



East Gippsland Shire Council

10 Year Waste and Recycling Services Transition Plan





REGIONAL WASTE STRATEGY
2022/23 – 2026/27
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Acknowledgments

East Gippsland Shire Council acknowledges and extends appreciation to all contributors.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

East Gippsland Shire Council acknowledges the Gunaikurnai, Monero, Bidwell, Nindi-Ngujarn Ngarigo Duduroa Dhargal, and Jaithmathang peoples as Traditional Custodians of East Gippsland. We recognise their longstanding care for the land, value their culture and self-determination, and pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their Elders, past, present, and future.



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I am pleased to present the 10 Year Waste and Recycling Services Transition Plan. This provides a roadmap for sustainable, cost-effective waste and recycling services that will support our transition to a circular economy, reducing landfill and minimising environmental impact.

Council offers a broad range of waste and recycling services across the region. Ensuring these services are delivered equitably across a large municipality with diverse community needs is a key objective and we remain dedicated to ensuring both accessibility and affordability of services.



As the municipality grows and services are brought in line with updated Victorian Government policy and regulations, a comprehensive review of services was conducted to facilitate informed decision-making. This review contributed to the development of the Transition Plan, which addresses the changing needs of the community and highlights the importance of planning for future waste and recycling services and infrastructure investment.

The Transition Plan is aligned with the Council Plan and Environmental Sustainability Strategy and has been informed by extensive community engagement. Input was provided by over 900 residents through surveys, listening booths, and focus groups held between July and September 2024 across the municipality. Community participation emphasises the significance of waste and recycling services and collective responsibility for environmental stewardship. These contributions have helped guide the plan and ensure consistency with the Community Vision 2040.

As we work together to implement the actions outlined by this Plan, we also recognise the challenges and opportunities that come with change and will work collaboratively with community, business and industry.

Our community is passionate about environment and utilising our resources for their highest value. Every person has a part to play in reducing their waste and our role is to deliver services to support this goal.

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INTRODUCTION

This Transition Plan outlines how East Gippsland Shire Council (Council) will improve waste and recycling services over the next decade, aiming for a more efficient, sustainable, and community-focused system. The plan is based on a comprehensive review of current services, community feedback, benchmarking with other councils, and financial modelling. Based on this analysis and understanding, it is evident that Council is in a unique position to both increase waste diversion and achieve efficiencies to reduce rising costs.

This Transition Plan is therefore designed to deliver modern, efficient, and community-focused waste and recycling services for East Gippsland. It balances regulatory compliance, financial sustainability, and the needs of a diverse and growing community, while laying the groundwork for a circular economy.

The Transition Plan provides the pathway for a responsible, phased approach to achieve these goals, by starting with essential steps that will deliver big impacts. It targets larger volume wastes that can be avoided and recycled through new services, education and partnerships to harness resource recovery opportunities and job creation.

The Transition Plan provides the pathway for a responsible, phased approach to the alignment of service availability with community needs and how they access these services now and in the future.

The recommendations and actions detailed in the Transition Plan are guided by a thorough Waste and Recycling Service Review undertaken to develop well-informed, evidence-based strategies to achieve sustainable and fiscally responsible service provision as we move toward a 'Circular Economy.'

WHY WE NEED THIS STRATEGY

East Gippsland Shire Council (Council) faces unique challenges in providing waste management that require analysis to help Council make informed decisions about the future of waste and recycling services, including:

- A diverse network of waste services across a large footprint.
- Consideration of equity and access across a diverse and changing community.
- Supporting public and private sector to harness opportunities in a 'circular economy.'
- Aligning kerbside collection services with new Government regulations.
- Finding efficiencies to offset increasing costs.
- Need to reduce waste to landfill, greenhouse gas emissions and costs.
- Growing need for separation, storage and transport of recyclables for reprocessing.
- Underutilised and duplication of certain waste sites and services.



A key driver of the Transition Plan is the Victorian Government's Policy - Recycling Victoria, which mandates that all Councils introduce a four-stream waste and recycling services to households by the end of 2030, including separate kerbside collections for glass, food organics and garden organics (FOGO), mixed recycling, and general rubbish.

As the municipality continues to grow and State policy changes take effect, the review of waste services and the completion of a Transition Plan is essential to assist Council in making informed decisions for the future.

REVIEWING OUR SERVICES

The Transition plan is informed by a comprehensive review of services, community feedback, benchmarking with other councils, financial modelling and engagement with industry providers. Key activities undertaken through 2024 and 2025 include:



Review of relevant policy and regulations.



Completion of a waste and recycling services review and background study.



Benchmarking of services with comparable municipalities across Victoria and Interstate.



Completion of waste audits to understand waste and recycling streams and opportunities to divert waste from landfill.



Extensive engagement with community across the municipality.



Completion of Equity Impact Assessments to considering age, gender, disability and access.



Financial modelling of projected service and infrastructure needs.



Assessment of industry providers and capacity to deliver services.

This work has informed the development of clear goals and actions outlined in subsequent sections of this Transition Plan that will provide guidance and a timeline for implementation over the coming decade.

The service review considers the evolving needs of community and provides information-based recommendations for the future.

VISION TO ACHIEVE BEST PRACTICE

OUR VISION - To deliver a sustainable, equitable and financially reliable waste and recycling services which protect our environment and support transition towards Circular Economy.

Waste Management Hierarchy

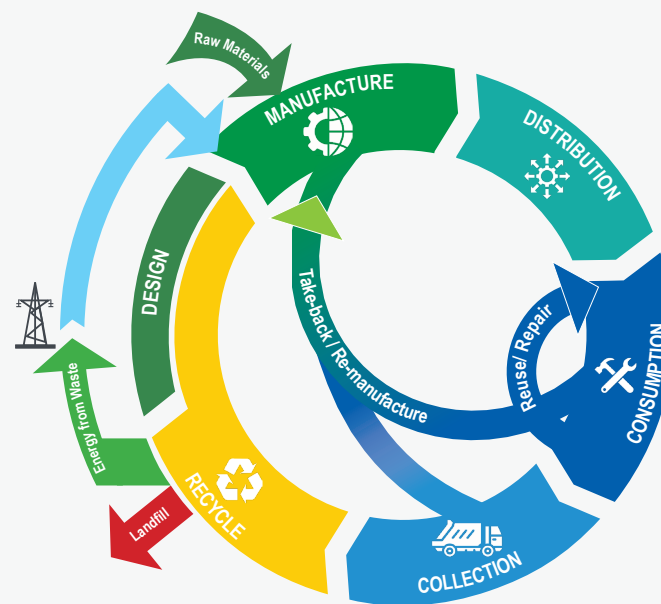
The Hierarchy of Waste Management outlines waste management practices in an order of preference. This plan is guided by the principles of the Waste Management Hierarchy, with waste avoidance recognised as the optimal approach. The prevention of waste, reducing landfill and supporting the development of a circular economy are key priorities.



Circular Economy Principles

The Transition Plan aligns with Circular Economy principles, aiming to reduce landfill by reusing resources from waste. This model is more sustainable than the traditional linear economy of taking, making, using, and disposing of goods. Following the Circular Economy Act (2021), Victoria is moving towards a circular economy over 20 years.

Council is working to create a circular economy in our region and structure our services to support job creation and cost savings for our community.



COMMUNITY PROFILE

 Land area:
21,000 km²

 **Population:**
~50,502 (in 2024)

 **Growth:**
0.5% p.a. (growing by 10,000 residents by 2046).

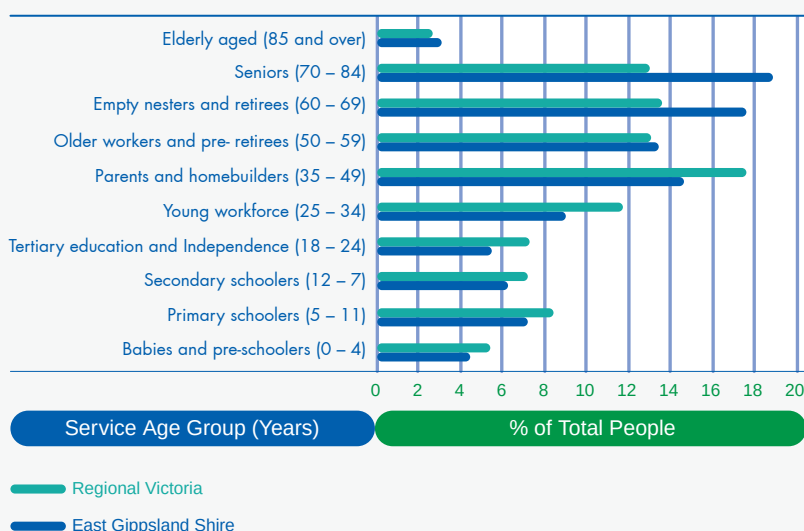
The region is predominantly a **rural area**, with **42 townships** and small communities.

The majority of the population is concentrated around the Gippsland Lakes area in the south-west (Bairnsdale, Paynesville, Lakes Entrance and Metung).

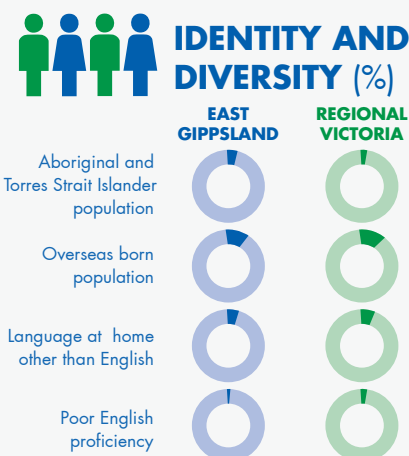
Understanding population change in service age groups, household types and diversity is necessary to understand how community members will access waste and recycling services. For example, **nearly 40% of our population is aged over 60, which is 10% higher in comparison to the wider Regional Victoria (29.3%)**; and over the coming decade the number of people aged over 65 and 85 years old will increase significantly.

Considering how older residents might access transfer stations in the future is important. Extending kerbside collection services and possible introduction of new services such as booked hard waste collections is one such example to support older residents.

Understanding the identity and diversity of residents will inform how we communicate and support changes in waste management and recycling services and provide alternate messaging.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members, and those originating from overseas, that speak a language other than English make up approximately 20% of residents.



EAST GIPPSLAND POPULATION BY DISTRICT (2023)

DISTRICT

Bairnsdale	17,666	Mallacoota	1,283
Bruthen	1,119	Metung	2,301
Buchan	448	Omeo-Swifts Creek	1,351
Cann River	448	Cann River	4,009
Lakes Entrance	8,716	Lakes Entrance	6,491
Lindenow	2,520	Lindenow	2,941



CURRENT SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

High Country Zone (Largest area)

 **Residents:**
~3,646

 **Split Trailers:** 7

 **Transfer Stations:** 6

 **Split Bin:** 1

 **Bin Enclosure:** 1

Coastal Region Zone (Second largest area)

 **Residents:**
~3,818

 **Split Trailers:** 4

 **Bin Enclosure:** 2

 **Transfer Stations:** 6

 **Landfill:**
1 (Cann River Landfill)

Regional Zone (Smallest land area)

 **Residents:**
~41,679 (highest population)

 **Transfer Stations:** 6

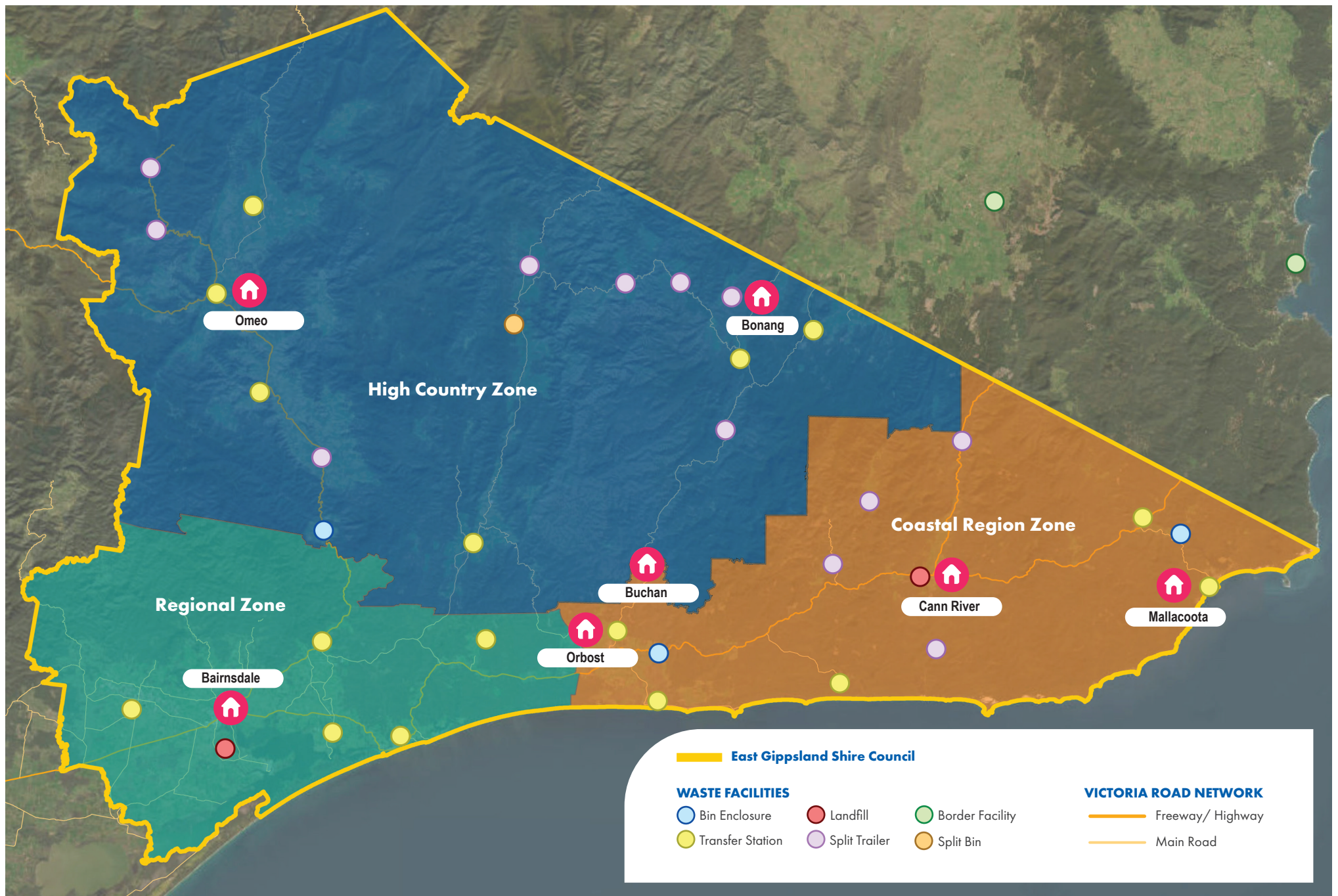
 **Landfill:** 1
Bairnsdale Landfill which supports the disposal of waste generated from across the Shire.

The location of many waste services in place today stems from the merger of five former shires. Council has since worked to consolidate and rehabilitate numerous legacy landfills that no longer meet environmental standards, often replacing them with transfer stations or waste trailers. This has resulted in the duplication of some waste disposal sites and services, where the cost of operating facilities and services now outweigh the social and environmental benefits.

For the purpose of this plan, the East Gippsland region has been split into three distinct zones considering population density, geography and relationship between the types disposal facilities and how they are used by communities. All three regions see a surge in waste and recycling during holidays, prompting Council to increase services accordingly.

Council Infrastructure Type	Number of Infrastructure
Landfill (LF)	2
Transfer Station (TS)	18*
Split Trailer (ST)	12
Bin Enclosure (BE)	3
Split Bin (SB)	1
Street Litter Bins	774
Hook Lift Trucks	3

Council currently manages a large and diverse waste network consisting of kerbside services and landfills, transfer stations and other associated infrastructure.



Transport and logistics

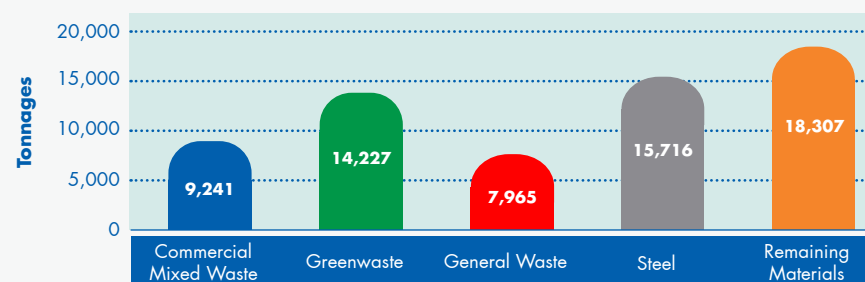
The transport of waste is essential to continued operation of disposal services for communities across East Gippsland.

- Approximately 1,800 annual truck movements transport material from transfer stations across the Shire to the Bairnsdale Landfill.
- This equates to an estimated annual cost of \$952,000 in costs, over \$500,000 of which is attributable to 4 transfer stations - Mallacoota, Omeo, Orbost and Lakes Entrance.
- The longest distance for a return trip is 460 kilometres.
- Managing the increasing costs of waste transportation across dispersed communities and exploring alternatives for localised processing or re-processing of recovered materials is a key opportunity.

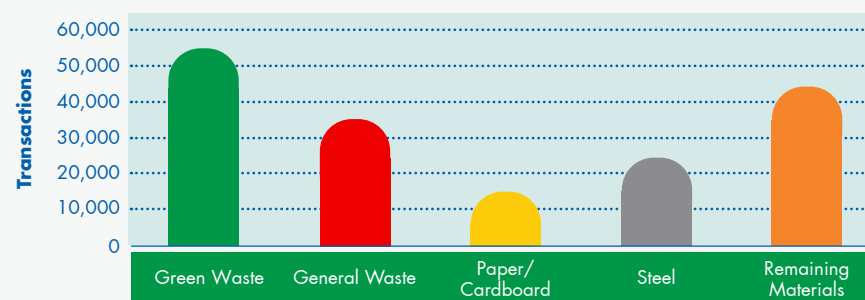
Finding efficiencies by increasing local reuse and recycling, accessing cross border disposal and rationalising the number of services may provide opportunities to reduce costs and emissions.

Green Waste, General Waste and Steel are the most frequently deposited materials by tonnes and transactions at East Gippsland Waste Management Facilities. Green Waste and Steel are highly recoverable and present opportunities to support the Circular Economy.

Largest Material by Tonnes



Largest Material by Transactions





Bairnsdale Regional Landfill

Bairnsdale Regional landfill underpins community and business disposal needs across the region, with capacity to continue to operate beyond 2050. The engineered landfill facility and transfer station combined accepts over 37,400T of material per annum representing on average 57% of all waste and recycling material received across East Gippsland.

Bairnsdale Landfill is well placed to service the East Gippsland Shire's needs as a 'Circular Economy Hub.'

Introducing a kerbside Food Organics and Green Organics (FOGO) service will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting organic waste from landfill.

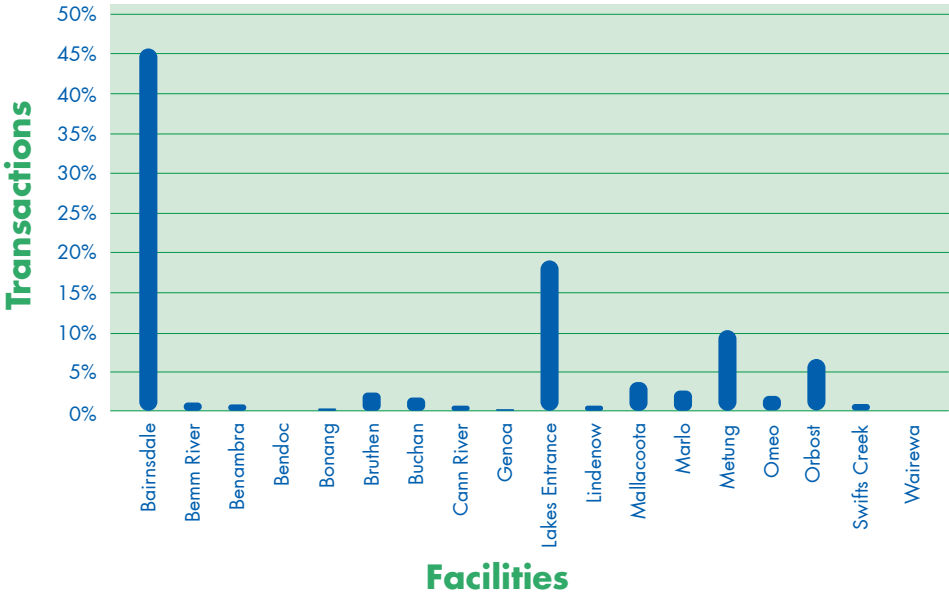
Recognising the strategic importance of site for the community now and into the future, a range of infrastructure projects are either planned or proposed as part of the development of a 20-year Master Plan that will establish the site as a 'Circular Economy Hub.'

These opportunities include:

- Commissioning the new Recycling Shed to divert additional waste from landfill.
- Expansion of warehousing for recyclables storage and logistics upgrades.
- Future landfill cell construction and rehabilitation works.
- Establishment of a 25,000T capacity organics composting facility.
- Agriculture farm trials of recovered greenwaste products.
- Growing tip shop capacity by strengthening social enterprise partnerships.

Summary of Tonnages and Transactions across facilities

A comparison of transfer stations was conducted to assess how and when sites are used. The review examined both the volume of waste material received, measured in tonnes, and the number of transactions at each location. The table below shows that Bairnsdale, Lakes Entrance, Metung, and Orbost recorded the highest activity levels.



When assessing the overall performance of sites, the following factors were also taken into account.

- Tonnes received at each site.
- Transactions each hour.
- Tonnes received each hour.
- Income per transaction.
- Tonnes per transaction.

Environmental Compliance, Auditing and Upgrades:

The operational and environmental compliance of transfer stations, split trailers, split bins, and bin enclosures were examined. Areas for improvement were identified in site security, fencing, signage, site storage, and environmental compliance.

Work is currently underway to address these areas as part of an ongoing program, which includes regular site audits and reporting. Some improvements will involve collaboration with the community to promote responsible use of disposal facilities and reduce illegal dumping and pollution.

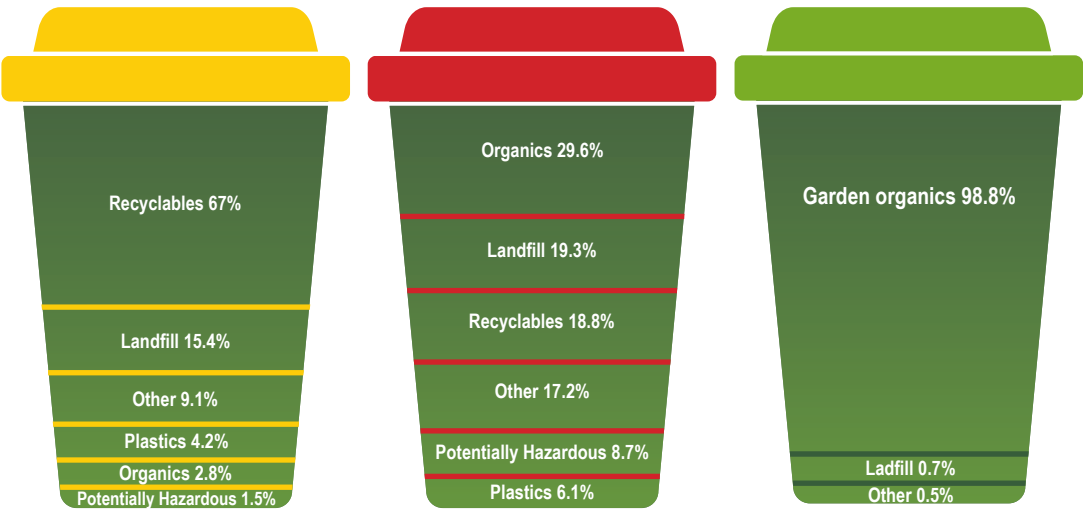
Where pollution or illegal dumping cannot be adequately managed, this may affect the continued provision of disposal services at certain locations.

Low-performing or underutilised sites may indicate overserving some parts of the Shire. Consolidating services could reduce costs, particularly where new kerbside bin collections, booked hard waste services, or other alternative disposal options are introduced.

Kerbside waste and recycling collections

Council currently provides three-bin kerbside collection in densely populated areas and two-bin service in some locations. Most three-bin households use the third bin for garden organics only, except in Mallacoota, which has FOGO due to its local composting facility.

Annual Tonnes Collected (FY2024/25)	8,495	5,785	4,909
Number of Services (FY2024/25)	22,756	22,437	17,967
Estimated Services (FY2036/37)	25,279	24,924	19,959



Introducing a FOGO kerbside collection service would significantly increase capacity in the general waste bin (red lid) as well as reduce waste to landfill and associated landfill gas emissions.

What goes into our Kerbside bins?

Two comprehensive waste audits were conducted in September/October 2024 and January 2025, encompassing 750 household bins across five townships. A total of 23,562 kilograms, equivalent to 193 cubic meters of general, recycling, and green waste materials were systematically sorted and evaluated.

We learnt that of all the materials disposed of incorrectly, 65% is potentially recoverable either through existing waste services or by implementing a Kitchen to Compost program (FOGO) across the Shire. Other key findings include:

- Food waste made up 23% of general waste, the largest category.
- Overall contamination of recycling bins was 28%.
- About 80% of paper/cardboard and glass are recycled, but only 60% of recyclable plastics and metal go in the correct bin.
- Significant potential to reduce contamination and boost recycling, freeing up space in household bins.

Notes:

*Bin composition audit data shown above represents the September/October Kerbside Bin Waste Audit.

BENCHMARKING

A benchmarking exercise was undertaken to compare our services with similar local councils from Victoria and New South Wales. As shown below – the introduction of a FOGO service is already in place across four (4) shires (and is soon to be implemented in Wellington Shire). Referring to Mildura, the FOGO service has significantly increased diversion of waste from landfill, with only 22% of all materials being placed in the red bin lid.

Council	Red Lid (General Waste) Tonnages	Yellow Lid (Recycling) Tonnages	Green Lid (Organics) Tonnages	Total Tonnage Collected	Percentage of Total Materials in Red Lid Bin
East Gippsland Shire Council	8,495	5,785	4,909 (GO)	18,766	49.52%
Mildura Regional City Council	5,316	5,290	13,029 (FOGO)	23,635	22.49%
Wellington Shire Council	7,790	3,926	N/A	11,716	66.49%
Bega Valley Shire Council	6,994	3,786	6,561 (FOGO)	14,341	48.77%
Bathurst Regional Council	10,450	2,332	5,480 (FOGO)	18,262	57.22%
Wollondilly Shire Council	12,231	4,289	6,751 (FOGO)	23,271	52.56%

Once FOGO Collections are implemented, a significant reduction in material collected in the red lid bin and reduced waste to landfill can be achieved.

The below table shows the number of landfills and transfer stations relative to population and area when compared to similar sized Councils.

Council	Area (Km2)	Population	Landfills	Transfer Station	Infrastructure per Km2	Infrastructure per Population
East Gippsland Shire Council	21,000	50,502 (2024)	2	18	1 per 1,167km2	1 per 2,805 People
Mildura Regional City Council	22,082	57,156 (2023)	2	6	1 per 2,760km2	1 per 7,145 People
Wellington Shire Council	10,817	46,124 (2023)	1	6	1 per 1,545km2	1 per 6,589 People
Bega Valley Shire Council	6,279	36,279 (2023)	1	6	1 per 897km2	1 per 5,183 People
Bathurst Regional Council	3,819	44,612 (2023)	1	5	1 per 637km2	1 per 7,435 People
Wollondilly Shire Council	2,556	57,616 (2023)	1	1	1 per 1,278km2	1 per 28,808 People

Benchmarking shows that Council's level of service is up to 2 to 3 times higher than those of similar-sized councils in terms of population or access to a service per square kilometre. Adjusting services to better match community needs by considering access and usage can help reduce overall costs.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A range of community engagement activities were undertaken through July to September 2024 and consisted of:

- An Online Survey with 675 respondents participating.
- Six Community Listening Booths with over 300 attendees across three weekends held 27th of July to 1st of September 2024.
- Five Community Focus Groups sessions held from the 12th of September - 14th of September.

Service priorities and improvements nominated by the community:

- Increasing recycling options at waste facilities.
- Extend recycling services and waste diversion opportunities across the region- particularly for difficult to recycle items such as soft plastics.
- Increasing reuse and recycling of waste materials and reducing waste to landfill.
- Increasing kerbside service options to rural communities.
- Introduction of FOGO kerbside collections across the entire region.
- Implementing bulky waste collection services- particularly for those without the ability to transport large goods.
- Upgrades to facilities to reduce environmental impact and increase diversion from landfill.
- Improved education to assist better recycling and utilisation of services.
- Support for glass separation from waste.

Community members from across the Shire were engaged with over 77 localities represented.

More than 80% of respondents reported high satisfaction with Council's waste and recycling services.

Request for on-call hard waste service:

This request was frequently raised by community members during engagement.

Providing a service for disposing of large items, especially for residents without the means or ability to transport bulky objects to a transfer station, would make disposal more accessible.

Additional benefits include the possibility of reducing illegal dumping and related clean-up expenses by using an experienced providers and allow separation of recyclable materials.

The engagement of an on-call hard waste collection will support a more equitable waste service within East Gippsland.

INCREASING THE EXTENT OF KERBSIDE COLLECTION AREAS

Many survey respondents sought an increase in locations which receive a kerbside collection service. In response, planning is underway to include an additional 1,400 households by expanding existing collections areas and include new communities. The introduction of new or expanded kerbside collection areas will occur progressively and in consultation with residents from 2027.

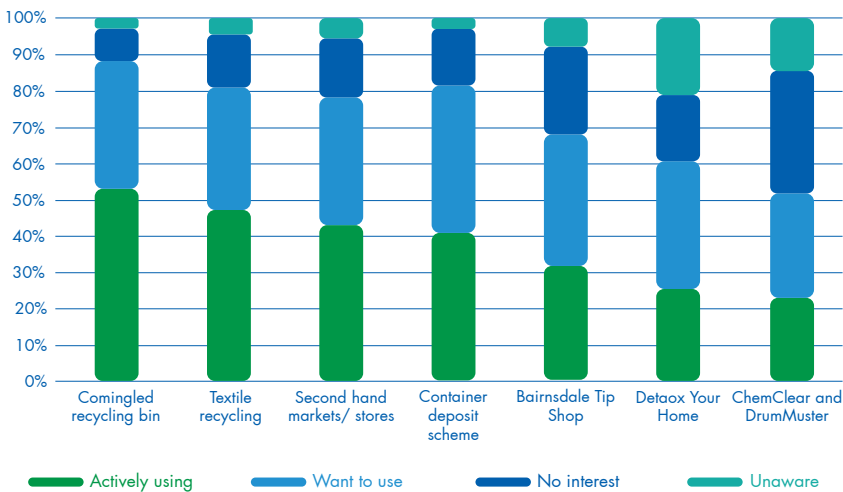
Bin Usage



Overfilled bins were mainly due to large households, young children, medical needs, or not recycling. Offering service options that match different household needs will help reduce contamination.

Capacity	General Waste (Red Lid Bin)	Recycling (Yellow Lid Bin)	Green Waste (Green Lid Bin)
<25%	18%	13%	11%
26-50%	31%	25%	26%
51-75%	25%	28%	21%
76-100%	16%	24%	23%
Overflowing	6%	6%	6%
Have to use red lid bin		1%	2%
I don't have the bin			4%
Unsure/ Do not use	4%	3%	7%

Most residents either used or were interested in using recycling services. Notably kerbside recycling, textile recycling (82%), second hand markets/stores (78%), and/or Container Deposit Schemes (82%) were key priorities.

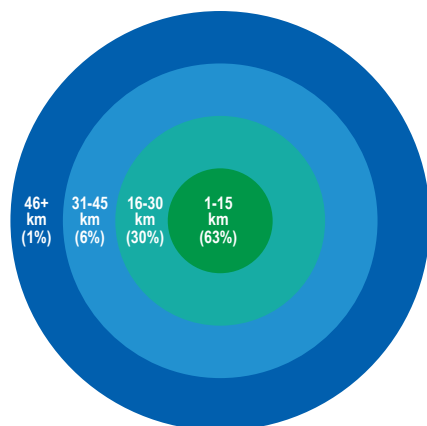


Investing in community education and offering flexible service options is essential to reducing contamination and increasing waste diversion.

How often and how far do residents travel to disposal sites?

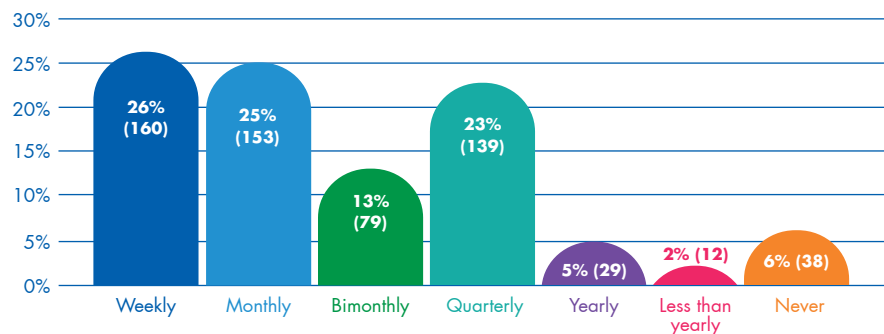
Over half (51%) of survey respondents visited a transfer station monthly, with approximately 92% of respondents visiting more than once a year. 3% of people who completed the survey were not able to transport waste to a facility.

The majority of respondents (63%) travelled under 15km to their chosen primary waste facility, with 93% travelling under 30km.



The significant majority of residents have access to a waste disposal facility within 30km from their home.

Frequency of Waste Facility Visits



What disposal sites do community use?

Survey respondents use more than one site for their waste management. Most respondents (67%) have used up to three (3) different facilities and 23% use five (5) or more.

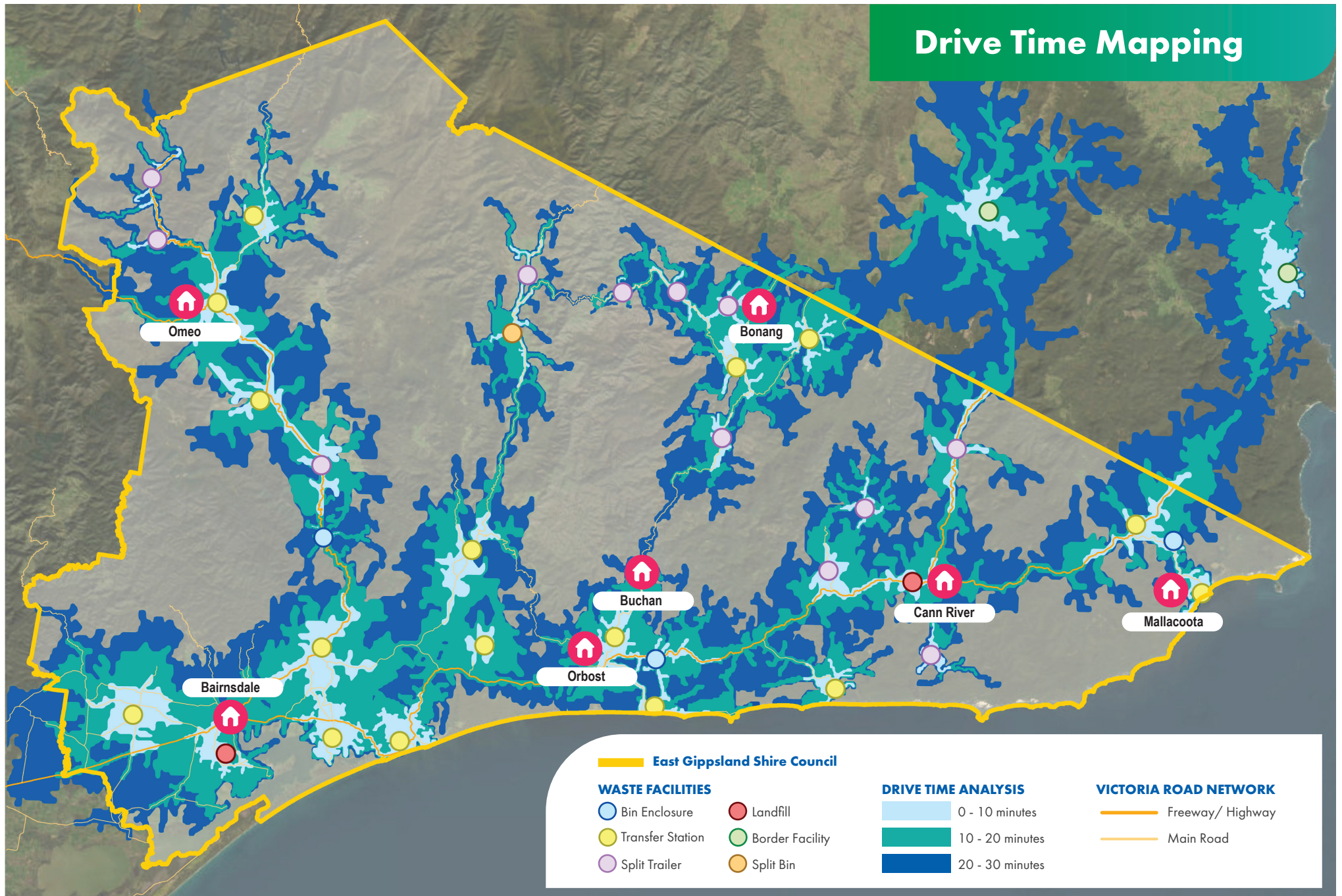
This is due to residents accessing disposal facilities when travelling to access other services such as health or retail available in local centres and larger towns.

The proximity of several sites—within a 30-minute drive of one another is illustrated on the 'drive time map' overpage/ below.

Where the introduction of kerbside collections or a hard waste collections service is possible, consolidation opportunities of facilities may be considered where located in close proximity to an alternative service.

Aligning service availability with community needs and utilisation may support cost savings and efficient use of resources.

Drive Time Mapping





HOW WE FINANCE SERVICES AND FORECASTS

Waste and recycling services account for \$10.1 million of Council expenditure, with projections estimating an increase to \$16.7 million by 2036 (excluding landfill cell construction, rehabilitation, and related works).

The majority of waste and recycling services operate on a 'user pays' model, encompassing kerbside waste service charges, rural waste fees, and disposal costs at waste facilities. Where appropriate, these expenses may be subsidised, such as for community groups, fundraisers, concession card holders and the provision of waste disposal vouchers.

The General Waste Levy helps fund essential waste and recycling services across East Gippsland to provide services beyond individual households by supporting all residents, businesses, and visitors. It contributes to services such as provision of public litter bins, transfer station operations, compliance activities and EPA Waste Landfill levy charges which ensure a healthy environment and safe community.

Applying cost management strategies will be essential for forecasting expenses and finding savings. Council will continue to explore alternative waste and recycling service options and review its facilities to help reduce the financial impact on households.

Rising landfill levies and mandated changes to kerbside collection services represent the most significant change in household costs in the short to medium term.

CHANGES TO KERBSIDE WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES

All councils in Victoria are required to provide households with four waste streams:



Mallacoota introduced the "Kitchen to Compost" (K2C) program for organic waste recycling in 2011, initially as a trial, which remains ongoing.

Community support, education, and flexible service options will assist the successful implementation of kerbside collection changes.

To comply with these requirements, the introduction of Food Organic Garden Organic (FOGO) and glass kerbside collection services is being planned and is a main focus of this Transition Plan. Details of these changes are provided below:

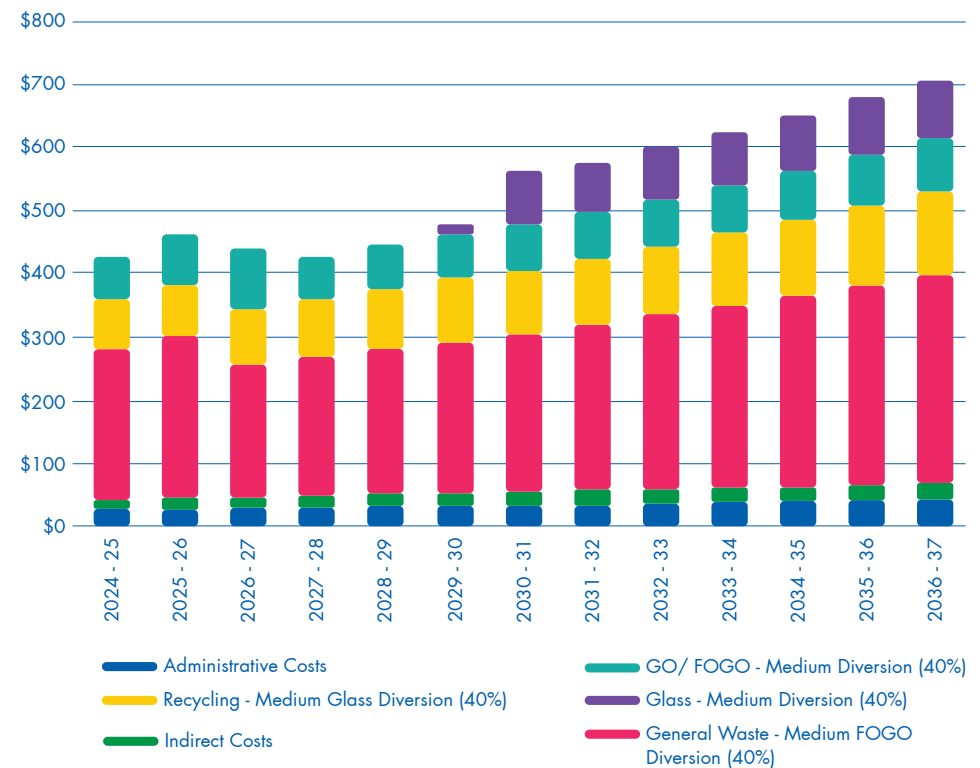
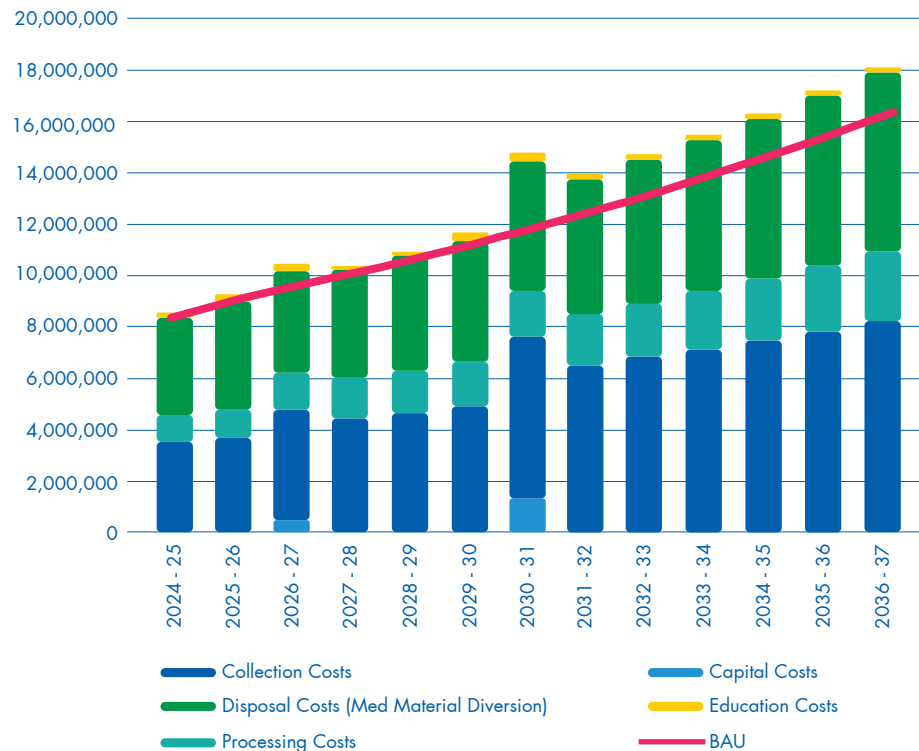
- The weekly collection of a new FOGO bin service (planned commencement 2027).
- The fortnightly collections of general waste bins (planned commencement 2027).
- Glass kerbside collection services will be provided by a monthly collection in the Regional Zone (commencement from 2027-2030).
- Local glass drop-off options at transfer stations will serve the Coastal and High Country Zones, already offered in many areas.
- The introduction of changed kerbside collection services will occur progressively in consultation with residents from 2027.
- The design of kerbside services will be planned to support diverse community needs.





Forecast costs to implement **FOGO kerbside collection services from 2027 are projected to be \$1.4M** (excluding capital infrastructure). **The forecast cost to implement a glass collection service estimated to be \$3.1M** (Regional Zone only).

The graph below shows projected household costs for kerbside FOGO and glass services. Positively, **FOGO implementation could lead to a reduction in costs of between \$14-\$32**, depending on landfill diversion rates. **Glass collection is projected to cost \$83.59-\$85.60 per household.**





TRANSITION PLAN – OUR PRIORITIES TO 2036

This Transition Plan will serve as guide to Council and community to 2036, acknowledging that waste management priorities may shift overtime as new developments and community needs become apparent and regulations changes occur. The Goals and corresponding actions of the Transition Plan include a delivery timeline designed to meet regulatory milestones and align with Council’s Environmental Sustainability Strategy targets.

The Transition Plan is guided by the following goals:



G1. Transition to a Circular Economy:

Promote collaboration and innovation by working with community, business, and industry to create local circular economy initiatives and job opportunities.



G2. Increase Waste Diversion and Recycling Rates:

Align with Victorian Government policies to reduce waste, including implementing FOGO and glass kerbside collections, introducing booked hard waste collections and supporting recycling initiatives.



G3. Deliver Equitable, Accessible, and Affordable Services:

Promote collaboration and innovation by working with community, business, and industry to create local circular economy initiatives and job opportunities.



G4. Improve Service Efficiency and Financial Sustainability:

Deliver operational efficiencies to offset rising costs, including rationalising underutilised services, optimising logistics and infrastructure investment.



G5. Engage and Educate the Community:

Undertake education campaigns to reduce contamination and increase recycling, facilitate consultation with the community, and support behaviour change.



G6. Maintain Environmental and Regulatory Compliance:

Regularly audit and upgrade facilities to meet environmental standards.

The Transition Plan outlines key directions and actions aligned with the above goals. Progress will be reported to Council, with improvement actions updated as needed. The Sustainability and Waste Minimisation teams will lead delivery of the Plan in partnership with stakeholders and the community.



Resourcing and Review

Resourcing and funding to implement the Action Plan will be sourced from user fees, charges, grants, and other financial streams. Proposed resourcing will be outlined and shared with community as part of Council's annual planning and budgeting processes. External funding opportunities will be pursued to advance the vision, outcomes, and implementation of actions.

The Action Plan will be reviewed annually along with reporting to Council and the community. This will include regular waste audits, monitoring of contractor performance and reporting against priority projects and action to ensure achievement and alignment with identified goals.

TRANSITION PLAN

KEY DIRECTION: IMPLEMENTATION OF FOGO KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS											
Goals						Actions	Timeframe for Delivery				
G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6		Y1 2026	Y2 2027	Y3 2028	Year 4-6	Year 7-10
	✓	✓	✓			Collection services: Introduce weekly household FOGO bin service within the kerbside collections contract to commence from 2027.					
				✓		Education: Align resources to develop and deliver education campaigns to support implementation of FOGO kerbside services.					
	✓	✓		✓		Materials: Secure supplementary FOGO materials and supplies to support households including kitchen caddies, liners, bin lids and other resources.					
✓	✓	✓			✓	Infrastructure: Progress the establishment of an Organic Composting facility.					
✓	✓		✓	✓		Partnerships: Support utilisation of composted products through farm trials and partnerships with local agribusiness.					
					✓	Monitoring: Undertake annual kerbside bin audits to monitor contamination, inform education and compliance activities to support production of high value compost.					
✓	✓	✓	✓			Partnerships: Work with industry to establish commercial food waste collection and composting- targeting food processors and hospitality sectors.					

KEY DIRECTIONS: IMPLEMENTATION OF GLASS KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS

Goals						Actions	Timeframe for Delivery				
G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6		Y1 2026	Y2 2027	Y3 2028	Year 4-6	Year 7-10
✓	✓	✓	✓			Collection Service: Establish monthly household glass bin service within the kerbside collections contract (applies to Regional Zone only and work towards commencement from 2027-2030).					
	✓			✓		Education: Develop and deliver education campaigns to inform and support implementation of glass services.					
	✓	✓		✓		Infrastructure: Ensure alternative glass drop off and recycling options are available across the shire.					
			✓		✓	Monitoring: Undertake annual bin audits to monitor volume of glass in kerbside bins and future utilisation of glass bin to inform service frequency and access.					

KEY DIRECTIONS: EXPAND KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS AND INTRODUCE BOOKED HARD WASTE

Goals						Actions	Timeframe for Delivery				
G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6		Y1 2026	Y2 2027	Y3 2028	Year 4-6	Year 7-10
	✓	✓				Collection Services: In consultation with community, expand kerbside collection areas progressively from 2027.					
	✓	✓		✓		Collection Services: Plan and introduce booked hard waste collection services to commence from 2028 across designated kerbside collection areas.					
			✓			Collection Services: Review public place recycling to understand uptake of container deposit scheme, contamination, waste diversion and community consultation.					
				✓		Education: Develop and deliver shire wide education programs to engage and inform the community to support utilisation of booked hard waste services and reduce illegal dumping.					

KEY DIRECTIONS: CONSOLIDATING INFRASTRUCTURE AND INVESTMENT

Goals						Actions	Timeframe for Delivery				
G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6		Y1 2026	Y2 2027	Y3 2028	Year 4-6	Year 7-10
✓			✓	✓		Collaboration: Work with the community to align service availability and access with community benefit, utilisation and affordability – including consideration of alternative service arrangements.					
	✓	✓	✓			Infrastructure: Increase resource recovery through waste infrastructure design, investment, services planning, and logistics.					
			✓		✓	Planning: Explore opportunities to secure cross border waste management and disposal to deliver cost savings and reduce emissions.					
	✓		✓			Infrastructure: Increase site storage and warehouse capacity at designated waste transfer facilities to facilitate resource recovery and distribution to re-processors.					
✓	✓		✓			Planning: Establish the Bairnsdale Regional Landfill and Transfer Station as a 'Circular Economy Hub' for resource recovery consolidation and value-added processing opportunities.					
		✓	✓		✓	Infrastructure: Maintain asset conditions and renewal programs to ensure service reliability, capacity, environmental compliance and safety.					

KEY DIRECTIONS: COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Goals						Actions	Timeframe for Delivery				
G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6		Y1 2026	Y2 2027	Y3 2028	Year 4-6	Year 7-10
	✓		✓	✓		Education: Deliver education programs and campaigns to enhance resource recovery and maximise material diversion from landfill across community business and industry.					
				✓		Engagement: Maintain and create avenues to capture community feedback to understand changing community needs and adapt the services as needed.					
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Collaboration: Support communities and social enterprise organisations to establish localised material recovery, re-use and job creation opportunities.					
✓	✓	✓		✓		Partnerships: Facilitate local circular economy initiatives by supporting tip shop services and community programs such as repair cafes, reuse shops, tool libraries, and mobile recycling and exchange initiatives.					
		✓		✓	✓	Partnerships: Advocate for increased access to disposal options for hazardous and problem waste types to reduce environmental and public health risks.					
	✓			✓		Events: Provide resources and support to improve waste reduction at community events.					
✓	✓			✓		Partnerships: Work with Business and industry to leverage cost savings and create new investment and job creation in a circular economy.					
✓		✓		✓	✓	Engagement: Work with relevant agencies and community to develop initiatives and programs to reduce illegal dumping and pollution.					

KEY DIRECTIONS: LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Goals						Actions	Timeframe for Delivery				
G1	G2	G3	G4	G5	G6		Y1 2026	Y2 2027	Y3 2028	Year 4-6	Year 7-10
✓	✓			✓		Policy: Reduce Council waste generation through avoidance, minimisation and use of recovered material by embedding within policies and procedures to support and achieve behaviour change.					
			✓			Efficiency: Apply cost management strategies and financial modelling to inform long term financial sustainability and reliability of waste and resource recovery services and infrastructure.					
		✓				Diversity: Ensure waste and recycling collection and disposal services are equitable and responsive to diverse and changing community needs.					
					✓	Environmental Compliance: Monitor and maintain environmental compliance with reporting of waste infrastructure and services in accordance with regulations, licenses and general environmental duties.					
	✓				✓	Reporting: Establish annual targets for diversion, contamination, and community satisfaction: - Regularly report progress to Council and the community. - Adjust strategies and actions based on performance data and emerging practices.					
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Emergency Preparedness: Ensure timely, safe, and efficient resource recovery and waste disposal services to support community resilience and operational readiness before, during, and after emergency events.					



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