

Submission Date	9/20/2019 3:00:00 PM
Name	Talebul Islam
Role or organisation	Randwick Council

Question 1 - What are the key issues facing the NSW waste system?

a. Lack of integrated approach in policy, planning and strategy development. For example, the current WARR Strategy has targets for recycling and landfill diversion, however, there is no infrastructure development plan for processing of waste streams to achieve those targets. Waste infrastructure is vital for achieving those targets or any targets in future. In developing Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy the whole of waste system needs to be considered. Collection system is an important component of the waste system that enables proper source separation for better resource recovery. Planning instruments like District Plan, Regional Plan, Local Strategic Planning Statement, LEP and DCP need to consider waste infrastructure for processing and collection.

b. Current waste storage and collection system in the high population density areas of the metropolitan area cannot sustain adequate source separation as not adequate space for storage and/or presentation of additional bins for different streams. Collection of high number of bins is becoming increasingly problematic contributing to traffic congestions, noise and increased travel time for trucks. Centralised underground and automatic waste collection system could help addressing these issues. Planning instruments are vital for this.

Question 2 - What are the main barriers to improving the NSW waste system?

a. Uncertain strategic and regulatory framework are very serious barriers to improving waste processing and resource recovery. Revocation of Mixed Waste Organics Output exemption and ineffective NSW Energy from Waste Policy are prime examples.

b. In-adequate waste processing infrastructure is the prime barrier to improving waste system for better resource recovery.

c. Lack of adequate waste infrastructure (transfer and processing) - NSW government has left the waste transfer and processing facility development for private investors, who are hesitant to invest in an uncertain policy, planning and regulatory environment.

d. Developed overtime poor waste storage and collection infrastructure at residential sector is a real barrier to improving waste system and resource recovery

Question 3 - How can we best reduce waste?

Increased community awareness using appropriately designed campaigns (state-wide and locally) is the best way to reduce waste.

Question 4 - How can we recycle better?

a. Improved collection system and increased community engagement

b. Enhancing recycling infrastructure

c. Encouraging investment in infrastructure

d. Supporting new investors and preventing vertical integration in the industry, which reduces competition e. Government initiative and supporting circular economy

Question 5 - What are the main opportunities for improving the NSW waste system?

a. Integrated waste and resource recovery planning (collection, transfer and processing infrastructure)

b. Regulatory framework that supports resource recovery

c. Hypothecation of 100% section 88 levy to waste and resource recovery.

Question 6 - Any other information that you would like to contribute to the waste strategy initiative?

a. NSW Government should carry out detailed research on waste management systems in other countries in EU, USA, Canada, Japan and Korea and identify solutions of the issues and barriers identified through this process of information gathering and consider in drafting the draft strategy.

b. So far NSW EPA hasn't shown much of a positive towards Energy from Waste (EfW). EfW has a significant role to play in an integrated waste management. Seriously consider role of Energy from Waste facilities in NSW for processing of residual waste following maximum possible recovery including recycling of food waste. Energy recovery is sitting higher than landfill, therefore, residual waste should go to landfill following energy recovery and treatment. Unfortunately NSW fails to recognise this useful fact. All environmentally conscious developed countries is using EfW to achieve no waste to landfill.