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**Question 1 - What are the key issues facing the NSW waste system?**

Recycling and the lack of recycling processors in Australia. We desperately need options to reprocess and re-manufacture recyclables here in Australia. Due to China Sword etc. the markets for recycling have diminished. The prices received for the products we sort are falling and we have not been able to find a market for glass for quite some time. In addition some products that can be recycled / reprocessed in metropolitan areas due to volumes and availability of processors are difficult to deal with in regional areas due to lower volumes reducing the ability of meeting diversion targets in regional areas.

**Question 2 - What are the main barriers to improving the NSW waste system?**

Some products that should be recycled are very difficult to recycle due to the product containing a blend of plastics. So some plastic that appears to me a nice clear PET will be mainly PET and be marked with a 1 recycling symbol due to the percentage of PET in the container, however it may have a coating of PVC to make a soft plastic lid stick to it. This is very difficult for plastic processors to deal with and is difficult to separate as part of the sorting process due to the appearance. If this is sorted with PET you end up with a downgraded product that is worth a lot less. We need strict controls on packaging manufacture and what is labelled as recyclable.

**Question 3 - How can we best reduce waste?**

Stop imports on new glass bottles forcing the use of recycled glass. Force all packaging to have a percentage of recyclable material in it. Investment in recycling/ reprocessing infrastructure, with small scale plants for regional areas.

**Question 4 - How can we recycle better?**

We collect recyclables at the kerbside quite well. Unfortunately it is the lack of investment in our country for reprocessing and then the commitment by end users to use the recycled material that forces potentially recyclable material into landfill,

**Question 5 - What are the main opportunities for improving the NSW waste system?**

We have already functioning collection and sorting systems in NSW so there is guaranteed product so we just need investment for reprocessing and guaranteed use of the product recycled.

**Question 6 - Any other information that you would like to contribute to the waste strategy initiative?**