



Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 11 June 2013

\$38.7 MILLION TO HELP COUNCILS REDUCE WASTE AND IMPROVE THEIR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Environment Minister Robyn Parker today announced that 72 councils in NSW will share in \$38.7 million from the NSW Government to help them increase resource recovery, tackle waste and improve their local environment.

Ms Parker said that councils across Sydney, the Hunter, Central Coast, Illawarra and the North Coast will receive the funding this month from the Environment Protection Authority as part of the Waste and Sustainability Improvement Payment program.

“This package provides a significant boost to council efforts to tackle illegal dumping and littering, increase recycling and reduce waste,” Ms Parker said.

“Works are designed by each council to support their individual communities and may include programs such as delivering illegal dumping education, undertaking waste and composting initiatives, and working with community groups, businesses and schools.

“I commend local councils for the progress they have already made towards wasting less and recycling more and the improvements they have made to their local environment as a result of their participation in the WaSIP program over the past three years.”

Ms Parker said that this year’s round of WaSIP funding will assist councils to smoothly transition to a new suite of local council programs under the *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative that will commence later this year.

“Councils will be eligible for grants under the five year \$465.7 million waste and resource recovery initiative *Waste Less, Recycle More* which we announced earlier this year.

“This funding package, which is the largest ever commitment to waste reduction in NSW, will allow council’s greater access to even more funding with \$222 million available exclusively to councils over five years and access to \$133.9 million in contestable grants.

“*Waste Less, Recycle More* will help to achieve the State’s recycling targets, stimulate investment in infrastructure and combat illegal dumping and littering.”

More information about the \$465.7 million *Waste Less, Recycle More* program can be found on the EPA website here: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/waste