

# Resource Recovery Annual Report

## July 2022 – June 2023





# Our Community Strategic Plan 2022 – 2023



## 1. We want a healthy natural environment.

### Goal 1.2 Work together to reduce our impact on the natural environment and adapt to climate change for a sustainable future.

Other Council services that will deliver this: Environmental Sustainability > Sustainable Agriculture

Council's *Community Strategic Plan*, developed in 2022, guides the future direction of Council operations for the next 10 years and defines the community's vision for the future of the area.

In relation to Resource Recovery operations and services, the plan saw residents identify environmental challenges the Tweed will face in the oncoming years such as population growth and its impact on landfill. It also highlighted that 40% of our community feel a healthy natural environment is one of their most valued aspects of living in the Tweed.

Using the findings outlined in the strategic plan and our *Towards Zero Waste Strategy* as an actionable guide, we see further opportunity to grow our range of educational workshops, campaigns and events that work to divert waste from landfill through educating residents on the importance of waste minimisation, waste reduction targets, and the circular economy.

Furthermore, we will continue to establish ways to further divert waste from landfill and work with our partners to find sustainable solutions that fit within the realities of the broader economy.

## Contents

Our Community Strategic Plan 2022 – 2023	2
Foreword	4
Major achievements	6
10-year waste contract – one year on	6
Flood waste clean up	6
Landfill Cell C	6
Tweed Organics Processing Facility – 3 years on	7
Towards Zero Waste Strategy	7
Waste collection services	11
Council's household collection services	11
Organics	11
Landfill waste	13
Hard waste kerbside collection	14
Public parks and street litter	14
Beyond the bins	15
Resource Recovery snapshot	15
Community Recycling Centre – Stotts Creek	17
Tweed JUNKtion Tip Shop	19
The cost of waste	20
Looking after the environment	20
Removing waste from landfill	21
Diversion of waste and materials:	21
Asbestos	22
Education	23
Future plans	26
Masterplan program – Stotts Creek	26



# Foreword

The 2022/23 financial year presented many changes to Stotts Creek Resource Recovery Centre (SCRRC). We continued to provide a quality waste management service and succeeded in achieving important milestones for both Council and the community.

The Tweed Organics Processing Facility accepted 13,140 tonnes of household organics from the Tweed community for the 2022/23 period and an additional 7,111 tonnes of organics under an agreement with Ballina Council. This agreement optimises the use of the facility whilst reducing the cost to Council for the recovery of household organics.

The annual audit of the Tweed's household bins provided us with an understanding of where our opportunities lie. There is still a high level of contamination in the recycling (yellow) bin (13%), but very low contamination in the green organics bin (less than 2%). The audit also showed that 50% of general waste collected from (red) bins could be diverted into one of these other services.

Council has been operating the special waste cell, which was set up to receive asbestos containing material – it received over 3,000 tonnes of material in the 2022/23 year. This cell will be closed toward the end of 2023, although plans are being implemented to ensure we are able to deal with the next natural disaster.

The JUNKtion Tip Shop has proven popular, welcoming more than 15,100 customers during the year. It is fast becoming a destination where we can engage and collaborate with the community and our partners, and one which we are keen to continue expanding. This year we incorporated the recovery of items from the kerbside bulk waste collection into the shop's operations. Our team is working with the collections contractor to maximise this recovery opportunity to ensure we recover as much as possible.

The operations of the tip shop partially fund the new sustainability officer, who's responsibilities include delivering the outcomes of the *Towards Zero Waste* and sustainability strategies as well as the objectives of the Cool Towns project.

Delivery of the Waste Masterplan continues to be a key focus of the Resource Recovery team. In 2022/23 the final cell at the Stotts Creek site was completed. This cell will be the last at the Stotts Creek site, providing an additional three years disposal capacity after which we will be moving to the new site in the old Quirks Quarry.

This year, we also commenced the upgrade to the entry at the site including a new weighbridge, site office, carpark for the Tip Shop, roundabout and road network. These works are set for completion in late 2023.

Additionally, we have:

- awarded a contract for the design of the upgrades to the waste transfer station with the contract for the construction of these upgrades to be advertised in 2023/24
- advertised an expressions of interest for companies that can construct the road between the new and old landfill
- advertised a request for offer for the design and construction of stormwater and leachate upgrades at the SCRRC
- purchased and installed a cardboard compactor to bale cardboard previously disposed using a NSW EPA grant.

The next 5 years will see the delivery of several key projects under the Masterplan and offer a great opportunity to evolve the JUNKtion Tip Shop into a destination to source pre-loved items, and engage visitors with learning and workshops.



# Major achievements



## 10-year waste contract – one year on

Council commenced the next phase of its collection services with a new contract with Solo Resource Recovery from 1 July 2022. The new contract includes collection of the 3-bin system (organics, recycling and waste) for urban single and duplex properties, and the 2-bin service (recycling and waste) for multi-unit and rural properties. Council also provides bulk bin collections for larger multi-unit residential properties, who also have recycling services provided.

We have retained the on-call bulky goods collection for domestic properties provided with a red lid waste bin and have modified this service with the inclusion of a separate truck to collect recoverable items that are saleable in the JUNKtion Tip Shop.

The new fleet of waste trucks are fitted to ensure the highest emission standards currently available and are supported by an electric vehicle for use by the contamination management officer, a new position established to support education to the public on waste collection matters and to deal with alleged dumping.

## Flood waste clean up

In late February and early March 2022 Tweed Shire experienced the worst floods on record and while the flood occurred in 2021/22 the clean up continued well into this financial year.

Council has continued to receive and process asbestos at levels significantly higher than previously and is managing the significant quantity of fill material generated as a result of land slips and flood silt. Much of this material will be used on rehabilitation works on legacy sites.

Council is also working closely to determine how to best manage events of this nature in the future, taking into account learnings from both the 2022 and 2017 floods.

## Landfill Cell C

The construction of the final cell at SCRRC was completed in May 2022. The cell will allow us to finalise the profile of the site and to move to the next phase of operations at the SCRRC which will involve rehabilitation of the site and development of the areas for the processing of recoverable materials.

Over the next 5 years while the site is being filled, we will continue to rehabilitate the completed sections.

Watch a [time lapse video](https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/landfill-cell) of the construction of cell C (visit: [tweed.nsw.gov.au/landfill-cell](https://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/landfill-cell)).

## Tweed Organics Processing Facility – 3 years on

The organic waste processing facility, which opened in August 2021, received over 20,200 tonnes of household organics in 2022/23. The facility has proven incredibly effective.

Material collected included 13,137 tonnes of material from Tweed households and 7,111 tonnes of material from Ballina properties. In the coming year, as part of a new agreement, the facility will also be receiving material from Kyogle.

The materials received from outside our region provides funds used to reduce the cost of the organics collection service to Tweed residents.

## Towards Zero Waste Strategy

In March 2021 Council adopted the *Towards Zero Waste Strategy*. The strategy commits Council to leading by example and aspiring to become a zero waste organisation by 2040, recognising that current waste treatment technology means that 100% landfill diversion is not yet feasible.

The strategy is a guide for action that supports delivery of our services by:

- committing Council to demonstrate leadership in reducing waste in council operations and service delivery
- defining a framework that supports Council and the community to pursue zero waste targets.

The strategy also helps us deliver against Goal 2.1.

## Completed actions

### Towards Zero Waste Officer (TZW Strategy 1.1a)

In January 2023, Council appointed a Towards Zero Waste Officer to support community education and engagement about the circular economy, waste prevention, diversion and the reuse and recycling of materials. The initial focus of this role is to support improvement of Council operations and to demonstrate leadership in reducing waste.

## **Waste audit** (TZW Strategy 1.2a)

During May and June 2023, a waste audit was completed across all Council facilities and operations, including the civic centre, administration offices and depots, water and wastewater facilities, TRAC, libraries, auditoriums, art gallery and museum locations. The audit was also extended to include the Tweed Holiday Parks and a sample of public place bins.

This information will be used to identify challenges and opportunities for waste avoidance, diversion from landfill and circular economy opportunities in each Council location. A co-design approach will be adopted to partner with staff to tackle key challenges and implement system and behavioural approaches.

The results indicated that Council is excelling at circularity in many areas of operations, including recovery and reuse of construction and road materials, reuse of natural materials in open space planning, use of biosolids removed from wastewater, and recovery of materials such as scrap metal at depots.

However, the audit also showed that more work needs to be done in managing internal waste, with an average landfill diversion rate of just 11% and a recycling contamination rate of 28%. Opportunities for improvement vary across Council locations and these will form the focus for internal actions in the 2023/24 financial year.

This audit provides a useful baseline for measuring improvement towards our zero waste aspirations.

## **Contamination management in household bins and illegal dumping** (TZW Strategy 2.1c)

In February 2023, Council appointed a compliance officer to undertake kerbside inspections of household bins and to provide an improved response to managing illegal dumping.

We have since updated the way we provide feedback to householders about bin contamination to ensure the information is as clear and informative as possible.

With implementation of new procedures we can now also ensure that this feedback helps residents understand what the particular contamination issue is. Furthermore, we continue to acknowledge them when they have done the right thing (no contamination).

In April 2023 we reviewed resident responses to our survey and the results indicated that 71% of inspections showed a change in behaviour in the first instance following communication of a previously contaminated bin

New strategies have been implemented for illegal dumping that focus on prevention, education, enforcement and clean up. These include:

- A review of illegal dumping procedures to ensure faster and more efficient response to illegal dumping reports. This prevents offenders adding to a dumped pile and reduces risks of pests and environmental pollution.
- Successful application for an EPA grant to purchase trail and licence plate detection cameras to allow council to monitor hot spots to catch and deter illegal dumping activity.
- Encouraging the general public to report incidents of illegal dumping through Report Illegal Dumping (RID) online or on Council's website.

## **Emissions reduction measures** (TZW Strategy 1.5a)

Council continues to review its carbon footprint from its waste operations, with landfill gas management in place to process methane emissions at the landfill. Opportunities for creating energy from waste are currently limited, while volumes of landfill processed on site are low, however this may be reviewed when the new landfill cell at Stotts Creek becomes operational.

In partnership with Solo Resource Recovery, Council will continue to review operational alternatives that could reduce the emissions generated by waste collection services, as these options become available.

## **Single use plastic bans** (TZW Strategy 1.6a)

As of 1 November 2022, single use plastics were banned across NSW. Council continues to monitor behaviour, in particular, ensuring that catering and events reflect best practice.

Council aims to lead the way by ensuring all internal and community events use reusable plates and cutlery where possible, or sustainable, recyclable or compostable alternatives.

## **Household and business education** (TZW Strategy 2.1)

Ongoing waste reduction and community education events with a focus on circular economy outcomes have achieved strong results in 2022/23 financial year, including compost workshops, celebration of Plastic Free July, use of Council's online Waste Wizard and joint campaigns with North East Waste. Further information on these initiatives is included in the Education section of this report.



## Actions in progress

### Sustainable procurement (TZW Strategy 1.3)

In April 2023, Council completed consultation with staff on their experience with sustainable procurement, including opportunities to incorporate recycled content in materials and the effective management of waste and circular economy principles. Sixteen in-depth one-on-one interviews and 6 online surveys were completed with key purchasers across Council. Care was taken to ensure representation from a variety of purchasing sectors, spend levels and frequency of purchasing, recognising that some staff purchase frequently in low value amounts, while others purchase less frequently but for large scale projects.

Following the consultation, an action plan has been progressed by the Sustainable Procurement Working Group to include:

- an application for grant funding to support staff training and the development of a sustainability risks and opportunities heat map and multi-criteria analysis tool suitable for Council's purchasing needs (awaiting outcome)
- collaboration with other councils and review of sustainable procurement frameworks adopted elsewhere (completed)
- review suppliers and identify purchasing categories applicable to Council (in progress)
- identify relevant staff for initial professional development opportunities (in progress)
- develop series of case studies on success stories to showcase benefits of sustainable procurement (in progress)
- update procurement processes to incorporate information developed and training for all staff (2023/24 financial year).

### Focus areas for 2023/24 financial year

- To develop a behaviour change program in partnership across all Council locations to improve waste diversion and reduce recycling contamination rates (TZW Strategy 1.6).
- Together with the Sustainable Procurement Working Group, develop a program to support the rollout and adoption of sustainable procurement frameworks to promote minimising waste, the use of recycled materials and further circular economy opportunities (TZW Strategy 1.3).
- Identify measures for monitoring Council's circular economy efforts, including JUNKtion Tip Shop, furniture and resource sharing, and waste avoidance initiatives, to support development of further behaviour change programs across other networks (TZW Strategy 1.6b and 2.3).

## Waste collection services



### Council's household collection services

Council continued to provide a household 3-bin service to residential single and duplex properties in urban areas, and a 2-bin service to multi-unit and rural properties. A bulk-bin service was also available for multi-unit residential and mixed residential properties. An on-call bulky goods collection service is also available to residential properties with a red lid waste collection service.



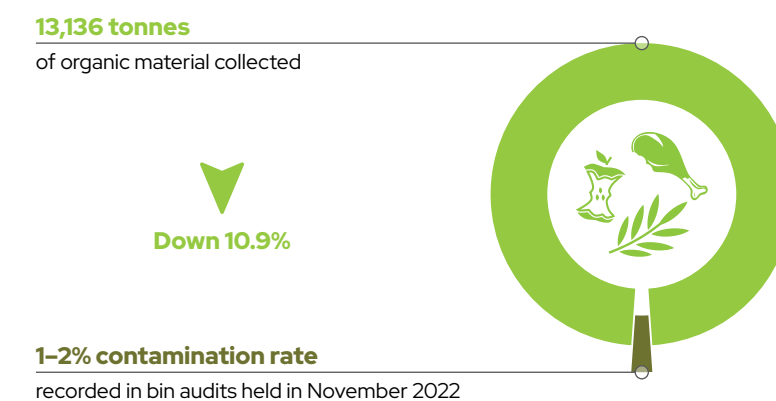
### Organics

Council provided 27,339 weekly food and garden organics bin services per week and we collected 13,136 tonnes of household organic material (480 kg per property).

Contamination in the green bins was between one and 2% which is a great result, with the major contaminant being plastic bags.

Councils processing contractor (Soilco) also received and processed 7,111 tonnes of organics (FOGO) collection material from Ballina Shire Council household collections with this material helping to optimize the use of the processing facility and to subsidise the operations of Council.

The audit identified a rate of 1.8% contamination which reflects the experience at the processing facility.



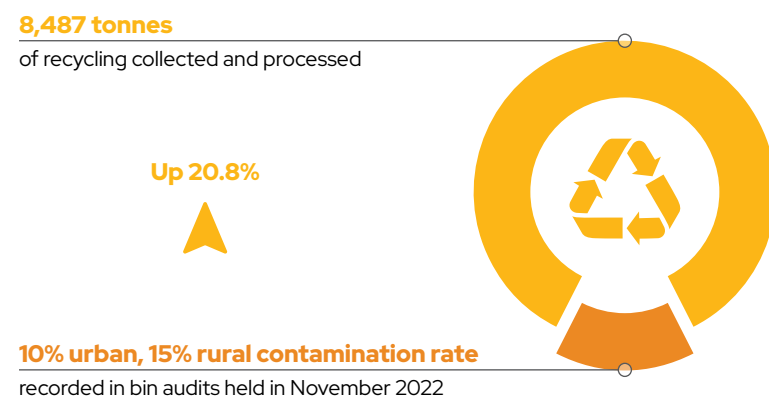
## Recycling

39,423 fortnightly and 437 weekly recycling services were provided this financial year with 8,487 tonnes of material collected for processing.

With the bin inspection program commencing again February 2023. 3,393 properties were visited with 504 bins tagged as contaminated. Invested community education saw an increase in the management of non-compliance. The measure will be monitored to understand the effect the contamination management is having and to allow us to direct our education program.

The annual audits identified a contamination rate of 10% in the urban residential recycling but 15% in rural properties, marginally lower than the previous year. This will be used as a benchmark to assess the effectiveness of our contamination management measures going forward.

The audit highlighted that the worst contaminants in the recycling were food/kitchen waste (2.46%) and disposable paper products (1.43%). This has helped us to understand our customers needs as far as education goes.

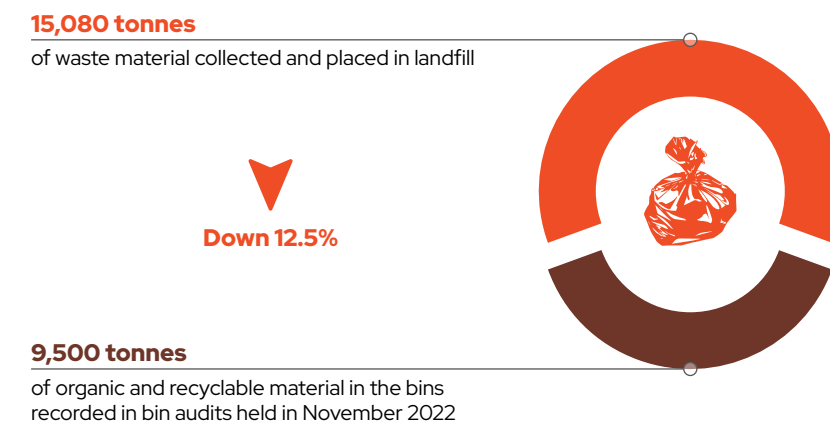


## Landfill waste

In 2022/23 council provided 24,312 fortnightly and 15,176 weekly residential and commercial services for the red landfill bins, collecting 15,080 tonnes of waste. We also collected 1,393 tonnes in bulk bins from mainly multi unit developments.

The November 2022 audit of red bins at 3-bin service properties showed that urban household waste bins still contained 9% materials that should not be placed in them, including hazardous materials, building waste, earth based materials and e-waste. The bin also included materials that could be placed in the recycling (21%) and organics (42%) services, meaning that nearly two thirds of the material in the red waste bin could have been diverted.

This will be the challenge for Council and residents in coming years.



## Hard waste kerbside collection

The hard waste collection service is a booked service. In the 2022/23 period Council collected 1297 tonnes of on-call domestic bulky waste. 16,394 services were requested and provided throughout the year.

173 loads of refrigerators and household goods were collected in the kerbside collection and taken for degassing or sale in the tip shop. The fridges were taken to SCRRRC and degassed before being salvaged, thus ensuring the gases were not released into the environment and the metal was recovered.

35.10 tonnes worth of items were salvaged from the hard waste collections and redirected to JUNKtion Tip Shop.



## Public parks and street litter

Council provides public place bins in parks and civic centres, with the bins serviced on a schedule basis depending on usage. The service level was increased during holiday periods and when council is notified of events in sporting and recreation areas. Council provided more than 1200 bin clearances per week during normal periods and many more during holidays periods in 2022/23 with a total of 860 tonnes of waste collected. This was an increase of 10% over the previous year.

There are also a number of public place recycling bins which are serviced using the recycling vehicles.

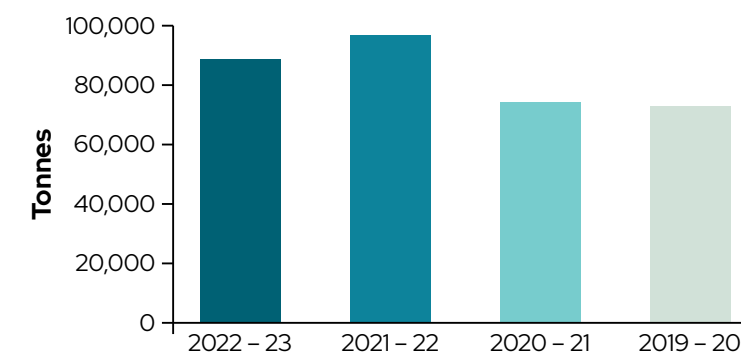
## Beyond the bins



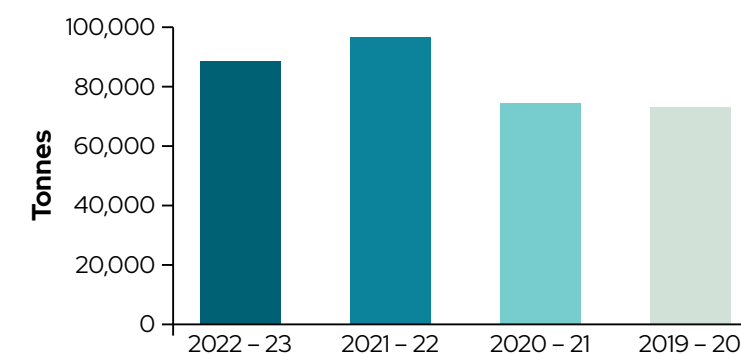
## Resource Recovery snapshot

In 2022/23 Council recovered 55.9% (exclusive of flood recovery fill) of the total waste received at SCRRRC and Landfill.

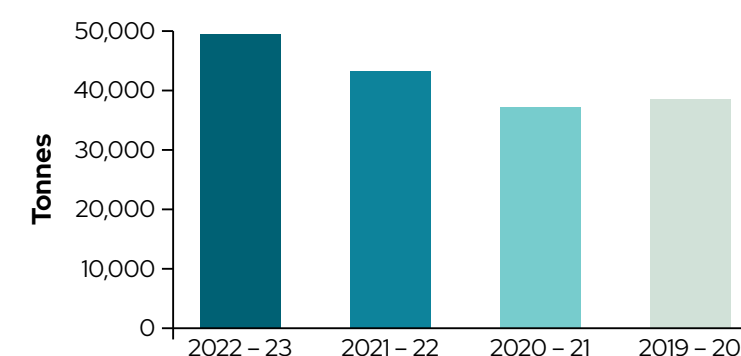
### Waste received/collected



### Clean fill processed/reused on site or for operation



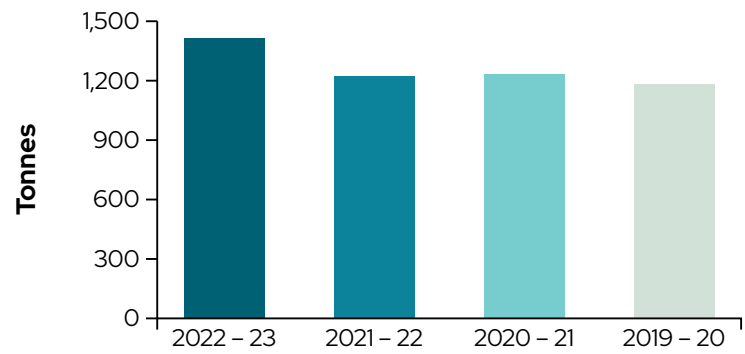
### Waste diverted (reused or recycled)



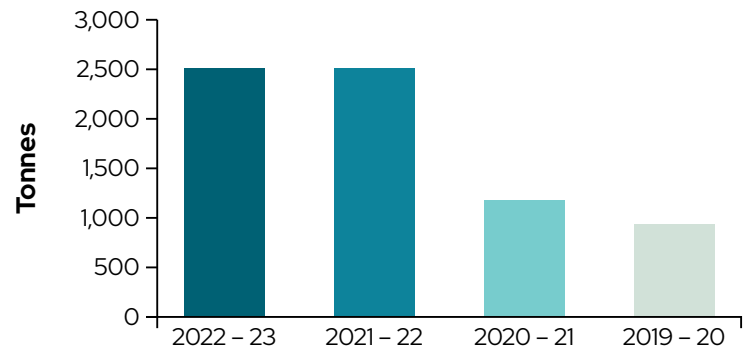


An additional 50,000 tonnes of fill, including landslip materials and flood sediment were collected during the 2022 floods. This will be reused in rehabilitation projects on-site and in the community. This material has not been weighed as it is stored on a separate site.

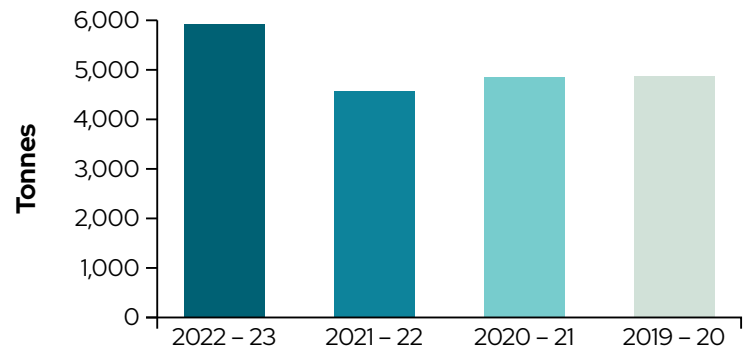
Metal recycled



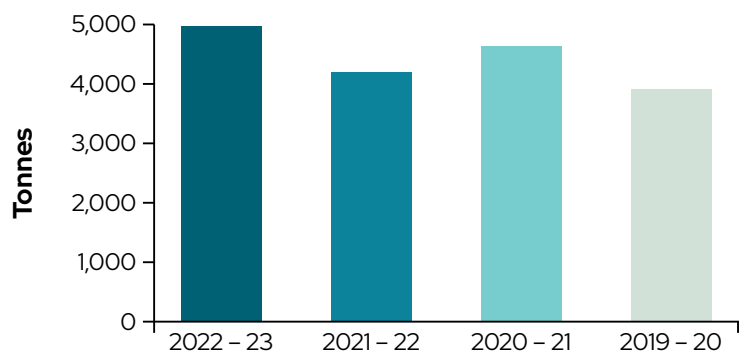
Asbestos



Concrete bricks and tiles processed/reused as road and pavement material

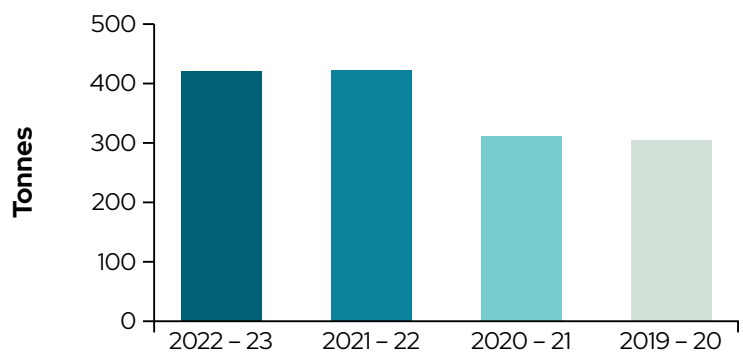


Garden waste recovered/reused for landfill rehab



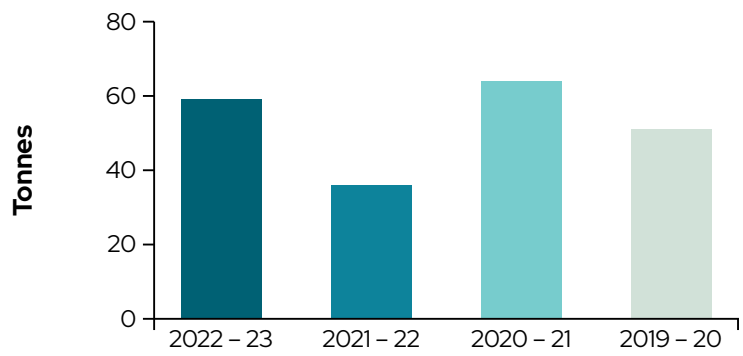
Community Recycling Centre – Stotts Creek

Waste from charities\*

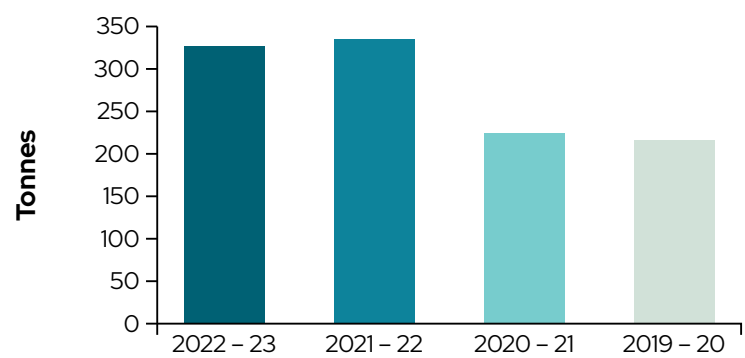


\*Council exempts disposal costs as a community service

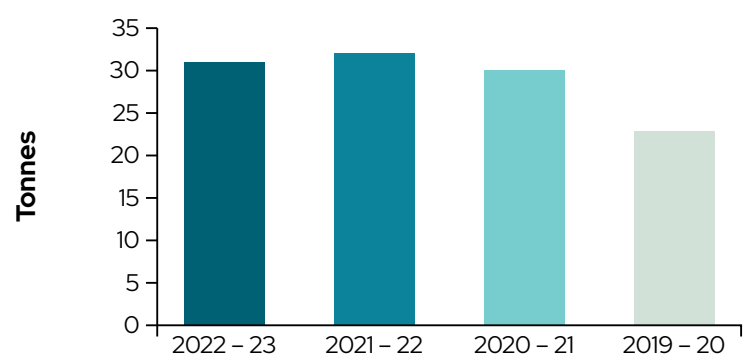
E-waste recycling (Tech collect)



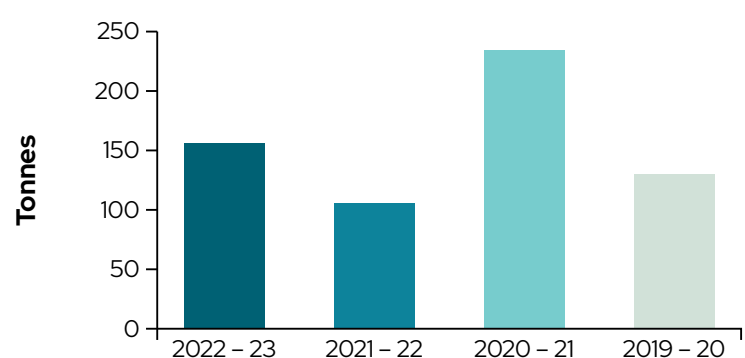
Mixed recyclables and cardboard recycled



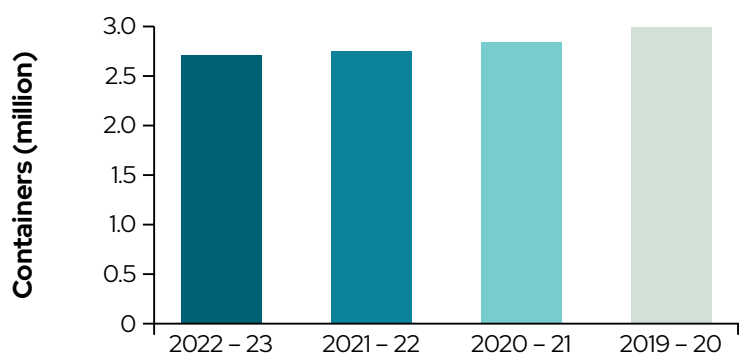
Tyre recycling



Tip Shop upcycled/reused/recycled



Return and Earn containers



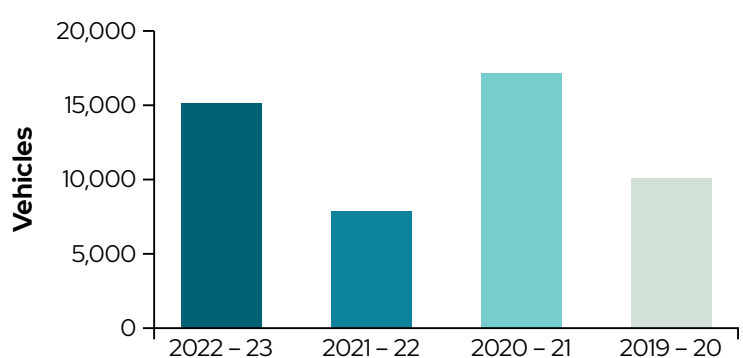
Tweed JUNKtion Tip Shop

Council has a strong focus on salvaging recoverable items bound for landfill in order to reuse them wherever possible. Salvaged items are sold through the Tip Shop - whether you are renovating, crafting, building, moving, browsing or working on a movie set – there is something for everyone.



Items recovered from going to landfill and sold at JUNKtion Tip Shop.

Vehicles visiting Tweed JUNKtion (Tip Shop)





# The cost of waste

Total cost of resource recovery operations in 2022/23 was up on previous years due to general increases across the industry and in the economy. The expenditure incurred in 2022/23 included:

\$7,369,739	The collection of waste including contract costs. (2022/23 – collection contract)
\$3,361,646	Landfill operations
\$7,943,510	Transport and disposal of waste including levies in NSW and QLD

# Looking after the environment

As part of Council’s operational landfill and processing licences, the resource recovery team monitor the environment to ensure we are not impacting on the Tweed’s internationally significant natural landscape. This is done by testing emissions from the site including air, groundwater and surface water. These results of our environmental monitoring are published on the Council website.

The Resource Recovery team are also required under our licences with the EPA to prepare an annual report on processing and landfill operations, we must also provide a further annual report to the Department of Planning and Environment on the State Development Approval granted for the Eviron future landfill, quarry and haul road. These EPA reports consolidate the annual monitoring results to determine if there is any change or impact from Council’s operations.

All reporting and monitoring undertaken at SCRRC is published at [tweed.nsw.gov.au/environmental-monitoring](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au/environmental-monitoring)



Construction of the third and final landfill cell at the SCRRC was completed in May 2023.

1,406 mm of rain was recorded in 2022/23 – where the average yearly rainfall for the Tweed is 1,510 mm. this allowed some reprieve from the floods in 2022.

Once the landfill is no longer in use, Council will rehabilitate the area and continue to use parts of the site for the ongoing processing of recoverable materials.

# Removing waste from landfill

The diversion of waste in the table below is from the Eviron Quarry and made up of recovered materials from the flood. Additional materials recovered at SCRRC are in the second table.

# Diversion of waste and materials:

Materials being recovered from the floods in 2022/23

Material	Tonnes
Soil (VENM)	38,688
Wet Soil VENM	16,576
Soil EPRM	6,512
Silt	13,904
Sand	384
Rock	1,424
<b>Total</b>	<b>77,488</b>

The figures above have not been used in diversion estimates however, these materials will be beneficially reused.

Material	Tonnes
Green waste processed as mulch	4,964
Household collected organic material in the green bin	13,137
Concrete bricks and tiles processed as aggregate	5,932
Recycling from household in bins	8,487
Soil processed on site	14,807
Scrap metal including refrigerators degassed	1,416
cardboard	147
Chemicals	60
Drum muster	3.5
E-waste	59
Oil	26
Paint	9
Mixed recycling	47
Tyres	31
Gas bottles	0.4
<b>Total materials diverted</b>	<b>49,126.0</b>

## Asbestos

Council continues to receive a significant amount of asbestos, largely due to waste generated from the February and March 2022 floods, and subsequent works. Following the flood, all other disposal facilities in the Northern Rivers were either damaged or restricted in their ability to operate and were no longer able to receive asbestos containing materials (ACM). During this time, the EPA asked Tweed Shire Council to manage much larger quantities of regionally generated asbestos material.

An application was approved by the EPA to allow Council to open an asbestos designated cell to manage this material and in the 2022/23 period, 2,512 tonnes of ACM was received.

Due to the hazardous nature of asbestos, receiving it demands significant resources. Disposal needs to be supervised and ACM needs to be buried with some immediacy to ensure the safety of staff and customers. The asbestos cell needs to be monitored closely, and the material covered to comply with our operational licence.

Council has sufficient capacity to accommodate these types of quantities until the end of 2023 and has developed a contingency to deal with local asbestos thereafter.

## Education



Resource Recovery's education program involves a matrix of resources including our Education Coordinator, Towards Zero Waste Officer, Contamination Management Officer, Solo Resource Recovery's Education Officer and contractors from North East Waste. Each of these has a valuable part to play in waste education messaging. Our Education Coordinator is tasked with keeping all of these resources on track.

Solo Resource Recovery's education officer works with Council's Contamination Management Officer to ensure the public are educated on issues related to their bin collection service. Council works closely with Solo's drivers to monitor bin presentation, contamination, and to provide information about relevant services to residents. A key focus is aiming to reduce the level of contamination in both the green organics and yellow recycling bins, and to divert the recoverable materials currently being placed in the red waste bin.

The Towards Zero Waste Officer will look to implement behavioural change programs that work to reframe how we think about waste, in an effort to keep materials from going to landfill. This role has so far focused internally on waste generated at Council and its depot facilities, to see where opportunities may exist. The Council facilities waste audit was completed in June 2023 and will be used to direct programs in 2023/24.

This year, Council also leveraged community educational opportunities from numerous initiatives, events and campaigns, such as:

- **2023 Clean Up Australia Day** – Council provided free disposal for the 26 community and school sites that registered for Clean Up Australia Day to clean up sites across the Tweed.

Hessian clean up bags were provided as a sustainable alternative to plastic for the collection of waste. School participation grew and 3.26 tonnes of material was collected and disposed of at landfill. Most of what was collected in parks and public spaces was placed in the park bins for collection by the street litter truck, and therefore not included in those tonnages.

Council continues to encourage the clean-up of the Tweed throughout the year by supporting volunteers to register online. We are not just about doing the right thing for one day, so we continue to support our residents and volunteer groups to clean up throughout the year.



- **Giving back: Way to Grow compost** – Council has access to Way to Grow compost bags – this is compost made from the content of household green bins that is then processed into nutritious compost at the Tweed Organics Processing Facility. These are used to promote community use of the green bin and education relating to this service. To date, over 3,000 litres of compost have been distributed to schools and community organisations.



- **Second Hand Saturday** – the team continued to support and promote Second Hand Saturday which allows garage sale holders to register and promote for free across Council's and North East Waste's various platforms. Some 700+ people and 5,944 app users registered in the region. This event helps to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, enables residents and visitors to participate in the promotion of reuse and repair and engages them in environmentally, socially and economically rewarding activities.
- **National Recycling Week** – Council celebrated this week which was held in December 2022 and May 2023 by running compost and worm farm workshops at three regional libraries. These workshops are hands-on, teaching the basics of garden composting and worm farming.
- **National Asbestos Awareness Week** – the week took place from 21 to 27 November 2022. Council's campaign reminded residents to Think Twice About Asbestos. We asked home occupiers and tradespeople to 'do things the right way' by ensuring the proper and lawfully disposal of this hazardous material. This is an awareness campaign informing and assisting renovators to understand the risks.

Council continues to support businesses and residents to use the Asbestos Testing Kit available at Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads Administration buildings (68 kits were sold this year).

- **Problem waste disposal** – Council continued to advertise disposal options for residents through social media, printed media and radio, by promoting opportunities to take advantage of free disposal for the following items:
  - batteries (including household, car and boat)
  - e-waste
  - gas bottles
  - oil
  - phones
  - paints and chemicals
  - printer cartridges
  - larger items and problem waste collected from On-call Household Clean Up Collection

Total of items collected from CRC

Material	Tonnes
Problematic waste	187
Kerbside collections	1297
<b>Total</b>	<b>1484</b>

- **Local Government Week** – this year we invited community members to the Tweed's Recycling Centre at Chinderah to showcase the circular economy in action, and show how this relates to diversion from landfill.
- **Community and school events** – at the end of 2022 we ran a range of events including compost workshops, beeswax workshops, community scrap together workshops and the love your lunch program, which we delivered in conjunction with North East Waste.
- **Solo Resource Recovery's new Education Officer** – this position commenced in May 2023. The Education Officer has prepared an audit of school waste streams which the schools can use to assess their waste. They will also provide support and education to schools on how to reduce waste.
- **2022 Word Environment Day and Kinship Festival** – these events were used to promote our services and education for residents. Both events, held in Knox Park, showcased bagged compost from the Soilco compost facility. It was an opportunity to engage with the community about bin contamination, SCRRC master plan and answer community questions regarding resource recovery.
- **Internal tech package recycling program** – Council replaced the following aged electronic equipment and was able to recycle the cardboard packaging, soft plastic and polystyrene on the new computers, as well as recovering the old machines through the e-waste recycling program:
  - 450 laptops
  - 450 keyboards and mice
  - 500 screens.



### Masterplan program – Stotts Creek

The Stotts Creek Resource Recovery Centre Master Plan was developed in 2017 involving members of the community and business sector, Tweed Councillors and the NSW EPA.

Key considerations in developing the plan were: operational functionality, the needs of customers and meeting rapid changes in an environment where waste is assessed for its resource value.

The program of works in 2022/23 included:

- Construction of the last landfill cell at the Stott's Creek Resource Recovery Centre is complete with a nominal capacity of 145,000 cubic metres. This extends the life of the SCRRC an additional 2 to 3 years, making the closure of the site due in around 2028.
- Contractors are undertaking the construction of works at the entry to the SCRRC including a new weighbridge, site office and roads infrastructure around the Tip Shop. The works commenced in September 2022 and are estimated to be complete by March 2024.
- A contract for the design of upgrades to the transfer station was awarded and a preliminary design completed with a development application (DA) submitted just before Christmas 2022. This will be taken to the market for tender following granting of the DA.
- Council's Engineering Design team have revised the preliminary design of the road to go from the SCRRC to the Eviron quarry, where our next landfill will be built. This road construction project has been advertised to the market via an EOI to allow us to commence this work in 2023–24.
- Preparing a preliminary design completed for new leachate and stormwater management at the front of the SCRRC, with a tender taken to the market for design to build this infrastructure. Construction will be undertaken in 2023/24.

This master plan is well into the delivery phase with projects on many fronts being undertaken.





*Contact and connect*

**02 6670 2400**

[tweed.nsw.gov.au](https://tweed.nsw.gov.au)

[tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au](mailto:tsc@tweed.nsw.gov.au)

PO Box 816 Murwillumbah NSW 2484

