

MEDIA RELEASE



SHOROC REGIONAL WASTE AUDIT SUPPORTS PLANNED COMMON COLLECTION SYSTEM

Results from a recent audit of the domestic waste streams across Manly, Mosman, Warringah and Pittwater council areas provide clear support for the new common collection system planned to be introduced across the region in 2014-15.

The four SHOROC councils have resolved to introduce a separated food waste system by 2014-15 when the new alternative waste technology (AWT) facility comes online at Kimbriki.

The purpose of the waste audit was to gain valuable information about our current recycling and waste behaviours in order to plan the new collection system and recycling facilities at Kimbriki.

SHOROC worked closely with technical experts to conduct the waste audit on behalf of the councils to look at not only at the individual council waste stream data but also how we are performing as a region.

“It was interesting to compare the results from the recent study to the results of the last audit in 2006” said Cr Jean Hay, SHOROC President and Manly Mayor. “it’s encouraging to see that the average general waste bin collected today is about 1.8kg lighter than in 2006” said Mayor Hay.

“However, we must be more informed about the composition of our waste and find ways to maximise recycling activity. On a regional scale, this amounts to significant landfill diversion” added Mayor Hay.

The proportion of food waste in the general waste bin has increased slightly over the past five years with about 40% of our red lidded general waste bin being made up of food waste.

The new planned collection system for the region will collect food waste with garden organics, meaning it is diverted from landfill and composted for re-use.

The results also found that we recycle about 78% of our paper, cardboard, plastics, glass and containers, and that there are more recyclable glass, containers and plastics being captured now than when we last did the study in 2006.

There are more disposable nappies in our residual bins than ever before. Ten percent of all the waste collected from red bins is made up of disposable nappies, nearly double the amount in 2006.

According to the report, if all potential food and organic waste, paper, cardboard, plastics, glass and containers were recycled, the region could potentially reach landfill diversion rates towards 80%.

With landfill fees set to increase steeply over the coming years and a shortage of landfill sites across Sydney, we need a local waste solution and a system that reduces the overall volumes of waste going to landfill.

The planned collection system will be a major win for the SHOROC region and community, environmentally and economically.

For more details on the planned collection system visit the SHOROC website www.shoroc.com

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Shore Regional Organisation of Councils – a partnership of Manly, Mosman, Pittwater & Warringah Councils.

