

Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2022 - 2032

February 2023



CITY OF WEST TORRENS

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Production acknowledgment

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Kaurna acknowledgement

The City of West Torrens is located on the Traditional Homelands of the Kaurna Nation of People, the first Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Adelaide Region.

It is important to recognise that, while colonisation has resulted in the dispossession and dislocation of the Kaurna Meyunna, their Spiritual, Cultural Heritage and relationship with their Country is enduring. Kaurna's Connection and obligation to their Ancestral Lands the (Yarta) is still as important to the living Kaurna people today. The Kaurna people have lived on their lands for more than 50,000 years and developed strong and enduring spiritual, social, economic and governance systems that are still relevant for Aboriginal Title and are recognised within the 1836 Letters Patent.

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Document history

<i>Version</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Details</i>
1.0	July 2022	Draft for internal review
2.0	July 2022	Draft approved by City Facilities and Waste Recovery General Committee for consultation
3.0	February 2023	Draft for review by Elected Council
3.0	February 2023	Strategy adopted by Elected Council

Community Plan 2030

Vision - Committed to being the best place to live, work and enjoy life.

Our 5 focus areas for delivery of our vision are:



We support diversity, health and well-being, community cohesion and connections, and create opportunities to learn and enjoy the local area.

We ensure housing, urban development and infrastructure contribute to attractive and safe neighbourhoods, and how we travel in and beyond our area.



Council ensures its services lead to quality outcomes and exceptional experiences for our community.

We protect and conserve the natural environment, reuse and recycle resources, support biodiversity and respond to climate change.



We support jobs, businesses and industries to generate local economic growth and activity.

Message from our Mayor

Waste, recycling, resource recovery and renewable energies are important to our community as we plan for the future.

As a Council, the City of West Torrens is continually looking at ways to improve waste and recycling processes, reduce our reliance on fossil fuels and provide our community with options to help us move to a low-waste society.

To help guide us on our journey, we have developed our Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2022 - 2032.

Our vision for waste and resource recovery in West Torrens is one of continuous improvement and innovation; one that protects our environment and will contribute to the local economy and support our community. We understand that caring for our environment is more than just waste and recycling and, as such, this Strategy works in conjunction with numerous other Council strategies, policies and plans that are looking to drive environmental change.

This Strategy is a 10-year plan that focuses on:

- circular economy
- continuous improvement
- education and engagement
- innovation
- policy and framework.

All these priority areas align with our overarching Community Plan 2030, which outlines the vision for West Torrens as being the best place to live, work and enjoy life; waste and resource recovery can certainly play a role in our mission towards a healthy and liveable city.

Our Council has the opportunity to be a leader and innovator in the way we manage and plan the future of waste and resource recovery for residents, businesses, industries and visitors.

As a precursor to this Strategy, we asked our community its views on waste and recycling and the results showed that people are very passionate about this topic. More than 1,200 people visited our online community consultation platform Your Say to learn more about our ideas, with more than half of those giving us direct feedback. As a result, this Strategy will help us tackle the issues that are important to our community as well as our Council.

Michael S. Coxon

Mayor, City of West Torrens



Our city and community

Who we are, where we are and where we are heading are all important factors in relation to our Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2022 - 2032 (Strategy).

West Torrens comprises of 37 square kilometres of Adelaide's western metropolitan area and is situated between the Adelaide Central Business District and Gulf St Vincent.

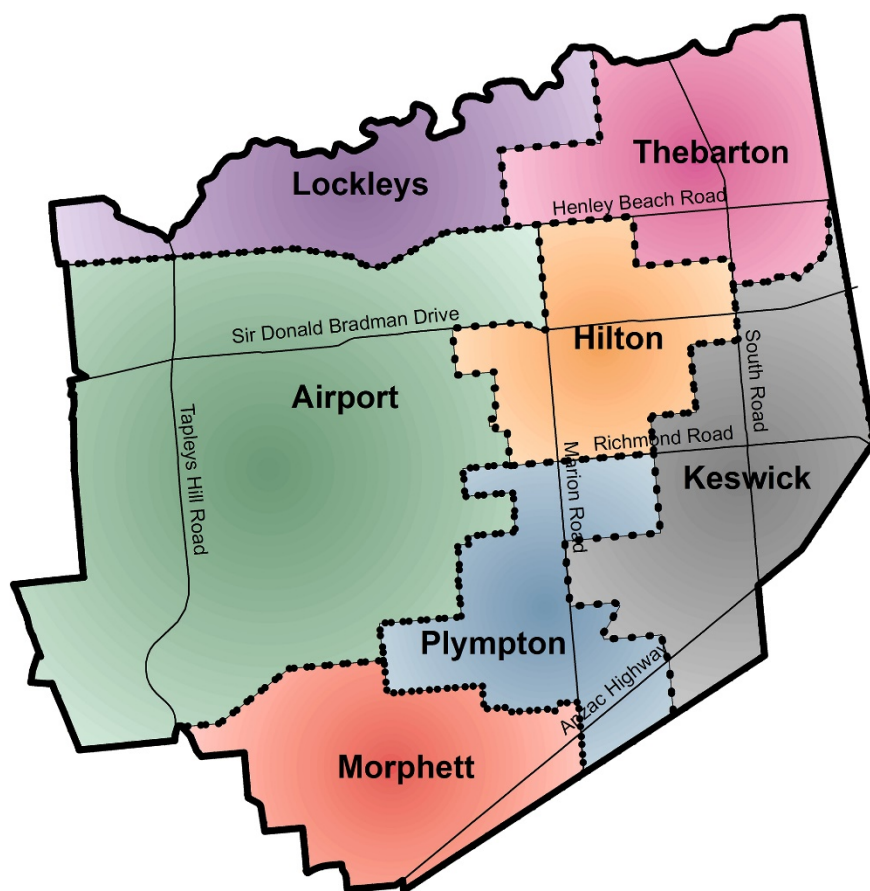
The city, its plants, animals, and waterways, including the River Torrens (Karrawirra Pari), have continuing cultural and spiritual significance to Kaurna people. The river is not only a special place for Kaurna, but is also valued for its natural landscape appeal, biodiversity and open space and recreation activities.

West Torrens has a strong European heritage, which played a key role in establishing the Colony of South Australia.

Around 61,000 residents live in West Torrens and the need for residential properties increases each year. The influx of people to our city means that the need for services and amenities are always changing and, as a result, a large portion of our annual budget is earmarked for upgrades and maintenance, as well as the development of new infrastructure and provision of services.

West Torrens is well-known for its shopping facilities including Harbour Town, Ikea, Brickworks Marketplace and HomeCo. Mile End. Adelaide Airport is a central part of our city and with 5,000 individually owned businesses in the area, West Torrens is often a hub of traffic and people.

City of West Torrens ward map



What this Strategy contains

The Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy is a 10 year plan for West Torrens and will guide the future of waste and resource recovery.

The Strategy will:

- Strive to meet the needs and expectations of our community for effective, efficient and sustainable waste management services.
- Recognise and incorporate current and expected legislative requirements for the provision of waste management services.
- Be flexible enough to:
 - Adapt and meet the needs of our community.
 - Identify and address future opportunities.
 - Innovate in providing efficient waste management services.

It has been designed to:

- Introduce to our community why waste management is a critical service for West Torrens residents.
- Explain why a Strategy is important.
- Describe how we developed this Strategy.
- Provide our waste and resource recovery priority areas for the next 10 years.

The Strategy identifies 5 priority areas for the next 10 years and is underpinned by a separate 5 year implementation plan containing the activities and programs within each priority area.

This Strategy, in conjunction with the internal implementation plan, will provide a clear and structured framework to achieving our vision.

Priorities	Initiatives
Circular economy	Initiative 1: Implement waste hierarchy principles in decision making. Initiative 2: Implement circular and sustainable procurement. Initiative 3: Waste management supporting local economic development.
Continuous improvement	Initiative 4: Keep up-to-date on alternative waste disposal initiatives. Initiative 5: Innovative alternative options for waste material. Initiative 6: Encourage correct disposal behaviour to our community.
Education and engagement	Initiative 7: Develop a strategic approach to community education. Initiative 8: Improve the correct use of kerbside bin systems. Initiative 9: Support community-led initiatives.
Innovation	Initiative 10: Innovative alternative options for how we collect waste. Initiative 11: Improve our efficiency in how we operate. Initiative 12: Explore technology advancement in waste management and resource recovery.
Policy and framework	Initiative 13: Support our community with consistent waste management services. Initiative 14: Review internal policy documentation relating to waste management and resource recovery. Initiative 15: Advocate for change through Government requirements. Initiative 16: Foster research and development.

Our waste profile

Each year the City of West Torrens' waste and resource recovery contractor collects waste and recyclables from 28,165 households, parks, Council-owned facilities, businesses and other public areas and organisations for its disposal or recycling.

Each year¹ Council:

- Empties more than 2.5 million kerbside bins, disposing of 12,000 tonnes to landfill and diverting 12,600 tonnes to recycling and composting.
- Receives more than 8,700 hard waste bookings and issues almost 2,000 tip vouchers annually to residents.
- Responds to in excess of 2,000 customer requests relating to waste.
- Provides residents access to an opt-in rebate program to subsidise home composting systems including worm farms and compost bins.
- Services 471 street litter bins in parks and public spaces.
- Investigates around 530 reports of illegal dumping, resulting in 190 incidents being removed by the identified perpetrator and the remaining 340 cleaned up by Council.
- Budgets \$6.5 million for waste management, or nearly \$222 per household.

¹ Data is based on the performance data of West Torrens waste management services for the financial year 2020 - 2021.

Why waste and resource recovery is important

Waste disposal, recycling and litter management are important responsibilities for the City of West Torrens. How we manage these responsibilities can affect:

- How beautiful our city is.
- The impact we have on the environment (including greenhouse gas emissions).
- The amount of rates residents pay.
- How we plan new developments.
- The design of our roads and the construction of other infrastructure.
- Associated traffic congestion on these roads.
- Businesses that operate in our area.
- How our community feels about its contribution towards protecting the environment.

Waste and recycling collection is one of the most valued services we provide to our residents and ratepayers. Figure 1 documents the results of the West Torrens pre-consultation survey conducted in May 2022 demonstrating that our community is engaged and feel educated on waste and recycling.

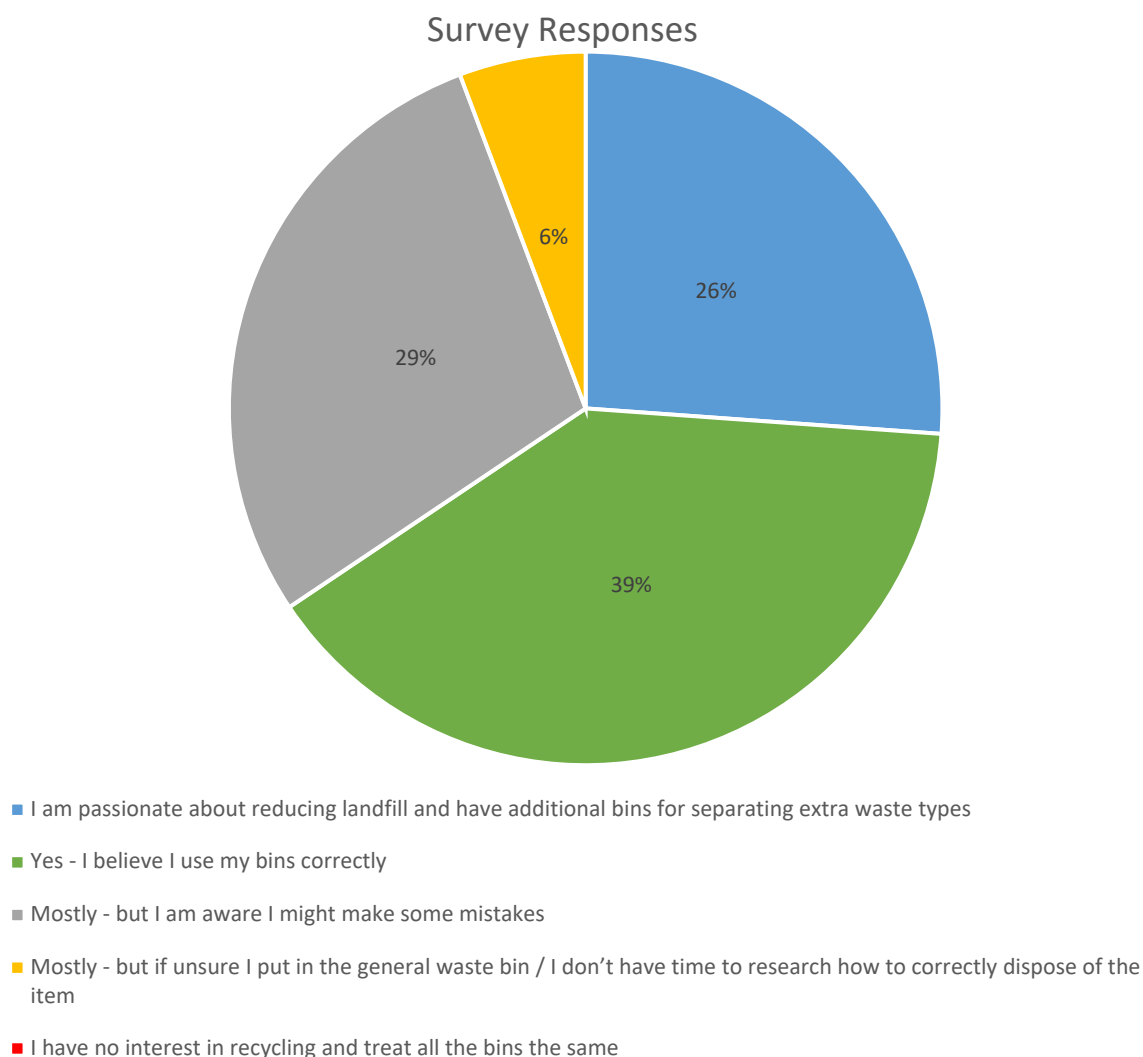


Figure 1 – Data from the City of West Torrens pre-consultation survey in May 2022 found that over 90% of residents reported that they feel confident in knowing how to use their kerbside bins correctly for recycling with very few not interested in recycling.

Why do we need a Strategy?

There are many reasons why our Council needs a Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy. Among these are our legal responsibility to provide waste management to residents and ratepayers. As figure 2 indicates, the number of waste services provided is continuing to increase, which impacts costs associated with the collection and disposal of material.

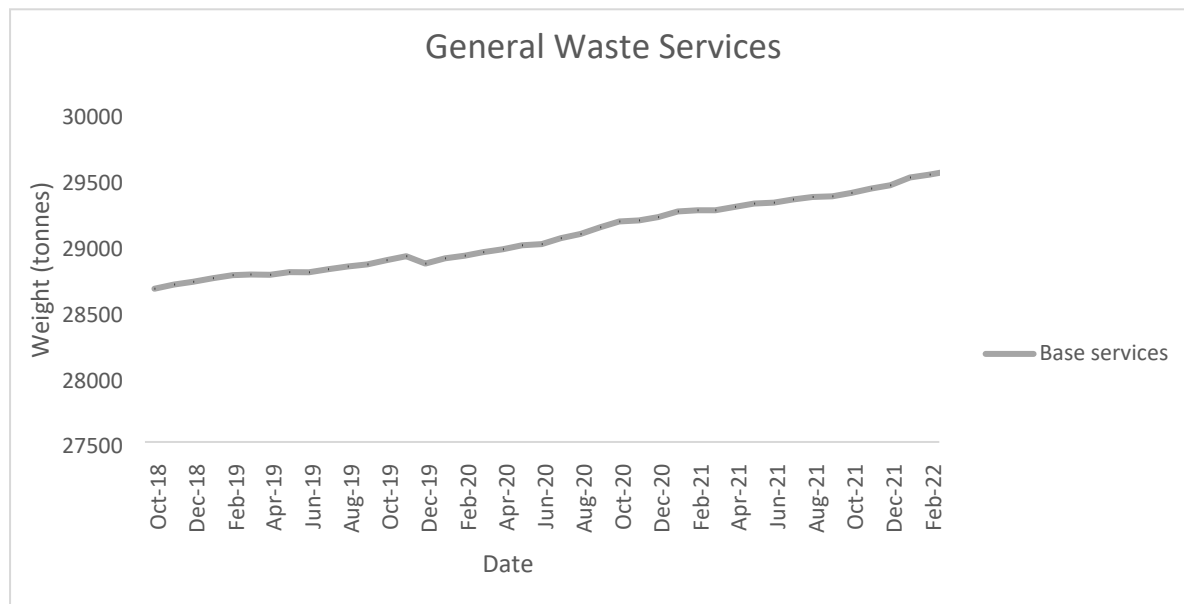


Figure 2: General waste kerbside collection services provided by West Torrens from October 2018 - February 2022.

There are many others factors too, which are driven by different needs and expectations of our community to deliver effective, efficient, financially responsible and sustainable waste management services.

Importantly, how we think about and interact with waste is evolving. The circular economy has joined the waste hierarchy as a key aim in the South Australian State Waste Strategy 2020-2025 to guide reductions in waste generation and higher value uses for recovered materials. The trend towards a circular economy is transitioning our thinking and operations towards an economy that aims to keep materials and energy circulating as long as possible. Figure 3 and 4, sourced from Green Industries SA, are visual representation of the waste hierarchy and circular economy.

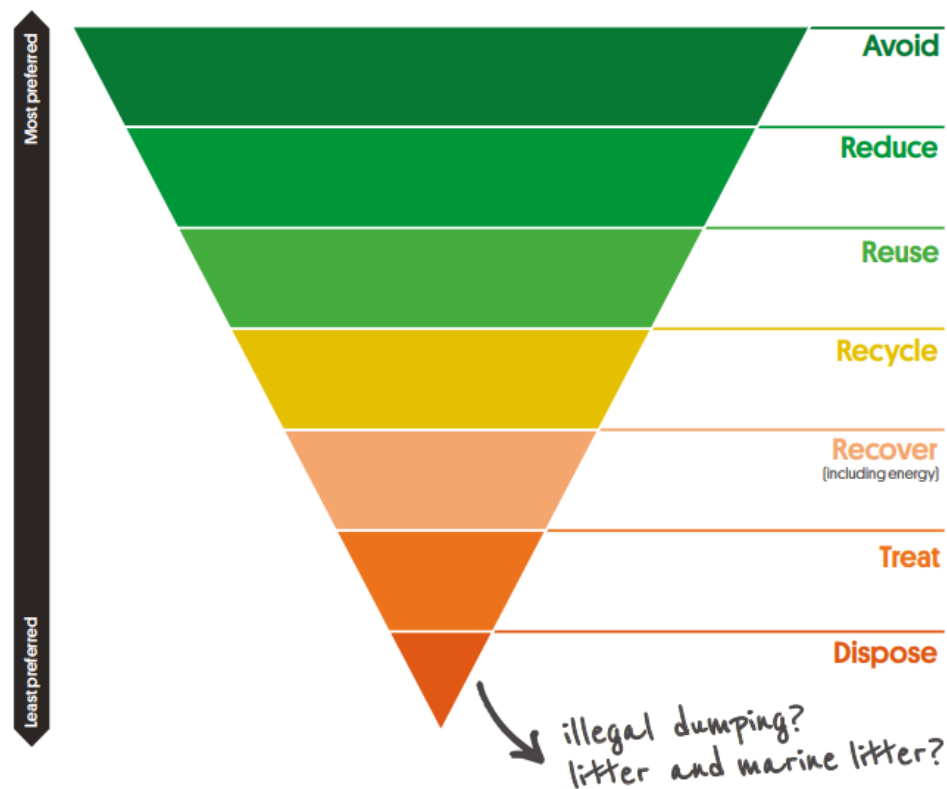


Figure 3 - The Waste Management Hierarchy. Source Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020 - 2025. Image - Green Industries SA.

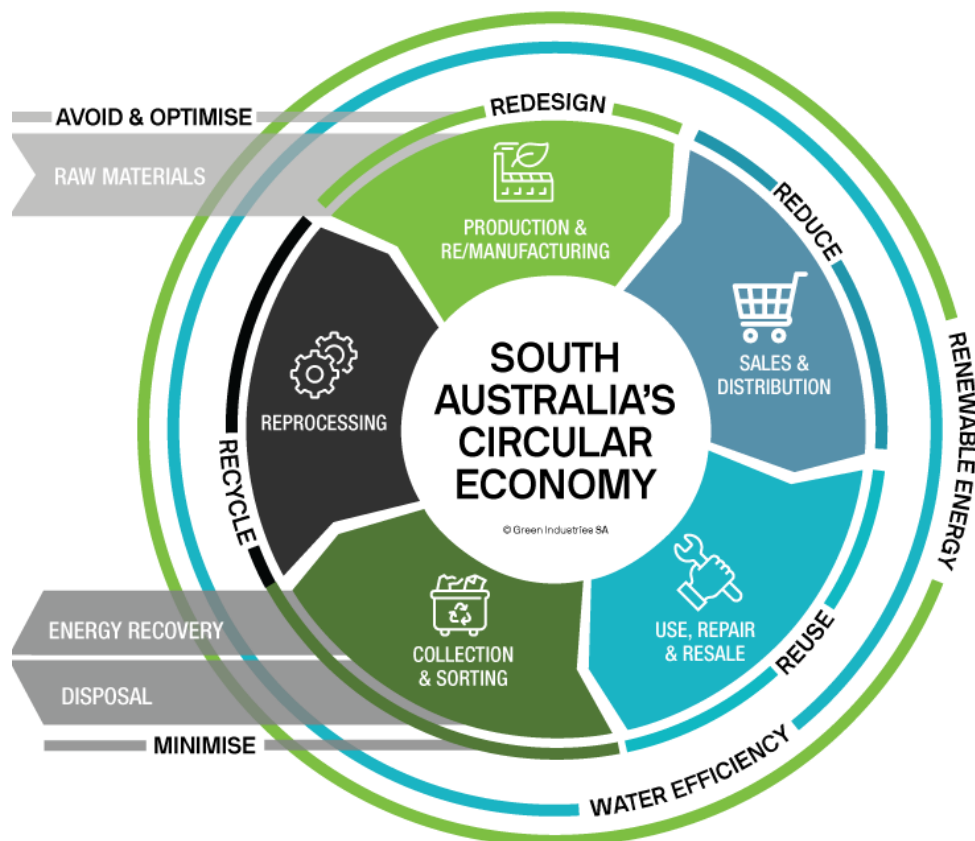


Figure 4 - The Circular Economy. Source Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020 - 2025. Image - Green Industries SA.

Commitments by the Australian Government to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 require us to change how we collect and dispose of waste to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To achieve net zero emissions, a balance between the production and removal of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere is required.

We recognise that challenges and opportunities of the ever evolving waste and resource recovery sector need to be considered and planned for.



Challenges and opportunities

Challenges	Opportunities
Waste generation and disposal	
It's expensive to manage and deliver waste management services. Nearly 40% of kerbside waste that is sent to landfill could instead be composted avoiding the Solid Waste Levy charge applied to every tonne.	Increasing resource recovery helps protect the environment, preserve resources and reduces waste management cost and greenhouse gas emissions.
Legislative requirements	
Council has a legal responsibility to provide waste management services to residents.	Knowledge and professional development of staff to be abreast of all legislative and regulatory waste management requirements.
Kerbside collections	
<p>Council's kerbside collection service is our most accessed service by residents. Challenges include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased urban infill and high density developments not suited to standard kerbside collection. Lack of flexibility in the current kerbside service model. Bin presentation impacted by increased street parking and limited verge space. Contamination and hazardous materials disposed in the kerbside bin system. 	Create a flexible kerbside system with the ability to be tailored to suit our residents' individual needs, including high density developments. Provide convenient service models for items that are hard to recycle to reduce contamination of the kerbside system.
Innovation	
The sector is rapidly changing and evolving, with new ideas and technologies requiring investigation and analysis for suitability.	New ideas can re-shape how we manage waste services. Digital technologies and tools can measure and report performance, analyse data and improve efficiency.
Litter and illegal dumping	
Incidents of litter and illegal dumping impact on the natural environment and have financial impacts through investigations, compliance enforcement and clean ups.	A multi-faceted approach to reducing incidents may include compliance, infrastructure improvements, review of hard waste provisions and educational campaigns.
Hard waste collection	
Annual hard waste provisions per residential premises include two (2) at-call collections and one (1) tip voucher. Wait times vary based on demand for at-call collection services and tip vouchers require a car and/or trailer.	A review of the hard waste service; including collection models, provisions for our community and avenues for the reuse of recovered materials including charitable causes.
Reducing emissions	
Governments in Australia and numerous businesses have committed to achieving 'net zero emissions by 2050'.	Improvements to waste management can reduce emissions through diversion of waste from landfill, reusing and recycling resources and use of alternative collection vehicles such as emission-free hydrogen fuelled or electric-powered.
Circular economy	
The circular economy has joined the waste hierarchy as a key aim in the South Australian State Waste Strategy 2020-2025 to guide future thinking for the reduction of waste generation and higher value uses for recovered materials.	Transition our thinking and operations towards a circular economy, which aims to keep and reuse materials and energy in the economy for as long as possible.
Contingency planning	
Waste management services can be impacted by disasters, incidents and pandemics. Business continuity plans ensure essential services can continue.	Continuity planning is required at an industry level to ensure business and service continuity for collection, transportation and processing.
Collaboration - external stakeholders	
Routinely engage with community, local businesses, service providers, other councils and policy makers.	Collaboration on services, technology and programs can share or reduce waste management costs, increase knowledge and support community initiatives.
Collaboration - internal stakeholders	
To stay at the forefront, we need motivated, well-trained and capable people willing to innovate and engage with key stakeholders.	Invest in our people to ensure our Council is prepared for future changes in waste management, with a focus on continuous improvement in performance and services.

Development of the Strategy

To develop the 10 year Strategy for West Torrens the following steps were taken:

- We reviewed how well we perform our current responsibilities and what future changes may occur.
- We undertook consultation with our community, businesses, industry service providers and internal stakeholders.
- We used this knowledge and feedback to shape the vision for our Strategy and priorities.

Throughout the process, Elected Members, key Council staff and community stakeholders were consulted to ensure the Strategy was best placed to meet our city's future expectations and needs.

Development process

Stage	Outputs
1. Research	January 2022 - March 2022
Research and information gathering on current practices, data analysis, State policy and opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal Council departments consulted to inform the draft Strategy and identify internal opportunities for collaboration and efficiencies. • Desktop review of local, national and international references to inform the draft Strategy including waste strategies, guidelines, policies and legislation.
2. Pre-consultation survey	March 2022 - May 2022
Develop key themes and initial consultation feedback.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-consultation survey released to capture early feedback to inform the draft Strategy with 589 responses received. • Consultation with 3 neighbouring councils to identify cross-council collaboration opportunities.
3. Draft Strategy developed	May 2022 - August 2022
Develop a draft strategy document.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Torrens Executive team and Elected Members engaged and consulted on the draft Strategy. • Draft Strategy to be approved by the City Facilities and Waste Recovery Committee • Draft Strategy endorsed by Council to be released for public consultation.
4. Consultation	August 2022 - September 2022
Formal public consultation of the draft Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal public consultation required. • Feedback reviewed and final changes to the Strategy incorporated.
5. Finalised and released	2023
Preparation of final Strategy for adoption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy to be approved by the City Facilities and Waste Recovery Committee. • Final Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy presented to Council for adoption. • Adopted Strategy published on Council's website and printed versions available on request.

Council's responsibilities

Strategic alignment

Our vision for West Torrens is **committed to being the best place to live, work and enjoy life** and has 5 focus areas.

Waste and resource recovery can play a role in delivering on these 5 focus areas to support this commitment.

Focus area	How waste management can contribute
 <p>Community life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep our natural environment, streets and parks clean and well presented. Improve air quality and reduce noise impacts from waste collection and disposal. Connect people through a shared purpose and interest in resource recovery and the waste hierarchy.
 <p>Environment and sustainability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement sustainable procurement practices. Investigate ways to increase diversion and minimise landfill disposal. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions from waste collection and disposal to help reach net zero emissions by 2050. Prevent contamination of land and waterways and protect the natural environment from illegal dumping and litter.
 <p>Prosperity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep waste management costs and its impacts on rates as low as possible. Encourage economic development by facilitating property investment, supporting existing businesses and/or attracting or creating new business through services, procurement and/or future circular economy opportunities. Help the community maximise the highest value resource recovery in line with the waste hierarchy. Partner with others to provide expertise, new knowledge, innovative technology and share services and costs.
 <p>Built environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure new property development allows for effective and efficient waste and recycling collection and disposal. Remove potential barriers for the use of recycled materials in city infrastructure. Encourage more sustainable building materials and waste and recycling outcomes in new homes, commercial buildings, and city infrastructure.
 <p>Organisational strength</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align our waste management and resource recovery goals with community aspirations as represented by our Elected Members. Develop our people to become experts in waste management and resource recovery. Build organisational resilience, continuity and stakeholder confidence in our knowledge, expertise and practices through well-balanced, easily understood, transparent and effective policies. Restore confidence in recycling.

Legislative context

Collection of household waste is a legislated responsibility for the City of West Torrens². This responsibility is affected by many different government laws and policies introduced by the State and Australian Governments.

For instance, these can include, but are not limited to:

- The Solid Waste Levy, which in the 2021 - 22 financial year was \$146 per tonne to dispose of material to landfill. The Levy is a financial mechanism to encourage resource recovery.
- Obligation for councils to provide a weekly kerbside collection service for residual waste.
- Requirement to provide recycling and organic kerbside collection to avoid additional costs of landfill disposal.
- Product stewardship schemes and other laws affect how councils and residents can dispose of some waste items (Australian Packaging Covenant, e-waste) and what can be accepted in our kerbside bins.
- Laws to minimise noise nuisances impacting on how we schedule waste collections³. These same laws make councils responsible for litter control and management.
- The South Australian State Waste Strategy, which sets targets for councils to achieve a 75% diversion rate by 2025⁴.
- Commitments by the Australian and State Governments to reduce waste (e.g. through the Kyoto Protocol) and even achieve net zero emissions by 2050, which influence how Council should manage waste and reduce greenhouse gas emissions it can cause.

In addition, the City of West Torrens has its own by-laws and a Waste Minimisation and Recycling Services Policy to guide it towards fulfilling these responsibilities.

² Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010

³ Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016

⁴ Supporting the Circular Economy: South Australia Waste Strategy 2020-2025

The following table sets out relevant legislative and policy framework:

International	State
<p>Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, Basel, 1989.</p> <p>Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework convention on climate change 1998</p> <p>Transforming our world: The 2030 agenda for sustainable development, United Nations.</p>	<p><i>Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007.</i></p> <p><i>Environment Protection Act 1993 (EPA).</i></p> <p>Environment Protection (Waste to Resources) Policy 2010.</p> <p><i>Green Industries Act SA 2004.</i></p> <p><i>Local Government Act 1999.</i></p> <p><i>Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016.</i></p> <p>Planning and Design Code.</p> <p><i>Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016.</i></p> <p><i>Plastic shopping bags (Waste Avoidance) Act 2008.</i></p> <p><i>Single-use and other plastic products (Waste avoidance) Act 2020.</i></p> <p>South Australian Better Practice Guide for Waste Management in Residential and Mixed Use Developments 2014.</p> <p>Supporting the Circular Economy - South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025.</p> <p>Thermal Energy from Waste (EfW) activities - Position Statement.</p> <p>Valuing our food waste: South Australian Strategy to reduce and divert household and business food waste 2020-2025.</p> <p>30-Year Plan for Greater Adelaide 2017 Update.</p>
National	West Torrens
<p><i>Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011.</i></p> <p>Employment in Waste Management and Recycling 2009.</p> <p><i>Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989.</i></p> <p><i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007.</i></p> <p>National Food Waste Strategy - Halving Australia's Food Waste by 2030.</p> <p>National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019.</p> <p>National Waste Policy: less waste, more resources 2018.</p> <p><i>Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020.</i></p> <p>Review of the <i>Product Stewardship Act 2011</i>, including the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme - Consultation Paper.</p>	<p>AdaptWest Climate Change Adaptation Plan.</p> <p>By-Law No 2 - Local Government Land.</p> <p>By-Law No 4 - Moveable Signs.</p> <p>City of West Torrens Community Plan 2030.</p> <p>CWT Buildings Asset Management Plan 2021.</p> <p>CWT Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2021-2025.</p> <p>CWT Recreation and Open Space Asset Management Plan 2021.</p> <p>CWT Roads Asset Management Plan 2021.</p> <p>CWT Vehicles (Fleet), Plant and Equipment Asset Management Plan 2021.</p> <p>CWT's Verge Management Policy.</p> <p>Economic Development Plan 2020 - 2025.</p> <p>Tree Strategy 2018 - 2025.</p> <p>Waste Minimisation and Recycling Services Policy.</p>

The Strategy

Our vision

Council's vision for future waste and resource recovery in West Torrens is:

Continuous improvement and innovation in waste management and resource recovery to protect the environment, contribute to the local economy and support our community.

This vision:

- Reflects our aim for continuous improvement by understanding future opportunities.
- Acknowledges the key outcomes from waste and resource recovery and the benefits for West Torrens, its residents, local businesses and other stakeholders by:
 - protecting the environment,
 - supporting the community, and
 - providing economic opportunity.
- Embraces new ideas and innovations as a key enabling mechanism towards achieving these outcomes.

Our priority areas

1. Circular economy.
2. Continuous improvement.
3. Education and engagement.
4. Innovation.
5. Policy and framework.

Priority area 1: Circular economy	
Objective: Embed the waste hierarchy, product stewardship and circular economy principles into decision making across council.	
Initiative 1: Implement waste hierarchy principles in decision making.	
Why it is important	How will we achieve it
Following the waste hierarchy principles the community, businesses and Council can identify options for waste avoidance, reduction, reuse, repair, recycling and recovery which provide environmental, social and economic benefits over landfill.	<p>Transitioning Council towards waste hierarchy principals may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with the community to determine suitable models and the appetite for repair or fixing programs. • Providing systems to facilitate sharing, hiring and leasing of items and materials. • Advocating for extended producer responsibility schemes for product design, allowing for reparability and recyclability. • Advocating (when feasible) for product stewardship frameworks to be extended to a broader range of items. • Promoting and communicating Council achievements that support the waste hierarchy principles and circular economy thinking.
Initiative 2: Implement circular and sustainable procurement.	
Why it is important	How will we achieve it
Government's purchasing and procurement can influence the demand for products and services. Environmental considerations to consider may include recycled content, reusable products, carbon miles, certified sustainability and ethical supply chains.	<p>Increasing circularity and sustainability during the procurement process will require considerations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An understanding of the current procurement process to identify opportunities to improve sustainability performance. • Promoting case studies demonstrating circular and sustainable procurement. • Investigating options for internal monitoring and reporting mechanisms for sustainable procurement. • Identifying goods and services to consider aspects such as whole of life costs, improved resource efficiency, use of recycled content and environmental sustainability. • Understanding current emissions and opportunities for improvements in waste management and resource recovery.
Initiative 3: Waste management supporting local economic development.	
Why it is important	How will we achieve it
The waste and resource recovery industries provide economic development opportunities including job creation, new business prospects and advancements in the sector which may support the local economy.	<p>Council may support local economic development by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigating and identifying purchasing opportunities to support local markets that utilise locally processed recyclables. • Investigating the establishment of networks between Council, businesses and other stakeholders to work together to attract new businesses that support growth in the local waste management sector. • Identifying investment, research and development opportunities for items and materials currently hard to recycle. • Identifying opportunities for the expansion of end markets for processed kerbside materials such as compost and recyclables.

Priority area 2: Continuous improvement**Objective:** Best practice in our current suite of (business as usual) services relating to waste management and resource recovery.**Initiative 4: Keep up-to-date on alternative waste disposal initiatives.**

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
<p>Increasing resource recovery rates requires improvements across all of Council's waste disposal services. There are emerging processing and disposal options to increase the recovery of materials. West Torrens is home to a transfer station, Adelaide Waste and Recycling Centre at Plympton, allowing future opportunities to be explored.</p>	<p>The processing of our kerbside system currently entails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling processed at a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). • Food and garden organics processed at a composting facility. • Residual waste sent to landfill. <p>New and emerging processing and disposal options could support disposal options in line with the waste hierarchy. Emerging opportunities to be reviewed could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy from waste opportunities for disposal of residual waste. • Technology advancement and high performing resource recovery infrastructure. • Infrastructure for anaerobic digestion and incorporating bioenergy recovery.

Initiative 5: Innovative alternative options for waste material.

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
<p>Innovative and alternative options for waste material refers to opportunities to reuse or repair material before recycling or landfill is considered. This supports the higher orders of the waste hierarchy.</p>	<p>To explore innovative and alternative options for materials generated as waste Council can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review how we dispose of hard waste and illegally dumped materials and divert materials in a reusable condition to charities for reuse. • Investigate opportunities to create networks between food relief organisations and local food businesses to divert edible food to support at risk community, reduce disposal volumes and in-turn reduce disposal costs. • Research opportunities for our street litter bins to segregate 10c bottles and containers for recycling.

Initiative 6: Encourage correct disposal behaviour to our community.

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
<p>Our community is the key stakeholder for the success of our Strategy. The community interacts with waste management through the kerbside bin systems, hard waste service, street litter bins, visiting facilities and events. These opportunities allow increased awareness on correct bin usage.</p>	<p>Encouraging the correct disposal of materials may be achieved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community education and engagement projects which help reduce contamination and increase correct utilisation of the kerbside three bin system. • A review of Council owned, operated and leased facilities to transition to best practice in infrastructure, waste education resources and behaviour by facility managers and visitors. • Investigation of the potential impacts and outcomes of waste minimisation guidelines, bin systems, resources and support for Council-staged events. • Supporting the current enforcement measures of the <i>Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016</i> with education and engagement campaigns designed to reduce litter and illegal dumping.

Priority area 3: Education and engagement

Objective: Provide education and engagement while supporting community-led activities	
Initiative 7: Develop a strategic approach to community education.	
Why it is important	How will we achieve it
Education and engagement is critical to our Strategy. An education and engagement strategy can provide a structured and measurable approach to how we engage with our community for positive waste and resource recovery change.	<p>Stakeholders play various roles in education, from project ideation to utilisations of resources and services, they include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents - including property owners and tenants. • Businesses and industry - operating and/ or supporting the region. • Visitors to West Torrens. • Councillors and Administration - Elected Members, staff, volunteers and contractors. • Government - Australian Government, State Government, neighbouring councils and other South Australian councils. <p>Education and engagement may involve developing, trialling, monitoring, reporting and updating aspects such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging business and residents to implement best practice waste management behaviours. • Developing education programs and campaigns for the education sector and community groups. • Developing programs such as resource recovery processes, reducing contamination, managing hard to recycling items and programs with waste management as a secondary message. • Investigating resources that are inclusive, engaging and reach our Culturally And Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities. • Improving household access to internal bin systems such as the kitchen caddies and compostable bags. • Reviewing and updating educational, promotional and marketing initiatives. • Communicating our waste and resource recovery performance to the community.
Initiative 8: Improve the correct use of kerbside bin systems.	
Why it is important	How will we achieve it
The kerbside systems generate significant volumes of materials across all 3 streams. Our residents have the greatest opportunity to increasing resource recovery rates.	<p>Education and engagement programs can contribute to the kerbside bin system. Through data collection, such as scheduled kerbside audits and disposal tonnages, it may be possible to monitor and track the success of programs in relation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced contamination in kerbside bins. • Increased participation in food waste systems. • Increased volumes of organics and recyclables and decreased volumes of landfill materials generated.

Initiative 9: Support community-led initiatives.	
Why it is important	How will we achieve it
There has been increased interest, activity and action by the community within waste and resource recovery.	<p>We may assist our community to be leaders in this area by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting community-led initiatives, projects, events and ideas. • Developing frameworks for volunteer programs such as 'bin buddies' at events. • Encouraging waste free events. • Investigating opportunities to expand our involvement with community organisations and not-for-profit groups for waste reduction programs. • Supporting reuse facilities such as men's sheds, maker spaces and repair cafes.

Priority Area 4: Innovation**Objective:** Develop and implement innovative new solutions to improve service efficiency and material recovery.**Initiative 10: Innovative alternative options for how we collect waste.**

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
<p>The standard kerbside system for eligible residential properties is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 x 140L landfill bin (collected weekly) • 1 x 240L recycling bin (collected fortnightly) • 1 x 240L organics bin (collected fortnightly) <p>A flexible collection service for our community may allow for alternative or tailored kerbside systems to meet the varying needs of our community.</p>	<p>Council may explore and pilot how we manage waste, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of the service model for kitchen caddies and compostable bags to support food waste diversion. • A review of entitled properties, as per our Waste Minimisation and Recycling Services Policy and kerbside bins allocated. • Investigating and trialling alternative bin infrastructure and collection models for high density developments and small business precincts. • Investigating and trialling alternative collection frequency for kerbside bins whilst adhering to legislative requirements. • Reviewing alternative residential bin configurations and systems including different bin sizes and bin quantities. • Investigating opportunities to increase resource recovery for street litter bins. <p>Council is not obligated to provide waste management services to businesses. However, businesses can access the kerbside system to manage lunchroom staff waste. Council may explore opportunities to provide a holistic approach for embedding sustainability practices into businesses.</p>

Initiative 11: Improve our efficiency in how we operate.

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
<p>Council manages the collection of kerbside bins, hard waste, illegal dumping and street litter bins. Reviewing collection models could alter how we provide services and transition to more convenient and efficient options for our community.</p>	<p>Providing efficient collection models may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contracts to bridge current gaps and improve services with technology advancements and changes to service models. • Utilisation of technology to monitor and report incidents and hazards during waste collections, such as damaged bins, bins not presented, parked cars, contamination and/or hazardous materials in bins or hard waste. • Promotion of public drop off locations within West Torrens, including hazardous waste streams. • Provision of a convenient collection model for residents to dispose of hard to recycle items. • Understanding emerging problematic waste issues and creating networks with industry and institutes to investigate and develop solutions.

Initiative 12: Explore technology advancement in waste management and resource recovery.

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
<p>Investigation of the suitability of emerging technologies that will shape future services to further support our community and waste management requirements.</p>	<p>The use of technology may include investigations of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology advancements and inclusions into future contracts for improved services and resource recovery. • New waste collection technologies and strategies that can support increased resource recovery. • High density developments waste management designs such as incorporating technology, adequate bin storage, collection areas and opportunities for cross-development collection services. • Alternative street litter bin systems including compaction bins, recycling options and underground bin systems. • Options for online platforms and dashboards for our community to live-track services.

Priority Area 5: Policy and framework

Objective: Collaborate with key stakeholders, strategies and guidelines to support Local Government to transition to a consistent approach in waste management and resource recovery.

Initiative 13: Support our community with consistent waste management services.

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
The management and delivery of waste services to communities varies across the state. South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025 has implemented measures and actions to transition to a consistent approach to waste management.	<p>A consistent approach to waste management services for our communities will provide efficiencies in developing and delivering resources and services to our community. West Torrens may support a consistent approach by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensuring kerbside bins adhere to <i>AS4123.7-Mobile waste containers colours, markings and designation requirements</i>.• Advocating for consistency of accepted materials at kerbside processors for recyclables and organics in South Australia.• Reporting the results of pilots and trials that may influence future waste management services in South Australia, such as alternative collection frequencies of kerbside bins.• Supporting State Government education campaigns, such as the current 'Which Bin' campaign.

Initiative 14: Review internal policy documentation relating to waste management and resource recovery.

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
Waste impacts many departments across Council. Reviews of internal documentation may identify synergies, collaboration and operational efficiencies.	<p>A review of internal documents includes policies, guidelines, standards, strategies and/or standard operating procedures. Analysis of these documentations can determine if Council is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adhering to regulatory requirements.• Executing decisions and operations effectively across Council and recognising synergies.• Supporting targets and actions of State and National waste management strategies.

Initiative 15: Advocate for change through Government requirements.

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
Government is working towards long term sustainable outcomes for waste and resource recovery. Trialling new initiatives and pilots can support continuous improvement.	<p>Council will endeavour to support current initiatives and advocate for future changes by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigating and applying for grant funding that will benefit our community, reduce impacts and inform future policies.• Advocating for legislation changes to allow a flexible approach to trials and services.• Advocating for a consistent state-wide reporting system and framework for councils to report waste data.• Responding to relevant consultation papers, policies and strategies that may influence changes in the sector.

Initiative 16: Foster research and development.

Why it is important	How will we achieve it
Collaboration with industry, academics and government can contribute to innovative solutions to support resource recovery.	<p>The waste sector is evolving and adapting to changes. To support changes, council may investigate opportunities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encouraging and providing support for university research projects to address emerging issues in the sector.• Identifying partnerships to support local development of technologies and processes for challenging waste streams.• Encouraging collaboration between researchers, industry and government for innovation in the sector.

Strategy implementation and reporting

The Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2022 - 2032 is a 10-year guiding document for the delivery of waste management services to our community. A separate 5 year Implementation Plan, which will outline detailed actions, roles, responsibilities and timeframes, will be developed to help us deliver the priorities and initiatives identified in this Strategy. The progress of these will be reported to Council on a regular basis.

The delivery of the Implementation Plan will be dependent on available budget and resourcing requirements.

The City of West Torrens is committed to implementing appropriate strategies and processes that identify, analyse and manage the risks associated with its activities, as a means of minimising impact of undesired and unexpected events on our business activities and to facilitate potential opportunities. Risk assessments and management processes will be integrated into activities and projects within the Implementation Plan.

The Council policy 'City of West Torrens Council Policy - Enterprise Risk Management' (westtorrens.sa.gov.au) outlines how Council will achieve risk management objectives.

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- Our community for insight and feedback during the community consultation phase.
- Neighbouring councils for collaboration during the first consultation phase.

Further information

The Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2022 - 2032 can be accessed via our website, westtorrens.sa.gov.au or a copy can be provided upon request, email info@wtcc.sa.gov.au, SMS 0429 205 943 or phone 8416 6333 during office hours.



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