
Media Release

7 December 2018

GIPPSWIDE KERBSIDE STRENGTHENS REGIONAL ACTION

Given the current focus on recycling right, encouraging reuse and reducing what goes to landfill, it's timely for the region to join together to look at effective, sustainable and cost-efficient ways to deliver waste and resource recovery services throughout Gippsland.

Gippsland has a strong history of maximising resources and minimising waste. Approximately 25,000 tonnes of recyclables are collected from kerbsides across the region, equating to around 200kg per household each year.

Recently, the Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Group and its Board were joined in Sale by the Gippsland Local Government Waste Forum and its technical and education reference groups to explore ways to work together to deliver services that further support and help increase these efforts.

Those attending the 'think tank' examined a current initiative – *Gippswide Kerbside* – to establish the parameters for how councils and the resource recovery group could effectively deliver services across Gippsland together.

Chair of the Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Group, Cr Dick Ellis believes great outcomes can be delivered by exploring partnerships in waste and resource management across the region.

"We've been working with Gippsland councils for many years now and we've seen the waste and resource recovery sector respond to a range of opportunities and challenges," explained Cr Ellis. "It makes sense for us to continue to explore the benefits of working together when it comes to providing kerbside collection services and processing across Gippsland."

All six Gippsland councils have signed a memorandum of understanding with the Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Group to do just that; to explore the potential for joint procurement initiatives like *Gippswide Kerbside*.

Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Group Executive Officer, Matthew Peake, acknowledged the potential benefits that the implementation of *Gippswide Kerbside* could bring to councils and to households.

"Bringing together council kerbside bin collection and processing services could see a range of economic, social and environmental benefits for the region," Mr Peake outlined. "Importantly, it would provide a consistent approach to how we manage the material we throw away, and how we educate people and reduce confusion to ensure the right items are put in the right bins."

Gippswide Kerbside strongly aligns with the aims of the Gippsland GROW program (Growing Regional Opportunities for Work), which seeks to strengthen social and economic outcomes and increase job opportunities in Gippsland.

Mr Peake added, “It’s a priority for us to work closely with the Gippsland GROW program to ensure we maximise the use of local suppliers, and opportunities to attract investment and jobs in the region”.

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For further information or comment, please contact:

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Photo



A gathering of just some of the attendees at the recent waste and resource recovery ‘think tank’— Greg Follett, Siska Hester, Chris Badger, Matthew Peake, Maree McPherson (facilitator), Dick Ellis, Glenn Campbell, Vanessa Facey, Kathleen Raymond.