



#### LIVINGSTONE SHIRE COUNCIL

### Livingstone Shire's Waste & Resource Recovery Team

Council's Waste & Resource Recovery Team has just two full-time staff and a temporary full time Waste Support Officer (position expires February 2023)

All services are provided by contractors:

- Kerbside Waste & Recycling Collections
- Bulk Haulage Services from Transfer Stations
- Landfill and Associated Services
- Resource Recovery & Transfer Station Services
- Recyclables Processing Services
- Environmental Monitoring Services
- And many smaller contracts/agreements

With limited resources and no education/behavioural change options, how do the team get their message to the community? Some initiatives have been engaged to try and bridge this gap:

**Clean & Green E-Newsletter** - quarterly newsletter - been well received. 5 quarters so far delivered and has raised some questions from our residents.

**Sort Your Load campaign** - Visual program (billboard, brochures, LSC waste vehicle) to help residents to "sort your load" before arriving at a Waste Facility - reduces fees, diversion from Landfill. End of article footer



**Livingstone Waste Wise App** - supports our residents by advising of bin collection days (just have to input your address and even sets up notifications for you to remember), A-Z of items for correct disposal options, Bin Info for Kerbside collections (includes bin repairs, placement of bins, missed bin collection and more), waste facilities (maps, addresses, opening times), Fees & Charges, Top Recycling Tips. A one-stop shop for all things Waste, all on your phone or tablet. Livingstone Waste Wise App - Livingstone Shire Council

**Electronic Waste Vouchers (via the App)** - coming in August 2022. Council issues 10 Waste Vouchers annually. Historically they are paper based with no audit trail despite an equivalent cash value of \$1M. Will now be electronic, cannot be lost and Council will be able to see who actually uses them which will inform our decisions for the future.

**Kerbside Waste/Recycling Audit** - conducted by Envirocom in May 2022 - first audit since 2017 so will be interesting to see if any changes have taken place.

AND...

**Livingstone's Community Resource Recovery Centre (CRRC)** – due for completion by November 2022 - Construction has begun on the new \$3 million Centre at the Yeppoon Landfill. The Queensland Government has invested \$625,000 to the project through the Resource Recovery Industry Development Program.

*SOD turning for Livingstone's Community Resource Recovery Centre by Mayor Andy Ireland, Councillor Andrea Friend and Minister Brittany Lauga, Member for Keppel*



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## NAMING CHALLENGE

Matt's Office Ibis has a name



*Matt and 'Alan' thank everyone for their suggestions*

In our last edition, we challenged readers to submit suggestions to Matt McCarthy (Townsville) to name his office pet, a toy ibis replica.

Matt received some great suggestions, and has declared the Townsville Tip Turkey's name will be "Alan", proposed by Robert Ferguson from LGAQ in honour of LAWMAC life member Alan Wilson.

[🎵 "You can call me Al"](#)

## One percent difference



*Smithfield Transfer Station*

We all know that Australia's climate has warmed just over 1% since 1910 (CSIRO 2022) and how this small percentage has seen an increase in the frequency of extreme heat events and the severity of drought.

However, if we apply a one percent difference in a positive way; to our thought patterns, habits and indeed business operations, this small percent can make outstanding changes over time.

Here at Smithfield Transfer Station, we apply the One Percent Difference paradigm to our business operations and resource recovery targets.



*Transfer Station Officer Buster Upton using the tyre machine.*

Here's some of the ways we're finding our one percent:

### *Operational efficiencies*

✓ Current construction of a new internal road designed to reduce travel duration between

General Waste Area and Metal / Buy Back recovery Area with a proposed 50% reduction in travel time.

✓ Installation of an external EFTPOS machine at main entrance has reduced customer waiting times by 10%.



*Transfer Station Officer Jamie Ludke with the new external EFTPOS machine.*

✓ Currently we are doubling the size of our steel collection area and procuring an excavator to increase metal recovery and collection. It is projected the increase in recovery rates will be approx. 6% percent and will reduce collection frequencies by 4 loads per month. Note: Data is based on recent trials conducted at Council's largest transfer station.

✓ New signage, inspection of loads and dedicated team members has seen a reduction of recyclable waste going to landfill and increases of 32% in recovery for re-sale at our Buy Back shop.

✓ Installation of a tyre machine has increased recovery of metal tyre rims and reduced individual tyre disposal costs by 37%.



## Resource Recovery Education at Queensland's Premier Sustainability Event



The team from Cairns Regional Council's Resource Recovery branch joined TV personalities, environmental groups and reef and rainforest authorities to host thousands of visitors at this year's Eco-fiesta sustainability festival held in the city centre at Munro Martyn Parklands.

Cairns Regional Council's Eco-fiesta is considered one of Queensland's premier sustainability festivals, regularly attracting over 10,000 visitors from across the region for a day of fun, learning and entertainment.

Held on May 29, the resource recovery crew provided information and education for visitors around the important Recycle Right Cairns campaign and on our best options for waste avoidance.



*The resource recovery engagement team*

The team assisted many visitors providing answers to their tricky questions of what can and can't be placed in kerbside bins. Families with children (and big kids too) were also encouraged to take part in resource recovery

competitions such as the ever-popular recycling Relay. Winners taking home plastic free kits made from recycled materials (helping to promote closed loop recycling).

Scott Paterson, Waste Education Officer from Council lead the Resource Recovery contribution this year and was thrilled with this year's event. "I have to say Eco-fiesta 2022 has been amazing, so many visitors today. After impacts in previous years with covid restrictions it's so great to see people returning to this important event again. We've had so many great conversations and a lot of fun here today and I can't remember a more beautiful day weather-wise for FNQ in so long too".

One very special guest for the day, from the incredibly popular ABC programs Gardening Australia and Dirt Girl World, Australian landscape architect Costa Georgiadis also ran Eco-fiesta workshops and provided information on composting, growing food and having as much fun as possible at the same time.



*Costa Georgiadis entertaining Eco-fiesta Crowds*

The event also provided resident information on aquaponics, green businesses and many more workshops around renewable energy projects. Performances from local musicians and delicious food stalls were also very popular.

Executive Manager of Resource Recovery Steve Cosatto has been a great supporter of CRC Resource Recovery's involvement for many years.

“It was so fantastic seeing so many residents, families and visitors to the Far North taking part in this year’s CRC Eco-fiesta. Our engagement team did a fantastic job and were very busy! It’s so important that our messaging around Waste Reduction, Reuse and better recycling continues to be positioned within positive community events like these”.



*Recycling relays were a great hit with families*

the new service has made some residents more aware of their waste and recycling practices

Furthermore, the mid-trial survey results indicate an overall positive sentiment for introduction of a third bin based upon the following:

- 🍏 Almost all respondents think a FOGO/GO service is good for the environment
- 🍏 Most respondents think the FOGO/GO service is easy to use
- 🍏 The majority would be supportive or strongly supportive of Council introducing a city wide FOGO/GO service, however.....
- 🍏 Most residents would not be supportive of an increase in the utility charge

Trial participants were rewarded with the opportunity to attend a mid-trial giveaway to obtain a bag of humus soil produced using their very own garden organics.



The trial is being undertaken with support from the Department of Environment and Science and will run until the end of September 2022.

**TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL**

**FOGO – Mid Trial Update**

Townsville City Council is now 8 months in to a 12-month Food Organics Garden Organics Trial. Results of the mid-trial compositional audit undertaken in April indicate the following:

- 🍌 Introduction of a three-bin service including a FOGO bin combined with community education could achieve a diversion rate of over 62% of household waste from landfill
- 🍌 Residual waste generation has fallen from 14kg/hh/wk to 8.8kg/hh/wk
- 🍌 Contamination rates for FOGO are less than 2% and for GO are less than 1%
- 🍌 Recycling bin contamination has dropped since the introduction of the trial showing



## CENTRAL HIGHLANDS REGIONAL COUNCIL

### Calls for feedback on 10-year resource recovery strategy

Central Highlands Regional Council invites feedback on the draft 10-year Resource Recovery (Waste Management) Strategy.



This draft strategy aims to guide the way waste is managed and help council provide a cost-effective, fit-for-purpose resource recovery (waste) management system within a rapidly changing waste management industry.

General Manager John McDougall commented on the strategy's overarching goal of minimising waste production and maximising resource recovery through education and positive behavioural change.

'The 10-year goal is to maintain and improve council's current level of service whilst improving the efficiency of council's resource recovery operation and minimising waste taken to landfills across the region,' he said.

'The strategy will include investigations into kerbside collection services, resource recovery network evaluations and establishing region-wide initiatives.'

In the last financial year, the region received 65,950 tonnes of material into the local landfill,

with 45,139 tonnes reused, recycled or collected. This leaves 20,811 tonnes, or 26 Olympic swimming pools worth of waste, disposed of at Central Highlands landfills.

Council is responsible for managing a significant portion of the waste generated in our region, with this strategy being introduced to influence council's action plans over the next 10 years.

Some of the proposed key outcomes of the strategy are:

- the investigation of future expansion of council's kerbside collection service
- a resource recovery (waste) network of appropriately located resource recovery centres, landfills and bulk bin stations
- the establishment of a region-wide Regional Resource Recovery Centre.
- Feedback will be accepted

until 24 June 2022 through the online Have Your Say platform [here](#), or in person at council drop-in sessions and customer service centres over the next month.

A \$200 Visa gift card will be up for grabs for one lucky survey participant. This will be drawn at random at the end of the consultation period.

For any questions please contact the team on 1300 242 686.

[Resource Recovery \(Waste Management\) Strategy 2022-2032 | Have Your Say, Central Highlands \(chrc.qld.gov.au\)](#)



## Regional Scrap Metal Collection

Raw Metal Corp is a privately owned scrap metal recycler with yards in Wacol, Brisbane and Paget, Mackay. Raw Metal Corp now have the only metal shredding machine in North Queensland, a testament to our commitment to servicing the region.



*Bonfiglioli Hammer Mill metal shredder in our Mackay yard capable of processing 25 tonnes of scrap metal per hour ready for exporting.*

**Exporters to the world:** We have also recently exported our first shipload of scrap metal overseas with a 12,000 tonne shipment out of Mackay Harbour. We look to grow this ship-based loading from both of our yards.

**Working with Councils:** We have been working with Councils in the Southeast of Queensland and Northern New South Wales including Stotts Creek, Richmond, Coominya and Bundaberg Councils.

**Fleet of machines:** Our fleet of world class machines and skilled, qualified operators provide a trouble-free scrap metal collection service.



*One of the fleet trucks with a Sennebogen 830 excavator and 5 finger-grab*



*A 90m<sup>3</sup> Tefco trailer for hauling the scrap metal back to our yards*

Being privately owned, Raw Metal Corp goes to great lengths to ensure quality service on time. It's our reputation at stake.

If you have any questions, please call Wade Ruffin on 0419 521 564 or email [wade@rawmetalcorp.com](mailto:wade@rawmetalcorp.com) or Steffie Kelly on 0429 232 367 or email [sales@rawmetalcorp.com](mailto:sales@rawmetalcorp.com)



**YOUR PARTNER IN RECYCLING**

*Sponsor Article*

## Addressing Metal Theft



Queensland's electricity distribution networks Energex and Ergon Energy Network have joined forces with the Waste Recycling Industry Queensland (WRIQ) urging scrap metal dealers to be on the lookout for stolen electrical equipment.

In the past two years, there have been 322 thefts directly from Queensland's electricity distribution network or from the network's service depots, that is one every other day. Recent hot spots for these thefts have been Brisbane's south, the Ipswich area and the Capricornia region.

These thefts are costing Energy Queensland (EQ, which includes Ergon and Energex electricity distribution networks) millions of dollars in new components and manhours to rectify, diverting key resources from other areas of the network, and the associated costs of these thefts are being borne by Queensland's electricity consumers.

Most concerningly, the thieves are removing components from a live electrical network, not only placing their lives at risk, but leaving live components exposed and risking community safety. Sadly, there has already been a death attributable to this criminal activity, of a man stealing metal from a transformer, south of Brisbane.

All of EQ's depots have video surveillance allowing police to identify many of the

criminals. EQ and WRIQ are encouraging scrap metal dealers to be being vigilant before buying components that are from the electricity network. WRIQ is also working with its industry members to identify regulatory and compliance solutions to this growing problem, noting that other jurisdictions have already implemented initiatives to irradiate this dangerous criminal activity.

Pictures of equipment commonly stolen from the network can be seen at [www.energex.com.au/coppertheft](http://www.energex.com.au/coppertheft). WRIQ asks all businesses to be on the lookout and ensure that they report anyone trying to sell these items to the relevant authorities or by calling Queensland's Policelink on 131 444.



## FUN FACTS FROM THE INTERWEBS

### Fun Recycling Facts for Kids

These fun recycling facts will impress kids and teachers at school, family and friends with your recycling knowledge.

- The energy saved by recycling one plastic bottle will power your computer for 25minutes.
- Recycling one aluminium can saves enough power to run your TV for 3 hours.
- The average family home uses 6 trees worth of paper every year.
- An adult fleece jacket is made from 25 two litre plastic bottles.
- A one litre milk carton can be recycled into 5 pieces of paper.
- Recycling glass saves 75% of the energy need to create new glass from raw materials.

Teaching fun recycling facts to kids can help to protect their future environment and keep Australia green and beautiful for future generations to enjoy.

Source: [Families Magazine](#)





From humble beginnings back in 2008, Proterra Group have gone from strength to strength working with Local Government, by providing a range of services across departments and locations. We have now worked with over forty-five (45) Australian Councils, with this number rapidly rising as we expand our service offerings further across rural and regional QLD and NSW.

Proterra Group offer four distinct service offerings to our Council customers, all of which can be procured through Local Buy contracts. These include:

- **Civil Engineering** Planning and Reports, Design of Civil Infrastructure and Environmental Management.
- **Regional Projects** includes the project management of the design and construction of civil infrastructure and the delivery of natural disaster recovery projects.
- **Asset Management** Planning, GIS Support and Condition Survey.
- **Waste Management** Strategic Planning and Training, Plans and Licensing, Facility Design and Landfill, Weighbridge and Transfer Station Operations.

Over the past ten (10) years we have had a significant focus on Waste Management Consulting and Operation of Landfills and Transfer Stations, with over 25% of our revenue coming from this market. We currently manage and operate Waste Facilities at six (6) different sites in Regional QLD. With years of experience and industry knowledge, Proterra

Group can offer the following waste related services for your Council:

- Waste management strategic planning and training including regional waste planning, waste facility planning, weighbridge operations training, landfill and transfer station operations training and education seminars for Council, the community and/or schools.
- Waste management plans and licensing including site-based plans, fill plan, stormwater management plan, fire management plan and landfill closure and rehabilitation plans.
- EA (Environmental Authority) applications, approvals, and amendments including EA compliance audits and waste facility design.
- Design of weighbridges, resource recovery areas (RRA), transfer stations and landfill cells.
- Landfill closures plans
- Landfill, weighbridge, and transfer station operations including operational management of weighbridges, resource recovery areas (RRA), transfer stations and landfills.

So, for your next project give Proterra Group a call and see if we can help you deliver your projects innovatively, on-time and in budget.



Visit [www.proterragroup.com.au](http://www.proterragroup.com.au) for more information.

## First Grid Scale Battery



Tesla Megapack in LGI's Eagle Farm Headquarters

local electricity network at any time of the day. Our quick response to an increase in demand, contributes to a more stable electricity grid.

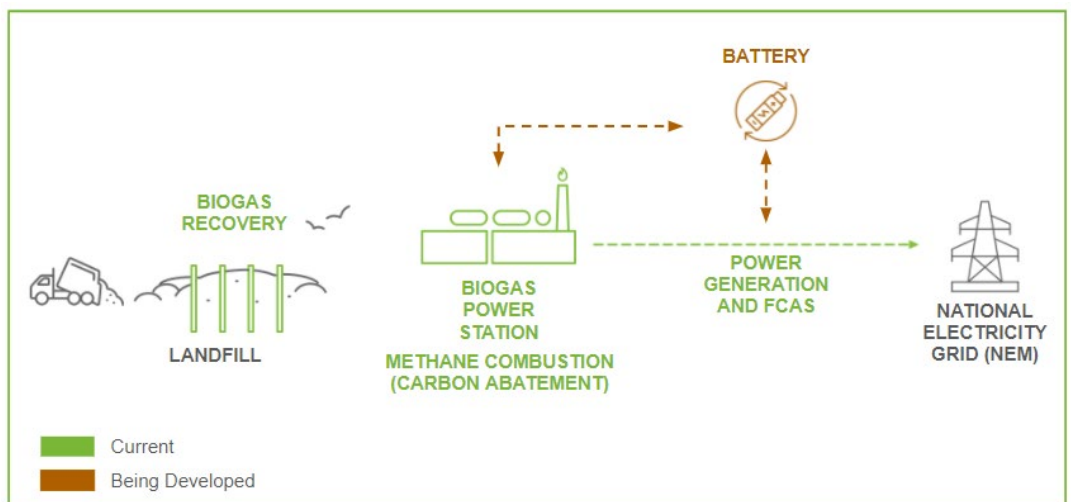
On smaller landfill sites with insufficient gas volumes to economically support a power station, we reduce greenhouse gas emissions by flaring the methane captured from the landfill to reduce the greenhouse gas impact by 28 times.

By enhancing our biogas to power generation sites with batteries, we can respond within seconds to provide even more responsive services to support the local electricity grid as the energy market transitions to renewables.

**Together we can save the planet one landfill, one megawatt, one solar panel, one battery at a time.**

LGI enhancing biogas to power generation sites with batteries

LGI Limited is thrilled that our first grid scale battery has arrived at our headquarters at Eagle Farm in Brisbane. We are working closely with Energy Queensland to plan the installation of this unit. We will install batteries on our other sites across Queensland so we can be at the leading edge in providing more dispatchable, renewable energy.



Here at LGI we are committed to helping Councils expedite the transition to renewables. Since 2009 we have expanded our portfolio of biogas powered generators across Qld, NSW and the ACT. These supply renewable energy into the local electricity network.

As well as abating significant amounts of carbon, our biogas powered generators can respond in minutes to supply power into the



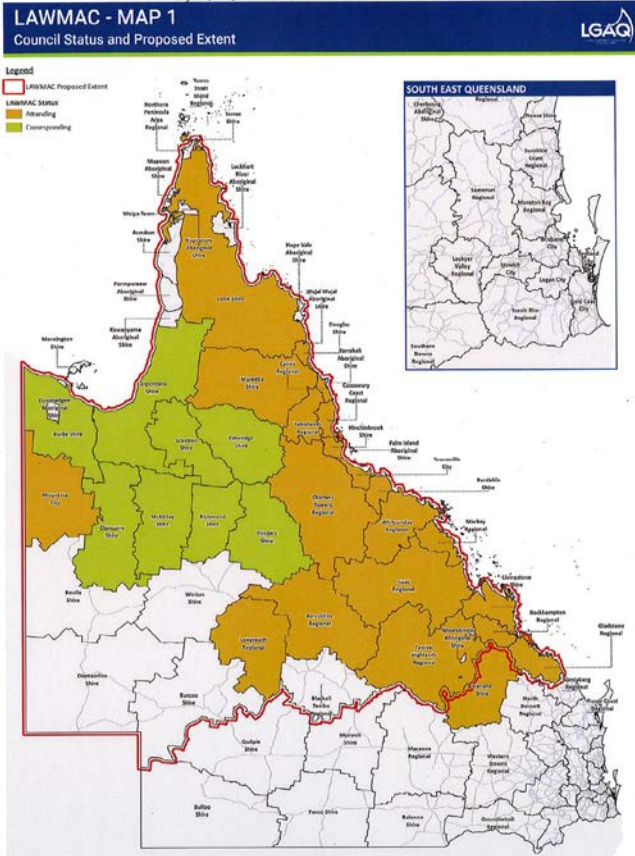
FOCUS YOUR ENERGY

Sponsor Article

## LAWMAC

### We've got it covered!

A map showing the extent of LAWMAC membership and reach in regional Queensland as reflected in our logo.



### New Branding Unveiled



The new logo retains LAWMAC's identity through the colouring and font plus retention

of the LAWMAC name. The committee felt it important to keep the brand by retaining the LAWMAC acronym while changing from an “advisory sub-committee ” of the Northern Alliance of Councils to an “ACTION committee” and separate legal entity as an incorporated association.

The **green** highlighted portion of the map of Queensland geographically represents LAWMAC's membership alignment with Northern Australia, while the arrows align with its credo of circularity in the region with the **red**, **yellow** and **green** representing LAWMAC's responsibility for management of MSW (Organics, Recyclables and Residual).

The tagline **'NO TIME TO WASTE'** aligns with the name change to an ACTION committee and that LAWMAC is a proactive organisation, while the bold font points to the ethos that there is 'no waste', actually only resources.

### Chance Meeting with Minister

During the recent visit to Rockhampton to learn about the progress of the FOGO trial in the region, Councillor Neil Fisher, LAWMAC Chair, was able to offer a face-to-face invitation to Minister Meaghan Scanlon to attend the upcoming LAWMAC workshop and meeting in Livingstone Shire. Minister Scanlon has a great interest in LAWMAC and it's role within the Waste Management and resource Recovery Sector.



## 2022 Meeting Dates & Host Councils

May 19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> 2022 Livingstone Shire

Aug 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> 2022 Isaac Region

Nov 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> 2022 Cassowary Coast Region

Feb 16<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> 2023 Mackay Region

May 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> 2023 Cook Shire

(30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LAWMAC)

## Just for Fun – Executive Member Bio

### Jason Grandcourt - Mackay



Jason is grumpy when people do not use the right bin and with people that abuse staff.

With over 50 years of experience in using bins, he gets irritated with people that cannot use a bin that is coloured, labelled and often stickered to say where they can put that dirty nappy.

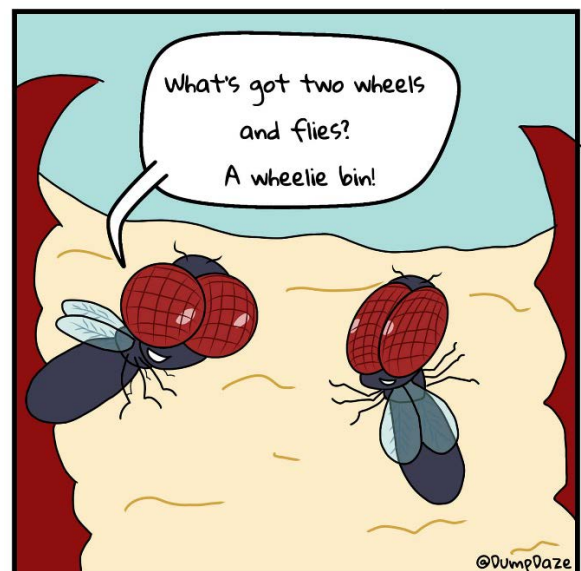
He has a particular low tolerance of members of the public that cannot appreciate the fact that being charged \$15 to get rid of a ute load of waste once year is a bargain! Also, he is very grumpy with people that want to complain that their bin not being picked up at 10.52am is not the biggest issue in the world nor the fact that they do not understand that stuffing a bin full of pillows, the bin will not empty.

He is an advocate that all members of our communities need to learn that their own decisions on what they purchase, use and discard is their own responsibility, and that Council is here to help them to learn. Also, they need to learn when they throw out that piece of plastic in the red lidded bin, that the Council becomes the custodian for that waste for the next 10 decades and that their kids and grandkids will be paying a price for that.

Despite his grumpy reputation, he has been seen smiling at times when members of the community do respond positively to messaging and that people are finally talking on what a circular economy looks like in our own region.



In fact, he is often seen laughing, in the right circumstances 😊



@DumpDaze

**NO TIME TO WASTE**