

# Regional Waste Solution

The four councils of Mosman, Manly, Warringah and Pittwater (the SHOROC councils) have agreed to change the way waste is collected across their council areas.

The new system will be phased in by 2014-15 and will increase our recycling, keep costs to ratepayers down and be easy to use.

The need for this new waste collection system has come about for several reasons.

1. The Belrose landfill station where our waste currently goes is filling up and due to close in 2014.

As there is no other mixed garbage landfill in our region, this waste would have to be trucked elsewhere meaning increased transport costs.

2. Landfill fees are set to rise steeply. This is due to ever increasing disposal taxes and regulations and because landfill sites are quickly filling up.

If we don't change the way we dispose of waste, rates will have to increase to cover these costs.

3. We need a system that allows food waste to be recycled. Food currently makes up almost 40% of our garbage and it needs to be recycled to help us meet landfill diversion targets set by the NSW Government.

To solve these issues Kimbriki is building a new recycling and waste processing facility at Terrey Hills which is scheduled to open by 2014-15. This facility will be able to turn food and vegetation waste into compost which can then be sold.

This potentially can reduce the amount of waste currently landfilled by up to 40%, cutting our costs and protecting our environment.

The Kimbriki facility is owned by Mosman, Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Councils. We are one of the few regions in NSW with our own facility capable of managing our waste into the future.

The new recycling facility at Kimbriki will ultimately save ratepayers money and keep waste charges low, as well as delivering better environmental outcomes.

- More information on the new waste system
- Some common Questions & Answers
- Kimbriki
- SHOROC

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# The new Waste Collection System

The new waste collection system will be phased in during 2014-2015 for all households in Mosman, Manly, Warringah and Pittwater.

This will coincide with the opening of the recycling facilities at Kimbriki and the permanent closure of the Belrose landfill station. More information on how this new system is solving our region's waste problem can be found [here](#)

The main changes are:

- **One mixed food & vegetation bin.** The mixed food & vegetation will be converted into compost and COLLECTED WEEKLY
- **A free kitchen tidy and cornstarch bags** delivered to all homes to collect food waste before it is placed in the bin.
- **One mixed recycling bin** for paper and recyclable containers COLLECTED FORTNIGHTLY
- **A general waste bin** COLLECTED FORTNIGHTLY
- **In units/apartments ALL bins will be COLLECTED WEEKLY.** Options will be investigated for residents with special waste needs. These could include more frequent collections for those with nappies, varying bin sizes and support for the elderly or infirm.

- Some common Questions & Answers on the new system can be found [here](#)

[Give us your feedback](#)

- If you have a question or comment about the new waste service click [here](#).
- All comments, questions and answers are posted [here](#)

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# Questions and Answers

Answers to some common questions on the new system are outlined below, including:

- What is the collection system being planned?
- Why the suggested change?
- Won't the garbage smell if it is collected fortnightly?
- What about nappies?
- Will I have to pay more rates?
- How will I get my food scraps into the organics bin?
- What can I place in a co-mingled recycling bin?
- When will the system be brought in?

If you have a question or comment about the new waste service click [here](#).

## What is the collection system being planned?

This is a much more modern and efficient service that will mean we recycle more of our garbage and keep rates as low as possible.

The average house or 'single dwelling' service includes:

- **One mixed food & vegetation bin. The mixed food & vegetation will be converted into compost and COLLECTED WEEKLY**
- **A free kitchen tidy and cornstarch bags delivered to all homes to contain food waste before its put in the bin.**
- **One mixed recycling bin for paper and recyclable containers COLLECTED FORTNIGHTLY**

- **A general waste bin COLLECTED FORTNIGHTLY**

In units/apartments ALL bins will be COLLECTED WEEKLY.

## Why the change?

It will save residents money, increase diversion of precious resources from landfill to recycling and avoid significant CO2 emissions from transport and landfilling.

Landfill disposal costs are increasing each year due to the increasing State Government landfill levy and landfill operating charges. The new system minimises the impact of these increasing costs and will keep rates much lower than if we kept our current system.

Recycling is increased as the food and garden organics are recycled into compost which can be re-used by councils or other organisations. Currently food waste, which makes up 40% of household garbage, goes to landfill.

This system will also allow the councils to meet the State Government targets of 66% diversion of waste from landfill by 2014 which have been set for councils to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

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### Won't the garbage smell if it is collected fortnightly?

This system is already being used by hundreds of thousands of residents across Sydney and doesn't cause a problem.

Food will continue to be collected WEEKLY in the green lidded 'organics bin' along with garden clippings, prunings, leaves etc.

As the smells and odours we typically associate with our waste bin come from the decomposing food waste, this new system is no more likely to cause odours than the current system.

The residual garbage bin collected FORTNIGHTLY (with the red lid) should mainly contain things like textiles, ceramics and dust/dirt - meaning the contents should not be rotting or decomposing.

### What about nappies?

Councils are considering options for residents with additional needs, for example through a weekly service or something similar for those that need it.

### Will I have to pay more rates?

The new system will minimise the impact of increasing waste costs and will keep rates much lower than if we kept our current system.

The cost of waste disposal generally is increasing because of the escalating cost of landfill and various environmental levies. Costs of the new system will be lower overall. This is because it takes the food waste out of landfill and puts it through a composting system, therefore avoiding the significant landfill costs. With food making up around 40% of our general waste stream at the moment, this is a big potential saving.

### How will I get my food scraps into the organics bin?

A kitchen 'tidy bin' that can be placed on the benchtop or in a cupboard will be supplied to all households. Special cornstarch bags, that can be composted, will be provided as bin liners. Residents simply line the kitchen tidy bin with a cornstarch bag and then place food waste in the tidy bin until full. The full cornstarch bag can be tied up and placed it in your organics bin along with your garden and other organic waste.

### What can I place in a co-mingled recycling bin?

All paper and cardboard, as well as plastics, glass and recyclable metals go in the co-mingled bin.

This is much simpler than the current system which has two separate streams and is hardly used anywhere else in Australia.

The move to a co-mingled recycling bin is about simplifying the recycling, making it easier for residents and visitors to use and continuing our high rate of recovering recyclables.

### When will the system be brought in?

It is planned for the system to be introduced in around 2014-15 once the new recycling facilities are constructed at Kimbriki. The introduction will follow a significant period of community education and consultation to ensure residents concerns are fully addressed.

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