

**6.4****MINUTES OF THE WARRINGAH WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 MARCH 2000****Reporting Officer**

Manager, Construction & Maintenance

**Management Plan**

Program: Health & Safety  
Program Goal: To provide a safe and healthy Warringah for all.  
Program Function: Waste Management & Minimisation  
Strategy (if applicable):  
Management Plan: warringah PLAN 1999-2003

**Purpose**

To report and seek Council's adoption of the Minutes of the Warringah Waste Management Committee meeting held on 23 March 2000.

**Recommendation of Director Services**

That the minutes of the Warringah Waste Management Committee held 23 March 2000, and recommendations contained therein, and as reprinted below, be ADOPTED.

**Item 2 Minutes of Previous Meeting, and Matters Arising.**

1. That a green waste ban not be announced in the absence of supporting legislation.
2. That a message of congratulations for results of green waste recycling be given to residents via a press release.
3. That a tour be arranged and invitations extended to Shoroc Councillors.

**Item 3 2000/2001 Budget & Domestic Waste Management Charge.**

That the domestic waste management charges for 2000/2001 remain unchanged from the current year.

**Item 4 Public Place Recycling Trial**

1. That the information be noted
2. That durable notices be placed on picnic tables in the areas to advise users to separate recyclables.

**Item 5 Appointment of Waste Board Directors**

That the information be noted

**Item 6 Northern Sydney Waste Board – Regional Recycling Contract**

That the information be noted

**Item 7 Domestic Waste Audit**

That the information be noted

**RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL by the General Manager.**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
WARRINGAH WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 23 MARCH 2000**

**ATTENDANCE**

Cr Peter Forrest - Chairman

Cr Ruth Sutton

Cr Phil Colman

Renate Gebhart – Jones, - Team Leader, Environmental Education

Peter Esposito – Acting Waste Contracts Supervisor

Tony Walmsley – Contracts Manager, Construction & Maintenance

**ITEM 1 APOLOGIES**

Terry Cooper – Manager, Construction & Maintenance

Michael McDermid – Principle Strategy Coordinator

**ITEM 2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING, and MATTERS ARISING.**

The minutes of the previous waste management committee, held on 25 November 1999 were adopted by Council at its meeting of 14 December 1999.

**Green Waste Ban**

A strategy to ban vegetation waste to landfill was not identified. Further discussions with Council's compliance manager indicate that there is no basis for enforcement of such a ban as no legislation exists, and a local orders policy is not an appropriate instrument to enforce such a ban. Discussions with staff at the Northern Sydney Waste Board also indicate that compliance sections in other Councils had identified similar problems. Difficulties also exist with identification of properties which place small amounts of green waste in their garbage bins.

The Northern Sydney Waste Board is currently developing a green waste strategy for the region which may impact on the way constituent Councils manage green waste.

The results of a State Government enquiry into alternative waste management technologies practices are due to be released in mid April 2000. This may also have an impact on the way green waste is managed.

**ATTACHMENT**Report to Services Committee Meeting on 18 April 2000

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An audit of Warringah's garbage stream in December 1999, (see separate report) indicates that Council's current services have been extremely successful in removing green waste from the garbage stream, and it is questionable whether a ban announcement would be beneficial in removing the remaining 3%.

**Tour of Facilities**

A suitable date was unable to be found to date to conduct a tour of Kimbriki Recycling and Waste Disposal Centre, Belrose Waste Management Facility and Chullora Materials Recovery Facility. This will be arranged when a suitable date can be agreed.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE STAFF TO THE COMMITTEE**

That a green waste ban not be announced in the absence of legislation to enforce compliance.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL**

1. That a green waste ban not be announced in the absence of legislation to enforce compliance.
2. That a message of congratulations for results of green waste recycling be given to residents via a press release.
3. That a tour be arranged for a set date with invitations extended to Shoroc Councillors

PC/RS

**ITEM 3 2000/2001 BUDGET & DOMESTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGE**

A summary of the proposed 2000/2001 domestic waste management budget is presented in Attachment 1.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE STAFF TO THE COMMITTEE**

That the domestic waste management charges for 2000/2001 remain unchanged from the current year.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL**

That the domestic waste management charges for 2000/2001 remain unchanged from the current year.

PF/RS

**ITEM 4 PUBLIC PLACE RECYCLING TRIAL**

A trial of public place recycling is planned to commence at Dee Why Beach and Collaroy Beach reserves in April. Despite previous trials proving unsuccessful, recent studies indicate that if certain guidelines are adhered to this can be successful. Staff have been working with Northern Sydney Waste Board consultants to develop recycling stations in accordance with Waste Board guidelines, and in keeping with Council's Urban Design Guidelines. Funding by the Northern Sydney Waste Board has also been secured for \$8000.00 to cover 50% of the servicing costs for a 3 month trial, in addition to the provision by the Board of a consultant to assist in ensuring that all waste board guidelines are adhered to. The bin enclosures are currently being manufactured, and the committee will be notified when they are to be installed.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE STAFF TO THE COMMITTEE**

That the information be noted

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL**

1. That the information be noted
2. That durable notices be placed on picnic tables in the areas to advise users to separate recyclables.

PC/RS

**ITEM 5 APPOINTMENT OF WASTE BOARD DIRECTORS**

The Minister for the Environment has appointed Directors to Waste Boards for the next 3 years, from nominations made by Councils. Warringah's nominated representative, Sam Danieli was appointed as a director of the Northern Sydney Region Waste Board.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE STAFF TO THE COMMITTEE**

That the information be noted.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL**

That the information be noted

PC/RS

**ITEM 6 NORTHERN SYDNEY WASTE BOARD – REGIONAL RECYCLING CONTRACT**

Tenders are being called by the Board for regional recycling processing and marketing facilities, which constituent Councils will be required to use. A brief summary is included in Attachment 2.

**ATTACHMENT**

Report to Services Committee Meeting on 18 April 2000

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**RECOMMENDATION OF THE STAFF TO THE COMMITTEE**

That the information be noted.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL**

That the information be noted

RS/PC

**ITEM 7 DOMESTIC WASTE AUDIT**

A report of an audit of Warringah's domestic garbage stream, conducted in December 1999 is included in Attachment 3.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE STAFF TO THE COMMITTEE**

That the report be noted.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL**

That the information be noted

RS/PC

**NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday 15 June 2000 at 2.00pm. Location to be advised.**

**ATTACHMENT 1****2000/2001 BUDGET & DOMESTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGE**

The estimated budget for domestic waste management services for 2000/2001 is \$10.5 million. This is approximately \$200,000 more than 1999/2000, with the major changes due to increased contract and tipping fees. The estimated budget is summarised in the table below.

**Waste Management Budget Summary**

	2000/2001 Budget Estimate \$	1999/2000 Budget \$	Difference \$
<i>Expenditure</i>			
Domestic Service Garbage Plus Contract	4,239,850	4,239,850	0
Litter Bin Service Garbage Plus Service	421,664	416,850	4,814
Recycling Contract	2,894,450	2,700,000	194,450
Tipping fees	2,058,900	1,901,000	157,900
Community Service Obligations	48,960	48,960	0
Education & Promotion	150,000	152,300	-2,300
Service Management	281,998	277,128	4,870
Overhead/Corp cost	284,850	292,850	-8,000
Rebates	620,400	625,400	-5,000
Transfer to reserves	0	140,000	-140,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>11,001,072</b>	<b>10,794,338</b>	<b>206,734</b>

**ATTACHMENT**

Report to Services Committee Meeting on 18 April 2000

<i>Revenue</i>			
DWM Charge	10,135,818	10,135,818	0
Other revenue (vehicles & sales)	7,448	6,980	468
Subsidies	234,690	234,690	0
Transfers from reserves	201,452	0	201,452
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>10,579,408</b>	<b>10,377,488</b>	<b>201,920</b>
<b>Total (cost to Council)</b>	<b>421,664</b>	<b>416,850</b>	<b>4,814</b>

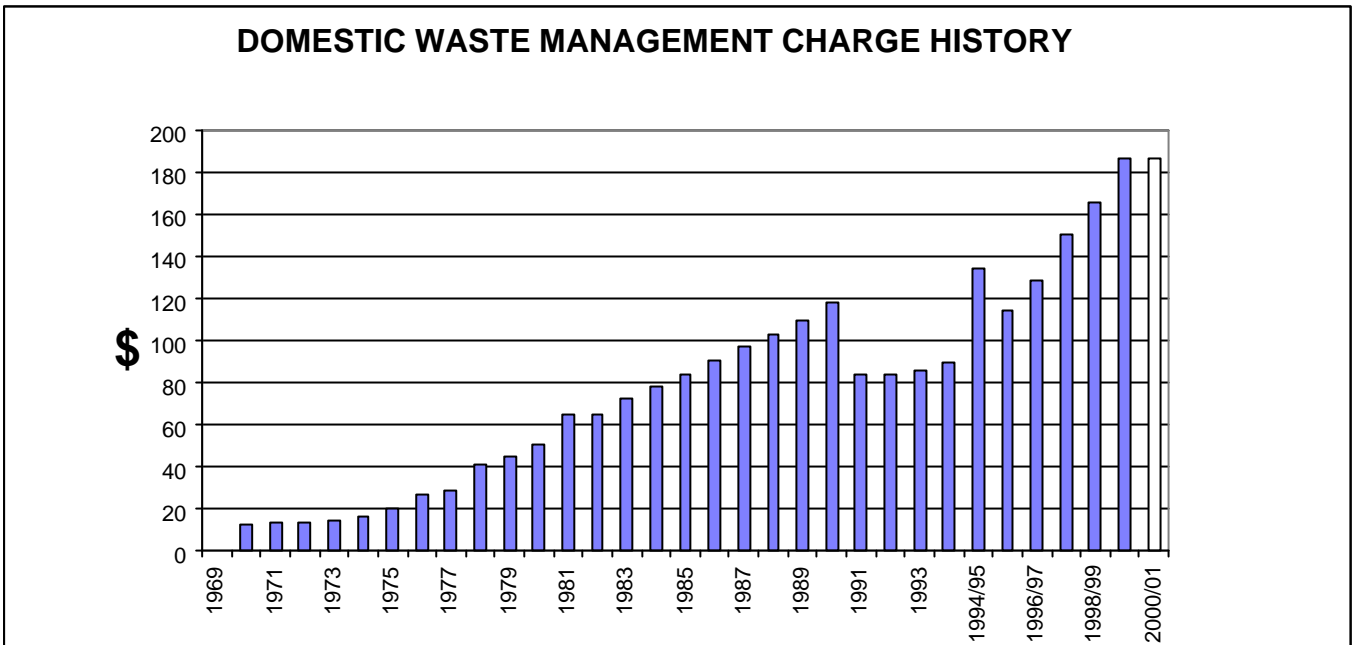
The Local Government Act requires that the cost of providing domestic waste management services be recovered by application of an annual domestic waste management charge. The cost to be recovered is the total aggregate cost of providing the services. Individual charges may vary between properties and are not required to be set on a cost recovery per property basis. A reserve may also be built up to allow for, or offset, the impact of costs of service development. At 1 July 1999 the balance of the waste management reserve was \$521,079. It is expected that there will be a transfer to the reserve at 30 June 2000 of approximately \$200,000 due to a lower than estimated CPI, and lower than estimated increases in tipping fees for 1999/2000. This would result in a waste management reserve balance of approximately \$700,000 at 30 June 2000.

The domestic waste management charge has increased significantly over the past 2 to 3 years as Warringah Council has improved its waste services, and disposal costs have increased markedly as can be seen from the chart below, and there have been increases almost every year since 1992.

Report of Warringah Council Meeting held on 18 April 2000

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Savings made in the current year could be used to offset anticipated increases in costs this year if Council wished. This would still maintain a balance of approximately \$500,000 in the reserve to deal with unforeseen circumstances.

**ATTACHMENT 2****NORTHERN SYDNEY WASTE BOARD – REGIONAL RECYCLING CONTRACT**

The recycling commodities market has been undergoing significant change over the past few years. This has been characterised by large fluctuations in prices received for the recovered resources, to a stage where there is currently a cost to Councils and/or contractors to deposit collected material at sorting or processing facilities.

In the early 1990s a Local Government Recycling Cooperative was formed, as a marketing body to enable councils to exercise some market power in securing best prices for recovered material. The cooperative was put into receivership and wound up last year. This resulted in some anxiety amongst Council's as costs "coincidentally" rose sharply and when this happened.

As a result of representations to the Northern Sydney Waste Board, the Board took on the role of investigating ways of managing the marketing of recyclables on a regional basis. This in turn resulted in the Board calling for expressions of interest from industry and the subsequent development of tender specifications for a regional facility for processing and marketing of recyclable resources recovered from the region. Officers from constituent Councils were asked to comment on the draft specifications, which resulted in concern over some issues including the following.

- The Board would require Councils to enter into contracts with the successful tenderer, while not being a party to the contracts themselves.
- The ownership of the recyclables would remain with Council until they were sold to reprocessors.

A meeting was held with Cr Phil Colman, Sam Danieli and staff to express the concerns to the Board before calling for tenders.

As a result of representations by Sam Danieli and other directors, the Board altered the draft specifications to address the concerns raised, before calling for tenders.

It is not expected that the results of this process will impact on Warringah until the expiry of the current recycling contract in 2004.

**ATTACHEMENT 3**



**DOMESTIC GARBAGE DISPOSAL SURVEY**

**DECEMBER 1999**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Warringah Council conducted an audit of the domestic garbage waste stream in November 1997 shortly after the implementation of the 80L and 120L garbage bins. Audits were carried out on domestic waste generated from both domestic households as well as unit blocks. Anne Prince Consulting was engaged to carry out the audit on behalf of Warringah Council.

In December 1998 Warringah Council conducted another audit of the domestic garbage stream to obtain data as to the quantity recyclable and non-recyclable material being landfilled, and to assist in implementation of new programs and targets. This audit compliments the previous work to ensure consistency in the comparison of result

The garbage audit is now done on an annual basis with the 1999 audit being carried out in December. This audit revealed that recyclable products collected in conjunction with Warringah's current garbage service accounted for 23.5% of the total domestic garbage stream. This is a 3% increase from 1998 data.

The audit also identified that approximately 6% of the domestic garbage stream consisted of possible recyclable material not collected at this stage as part of Warringah's services. 47% of the waste stream consisted of food scraps, while the remaining 23.5% contained other wastes such as nappies, plastic bags, non-recyclable plastics and soiled paper. Incorporated into the 'other wastes' criteria, was food packaging which accounted for 5.1% of the total waste stream.

The results of the garbage audit provide the ability to examine service performance and highlight areas for targeted programs to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill.

## **METHODOLOGY**

As in 1998 two hundred and fifty units and two hundred and fifty single premises were sampled at the 1999 audit. The work was carried out by staff of Collex Waste Management, being Warringah Council's current garbage and clean up Service Provider.



The privacy and confidentiality of the material being sorted was closely monitored and supervised at all times by Warringah Council and Collex waste Management's Supervisors.

The Contract Supervisor's for both Warringah Council and Collex Waste Management selected the following bin collection schedule:

- \* 13 December 1999 - 80 single residences
- \* 14 December 1999 - 90 single residences
- \* 15 December 1999 - 80 individual unit residences
- \* 16 December 1999 - 250 individual unit residences

For the purposes of this report, the methodology of the audit is broken down into the following criteria:

(i) Collection - a Collex garbage collection vehicle was utilised to collect household garbage from the designated streets. On each day the vehicle was checked to ensure that no residual waste was left in the compactor as a result of the normal operations of the vehicle.

(ii) Site Setup - All Waste collected was tipped onto a designated point. The following is an illustration of the set up used in the sorting, storage and weighing process.

Scales

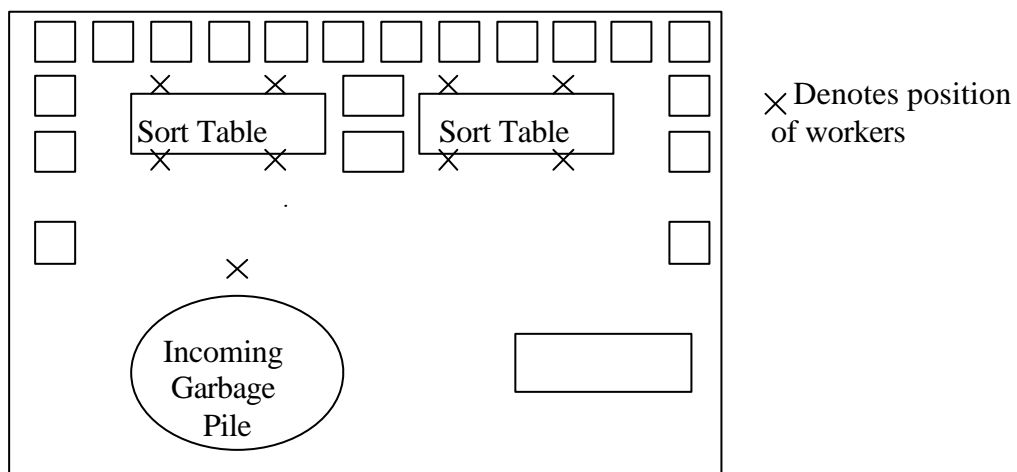


Fig 1.1 - schematic view of audit setup

(iii) Separation of Waste - Prior to the sorting of any material, all staff were advised of the privacy issues surrounding such an activity. All staff were requested not to read, interpret or examine any material other than for the purpose of identifying and classifying material. This issue was monitored throughout the entire audit by both the Contract Supervisors for Warringah Council and Collex Waste Management. Prior to any work commencing, heavy duty gloves and facemasks were issued to all staff involved. All staff were also made aware of the need to show caution during the audit particularly in the opening of bags. The possibility of encountering syringes was also stressed to all involved in the process. The same inductions were carried out for all new staff that participated throughout various stages of the program.

Rubbish was forked onto the sorting tables at one end and moved along the tables gradually with workers manually removing the various aspects of the waste. The following is a list of the different products which were sorted:-

- |                                      |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| - Clean recyclable paper & cardboard | - Contaminated paper & cardboard |
| - Glass                              | - Aluminium                      |
| - Steel Cans                         | - Scrap Metal                    |
| - PET                                | - HDPE                           |
| - Recyclable Plastics                | - Non-recyclable Plastics        |
| - Liquid paper board                 | - Wood / Timber                  |
| - Clothing                           | - Vegetation (including flowers) |
| - Non-recyclable food packaging      | - Disposable Nappies             |
| - Plastic Bags                       | - Stones / Ceramics / Concrete   |
| - Food Scraps                        | - Miscellaneous/Fines            |

This criteria is fairly consistent with that of the 1997 audit with the exception that non-recyclable food packaging was included in 1998 and 1999. In 1997, vegetation was also broken down into two separate categories being grass clippings and weeds/leaves.

Material sorted was deposited in mobile garbage bins. 120L and 240L bins were utilised depending on expected volumes and weights of each product being sorted.

(iv) Weighing and data recording - When full, each bin was weighed using scales. Upon noting the weight, the bin was emptied into the litter bin truck, the empty bin weighed and the net weight of the material recorded on a spreadsheet.

(v) Disposal - Once the days waste had been sorted, weighed and loaded into the litter bin vehicle, the waste was deposited at the designated location at the Belrose Waste Management Facility. At the conclusion of each day's audit, the premises was cleaned to its original condition.

## **RESULTS**

It is evident, as a result of the audit that single premises and units have quite different waste disposal habits. Hence, they must be exposed to different types of educational material in order to facilitate better waste management practices.

For example, the single premises waste stream consisted of a significantly higher percentage of vegetation and nappies than that of the unit blocks. Multiple occupancy units on the other hand appear to contain a greater percentage of clean recyclable paper, PET and food packaging. Comprehensive details regarding tonnages collected and percentages of waste streams are found in the tables at the end of this report.

According to the Combined Total Breakdown of Material table, recyclable products which can be collected as part of Warringah's current recycling services accounted for approximately 23.5% of the total waste collected and sorted as part of the garbage audit. Broken down further, multiple occupancy units waste stream consisted of 27.6% recyclables currently collected in the course of Council's current services as opposed to 20.1% for single premises.

Other recyclable material contained in the garbage stream but not collected as part of Warringah Council's current recycling services accounted for approximately 6% of the total sample.

The percentage of vegetation found in the waste stream has reduced slightly from the previous audit in 1998. In 1997 vegetation accounted for approximately 11% of the load sampled, 4.7% in 1998 and 3.8% in 1999. While this represents only a 0.9% reduction in the garbage stream, it should be noted that this represents approximately a 20% reduction in the amount of vegetation sent to landfill.

In comparison to 1998 data, aluminium, steel cans, HDPE, LPB, food scraps, recyclable plastics, non-recyclable plastics, clothing, vegetation, nappies and plastic bags all decreased as a percentage of the total waste stream, whilst

paper/cardboard, glass, PET, scrap metal, wood/timber, food packaging and tiles/bricks/concrete all increased as a percentage of the total in 1999.

## **DISCUSSION**

The results of a garbage audit provide invaluable data as to the contents of domestic household waste and consequently, the effectiveness of the services provided by Council and its corresponding education and awareness programs.

The 1999 audit highlighted areas of the waste stream that require further consideration on the methods of managing the production and disposal of these products. As previously mentioned, 23.5% of the waste stream consisted of recyclable products currently collected as part of Warringah Council's waste services. Removal of this material from the garbage stream would have significant impacts on the ability of Warringah Council to achieve reduction in waste disposal.

A fairly high percentage of the waste stream (9.6%) is made up of clean paper and cardboard. In the case of multiple occupancies this figure is 14.1% of the tonnage collected. This would suggest a recycling education program for multiple occupancy residents is required. The comparatively high figure for PET (1.3%) in multiple occupancies compared to single dwellings (0.4%) adds weight to the need for a recycling education program.

Disposable nappies account for nearly 5% of the domestic garbage stream. Despite the convenience of disposable nappies, some consideration should be given to addressing this issue and altering the awareness of the community on the impacts of excessive disposable nappy use.

The 1999 audit included a category called Miscellaneous/Fines, which contained a range of items unable to be satisfactorily placed in any of the other categories. These items included :- used kitty litter (large quantity), used car engine oil (25 litres) tins of paint, bottles/tins of unknown chemicals, foam and Christmas decorations.

Finally, approximately 90% of steel cans disposed of by single dwellings in the garbage stream are pet food cans. Residents possibly do not like to wash out these cans prior to disposal.

**ATTACHMENT**Report to Services Committee Meeting on 18 April 2000

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It is also clear from the results of the audit that there is a clear differentiation in the waste disposal habits of residential premises as opposed to multiple occupancy units. Higher vegetation and nappy disposal figures are evident in single premises as opposed to multiple occupancies. This is possibly accounted for by single premises having larger gardens and larger families than the average home unit. This statement is reinforced in the 1996 Australian Bureau of Census and Statistics census which indicates that multiple unit dwelling occupancies contain people in the age ranges 20-34 and 65+.

The inconveniences and storage space restrictions affecting residents of multiple occupancy units as opposed to single premises may also be considered as a significant factor in accounting for the large percentage of recyclables contained in multiple occupancy dwellings garbage bins.

The benefits of the removal of the above mentioned products from the domestic garbage stream are three fold. Firstly, they would set Warringah on course for achieving significant reduction in waste. Secondly, it would reduce the rate of landfilling at Bare Creek (Belrose Waste Management Centre - Waste Service NSW) and finally, would reduce landfill costs to Council with the associated savings ultimately passed onto the residents of Warringah.

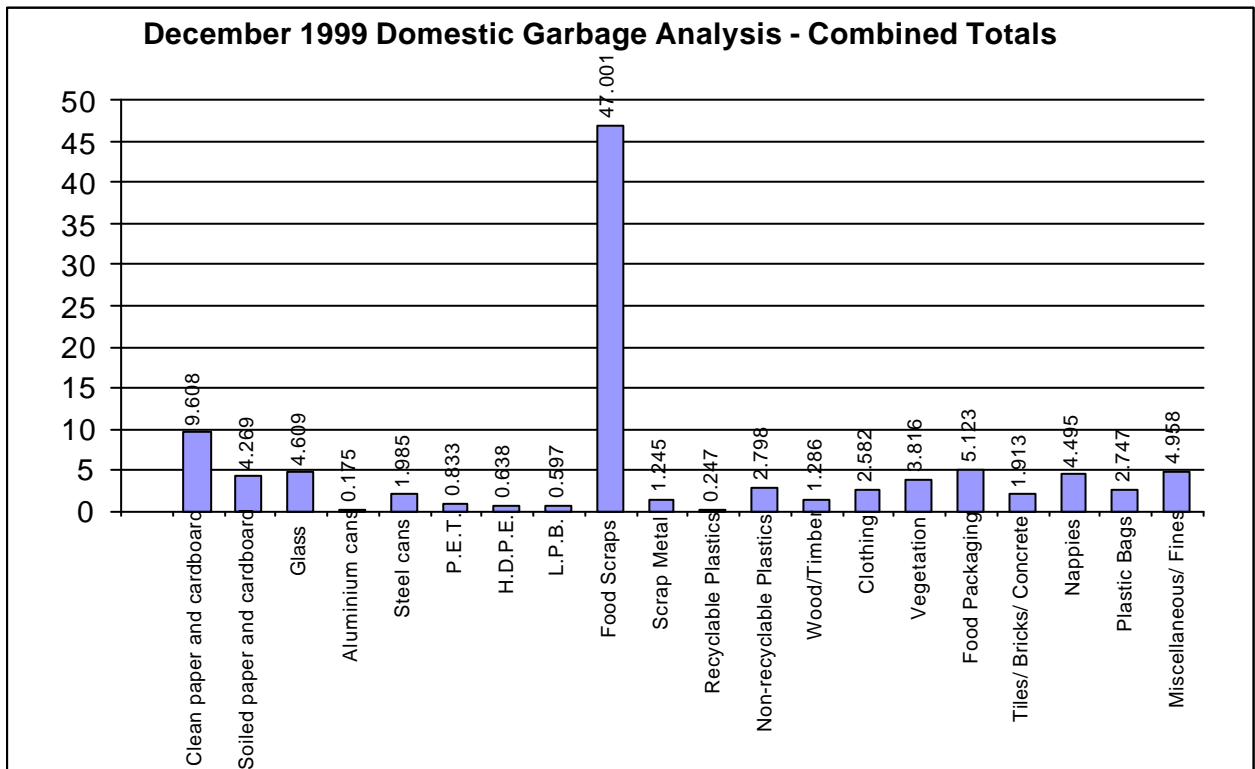
It is proposed that similar garbage audits will continue to be conducted annually. The data gained in conducting ongoing audits will assist Council and the residents of Warringah in assessing their level of achievement in the field of waste reduction and recycling, as well as identifying areas where improvements can be made.

**ATTACHMENT**

Report to Services Committee Meeting on 18 April 2000

**COMBINED TOTAL BREAKDOWN OF MATERIAL**

PRODUCT	WEIGHT ( KGS )	% OF LOAD	% RECYCLABLES COLLECTED	% RECYCLABLES NOT COLLECTED
Clean paper and cardboard	467	9.608	9.608	
Soiled paper and cardboard	207.5	4.269		
Glass	224	4.609	4.609	
Aluminium cans	8.5	0.175	0.175	
Steel cans	96.5	1.985	1.985	
P.E.T.	40.5	0.833	0.833	
H.D.P.E.	31	0.638	0.638	
L.P.B.	29	0.597	0.597	
Food Scraps	2284.5	47.001		
Scrap Metal	60.5	1.245	1.245	
Recyclable Plastics	12	0.247		0.247
Non-recyclable Plastics	136	2.798		
Wood/Timber	62.5	1.286		1.286
Clothing	125.5	2.582		2.582
Vegetation	185.5	3.816	3.816	
Food Packaging	249	5.123		
Tiles/ Bricks/ Concrete	93	1.913		1.913
Nappies	218.5	4.495		
Plastic Bags	133.5	2.747		
Miscellaneous/ Fines	241	4.958		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4905.5</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>6.028</b>



Report of Warringah Council Meeting held on 18 April 2000

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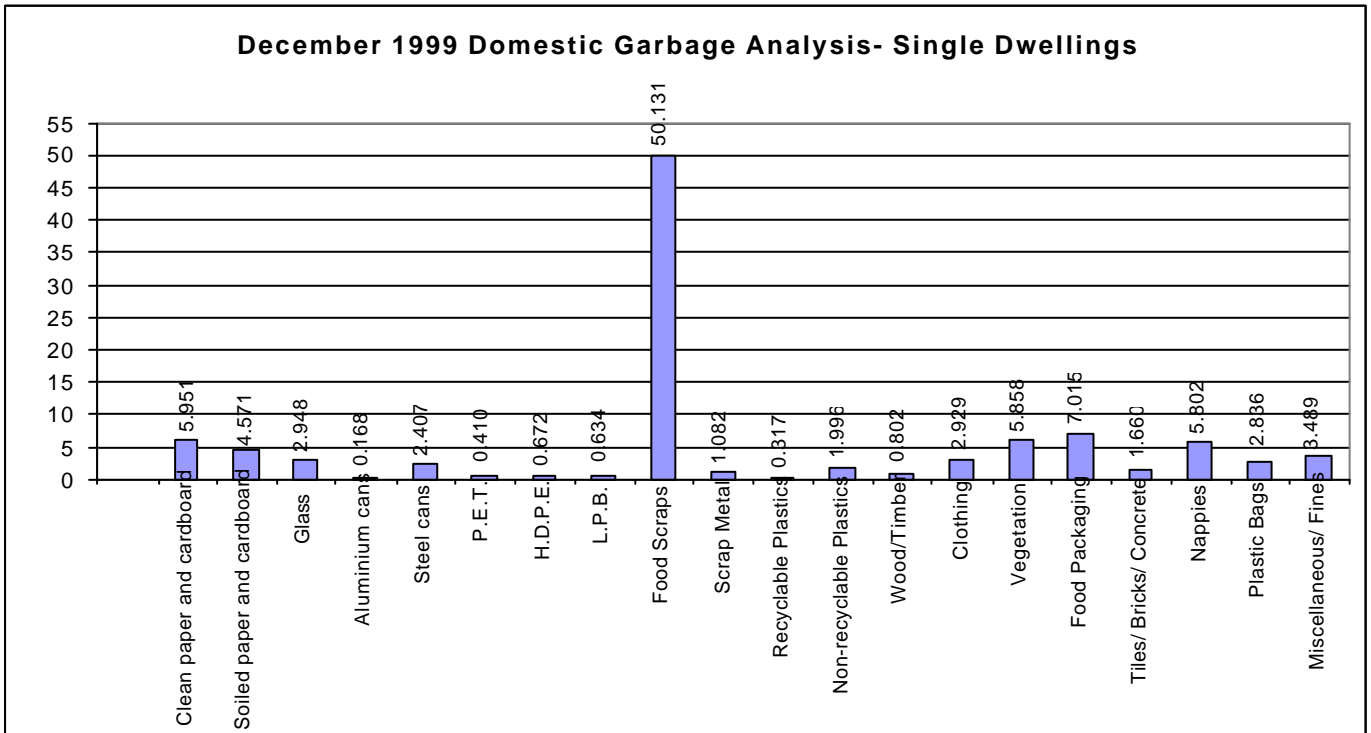
**ATTACHMENT**

Report to Services Committee Meeting on 18 April 2000

**Totals- Single Dwellings**

**250 Single Dwellings**

<b>PRODUCT</b>	<b>Weight Kgs</b>	<b>% OF LOAD</b>
Clean paper and cardboard	159.5	5.951
Soiled paper and cardboard	122.5	4.571
Glass	79	2.948
Aluminium cans	4.5	0.168
Steel cans	64.5	2.407
P.E.T.	11	0.410
H.D.P.E.	18	0.672
L.P.B.	17	0.634
Food Scraps	1343.5	50.131
Scrap Metal	29	1.082
Recyclable Plastics	8.5	0.317
Non-recyclable Plastics	53.5	1.996
Wood/Timber	21.5	0.802
Clothing	78.5	2.929
Vegetation	157	5.858
Food Packaging	188	7.015
Tiles/ Bricks/ Concrete	44.5	1.660
Nappies	155.5	5.802
Plastic Bags	76	2.836
Miscellaneous/ Fines	93.5	3.489
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2725</b>	<b>100</b>



Report of Warringah Council Meeting held on 18 April 2000

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Report to Services Committee Meeting on 18 April 2000

**Tonnages Day Four (16-12-99)**

**250 Multiple Occupancies**

<b>PRODUCT</b>	<b>Weight Kgs</b>	<b>% OF LOAD</b>
Clean paper and cardboard	307.5	14.102
Soiled paper and cardboard	85	3.898
Glass	145	6.650
Aluminium cans	4	0.183
Steel cans	32	1.468
P.E.T.	29.5	1.353
H.D.P.E.	13	0.596
L.P.B.	12	0.550
Food Scraps	941	43.155
Scrap Metal	31.5	1.445
Recyclable Plastics	3.5	0.161
Non-recyclable Plastics	82.5	3.784
Wood/Timber	41	1.880
Clothing	47	2.155
Vegetation	28.5	1.307
Food Packaging	61	2.798
Tiles/ Bricks/ Concrete	48.5	2.224
Nappies	63	2.889
Plastic Bags	57.5	2.637
Miscellaneous/ Fines	147.5	6.765
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2180.5</b>	<b>100</b>

