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

The five key issues facing the NSW waste system are:

1. Lack of consistency and harmonization of all waste streams across NSW, resulting in challenges for businesses and residents
2. Lack of transparency and accountability of the waste companies and where waste actually goes
3. Lack of education resulting in confusion and high levels of contamination
4. Lack of infrastructure to manage all waste streams, but in particular food waste for both businesses and households
5. Not enough end market opportunities for waste products, resulting in a lack of economic incentive for business

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

1. Government not willing to invest the funding required to actually improve waste in NSW
2. Businesses are not being given the tools and knowledge to actually prevent and reduce waste
3. Current lack of markets for repurposed products

Question 3 - How can we best reduce waste?

1. Increase funding to food rescue organisations - food rescue diverts food from landfill and feeds people in need. OzHarvest has the FoodApp to extend reach across all of NSW
2. Greater consistency across councils
3. Improve waste education to retailers, especially food businesses
4. Incentivise waste prevention (examples from other countries around the world)
5. Greater education to businesses and households
6. Give all NSW schools the support and tools required to reduce waste

Question 4 - How can we recycle better?

1. Provide greater access recycling infrastructure, such as FOGO services, soft plastic recycling and materials recovery
2. Educate people more on the effects of waste and what to do
3. Make it easy!

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

1. Ban food waste to landfill
2. Create awareness of the Civil Liabilities Act, removing fear of liability for donating food
3. More support for businesses
4. Ban e-waste to landfill
5. Greater collaboration and consistency
6. Invest in infrastructure

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