



# PARRAMATTA CITY COUNCIL

## Waste and Resource Recovery Plan 2007 Policy Principles



**Background:**

Solid waste presents a significant challenge to the Parramatta Local Government Area. Sending waste to landfill can have significant consequences, including the contamination of groundwater and an effect on greenhouse gas emissions.

Council has been actively seeking to address this challenge since 1993, when home recycling bins were first introduced to the area. Recycling alone, however, is insufficient to remove the challenge of using our resources more efficiently and getting greater value from them.

The Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Plan (WARR Plan) 2007 and its policy principles seek to further the comprehensive work of the Council to improve its response to the waste challenges we face.

**Objective:**

The WARR Plan and its guiding principles provide a framework for the management of consumption, waste avoidance, resource recovery and waste services in the Parramatta Local Government Area.

Specifically, it will provide guidance for Parramatta's future waste services, plans of management, work programs, operational unit plans and other actions to be developed by Parramatta City Council.

**Scope:**

These policy principles are applicable to all facets of the operation of Parramatta City Council.

**Relationship to Legislation:**

***Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997:*** POEO Act defines 'Waste' for regulatory purposes and establishes management and licensing requirements along with offence provisions to deliver environmentally appropriate outcomes.

***Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2001:*** WARR Act repeals and replaces the Waste Minimisation and Management Act 1995 and promotes waste avoidance and resource recovery by developing waste avoidance and resource recovery strategies and programs such as the extended producer responsibility scheme for industry.

***Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005:*** This Regulation also sets out provisions around the way waste is managed in terms of storage and transportation as well as reporting and record keeping requirements for waste facilities.

**Related Strategies, Plans or Policies:**

These policy directives are the guiding force behind the Waste and Resource Recovery Action Plan 2007, and should be read in conjunction with this plan.

**Authorisation:**

Council Meeting 23 July 2007

**Review:**

Parramatta City Council's Plan and its Policy directives are scheduled for review in 2011

**Version:**

2003 - WARR Plan

2007 – WARR Plan Version 1

**Owner:**

The City Strategy Unit is Responsible for these Policy Directives and the associated Plan.

**Policy Number:**

Policy Number 292

**WARR Principle 1:**

Council believes that the priority for waste management is to reduce consumption in the first place.

In adopting this position, Council recognises that products and services will be consumed. As a result the second priority will be on managing the waste generated as a resource.

**WARR Principle 2:**

Council believes that source separation is essential for any waste collection or treatment approach.

In adopting this position, Council recognises that there is no one single solution to waste treatment and that a suite of techniques is required.

**WARR Principle 3:**

Council believes that the disposal of waste is the direct responsibility of the individual or business that produced it.

In adopting this position, Council recognises that currently it is difficult for individuals to reduce their waste. Council therefore will assist residents in managing their waste. Council also recognises that business, government and the community will need to work together to bring about continuous improvement in managing our waste.

**WARR Principle 4:**

Council will work towards the concept of zero waste. In doing so it will develop short term targets and continually review and improve its actions as technology changes.

In adopting this position, Council recognises that this is a long term goal and that Council only has a limited influence in total waste management.

**WARR Principle 5:**

Council believes that it important to prioritise different products and sectors in order to efficiently work towards zero waste

In adopting this position, Council recognises that some products or sectors may be more readily achievable than others