








Project: Let's Talk Rubbish! Help us redesign our waste services**Ideas: Do you have an idea? Suggest it here! [2021-01-20 to 2025-01-27]**


No.	Contribution	Author
1	<p>Idea: Cockburn gives their ratepayers six tip passes a year. WTS (or similar) needs to be the same, with verge side greenwaste collections.</p> <p>Description: This growing shire needs to provide 6 trailer passes (general and green waste) as per Cockburn. Additional green waste should be kerbside twice a year. Whether the existing WTS is utilised, or possibly having access to either Henderson or Canning Vale. Armadale is a painful experience. Henderson and Canning Vale are user-friendly. Either way, the WTS should not allow unlimited dumping (which encourages out-of-towners to sneak in), but up to six loads a year should be permitted. Also, a once a year bulky/white goods kerbside collection should be included too, for those who can't get large items to the tip</p>	■
2	<p>Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Please note that the Watkins Road Facility is no longer a landfill site and is relatively small, making it unsuitable for handling large volumes. The Shire's Council will review household allowances further when the report is presented in February 2025.</p>	comms
3	<p>Idea: Can you not cap/seal the current site and open a new better facility? Stop illegal dumping by not limiting free dumping of certain items</p> <p>Description: Can you not cap/seal the current site and open a new better facility? Allowing for growth in the shire.</p> <p>To stop illegal dumping it would be better to put no limit on free dumping of certain materials. As seen people will dump illegally if there is a significant cost incurred.</p>	■
4	<p>Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The Watkins Road Facility is small and unable to handle large volumes of waste. Additionally, increasing waste generation is not a sustainable solution. The Shire's Council will review household allowances when the report is presented in February 2025. In the meantime, the Shire is actively working to prevent illegal dumping by issuing fines to offenders. Unfortunately, there are no viable alternatives for a transfer station at this time. Even if one were available, environmental licensing and protocols would likely delay its reopening.</p>	comms


- 5 Idea: Why do rate payers have to pay?Description: What has happened to the money we have been paying in our rates for waste since the center has been shut down. We have been paying and getting nothing for it. Its unfair to have rate payer pay for your mistakes, we don't have a bottomless wallet! Look elsewhere for the money! 
- 6 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The Shire continues to offer bulk waste services through scheduled green waste verge collections, and bookable hard waste collection services. comms
- 7 Idea: Bring back the old hardwaste collections, they allowed people to recycle and reuse items from the verge and reduce hardwaste. 
- 8 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The Shire has observed that the bookable hard waste collections are also promoting reuse. Several residents have reported that their items were taken by others before the scheduled collection. comms
- 9 Idea: When creating a survey like this that is costing the residents \$30k plus, and over 3 months of no action whilst it is being completed, Description: You are asking us to make selections on options that we know very little about. Is the transfer station going to be at a charge when it opens? Are we only going to get a couple of tip passes and pay for anything else? Will we have to pay for greenwaste ? It certainly appears that way in the survey but nothing is stated. 
- 10 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The options are now outlined in the FAQs, and the full Council report with additional details is available via the provided links. As the Watkins Road Facility is small and unable to handle large volumes, increasing waste is not a sustainable approach. The Shire's Council will further review household allowances when the report is presented in February 2025. comms
- 11 Idea: I would like to see some written or video information on the website how to set up and use home composting systems 
- 12 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The Shire plans to provide video resources on home composting systems and will also conduct workshops for residents interested in learning more. comms
- 13 Idea: I would like a green waste bin collected fortnightly. I had this system in a previous council and it worked well with 3 bookable verge sides 

- 14 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The 3-bin GO system is not being considered at this time, as it would impose additional costs on residents. However, the Council may decide to implement unlimited green waste allowances at the redesigned transfer station in February 2025. comms
- 15 Idea: Can we have a green waste bin provided and collected fortnightly and 2 general waste verge collections a year?
Description: Half of my general waste bin is green waste, especially in summer or spring. I would think it would lower the cost of general waste removal for the shire. [REDACTED]
- 16 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The 3-bin GO system is not being considered at this time due to the additional costs it would impose on residents. Although processing green waste is cheaper, the costs associated with collection and infrastructure make it more expensive than the current 2-bin system. The Council may decide to implement unlimited green waste allowances at the redesigned transfer station in February 2025. comms
- 17 Idea: I just want tip passes. You'd think for \$3000+ in rates I could get a handful of tip passes [REDACTED]
- 18 Comment: Agree. If it is going to cost so much for the tip to be remediated, maybe a deal can be arranged with a neighbouring council. [REDACTED]
- 19 Idea: Please Bring Back The Old Road Side Collection That We Used to Have . Your survey gave no option to bring back the old roadside hardwaste [REDACTED]
- 20 Comment: I think you can book a hardwaste collection with them now - you just need to call them [REDACTED]
- 21 Idea: The shire should consider adding a green waste / FOGO bin on the opposite fortnight to recycling.
Description: How can the cost of an additional bin be more than the \$8m that it will cost for redeveloping the transfer station, which according to replies on other comments will have limited capacity due to its size and the size of the shire yet somehow you can offer unlimited green waste dumping, which is great but doesn't allow for lawn clippings, leaves and other compostable waste. With the amount we are already paying in rates, there should be scope for a FOGO bin as other councils are providing this with much lower rates! [REDACTED]
- 22 Comment: I second this suggestion!!! [REDACTED]
- 23 Idea: Open Watkins Rd as green waste only site
Description: Opening Watkins Rd as a green waste only site or provide enough passes to Armidale site to allow disposal of all green waste generated on average. [REDACTED]

24 Comment: This Shire Council is a disgrace and too quick to spend \$40k of rate payers money on a outside consultant group asking us what they should do. Get out there and talk, listen to your rate payers. Get Watkins road re-opened, and this time run it properly. 


25 Idea: The lack of a simple, reasonably priced solution to this problem suggests we have our hands tied by excessive regulation. 

26 Comment: I dont feel its right to leave this area contaminated, turning a blind eye to a problem isnt a solution, if its all removed where will the contaminated material go? I feel we should have green waste twice a year and hard waste on demand for those without trailers , and for those that would like passes for armadale then that option too AND plan for a safe disposal of the contaminated material, if its a matter of burying somewhere else then leave it where it is, make the ground safe and stable if possible . we humans have done a great job of polluting this planet, lets put things right.as a council, save some money over the next 3 years and then come up with a plan for re generation of the contaminated land , its only contaminated if disturbed right ? 

27 Idea: Why can't any costs incurred in getting rid of waste through non shire channels be a rates rebate or deductible 




28 Comment: Thank you for your question. The Shire needs to be able to manage costs and compliance requirements effectively. In line with the State Waste Strategy, the Shire also needs to discourage waste. Such a system would be counter-productive to this objective. comms

Idea: Survey Options Limited for Greenwaste
Description: Could greenlid greenwaste bins be an option as seen in other councils?

29 I am on a smaller block and cannot organise greenwaste pick-up as I would need to dump everything on the footpath, which impedes pedestrians. My only option at present is to put it all in the red bin. 





Other councils have a green lid greenwaste bin for grass clippings and branches etc. Residents could be given the option of a greenwaste bin in addition to one verge collection for larger items per year.






How much would implementing this system cost?




- Comment: Thank you for your questions. These are valid points, and a green waste bin may be recommended if the transfer station were not to be reopened. In October,
- 30 Council approved the rebates for home composting systems which residents can use for food, garden and pet organic waste. The rebates will be promoted from January 2025 comms
- Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Many local governments are transitioning away from scheduled hard waste collections due to safety, amenity, and environmental concerns. The Shire does not plan to revert to scheduled collections, which is why this option was not included in the survey.
- 31 comms
- Comment: Thank you for your feedback. If the Waste Transfer Station were not to reopen, the Shire will consider other options for residents to have tip passes for alternative locations.
- 32 comms
- Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Council ruled out a FOGO bin because of the initial and ongoing costs, poor organic yield expected, contamination levels and complexities of the system (with general waste being picked up fortnightly). However, a green waste bin may be recommended if the transfer station were not to be reopened. In October, Council approved the rebates for home composting systems, which residents can use for food, garden and pet organic waste. The rebates will be promoted from January 2025.
- 33 comms
- Idea: Roads are in terrible condition. Sub contractors doing verge works on Cardup Siding road? Better ways to save money than closing tip.
Description: Where do my rates go?
- 34 
- Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Council will decide on the future of the Waste Transfer Station in February 2025.
- 35 comms
- Comment: Thank you for your feedback. These are valid points and will be considered as part of the deliberation by Council in February 2025.
- 36 comms
- Idea: As an old age, single, female pensioner on a native treed block I appreciated the On Demand green waste pickups when I needed them.
- 37 
- 38 Comment: Thank you for your feedback comms
- Idea: 3 Bin system & on demand hard waste collections bi annually is the best - don't have a towball & don't want to fill my car up with rubbish
- 39 

- 40 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Council ruled out a FOGO bin because of the initial and ongoing costs, poor organic yield expected contamination levels and complexities of the system (with general waste being picked up fortnightly). However, a green waste bin may be recommended if the transfer station were not to be reopened. In October, Council approved the rebates for home composting systems, which residents can use for food, garden and pet organic waste. The rebates will be promoted from January 2025. comms
- 41 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Council will deliberate on a range of different options in February 2025. comms
- 42 Idea: Will our rates go up with what ever option is picked? [REDACTED]
- 43 Comment: Thank you for your question. If Council decides to reopen the transfer station, the associated costs may need to be covered by residents or could impact funding for other planned projects. comms
- 44 Idea: Transfer \$8m from the \$10.6m 24/25 Parks&Playground budget and use it to re-open the Transfer Station.Developer's should pay for Playgrounds [REDACTED]
- 45 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Council will consider a range of different options on the future of the Waste Transfer Station in February 2025. comms
- 46 Comment: The online survey seems biased offering no option to re-open the Transfer Station without over the top upgrades! The Transfer Station set-up might not have been state of the art, but it worked, it just requires better management! [REDACTED]
- 47 Idea: DO NOT EVEN CONSIDER REOPENING THE WTS. Introduce a 3 bin waste collection, consisting of three 240lt bins (red, yellow&green) plus Description: 2 verge Hardwaste collections per year and 2 verge Greenwaste collections per year as we had before the wts opened originally. Having bookable collections is not an economically sustainable system. [REDACTED]
- 48 Comment: No more bins thanks [REDACTED]
- 49 Idea: Why not have two bookable skip bins a year for hardwaste a lot of other councils do this and it more tidy and officiant! [REDACTED]
- 50 Comment: We agree a bookable skip bin is a great idea. No rubbish left out on the verge for a week. When a house is sold the amount of unwanted gear could be a easy solution. [REDACTED]

- 51 Comment: That's fine but what about all those of us that don't use these services because we don't need them. This option is great for the rural properties but not much use for residential properties. We are paying for others to use this service. It would have been better to repay the money that we all have paid for waste that were not used as agreed in our rates and offer and charge those that use these options, this would have been fairer for everyone. [REDACTED]
- 52 Comment: comms . So, you've already made a decision on a 'redesigned transfer station'? If you've already made a decision, then why bother going through all this 'community consultation' then? [REDACTED]
- 53 Comment: pspeering We do not have any designs at this stage. We would only go down that path if Council voted in favour or reopening it. comms
- 54 Idea: \$8 million to remediate the rubbish tip seems extortionately high. Open the project up to other companies to get a more quotes. [REDACTED]
Description: I am sure the improvements could be done for a fraction of that cost, if needed I will organise a quote for it and have it reopened inside a few weeks, not months.
- 55 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Please see the breakdown of the costs and purposes for these costs in the FAQ section. comms
- 56 Idea: FOGO Green waste bins please S&J, like the many other Local Councils have! [REDACTED]
- 57 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. In August 2024 Council decided not to introduce FOGO in the Shire due associated costs, contamination and low recovery rates expected. comms

- 58 Idea: In the survey, you didn't indicate how much it would cost to remediate and then close the WTS. We don't have the full picture
 Description: My understanding is that the cost to remediate and then close the WTS is just a tick under what it would cost to remediate and reopen the WTS. If we have to pay \$7m (or whatever it is) to remediate and then close it, we might as well pay the extra \$1m and have a fully functioning WTS. Yes, we might save \$1m up front, but, that saving will be gone in the blink of an eye funding the shortfall in the waste services that closing the WTS will create. Having ad hoc bulk waste collections makes our Shire look terrible, and with the strong winds we get, crap just gets blown around everywhere. Some piles are fire hazards, some are traffic hazards as they block vision for drivers and pedestrians. Having these bulk waste collections also encourages illegal dumping of rubbish, which adds increased costs to our Shire, and makes our lovely areas look very poor. 
- 59 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The costs of all the modelled options will be considered by Council along with the survey feedback. comms
- 60 Idea: It was just easy to go to the green waste facility when you wanted (not pile it up and have a fire risk) and get free mulch 
- 61 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. This convenience will be considered by Council in its deliberation. comms
- 62 Idea: The survey did not allow me to enter my preferred options in some sections.
 Description: I believe cost to reopen for general waste is too much. However green waste which could be mulched and composted for local users could be an option. 
- 63 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The options for green waste will be considered by Council. comms
- 64 Idea: In favour of a green waste bin fortnightly and 2 set verge side dates per year 
- 65 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. This option will be presented to Council. comms

- 66 Idea: Asking residents to make a decision without the full picture isn't proper stakeholder engagement. Description: You have told people the ROM cost for the recommissioning; you haven't advised how much of this cost will need to be supplemented by increased rates nor have you advised what the cost of rates would be (reduced, same or higher) if we move away from the recommissioning and go with traditional service that was in place prior to the transfer station ever opening. EG. residents expect that rates would return to pre-Watkins road for waste not remain the same or increased given the level of service is decreasing. How can you expect residents to make an educated and informed decision when you aren't providing all the details. 
- 67 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Council will make an informed decision on how best to manage the costs for residents. comms
- 68 Idea: FOGO ? - Another bin is not the solution, it only adds to the rates and a greater carbon footprint running another truck! 
- 69 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. In August 2024 Council determined not to introduce FOGO in the Shire due associated costs, contamination and low recovery rates expected. comms
- 70 Idea: Having booked verge collection rather than designated days for each suburb is making the suburbs always look untidy. Description: I like the bulk verge collection but prefer it twice a year at designated times. 
- 71 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The Shire has moved away from the scheduled verge collections. comms
- 72 Idea: Reintroduce vergeside collection twice yearly at least till reinstating a WTS as it was before is possible 
- 73 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. 2 x bookable hard waste collections have been made available with shorter wait times than the scheduled verge collections. comms
- 74 Idea: Population growth and incorrect asbestos disposal was caused by shire not us so \$8m is shires fault not ours. Another suburb coming too!. 
- 75 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The Shire did not knowingly accept asbestos on-site as the license did not permit this. comms
- 76 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. Council may choose some of these options going forward. comms

- Idea: Feedback/comment opportunity?Description: Another biased survey and only offers random public forum "feed updates" as opposed to proper feedback avenues. What was WTS conditions prior to this debacle??? Why only 2?
- 77 It's not enough (size and frequency) in a lot of situations. Further ways to bleed the community dry. Over half the survey was about green waste, none of which seemed overly helpful either. But only 1 or 2 questions on bulk waste. As for compost bins etc... really... no thanks. 
- 78 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The survey information received has been valuable and will be considered by Council. comms
- 79 Idea: A FOGO bin is a better option than the other suggestions. 
- 80 Comment: Thank you for your feedback. The Shire has determined not to introduce FOGO at this stage. comms
- 81 Idea: Why not have designated days for each suburb to have their bulk waste and green waste collected as Kwinana Shire have. Two hard waste and 3 Description: green waste days per year, worked well when I lived there. 

END OF REPORT