

## Policy Type

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Council

## Policy Purpose

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The City of Cockburn ('the City') recognises its responsibility to implement sustainability measures across the organisation and to work with its community towards an environmentally, socially and economically sustainable future.

Community events within the City generate significant volumes of waste. This policy aims to:

- Reduce waste at events through restrictions on single-use, disposable items and promotion of reusable alternatives;
- Improve resource recovery via the provision of infrastructure and education; and
- Reduce litter.

The purpose of this policy is to reduce waste from events within the City boundaries, and to encourage effective resource recovery and reduce contamination of the waste streams.

## Policy Statement

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The policy applies to:

- 'City Events' - all events coordinated by the City or external organisations engaged by the City;
- 'Approved Events' - all events subject to formal approval of the City via the Public Event Application process. This includes events supported by City grants;
- 'Other Events' – all other events on City-owned property which are not subject to the formal approval of the City.

'Events' include all civic, commercial or community events, meetings, functions, workshops, markets, festivals, expos, parties, information sessions, conferences and organised/formal sport or recreational events.

### (1) City Events

All City events shall include provision of:

- Reusable alternatives to Single Use plastics and/or compostable alternatives certified to AS4736.
- Appropriately labelled and attended bins with signage indicating correct waste disposal for each stream. There shall be sufficient bin volume and adequate bin management to ensure no litter arises from overflowing bins;



- Where reusable dishware items are used, the City shall ensure bin management is in place to avoid disposal of reusable items in bins (remove or close off unattended bins).
- Where compostable alternatives are used, the City shall engage/partner up with a compostable waste solution (eg. WRITE Solutions, RichGro) for reprocessing of organics and compostable waste.
- Easily accessible and visible alternatives to bottled water free of cost e.g. water trailer, portable water fountains, portable water bottle refill stations and/or fixed water bubblers.
- During and/or post event clean up to ensure no litter left on site.
- Written waste and bins management plan including information/process about waste stream collected, collection and disposal methods; to be shared and approved by the City's Waste Services Department (a template can be provided, if required).

All City events shall exclude:

- Sale, use or release of balloons, confetti and glitters;
- Use, provision or sale of single use plastics, including polystyrene or styrofoam. Single use plastics include but are not limited to cups (including plastic lined coffee cups), drink bottles, cutlery, straws, drink stirrers, plates, decorations, individual condiment portions, bags and containers. Single use plastic items necessary to meet health and safety requirements are exempt from this policy.
- Use of bean bags with polystyrene filling.

All City events shall:

- Restrict promotional material, decorations and supplies to those which can be reused and/or recycled.
- Minimise the use of 'event specific' printed promotional material for example posters, flyers and wherever applicable, maximise the use of digital platforms and local publications for the distribution of promotional material.

Vendors waste management:

- (Commercial) waste generated by vendors must be removed from site by vendor and not placed in council bins.

Policy implementation:

- Vendors and businesses will be provided the City's requirements for waste wise events prior to approval being granted and then will be requested to provide information to confirm compliance with those requirements. Compliance with the policy will be pursued through proactive communication, education and support rather than through formal monitoring and enforcement. However, where there is blatant disregard for this Policy, third party providers of events and other such trading businesses will not be authorised or approved to operate at future events as described under this policy, until such time as it can be appropriately demonstrated there is compliance with this Policy.



## (2) Approved Events

All approved events shall include provision of:

- Appropriately labelled, paired general waste and recycling bins. There shall be sufficient bin volume and adequate bin management to ensure no litter arises from overflowing bins.

All approved events shall exclude:

- Sale or release of balloons;
- The use of balloons, confetti and glitters outdoors
- Use of bean bags with polystyrene filling.
- Use, provision or sale of single use plastics items as per WA Plastic Ban Timeframe, including polystyrene or styrofoam. Single use plastics include disposable cups for cold drinks, cutlery, straws, drink stirrers, plates, bowls, bags and containers.
- Reusable alternatives are preferred but compostable alternatives certified to AS 4736 are acceptable.

Approved events are strongly encouraged to:

- Provide alternatives to bottled water e.g. water trailer, portable water fountains and/or portable water bottle refill stations.
- Minimise the use of 'event specific' printed promotional material for example posters, flyers and wherever applicable, maximise the use of digital platforms and local publications for the distribution of promotional material.
- Where compostable alternatives are used, engage/partner up with a compostable waste solution for reprocessing of organics and compostable waste.

Failure to comply with this policy may lead to events not being supported or approved by Council in the future.

## (3) Other events

Other events not subject to City approval shall exclude:

- The sale and release of balloons;
- The use of balloons, confetti and glitters outdoors;
- Use, provision or sale of single use plastics items as per WA Plastic Ban Timeframe.

These events are encouraged to comply with the other recommendations of this policy wherever possible.

Strategic Link:	Waste Management & Education Strategy Sustainability Strategy
Category	Environment and Sustainability
Lead Business Unit:	Operations and Maintenance
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