

Recycling Victoria

Early priorities

July to September 2022



Strengthening Victoria's waste, recycling, and resource recovery sector.

Recycling Victoria commences operation on 1 July 2022.
This document outlines our early priorities.

Our role and purpose

The *Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021* (the Act) establishes Recycling Victoria to provide state-wide leadership, stewardship and oversight of waste, recycling or resource recovery services.

Our purpose is to strengthen Victoria's waste, recycling and resource recovery sector to benefit the community, environment, industry and local government, to help Victoria transition to a circular economy.

The Act provides for stronger regulation of the state's waste and recycling services, leading to less waste and landfill. This will support the transition to a net-zero and resilient Victoria, and a circular economy.

In delivering its functions, Recycling Victoria will consult and engage meaningfully with stakeholders, particularly on the reliability of waste and recycling services, opportunities for innovation, and changing market conditions.

Benefits of Recycling Victoria

Our work will benefit:

- households –a waste and recycling system Victorians can rely on, including a Container Deposit Scheme and a new four-stream household waste and recycling system;
- waste and recycling services –more stable, reliable, transparent, accountable and innovative services and markets;
- economy –creating jobs and boosting Victoria's economy; and
- environment –a cleaner, greener Victoria with better value from our precious resources, less waste, more alternatives to landfill, and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

Our early priorities

Priority	What we will do
Engagement	<p>We will consult and engage with councils, Alpine Resorts Management Boards (ARMB), industry, regional communities, and Traditional Owners. A Charter of Engagement will be produced to detail our mode of engagement.</p> <p>We will establish Advisory Committees to inform and advise the Minister and Head of Recycling Victoria on our operations.</p> <p>We will work with our portfolio and regulatory partners to ensure clarity of roles and responsibilities and take a coordinated approach to stakeholder engagement.</p>
Procurement	<p>We will support best practice procurement and contract management by councils, ARMBs, and service providers.</p> <p>We will develop a Strategic Procurement Framework outlining how Recycling Victoria will support councils to procure waste and resource recovery services to meet circular economy objectives.</p>
Data and insights	<p>We will make decisions based on the best available evidence and assessment of economic, social and environmental factors.</p> <p>We will progress the development of a centralised data and information hub.</p>
Future schemes and standards	<p>We will prepare to administer future waste and recycling schemes and standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Container deposit scheme• municipal waste and recycling standards• waste to energy
Building our organisation	<p>We will shape the direction, culture and operating model for Recycling Victoria and commence the development of our Strategic Plan.</p>

Our first 100 days

Priority project	July	August	September
Engagement	<p>EOI process for Local Government Advisory Committee starts late June</p> <p>Standing Advisory Committee – EOI process</p> <p>Monthly meeting with all local government/ARMBs CEOs</p> <p>Local government CEO working group established, meeting as required</p> <p>Monthly Industry Reference Group meeting</p> <p>2 x Regional Roundtables – face-to-face meetings with Recycling Victoria Executive, regional Councillors and CEOs</p>	<p>First meeting of Local Government Advisory Committee</p> <p>Collation of feedback on how the new Recycling Victoria functions will impact on, and can benefit, local councils</p> <p>Monthly meeting with all Local government CEOs</p> <p>Local government CEO working group meetings as required</p> <p>Monthly Industry Reference Group meeting</p> <p>3 x Regional Roundtables – face to face meetings with Recycling Victoria Executive and regional Councillors and CEOs</p>	<p>First meeting of Standing Advisory Committee</p> <p>Completion of response to any advice received from the Committees</p> <p>Monthly meeting with all LG CEOs</p> <p>CEO working group meetings as required</p> <p>Monthly Industry Reference Group meeting</p> <p>2 x Regional Roundtables – face to face meetings with Recycling Victoria Executive and regional Councillors and CEOs</p>
Charter of engagement	<p>Consult local government, industry and traditional owners on principles and approach for the Charter of Engagement in 2nd week July</p> <p>Consult with working group on a draft structure</p>	<p>Provide a draft Charter structure for stakeholder comment in mid-August</p> <p>Consult with councils, industry, and traditional owners to develop supporting engagement model</p>	<p>Complete draft Charter of Engagement for consultation with Minister per Act requirements</p> <p>Finalise a draft engagement model for comment</p> <p>Assess changes required against the existing model</p>
Strategic Procurement Framework	<p>Consult with councils and ARMBs (in monthly meetings and via working group) to understand priorities</p>	<p>Develop and consult with councils and ARMBs (in monthly meetings and working group) on a structure for the Framework</p>	<p>Further develop structure for the framework, including consult on an approach to the use of s56 agreements (including in relation to draft model contract provisions)</p>
Centralised data and information system	<p>Troubleshoot any transition issues following data migration from Sustainability Victoria</p>	<p>Review available data and intelligence against Recycling Victoria’s purpose and functions</p>	<p>Assess requirements including relevance of existing systems</p>
Future schemes and standards	<p>Commence analysis of administrative requirements for CDS, waste to energy, and municipal waste and recycling standards</p>	<p>Determine high-level administration requirements for CDS, waste to energy, and kerbside standards</p>	<p>Prepare for administration of CDS, waste to energy, and kerbside standards</p>
Strategic Plan	<p>Gather insights from early stakeholder engagement to inform the process for development of the Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Gather insights from early stakeholder engagement to inform the process for development of the Strategic Plan</p>	<p>Establish and communicate process for development of the Strategic Plan</p>

Our partners and stakeholders

Our first three months will be focused on engaging with our partners and stakeholders on our early priorities.

Who	When and how
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly meetings of Industry Reference Group • Stakeholder bulletins • Standing Advisory Committee (statutory)
Councils and ARMBs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly meetings with all council CEOs • Immediate establishment of council CEO working group to support development of key priorities • Regional Roundtables—face-to-face discussions between Recycling Victoria Interim Head, Recycling Victoria Executive, regional Councillors, CEOs and officers to build relationships and consult on key priorities. To recur quarterly (rotating face to face with virtual). • Stakeholder bulletins • Standing Advisory Committee (statutory) • Local Government Advisory Committee (statutory)
Traditional Owners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commencing discussions with traditional owners via DELWP’s regional relationships and forums, including Caring for Country Partnerships forum.
Portfolio partners (DELWP, EPA, SV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing to work with our portfolio and regulatory partners to ensure clarity of roles and responsibilities and take a coordinated approach to stakeholder engagement
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on Charter of Engagement via EngageVic

Day 1 compliance

There will be no compliance or enforcement obligations imposed on councils and waste and recycling service providers on the first day of Recycling Victoria’s operations. These obligations are subject to the making of regulations under the *Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021*. Councils and industry will be further advised and engaged through the various engagement channels outlined in this document as the regulations and standards are developed, and in advance of the commencement of compliance and enforcement requirements.

Container deposit scheme



Recycling Victoria will administer the container deposit scheme following regulations being made and scheme participants appointed, anticipated from September 2022.

Municipal waste and recycling standards



Recycling Victoria will support councils to comply with new municipal waste and recycling standards and enforce compliance subject to standards and regulations being made, anticipated for first half of 2023, noting that timing for commencement of compliance obligations is still to be confirmed.

Waste to energy



Recycling Victoria will administer the waste to energy cap and issue licences for waste to energy facilities, subject to legislation and regulations being passed, anticipated for late 2022.

Contact us



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