



Tasmania
Explore the possibilities

NATIONAL PACKAGING COVENANT

Tasmanian State Government Annual Report

July 2005 to September 2007

Overview

This document reports against the Tasmanian State Government Action Plan for the period July 2006 to September 2007 for the National Packaging Covenant.

Whilst there is little data to assist with the reporting in this period, there have been a number of initiatives in State and Local Government in Tasmania over the last 12 months which will assist in better data collection for future reporting periods.

The Tasmanian State government is developing a Tasmanian Waste Management Strategy in consultation with local government, the waste management industry and the community. One of the key objectives of the strategy will be to develop and implement an improved waste data collection and management regime for waste, resource recovery and recycling. Once the improved data collection system has been in place and a 3-year database has been accumulated, the intention is to develop reduction targets for specific materials and sectors in line with identified and agreed strategic directions, including the objectives of the National Packaging Covenant.

The three regional bodies within Tasmania, which represent Councils in the north, north-west and south, are at various stages of developing their waste management strategies. The strategies (or frameworks developed for the future strategies) generally focus on waste disposal, infrastructure, kerbside recycling services, litter control, waste auditing and community education.

There has been a revived focus on State and Local Government collaboration in waste management initiatives and data collection and it is anticipated that this will greatly improve the quality and quantity of data available in Tasmania.

The Tasmanian State government has also established relationships with a number of industries in the implementation of 'CleanBiz', a cleaner production program to contribute to waste avoidance and eco-efficiency initiatives. A Resource Recovery program is also underway which aims at facilitating and increasing the opportunities for resource recovery within the state. In addition, new litter legislation will be enacted in late 2007, along with a new public litter reporting system, increasing the education, enforcement capabilities and data collection associated with the litter stream.

All these initiatives will have positive impacts in data collection and the education of the broader community on waste avoidance, waste minimisation and recycling and subsequently meeting the objectives of the National Packaging Covenant.

GOAL 1 – PACKAGING OPTIMISED TO INTEGRATE CONSIDERATIONS ABOUT RESOURCE EFFICIENCY, MAXIMUM RESOURCE RE-UTILISATION, PRODUCT PROTECTION, SAFETY AND HYGIENE	
KPI 8 Consumer packaging as a % of weight by total waste and relative to other waste stream components	
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Tasmanian Government is committed to working with stakeholders to report:</p> <p>a) % of consumer packaging by weight of household waste & relative to other household waste streams</p> <p>b) % of consumer packaging by weight of commercial & industrial waste & relative to other household waste stream components</p>
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	<p>There were 2 surveys by the Southern Waste Strategy Authority undertaken in 2005, one of 270 households indicating 19.3% of packaging in the household waste stream and the other of 104 households giving a result of 25%.</p> <p>In 2006 a repeat survey of the same 104 households revealed that packaging comprised just 6.9% of the household garbage stream. This decrease was probably due to the introduction of MGB's for recycling that have increased capacity over the crate system and have led to increased yields.</p> <p>No current data is available as to the proportion of consumer packaging in the commercial and industrial waste stream.</p>
GOAL 2 – EFFICIENT RESOURCE RECOVERY SYSTEMS FOR CONSUMER PACKAGING AND PAPER	
KPI 11 Number of Councils operating according to good practice collection principles & state-based benchmarks	
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Tasmanian Government will work with regional groups and Councils to report on:</p> <p>a) No. of Councils meeting regional benchmarks (and %)</p>
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	<p>The Tasmanian State Government is currently developing a state-wide Waste Management Strategy, and as such no statewide benchmarks have been established for Tasmania as yet.</p> <p>However the regions have a general minimum preferred service standard being an MGB garbage service with a manual single crate system for recyclables. Four councils have now introduced MGB's for the collection of mixed recyclables (Hobart, Glenorchy, Glamorgan Spring Bay, Clarence).</p>
KPI 15 Percentage of Councils & government agencies providing public place recycling infrastructure	
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Tasmanian Government will work with work with regional groups, Councils and other government agencies in relation to reporting:</p> <p>a) % of government agencies with public place responsibilities</p>

	b) % of local councils with PPR recycling bins provided
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	<p>a) In Tasmania, government agencies are not responsible for public waste management. Public place recycling is predominantly the responsibility of local government. It is to be noted that no Council has 100% coverage of public place recycling facilities throughout their municipality – they are generally located in areas of high visitor numbers (e.g. malls, tourist venues).</p> <p>b) In the Southern region 100% of Councils offer public place recycling. In the Northern region 25% of Councils offer public place recycling. In the North-West region 22% of Councils offer public place recycling facilities.</p> <p>In total for the state, 55% of Councils offer PPR.</p>
KPI 16 Percentage of signatories providing recycling collection facilities for post-consumer packaging generated on-site	
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	a) The Tasmanian Government is committed to obtaining data relating to the number of Government departments providing on-site collection facilities for post-consumer packaging.
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	a) At present, 5 Tasmanian Government departments (50%) offer recycling facilities for post-consumer packaging, however the coverage of recycling facilities to all areas of the state is not consistent. A department may offer facilities for inner city office blocks, however rural parks facilities or regional outposts for example may not have collection services available.
GOAL 3 – CONSUMERS ABLE TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ABOUT CONSUMPTION, USE AND DISPOSAL OF PACKAGING OF PRODUCTS.	
KPI 17 Amount & type of consumer packaging in the litter stream	
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Tasmanian Government will work with relevant stakeholders and refer to the National Littering Index in order to contribute to this KPI:</p> <p>a) Tonnage & type of consumer packaging in litter stream</p>
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	<p>a) The National Littering Index indicates numbers of items in the litter stream and volume (L). It does not provide tonnage.</p> <p>In the 2006-07 count packaging made up 66.2% of the litter stream (by volume), down from 75.8% the previous year. The number of packaging items also decreased from an average of 2114 item in 2005-06 down to 1579 (in 2006-07). However, in 2006-07 there was a slight increase in large illegally dumped items and a very high increase in cigarette butts, which affects the proportion of packaging in the total litter volume.</p> <p>The types of packaging in the litter stream in Tasmania are (as a % of total packaging by number, averaged from Nov 06 & May 07):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> confectionary wrappers 20.9% glass beverage containers 15.4% straws & lollipop sticks 10% aluminium beverage cans 9.3% plastic beverage containers 9% metal bottle tops & can pull-ups 6.9%

	<p>plastic bottle tops 6.9% paper/cardboard beverage & take-away containers 6.1% cigarette packets 5.5% take away cups & containers 3.8% paper bags 2.9% packages & boxes 2.8% plastic bags 5.9% ice-cream wrappers 1.6% 6 pack ring holders 0.35%</p> <p>Although steel food tins, aerosol cans, drink pouches and wine bladders featured in the litter stream, they made up a very minor proportion.</p>
<p>KPI 18 Contamination rates in consumer packaging recovery systems (eg kerbside, events, venues, public places, workplaces)</p>	
<p>2006-07 Action Plan Commitments</p>	<p>The Tasmanian Government will continue to work with local government, recycling service providers and reprocessors to report against:</p> <p>a) % contamination by system type</p>
<p>Report against 2006-07 Action Plan</p>	<p>Contamination in kerbside recycling crate systems average 1 to 2 %, whereas the newly introduced MGB systems average around 11% contamination.</p> <p>It has been demonstrated that extensive community education and bin audits (with rejection stickers) on collection days have reduced contamination in Councils which implement these methods.</p>
<p>KPI 20 Improvements in littering behaviour</p>	
<p>2006-07 Action Plan Commitments</p>	<p>The Tasmanian Government will work with relevant stakeholders and refer to the National Littering Index in order to contribute to this KPI:</p> <p>a) Specific aspects of littering behaviour & trends over time</p>
<p>Report against 2006-07 Action Plan</p>	<p>During 2006, the Tasmanian Government banned smoking in pubs and clubs, and between November 2006 and May 2007 the presence of cigarette butts in the litter stream increased dramatically. As a result, total litter increased, although packaging as a proportion of this decreased.</p> <p>Glass packaging has shown a dramatic increase from 5.6% of total packaging in the litter stream in May 2006 to 18.3% in May 2007. Cigarette packaging has also increased through this period from 2.7% to 6.8% of total packaging in the litter stream. Confectionary wrappers, although still the most numerous component of total packaging, have decreased in the litter stream over this period (from 10.8% to 3.7% of total packaging).</p> <p>Throwing items from vehicles remains one of Tasmania's key littering behaviours, with highways (29%) and carparks (17%) the most commonly littered sites.</p> <p>A new Litter Act is being developed for Tasmania which will include a hotline for the general public to report littering offences, particularly incidences from a vehicle. It is hoped this will have an impact on the presence of litter along highways and carparks, with a decrease over the 12months post implementation of the new legislation.</p>

GOAL 4 – SUPPLY CHAIN MEMBERS AND OTHER SIGNATORIES ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE HOW THEIR ACTIONS CONTRIBUTE TO GOALS (1) – (3) ABOVE.																																			
KPI 21	Estimated tonnage of consumer packaging recycled and sent to landfill respectively, from on-site collection facilities																																		
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Tasmanian Government will continue to work with local government, recycling service providers and reprocessors to report against:</p> <p>a) Tonnes of consumer packaging & % of total waste sent for recycling</p> <p>b) Tonnes of consumer packaging & % of total waste sent to landfill</p>																																		
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	<p>Tonnes recovered in Tasmanian MRF's (From recycling collection services)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Product</th> <th>Tonnes</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cardboard</td> <td>18000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mixed paper</td> <td>14349</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Office Paper</td> <td>2400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newsprint</td> <td>7000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Milk Cartons</td> <td>182</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Glass</td> <td>10572</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PET</td> <td>814</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HDPE</td> <td>689</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PVC</td> <td>110</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LDPE</td> <td>300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PP</td> <td>110</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mixed Plastic</td> <td>372</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Steel</td> <td>920</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aluminium</td> <td>377</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other paper</td> <td>5000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td><u>60823</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>From recycling collection services in Tasmania 10.8% or 6,600 tonnes were sent to landfill.</p> <p>The recovery of 60,823 tonnes represents a diversion rate from landfill of 18.3%.</p>	Product	Tonnes	Cardboard	18000	Mixed paper	14349	Office Paper	2400	Newsprint	7000	Milk Cartons	182	Glass	10572	PET	814	HDPE	689	PVC	110	LDPE	300	PP	110	Mixed Plastic	372	Steel	920	Aluminium	377	Other paper	5000		<u>60823</u>
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KPI 24	Implementation of NEPM procedures by jurisdictions																																		
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	<p>The Tasmanian Government will report on:</p> <p>a) Number of potential "free-riders" contacted</p>																																		
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	<p>The Tasmanian Government contacted by correspondence and phone up to 30 Tasmanian based companies who were considered to be potential signatories and encouraged them to sign up to the National Packaging Covenant.</p>																																		

KPI 25 Enforcement of the NEPM to “free-riders” and non-complying Covenant signatories	
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	The Tasmanian Government will report on: a) Number of formal enforcement actions taken
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	No Environment Protection Notices (EPN) to enforce the NEPM were issued. However a number of companies were contacted several times and sent warning letters as well as a draft EPN. These companies subsequently joined the Covenant.
KPI 26 Implementation of Buy Recycled purchasing policy or practices	
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	The Tasmanian Government will continue to work with all departments to implement buy recycled purchasing policies or practices in order to report: a) Whether departments have a policy or practice in place
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	a) The Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment (DTAE) currently practices ‘buy recycled’ purchasing. The program continues to expand, with the intention of developing a purchasing policy. The DTAE will continue to work with other departments to implement such policies and practices.
GOAL 5 – ALL SIGNATORIES DEMONSTRATE CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR MANAGEMENT OF PACKAGING THROUGH THEIR INDIVIDUAL ACTION PLANS AND ANNUAL REPORTS.	
KPI 27 Establishment of baseline performance data	
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	The Tasmanian Government is committed to the following actions to meet this KPI: a) Establish indicative baseline data, including qualifiers & assumptions b) Baseline data reported
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	a) This report will act as the baseline and data collection will be incorporated into the waste management strategy. b) Annual Report submitted.
KPI 28 Annual Reporting against Action Plan	
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	The Tasmanian Government is committed to the following action to meet this KPI: a) Annual reporting against Action Plans and milestones
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	a) Annual Report submitted.

KPI 29	Demonstrated improvement and achievements against individual targets and milestones
2006-07 Action Plan Commitments	The Tasmanian Government is committed to the following action to meet this KPI: a) Annual reporting against Action Plans and milestones
Report against 2006-07 Action Plan	a) Annual Report submitted

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