



Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 18 December 2013

NEW SUPPORT FOR REGIONAL COUNCIL WASTE GROUPS

Environment Robyn Parker today announced that the NSW Environment Protection Authority will spend \$6 million over the next four years, including \$2 million in 2014, supporting regional council groups to improve waste and recycling infrastructure.

Ms Parker said the support package will benefit 54 councils throughout the waste-levy paying area and more than five million NSW residents.

“These grants will enable councils to work together to co-ordinate their grant applications and undertake large-scale infrastructure projects,” Ms Parker said.

“The funding will facilitate at least one new regional coordinator role for each of the council groups who will help to develop their regional waste strategies, required under the NSW 2021, which will identify waste and recycling infrastructure needs.

“This will help local areas co-ordinate on projects that that may undeliverable financially or geographically for an individual council but that can be achieved across a broader area, such as a new recycling plant or a compost facility.

“The latest waste data shows that NSW households are recycling almost four per cent more than five years ago and are sending less waste to landfill, however we are also generating more waste.

“Councils in the levy-paying area were invited to form a regional working waste group with nearby councils and partake in the regional co-ordination support grants program.

“The \$465.7 million *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative is designed to enhance waste and resource recovery services both at an individual council level and with large scale infrastructure changes.

“Councils that work together, both in the implementation and delivery phase, will be better able to deliver regional solutions and infrastructure initiatives to reduce waste and increase resource recovery in their area.”

Councils in the regional groups will still be eligible to apply for individual *Waste Less, Recycle More* grants.

More information about the Regional Co-Ordination Support package, the *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative and grants now open for application can be found on the EPA website here: <http://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/waste/WasteLess.htm>

Councils who will be receiving the Regional Co-ordination Support package:

Regional Group	Funding (over 4 years)	Councils involved
SSROC	\$1.8m	Ashfield, Botany Bay, Burwood, Canada Bay, Canterbury, Leichardt, Marrickville, Randwick, Sydney, Waverly, Woollahra, Hurstville, Kogarah, Rockdale, Sutherland, Bankstown
MACROC	\$600,000	Camden, Campbelltown, Wollondilly
NSROC	\$600,000	Hornsby, Hunters hill, Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove, North Sydney, Ryde, Willoughby
SHOROC	\$600,000	Manly, Mosman, Pittwater, Warringah
Southern Councils Group	\$600,000	Kiama, Shellharbour, Shoalhaven, Wingecarribee, Wollongong
WSROC	\$1.2m	Auburn, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Holroyd, Liverpool, Parramatta, Penrith, The Hills (Baulkham Hills)
Hunter Councils Inc	\$600,000	Cessnock, Dungog, Lake Macquarie, Maitland, Muswellbrook, Newcastle, Port Stephens, Singleton, Upper Hunter