

## 1. RATIONALE

Generation and disposal of waste has substantial economic, social and environmental costs. The volume of waste sent to landfill places significant pressure on the environment, landfill sites and to Council budgets via the Solid Waste Levy and costs associated with processing of waste and recyclables. Landfill sites can pose significant air, land and water contamination problems while in operation and long after they have closed if not managed appropriately.

Inappropriate use, storage and disposal of chemicals and hazardous waste items can also result in long-term soil and water contamination and other environmental impacts.

## 2. POLICY STATEMENT

This Policy sets out principles underpinning the City of Marion's approach to delivery of waste and recycling services to our community in order to prevent littering, reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, and to encourage resource recovery, reuse and recycling.

## 3. OBJECTIVES

The City of Marion is committed to the protection of public health and minimising waste disposal to landfill by encouraging waste avoidance and maximising resource recovery for recycling by:

- 3.1 Work within the **waste management hierarchy** and **circular economy principles** to emphasise the importance of waste avoidance, reduction and reuse, which underpins Council's waste minimisation and recycling services. Treatment and disposal are the least preferred practices for waste minimisation.
- 3.2 **Supporting the community** through education and encouraging behaviour change that will minimise waste to landfill, increase recycling and resource recovery, and encourage adoption of sustainable waste management practices.
- 3.3 Incorporating **innovation** and technological advancements into waste management practices where it adds value.
- 3.4 Incorporating consideration of waste minimisation into **Council's internal waste management** activities to facilitate the most efficient use of resources.
- 3.5 **Working regionally** and at a State and Federal level with our partners to provide opportunities for ratepayers to minimise waste, illegal dumping and public place littering, and to advocate for improved and cost effective waste and recycling services.
- 3.6 Working effectively with **SRWRA** as a key partner in the advocacy, cost effective waste management and recycling and use of innovative technology for waste management practices, and through provision of resource back into the circular economy, including resources to be used by the constituent councils.
- 3.7 Achieving compliance with the requirements of all relevant **legislation**.

## 4. POLICY SCOPE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This policy applies to the waste and recycling services Council will provide, including:

- Kerbside waste and recycling collection service - domestic general waste, co-mingled and organics recycling
- Hard waste collection service
- Management of illegally dumped rubbish
- Provision of public litter bins and dog poo bag dispensers

- Management of waste and recycling at Council run events
- Waste and recycling education

## 5. DEFINITIONS

**Circular economy:** An alternative to the wasteful traditional 'linear' economy based on 'take, make, use and dispose' based on the principles of designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use at their highest utility for as long as possible and regenerating natural systems.

**Hard waste collection service:** The at-call booking service for the collection of hard waste items; including the tip ticket options as part of this service.

**Hard waste:** Selected solid waste items, as specified by Council, which arise from residential premises that cannot be collected by the general waste, co-mingled or organics recycling collection services.

**Hazardous waste:** Listed waste having a characteristic described in schedule A list 2 of the *National Environment Protection (Movement of controlled waste between States and Territories) Measure*, as amended from time to time.

**Illegally dumped rubbish:** Waste that has been discarded or dumped to public land and may include actions related to dumping on private property.

**Kerbside waste and recycling collection service:** comprises the three-bin system and typically requires bin presentation on the footpath. This is predominantly a 240 litre recyclables (yellow lid) mobile garbage bin (MGB), a 240 litre organic waste (green lid) MGB, and a 140 litre domestic waste (red lid) MGB. Other approved bin types or sizes are adopted from time to time (eg bulk bins). Council provides this service to all separately assessable properties on the basis of fairness and equity, but not abuse of Council's resources. In general, each separately assessable property is entitled to a single set of MGBs regardless of the type or size of the property.

**Organics recycling:** Any clean organic matter consisting of lawn clippings, plants, leaves, prunings, vegetables, fruit, meat (raw and cooked) products, manure or any other organic material for which permission has been granted by Council.

**SRWRA (Southern Region Waste Resource Authority):** a regional subsidiary of the Cities of Marion, Holdfast Bay and Onkaparinga responsible for providing and operating waste management services on behalf of the constituent Councils.

**Waste management hierarchy:** The waste management hierarchy is a nationally and internationally accepted guide for prioritising waste management practices with the objective of achieving optimal environmental outcomes. It sets out the preferred order of waste management practices, from most to least preferred, namely: avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, treat, dispose.

## 6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Environment Sustainability Team is responsible for coordinating the implementation of this policy across the organisation and delivering waste and recycling education programs. The Operational Support Unit is responsible for delivery and management of the Hard Waste and Dumped Rubbish services. The Contracts team is responsible for the contracted residential kerbside recycling collection and public place litter services.

## 7. REFERENCES

- City of Marion Community Vision: Towards 2040
- City of Marion Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027
- City of Marion Business Plan 2019 – 2023
- City of Marion Environmental Policy
- Kerbside Waste and Recycling Collection Service Procedure
- *Environment Protection Act 1993*
- Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010
- Local Government Act 1999
- Public and Environmental Health (General) Regulations 2006

## 8. REVIEW AND EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed once within the term of Council 2018 – 2021. The review will be scheduled by the Governance Department in coordination with the Environment Sustainability, Operational Support and Contracts teams.