



Regional Waste Strategy 2009/2012

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1. INTRODUCTION

Background

The Northern Inland Regional Waste (NIRW) voluntary regional waste Group is a collaboration of Councils from the New England and North West region of New South Wales who are focused on delivering cost effective and sustainable waste management options for the regional community. NIRW's initiatives have been recognised by the NSW State Government as delivering positive and low cost environmental outcomes for the constituent Councils. NIRW is supported by and receive valuable funding support from the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change which has allowed the enhancement and continuation of regional programs.

Since 1998, NIRW has been developing & implementing waste management programs on a regional level. The current membership consists of 13 local government Councils (formally 19 Councils prior to 2004 Council amalgamations). The member Councils are:

- Armidale Dumaresq Council
- Glen Innes Severn Council
- Gunnedah Shire Council
- Guyra Shire Council
- Gwydir Shire Council
- Inverell Shire Council
- Liverpool Plains Shire Council
- Moree Plains Shire Council
- Narrabri Shire Council
- Tamworth Regional Council
- Tenterfield Shire Council
- Uralla Shire Council
- Walcha Council

The NIRW Region covers a total area of 92,658 square kilometres and supports a population of more than 180,000 people.

NIRW is governed by a Program Committee consisting of:

- Executive Officer
- Assistant Executive Officer
- Program Coordinator
- Three member Council representatives

Member councils meet quarterly and are kept updated in a range of formal and informal ways. To facilitate the responsiveness of NIRW, ongoing program decision-making capability has been delegated to a Program Committee.

NIRW has enjoyed much success in the past ten years in developing a role for the management of waste practices in the Northern Inland Region. Programs have been introduced that have gained the participation of member Councils and results have been achieved that would not have otherwise been possible.

Funding received from Department of Environment & Climate Change (DECC) is recognised as a core factor in the ability of NIRW to address waste management issues in the New England and North West area. A close working relationship has been established with DECC and the objectives/activities/programs of NIRW have been aligned with the 2007 Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy.

There is no doubt that the formation of NIRW has had a major impact on the development and management of waste management strategies in the region.

By combining the resources, knowledge and technical expertise of member Councils, the effectiveness of programs and communication has been far greater than if all member Councils worked individually. Formation of NIRW has also proved cost effective in terms of both time and resources in achieving results.

There are significant achievements that are accredited to NIRW activities and services. These include examples such as the following, achieved during the 2006/2009 period:

Diversion figures from period 1 July 2005 to November 2008

- 411,320 drumMUSTER eligible containers collected and recycled
- 48,633.40 kilograms of rural and household chemicals collected and safely removed from the Region during the 2006, 2007 & 2008 Campaigns
- 321,842m³ of processed greenwaste
- 13,700 tonnes of scrap metal
- 254 tonnes of batteries

NIRW is also currently investigating regional programs for the collection and disposal of used motor oil and the transportation of e-waste to the Armidale E-Waste Recycling Facility.

Landfill Operator Training

In August 2007, Landfill Operator Training was held for member Council staff. Participants gathered in Tamworth to attend the 2 day training course, which involved both classroom based learning and site tours. The training, which focused on increasing the participants' awareness of waste management issues, was attended by a range of staff, including Managers, Technical Staff and Landfill Operators. It also provided an excellent opportunity for participants to network with other member Councils and discuss issues at a local and regional level. The training has been recognised by member Councils as providing significant capacity building of staff and will be held again in 2009.

Sub Regional Aligned Waste Tender

NIRW coordinated an aligned sub-regional tendering process for the collection of garbage, recyclables and organics on behalf of three member councils, Tamworth Regional, Gunnedah Shire and Liverpool Plains Shire Councils. The Request for Tenders were called in May 2008. This process seeks to minimise waste collection costs through economies of scale and provide access to sustainable resource recovery services for the communities within the participating Council areas and has served as a pilot program for delivering further benefits of regional collaboration.

Waste > Art & Design Competition

In 2007 & 2008, NIRW conducted Regional Waste > Art & Design Competitions, with Narrabri and Armidale hosting the regional exhibitions. 2008 marked the 8th year for competition, which encourages schools, community groups and individuals from all walks of life to take up the challenge and create a 'new life' for materials that would otherwise have been thrown away and considered useless.

NIRW Mobile Waste Education Trailer

In 2006, NIRW received funding from the Environmental Trust to undertake a regional roadshow with the Mobile Waste Education Trailer. The Roadshow was aimed at communicating waste management messages of reduce, reuse, recycle, the concept of smart shopping, composting and worm farming and promoting NIRW campaigns to schools and the local communities. The trailer travelled throughout the member Council areas to both educate and encourage the community to actively help their local environment through adopting simple waste management practices. Since this time, the trailer has also featured at many events throughout the region, such as the Tamworth Country Music Festival where it is used to promote the 'Don't Waste Tamworth' message, as well as the 2008 Sustainable Living Expo in Armidale where it was used to display materials from the DECC Council Litter Prevention Resource Kit.

NIRW Regional Waste Strategy

The NIRW Regional Waste Strategy focuses on educating & facilitating opportunities for the New England & North West region to align with the principals of the Waste Avoidance & Resource Recovery Strategy 2007 (WARR 2007) and the outcomes for the Learning for Sustainability NSW Environmental Education Plan 2007-2010.

NIRW revised the structure of the program component in 2009/2012 to align with the four key result areas identified in the WARR 2007. The four key result areas are:-

- Preventing and Avoiding Waste
- Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials
- Reducing Toxicity in Products and Materials; and
- Reducing Litter and Illegal Dumping.

As a result of programs/campaigns previously conducted by NIRW, there have been many benefits to member Councils, communities & the environment. These programs have lead to the improvement in the provision of services, infrastructure & cost efficiencies. Through the 2009/2012 NIRW Regional Waste Strategy, NIRW aims to build on previous successes & efforts to date, while providing a conduit for its member Councils & the region to address sustainability issues. The NIRW Regional Waste Strategy provides direction on how this can be achieved.

NIRW Objectives

For NIRW to continue along the path of continuous improvement our vision needs to grow & be renewed. This enables NIRW to identify the attitudes, priorities & new technologies that are to be addressed, not only from a local and regional level but also from a global perspective.

The objectives of NIRW are:-

- Develop & implement regional programs that achieve a sustainable balance between the regions social, economic & environmental needs.
- Encourage partnerships & cooperation between member Councils & external stakeholders in a collaborative approach to addressing sustainability issues for the overall benefit of the Region.
- Identify & investigate all opportunities for coordinated approaches in the provision of waste management services & the achievement of waste avoidance & waste minimisation within the region.
- Consider all waste management issues affecting member Councils, where possible, & speak as one voice in response to State & Federal Government initiatives or directives.
- To prevent the generation of waste & promote awareness by commerce & industry with the ideal being – what is good for commerce & industry is good for the environment.
- To maximize the recovery, recycling & reuse of resources from waste whilst addressing the concept of renewable energy along with a change of thinking.

2. OVERVIEW OF MILESTONES: 2009/2010

MILESTONE	ISSUE	SECTOR	PROGRAM	FUNDING SOUGHT \$	ESTIMATED PROJECT VALUE \$
1	Reducing Litter and Illegal Dumping	Community Education	Regional Litter Strategy	\$9,000	\$18,000
2	Reducing Litter & Illegal Dumping	Municipal	Community Sharps Management	\$5,000	\$80,000
3	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	Community Waste Education Programs	\$20,000	\$43,000
4	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	School Waste Education Programs	\$15,000	\$23,000
5	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	Environmental Youth Conference	\$6,000	\$10,000
6	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Rural	Sustainable On Farm Waste Management	\$4,000	\$12,000
7	Reducing Toxicity in Products and Materials	Hazardous Waste	Annual Chemical Collection Campaign	\$6,000	\$158,000
8	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal	E-Waste Recycling	\$12,000	\$40,000
9	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal	Public Place Recycling	\$12,000	\$30,000
10	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal	Sub Regional Aligned Waste Tendering	\$8,000	\$18,000
11	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Rural	Regional Requests for Tenders and Quotations	\$15,000	\$150,000

12	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Commercial & Industrial	Commercial & Industrial Waste Reduction Program	\$25,000	\$50,000
13	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Construction & Demolition	Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling	\$16,000	\$100,000
14	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal / Commercial & Industrial	Investigating Resource Recovery Initiatives	\$8,000	\$60,000
15	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal / Organics	Organics Trials	\$20,000	\$26,000
16	Other – Financial Assessment	Municipal	Landfill Full Cost Accounting	\$4,000	\$8,000
17	Other – Best Practice & Capacity Building	Municipal	Landfill Operator Training	\$6,000	\$10,000
18	Other – Best Practice & Capacity Building	Municipal	The GEM Campaign – Stage 1	\$10,000	\$20,000
19	Other – Risk Assessment & Mitigation	Municipal	E:RAMP	\$14,000	\$26,000
RENEW Communication Strategy				\$8,000	\$8,000
RENEW Forum Support				\$4,000	\$4,000
NIRW Forum Support				\$3,000	\$10,000
TOTAL FUNDING				\$230,000	\$904,000

Milestone 1	Regional Litter Strategy
Purpose	DECC re-released the Council Litter Prevention Kit in 2008. NIRW will be utilising the tools in the kit to promote litter prevention through community education & awareness throughout the region. This promotion will take place in line with the NIRW Regional Litter Strategy.
Aims & Objectives	<u>Promotion</u> - Promote community awareness, knowledge and understanding of the littering issue and how it impacts the New England/North West region; <u>Prevention</u> - Facilitate litter prevention behaviour by promoting simple, practical methods for individuals in the community; and <u>Prosecution</u> - Promote awareness of the potential prosecution and/or fines associated with littering.
Key Performance Indicator(s)	Number of materials distributed New signage installed in littering 'hot spot' areas and subsequent reductions in littering activity
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional signage needs to be updated or replaced for reasons such as vandalism, visual quality ▪ Development of suitable program materials
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reinforce Regional Litter Strategy message across region ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Community or industry participation & increase community pride ▪ Assist member Councils with roadside litter ▪ Greater exposure of NIRW to regional community
Links to Sustainability	The program aims at reducing the amount of waste littered throughout the region.
Estimated Cost	\$18,000 (\$9,000 DECC) (\$9,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotional Materials including corn starch car tidy bags, butt bins, stickers and brochures ▪ TV Campaign (including 15 second TV commercial produced by NIRW) ▪ Road side advisory signage ▪ Static pull up signs to be used at events and Council foyers
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Community Groups ▪ Industry/Business ▪ Media ▪ Manufacturers – signage & cornstarch bags

Milestone 2	Community Sharps Management	
Purpose	Local Councils are key stakeholders in the management of risks associated with the inappropriate disposal of community sharps. NSW Health have partnered with NIRW to facilitate a regional Community Sharps Management Program titled 'NIRW – A Sharp Smart Region'.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work collaboratively with NSW Health, and other key stakeholders such as TAFE NSW to raise awareness and promote the safe disposal of community sharps. ▪ Provide safe disposal facilities for the disposal of community sharps through the installation of appropriately located sharps disposal units. ▪ Reduce the risk of needlestick injury to Council staff, and members of the community ▪ Provide a consistent and strategic approach to community sharps management through Councils' adoption of SOPs and Management Policy. ▪ Reduce the incidence of sharps contamination in recycling and general waste streams. ▪ Gain efficiencies through a combined regional community education campaign. 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community sharps entering the general waste and recycling streams ▪ Community feedback regarding the location of the bins ▪ Where the location of sharps bins have been revised, the amount of sharps collected in each bin will be monitored ▪ Number of staff (or others) who undergo training in the safe handling and disposal of community sharps (to be delivered by TAFE NSW) 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will require participating Councils to audit their existing sharps disposal infrastructure ▪ Number of participating Councils and their available resources ▪ The need to involve stakeholders such as NSW Health, Pharmacies, Diabetes Australia, TAFE NSW ▪ Consideration of OHS legislation and public safety issues in relation to exposure to community sharps 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide safe disposal facilities for community sharps ▪ Reduce inappropriate disposal of needles and syringes in public areas ▪ Reduce the risk of needlestick injury for Council employees, contractors and the public ▪ Reduce the amount of needles and syringes entering municipal waste and recycling services ▪ Regional collaboration on project reduces costs to member Councils to participate in the exercise 	
Links to Sustainability	Encourage behavioural change and appropriate disposal of sharps, reducing contamination in recycling and general waste streams	
Estimated Cost	\$80,000 (\$5,000 DECC) (\$75,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infrastructure installed to facilitate the safe and appropriate disposal of community sharps ▪ Robust community education campaign and associated materials which can be utilised again into the future ▪ Member Council staff trained in the safe handling and disposal of community sharps and clinical waste ▪ Reduction in rates of sharps contamination in recyclables received at MRFs ▪ Reduction in incidences of inappropriate disposal of sharps in public places 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Councils ▪ NSW Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TAFE NSW ▪ Department of Environment & Climate Change

Milestone 3	Community Waste Education Programs	
Purpose	<p>The Community Waste Education Programs will comprise of the following activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIRW Mobile Waste Education Trailer – to ne used by member Councils at agricultural & trade shows and at community & special events; ▪ Waste > Art & Design Competition; and ▪ General promotional activities, including but not limited to, media campaigns and television commercials, booklets, signage and presentations. ▪ Maintenance of the NIRW website <p>Promotion of NIRW and RENEW NSW will be undertaken throughout the Region (and other parts of the State) to assist in gaining further community support for the range of programs provided by NIRW and its member Councils.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To deliver appropriate and regionally specific waste education to target groups ▪ Raise community awareness and increase take up of sustainable waste management practices ▪ Promote NIRW's programs and provide information on the programs ▪ Provide information on reuse and recycling facilities in the region ▪ Provide useful information to website visitors including fact sheets, and links to other useful sites 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of bookings received for the trailer or attendance by NIRW at community events ▪ Number of entrants in the community section of the Waste > Art & Design Competition ▪ Number of materials distributed ▪ Number of visits to the website 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literature needs to be kept up to date & accurate and quantities need to be kept for utilisation at agriculture & trade shows and other community events ▪ Trailer registration and maintenance costs needs to be met ▪ Calendar of events & bookings to be developed annually ▪ Investigate bulk ordering of materials with member Councils and other VRWGs to reduce costs 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion of NIRW, RENEW NSW & DECC throughout the Region ▪ Promote improved waste management practices within the wider community ▪ All Councils have access resources to utilise at local events ▪ Website is a cost effective method of promoting NIRW's programs ▪ Website provides a 'one stop shop' for information on waste management, is easy to update and eliminates the need to produce some printed materials 	
Links to Sustainability	These resources focus on providing education to the community on how to improve sustainability through programs that target waste management & minimisation	
Estimated Cost	\$43,000 (\$20,000 DECC) (\$23,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintained mobile waste education trailer ▪ Educational materials ▪ NIRW Website 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Groups ▪ Print/Graphic Design Companies

Milestone 4	School Waste Education Programs
Purpose	NIRW are dedicated to working with schools to education & promote waste education programs. This will be done primarily through a School Education Kit will incorporate programs such as:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste > Art & Design Competition • Litter Free Lunch • Mobile Waste Education Trailer • Reel Waste Campaign • Information Toolkit on sustainable waste management practices, fact sheets, activities etc
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness of waste management within schools in the NIRW region ▪ Ensure programs are scheduled in school calendar ▪ Ensure uptake of the programs by consulting with teachers to design programs which compliment the curriculum. ▪ Education & attitude changes of economic, social and environmental issues
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feedback from Schools (feedback form to be included in kits) ▪ Number of entries received for school competitions
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIRW needs to be proactive in providing information to schools to increase participation & awareness about sustainable waste management. ▪ Schools will need to be contacted early for planning purposes ▪ Kits supplied to all regional schools ▪ NIRW to annually review campaigns to advise focus issues & dates for campaigns & competitions ▪ Need to ensure this information is getting through to the right people within the school ie respective teachers
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Increase general environmental awareness ▪ Increase knowledge of NIRW and it's programs and of the waste management practices of its member Councils ▪ Schools look at their own communities & their waste issues ▪ Schools can plan their school calendar & address syllabus needs
Links to Sustainability	Engage school students in learning about sustainable waste management practices and on how to implement improved waste management systems in their own homes and schools
Estimated Cost	\$23,000 (\$15,000 DECC) (\$8,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School Education Kit ▪ Toolkits for school competitions designed to engage school students in sustainable waste management practices
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ NIRW Website ▪ Regional Schools ▪ Promotional material

Milestone 5	Environmental Youth Conference
Purpose	NIRW has a focus on developing the capacity of our youth to tackle the range of environmental issues that face the community. In 2009, NIRW will sponsor several schools in the region to attend the 2009 NSW Youth Environment Conference or 2009 International Youth Environment Conference. Schools in the region will be invited to submit an EOI to receive sponsorship which will be provided in the form of financial assistance and mentoring.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness & discussion among regional youth ▪ Increase student & teacher knowledge of avoid, reuse, recovery & recycling practices ▪ Have participating schools look at their own school environment & ways that the principles of avoidance, reuse, recovery & recycling can be applied ▪ Knowledge received will be upwardly educated through participants home & social influences
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of students participating in Conference ▪ Increase in school based environmental waste initiatives ▪ Feedback received from participating students and teachers
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will need to provide information and materials to sponsored schools making presentations at the Conference/s. ▪ Suggest to Conference Organisers that they incorporate a 'hands on' activity, such as a river litter pick up on the second day of the conferences (Environmental Project Days) ▪ Provide assistance to schools in the region to attend the Conference (both State and International)
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Increase general environmental awareness ▪ Increase knowledge of NIRW ▪ Increase knowledge of sustainability synergies between waste, energy & water ▪ Schools look at their own practices & identify good practice & possible areas of change
Links to Sustainability	This project focuses on providing education to school students on how to be sustainable through litter prevention and waste avoidance
Estimated Cost	\$10,000 (\$6,000 DECC) (\$4,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sponsorship for schools in the Region in the form of financial assistance and mentoring.
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conference Organiser ▪ Schools ▪ Member Councils ▪ Administration

Milestone 6	Sustainable On Farm Waste Management	
Purpose	The Sustainable On Farm Waste Management Program will be rolled out across four (4) member Council areas, in partnership with the Namoi Catchment Management Authority. The Program is designed to promote sustainable farm practices and encourage the removal of metal & waste material from farm gullies. The program will also provide landholders with access to information on improving natural resource management. A model farm in the Gunnedah Shire Council area has been selected to use as a promotional tool for the program.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion of waste from the rural environment ▪ Remediation of gully erosion ▪ Encourage change of practice for waste disposal on rural properties 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of enquiries received ▪ Number of farms cleaned up as part of the program ▪ Number of requests for information kits 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation to occur with Namoi CMA to facilitate the program across the catchment area ▪ Media campaign to be developed in partnership with Namoi CMA ▪ Clear identification of the level of service that the CMA can provide ▪ Consultant engaged to perform site assessment and provide advice on remediation (in accordance with guidelines to be provided by Namoi CMA) ▪ Relevant contact details for CMA staff across the member Council area to be obtained for referral of landholders ▪ Site inspections with a farm clean up contractor & Consultant may need to occur ▪ Education kits for landholders to be provided by Namoi CMA ▪ Several scrap steel merchants are undertaking a metal waste collection program. May affect participation rates. May not be concerned about other waste in gullies or encouraging behavioural & practice change 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste is removed from gullies & waterways ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Encourage change of farm practices 	
Links to Sustainability	Assist with rehabilitation of rural environment and improve resource recovery rates from rural properties.	
Estimated Cost	\$12,000 (\$4,000 DECC) (\$12,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information kits for distribution to registered landholders ▪ TV campaign 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Consultant ▪ Member Council staff ▪ Namoi CMA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landholders ▪ Industry ▪ Media ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 7	Annual Chemical Collection Campaign
Purpose	NIRW aims to continue to deliver an annual hazardous chemical collection program to member Councils throughout the region. The program accommodates various sectors within the region including household & rural chemicals & provides an efficient & timely service to the respective communities to minimise public health & environmental risk. Education will become an important part of the Chemical Collection Program in order to increase community awareness on the harmful effects that hazardous waste have on the environment.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Provide a regional service for the collection & safe disposal of unwanted hazardous chemicals ▪ Minimise the risks to the environment & community health by reducing the instances of illegal dumping & accidental poisoning ▪ Reduce costs to participating Councils through regional collaboration ▪ Review the program to ensure cost effective and sustainable delivery of the service
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total chemical collected ▪ Types of chemicals collected ▪ Number of drop offs
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract documentation needs reviewing annually ▪ Levels of service need to be realistic ▪ Campaign needs to be promoted effectively to ensure community utilisation ▪ Campaign report needs to be obtained from Contractor & evaluated ▪ Responding to National Environmental Protection Measures and Guidelines
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduces risk to public health ▪ Hazardous chemicals are diverted from landfills & the environment ▪ Hazardous chemicals are disposed of in a safe & effective manner ▪ Provision of annual service to community provides convenience & reduced risk of inappropriate disposal ▪ Regional contract is cost effective to member councils, funding agencies & the community
Links to Sustainability	Unwanted chemicals removed from households. Diversion of hazardous waste from landfills and avoiding other types of inappropriate disposal
Estimated Cost	\$158,000 (\$6,000 DECC) (\$152,000 others including member Councils and additional DECC funding)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual Chemical Collection Campaign ▪ Promotional materials ▪ TV/newspaper/radio advertising campaign
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Contractor ▪ Media ▪ Member Councils ▪ Community Members ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 8	E-Waste Recycling
Purpose	<p>E-Waste is a rising problem within our community. The consumption of technology is growing each year and the number of items being deposited at landfills is increasing. There is a need to address this type of waste and reduce the number of items being buried at the landfill. The Armidale E-Waste Processing Facility is seeking to address this waste stream not only on a local level, but at a regional level.</p> <p>Member Councils have undertaken to stockpile e-waste for transportation to the Armidale E-Waste Processing Facility. NIRW will be calling for expressions of interest to compile a list of preferred service providers to carry out a regional milk run collection of e-waste from member Councils which will be delivered to the Armidale facility for processing.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maximise diversion of e-waste from landfill through resource recovery ▪ Provision of an economic service on a regional level ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Access to resource recovery services for the entire regional community
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Volume of e-waste delivered to Armidale Facility ▪ Volume of material recovered for recycling
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils will need to store e-waste ▪ Councils will need to pay for transportation to e-waste processing facility ▪ Expression of Interest for service providers to provide a regional collection service ▪ Investigation to occur into other potential electronic waste that could be processed regionally ▪ E-waste Recycling business processing capability
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce & Reuse message reinforced ▪ Assist member councils in diverting goods from landfill through resource recovery ▪ Address issue from a regional perspective
Links to Sustainability	Assist with diversion of e-waste from landfills through resource recovery
Estimated Cost	\$40,000 (\$12,000 DECC) (\$28,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ E-Waste diverted from landfill and recycled at Armidale Facility
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Armidale Computer Library ▪ Media ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 9	Public Place Recycling
Purpose	As part of the 2009/2012 strategy, a regional events calendar will be collated to identify local events where public place recycling could be conducted. Up to 5 specific events each year will be selected from the events calendar & targeted for public place recycling programs. Investigation into purchasing a set of MGB bin caps for use on member Council bins during events will also take place.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the communities exposure, awareness & participation in recycling ▪ Improve the level of recycling services within the region ▪ Provide standard & consistent Public Place Recycling facilities throughout the region
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of events with public place recycling made available ▪ Amount of material recovered through public place recycling facilities
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Events calendar will need to be established & reviewed yearly ▪ Selection of up to 5 events per year will need to be undertaken on a financial calendar year ▪ Implementation of program ▪ Modification of promotional material to suit event ▪ Ensuring that essential equipment is available, such as suitable bins for garbage & recycling ▪ Ensuring proper identification of bins for event ▪ Publicity of public place recycling during event will need to occur ▪ Bin monitors maybe required to monitor & prevent contamination & encourage usage ▪ Investigation into feasibility of manufacturing a regional recycling trailer for the region ▪ Resource Recovery & Litter Prevention Manual may need reviewing & updating & distributing
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Diverting recyclable material from landfill ▪ Reduction in contamination ▪ Improvement in participation ▪ Greater exposure of NIRW to regional community
Links to Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Diverting recyclable material from landfill
Estimated Cost	\$30,000 (\$12,000 DECC) (\$18,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Place recycling bins & bin tops ▪ Recyclables diverted from landfill and recovered for recycling
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Waste Education Trailer ▪ Bin Monitor/Labour ▪ Media ▪ Public Place Recycling Trailers (Armidale & Tamworth)

Milestone 10	Sub Regional Aligned Waste Tenders
Purpose	In 2007/2008 three member Councils were approaching the expiry of their waste service contracts. NIRW carried out a feasibility study in to the potential for waste contracts of NIRW member Councils to be collectively tendered. The feasibility study examined a range of waste products, including general household, green waste, recyclables, organic waste, major event waste collections and the collection of waste from public litter bins. Tamworth Regional, Gunnedah Shire and Liverpool Plains Shire Councils have jointly called for tenders for their waste contracts, to commence from 2009. All three contracts will now have common expiry dates. Further sub-regional tenders for waste services are to be examined as a result of the pilot programs success.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion of waste from landfill ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Provision of services to all NIRW Councils ▪ Minimise waste collection costs through economies of scale ▪ Access to resource recovery services for the entire regional community
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of sub-regional tenders pursued.
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract development likely to take 12 months to complete ▪ Levels of service need to be realistic ▪ Successful contractor will require adequate lead time to develop services ▪ Adequate flexibility in contract to allow for customisation by individual Councils
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ May provide smaller member Councils with access to services not currently available e.g. greenwaste collection ▪ May reduce waste collection costs, especially for smaller member Councils ▪ Facilitates knowledge sharing to generate best practice contracts ▪ Waste collection standards can be benchmarked across the Region ▪ Collective tendering reduces individual costs to member Councils
Links to Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved resource recovery through extension of services in the Council areas ▪ Sustain and enhance services through cost effectiveness derived through economies of scale
Estimated Cost	\$18,000 (\$8,000 DECC) (\$10,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Resource/knowledge sharing across member Councils ▪ Sub-regional contract documentation
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Council staff ▪ Consultant ▪ DECC

Milestone 11	Regional Requests for Tender and Quotations	
Purpose	<p>NIRW undertakes regional requests for tenders and quotations on behalf of participating member Councils. Services already in place are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greenwaste Processing ▪ Collection and processing of drumMUSTER containers ▪ Metal Waste & Battery Collections <p>Arrangements are also currently underway for the regional collection of used motor oil. This regional approach seeks to maximise resource recovery and reduce the costs of servicing to member Councils. Furthermore it seeks to improve access to services across all participating member Council areas, as well as reducing the strain on Council resources by taking a collaborative and consistent approach to the tender and contract preparations. NIRW will continue to investigate opportunities for regional approaches to the servicing needs of it's member Councils.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maximised diversion of waste from landfill through resource recovery ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Reduced costs to participating Councils through increased purchasing power from regional collaboration ▪ Access to resource recovery services for the entire regional community ▪ Reduced strain on Council resources through a single, regional approach with consistent contract documentation 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion figures for each waste type ▪ Number of Councils participating in regional tenders/quotations ▪ Reports from Councils on sales of end product where applicable 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract documentation requires periodic reviews ▪ Levels of service need to be realistic ▪ Diversion rates need to be regularly sourced from Contractors ▪ Diversion rates to be individually reported to DECC each quarter ▪ Review and determine Council servicing requirements 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste diverted from landfill ▪ Enhanced servicing options for processing materials at member council sites ▪ Quality product that member councils can sell or value add to & sell ▪ Regional tendering provides better pricing to member councils and broader access to services 	
Links to Sustainability	Significant diversion of waste streams from landfills and recovered for recycling or beneficial reuse	
Estimated Cost	\$150,000 (\$15,000 DECC) (\$135,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional Contract documents ▪ Contracts for processing same across all participating member Council 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Contractors ▪ Member Council staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Council landfills/transfer stations ▪ NIRW Website ▪ Legal reviews of tender/contract documentation

Milestone 12	Commercial & Industrial Waste Reduction Program
Purpose	<p>Commercial & industrial (C&I) waste comprises solid waste generated by the business sector as well as solid wastes created by state & federal government entities, schools & tertiary institutions.</p> <p>In 2004-2005, C&I waste accounted for approximately 27% of all waste disposed to licensed landfills in regional and rural NSW (WARR Strategy 2007). By 2014, NSW aims to increase the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&I waste stream to 63%.</p> <p>Separation & recovery of C&I waste is proposed to be undertaken by the majority of NIRW Councils. It is likely that the diversion of this waste stream from landfill will become of increasing importance with the scheduled introduction of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To develop the 'mind set' in business & industry that waste is a resource ▪ To encourage opportunities for the reuse & recycling of waste in business & industry ▪ To foster an ongoing positive & proactive attitude to the management of business & industry waste by NIRW Member Councils ▪ Diversion of C&I waste from landfill and reduce costs across the NIRW region ▪ Create networking opportunities amongst Industry through the region
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of businesses involved in the program ▪ Amount of C&I waste diverted as a direct result of the program
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NEWF have developed a business waste reduction toolkit which can be used a model for the NIRW program ▪ Industries vary across the NIRW region ▪ May need to engage a consultant to assist with business waste audits ▪ Member Councils capacity to accept such wastes may vary ▪ Within member Council areas waste contractors are varied & there may not be a service provider available to provide a service. Alternative options need to be available ▪ Establishment of a regional waste service provider list for inclusion on NIRW website needs to be investigated ▪ Establishment of an annual Award for businesses involved in the project that make changes to their waste management practices, resulting in significant resource recovery.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identifies various industry across the regions that maybe able to assist each other through networking opportunities ▪ C&I waste has often been put in the too hard basket from a council perspective & this is a way to start addressing the issue regionally ▪ Achieve efficiencies for industry in the way the manage & dispose of their waste ▪ Encourage behavioural change & support within regional industry
Links to Sustainability	Assist with diversion of C&I waste from landfill through resource recovery
Estimated Cost	\$50,000 (\$25,000 DECC) (\$25,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Business Waste Reduction/Self-Audit Toolkit ▪ Increased C&I resource recovery with measurable diversion figures ▪ Member Councils taking action to meet the objectives of the WARR Strategy 2007 for the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&I waste stream

Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Administration▪ Consultant▪ Member Council staff▪ Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Chamber of Commerce offices in the region▪ State & Regional Development▪ NIRW Website
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Milestone 13	Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling	
Purpose	<p>Some member Councils have commenced Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste recycling & separation. NIRW actively promotes the benefits of the reuse of C&D recycled products, such as clean fill, decorative gravel, drainage material & road base to industry members throughout the region.</p> <p>NIRW aims to facilitate opportunities for all member Councils to be able to participate in a C&D program in a cost effective manner.</p> <p>In 2004-2005, C&D waste accounted for approximately 28% of all waste disposed to licensed landfills in regional and rural NSW (WARR Strategy 2007). By 2014, NSW aims to increase the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&D waste stream to 76%.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the amount of C&D Waste going to Landfill within the region ▪ Increase the level of resource recovery services available within the region ▪ Increase awareness within the building industry of the economic & environmental benefits associated with recovery of C&D Waste ▪ Reduce the use of natural resources within the region 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of councils participating in program ▪ Tonnes of C&D waste processed for beneficial reuse ▪ Ability to demonstrated a cost advantage in utilising a regional approach 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop database of member Councils who divert C&D waste, materials accepted, diversion rates & stockpile capacity and the end use for the product ▪ Need to investigate DECC waste exemptions under the changes to the <i>PoEO Act</i> that came in to force 28 April 2008. ▪ Produce EOI for the purpose of compiling a list of preferred service providers for member Councils ▪ Liaison & education of Building Industry within region to maximise potential separation & recovery of materials 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the amount of C&D Waste going to landfill within the region ▪ Increased lifespan of landfill assets ▪ Increase the level of resource recovery services available within the region ▪ Increase awareness within the building industry of the economic & environmental benefits associated with recovery of C&D Waste ▪ Reduce the use of natural resources within the region 	
Links to Sustainability	Assist with diversion of C&D waste from landfill through resource recovery	
Estimated Cost	\$100,000 (\$16,000 DECC) (\$84,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Processing of C&D waste for beneficial reuse ▪ Member Councils taking action to meet the objectives of the WARR Strategy 2007 for the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&D waste stream 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Building Industry ▪ Education Material/Literature

Milestone 14	Investigation of Resource Recovery Initiatives
Purpose	<p>The EPR Priority Statement 2007 identifies 17 wastes of concern. While the management of several of these waste types are already being addressed through existing NIRW programs, the member Councils have identified several other waste types for further investigation. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tyres ▪ Paint ▪ Packaging, primarily in the form of expanded polystyrene ▪ Treated timber ▪ Mercury containing lamps
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To investigate methods for the recovery and processing of these materials ▪ Where appropriate, to assist member Councils in implementing systems for the recovery of these waste types
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion rates for identified waste types
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to find financially viable resource recovery options for member Councils ▪ Distance of member Councils from major centres may result in difficulties in sourcing some recovery options ▪ May need to establish regional milk runs for the collection of some materials ▪ May need to undergo regional requests for tender or quotation for the collection/processing of these waste types
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Councils addressing identified wastes of concerns at a regional and local level ▪ Increased diversion of waste from landfill
Links to Sustainability	Assist member Councils with the appropriate management of identified wastes of concern
Estimated Cost	\$60,000 (\$8,000 DECC) (\$52,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reports on the available resource recovery options for the waste types identified by member Councils ▪ Implementation of resource recovery systems for these waste types ▪ Increased diversion of waste materials from landfill
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ DECC ▪ Waste Management Industry ▪ Consultants

Milestone 15	Organics Trials	
Purpose	NIRW have undertaken a Regional Organic Waste Stream Mapping for the NIRW region and have produced a Final Report. A synopsis of this report has been prepared for dissemination to industry & stakeholders. Active partnership building will be undertaken in the NIRW region as a means of utilising available organic wastes, identify value adding options, foster marketing investigations & facilitate sustainable use of the resource. A next step in the project will be making contact with a large producer of organic waste in the region to work with on a 'best practice' case study for the disposal/reuse of organic waste.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase waste diversion from landfill ▪ Increase reuse of secondary resources ▪ Reduce the use of natural resources ▪ Improve the environment ▪ Increase opportunities for new markets & industries in the region ▪ Increase community awareness about waste reuse 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reports from trials ▪ Increased diversion of organic material from landfill 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a strategy for regional development in relation to organic waste material ▪ Facilitate networking opportunities between industries for information & resource sharing ▪ Explore options such as calling for expressions of interest relating to organic waste material within the region as a means of highlighting the opportunities within the region ▪ Need to investigate current DECC exemptions for waste to be applied to land or used as fuel, may need to apply for new exemptions ▪ The high cost of fertilisers may act as an incentive to landholders to look for more cost effective options, such as compost/mulch 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New industry to the region ▪ Diversion of organic waste from landfill ▪ Utilisation of organic resources ▪ Networking & facilitation of industry partnerships to assist beneficial reuse of organic waste 	
Links to Sustainability	Assist Councils with the diversion of organic material from landfill for beneficial reuse	
Estimated Cost	\$26,000 (\$20,000 DECC) (\$6,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data from trials which can then be used to promote the benefits of applying organic material in the form of compost/mulch to land 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Consultant ▪ Member Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State & Regional Development for assistance to Industry ▪ Media ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 16	Landfill Full Cost Accounting Exercise
Purpose	In 2007/2008 NIRW engaged an experienced consultant to carry out investigations into the full costs of land filling at selected landfills across the Region. These reports have now been finalised, and the consultant will make a presentation to all member Councils on their findings and what the exercise means for Councils in terms of long term planning. Other member Councils have expressed an interest in undertaking the exercise, and with DECC due to complete a true cost of landfilling calculation tool for use by local government in December 2008, it is timely to develop a program that will provide assistance to member Councils in utilising this tool.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct a study into the full cost of landfilling in the region ▪ Review charges at landill gate to reflect the full cost study
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of Councils who utilise the DECC tool, especially in terms of budgeting for waste management costs and the setting of waste management fees and charges
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ May require participating Councils to compile some level of historic data on their waste management facilities, such as site establishment costs. ▪ Program Coordinator to liaise with Councils to determine the level of support required to undertake the exercise ▪ Member Councils can share and compare this information ▪ This tool will assist Councils in making sound decisions about the future of waste management facilities based on the current and likely future costs of the sites.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify the actual costs of waste disposal and use this inform the setting of fees & charges ▪ Consider the opportunity cost of resource recovery initiatives and alternative treatment technologies ▪ Encourage best use of existing assets ▪ Budget appropriately to see through peaks and troughs in expenditure ▪ Defend budget requests. ▪ Assistance for member Councils from Program Coordinator to undertake the exercise
Links to Sustainability	Allows member Councils to better understand and substantiate the opportunity cost of resource recovery initiatives and alternative treatment technologies, and encourage best use of existing assets
Estimated Cost	\$8,000 (\$4,000 DECC) (\$4,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure best take up of the tool developed by DECC ▪ Reports developed from use of the tool can be compiled into regional and sub-regional true cost of landfilling reports
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ DECC ▪ Member Councils

Milestone 17	Landfill Operator Training
Purpose	In 2007, NIRW coordinated Landfill Operator training for all member Councils. It is now timely to make arrangements for this training to occur again in 2009 for new landfill operators/waste management supervisors.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness of waste management issues at rural landfill sites in the NIRW region ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Provision of education to all member Councils ▪ Education & attitude changes of waste management
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of staff undergoing the training
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current best practices ▪ Current legislative environment ▪ New waste industry developments/technologies ▪ Ensure OH&S requirements are met ▪ Access to competent training providers with industry experience
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Informed waste management personnel ▪ Ensures staff possess adequate industry knowledge necessary to make informed decisions ▪ Professional recognition of skills possessed ▪ Facilitates knowledge and experience sharing
Links to Sustainability	Increased awareness amongst landfill operators of the environmental issues relating to the management of waste
Estimated Cost	\$10,000 (\$6,000 DECC) (\$4,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staff trained in appropriate landfill management practices ▪ Reference handbook for landfill staff
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Training Provider ▪ Member Council

Milestone 18	The GEM Campaign – Stage 1
Purpose	<p>The Greenhouse Emissions Management (GEM) Campaign is designed to inform Councils about their roles and responsibilities under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System. The first stage of the Campaign will involve the provision of information to Councils about their reporting requirements and also assistance in calculating their emissions from landfill.</p> <p>The campaign will continue in 2010/2011, with Stage 2 designed to support Councils in meeting their reporting requirements, as well as involving investigation into measures that could realistically be taken by member Councils to reduce the methane emissions from landfill. Stage 3 to be rolled out in 2011/2012 will assist Councils with the implementation of measures to reduce emissions from landfill.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide information to member Councils on their roles and responsibilities under the <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulations 2008</i> ▪ Assist Councils in calculating their emissions and establishing if they are captured by the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System.
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils reporting landfill emissions with a consistent methodology
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Currently there are many 'grey' areas in terms of the way the reporting system will be rolled out and how it will effect local Councils ▪ Will need to ensure that information provided is timely and regionally appropriate ▪ May need to engage consultant to prepare a report for NIRW member Councils or present to the group of Councils
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils are informed about their reporting requirements and will be provided with information so that they can better understand how their Council will be impacted by the new system ▪ NIRW can investigate options for reducing emissions from landfill on behalf of member Councils, reducing duplication and strain on Councils' resources
Links to Sustainability	Councils are informed about the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System and can work collaboratively to investigate measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill.
Estimated Cost	\$20,000 (\$10,000 DECC) (\$10,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consistent and valid data gathering and reporting ▪ Capacity building of Councils to manage landfill gas
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ DECC

Milestone 19	Environmental Risk Assessment & Mitigation Package (E:RAMP)
Purpose	<p>The Environmental Risk Assessment and Mitigation Package (E-RAMP) has been developed by DECC in consultation with council waste managers across rural regional NSW. It is a tool designed to assist operators of small waste facilities assess and manage environmental risks.</p> <p>NIRW has distributed copies of the tool to all member Councils, and will now provide assistance to member Councils in completing the assessment tool, as well as provide seed funding to member Councils to implement risk mitigation activities. This seed funding will be allocated to member Councils via an EOI process after the E:RAMP tool has been utilized and a report has been produced to support the EOI application.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage member Councils to utilise the E:RAMP tool ▪ Provide assistance to member Councils to encourage utilisation of the tool ▪ Provide incentives to member Councils by way of providing seed funding towards risk mitigation activities
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of Councils utilising the tool ▪ Number and type of mitigation activities carried out by member Councils
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Councils may require assistance to complete the tool ▪ Invite DECC to present to member Councils on the use of the tool and its benefits
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The E:RAMP tool provides an objective assessment with repeatable results, has real world relevance ▪ Allows risks to be prioritised ▪ Compliments continuous improvement ▪ Provides Councils with a due diligence defence ▪ Encourages a proactive approach ▪ Provides waste managers with clear and concise reports and graphs which can be used to strengthen budget bids for mitigation works
Links to Sustainability	Encourages Councils to be proactive in mitigating environmental risks
Estimated Cost	\$26,000 (\$14,000 DECC) (\$12,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seed funding provided to Councils to assist in undertaking mitigation activities
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ DECC ▪ E:RAMP toolkit

3. OVERVIEW OF MILESTONES: 2010/2011

MILESTONE	ISSUE	SECTOR	PROGRAM	FUNDING SOUGHT \$	ESTIMATED PROJECT VALUE \$
1	Reducing Litter and Illegal Dumping	Community Education	Regional Litter Strategy	\$9,000	\$18,000
2	Reducing Litter & Illegal Dumping	Municipal	Community Sharps Management	\$5,000	\$20,000
3	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	Community Waste Education Programs	\$14,000	\$25,000
4	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	School Waste Education Programs	\$6,000	\$10,000
5	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	Environmental Youth Conference	\$3,000	\$3,000
6	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Rural	Sustainable On Farm Waste Management	\$4,000	\$12,000
7	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	Illegal Dumping Strategy	\$10,000	\$20,000
8	Reducing Toxicity in Products and Materials	Hazardous Waste	Annual Chemical Collection Campaign	\$6,000	\$158,000
9	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal	E-Waste Recycling	\$12,000	\$40,000
10	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal	Public Place Recycling	\$12,000	\$30,000
11	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal	Sub Regional Aligned Waste Tendering	\$8,000	\$18,000

12	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Rural	Regional Requests for Tenders and Quotations	\$15,000	\$150,000
13	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Commercial & Industrial	Commercial & Industrial Waste Reduction Program	\$25,000	\$50,000
14	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Construction & Demolition	Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling	\$16,000	\$100,000
15	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal / Commercial & Industrial	Investigating Resource Recovery Initiatives	\$8,000	\$60,000
16	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal / Organics	Organics Trials	\$20,000	\$26,000
17	Other – Financial Assessment	Municipal	Landfill Full Cost Accounting	\$4,000	\$8,000
18	Other – Best Practice & Capacity Building	Municipal	Landfill Operator Training	\$6,000	\$10,000
19	Other – Best Practice & Capacity Building	Municipal	The GEM Campaign – Stage 2	\$10,000	\$20,000
20	Other – Risk Assessment & Mitigation	Municipal	E:RAMP	\$4,000	\$8,000
RENEW Communication Strategy				\$8,000	\$8,000
RENEW Forum Support				\$4,000	\$4,000
NIRW Forum Support				\$3,000	\$10,000
TOTAL FUNDING				\$230,000	\$846,000

Milestone 1	Regional Litter Strategy
Purpose	DECC re-released the Council Litter Prevention Kit in 2008. NIRW will be utilising the tools in the kit to promote litter prevention through community education & awareness throughout the region. This promotion will take place in line with the NIRW Regional Litter Strategy.
Aims & Objectives	<u>Promotion</u> - Promote community awareness, knowledge and understanding of the littering issue and how it impacts the New England/North West region; <u>Prevention</u> - Facilitate litter prevention behaviour by promoting simple, practical methods for individuals in the community; and <u>Prosecution</u> - Promote awareness of the potential prosecution and/or fines associated with littering.
Key Performance Indicator(s)	Number of materials distributed New signage installed in littering 'hot spot' areas and subsequent reductions in littering activity
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional signage needs to be updated or replaced for reasons such as vandalism, visual quality ▪ Development of suitable program materials
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reinforce Regional Litter Strategy message across region ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Community or industry participation & increase community pride ▪ Assist member Councils with roadside litter ▪ Greater exposure of NIRW to regional community
Links to Sustainability	The program aims at reducing the amount of waste littered throughout the region.
Estimated Cost	\$18,000 (\$9,000 DECC) (\$9,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotional Materials including corn starch car tidy bags, butt bins, stickers and brochures ▪ TV Campaign (including 15 second TV commercial produced by NIRW) ▪ Road side advisory signage ▪ Static pull up signs to be used at events and Council foyers
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Community Groups ▪ Industry/Business ▪ Media ▪ Manufacturers – signage & cornstarch bags

Milestone 2	Community Sharps Management	
Purpose	Local Councils are key stakeholders in the management of risks associated with the inappropriate disposal of community sharps. NSW Health have partnered with NIRW to facilitate a regional Community Sharps Management Program titled 'NIRW – A Sharp Smart Region'.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work collaboratively with NSW Health, and other key stakeholders such as TAFE NSW to raise awareness and promote the safe disposal of community sharps. ▪ Provide safe disposal facilities for the disposal of community sharps through the installation of appropriately located sharps disposal units. ▪ Reduce the risk of needlestick injury to Council staff, and members of the community ▪ Provide a consistent and strategic approach to community sharps management through Councils' adoption of SOPs and Management Policy. ▪ Reduce the incidence of sharps contamination in recycling and general waste streams. ▪ Gain efficiencies through a combined regional community education campaign. 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community sharps entering the general waste and recycling streams ▪ Community feedback regarding the location of the bins ▪ Where the location of sharps bins have been revised, the amount of sharps collected in each bin will be monitored ▪ Number of staff (or others) who undergo training in the safe handling and disposal of community sharps (to be delivered by TAFE NSW) 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will require participating Councils to audit their existing sharps disposal infrastructure ▪ Number of participating Councils and their available resources ▪ The need to involve stakeholders such as NSW Health, Pharmacies, Diabetes Australia, TAFE NSW ▪ Consideration of OHS legislation and public safety issues in relation to exposure to community sharps 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide safe disposal facilities for community sharps ▪ Reduce inappropriate disposal of needles and syringes in public areas ▪ Reduce the risk of needlestick injury for Council employees, contractors and the public ▪ Reduce the amount of needles and syringes entering municipal waste and recycling services ▪ Regional collaboration on project reduces costs to member Councils to participate in the exercise 	
Links to Sustainability	Encourage behavioural change and appropriate disposal of sharps, reducing contamination in recycling and general waste streams	
Estimated Cost	\$80,000 (\$5,000 DECC) (\$75,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infrastructure installed to facilitate the safe and appropriate disposal of community sharps ▪ Robust community education campaign and associated materials which can be utilised again into the future ▪ Member Council staff trained in the safe handling and disposal of community sharps and clinical waste ▪ Reduction in rates of sharps contamination in recyclables received at MRFs ▪ Reduction in incidences of inappropriate disposal of sharps in public places 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Councils ▪ NSW Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TAFE NSW ▪ Department of Environment & Climate Change

Milestone 3	Community Waste Education Programs	
Purpose	<p>The Community Waste Education Programs will comprise of the following activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIRW Mobile Waste Education Trailer – to ne used by member Councils at agricultural & trade shows and at community & special events; ▪ Waste > Art & Design Competition; and ▪ General promotional activities, including but not limited to, media campaigns and television commercials, booklets, signage and presentations. ▪ Maintenance of the NIRW website <p>Promotion of NIRW and RENEW NSW will be undertaken throughout the Region (and other parts of the State) to assist in gaining further community support for the range of programs provided by NIRW and its member Councils.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To deliver appropriate and regionally specific waste education to target groups ▪ Raise community awareness and increase take up of sustainable waste management practices ▪ Promote NIRW's programs and provide information on the programs ▪ Provide information on reuse and recycling facilities in the region ▪ Provide useful information to website visitors including fact sheets, and links to other useful sites 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of bookings received for the trailer or attendance by NIRW at community events ▪ Number of entrants in the community section of the Waste > Art & Design Competition ▪ Number of materials distributed ▪ Number of visits to the website 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literature needs to be kept up to date & accurate and quantities need to be kept for utilisation at agriculture & trade shows and other community events ▪ Trailer registration and maintenance costs needs to be met ▪ Calendar of events & bookings to be developed annually ▪ Investigate bulk ordering of materials with member Councils and other VRWGs to reduce costs 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion of NIRW, RENEW NSW & DECC throughout the Region ▪ Promote improved waste management practices within the wider community ▪ All Councils have access resources to utilise at local events ▪ Website is a cost effective method of promoting NIRW's programs ▪ Website provides a 'one stop shop' for information on waste management, is easy to update and eliminates the need to produce some printed materials 	
Links to Sustainability	These resources focus on providing education to the community on how to improve sustainability through programs that target waste management & minimisation	
Estimated Cost	\$43,000 (\$20,000 DECC) (\$23,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintained mobile waste education trailer ▪ Educational materials ▪ NIRW Website 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Groups ▪ Print/Graphic Design Companies

Milestone 4	School Waste Education Programs
Purpose	NIRW are dedicated to working with schools to education & promote waste education programs. This will be done primarily through a School Education Kit will incorporate programs such as:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste > Art & Design Competition • Litter Free Lunch • Mobile Waste Education Trailer • Reel Waste Campaign • Information Toolkit on sustainable waste management practices, fact sheets, activities etc
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness of waste management within schools in the NIRW region ▪ Ensure programs are scheduled in school calendar ▪ Ensure uptake of the programs by consulting with teachers to design programs which compliment the curriculum. ▪ Education & attitude changes of economic, social and environmental issues
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feedback from Schools (feedback form to be included in kits) ▪ Number of entries received for school competitions
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIRW needs to be proactive in providing information to schools to increase participation & awareness about sustainable waste management. ▪ Schools will need to be contacted early for planning purposes ▪ Kits supplied to all regional schools ▪ NIRW to annually review campaigns to advise focus issues & dates for campaigns & competitions ▪ Need to ensure this information is getting through to the right people within the school ie respective teachers
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Increase general environmental awareness ▪ Increase knowledge of NIRW and it's programs and of the waste management practices of its member Councils ▪ Schools look at their own communities & their waste issues ▪ Schools can plan their school calendar & address syllabus needs
Links to Sustainability	Engage school students in learning about sustainable waste management practices and on how to implement improved waste management systems in their own homes and schools
Estimated Cost	\$23,000 (\$15,000 DECC) (\$8,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School Education Kit ▪ Toolkits for school competitions designed to engage school students in sustainable waste management practices
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ NIRW Website ▪ Regional Schools ▪ Promotional material

Milestone 5	Environmental Youth Conference
Purpose	NIRW has a focus on developing the capacity of our youth to tackle the range of environmental issues that face the community. In 2010, NIRW will sponsor several schools in the region to attend the 2010 NSW Youth Environment Conference. Schools in the region will be invited to submit an EOI to receive sponsorship which will be provided in the form of financial assistance and mentoring.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness & discussion among regional youth ▪ Increase student & teacher knowledge of avoid, reuse, recovery & recycling practices ▪ Have participating schools look at their own school environment & ways that the principles of avoidance, reuse, recovery & recycling can be applied ▪ Knowledge received will be upwardly educated through participants home & social influences
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of students participating in Conference ▪ Feedback received from participating students and teachers
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will need to provide information and materials to sponsored schools making presentations at the Conference/s. ▪ Suggest to Conference Organisers that they incorporate a 'hands on' activity, such as a river litter pick up on the second day of the conferences (Environmental Project Days) ▪ Provide assistance to schools in the region to attend the Conference (both State and International)
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Increase general environmental awareness ▪ Increase knowledge of NIRW ▪ Increase knowledge of sustainability synergies between waste, energy & water ▪ Schools look at their own practices & identify good practice & possible areas of change
Links to Sustainability	This project focuses on providing education to school students on how to be sustainable through litter prevention and waste avoidance
Estimated Cost	\$10,000 (\$6,000 DECC) (\$4,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sponsorship for schools in the Region in the form of financial assistance and mentoring.
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conference Organiser ▪ Schools ▪ Member Councils ▪ Administration

Milestone 6	Sustainable On Farm Waste Management	
Purpose	The Sustainable On Farm Waste Management Program will be rolled out across four (4) member Council areas, in partnership with the Namoi Catchment Management Authority. The Program is designed to promote sustainable farm practices and encourage the removal of metal & waste material from farm gullies. The program will also provide landholders with access to information on improving natural resource management. A model farm in the Gunnedah Shire Council area has been selected to use as a promotional tool for the program.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion of waste from the rural environment ▪ Remediation of gully erosion ▪ Encourage change of practice for waste disposal on rural properties 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of enquiries received ▪ Number of farms cleaned up as part of the program ▪ Number of requests for information kits 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation to occur with Namoi CMA to facilitate the program across the catchment area ▪ Media campaign to be developed in partnership with Namoi CMA ▪ Clear identification of the level of service that the CMA can provide ▪ Consultant engaged to perform site assessment and provide advice on remediation (in accordance with guidelines to be provided by Namoi CMA) ▪ Relevant contact details for CMA staff across the member Council area to be obtained for referral of landholders ▪ Site inspections with a farm clean up contractor & Consultant may need to occur ▪ Education kits for landholders to be provided by Namoi CMA ▪ Several scrap steel merchants are undertaking a metal waste collection program. May affect participation rates. May not be concerned about other waste in gullies or encouraging behavioural & practice change 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste is removed from gullies & waterways ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Encourage change of farm practices 	
Links to Sustainability	Assist with rehabilitation of rural environment and improve resource recovery rates from rural properties.	
Estimated Cost	\$12,000 (\$4,000 DECC) (\$12,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information kits for distribution to registered landholders ▪ TV campaign 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Consultant ▪ Member Councils ▪ Namoi CMA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landholders ▪ Industry ▪ Media ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 7	Illegal Dumping Strategy
Purpose	NIRW will be addressing the regional issue of illegal dumping. Virtually all member council's are seeking to improve management of rural landfills through supervision & restricted access. With cost for waste disposal increasing & historic service levels changing, Councils are being faced with the challenge of managing the reactionary response of illegal dumping.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide community education campaign ▪ Reduce incidents of illegal dumping across the region
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduction in incidences of illegal dumping through out the region
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DECC has developed a handbook for Local Government – Crackdown on Illegal Dumping ▪ Development & implement education strategies to achieve a reduction of illegal dumping impacts upon the environment ▪ Value in contracting a RID squad ▪ Impress upon the community; “illegal dumping imposes a cost on everybody”
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Illegal dumping occurrences reduced ▪ Monitoring & enforcement strategy developed
Links to Sustainability	Awareness amongst the community about the environmental impacts of illegal dumping with an aim of reducing the incidences of illegal dumping
Estimated Cost	\$20,000 (\$10,000 DECC) (\$10,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Illegal Dumping Strategy in report form ▪ Signage ▪ Advertising/awareness campaign including TV commercial
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ RID Squad ▪ Education materials ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 8	Annual Chemical Collection Campaign
Purpose	NIRW aims to continue to deliver an annual hazardous chemical collection program to member Councils throughout the region. The program accommodates various sectors within the region including household & rural chemicals & provides an efficient & timely service to the respective communities to minimise public health & environmental risk. Education will become an important part of the Chemical Collection Program in order to increase community awareness on the harmful effects that hazardous waste have on the environment.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Provide a regional service for the collection & safe disposal of unwanted hazardous chemicals ▪ Minimise the risks to the environment & community health by reducing the instances of illegal dumping & accidental poisoning ▪ Reduce costs to participating Councils through regional collaboration ▪ Review the program to ensure cost effective and sustainable delivery of the service
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total chemical collected ▪ Types of chemicals collected ▪ Number of drop offs
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract documentation needs reviewing annually ▪ Levels of service need to be realistic ▪ Campaign needs to be promoted effectively to ensure community utilisation ▪ Campaign report needs to be obtained from Contractor & evaluated ▪ Responding to National Environmental Protection Measures and Guidelines
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduces risk to public health ▪ Hazardous chemicals are diverted from landfills & the environment ▪ Hazardous chemicals are disposed of in a safe & effective manner ▪ Provision of annual service to community provides convenience & reduced risk of inappropriate disposal ▪ Regional contract is cost effective to member councils, funding agencies & the community
Links to Sustainability	Unwanted chemicals removed from households. Diversion of hazardous waste from landfills and avoiding other types of inappropriate disposal
Estimated Cost	\$158,000 (\$6,000 DECC) (\$152,000 others including member Councils and additional DECC funding)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual Chemical Collection Campaign ▪ Promotional materials ▪ TV/newspaper/radio advertising campaign
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Contractor ▪ Media ▪ Member Councils ▪ Community Members ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 9	E-Waste Recycling
Purpose	E-Waste is a rising problem within our community. The consumption of technology is growing each year and the number of items being deposited at landfills is increasing. There is a need to address this type of waste and reduce the number of items being buried at the landfill. The Armidale E-Waste Processing Facility is seeking to address this waste stream not only on a local level, but at a regional level. Member Councils have undertaken to stockpile e-waste for transportation to the Armidale E-Waste Processing Facility. NIRW will be calling for expressions of interest to compile a list of preferred service providers to carry out a regional milk run collection of e-waste from member Councils which will be delivered to the Armidale facility for processing.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maximise diversion of e-waste from landfill through resource recovery ▪ Provision of an economic service on a regional level ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Access to resource recovery services for the entire regional community
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Volume of e-waste delivered to Armidale Facility ▪ Volume of material recovered for recycling
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils will need to store e-waste ▪ Councils will need to pay for transportation to e-waste processing facility ▪ Expression of Interest for service providers to provide a regional collection service ▪ Investigation to occur into other potential electronic waste that could be processed regionally ▪ E-waste Recycling business processing capability
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce & Reuse message reinforced ▪ Assist member councils in diverting goods from landfill through resource recovery ▪ Address issue from a regional perspective
Links to Sustainability	Assist with diversion of e-waste from landfills through resource recovery
Estimated Cost	\$40,000 (\$12,000 DECC) (\$28,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ E-Waste diverted from landfill and recycled at Armidale Facility
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Armidale Computer Library ▪ Media ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 10	Public Place Recycling	
Purpose	As part of the 2009/2012 strategy, a regional events calendar will be collated to identify local events where public place recycling could be conducted. Up to 5 specific events each year will be selected from the events calendar & targeted for public place recycling programs. Investigation into purchasing a set of MGB bin caps for use on member Council bins during events will also take place.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the communities exposure, awareness & participation in recycling ▪ Improve the level of recycling services within the region ▪ Provide standard & consistent Public Place Recycling facilities throughout the region 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of events with public place recycling made available ▪ Amount of material recovered through public place recycling facilities 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Events calendar will need to be established & reviewed yearly ▪ Selection of up to 5 events per year will need to be undertaken on a financial calendar year ▪ Implementation of program ▪ Modification of promotional material to suit event ▪ Ensuring that essential equipment is available, such as suitable bins for garbage & recycling ▪ Ensuring proper identification of bins for event ▪ Publicity of public place recycling during event will need to occur ▪ Bin monitors maybe required to monitor & prevent contamination & encourage usage ▪ Investigation into feasibility of manufacturing a regional recycling trailer for the region ▪ Resource Recovery & Litter Prevention Manual may need reviewing & updating & distributing 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Diverting recyclable material from landfill ▪ Reduction in contamination ▪ Improvement in participation ▪ Greater exposure of NIRW to regional community 	
Links to Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Diverting recyclable material from landfill 	
Estimated Cost	\$30,000 (\$12,000 DECC) (\$18,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Place recycling bins & bin tops ▪ Recyclables diverted from landfill and recovered for recycling 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Waste Education Trailer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bin Monitor/Labour ▪ Media ▪ Public Place Recycling Trailers (Armidale & Tamworth)

Milestone 11	Sub Regional Aligned Waste Tenders
Purpose	In 2007/2008 three member Councils were approaching the expiry of their waste service contracts. NIRW carried out a feasibility study in to the potential for waste contracts of NIRW member Councils to be collectively tendered. The feasibility study examined a range of waste products, including general household, green waste, recyclables, organic waste, major event waste collections and the collection of waste from public litter bins. Tamworth Regional, Gunnedah Shire and Liverpool Plains Shire Councils have jointly called for tenders for their waste contracts, to commence from 2009. All three contracts will now have common expiry dates. Further sub-regional tenders for waste services are to be examined as a result of the pilot programs success.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion of waste from landfill ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Provision of services to all NIRW Councils ▪ Minimise waste collection costs through economies of scale ▪ Access to resource recovery services for the entire regional community
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of sub-regional tenders pursued.
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract development likely to take 12 months to complete ▪ Levels of service need to be realistic ▪ Successful contractor will require adequate lead time to develop services ▪ Adequate flexibility in contract to allow for customisation by individual Councils
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ May provide smaller member Councils with access to services not currently available e.g. greenwaste collection ▪ May reduce waste collection costs, especially for smaller member Councils ▪ Facilitates knowledge sharing to generate best practice contracts ▪ Waste collection standards can be benchmarked across the Region ▪ Collective tendering reduces individual costs to member Councils
Links to Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved resource recovery through extension of services in the Council areas ▪ Sustain and enhance services through cost effectiveness derived through economies of scale
Estimated Cost	\$18,000 (\$8,000 DECC) (\$10,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Resource/knowledge sharing across member Councils ▪ Sub-regional contract documentation
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Consultant ▪ DECC

Milestone 12	Regional Requests for Tender and Quotations	
Purpose	<p>NIRW undertakes regional requests for tenders and quotations on behalf of participating member Councils. Services already in place are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greenwaste Processing ▪ Collection and processing of drumMUSTER containers ▪ Metal Waste & Battery Collections <p>Arrangements are also currently underway for the regional collection of used motor oil. This regional approach seeks to maximise resource recovery and reduce the costs of servicing to member Councils. Furthermore it seeks to improve access to services across all participating member Council areas, as well as reducing the strain on Council resources by taking a collaborative and consistent approach to the tender and contract preparations. NIRW will continue to investigate opportunities for regional approaches to the servicing needs of it's member Councils.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maximised diversion of waste from landfill through resource recovery ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Reduced costs to participating Councils through increased purchasing power from regional collaboration ▪ Access to resource recovery services for the entire regional community ▪ Reduced strain on Council resources through a single, regional approach with consistent contract documentation 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion figures for each waste type ▪ Number of Councils participating in regional tenders/quotations ▪ Reports from Councils on sales of end product where applicable 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract documentation requires periodic reviews ▪ Levels of service need to be realistic ▪ Diversion rates need to be regularly sourced from Contractors ▪ Diversion rates to be individually reported to DECC each quarter ▪ Review and determine Council servicing requirements 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste diverted from landfill ▪ Enhanced servicing options for processing materials at member council sites ▪ Quality product that member councils can sell or value add to & sell ▪ Regional tendering provides better pricing to member councils and broader access to services 	
Links to Sustainability	Significant diversion of waste streams from landfills and recovered for recycling or beneficial reuse	
Estimated Cost	\$150,000 (\$15,000 DECC) (\$135,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional Contract documents ▪ Contracts for processing same across all participating member Council 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Contractors ▪ Member Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Council landfills/transfer stations ▪ NIRW Website ▪ Legal reviews of tender/contract documentation

Milestone 13	Commercial & Industrial Waste Reduction Program
Purpose	<p>Commercial & industrial (C&I) waste comprises solid waste generated by the business sector as well as solid wastes created by state & federal government entities, schools & tertiary institutions.</p> <p>In 2004-2005, C&I waste accounted for approximately 27% of all waste disposed to licensed landfills in regional and rural NSW (WARR Strategy 2007). By 2014, NSW aims to increase the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&I waste stream to 63%.</p> <p>Separation & recovery of C&I waste is proposed to be undertaken by the majority of NIRW Councils. It is likely that the diversion of this waste stream from landfill will become of increasing importance with the scheduled introduction of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To develop the 'mind set' in business & industry that waste is a resource ▪ To encourage opportunities for the reuse & recycling of waste in business & industry ▪ To foster an ongoing positive & proactive attitude to the management of business & industry waste by NIRW Member Councils ▪ Diversion of C&I waste from landfill and reduce costs across the NIRW region ▪ Create networking opportunities amongst Industry through the region
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of businesses involved in the program ▪ Amount of C&I waste diverted as a direct result of the program
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NEWF have developed a business waste reduction toolkit which can be used a model for the NIRW program ▪ Industries vary across the NIRW region ▪ May need to engage a consultant to assist with business waste audits ▪ Member Councils capacity to accept such wastes may vary ▪ Within member Council areas waste contractors are varied & there may not be a service provider available to provide a service. Alternative options need to be available ▪ Establishment of a regional waste service provider list for inclusion on NIRW website needs to be investigated ▪ Establishment of an annual Award for businesses involved in the project that make changes to their waste management practices, resulting in significant resource recovery.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identifies various industry across the regions that maybe able to assist each other through networking opportunities ▪ C&I waste has often been put in the too hard basket from a council perspective & this is a way to start addressing the issue regionally ▪ Achieve efficiencies for industry in the way the manage & dispose of their waste ▪ Encourage behavioural change & support within regional industry
Links to Sustainability	Assist with diversion of C&I waste from landfill through resource recovery
Estimated Cost	\$50,000 (\$25,000 DECC) (\$25,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Business Waste Reduction/Self-Audit Toolkit ▪ Increased C&I resource recovery with measurable diversion figures ▪ Member Councils taking action to meet the objectives of the WARR Strategy 2007 for the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&I waste stream

Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Administration▪ Consultant▪ Member Councils▪ Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Chamber of Commerce offices in the region▪ State & Regional Development▪ NIRW Website
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Milestone 14	Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling	
Purpose	<p>Some member Councils have commenced Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste recycling & separation. NIRW actively promotes the benefits of the reuse of C&D recycled products, such as clean fill, decorative gravel, drainage material & road base to industry members throughout the region.</p> <p>NIRW aims to facilitate opportunities for all member Councils to be able to participate in a C&D program in a cost effective manner.</p> <p>In 2004-2005, C&D waste accounted for approximately 28% of all waste disposed to licensed landfills in regional and rural NSW (WARR Strategy 2007). By 2014, NSW aims to increase the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&D waste stream to 76%.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the amount of C&D Waste going to Landfill within the region ▪ Increase the level of resource recovery services available within the region ▪ Increase awareness within the building industry of the economic & environmental benefits associated with recovery of C&D Waste ▪ Reduce the use of natural resources within the region 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of councils participating in program ▪ Tonnages of C&D waste processed for beneficial reuse ▪ Ability to demonstrated a cost advantage in utilising a regional approach 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop database of member Councils who divert C&D waste, materials accepted, diversion rates & stockpile capacity and the end use for the product ▪ Need to investigate DECC waste exemptions under the changes to the <i>PoEO Act</i> that came in to force 28 April 2008. ▪ Produce EOI for the purpose of compiling a list of preferred service providers for member Councils ▪ Liaison & education of Building Industry within region to maximise potential separation & recovery of materials 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the amount of C&D Waste going to landfill within the region ▪ Increased lifespan of landfill assets ▪ Increase the level of resource recovery services available within the region ▪ Increase awareness within the building industry of the economic & environmental benefits associated with recovery of C&D Waste ▪ Reduce the use of natural resources within the region 	
Links to Sustainability	Assist with diversion of C&D waste from landfill through resource recovery	
Estimated Cost	\$100,000 (\$16,000 DECC) (\$84,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Processing of C&D waste for beneficial reuse ▪ Member Councils taking action to meet the objectives of the WARR Strategy 2007 for the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&D waste stream 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Building Industry ▪ Education Material/Literature

Milestone 15	Investigation of Resource Recovery Initiatives
Purpose	<p>The EPR Priority Statement 2007 identifies 17 wastes of concern. While the management of several of these waste types are already being addressed through existing NIRW programs, the member Councils have identified several other waste types for further investigation. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tyres ▪ Paint ▪ Packaging, primarily in the form of expanded polystyrene ▪ Treated timber ▪ Mercury containing lamps
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To investigate methods for the recovery and processing of these materials ▪ Where appropriate, to assist member Councils in implementing systems for the recovery of these waste types
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion rates for identified waste types
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to find financially viable resource recovery options for member Councils ▪ Distance of member Councils from major centres may result in difficulties in sourcing some recovery options ▪ May need to establish regional milk runs for the collection of some materials ▪ May need to undergo regional requests for tender or quotation for the collection/processing of these waste types
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Councils addressing identified wastes of concerns at a regional and local level ▪ Increased diversion of waste from landfill
Links to Sustainability	Assist member Councils with the appropriate management of identified wastes of concern
Estimated Cost	\$60,000 (\$8,000 DECC) (\$52,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reports on the available resource recovery options for the waste types identified by member Councils ▪ Implementation of resource recovery systems for these waste types ▪ Increased diversion of waste materials from landfill
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ DECC ▪ Waste Management Industry ▪ Consultants

Milestone 16	Organics Trials	
Purpose	NIRW have undertaken a Regional Organic Waste Stream Mapping for the NIRW region and have produced a Final Report. A synopsis of this report has been prepared for dissemination to industry & stakeholders. Active partnership building will be undertaken in the NIRW region as a means of utilising available organic wastes, identify value adding options, foster marketing investigations & facilitate sustainable use of the resource. A next step in the project will be making contact with a large producer of organic waste in the region to work with on a 'best practice' case study for the disposal/reuse of organic waste.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase waste diversion from landfill ▪ Increase reuse of secondary resources ▪ Reduce the use of natural resources ▪ Improve the environment ▪ Increase opportunities for new markets & industries in the region ▪ Increase community awareness about waste reuse 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reports from trials ▪ Increased diversion of organic material from landfill 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a strategy for regional development in relation to organic waste material ▪ Facilitate networking opportunities between industries for information & resource sharing ▪ Explore options such as calling for expressions of interest relating to organic waste material within the region as a means of highlighting the opportunities within the region ▪ Need to investigate current DECC exemptions for waste to be applied to land or used as fuel, may need to apply for new exemptions ▪ The high cost of fertilisers may act as an incentive to landholders to look for more cost effective options, such as compost/mulch 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New industry to the region ▪ Diversion of organic waste from landfill ▪ Utilisation of organic resources ▪ Networking & facilitation of industry partnerships to assist beneficial reuse of organic waste 	
Links to Sustainability	Assist Councils with the diversion of organic material from landfill for beneficial reuse	
Estimated Cost	\$26,000 (\$20,000 DECC) (\$6,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data from trials which can then be used to promote the benefits of applying organic material in the form of compost/mulch to land 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Consultant ▪ Member Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ State & Regional Development for assistance to Industry ▪ Media ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 17	Landfill Full Cost Accounting Exercise
Purpose	In 2007/2008 NIRW engaged an experienced consultant to carry out investigations into the full costs of land filling at selected landfills across the Region. These reports have now been finalised, and the consultant will make a presentation to all member Councils on their findings and what the exercise means for Councils in terms of long term planning. Other member Councils have expressed an interest in undertaking the exercise, and with DECC due to complete a true cost of landfilling calculation tool for use by local government in December 2008, it is timely to develop a program that will provide assistance to member Councils in utilising this tool.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct a study into the full cost of landfilling in the region ▪ Review charges at landfill gate to reflect the full cost study
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of Councils who utilise the DECC tool, especially in terms of budgeting for waste management costs and the setting of waste management fees and charges
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ May require participating Councils to compile some level of historic data on their waste management facilities, such as site establishment costs. ▪ Program Coordinator to liaise with Councils to determine the level of support required to undertake the exercise ▪ Member Councils can share and compare this information ▪ This tool will assist Councils in making sound decisions about the future of waste management facilities based on the current and likely future costs of the sites.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify the actual costs of waste disposal and use this inform the setting of fees & charges ▪ Consider the opportunity cost of resource recovery initiatives and alternative treatment technologies ▪ Encourage best use of existing assets ▪ Budget appropriately to see through peaks and troughs in expenditure ▪ Defend budget requests. ▪ Assistance for member Councils from Program Coordinator to undertake the exercise
Links to Sustainability	Allows member Councils to better understand and substantiate the opportunity cost of resource recovery initiatives and alternative treatment technologies, and encourage best use of existing assets
Estimated Cost	\$8,000 (\$4,000 DECC) (\$4,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure best take up of the tool developed by DECC ▪ Reports developed from use of the tool can be compiled into regional and sub-regional true cost of landfilling reports
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ DECC ▪ Member Councils

Milestone 18	Landfill Operator Training – Asbestos Identification and Management
Purpose	In 2009, NIRW will coordinate Landfill Operator training for all member Councils. In 2010, NIRW will investigate opportunities for member Council staff to undertake asbestos identification training through TAFE NSW or other registered training organisation.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness of waste management issues at rural landfill sites in the NIRW region ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Provision of education to all member Councils ▪ Education & attitude changes of waste management
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of staff undergoing the training
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current best practices ▪ Current legislative environment ▪ New waste industry developments/technologies ▪ Ensure OH&S requirements are met ▪ Access to competent training providers with industry experience
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Informed waste management personnel ▪ Ensures staff possess adequate industry knowledge necessary to make informed decisions ▪ Professional recognition of skills possessed ▪ Facilitates knowledge and experience sharing
Links to Sustainability	Increased awareness amongst landfill operators of the environmental issues relating to the appropriate handling and disposal of asbestos
Estimated Cost	\$10,000 (\$6,000 DECC) (\$4,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staff trained in appropriate landfill management practices ▪ Reference handbook for landfill staff
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Training Provider ▪ Member Councils

Milestone 19	The Gem Campaign – Stage 2
Purpose	<p>The Greenhouse Emissions Management (GEM) Campaign is designed to inform Councils about their roles and responsibilities under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System. The first stage of the Campaign will involve the provision of information to Councils about their reporting requirements and also assistance in calculating their emissions from landfill.</p> <p>The campaign will continue in 2010/2011, with Stage 2 designed to support Councils in meeting their reporting requirements, as well as involving investigation into measures that could realistically be taken by member Councils to reduce the methane emissions from landfill. Stage 3 to be rolled out in 2011/2012 will assist Councils with the implementation of measures to reduce emissions from landfill.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide information to member Councils on their roles and responsibilities under the <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulations 2008</i> ▪ Assist Councils in calculating their emissions and establishing if they are captured by the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System.
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils reporting landfill gas emissions with a consistent methodology
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Currently there are many 'grey' areas in terms of the way the reporting system will be rolled out and how it will effect local Councils ▪ Will need to ensure that information provided is timely and regionally appropriate ▪ May need to engage consultant to prepare a report for NIRW member Councils or present to the group of Councils
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils are informed about their reporting requirements and will be provided with information so that they can better understand how their Council will be impacted by the new system ▪ NIRW can investigate options for reducing emissions from landfill on behalf of member Councils, reducing duplication and strain on Councils' resources
Links to Sustainability	Councils are informed about the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System and can work collaboratively to investigate measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill.
Estimated Cost	\$20,000 (\$10,000 DECC) (\$10,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consistent and valid data gathering and reporting ▪ Capacity building of Councils to manage landfill gas
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ DECC

Milestone 20	Environmental Risk Assessment & Mitigation Package (E:RAMP)
Purpose	<p>The Environmental Risk Assessment and Mitigation Package (E-RAMP) has been developed by DECC in consultation with council waste managers across rural regional NSW. It is a tool designed to assist operators of small waste facilities assess and manage environmental risks.</p> <p>NIRW has distributed copies of the tool to all member Councils, and will now provide assistance to member Councils in completing the assessment tool, as well as provide seed funding to member Councils to implement risk mitigation activities. This seed funding will be allocated to member Councils via an EOI process after the E:RAMP tool has been utilized and a report has been produced to support the EOI application.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage member Councils to utilise the E:RAMP tool ▪ Provide assistance to member Councils to encourage utilisation of the tool ▪ Provide incentives to member Councils by way of providing seed funding towards risk mitigation activities
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of Councils utilising the tool ▪ Number and type of mitigation activities carried out by member Councils
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Councils may require assistance to complete the tool ▪ Invite DECC to present to member Councils on the use of the tool and its benefits
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The E:RAMP tool provides an objective assessment with repeatable results, has real world relevance ▪ Allows risks to be prioritised ▪ Compliments continuous improvement ▪ Provides Councils with a due diligence defence ▪ Encourages a proactive approach ▪ Provides waste managers with clear and concise reports and graphs which can be used to strengthen budget bids for mitigation works
Links to Sustainability	Encourages Councils to be proactive in mitigating environmental risks
Estimated Cost	\$26,000 (\$14,000 DECC) (\$12,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seed funding provided to Councils to assist in undertaking mitigation activities
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ DECC ▪ E:RAMP toolkit

4. OVERVIEW OF MILESTONES: 2011/2012

MILESTONE	ISSUE	SECTOR	PROGRAM	FUNDING SOUGHT \$	ESTIMATED PROJECT VALUE \$
1	Reducing Litter and Illegal Dumping	Community Education	Regional Litter Strategy	\$9,000	\$18,000
2	Reducing Litter & Illegal Dumping	Municipal	Community Sharps Management	\$5,000	\$20,000
3	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	Community Waste Education Programs	\$20,000	\$43,000
4	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	School Waste Education Programs	\$15,000	\$23,000
5	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	Environmental Youth Conference	\$6,000	\$10,000
6	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Rural	Sustainable On Farm Waste Management	\$4,000	\$12,000
7	Preventing & Avoiding Waste	Community Education	Illegal Dumping Strategy	\$6,000	\$10,000
8	Reducing Toxicity in Products and Materials	Hazardous Waste	Annual Chemical Collection Campaign	\$6,000	\$158,000
9	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal	E-Waste Recycling	\$12,000	\$40,000
10	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal	Public Place Recycling	\$12,000	\$30,000
11	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal	Sub Regional Aligned Waste Tendering	\$8,000	\$18,000

12	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Rural	Regional Requests for Tenders and Quotations	\$15,000	\$150,000
13	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Commercial & Industrial	Commercial & Industrial Waste Reduction Program	\$25,000	\$50,000
14	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Construction & Demolition	Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling	\$16,000	\$100,000
15	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal / Commercial & Industrial	Investigating Resource Recovery Initiatives	\$8,000	\$60,000
16	Increasing Recovery and Use of Secondary Materials	Municipal / Organics	Household Organics Management	\$24,000	\$35,000
17	Other – Financial Assessment	Municipal	Landfill Full Cost Accounting	\$4,000	\$8,000
18	Other – Best Practice & Capacity Building	Municipal	Landfill Operator Training	\$6,000	\$10,000
19	Other – Best Practice & Capacity Building	Municipal	The GEM Campaign – Stage 3	\$10,000	\$20,000
20	Other – Risk Assessment & Mitigation	Municipal	E:RAMP	\$4,000	\$8,000
RENEW Communication Strategy				\$8,000	\$8,000
RENEW Forum Support				\$4,000	\$4,000
NIRW Forum Support				\$3,000	\$10,000
TOTAL FUNDING				\$230,000	\$845,000

Milestone 1	Regional Litter Strategy
Purpose	DECC re-released the Council Litter Prevention Kit in 2008. NIRW will be utilising the tools in the kit to promote litter prevention through community education & awareness throughout the region. This promotion will take place in line with the NIRW Regional Litter Strategy.
Aims & Objectives	<u>Promotion</u> - Promote community awareness, knowledge and understanding of the littering issue and how it impacts the New England/North West region; <u>Prevention</u> - Facilitate litter prevention behaviour by promoting simple, practical methods for individuals in the community; and <u>Prosecution</u> - Promote awareness of the potential prosecution and/or fines associated with littering.
Key Performance Indicator(s)	Number of materials distributed New signage installed in littering 'hot spot' areas and subsequent reductions in littering activity
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional signage needs to be updated or replaced for reasons such as vandalism, visual quality ▪ Development of suitable program materials
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reinforce Regional Litter Strategy message across region ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Community or industry participation & increase community pride ▪ Assist member Councils with roadside litter ▪ Greater exposure of NIRW to regional community
Links to Sustainability	The program aims at reducing the amount of waste littered throughout the region.
Estimated Cost	\$18,000 (\$9,000 DECC) (\$9,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotional Materials including corn starch car tidy bags, butt bins, stickers and brochures ▪ TV Campaign (including 15 second TV commercial produced by NIRW) ▪ Road side advisory signage ▪ Static pull up signs to be used at events and Council foyers
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Community Groups ▪ Industry/Business ▪ Media ▪ Manufacturers – signage & cornstarch bags

Milestone 2	Community Sharps Management	
Purpose	Local Councils are key stakeholders in the management of risks associated with the inappropriate disposal of community sharps. NSW Health have partnered with NIRW to facilitate a regional Community Sharps Management Program titled 'NIRW – A Sharp Smart Region'.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work collaboratively with NSW Health, and other key stakeholders such as TAFE NSW to raise awareness and promote the safe disposal of community sharps. ▪ Provide safe disposal facilities for the disposal of community sharps through the installation of appropriately located sharps disposal units. ▪ Reduce the risk of needlestick injury to Council staff, and members of the community ▪ Provide a consistent and strategic approach to community sharps management through Councils' adoption of SOPs and Management Policy. ▪ Reduce the incidence of sharps contamination in recycling and general waste streams. ▪ Gain efficiencies through a combined regional community education campaign. 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community sharps entering the general waste and recycling streams ▪ Community feedback regarding the location of the bins ▪ Where the location of sharps bins have been revised, the amount of sharps collected in each bin will be monitored ▪ Number of staff (or others) who undergo training in the safe handling and disposal of community sharps (to be delivered by TAFE NSW) 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will require participating Councils to audit their existing sharps disposal infrastructure ▪ Number of participating Councils and their available resources ▪ The need to involve stakeholders such as NSW Health, Pharmacies, Diabetes Australia, TAFE NSW ▪ Consideration of OHS legislation and public safety issues in relation to exposure to community sharps 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide safe disposal facilities for community sharps ▪ Reduce inappropriate disposal of needles and syringes in public areas ▪ Reduce the risk of needlestick injury for Council employees, contractors and the public ▪ Reduce the amount of needles and syringes entering municipal waste and recycling services ▪ Regional collaboration on project reduces costs to member Councils to participate in the exercise 	
Links to Sustainability	Encourage behavioural change and appropriate disposal of sharps, reducing contamination in recycling and general waste streams	
Estimated Cost	\$80,000 (\$5,000 DECC) (\$75,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Infrastructure installed to facilitate the safe and appropriate disposal of community sharps ▪ Robust community education campaign and associated materials which can be utilised again into the future ▪ Member Council staff trained in the safe handling and disposal of community sharps and clinical waste ▪ Reduction in rates of sharps contamination in recyclables received at MRFs ▪ Reduction in incidences of inappropriate disposal of sharps in public places 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ NSW Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TAFE NSW ▪ Department of Environment & Climate Change

Milestone 3	Community Waste Education Programs	
Purpose	<p>The Community Waste Education Programs will comprise of the following activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIRW Mobile Waste Education Trailer – to ne used by member Councils at agricultural & trade shows and at community & special events; ▪ Waste > Art & Design Competition; and ▪ General promotional activities, including but not limited to, media campaigns and television commercials, booklets, signage and presentations. ▪ Maintenance of the NIRW website <p>Promotion of NIRW and RENEW NSW will be undertaken throughout the Region (and other parts of the State) to assist in gaining further community support for the range of programs provided by NIRW and its member Councils.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To deliver appropriate and regionally specific waste education to target groups ▪ Raise community awareness and increase take up of sustainable waste management practices ▪ Promote NIRW's programs and provide information on the programs ▪ Provide information on reuse and recycling facilities in the region ▪ Provide useful information to website visitors including fact sheets, and links to other useful sites 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of bookings received for the trailer or attendance by NIRW at community events ▪ Number of entrants in the community section of the Waste > Art & Design Competition ▪ Number of materials distributed ▪ Number of visits to the website 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Literature needs to be kept up to date & accurate and quantities need to be kept for utilisation at agriculture & trade shows and other community events ▪ Trailer registration and maintenance costs needs to be met ▪ Calendar of events & bookings to be developed annually ▪ Investigate bulk ordering of materials with member Councils and other VRWGs to reduce costs 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion of NIRW, RENEW NSW & DECC throughout the Region ▪ Promote improved waste management practices within the wider community ▪ All Councils have access resources to utilise at local events ▪ Website is a cost effective method of promoting NIRW's programs ▪ Website provides a 'one stop shop' for information on waste management, is easy to update and eliminates the need to produce some printed materials 	
Links to Sustainability	These resources focus on providing education to the community on how to improve sustainability through programs that target waste management & minimisation	
Estimated Cost	\$43,000 (\$20,000 DECC) (\$23,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintained mobile waste education trailer ▪ Educational materials ▪ NIRW Website 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Groups ▪ Print/Graphic Design Companies

Milestone 4	School Waste Education Programs
Purpose	NIRW are dedicated to working with schools to education & promote waste education programs. This will be done primarily through a School Education Kit will incorporate programs such as:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste > Art & Design Competition • Litter Free Lunch • Mobile Waste Education Trailer • Reel Waste Campaign • Information Toolkit on sustainable waste management practices, fact sheets, activities etc
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness of waste management within schools in the NIRW region ▪ Ensure programs are scheduled in school calendar ▪ Ensure uptake of the programs by consulting with teachers to design programs which compliment the curriculum. ▪ Education & attitude changes of economic, social and environmental issues
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Feedback from Schools (feedback form to be included in kits) ▪ Number of entries received for school competitions
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NIRW needs to be proactive in providing information to schools to increase participation & awareness about sustainable waste management. ▪ Schools will need to be contacted early for planning purposes ▪ Kits supplied to all regional schools ▪ NIRW to annually review campaigns to advise focus issues & dates for campaigns & competitions ▪ Need to ensure this information is getting through to the right people within the school ie respective teachers
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Increase general environmental awareness ▪ Increase knowledge of NIRW and it's programs and of the waste management practices of its member Councils ▪ Schools look at their own communities & their waste issues ▪ Schools can plan their school calendar & address syllabus needs
Links to Sustainability	Engage school students in learning about sustainable waste management practices and on how to implement improved waste management systems in their own homes and schools
Estimated Cost	\$23,000 (\$15,000 DECC) (\$8,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School Education Kit ▪ Toolkits for school competitions designed to engage school students in sustainable waste management practices
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ NIRW Website ▪ Regional Schools ▪ Promotional material

Milestone 5	Environmental Youth Conference
Purpose	NIRW has a focus on developing the capacity of our youth to tackle the range of environmental issues that face the community. In 2011, NIRW will sponsor several schools in the region to attend the 2011 NSW Youth Environment Conference or 2011 International Youth Environment Conference. Schools in the region will be invited to submit an EOI to receive sponsorship which will be provided in the form of financial assistance and mentoring.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness & discussion among regional youth ▪ Increase student & teacher knowledge of avoid, reuse, recovery & recycling practices ▪ Have participating schools look at their own school environment & ways that the principles of avoidance, reuse, recovery & recycling can be applied ▪ Knowledge received will be upwardly educated through participants home & social influences
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of students participating in Conference ▪ Feedback received from participating students and teachers
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will need to provide information and materials to sponsored schools making presentations at the Conference/s. ▪ Suggest to Conference Organisers that they incorporate a 'hands on' activity, such as a river litter pick up on the second day of the conferences (Environmental Project Days) ▪ Provide assistance to schools in the region to attend the Conference (both State and International)
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Increase general environmental awareness ▪ Increase knowledge of NIRW ▪ Increase knowledge of sustainability synergies between waste, energy & water ▪ Schools look at their own practices & identify good practice & possible areas of change
Links to Sustainability	This project focuses on providing education to school students on how to be sustainable through litter prevention and waste avoidance
Estimated Cost	\$10,000 (\$6,000 DECC) (\$4,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sponsorship for schools in the Region in the form of financial assistance and mentoring.
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conference Organiser ▪ Schools ▪ Member Councils ▪ Administration

Milestone 6	Sustainable On Farm Waste Management	
Purpose	The Sustainable On Farm Waste Management Program will be rolled out across four (4) member Council areas, in partnership with the Namoi Catchment Management Authority. The Program is designed to promote sustainable farm practices and encourage the removal of metal & waste material from farm gullies. The program will also provide landholders with access to information on improving natural resource management. A model farm in the Gunnedah Shire Council area has been selected to use as a promotional tool for the program.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion of waste from the rural environment ▪ Remediation of gully erosion ▪ Encourage change of practice for waste disposal on rural properties 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of enquiries received ▪ Number of farms cleaned up as part of the program ▪ Number of requests for information kits 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation to occur with Namoi CMA to facilitate the program across the catchment area ▪ Media campaign to be developed in partnership with Namoi CMA ▪ Clear identification of the level of service that the CMA can provide ▪ Consultant engaged to perform site assessment and provide advice on remediation (in accordance with guidelines to be provided by Namoi CMA) ▪ Relevant contact details for CMA staff across the member Council area to be obtained for referral of landholders ▪ Site inspections with a farm clean up contractor & Consultant may need to occur ▪ Education kits for landholders to be provided by Namoi CMA ▪ Several scrap steel merchants are undertaking a metal waste collection program. May affect participation rates. May not be concerned about other waste in gullies or encouraging behavioural & practice change 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste is removed from gullies & waterways ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Encourage change of farm practices 	
Links to Sustainability	Assist with rehabilitation of rural environment and improve resource recovery rates from rural properties.	
Estimated Cost	\$12,000 (\$4,000 DECC) (\$12,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information kits for distribution to registered landholders ▪ TV campaign 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Consultant ▪ Member Councils ▪ Namoi CMA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landholders ▪ Industry ▪ Media ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 7	Illegal Dumping Strategy
Purpose	NIRW will be addressing the regional issue of illegal dumping. Virtually all member council's are seeking to improve management of rural landfills through supervision & restricted access. With cost for waste disposal increasing & historic service levels changing, Councils are being faced with the challenge of managing the reactionary response of illegal dumping.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide community education campaign ▪ Reduce incidents of illegal dumping across the region
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduction in incidences of illegal dumping through out the region
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DECC has developed a handbook for Local Government – Crackdown on Illegal Dumping ▪ Development & implement education strategies to achieve a reduction of illegal dumping impacts upon the environment ▪ Value in contracting a RID squad ▪ Impress upon the community; “illegal dumping imposes a cost on everybody”
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Illegal dumping occurrences reduced ▪ Monitoring & enforcement strategy developed
Links to Sustainability	Awareness amongst the community about the environmental impacts of illegal dumping with an aim of reducing the incidences of illegal dumping
Estimated Cost	\$20,000 (\$10,000 DECC) (\$10,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Illegal Dumping Strategy in report form ▪ Signage ▪ Advertising/awareness campaign including TV commercial
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ RID Squad ▪ Education materials ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 8	Annual Chemical Collection Campaign	
Purpose	<p>NIRW aims to continue to deliver an annual hazardous chemical collection program to member Councils throughout the region.</p> <p>The program accommodates various sectors within the region including household & rural chemicals & provides an efficient & timely service to the respective communities to minimise public health & environmental risk.</p> <p>Education will become an important part of the Chemical Collection Program in order to increase community awareness on the harmful effects that hazardous waste have on the environment.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Provide a regional service for the collection & safe disposal of unwanted hazardous chemicals ▪ Minimise the risks to the environment & community health by reducing the instances of illegal dumping & accidental poisoning ▪ Reduce costs to participating Councils through regional collaboration ▪ Review the program to ensure cost effective and sustainable delivery of the service 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Total chemical collected ▪ Types of chemicals collected ▪ Number of drop offs 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract documentation needs reviewing annually ▪ Levels of service need to be realistic ▪ Campaign needs to be promoted effectively to ensure community utilisation ▪ Campaign report needs to be obtained from Contractor & evaluated ▪ Responding to National Environmental Protection Measures and Guidelines 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduces risk to public health ▪ Hazardous chemicals are diverted from landfills & the environment ▪ Hazardous chemicals are disposed of in a safe & effective manner ▪ Provision of annual service to community provides convenience & reduced risk of inappropriate disposal ▪ Regional contract is cost effective to member councils, funding agencies & the community 	
Links to Sustainability	Unwanted chemicals removed from households. Diversion of hazardous waste from landfills and avoiding other types of inappropriate disposal	
Estimated Cost	\$158,000 (\$6,000 DECC) (\$152,000 others including member Councils and additional DECC funding)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annual Chemical Collection Campaign ▪ Promotional materials ▪ TV/newspaper/radio advertising campaign 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Contractor ▪ Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Councils ▪ Community Members ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 9	E-Waste Recycling
Purpose	E-Waste is a rising problem within our community. The consumption of technology is growing each year and the number of items being deposited at landfills is increasing. There is a need to address this type of waste and reduce the number of items being buried at the landfill. The Armidale E-Waste Processing Facility is seeking to address this waste stream not only on a local level, but at a regional level. Member Councils have undertaken to stockpile e-waste for transportation to the Armidale E-Waste Processing Facility. NIRW will be calling for expressions of interest to compile a list of preferred service providers to carry out a regional milk run collection of e-waste from member Councils which will be delivered to the Armidale facility for processing.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maximise diversion of e-waste from landfill through resource recovery ▪ Provision of an economic service on a regional level ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Access to resource recovery services for the entire regional community
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Volume of e-waste delivered to Armidale Facility ▪ Volume of material recovered for recycling
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils will need to store e-waste ▪ Councils will need to pay for transportation to e-waste processing facility ▪ Expression of Interest for service providers to provide a regional collection service ▪ Investigation to occur into other potential electronic waste that could be processed regionally ▪ E-waste Recycling business processing capability
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce & Reuse message reinforced ▪ Assist member councils in diverting goods from landfill through resource recovery ▪ Address issue from a regional perspective
Links to Sustainability	Assist with diversion of e-waste from landfills through resource recovery
Estimated Cost	\$40,000 (\$12,000 DECC) (\$28,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ E-Waste diverted from landfill and recycled at Armidale Facility
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Armidale Computer Library ▪ Media ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 10	Public Place Recycling	
Purpose	As part of the 2009/2012 strategy, a regional events calendar will be collated to identify local events where public place recycling could be conducted. Up to 5 specific events each year will be selected from the events calendar & targeted for public place recycling programs. Investigation into purchasing a set of MGB bin caps for use on member Council bins during events will also take place.	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase the communities exposure, awareness & participation in recycling ▪ Improve the level of recycling services within the region ▪ Provide standard & consistent Public Place Recycling facilities throughout the region 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of events with public place recycling made available ▪ Amount of material recovered through public place recycling facilities 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Events calendar will need to be established & reviewed yearly ▪ Selection of up to 5 events per year will need to be undertaken on a financial calendar year ▪ Implementation of program ▪ Modification of promotional material to suit event ▪ Ensuring that essential equipment is available, such as suitable bins for garbage & recycling ▪ Ensuring proper identification of bins for event ▪ Publicity of public place recycling during event will need to occur ▪ Bin monitors maybe required to monitor & prevent contamination & encourage usage ▪ Investigation into feasibility of manufacturing a regional recycling trailer for the region ▪ Resource Recovery & Litter Prevention Manual may need reviewing & updating & distributing 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Diverting recyclable material from landfill ▪ Reduction in contamination ▪ Improvement in participation ▪ Greater exposure of NIRW to regional community 	
Links to Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change ▪ Diverting recyclable material from landfill 	
Estimated Cost	\$30,000 (\$12,000 DECC) (\$18,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Place recycling bins & bin tops ▪ Recyclables diverted from landfill and recovered for recycling 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Waste Education Trailer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bin Monitor/Labour ▪ Media ▪ Public Place Recycling Trailers (Armidale & Tamworth)

Milestone 11	Sub Regional Aligned Waste Tenders
Purpose	In 2007/2008 three member Councils were approaching the expiry of their waste service contracts. NIRW carried out a feasibility study in to the potential for waste contracts of NIRW member Councils to be collectively tendered. The feasibility study examined a range of waste products, including general household, green waste, recyclables, organic waste, major event waste collections and the collection of waste from public litter bins. Tamworth Regional, Gunnedah Shire and Liverpool Plains Shire Councils have jointly called for tenders for their waste contracts, to commence from 2009. All three contracts will now have common expiry dates. Further sub-regional tenders for waste services are to be examined as a result of the pilot programs success.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion of waste from landfill ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Provision of services to all NIRW Councils ▪ Minimise waste collection costs through economies of scale ▪ Access to resource recovery services for the entire regional community
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of sub-regional tenders pursued.
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract development likely to take 12 months to complete ▪ Levels of service need to be realistic ▪ Successful contractor will require adequate lead time to develop services ▪ Adequate flexibility in contract to allow for customisation by individual Councils
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ May provide smaller member Councils with access to services not currently available e.g. greenwaste collection ▪ May reduce waste collection costs, especially for smaller member Councils ▪ Facilitates knowledge sharing to generate best practice contracts ▪ Waste collection standards can be benchmarked across the Region ▪ Collective tendering reduces individual costs to member Councils
Links to Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved resource recovery through extension of services in the Council areas ▪ Sustain and enhance services through cost effectiveness derived through economies of scale
Estimated Cost	\$18,000 (\$8,000 DECC) (\$10,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Resource/knowledge sharing across member Councils ▪ Sub-regional contract documentation
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Consultant ▪ DECC

Milestone 12	Regional Requests for Tender and Quotations	
Purpose	<p>NIRW undertakes regional requests for tenders and quotations on behalf of participating member Councils. Services already in place are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Greenwaste Processing ▪ Collection and processing of drumMUSTER containers ▪ Metal Waste & Battery Collections <p>Arrangements are also currently underway for the regional collection of used motor oil. This regional approach seeks to maximise resource recovery and reduce the costs of servicing to member Councils. Furthermore it seeks to improve access to services across all participating member Council areas, as well as reducing the strain on Council resources by taking a collaborative and consistent approach to the tender and contract preparations. NIRW will continue to investigate opportunities for regional approaches to the servicing needs of it's member Councils.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maximised diversion of waste from landfill through resource recovery ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Reduced costs to participating Councils through increased purchasing power from regional collaboration ▪ Access to resource recovery services for the entire regional community ▪ Reduced strain on Council resources through a single, regional approach with consistent contract documentation 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion figures for each waste type ▪ Number of Councils participating in regional tenders/quotations ▪ Reports from Councils on sales of end product where applicable 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contract documentation requires periodic reviews ▪ Levels of service need to be realistic ▪ Diversion rates need to be regularly sourced from Contractors ▪ Diversion rates to be individually reported to DECC each quarter ▪ Review and determine Council servicing requirements 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste diverted from landfill ▪ Enhanced servicing options for processing materials at member council sites ▪ Quality product that member councils can sell or value add to & sell ▪ Regional tendering provides better pricing to member councils and broader access to services 	
Links to Sustainability	Significant diversion of waste streams from landfills and recovered for recycling or beneficial reuse	
Estimated Cost	\$150,000 (\$15,000 DECC) (\$135,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional Contract documents ▪ Contracts for processing same across all participating member Council 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Contractors ▪ Member Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Council landfills/transfer stations ▪ NIRW Website ▪ Legal reviews of tender/contract documentation

Milestone 13	Commercial & Industrial Waste Reduction Program
Purpose	<p>Commercial & industrial (C&I) waste comprises solid waste generated by the business sector as well as solid wastes created by state & federal government entities, schools & tertiary institutions.</p> <p>In 2004-2005, C&I waste accounted for approximately 27% of all waste disposed to licensed landfills in regional and rural NSW (WARR Strategy 2007). By 2014, NSW aims to increase the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&I waste stream to 63%.</p> <p>Separation & recovery of C&I waste is proposed to be undertaken by the majority of NIRW Councils. It is likely that the diversion of this waste stream from landfill will become of increasing importance with the scheduled introduction of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To develop the 'mind set' in business & industry that waste is a resource ▪ To encourage opportunities for the reuse & recycling of waste in business & industry ▪ To foster an ongoing positive & proactive attitude to the management of business & industry waste by NIRW Member Councils ▪ Diversion of C&I waste from landfill and reduce costs across the NIRW region ▪ Create networking opportunities amongst Industry through the region
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of businesses involved in the program ▪ Amount of C&I waste diverted as a direct result of the program
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NEWF have developed a business waste reduction toolkit which can be used a model for the NIRW program ▪ Industries vary across the NIRW region ▪ May need to engage a consultant to assist with business waste audits ▪ Member Councils capacity to accept such wastes may vary ▪ Within member Council areas waste contractors are varied & there may not be a service provider available to provide a service. Alternative options need to be available ▪ Establishment of a regional waste service provider list for inclusion on NIRW website needs to be investigated ▪ Establishment of an annual Award for businesses involved in the project that make changes to their waste management practices, resulting in significant resource recovery.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identifies various industry across the regions that maybe able to assist each other through networking opportunities ▪ C&I waste has often been put in the too hard basket from a council perspective & this is a way to start addressing the issue regionally ▪ Achieve efficiencies for industry in the way the manage & dispose of their waste ▪ Encourage behavioural change & support within regional industry
Links to Sustainability	Assist with diversion of C&I waste from landfill through resource recovery
Estimated Cost	\$50,000 (\$25,000 DECC) (\$25,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Business Waste Reduction/Self-Audit Toolkit ▪ Increased C&I resource recovery with measurable diversion figures ▪ Member Councils taking action to meet the objectives of the WARR Strategy 2007 for the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&I waste stream

Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Administration▪ Consultant▪ Member Councils▪ Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Chamber of Commerce offices in the region▪ State & Regional Development▪ NIRW Website
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Milestone 14	Construction & Demolition Waste Recycling	
Purpose	<p>Some member Councils have commenced Construction & Demolition (C&D) Waste recycling & separation. NIRW actively promotes the benefits of the reuse of C&D recycled products, such as clean fill, decorative gravel, drainage material & road base to industry members throughout the region.</p> <p>NIRW aims to facilitate opportunities for all member Councils to be able to participate in a C&D program in a cost effective manner.</p> <p>In 2004-2005, C&D waste accounted for approximately 28% of all waste disposed to licensed landfills in regional and rural NSW (WARR Strategy 2007). By 2014, NSW aims to increase the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&D waste stream to 76%.</p>	
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the amount of C&D Waste going to Landfill within the region ▪ Increase the level of resource recovery services available within the region ▪ Increase awareness within the building industry of the economic & environmental benefits associated with recovery of C&D Waste ▪ Reduce the use of natural resources within the region 	
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of councils participating in program ▪ Tonnes of C&D waste processed for beneficial reuse ▪ Ability to demonstrated a cost advantage in utilising a regional approach 	
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop database of member Councils who divert C&D waste, materials accepted, diversion rates & stockpile capacity and the end use for the product ▪ Need to investigate DECC waste exemptions under the changes to the <i>PoEO Act</i> that came in to force 28 April 2008. ▪ Produce EOI for the purpose of compiling a list of preferred service providers for member Councils ▪ Liaison & education of Building Industry within region to maximise potential separation & recovery of materials 	
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce the amount of C&D Waste going to landfill within the region ▪ Increased lifespan of landfill assets ▪ Increase the level of resource recovery services available within the region ▪ Increase awareness within the building industry of the economic & environmental benefits associated with recovery of C&D Waste ▪ Reduce the use of natural resources within the region 	
Links to Sustainability	Assist with diversion of C&D waste from landfill through resource recovery	
Estimated Cost	\$100,000 (\$16,000 DECC) (\$84,000 others including member Councils)	
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Processing of C&D waste for beneficial reuse ▪ Member Councils taking action to meet the objectives of the WARR Strategy 2007 for the recovery and use of secondary materials in the C&D waste stream 	
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Building Industry ▪ Education Material/Literature

Milestone 15	Investigation of Resource Recovery Initiatives
Purpose	<p>The EPR Priority Statement 2007 identifies 17 wastes of concern. While the management of several of these waste types are already being addressed through existing NIRW programs, the member Councils have identified several other waste types for further investigation. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tyres ▪ Paint ▪ Packaging, primarily in the form of expanded polystyrene ▪ Treated timber ▪ Mercury containing lamps
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To investigate methods for the recovery and processing of these materials ▪ Where appropriate, to assist member Councils in implementing systems for the recovery of these waste types
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diversion rates for identified waste types
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to find financially viable resource recovery options for member Councils ▪ Distance of member Councils from major centres may result in difficulties in sourcing some recovery options ▪ May need to establish regional milk runs for the collection of some materials ▪ May need to undergo regional requests for tender or quotation for the collection/processing of these waste types
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Councils addressing identified wastes of concerns at a regional and local level ▪ Increased diversion of waste from landfill
Links to Sustainability	Assist member Councils with the appropriate management of identified wastes of concern
Estimated Cost	\$60,000 (\$8,000 DECC) (\$52,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reports on the available resource recovery options for the waste types identified by member Councils ▪ Implementation of resource recovery systems for these waste types ▪ Increased diversion of waste materials from landfill
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ DECC ▪ Waste Management Industry ▪ Consultants

Milestone 16	Household Organics Management
Purpose	Encourage householders to manage their own household organics with compost bins and worm farms through community and school workshops. The program will also encourage residents to utilise the processed greenwaste from member Council waste management facilities.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Education & attitudinal change in waste management ▪ Increase community awareness of resource recovery & waste avoidance throughout the entire region ▪ Encourage the community to make waste management a part of their daily lives
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased sales of processed greenwaste from Council facilities ▪ Increased sales in compost bins and worm farms from Councils
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There may be some cultural barriers that need to be taken into consideration ▪ Physical limitations may need to be taken into consideration & provide alternative options ▪ Ensure that program content & information is relevant ▪ Other VRWGs have conducted 'Garden Smart' workshops and may be able to learn from their experiences and utilise some of the existing workshop materials
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage behavioural change when dealing with residential organic waste ▪ Community participation within aged care hostels & aboriginal communities ▪ Exposure of NIRW to this demographic of the community
Links to Sustainability	Increased diversion of organic material from landfill. Households using organic material to fertilise their gardens instead of chemical fertilisers
Estimated Cost	\$35,000 (\$24,000 DECC) (\$9,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Workshop delivery ▪ Workshop package
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ Community Identity for program presentation ▪ Literature on worm farms, composting and mulching ▪ Model worm farm & compost bins ▪ NIRW Website

Milestone 17	Landfill Full Cost Accounting Exercise
Purpose	In 2007/2008 NIRW engaged an experienced consultant to carry out investigations into the full costs of land filling at selected landfills across the Region. These reports have now been finalised, and the consultant will make a presentation to all member Councils on their findings and what the exercise means for Councils in terms of long term planning. Other member Councils have expressed an interest in undertaking the exercise, and with DECC due to complete a true cost of landfilling calculation tool for use by local government in December 2008, it is timely to develop a program that will provide assistance to member Councils in utilising this tool.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct a study into the full cost of landfilling in the region ▪ Review charges at landfill gate to reflect the full cost study
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of Councils who utilise the DECC tool, especially in terms of budgeting for waste management costs and the setting of waste management fees and charges
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ May require participating Councils to compile some level of historic data on their waste management facilities, such as site establishment costs. ▪ Program Coordinator to liaise with Councils to determine the level of support required to undertake the exercise ▪ Member Councils can share and compare this information ▪ This tool will assist Councils in making sound decisions about the future of waste management facilities based on the current and likely future costs of the sites.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify the actual costs of waste disposal and use this inform the setting of fees & charges ▪ Consider the opportunity cost of resource recovery initiatives and alternative treatment technologies ▪ Encourage best use of existing assets ▪ Budget appropriately to see through peaks and troughs in expenditure ▪ Defend budget requests. ▪ Assistance for member Councils from Program Coordinator to undertake the exercise
Links to Sustainability	Allows member Councils to better understand and substantiate the opportunity cost of resource recovery initiatives and alternative treatment technologies, and encourage best use of existing assets
Estimated Cost	\$8,000 (\$4,000 DECC) (\$4,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure best take up of the tool developed by DECC ▪ Reports developed from use of the tool can be compiled into regional and sub-regional true cost of landfilling reports
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ DECC ▪ Member Councils

Milestone 18	Landfill Operator Training
Purpose	In 2009, NIRW will coordinate Landfill Operator training for all member Councils. In 2010, training for landfill operators will focus on asbestos identification training. It will be appropriate to hold Landfill Operator Training for member Councils again in 2011 for new employees and those requiring a refresher.
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase awareness of waste management issues at rural landfill sites in the NIRW region ▪ Protection of the environment ▪ Provision of education to all member Councils ▪ Education & attitude changes of waste management
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of staff undergoing the training
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Current best practices ▪ Current legislative environment ▪ New waste industry developments/technologies ▪ Ensure OH&S requirements are met ▪ Access to competent training providers with industry experience
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Informed waste management personnel ▪ Ensures staff possess adequate industry knowledge necessary to make informed decisions ▪ Professional recognition of skills possessed ▪ Facilitates knowledge and experience sharing
Links to Sustainability	Increased awareness amongst landfill operators of the environmental issues relating to the management of waste
Estimated Cost	\$10,000 (\$6,000 DECC) (\$4,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staff trained in appropriate landfill management practices ▪ Reference handbook for landfill staff
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Training Provider ▪ Member Councils

Milestone 19	The Gem Campaign – Stage 3
Purpose	<p>The Greenhouse Emissions Management (GEM) Campaign is designed to inform Councils about their roles and responsibilities under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System. The first stage of the Campaign will involve the provision of information to Councils about their reporting requirements and also assistance in calculating their emissions from landfill.</p> <p>The campaign will continue in 2010/2011, with Stage 2 designed to support Councils in meeting their reporting requirements, as well as involving investigation into measures that could realistically be taken by member Councils to reduce the methane emissions from landfill. Stage 3 to be rolled out in 2011/2012 will assist Councils with the implementation of measures to reduce emissions from landfill.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide information to member Councils on their roles and responsibilities under the <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulations 2008</i> ▪ Assist Councils in calculating their emissions and establishing if they are captured by the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System.
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils reporting landfill gas emissions with a consistent methodology ▪ Councils implementing landfill gas management/reduction systems
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Currently there are many 'grey' areas in terms of the way the reporting system will be rolled out and how it will effect local Councils ▪ Will need to ensure that information provided is timely and regionally appropriate ▪ May need to engage consultant to prepare a report for NIRW member Councils or present to the group of Councils
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Councils are informed about their reporting requirements and will be provided with information so that they can better understand how their Council will be impacted by the new system ▪ NIRW can investigate options for reducing emissions from landfill on behalf of member Councils, reducing duplication and strain on Councils' resources
Links to Sustainability	Councils are informed about the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System and can work collaboratively to investigate measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill.
Estimated Cost	\$20,000 (\$10,000 DECC) (\$10,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consistent and valid data gathering and reporting ▪ Capacity building of Councils to manage landfill gas
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ DECC

Milestone 20	Environmental Risk Assessment & Mitigation Package (E:RAMP)
Purpose	<p>The Environmental Risk Assessment and Mitigation Package (E-RAMP) has been developed by DECC in consultation with council waste managers across rural regional NSW. It is a tool designed to assist operators of small waste facilities assess and manage environmental risks.</p> <p>NIRW has distributed copies of the tool to all member Councils, and will now provide assistance to member Councils in completing the assessment tool, as well as provide seed funding to member Councils to implement risk mitigation activities, This seed funding will be allocated to member Councils via an EOI process after the E:RAMP tool has been utilized and a report has been produced to support the EOI application.</p>
Aims & Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage member Councils to utilise the E:RAMP tool ▪ Provide assistance to member Councils to encourage utilisation of the tool ▪ Provide incentives to member Councils by way of providing seed funding towards risk mitigation activities
Key Performance Indicator(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Number of Councils utilising the tool ▪ Number and type of mitigation activities carried out by member Councils
Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Member Councils may require assistance to complete the tool ▪ Invite DECC to present to member Councils on the use of the tool and its benefits
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The E:RAMP tool provides an objective assessment with repeatable results, has real world relevance ▪ Allows risks to be prioritised ▪ Compliments continuous improvement ▪ Provides Councils with a due diligence defence ▪ Encourages a proactive approach ▪ Provides waste managers with clear and concise reports and graphs which can be used to strengthen budget bids for mitigation works
Links to Sustainability	Encourages Councils to be proactive in mitigating environmental risks
Estimated Cost	\$26,000 (\$14,000 DECC) (\$12,000 others including member Councils)
Deliverables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seed funding provided to Councils to assist in undertaking mitigation activities
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administration ▪ Member Councils ▪ DECC ▪ E:RAMP toolkit