15c per litre levy on the sale of paint. The aim of this partnership was to standardise paint recycling collection across the region and offer the service to all seven major transfer stations in each municipality where in the past only three councils benefitted from the service.

Once the waste paint is collected, the paint is transferred to a liquid treatment plant for processing where specialist equipment will crush the tins and extract the paint for processing and treatment. Waste elements from water based paint is processed before beneficial reuse through composting, waste elements from solvent based paints are used as an alternative fuel source for a local cement manufacturer. Plastic and metal paint packaging is split into ferrous and plastic materials and diverted to recycling recovery through the metals recycler network. In 2017/2018 the group has facilitated 18.5 tonnes of waste paint being collected and reprocessed; this is double the amount from the previous year and represents significant project savings and landfill diversion of a hazardous waste substance.

2.5.2 Fluorescent bulbs and tubes

In order to engage the broader community with resource recovery activities, the NTWMG established a collection of mercury containing fluorescent bulbs and tubes in all northern council offices. Fluorescent bulb and tube collections have been established at most waste transfer stations in NTWMG. This collection has been maintained during 2017/2018 with 1,500 kilograms collected and processed in Northern Tasmania.

2.5.3 Household batteries

In 2017/2018 household battery recycling collection occurred in northern councils. The collection is via collection buckets distributed amongst the northern council customer service centres and most of the major NTWMG waste transfer stations also offer battery collection and recycling services. In 2017/2018 over 2,562 kilograms of batteries have been recycled through this initiative.

2.6 Special collection of problem materials

2.6.1 Polystyrene

In 2016 the City of Launceston installed a polystyrene recycling machine that condenses collected polystyrene into easily transportable bricks which are sold and shipped away to a recycler on the mainland. The extruder gives a 90:1 density ratio, after extrusion each block weighs approximately 7kg. In 2017/18 the NTWMG enabled capacity of outlying waste transfer stations to collect polystyrene and transport it back to the Launceston Waste Centre for recycling. The polystyrene is collected at all major transfer stations in the region in bulk bags and transported back to the Launceston Recycling Centre via a local waste contractor, the contractor exchanges full bags for empty bulk bags. In 2017/2018 the NTWMG has recycled over 1.8 tonnes of polystyrene and diverted 320 cubic metres of the material from going into landfills in Northern Tasmania.

2.7 Facilitate sustainable management of Ewaste

Ewaste is a growing and problematic waste stream, currently NTWMG councils are subsidised for ewaste collection and processing and since December 2017 the group has established a partnership with Techcollect who are a co-regulator under the national stewardship scheme for electronic waste. The program is funded via a .78c/kg levy placed on imported electronic waste. The deal the northern group brokered with Techcollect is free processing and transport from Tasmania to the Victorian electronic waste processing facility. Transport from each major outlying transfer station is paid for by the group and it handled by Launceston City Mission who were the previous ewaste collectors. This new Techcollect partnership represents significant cost savings for the NTWMG as previously the group was charged .50c/kg to have the material collected and processed. The partnership has also enabled the collection to be offered to Break O' Day Council who did not have a service previous to this. George Town currently has an arrangement with Recycal but is able to join the Techcollect arrangement any time.

In 2016/2017 there was over 200 tonnes of ewaste processed in the NTWMG region with an associated cost of over \$110,000. In 2017/2018 there was 178 tonnes collected and processed for a cost of \$40,000, which also included half the year under the previous charged collection model. It is expected that further savings will be achieved and the 2018/19 budgeted amount has been reduced to \$50,000 while the group understands a full year's transport costs. Approximately half of the ewaste collected was from the Launceston Waste Centre.

2.8 Data collection at waste transfer stations

To enable northern Tasmanian councils to collect accurate data at waste transfer stations across the region, the NTWVG invested \$100,000 towards the implementation of data collection systems for all councils in the form of software, hardware, training and a central website database. This will enable a much more accurate measurement and assessment of waste and recycling requirements for the Northern region to help drive improvements and identify and prioritise levy funded projects, while also offering advances in automated delivery of financial data to council IT and finance departments.

2.9 Support household hazardous waste collection

In 2017 a household hazardous chemical drop off was organised for Saturday 16 September at Launceston Waste Centre and Sunday 17 September at Exeter and Longford Waste Transfer Stations. The aim of the project is to remove hazardous chemicals from circulating in the community and to discourage improper disposal of these chemicals.

The service was advertised heavily in local media in the lead up to the event. Radio, newspaper and web advertising encouraged residents of Northern Tasmania to dispose of their unwanted chemicals safely.

Launceston hazardous waste collection had 19 cars and 1,000kg of hazardous waste collected, Exeter had 10 cars with 175kg collected and Longford had 2 cars yielding 24kg. The overall cost was \$20,900 working out to be \$17.43/L to collect and process the waste.

Historically these collections are poorly attended and potentially some work needs to be done to investigate a different model to collect household hazardous waste within Northern Tasmania.

2.10 Financial position June 30 2018

			Actual Results 2017-18
OPENING REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT RESERVE BALANCE 1 July 2017			437,297
LEVY INCOME 17/18			
	17/18 Levy Income		482,802
TOTAL Levy Funds Available			920,098
EXPENDITURE 17/18			
	20311 - Program delivery YTD		96,868
	20312 - Collection & admin YTD		11,000
	20314 - RWMF strategy YTD		530,329
TOTAL YTD			638,197
CLOSING REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT RESERVE BALANCE 30 June 2018			281,901

3 ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2018/2019

The total project budget for 2018/2019 is forecasted at \$761,901, this includes estimated levy income of \$480,000 and an opening balance of \$281,901. Total project expenditure forecast for 2018/2019 is \$537,919 this includes operational expenditure and 30 strategy projects. A full list of all projects can be found in Appendix B.

New major projects and existing projects with costs expected to be \$20,000 or higher, are described below. Established and minor activities, with costs expected to be less than \$20,000, are not described below but have been accounted for in the current and forecasted budget found in Appendix B.

3.1 Monitor bin contamination and provide regular feedback to residents (\$116,878)

The reduction of contamination in kerbside recycling bins is important both financially and environmentally, now more so than ever when recycling pricing is increasing domestically, nationally and globally.

On-the-ground assessment of kerbside recycling bin contamination and direct education will be the focus of this project over 2018/2019, however additional supporting activities have been added to the program. These supporting activities include an increased focus on recycling presentations and displays for schools and community groups and operation of recycling trials at public events.

3.2 Award community grants for activities that reduce waste to landfill (\$75,000)

In 2018/2019 the NTWMG Community Grants Program will run again with an allocated value of \$75,000 towards the program. As with the previous year's grants program, applicants must demonstrate a clear benefit to the Tasmanian community beyond the term of the grant period, align with the applicant's organisational business plan, provide benefits for improved resource recovery/waste minimisation practices, demonstrate innovation and divert material away from landfills.

3.3 Continued implementation of statewide communications strategy/education plan \$90,000 (\$30,000 NTWMG) + (\$30,000 CCWMG) + (\$30,000 WSS)

In 2018/2019 the NTWMG will continue to work towards providing a detailed communications strategy and actions for waste reduction, organics, recycling, consistent signage, illegal dumping, schools and community education. This will be achieved through television, print and online advertising and targeted media releases, events and case studies.

The 2017-2022 communications strategy was endorsed in 2017 in by NTWMG, CCWMG and WSS to provide Tasmanian statewide waste communications which assists in standardising the messaging across the state. It also allows for resource and cost sharing enabling more cost effective communications. More specifically, during the next year, the NTWMG aims to continue to increase community awareness of the Tasmanian waste management groups and sustainable waste management practices, with a particular emphasis on implementation of the first principle of the waste hierarchy "avoid" using materials that are single use and problematic from a recycling point of view. The NTWMG aims to increase participation in its education program for primary schools. Additionally, as part of the statewide joint communications group, the NTWMG will be participating in the ongoing maintenance of the rethinkwaste.com.au website, waste education campaigns and the administration of the new rethink Facebook page.

3.4 Continue to facilitate sustainable management of Ewaste (\$50,000)

Currently NTWVG councils are subsidised for ewaste collection and processing. The 2018/2019 budget has been reduced from \$100,000 to \$50,000 while the group gets an understanding of a full 12 months of collections. The yearly ewaste project budget is estimated to further reduce over time.

3.5 Facilitate special collection of high profile waste streams (\$25,000)

In order to engage the broader community with resource recovery activities the NTWVG will continue to facilitate special collections of high profile waste streams. Following successful trial collections of household batteries, fluorescent bulbs and tubes and the NTWVG will fund the ongoing collection of these items at all participating councils.

3.6 Facilitate recycling of Paint (\$35,000) & Polystyrene (\$10,000)

Continue the momentum of paint and polystyrene recycling collection at all major transfer stations in Northern Tasmania and gauge the efficiency and associated costings.

3.7 Soft Plastics and CD & DVD recycling trial (\$20,000)

Investigate and develop capacity to offer soft plastic and CD & DVD recycling at each major transfer stations in Northern Tasmania with an emphasis on recycling locally. Trials will last 12 months after which a business case will be provided to ascertain if the group can see value in continuing the recycling service.

3.8 Regional Waste Forum

Coordinate second yearly waste forum inviting member council elected members and interested waste management staff to attend a presentation aimed at raising awareness of the group and associated services within member councils. The 2019 forum will highlight the state of Tasmanian waste recovery, NTWVG group achievements, challenges, amended voluntary landfill levy and include keynote speakers giving a national, state and regional perspective.

3.9 Participate in Statewide Waste Arrangement Feasibility

The local Government Association of Tasmania has lobbied the Tasmanian State Government and Tasmanian local councils to participate in a study exploring the feasibility of a statewide waste management arrangement. The NTWVG is participating as members on the steering committee and representing the group's interests.

3.10 Review previous NTWVG Community Waste Minimisation grants

Review previous grant recipients to investigate if waste minimisation and resource recovery is still being achieved and get feedback on the process that could help the current grants process.

3.11 Prepare information for proposed voluntary landfill levy increase.

The 2017-2022 NTWVG Strategy outlines project delivery for the group and includes amending the current landfill levy amount of \$5/t to \$7.50/t to achieve the strategic projects which will benefit the northern region in relation to improved waste management and resource recovery. The NTWVG will prepare information, case studies and presentations to deliver to member's councils to consider the amended levy and increase awareness of the benefits to the region and also individual councils.

4 FINANCIAL

4.1 Current and forecasted budget (levy funds)

The current and forecasted status of the levy funds are detailed below for the 2018/2019 financial year see Appendix B for detailed project expenditure:

		2018-19 Budget
	OPENING REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT RESERVE BALANCE 1 July 2018	281,901
	Forecast levy Income 2018-19	480,000
	Estimated Total Levy Funds Available	761,901
	Budgeted Expenditure	537,919
	Estimated Reserve Closing Balance 30 June 2019	223,982

5 APPENDIX A COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Recycling Education & Community Engagement

During 2017-2018 Recycling Education Officers have been involved in Community Education activities. These included:

Static Displays:

- CoL ongoing
- FOGO display at CoL ongoing
- WTC Riverside ongoing
- Display for Plastic Free July - LST LINC & CoL Customer Service
- BODC St Helens (September 2017 to June 2018)
- BOD St Helens LINC :display and game for children, (September & October)
- Child & Family Centre St Helens (June-July 2018)
- BOD St Marys LINC ongoing (November to March)
- BOD Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House ongoing (November to March)
- LST LINC (Recycling Week, 13-20 November 2017)

Other:

- Examiner Interview - Kerbside Recycling in Northern Tasmania, July
- ABC Northern Tasmania, made short recycling videos (Batteries, soft plastic, meat trays & light globes) for ABC Northern Tasmania Facebook page
- Real Estate Agents (Property Managers): deliver information on kerbside recycling
- Plastic Free July - displays & information at CoL throughout July
- Science Week, display at QVMAG 12 to 18 August & attend Big Day of Science
- Spoke to schools (students & staff) about implementing recycling in their school:
 - Riverside High
 - Launceston College
- CoL staff visit to JJ Richards MRF, 7November
- Tamar NRM Energy Expo, 16 September, Albert Hall (approx. 1,000 people in attendance)
- Playgroup Teddy Bears Picnic, City Park, LST, 25October (sorting game)
- Kids 4 Kids Expo, Education Dept., LST, 10 November [100 children]
- Kids 4 Kids Expo, Education Dept., Burnie, 9 November (CCWMG) [120 children]
- Recycling Week Activities 13-19 November
 - Recycling displays at LST LINC
 - Recycling stories/information on council Facebook pages
 - Update recycling display at CoL & WTC
- Visit to Hagley Farm School to assess new kerbside bins with students
- Real Estate Agents: renew supplies of recycling brochures
- Wynyard Market stall, 4March[CCWMG]
- NW EcoFest, Ulverstone, display, 28 April [CCWMG]
- Agfest, Recycling Display 3,4,5 May
- Sent bins & materials for use at LST College Playgroup, 6 June
- Assisted with Waste Audit at LST Grammar School, 26 June
- JJ Richards MRF visit by CoL staff , 27 June

Talks:

- Recycling Talk, LST Inner Wheel Club, 12 July
- Recycling Talk, CoL EHO Staff, 11 July
- Recycling talk, LST School for Seniors, 25 July
- Recycling talk/demo to Vision Impaired Support Group, 7 August
- Recycling Talk, Windmill Hill Lions Club, 26 July
- Recycling talk, Deloraine Rotary Club, 1 August
- Recycling talk, Riverside Probus, 1 November (60 people)
- Recycling talk, St Finn Barrs OSHC, 1 November (20 children, 5 to 12 yrs)
- Women's Friendship Group, LST, 12 February (40+ people)
- Recycling talk, Scamander Combined Probus, 22 November (30 people)
- Recycling Talk, Regional Meeting, Environmental Health Officers, LST, 7 December
- South LST Probus Club, 9 April
- Club Monday, recycling talk, 7 May
- Deloraine Probus Club, 7 June (36 people)
- TACCA (childcare), recycling talk & activity, 14 June

FOGO Shopping Centre Sessions:

- Riverside Plaza, 1 June (WTC)
- Mowbray Plaza, 8 June (CoL)
- Launceston Plaza, 15 June (CoL)
- Meadow Mews, 29 June (CoL)

School visits:

- JJR MRF, assist with school visit, Summerdale Primary, 2 classes, 1 August
- JJR MRF, assist with school visit, Summerdale Primary, 2 classes, 22 August
- JJR MRF, assist with school visit, Summerdale Primary, 2 classes, 29 August
- St Helens District School, 21 August, 6 classes
- Lilydale District School, 5 classes, 8 August
- Mowbray Primary School, 3 kinder classes, 16 August
- South George Town Primary, 1 class, 18 Aug
- Riverside Primary "Are you mad?" team, 25 August
- Home Schoolers, Launceston, September 6
- Recycling talks, St Marys District School, 18 October, 5 classes
- Recycling talks, St Marys District School, 19 October, 4 classes
- Recycling Talks, Riverside Primary School, 2 classes, 31 October
- Recycling Talks, Riverside Primary School, 2 classes, 1 November
- Recycling talk, Northern Support School, 1 class, 26 October (8 students in years 11 & 12)
- Home Schoolers, St Helens, September 14
- Recycling talk, Scotch Oakburn College, 14 November, 1 class
- Recycling Talk, Evandale Primary School, 16 November, 3 classes
- St Thomas Mores, Newstead, 21 November, 3 classes
- St Thomas Mores, Newstead, 23 November, 1 class
- Westbury Primary School, 13 March, 2 classes
- LST College, 29 March, hairdressing students
- Avoca Primary School, 24 May, 2 classes (whole school)
- East LST Primary School, 4 June, 2 classes

6 APPENDIX B SUMMARY OF 2017/2018 STRATEGY PROJECTS.

Item	NTWMG Strategy Projects 2018/2019	Link to 2017-2022 goals	Link to 2017-2022 targets	Status	2018/19	Annual increase
1	Priority waste theme: Organics					
1.1	Regional organics kitchen caddies	1	1	Biennial	levy dependent	CPI
1.2	Regional organics education	1	1	Recurring annually	\$ -	CPI
				Annual total	\$ -	
2	Priority waste theme: C&D recovery and reprocessing					
2.1	C&D recovery: business case and infrastructure	1	2	2 year project	levy dependent	CPI
				Annual total		
3	Priority waste theme: Household hazardous waste					
3.1	Household hazardous waste biennial collection	1	3	Biennial	off year cycle	CPI
3.2	Domestic batteries collections	1	3	Recurring annually	\$ 15,450	3%
3.3	Paint collection	1	3	Recurring annually	\$ 35,700	CPI
3.4	Fluorescent light collection	1	3	Recurring annually	\$ 10,200	CPI
				Annual total	\$ 61,350	
4	Priority waste theme: Problem wastes					
4.1	E-waste collection	1	3	Recurring annually	\$ 50,000	Nil
4.2	Glass recovery from transfer stations	1	3	Recurring annually	\$ 4,080	CPI
4	Polystyrene collection and processing	1	3	Recurring annually	\$ 10,000	
4	Soft Plastics Trial	1	3	TBC	\$ 10,000	
4	CD & DVD Recycling trial	1	3	TBC	\$ 10,000	
				Annual total	\$ 84,080	
5	Priority waste theme: Transfer station and data improvements					
5.1	NTWMG transfer station infrastructure upgrades	2	4, 5	Recurring annually	levy dependent	CPI
5.2	Waste charging and consistent services	2	5	Recurring annually	\$ 25,000	Nil
5.3	Kerbside waste composition audits (4 yearly)	2	6	4 yearly	levy dependent	CPI
5.4	Landfill and transfer station composition audits (4 yearly)	2	6	4 yearly	levy dependent	
5.5	Data collection	2	6	One off	levy dependent	Nil
				Annual total	\$ 25,000	
6	Priority waste theme: Kerbside recycling assessments and community education					
6.1	Kerbside recycling bin assessments and community/school education - salaries	3	7	Recurring annually	\$ 96,007	EBA/CPI
6.2	Kerbside recycling bin assessment program - materials and training	3	7	Recurring annually	\$ 19,872	CPI
6.3	Community events and displays	3	8	Recurring annually	\$ 1,000	Nil
				Annual total	\$ 116,878	
7	Priority waste theme: Share information about waste and recycling and raise awareness about the NTWMG					
7.1	Regional/cross regional communications and education	3	8	Recurring annually	\$ 30,000	Nil
7.2	Website management	3	8	Recurring annually	\$ 1,500	Nil
7.3	Waste NoT Awards	3	8	Recurring annually	\$ 4,000	Nil
7.4	Garage Sale Trail	3	8	Recurring annually	off year cycle	Nil
7.5	Recycle Coach phone app	3	8	Recurring annually	\$ 13,005	CPI
7.6	Local government waste forum - biennial	3	8	2 yearly	\$ 10,000	CPI
				Annual total	\$ 58,505	
8	Priority waste theme: Events, litter and illegal dumping					
8.1	Event recycling - the right bins at the right place	3	8	Recurring annually	\$ 10,000	Nil
8.2	Litter and illegal dumping hotspots, including PPR bins	3	8	Recurring annually	\$ 10,000	Nil
8.3	Illegal dumping strategy advocacy	3	8	Recurring annually	in kind	Nil
				Annual total	\$ 20,000	
9	Resource recovery grants (covers organics; transfer station improvements; C&D priority waste themes)					
9.1	NTWMG resource recovery grants program	1	2	Recurring annually	\$ 75,000	Nil
				Annual total	\$ 75,000	
10	Administration					
10.1	Staffing x 2 P/T (equiv. to 1 FTE @ 50% NTWMG/50% CoL)	1, 2, 3	1 to 8	Recurring annually	\$ 80,106	EBA/CPI
10.2	Training and conferences	1, 2, 3	1 to 8	Recurring annually	\$ 5,000	CPI
10.3	Annual report and budget	1, 2, 3	1 to 8	Recurring annually	internal	Nil
10.4	Strategy mid-term review	1, 2, 3	1 to 8	Once off	internal	Nil
10.5	Annual levy collection and administration charge	1, 2, 3	1 to 8	Recurring annually	\$ 12,000	CPI
				Annual total	\$ 97,106	
				Annual expenditure	\$ 537,919	