OBJECTIVE 2 – SOLUTIONS FOR RESIDUAL WASTE

Major reforms have already been implemented to reduce waste to landfill, such as the rollout of the FOGO kerbside service and masterplanning to optimise the BRRC. Recovering 57% of municipal solid waste is a good start, but there is more to do to if we want to become carbon neutral and landfill-free.

We intend to explore additional assets and services to continue improving the recovery rate of waste streams, diverting it from landfill into valuable uses. An AWT facility for residual waste is a key focus, as are options to recover bulky waste, which has been growing strongly in recent years (Appendix A).

In developing alternatives, we cannot lose sight of the fundamentals, which are to maintain our existing waste infrastructure in line with their strategic importance and to operate them in compliance with regulation.

Objective 2 consolidates the next steps in enhancing Byron's waste infrastructure and services.

KEY GOALS
✔ By 2020, determine the feasibility of pursuing a regional AWT solution
✔ By 2025, exceed the state target for diversion of municipal waste from landfill
✔ Optimise and maintain waste and recycling infrastructure to meet current and future levels of service and cost, including customer satisfaction levels
✔ Comply with all statutory requirements for waste and resource recovery infrastructure and operations, including WHS, Environmental, Planning and local government legislation

OPTIMISE AND ENHANCE SOLUTIONS FOR RESOURCE RECOVERY AND TO TREAT / DISPOSE OF RESIDUAL WASTE		Timeframe (Years)		
		Short (1-3)	Medium (4-7)	Long (8-10)
1. Reduce contamination in kerbside residual waste and recycling				
1.1	Conduct ongoing kerbside bin campaign, audit and inspection programs, including: • Visual contamination audits • Enhance use of In-Vehicle Monitoring System by collection contractor • Composition audits every 3 years, or as required • Other campaign/program in response to evolving issues.			
1.2	Periodic review of communication collateral and branding around general household resource recovery behavior in response to evolving industry and community issues/ changes.			
1.3	Consider synergies with the Byron BioEnergy project.			
2. Investigate additional waste service options				
2.1	Assess additional recovery options for self-hauled garden organics, including continuing to compost at the BRRC and synergies with the Byron BioEnergy project.			
2.2	Investigate and implement new waste services at the BRRC, including: • Bulky waste to increase recovery and reduce illegal dumping at the kerbside • Expansion of the tip-shop operation • Alternatives such as recycled/reuse markets, repair facilities, men's shed and waste-to-art projects.			
2.3	Consider new collection/recovery services (e.g. drop off clothing/textiles) and larger recycling bins (360L compared to 240L).			
2.4	Consider opportunities to collect and process waste streams from the agricultural sector at existing or potential waste facilities (e.g. dairy farming, sugar cane and fruit, nut and coffee growing).			
2.5	Investigate potential to install smaller satellite drop-off facilities for recyclable materials.			
3. Improve management of Council-generated waste				
3.1	Review internal waste management systems and performance and contract specifications for all relevant aspects of council operations.			
3.2	Develop a council employee education campaign which builds on the outcomes of the performance review above.			
4. Explore opportunities for collaboration				
4.1	Explore opportunities to build on the previous collaboration with Lismore University (around uses for FOGO-derived compost) to facilitate trials and research			
4.2	Explore the opportunity to engage social enterprise programs to assist in resource recovery actions at BRRC (e.g. labour for resource recovery operations).			
4.3	Engage local community groups and not-for-profits to jointly implement programs and campaigns.			
4.4	Continue membership of the North East Waste regional management group and active participation in programs and initiatives.			

5. Maintain existing waste assets and compliance				
5.1	Ongoing review of the public place bin network to maintain an effective and adequate public place bin network and service, including: • Number and location of waste and recycling bins • Contamination audits • Educational signage • Investigation and trial compactor bin in high traffic areas to reduce service frequency and improve amenity • Consider options to expand recycling further and for public place organics.			
5.2	Maintain existing waste and resource recovery assets to ensure there is no degradation in capacity and efficiency, particularly for the BRRC and the public place bin network.			
5.3	Comply with all statutory requirements around waste infrastructure and operations, including EPA licenses, EPA regulations and DA consents.			
5.4	Develop and implement a detailed Asbestos Management Plan to inform waste management operationsc			
5.5	Investigate and progress the conversion of Myocum quarry (at closure) into a resource recovery facility for composting and C&D waste recovery.			
5.6	Implement a closure plan for the Myocum landfill.			
6. Planning for best practice kerbside collection				
6.1	Develop a plan and the information base required to procure new kerbside collection contracts (residual waste, FOGO, recycling).