



circularnorth

nothing goes to waste

Circular North

Implementation Plan

2025 → 2030

Disclaimer

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Circular North is supported by the Tasmanian Government, through the Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Board.



Implementation and monitoring

This Implementation Plan supports the delivery of the Circular North Strategic Plan. The Implementation Plan outlines the order and length of activities between 2025 and 2030, with targets designed to be clearly monitored and evaluated by the Circular North Steering Committee.

A series of targets were developed based on the priority materials identified and the strategy waste projection model outputs. These targets aim to increase capture rates, increase resource recovery, and reduce waste generation per capita. Each target has actions assigned, with implementation tasks. Each target has been designed to be measurable and to support a regular reporting mechanism for strategy progress review. Suggested actions are not designed to form strategy commitments, rather, to guide the implementation and achievement of targets. The strategy progress reviews will be the responsibility of the technical committee and reported to the steering committee with summaries communicated to industry and made available to the community to enhance cooperation and confidence in the program.

Collaborative and Joint Initiatives

Circular North, along with TasWaste South and Cradle Coast Waste Management Group meet on a regular basis to ensure resources are applied effectively, activities are coordinated, and lessons learned are applied across Tasmania. Joint initiatives embedded within this Implementation Plan are:

- ReThink Waste Tasmania community engagement initiative
 - Household hazardous waste joint procurement and coordination
 - Tracking our progress - monitoring kerbside diversions with a second stage to look at Waste Transfer Station information (Dashboard)
 - Procurement for local government – promoting LG as a leader to buy recycled and repurposed content.
 - Regional infrastructure needs analysis, align to TasWaste South and Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to ensure Statewide applicability.
 - Joint Waste Management Group forum and/or study tour.
- Pilot projects for potential elevation to joint procurement:
- TasWaste South – Garage Sale Trail
 - Circular North – material Flow Analysis
 - ACCC Blanket exemption for regional contracts

Targets and actions

Goal 1

Targets, actions, and suggested implementation tasks for Goal 1 are provided in Table 1

Goal 1: Working towards a Circular Economy

Circular North will achieve this by understanding material flows and identifying materials suited to circularity, improving industry capacity and resilience, increasing landfill diversion and recovery capacity, engaging businesses, and enhancing landfill and transfer station design and management practices.

Key actions to achieve the targets include:

- Reducing waste generation per capita by a total of 9% by 2030
- Increasing capture rates across various waste streams including:
 - 69% for FOGO
 - 80% for garden organics
 - 36% for plastics
 - 29% for construction and demolition waste
 - 15% for textiles
 - 31% for paper and cardboard
 - 80% for other organics
 - 80% for timber
 - 9% for hazardous waste
- Supporting improvements to regulatory compliance of landfills to 100%
- Supporting member councils in maintaining emergency waste management plans.
- Enabling a 23% increase in material recovery
- Ensuring sufficient recovery capacity infrastructure and markets for MSW, C&I and C&D.

Table 1 Targets and actions for Goal 1

Target	Action	Impact if achieved	Implementation task
Reduce waste generation per capita to 3.45 tonnes per person by 2030	1.1 Reduce waste generation per capita by a total of 9% by 2030	Total waste generation in the region is reduced by 61,000 tonnes in 2030	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MSW generation may be affected by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> education programs to engage residents for waste avoidance swap out campaigns facilitation of reuse, repair, refill and refurbishing of existing goods
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C&I waste generation may be affected by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> business engagement for waste avoidance and swap out campaigns conducting a C&I reduction opportunity analysis with businesses
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C&D waste generation may be affected by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> building site waste prevention programs run by councils which engage builders to reduce waste generation
Increase landfill diversion by 23% by 2030	1.2 Increase FOGO capture rate by 69%	An additional 54,000 tonnes of FOGO is captured in 2030. This represents 57% of the capture requirement to meet the landfill diversion target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a business case template to assess viability of universal kerbside FOGO services Assist councils to transition from opt in to universal FOGO where viable Assist councils to implement FOGO where viable by researching collection and processing best practice, regional and statewide joint procurement activities, grant funding or advocacy Support waste facilities to increase FOGO processing capacity
	1.3 Increase garden organics capture rate by 80%	An additional 7,000 tonnes of garden organics is captured in 2030. This represents 7.5% of the capture requirement to meet the landfill diversion target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a business case template to assess viability of extended garden organics collection Assist councils to extend garden organics collection services Support member council waste facilities to increase capacity to capture and process garden organics materials by providing better practice guidance, regional and statewide joint procurement activities, grant funding or advocacy

Target	Action	Impact if achieved	Implementation task
	1.4 Increase plastics capture rate by 36%	An additional 7,000 tonnes of plastics is captured in 2030. This represents 7.5% of the capture requirement to meet the landfill diversion target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate an audit on plastics to improve understanding of plastics material types and flows in the region Conduct an infrastructure needs analysis based on joint initiatives undertaken with TasWaste South and Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to understand regional and State processing capacity and needs. Including an assessment of consolidation opportunities to meet critical mass requirements for processing Support member council waste facilities to increase capacity to capture plastic materials by providing better practice guidance, joint procurement activities, grant funding or advocacy
	1.5 Increase construction and demolition capture rate by 29%	An additional 6,000 tonnes of construction and demolition material is captured in 2030. This represents 6% of the capture requirement to meet the landfill diversion target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct an infrastructure needs analysis based on joint initiatives undertaken with TasWaste South and Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to understand regional and State processing capacity and needs Support successful implementation of C&D waste diversion facility at City of Launceston Support member councils to develop and implement construction site waste prevention programs Support member council waste facilities to increase capacity to capture C&D materials by providing better practice guidance, regional and statewide joint procurement activities, grant funding or advocacy
	1.6 Increase textiles capture rate by 15%	An additional 1,000 tonnes of textile material is captured in 2030. This represents 1% of the capture requirement to meet the landfill diversion target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct an infrastructure needs analysis in response to the MFA findings to understand regional processing capacity and needs Investigate the feasibility of collection and processing of textiles in the region Pending feasibility assessment, support member council waste facilities to increase capacity to capture textiles by providing better practice guidance, joint procurement activities, grant funding or advocacy
	1.7 Increase paper and cardboard capture rate by 31%	An additional 8,000 tonnes of paper and cardboard material is captured in 2030. This represents 8.5% of the capture requirement to meet the landfill diversion target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct an infrastructure needs analysis based on joint initiatives undertaken with TasWaste South and Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to understand regional and State processing capacity and needs Support member council waste facilities to increase capacity to capture paper and cardboard materials by providing better practice guidance, regional and statewide joint procurement activities, grant funding or advocacy

Target	Action	Impact if achieved	Implementation task
	1.8 Increase other organics capture rate by 80%	An additional 2,000 tonnes of other organics is captured in 2030. This represents 2% of the capture requirement to meet the landfill diversion target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support councils to improve data reporting to be timely and reliable • Facilitate an audit on organics to improve understanding of organic material types and flows in the region • Conduct an infrastructure needs analysis based on joint initiatives undertaken with TasWaste South and Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to understand regional and State processing capacity and needs Support member council waste facilities to increase capacity to capture and process organic materials by providing better practice guidance, regional and statewide joint procurement activities, grant funding or advocacy
	1.9 Increase timber capture rate by 80%	An additional 7,000 tonnes of timber is captured in 2030. This represents 7.5% of the capture requirement to meet the landfill diversion target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an infrastructure needs analysis to understand regional processing capacity and needs • Support member council waste facilities to increase capacity to capture timber materials by providing better practice guidance, regional and statewide joint procurement activities, grant funding or advocacy
	1.10 Increase hazardous waste capture rate by 9% through initiatives delivered in collaboration with TasWaste South and Cradle Coast Waste Management Group.	An additional 2,000 tonnes of hazardous waste is captured in 2030. This represents 2.5% of the capture requirement to meet the landfill diversion target.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the collection, tracking, and processing of hazardous and problematic waste • Run regular hazardous waste collections for households • Assist businesses to understand hazardous waste disposal options • Advocate for improved hazardous (controlled) waste tracking in Tasmania
Improve landfill operations and management	1.11 Increase regulatory compliance of landfills to 100%	Reduced environmental risk and impact, enhanced public health and safety, and reduced compliance costs in the long-term.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for state-wide mapping of landfill airspace and understand the value of future airspace • Conduct landfill capacity assessments with member councils • Provide better practice landfill and transfer station management guidelines • Assess how improving better practice might decrease capacity by impacting viability of existing or planned facilities • Achieve best practice at waste transfer stations and landfills

Target	Action	Impact if achieved	Implementation task
	1.12 100% of member councils have emergency waste management plans	Minimises environmental damage, ensures public health and safety, facilitates quick recovery from disasters, reduces economic losses, enhances resilience and preparedness, and improves coordination and response times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist member councils to prepare consistent emergency waste management plans which include contingency arrangements and plans for likely materials arising in natural disasters or emergencies
Increase material recovery rate to 80% by 2030	1.13 Increase material recovery by 23%	An additional 94,000 tonnes of material is recovered in 2030.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the viability of 100% recovery of the additional materials proposed for capture under this plan. Assess options for improving recovery rate of existing materials captured in the region.
Ensure recovery capacity pipeline is sufficient to 2050	1.14 Ensure recovery capacity pipeline for MSW is sufficient to 2050	Ensures infrastructure meets future demand, optimises resource allocation, enhances service reliability, supports economic development, improves investor confidence, and improves industry preparedness for emerging trends.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct infrastructure needs analysis based on joint initiatives undertaken with TasWaste South and Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to understand regional and State processing capacity and needs by assessing existing, planned and closing facilities and their associated capacities for material streams and sources in the region. Ensure the needs analysis includes detailed modelling on future waste generation and processing requirements Consider the possibility of a state-wide infrastructure needs analysis. Advocate for appropriate parties to conduct this, or proceed regionally and ensure standardised approaches allow amalgamation of data for a state-wide infrastructure assessment Consider how the infrastructure planning outcomes could be used to facilitate private and public investment in infrastructure for resource recovery
	1.15 Ensure recovery capacity pipeline for C&I is sufficient to 2050		
	1.16 Ensure recovery capacity pipeline for C&D is sufficient to 2050		

Goal 2

Targets, actions, and suggested implementation tasks for Goal 2 are provided in Table 2.

Goal 2: Improve data and reporting on waste management in the region.

Circular North will achieve this by collecting and reporting relevant data for tracking progress towards strategic targets, supporting regulatory compliance, providing transparent and interactive community reporting, including communicating the carbon footprint of waste.

Key actions to achieve the targets include ensuring regional understanding of data collection and reporting compliance requirements to enhance transparency and accountability in waste management practices. This involves the development of data dashboards and regional carbon modelling of waste management activities. Additionally, implementing weighbridges or other measurement infrastructure will ensure accurate waste data is recorded. Reliable data reporting mechanisms will be established to streamline data collection processes. Furthermore, leveraging regional shared resources will enable effective auditing to monitor progress and identify areas for improvement.

Table 2 Targets and action for Goal 2

Target	Action	Impact if implemented	Implementation tasks
Facilitate consistent regulatory compliance for waste data reporting	2.1. Support, where necessary, regional understanding of data collection and reporting compliance requirements.	Region-wide adherence to standards will enable accurate and reliable reporting practices. This also ensures timely and consistent reporting of data.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the completion of a needs analysis to achieve compliant data reporting systems and assist implementing identified needs where necessary
Develop transparent and interactive waste data reporting available to the community	2.2. Develop an appropriate, waste data dashboard to inform the community in collaboration with TasWaste South, Cradle Coast Waste Management Group and ReThink Waste Tasmania (including carbon footprint of waste).	Data will be transparent and easily available to the community, facilitating community engagement and awareness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop an online, regional community dashboard for waste data in collaboration with TasWaste South, Cradle Coast Waste Management Group and ReThink Waste Tasmania
Ensure carbon footprint of waste management options are understood and considered in business cases	2.3. Conduct regional carbon modelling of waste management activities and future options.	Stakeholders can gain insights into the environmental impact of various waste management strategies, thereby enabling informed decision-making and fostering sustainable practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct modelling and add carbon metrics to regional community dashboard for waste data in collaboration with TasWaste South, Cradle Coast Waste Management Group and ReThink Waste Tasmania

Target	Action	Impact if implemented	Implementation tasks
Establish infrastructure for data collection and reporting	2.4. Implement weighbridges or other accurate measurement infrastructure where waste is received or recovered	This will ensure regional measurement and reporting infrastructure are in place. This initiative aims to support data collection and reporting in a reliable and timely manner, enhancing the accuracy and efficiency of waste management practices in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a plan to ensure regional measurement and reporting infrastructure is in place to support data collection and reporting in a reliable and timely manner
Implement a consistent framework for data collection and reporting	2.5. Ensure reliable data reporting mechanisms are in place	A consistent framework will streamline the process of data collection and reporting, ensuring consistency and efficiency across the region's waste data reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the viability of a shared data reporting framework
Implement a hazardous waste collection program in collaboration with TasWaste South and Cradle coast Waste Management Group	2.6 Identify hazardous material generation (types, generators and material flows) in the region	Hazardous waste generation is understood in the region. Programs can be built to target prevention and capture of hazardous waste. The program maximises recovery and cease landfilling of hazardous waste, improving human and environment health and safety while preserving valuable landfill airspace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material flow analysis
	2.7 Identify a better practice prevention and collection program for hazardous waste		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure needs analysis
	2.8 Identify appropriate lawful consolidation, transport and processing of hazardous waste		
	2.9 Implement a hazardous waste collection program in collaboration with TasWaste South and Cradle coast Waste Management Group		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant funding provision
Implement a MSW, comingled recycling and FOGO kerbside audit program	2.10 Assess results of existing kerbside audit programs to develop a common, statewide audit program in collaboration with TasWaste South and Cradle coast Waste Management Group, to undertake on a regular basis to inform decision making and materials flow analyses.	Regular audits will provide up-to-date data on current waste management, informing decision making and progress towards targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit at intervals that support good decision-making and tracking of targets
Implement a C&D audit program			

Target	Action	Impact if implemented	Implementation tasks
Implement a C&I audit program			

Goal 3

Targets, actions, and suggested implementation tasks for Goal 3 are provided in Table 3

Goal 3: Facilitate and improve collaboration between members, industry, community, and government across Tasmania.

Circular North will achieve this by sharing resources, facilitating and sharing technical knowledge, efficiently using resources for Circular Economy and priority material market development, integrating the industry into governance, fostering good working relationships, executing joint procurement, and engaging communities and businesses.

Key actions to achieve the targets include:

- Enhancing stakeholder awareness of material flows in the region
- Fostering a deeper understanding of priority materials for a Circular Economy among public and private stakeholders
- Guiding private investment by conducting feasibility studies for market development of priority materials
- Advocating to establish industry standards for material reuse
- Developing regional or statewide procurement policy in collaboration with TasWaste South and Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to streamline processes and facilitate business engagement
- Promoting collaboration through the formation of an industry working group
- Formalising information-sharing mechanisms
- Ensuring ongoing technical committee meetings
- Facilitating knowledge exchange and community engagement programmes to foster public involvement in waste management initiatives.

Table 3 Targets and actions for Goal 3

Target	Action	Impact if achieved	Implementation task
Increase circular materials market access	3.1. Build public and private stakeholder understanding of material flows via annual material flow reports	Improved confidence in infrastructure investment and planning, as well as improved resource allocation for waste management infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a material flow analysis (MFA) to identify material flows and priority materials to include in an infrastructure needs analysis. Include developing an understanding of the source and nature of the significant hazardous (controlled) waste generation in the region
	3.2. Guide private investment through annual release of relevant data	Appropriate investment from private industry to respond to the waste management needs in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with appropriate parties to provide a feasibility study or business case for key infrastructure needs in the region and investment opportunities
	3.3 Conduct market development feasibility studies for priority circular economy materials identified in the MFA	Feasibility studies boost investor confidence and ensure end-markets for priority materials are feasible and appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate market development feasibility studies for the priority materials identified in the strategy waste projection model and MFA to improve investor confidence
	3.4. Ensure development at either regional or state level of industry standards and specifications for material reuse	Ensuring the quality of materials is appropriate to build confidence in end market use, increasing demand for the processed material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate appropriate standards and specifications to support reuse i.e. compost, mulch, aggregates. Focus on the end markets for priority materials or materials streams which could increase recovery rates to build demand for processed material
	3.5. Develop procurement policy to support the use of priority materials identified in the materials flow analysis	Consistent member council procurement of priority materials identified in the MFA, and recycled and recyclable materials, over alternatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In collaboration with TasWaste South and Cradle coast Waste Management Group, promote Local Government as a leader to recycled and repurposed materials, building market opportunities for resource recovery activities. Develop procurement policy to support markets for priority materials (either at state or regional level). Mandate minimum recycled content in government procurement.

Target	Action	Impact if achieved	Implementation task
Increase industry participation	3.6. Facilitate an industry working group that meets on a regular basis	Industry is provided an appropriate, facilitated, and moderated channel for input into program actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with industry working group regularly under a formal mechanism for input into reporting
Facilitate working relationships	3.7. Formalise information sharing and collaboration mechanisms through an MoU or similar mechanism	Risk of interruption to governance structure and program function is mitigated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formalise the informal processes which currently occur for information sharing and collaboration between organisations and member councils Seek to provide simple MoUs to provide stability and continuity against organisational, personnel and political change
	3.8. Continue technical committee meetings on a regular basis	Members continue to access technical and peer support for waste management queries, while the committee ensures program outcomes are appropriate and accurate. The program and member input remains adaptive and appropriate to maintain member participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet at appropriate intervals
	3.9. Continue Committee meetings on a regular basis		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet at appropriate intervals
	3.10. Facilitate technical knowledge sharing sessions on a regular basis		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct workshops to share technical waste knowledge on a subject matter guided by member councils Invite external subject matter experts where possible to gain interjurisdictional insights
Provide ongoing education and engagement	3.11. Ensure an ongoing community engagement program to improve waste management outcomes	More community members in the region are contacted regarding waste management priorities, impacts and costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support expansion and resourcing of the ReThink Waste program to enhance community awareness and buy in Provide frameworks and resources to councils for consistent community engagement

Target	Action	Impact if achieved	Implementation task
	3.12. Ensure an ongoing business engagement program to improve waste management outcomes	More businesses in the region are contacted regarding waste management priorities, impacts and costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a business engagement toolkit • Provide a shared resource to engage businesses across the region

Goal 4

Targets, actions, and suggested implementation tasks for Goal 4 are provided in Table 4

Goal 4: Support strategic alignment across all levels of waste management, including local, regional, state, and national strategies.

Circular North will achieve this by ensuring regional consistency, aligning closely with the Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2023-2026, maintaining consistent partner operations across regions, advocating and lobbying, and adopting a coherent procurement policy.

To achieve the targets, key actions involve aligning regional, state, and national strategies and fostering a consistent approach to waste management in the region. This involves ensuring member council waste management strategies align with the regional strategy, establishing uniform waste operation and bin standards, and advocating for the Program. Additionally, developing procurement specifications to enhance efficiency among councils, support a Circular Economy, and promote the use of reuseable, recyclable, or compostable packaging is crucial.

Table 4 Targets and actions for Goal 4

Target	Action	Impact if achieved	Implementation tasks
Facilitate strategic alignment	4.1. Align this regional strategy with state and national strategies	Consistent strategic priorities for waste management are adopted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure further development of policy and programs to align with national, state, and local strategy
	4.2. Facilitate alignment of member council waste management strategies and plans with this regional strategy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with member councils to ensure targets and actions align with this plan • Provide a waste management plan template for member councils to develop consistent and integrated waste management planning • Consider opportunities for this activity to inform regional data collection and planning • Consider provision of funding support or other resources to support delivery of waste management plans
Facilitate consistent regional approaches, ensuring alignment with other partner organisations through a collaborative and adaptive approach.	4.3. Facilitate member councils working consistently across the region,	Enhanced regional waste management consistency, improved waste handling efficiency, increased adoption of best practices and technologies, unified strategic decision-making, better partner collaboration and communication, harmonised waste management approaches, effective monitoring and alignment of practices and supported partner compliance with standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop common waste management standards and protocols for consistency across the region • Hold regular training sessions and workshops to share best practices and introduce new waste management technologies • Engage all partners in collaborative planning and strategy development to ensure unified decision-making • Promote the adoption of integrated waste management systems for a harmonised approach to waste handling • Create a robust platform for efficient communication and information sharing among partners • Implement a monitoring and evaluation system to assess and align waste management practices across the region • Offer financial and technical support to ensure all partners can meet established standards • Foster a culture of collaboration, encouraging partnerships and shared initiatives for mutual improvement
	4.4. Develop and implement consistent operating standards	Operating standards and processed material outputs are standardised, increasing regional stakeholder confidence in waste management processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for development of better practice guidelines for facility types, particularly facilities which process priority materials for the region • Facilitate specifications for end market product, particularly for priority materials

Target	Action	Impact if achieved	Implementation tasks
	4.5. Implement consistent bin standards across the region as bins and parts are replaced	Improved recognition and use of the waste management system, as well as likely upgrades of the waste management system infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align collection bins with AS4123.7-2006 as they are replaced or repaired
Facilitate advocacy	4.6. Facilitate advocacy on behalf of the group	Regional waste management needs are communicated with appropriate stakeholders.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate and lobby for those aspects of the vision and targets that sit outside of Circular North's field of control Advocate for 100% reusable, recyclable or compostable packaging by 2025 Facilitate market supply and demand through business engagement program
	4.7. Ensure use of reusable, recyclable or compostable packaging by 2025		
Standardise procurement specifications	4.8. Develop standardised procurement specifications across the region to support efficiency and the development of a Circular Economy	Reduced duplication of effort, streamlined procurement processes, enhanced efficiency in waste management services, cost savings through standardised purchasing, easier comparison and evaluation of services and improved consistency in service quality across the group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop waste procurement specifications for the group to remove duplication.

Action plan

An action plan for the Circular North Strategic Plan is shown in figure 5.

This provides an indicative timeline for implementation taking into consideration prioritisation of actions (where ten is a high priority and 1 is a low priority), timing of targets, and dependencies between tasks. Implementation tasks have been provided for each action. These are expected to be reviewed and determined by the steering committee.

Critical projects which are expected to require more resourcing are shown separately to continuing work such as committee meetings, which are expected to require less resourcing, and continue for the duration of the program.

Related actions and dependencies between activities are indicated in the last column of Figure 5.

