

What Capacity to influence plastic reduction do we have, as an individual, organisation and sector?

Individual

- Keep cups
- Replace single use with reusable – bags, cups, bottles, straws
- Refuse single use plastic
- Beeswax wraps
- Say no, use alternatives
- Take a stand and don't back down
- Communicate & share with others and businesses – help raise awareness
- Talk to businesses and ask them to consider alternatives (cups etc.)
- Social media
- Conscious clothing buying
- Changes at home – purchases, remember reusables
- Set examples for family & friends, colleagues, model good behaviour
- Empower children
- Waste free lunches
- Show impact – cling wrap in phascogale boxes, where waste ends up
- Congratulate people when they do something small
- Be responsible
- Do your own research
- Zero waste shopping
- Turn it into habit
- Eliminate products as they run out
- Public shaming
- Making relevant on an individual level
- Small community events
- Starts at the supermarket (choose the right products)

Organisation

- Advocacy
- Policies & procedures
- Internal audits
- When talking to businesses, look at it from a WIIFM perspective
- Highlight the benefits (\$\$\$ and reputation), promote good examples
- Incentives to reward businesses/individuals
- Look at sustainable procurement
- School competition in developing branding
- Lead by example through internal operations before expecting from community
- Profile wins in social media
- Sustainable committee – staff and community working together
- Policies, guidelines, tools, resources for staff & community.
 - Include all facets of the organisation
 - How to enforce or monitor
 - Educate & empower
 - Meeting community expectations
- Financial incentives/disincentives
- Promote and encourage sustainable business stories
- Create opportunities for sustainable businesses

- Arts awards switch your thinking
- LGs – give keep cups at a subsidised price (Subiaco buy a keep cup, get 10 free coffees)
- Pushing plastic free events
 - Needs to come from city level, not Regional Council level
 - Low waste events
 - Plastic minimisation @ clubs
 - Sustainable training – alternatives to fundraising for clubs and businesses
- Provide resources (enable and empower them)
- Introduce 3 bin system (compositing)
- Everyone is responsible/committed
- Provide the facilities
- Inspire staff
- No plastic on external catering
- Having high level discussions with managers & council

Sector

- Advocacy
- LGAs promotion & collaboration
- Share information
- Consistency in messaging and standards
- Preferred suppliers for sustainable supply products etc.
- Policing & monitoring of sustainable approaches (events etc.)
- Ban biodegradable products
- Lobby for legislation
- Provide resources
- Funding for change
- Share resources, information amongst LGs
- SONG
- WMAA Waste Educators Meetings
- Events Industry Assoc. sharing information/consultation
- Apply knowledge
- Likeminded membership or peer bodies
- Low waste certification – i.e. at events
- Lead by example
- Lobby for food organics across the board – stop plastics
- Education downwards
- Provide the facilities
- Advocate to state – bold policy and funding support to roll out
- Building strong policies
- Regional Council collaboration

What challenges will we have in reducing plastic?	How do we address these challenges?
Policy impacting ability to suggest alternative suppliers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA preferred supplier
Similarities between the look of plastic and compostable products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noticeable identification
Continuous education for community and business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More conversation • Waste Authority – public campaign for reduction
Business structures can prevent wanted change through internal policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government policies – state and federal
Need for further state & federal changes to laws	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy
Mixed messages between LGAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work together
Lack of infrastructure & processing facilities in Australia & particularly WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy & legislation • Build one • Product stewardship • Reduce priority on recycling as silver bullet for waste problems • New industries & opportunities
Overcoming recycling is king mindset	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering residents to take back control of their waste
When is plastic actually required? Are there some cases when taking it away is bad?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for compostable alternatives • Have the composting facilities available to process the packaging
Avoiding & reducing is primarily seen as a consumer problem to face	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Product stewardship with federal legislation to move to a true circular economy
It is hard and complicated to change behaviour and can be overwhelming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • * Normalise behaviour and don't provide options to not participate
Public resistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find out if this is real or just perceived (surveys, polls)
Global packaging issues (imported consumer goods)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislate the types of packaging to be imported (federal)
Transporting reusable items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go2cup type programs for reusable
Plastics made from organic materials ending up in recycling stream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visually different to recycling packaging
Behaviour/mindset change – resentment of change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empower • Remove loopholes • Corporate marketing • Principle based lobbying • Face your waste – clear bin messaging • Provide incentives to change • Make things convenient
Alternatives to single use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E.g. back in time for dinner – ABC • Recycling possibilities • Necessity is the mother of all invention
Supermarket packaging/mentality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting packaging free shopping • Changing ingrained behaviours and beliefs
Recycling/composting systems (infrastructure)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding from landfill levy for state based processing
Single use plastics convenience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide alternatives e.g. refill stations, incentive to BYO cup/bottle/cutlery • Disincentives
Coordinating change – who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure responsibility within LGA defined • Empower community to work within their resources
Federal/state legislation slow to be implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA & LGs advocating local change • Making a start and not waiting • Businesses taking ownership of the issue

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers groups & other industry groups working together
Supporting local policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team built within council to implement/adopt • Make it part of officer roles • Support officers to implement • Community advocacy – bring the community along on the journey
Budget – don't know how much it costs to implement a policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early days measure spending • Share experience with other LGs • Work with WALGA • Take it a step at a time
Business – financial – more expensive to purchase plastic free (e.g. vegware)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA facilitate discussion paper • Low waste certification – like responsible cafes • Incentivise waste diversion • Business association (free promotion)
Community opposition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, make it easy, incentives • Engagement activities • Provide resources/alternatives • Identify problem areas
No state-wide approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA facilitate discussion paper, state government may the take notice
Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preference to better stalls
Plastic liners – recycling, composting bins and dog poo bags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compost dog poo – 2 bins in parks
Commercial producers produce too much packaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise WALGA to refer people to a list of recommended suppliers
Consistency in LG messaging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WALGA to assist in providing resources/tools to streamline LGA messaging
Food vendors unaware/unwilling to get on board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food vendor/canteen association to educate food vendors
Convenience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make it more accessible
Price point	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make recyclable/bio-degradable materials more affordable
Not understanding why plastics in general are an issue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive media exposure/knowledge/education
Population increases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better planning for population increase/ forward thinking planning facilities
Language barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective communication • Ensure accessibility
Confusion around bio-degradable bags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (No response)
Funding sustainability/renewable research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby for funding/ assume corporate responsibility
Issues with Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See what is achievable/realistic
Resources for alternatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing between LGs/organisation
Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy for state for funding • Recognition of waste production for state funded events – state to take responsibility for waste management
Coordination of initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing staff over volunteers to educate and implement waste initiatives (particularly @ events)
Processing recycled materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community initiatives • Putting responsibility on individuals