

SJ Waste Services Survey

Let's Talk Rubbish!

Help us redesign our Waste Services by reading the below information and completing a quick 5-minute survey.

Following the closure of the Waste Transfer Station (WTS) in October 2023 and feedback from consultants on its remediation, along with the interim green and bulk waste services provided so far, it's now time to make important long-term decisions about the future of waste services in the Shire.

The WTS was formerly a landfill site and was not originally designed for waste and recycling operations, which continued to grow in popularity. An increase in population and a lack of volume limits accepted by the facility are factors which need to be considered when designing the future of the site.

In June 2023, Council had received consultant recommendations on how to improve the safety, services, and efficiencies of the WTS site.

Based on these recommendations and the site restrictions for the Asbestos Containing Material (ACM) Rehabilitation Area, two redesign options were presented to Council in August 2024. Full information related to that report can be found on our website (Ordinary Council Meeting Confirmed Minutes from Monday, 19 August 2024) for context around the complexity of the Watkins Road Waste Transfer Station and managing operational wastes.

The associated costs of remediating and reopening the Watkins Road Waste Transfer Station are substantial and are estimated to cost around **\$8 million** dollars depending on the options chosen. Since these costs would need to be passed on to residents, Council resolved to seek feedback from the community on usage habits and preferred options for the future of waste services in the Shire.

It is important for residents to note that if a redesign of the Watkins Road Waste Transfer Station goes ahead, the rehabilitation works and redesign will take at least 2 years to complete.

What we're asking from you?

You'll be asked to provide feedback on:

- The future of the bookable hard waste collection service
- The future of the kerbside green waste collection service
- Whether you would prefer the Watkins Road Waste Transfer Station to reopen, noting the associated costs, and in what capacity you would use the facility
- Your interest in receiving a rebate for a home composting system in lieu of FOGO not being introduced.

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All residents and ratepayers within the Shire are being given the opportunity to participate in this survey. All residents will receive communication in their mailboxes advising them of the survey and encouraging them to provide feedback.

The community engagement campaign will run from Friday 4th October until Monday 18th November 2024. The engagement will be conducted by independent research firm, Metrix, who will analyse results and compile a report with the findings.

This will assist Council in determining, the future of the Watkins Road Waste Transfer Station, bookable hard waste collection services and the scheduled green waste collection services. A report will go to Council in February 2025.

How you can help - Let's Talk Rubbish

Please make sure you've read the information above and ensure you understand the cost implications related to the Watkins Road Waste Transfer Station.

To help us deliver the best possible service and value for your rates, please answer the following questions as accurately as possible.

Firstly, tell us a bit about you:

What suburb do you live in?

- Byford Cardup Darling Downs Hopeland Jarrahdale
 Karrakup Keysbrook Mardella Mundijong Oakford
 Oldbury Serpentine None of the above

Choose the household size or type that best describes you:

- Single Couple Family with children Retirees

Do you live on acreage which allows you to burn green waste?

- Yes No

Do you rent or own a property in the Shire?

- Rent Own Other arrangement

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Do you reside at your property, or is it an investment property?

- Reside Investment

How old are you?

- <18 18-24 25-29 30-34 35-39 40-44 45-49
 50-54 55-59 60-64 65+

Are you living with a disability, or have a physical ailment which prevents you lifting heavy materials into a car or trailer?

- Yes No Sometimes Prefer not to answer

How do you hear about Shire information?

- Facebook Instagram Weekly eNewsletter to my email
 Website I speak with my neighbours Letterbox drops from Shire
 Other – please advise _____

Now, let's talk about your waste!

When the Watkins Road Transfer Station was open, how often did you use the facility? (Please select the most relevant option).

- More than once a month Once a month 1-2 times every 6 months
 Once a year Never Didn't know about it

What material types did you bring to the Watkins Road Transfer Station? (Please select all relevant options).

- Bulky household furniture Green waste Cardboard
 E-waste Mattresses Whitegoods Tyres
 Batteries Light globes Other - _____
 Not applicable, never visited the site

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How often did you either drop-off items for or purchase items from the Reuse Shop? (Please select one option for drop-off and one for purchase).

Drop-off: 5 times or more 2-4 times 1 -2 times Never

Purchase: 5 times or more 2-4 times 1 -2 times Never

Didn't know it existed

Since the closure of the Watkins Road Transfer Station, have you used the Armadale Landfill and Recycling Facility at 145 Hopkinson Road, Hilbert? (Please select only the most relevant option)

Yes, when the free tip passes were available

No, I did not know about the facility, but may use it in the future

No, I have never used the facility and am unlikely to use it

If you have used the Armadale Landfill and Recycling Facility, what did you use it for? (Please select all relevant options).

Household hazardous wastes (HHW) such as paint and chemicals

Other paid services such as bulky waste, tyres and mattresses

For free recycling items

Have you used any of the following scheduled green waste verge collection services? (Please select all relevant options).

Nov/Dec 2023 April 2024 June 2024

No, I did not use any No, I did not know about service

Have you used the bookable hard waste collection service since it was introduced in June 2024? (Please select only the most relevant option)

Yes – 1 pass used Yes – 2 passes used

No, I have not yet used the service No, I did not know about service

No, unlikely to use the service in the future. Please provide reasons below:

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Let's look to the future of waste services in SJ

In relation to future management of bulky **green waste**, what is your preferred option? **Please note** remediation and redesign of the Waste Transfer Station will take at least two years and will cost around \$8 million. (Please rank in order of preference with 1 being the preferred option and 4 being the least preferred option).

- 2 green waste verge collections per year with no limits on volume.
- 3 green waste verge collections per year with no limits on volume.
- Reopening of the Waste Transfer Station with unrestricted green waste delivery and zero green waste verge collections. Trailers available if needed.
- Reopening of the Waste Transfer Station with 2 free passes per year with a 5m³ limit and 1 green waste verge collection (no volume restriction).

In relation to future management of bulky **hard waste**, what is your preferred option? **Please note** remediation of the Waste Transfer Station will take at least two years and will cost around \$8 million. (Please rank in order of preference with 1 being the preferred option and 3 being the least preferred option).

- 2 bookable hard waste verge collections (3m³ limit) per year. Option to purchase extra if required.
- 1 free 3m³ pass to the reopened transfer station + availability of trailers if required plus 1 annual bookable hard waste verge collections (3m³ limit) per year. Option to purchase extra verge collections or passes as required.
- 2 free 3m³ passes at the reopened transfer station + availability of trailers if required. Option to purchase extra passes as required with no annual bookable hard waste verge collections.

The costs associated with the rehabilitation and reconstruction, is expected to be around \$8 million. Based on these costs please provide your future waste services preference (Please select only the most relevant option).

- Reopen the Waste Transfer Station at a cost of around \$8 million.
- Continue with current verge side bulk and green waste collections with no additional expenditure on reconstructing the transfer station.

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Options for managing Food Organics

The Shire is looking to introduce subsidies for managing household food organics. This could be via compost bins, worm farms or benchtop Bokashi buckets which break down organic waste within the kitchen. If these were subsidised, would you use one of these systems for your food organics?

Yes No

If a rebate system is introduced, would you like us to contact you via email when the rebate system commences?

Yes No

Thank you for your time, your feedback is invaluable. The Shire will keep you updated via email on the progress of the waste services engagement campaign so keep an eye out for emails from us.