



Australian Government  
Registered Organisations Commission

18 November 2021

Tony Khoury  
Executive Director  
Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW  
Sent via email: [tony@wcra.com.au](mailto:tony@wcra.com.au)

Dear Tony Khoury,

**Section 269 application for certificate stating financial affairs of reporting unit are encompassed by financial affairs of associated State body for year ended 30 June 2021 (FR2021/228)**

I refer to the application lodged pursuant to section 269 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* in respect of the Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW (**the reporting unit**) for the financial year ended 30 June 2021. The application was lodged with the Registered Organisations Commission (**ROC**) on 9 November 2021.

I have granted the application. The certificate is attached.

I make the following comments in regards the operating report to assist you when you next prepare one.

Regulation 159(c) requires an operating report to contain the name of each person who has been a member of the committee of management of the reporting unit at any time during the reporting period, and the period for which he or she held such a position. The ROC takes the words "at any time" to mean that all persons, whether they held their position for the full year or for part of the year, must be included.

The annual report indicated that Nathan Ung and Glenn Gauslaa were members of the committee of management but resigned during the financial year. However, their names were not included the operating report. The names of committee members in the operating report appear to only be reported as at the date of this report and not during the financial year.

In future years, please ensure that all persons who held a position on the committee of management during the financial year are included in the operating report and the period for which they held their position are clearly indicated.

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact Kylie Ngo on (03) 9603 0764 or by email at [kylie.ngo@roc.gov.au](mailto:kylie.ngo@roc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'CE'.

Chris Enright  
Executive Director  
Registered Organisations Commission



# CERTIFICATE

*Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009*

s.269(2)(a)—Reporting unit's financial affairs encompassed by associated State body

**Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW**  
(FR2021/228)

MR ENRIGHT

MELBOURNE, 18 NOVEMBER 2021

*Reporting unit's financial affairs encompassed by associated State body*

[1] On 9 November 2021 an application was made under s.269(2)(a) of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* (**the Act**) by the Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW (the reporting unit) for a certificate stating that the financial affairs of the reporting unit are encompassed by the financial affairs of Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of New South Wales (**the Association**), an associated State body, in respect of the financial year ending 30 June 2021.

[2] On 9 November 2021, the reporting unit lodged a copy of the audited accounts of the Association with the Registered Organisations Commission.

[3] I am satisfied that the Association:

- is registered under the *Industrial Relations Act 1996 (NSW)*, a prescribed State Act; and
- is, or purports to be, composed of substantially the same members as the reporting unit; and
- has, or purports to have, officers who are substantially the same as designated officers in relation to the reporting unit; and
- is an associated State body.

[4] I am further satisfied that:

- the Association has in accordance with prescribed State legislation, prepared accounts, had those accounts audited, provided a copy of the audited accounts to its members and lodged the accounts with the relevant State authority;
- any members of the reporting unit who are not also members of the Association have been provided with copies of the accounts at substantially the same time as the members of the reporting unit who are members of the Association; and
- a report under s.254 of the Act has been prepared in respect of those activities of the reporting unit and has been provided to the members of the reporting unit with copies of the accounts.

[5] I am satisfied that the financial affairs of the reporting unit in respect of the financial year ending 30 June 2021, are encompassed by the financial affairs of the Association and I certify accordingly under s.269(2)(a) of the Act.



DELEGATE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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WASTE CONTRACTORS &  
RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION  
OF N.S.W

ABN 72 805 135 472

9<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Financial Reporting Branch  
Registered Organisations Commission

By email [regorgs@roc.gov.au](mailto:regorgs@roc.gov.au)

Dear ROC Staff

### **Application pursuant to s269 Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009**

The Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of New South Wales (the reporting unit) hereby makes application pursuant to s269 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* to be taken to have satisfied the requirements of the Act.

#### **Relief Sought**

That the General Manager issue a certificate stating that the financial affairs of the reporting unit are encompassed by the financial affairs of the Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of New South Wales registered under the Industrial Relations Act 1996 (the associated state body) for the financial year ending 30 June 2021.

#### **Grounds and Reasons**

Section 269 applies to the Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of New South Wales (hereinafter referred to as the "Reporting Unit") on the following basis:

1. Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of New South Wales (hereinafter referred to as the "associated State body") is registered as an Industrial Association of Employers under the New South Wales *Industrial Relations Act 1996*, a prescribed State Act.
2. The associated State body is composed of the same Members as the Reporting Unit. There are no members of the Reporting Unit who are not also members of the associated State body.

Suite 2, First Floor  
12-16 Daniel Street  
Wetherill Park NSW 2164

PO Box 6643  
Wetherill Park BC NSW 2164

Phone (02) 9604 7206  
Fax (02) 9604 7256  
Email [tony@wcra.com.au](mailto:tony@wcra.com.au)

3. The associated State body has the same officers as the Reporting Unit.
4. The financial affairs of the reporting unit are encompassed by the financial affairs of the associated State body for the financial year ending 30 June 2021.
5. The associated NSW State body has, in accordance with prescribed State legislation, prepared accounts, had those accounts audited, provided a copy of the audited accounts to its members and lodged the accounts with the NSW Industrial Registrar.
6. The Reporting unit attaches a copy of the audited accounts with ROC via an attachment; and
7. A report under s254 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* has been prepared in respect of the activities of the Reporting unit and has been provided to members of the Reporting unit with the copies of the accounts. A compliant copy of this "Operating Report" is attached in your preferred format.

Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW (as the Reporting unit) submits that based on the grounds and reasons stated herein it has satisfied s269 of the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Act 2009* and consequently seeks relief as sought in this application.

Should you require further information, please contact our Executive Director, Mr Tony Khoury at the Association's office.

Yours faithfully



Jeff Brandstater  
Secretary

Attach.



WASTE CONTRACTORS &  
RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION  
OF N.S.W.

## ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021

9<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW  
Suite 2, 12-16 Daniel Street, Wetherill Park. NSW 2164  
Tel: (02) 9604 7206  
[www.wcra.com.au](http://www.wcra.com.au)  
ABN 72 805 135 472



## Annual Report 2021

## Presidents Report, Mr Harry Wilson, Life Member



Throughout the year, the world has continued to deal with the many issues caused by the Corona virus pandemic (Covid-19). The unprecedented issues resulting from this pandemic have had significant and lasting impacts on our total way of work, life and travel. Lockdowns, isolation, physical distancing, hand sanitiser, face masks, working from home, staggered start times, border closures, Microsoft Teams and Zoom have all become the new norm.

In NSW, the ACT and every other Australian jurisdiction, public health orders were issued (and in many cases re-issued and varied) to protect the community and to reduce the spread of the infection. These health orders listed restrictions to activities and places that were

closed, however the waste and recycling industry which provides an important service for the community and businesses continued to operate. Both the Federal and the NSW Government responded with a range of business stimulus measures including Job Keeper, Job Seeker, Job Saver, Disaster Payments, instant tax asset write offs, PAYG tax refunds and various small business grants & rebates.

For the second consecutive year, everyone across our community has faced (and in some cases continue to face) some very difficult & challenging public health issues. In the waste management industry, throughout this time (and as always) our Members are at the frontline of providing an essential service to householders and those businesses that continue to trade. Without the efforts of our Members and their many wonderful authorised workers, we would be faced with some very major health, hygiene and sanitation issues.

WCRA attempted to off-set some of the financial pain of Covid-19 for Members and Sponsors. To this extent, I acknowledge the decision by the Executive to extend a fifty percent discount on all membership and sponsorship invoices in 2020/2021.

With the Federal Government banning the export of unprocessed mixed plastics, the following is a summary of the current market situation -:

- Despite the best efforts of the government to support industry, the infrastructure is not yet in place in Australia to deal with the volumes of mixed plastics currently in the market.
- There has been a development of some new facilities but there are other facilities that are in progress but not yet commissioned as well as many other plans in the making.
- MRFs across Australia will not be able to ensure processing of all mixed plastics without significant storage costs and potential EPA license breaches.
- Until there are enough facilities available to process the plastics, that are all mixed coming through the kerbside domestic collection process, alternative solutions need to be maintained.
- Some MRFs provide services to other MRFs, who have been unable to process stocks of mixed plastics.
- These MRFs will no longer be able to provide those services which will create issues for other operators in the recycling industry and result in stockpiles of plastics or in plastics going to landfill.
- Government needs to understand that, although we are supportive of the government's legislation, they use the exemption system to allow export of mixed plastics to continue as long as the appropriate supporting documentation is provided and until there are enough suitable, compliant facilities to process the mixed plastics.



The waste management & resource recovery sector continues to face a range of major issues and challenges, including:-

- Lower waste and recycling volumes throughout the year resulting from the forced closure of many parts of the construction, business, entertainment and travel sector due to Covid-19.
- Further increased regulations leading to complexity and higher compliance costs.
- Increasing insurance premiums.
- A federal ban on the export of unprocessed recyclables and changing specifications and demand.
- The many materials that are not designed for recycling.
- Decreasing revenues for commodities.
- A resource recovery order and exemption system that allows the EPA to make material changes without undergoing a proper regulatory impact study.
- A number of fires & accidents that have led to the formation of a WCRA WHS Group.
- A continued restructure of the NSW EPA with DPIE now less involved in resource recovery.
- A Minister for the Environment who is also the Minister for Energy (and also The Treasurer)

Despite these issues and challenges the simple fact is that recycling has never been as important to the Australian community as it is today. For most householders the practice of recycling via the bin with the yellow lid is their single biggest regular environmental contribution or initiative. And what drives many basic recycling programs is the need to conserve our finite, precious natural resources, to save limited landfill space and to save on costly disposal bills. As a result, it has never been more important for Australia's governments, at all levels, together with the waste and recycling sector to co-operatively solve these issues.



*The operations staff at the Coffs Harbour MRF operated by Handybin Waste, where recyclable materials collected from Coffs Harbour, Bellingen and Nambucca Councils are processed. The vast majority of NSW householders have access to a yellow-lidded 240 litre bin for the fortnightly collection of recyclable material.*

We continue to face a number of unique regulatory challenges including a dysfunctional NSW resource recovery order system that provides investors with little or no certainty, the lack of a regulatory procedure to deal with unexpected asbestos finds in a C&D recycling facility, the highest waste levy in Australia (most of which goes to Treasury) and major question marks over whether our regulators (EPA, SafeWork and Sydney Water are suitably resourced). These issues remain unresolved from previous years and do very little to create investor confidence in the waste management sector.

As we move towards a circular economy, energy-from-waste, FOGO and a focus on a better quality of recycling materials, the waste management industry and the key regulators are in a very interesting place. WCRA is proud of our many Members and Sponsors who through their dedicated workers, day-in, day-out provide for the safe, reliable, sustainable and cost-effective containerisation, collection, processing, transfer and disposal of the full range of waste and recyclable materials.

In our 73<sup>rd</sup> year, WCRA continues to play a significant role in highlighting the issues which impact our Members' businesses, in making sure the position of the industry is delivered and understood by other stakeholders and in bringing the key parties together in search of solutions.

And now that a safe vaccine program exists across most of Australia, we are optimistic that 2022 will be a year of solutions, partnerships and progress.

I thank our WCRA staff and Executive Members for their dedicated service and commend the 2021 WCRA Annual Report to you.

### Message to Government -:

*"If you are planning on moving the goal posts,  
then please detail all of the impacts and  
undertake proper & meaningful consultation"*

Tony Khoury, Executive Director, WCRA

## Finance & Administration

WCRA exists to provide information, advice and support to its Members on a broad range of technical, regulatory, employment and industrial matters. The WCRA membership represents the majority of the waste and recycling transport and processing operators in NSW and ACT.

WCRA funds the services it provides to its Members through:

- Annual fees paid by the Members
- Charges for the provision of training services
- Profits from hosting industry events
- Government grants
- Commercial arrangements with corporate partners and sponsors

WCRA continues to be recognised as a well-managed industry association with a secure financial position.

Stirling Williams provides financial auditing services to WCRA and has approved the 2020/21 financial statements. The deficit of \$32,431 reflects that WCRA is using its income to fund additional services to Members (compliance material, standards, research into training, online communications, etc.). It should be noted that the Executive considered the challenges posed by Covid-19 and extended a 50% discount to the Members and Sponsors in relation to their 2020/21 invoices.

### Five-year historical comparison

Table 1

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Net Surplus / Deficit</b>	\$44,685	\$77,865	\$4,747	\$48,866	-\$32,431
<b>Balance Sheet Net Assets</b>	\$1,416,571	\$1,494,436	\$1,499,183	\$1,548,049	\$1,515,618

### Key Ratios

Table 2

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
<b>Current Ratio</b> (Current Assets/Current Liabilities)	2.13	2.56	2.72	2.47	2.47
<b>Total Asset Turnover</b> Revenue/Total Assets	0.32	0.39	0.37	0.32	0.25
<b>Return on Assets</b> Net Surplus/Net Assets*100	3.15	5.21	0.32	3.16	-2.14

WCRA's 2020 AGM was held on 10<sup>th</sup> November at the WCRA office, Wetherill Park, with a Zoom attendance option for Members. Members were presented with an overview of the years activities by Mr Harry Wilson (President) along with the audited accounts by Mr Tony Khoury on behalf of Mr Roger Williams, Stirling Williams.

Financial statements for year ending 30 June 2020 were lodged with the Registered Organisations Commission and NSW Industrial Relations Commission in November and further letters were sent in December. The S269 certificate was issued. The Annual return for year ending 31 December 2020 was signed by WCRA's secretary Mr Brandstater and lodged with the Registered Organisations Commission.

WCRA is the oldest waste management industry association in Australia and one of the oldest in the world. Since 1948, WCRA has represented the NSW & ACT waste and recycling transporters and processing facility operators. WCRA is an independent association registered with the Industrial Relations Commission of NSW and Fair Work (Registered Organisations) 2009.

## Our People

### Members, Partners & Sponsors

Due to the impacts of Covid-19 there was minimal change to the structure of the industry over the last twelve months. As in previous years, WCRA continues to represent the majority of waste and recycling operators across NSW and the ACT.

**Table 3**

<b>Members</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
>40 Revenue Earning Vehicles	7	6	8	11	11
7-40 Revenue Earning Vehicles	40	40	42	40	42
Up to 6 Revenue Earning Vehicles	104	100	104	114	112
<b>Associate Members</b>	39	36	38	40	44
<b>Total</b>	190	182	192	205	209
Change on Prior year	-1.6%	-4.2%	5.5%	6.8%	2.0%

### Staff & Support Services

WCRA offices and its services are available to Members via phone or in person Monday to Friday during business hours.

WCRA's current agreement with Transector Pty Ltd expires on 30 June 2022 and is due to be reviewed by the President and Vice-President and then ratified by the Executive. Transector provides the services of Executive Director, Tony Khoury to the Association.

Mr Khoury, is supported by the following staff and specialist advisors:

Administration, Invoicing, Debtors, Creditors and Bookkeeping	Ann Maree Kopos
Reception, Marketing, Events & Office Management	Jamal Alameddine
Environmental Planning & Regulatory Affairs	Ross Fox (Fishburn Watson O'Brien)
Employment & Industrial Relations	Jay Clowes (Fishburn Watson O'Brien)
Projects	Glenn Caffyn
Training Delivery	Tony Khoury Glenn Caffyn
IT and Maintenance Support	Peter Cochrane

## WCRA Executive

The Members of the Executive on 30 June 2021 were:-

Harry Wilson	SMS Municipal Services	President
Susie McBurney	Remondis Pty Ltd	Vice President
Greg Turner	JR Richards & Sons	Treasurer
Jeff Brandstater	Brandster Services	Secretary
David Johnston	United Resource Management	Executive Member
Graham Knowles	IQRenew	Executive Member
Mark Falanga	Wastefree (Aust) Pty Ltd	Executive Member
David Harrison	Viscount Plastics (Australia) Pty Ltd	Executive Member
Ros Dent	Bingo Industries	Executive Member
David Gater	Veolia	Executive Member
David Clancy	Cleanaway	Executive Member

The following movements of the Executive took place in 2020/2021:-

- Nathan Ung resigned from the Executive on 18 August 2020
- Graham Knowles was elected to the Executive on 22 February 2021
- David Gater was elected to the Executive on 22 February 2021
- Glenn Gauslaa resigned from the Executive on 22 June 2021

Executive meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, except for January. The purpose and function of the Executive is particularised in the registered rules of the association. Executive meetings are open to all Members of the Association. Members can contribute to discussion and debate and raise points of general business. Voting is restricted to Executive Members.

Executive Members are drawn from the ranks and are the nominated representatives of Members. All are practising industry professionals with many years of experience and subject to heavy demands for their time. Sponsors are also invited to speak at meetings on matters of interest.

Meetings in the reporting year were well attended with a broad range of matters discussed and actioned. The overall attendance at Executive meetings stood at 88% for the financial year ending in June 2021 (this compares favourably with the minimum provision of 50% in the Rules).

Due to the continued impact of Covid-19 there was a reliance on meetings via the virtual world, to comply with social distancing and lockdown measures. This required Executive meetings to be conducted online. Whilst the Zoom option has allowed WCRA to meet its statutory compliance obligations, the preferred meeting style is face to face, as this provides for better dynamics, communications and decision making.

Elections for positions on the Executive Committee are conducted every four years according to the Associations rules. The term of office of the current Executive Committee will expire in November 2022. Throughout the year nominations were called to fill two casual vacancies. The Australian Electoral Commission supervised the process where two Members (Graham Knowles, IQRenew and David Gater, Veolia) nominated for the two available positions. As a result, no election was required. The results were posted on the Association's website in February 2021 and the Registered Organisations Commission, along with the NSW IRC were formally notified.

In April 2021 Mr Knowles & Mr Gater attended a Governance of Registered Organisations training course as required by the Registered Organisations Commission to fulfil their statutory obligations.

As a result of the resignation of Mr Gauslaa the Registered Organisations Commission has been notified and they are yet to confirm the election date and process. We acknowledge and thank Mr Gauslaa for his many years of service to the Executive and WCRA.



*Members of the WCRA Executive : Harry Wilson, Ros Dent, Glenn Gauslaa and Jeff Brandstater  
The WCRA Executive generally meets on the second Tuesday of each month, with the current  
four-year term for the Executive to expire in November 2022.*

## Sponsors

WCRA was generously supported by key corporate associates. These organisations contributed essential funding for the Association as well as providing invaluable specialist advice, proposals and assistance to Members.

Wastedge.com	Waste operations and management software
TWU Super	Superannuation
Tyres4U	Heavy vehicle and plant equipment tyres
CJD Equipment/Volvo/SDLG	Construction and waste management plant and equipment
Daimler Trucks Huntingwood	Mercedes Benz, Freightliner and Fuso Heavy Vehicles
Work Options	Injury management
Arthur J Gallagher	Insurance broking
Green Goanna – Shell	Oil specialists
Bucher Municipal	Waste industry equipment

Our corporate Sponsors provide specialist expertise and options to our Members, together with essential funding for the services offered by WCRA.

On behalf of all Members, the Association acknowledges the support of its Sponsors and its gratitude to these organisations and their representatives.



## Life Membership

Life membership is the highest honour that can be given to a member of the waste and recycling industry who is associated with WCRA. Life membership may be awarded to a member in recognition of outstanding service given to WCRA over a prolonged period.

The Executives, in accordance with the Guidelines for life nomination for Life Membership, considers the following with regard to prospective Life Members:

- Must never have brought the Association or the industry into disrepute.
- Must have consistently put the interests of the Association and the industry ahead of their personal and business interests in the discharge of WCRA duties and responsibilities.
- Must have, through their involvement with WCRA, enhanced the operation and reputation of the Association and the industry.

The following former and present Members are Life Members of WCRA

- Ron Horswell (deceased)
- Mike Creswell (deceased)
- Arthur Baker (deceased)
- Bernadette Byrnes
- Terry Dene
- Mike Noble
- Barry Thomas
- Harry Wilson

WCRA stays in touch with our Life Members by inviting them to attend our events such as the Annual Dinner and the Retiree's Lunch.

### Front lift driver in 2021

- As per the Waste Management Award 2020
- Level 6
- \$973.14 per 38-hour week
- EBA's approx. 25% over the Award
- Time and a half rate \$38.42 / hour
- Meal allowance \$17.12

*WCRA keep their Life Members and other Retirees updated with current information*

## Services

### Industrial & Employment Relations

The Association continues to provide Industrial Relations support for all its Members. As well as providing key information about pay rates & conditions, leave, injured workers, HR, unfair dismissals, redundancy, public holidays, etc. WCRA continues to represent Members and the industry in various industrial relations discussions and negotiations.

WCRA is a registered body of employers under the Fair Work Act 2009 (Registered Organisation's Act) and NSW Industrial Relations Act 1996. WCRA representatives are involved in negotiations with Trade Unions and assist government bodies such as the Fair Work Commission and the Fair Work Ombudsman with industrial matters affecting the waste management industry. WCRA is recognised as the peak employer association representing the interests of its Members in both NSW and the ACT.

Following the mid-year introduction of the updated Waste Management Award 2020, an online training session via Zoom was conducted in December 2020 by WCRA using the services of Jay Clowes from Fishburn Watson O'Brien.

Members are informed about award changes through the year including updates to the Waste Management Award and FWO Pay guide. Information about general employment law has been circulated as well as information about leave accruals, casual employees, JobKeeper, JobSeeker and Covid-19 disaster payments.

On 1 July 2020 the Fair Work Commission announced that the National Minimum Wage along with all Modern Award wage rates was to increase by 1.75%. The Waste Management Award 2020 increase of 1.75% was effective from 1 November 2020. Members were informed of this decision.

### Insurance and Workers Compensation

WCRA, in collaboration with our sponsor Gallagher (Specialist Insurance Brokers), have provided Members with advice on a broad range of insurance matters. In the last few years there has been an increased number of fires at waste management facilities resulting in significant insurance premium increases.

The issue of lithium-ion batteries continues to be a source of fire risk in transport, recycling, processing and across the rest of the industry. Insurers have commented on the significance of this risk and the need for better management.

In March 2021 WCRA and Gallagher met with waste and recycling operators, after which Gallagher issued an action plan to assist Members with better management of insurance risks, industry stigma and premium impacts.

Throughout the year Gallagher continued to support WCRA Members by providing discounted CTP rates for their vehicle fleets and ongoing advice to assist with better premium outcomes.

The Association meets with icare (workers compensation insurer for NSW) on an as required basis and then circulates updates to Members.



## Training

WCRA offered Members a broad variety of highly industry focussed training courses dealing with contemporary issues affecting the waste management industry. In the delivery of these training services, WCRA has maintained a formal relationship with TAFE NSW Sydney Institute.

Training is a valuable and well utilised component of the Association's suite of services. Many Members rely on WCRA to provide high quality and industry tailored training for employees and contractors. Through its work in this area, WCRA makes a significant contribution to ensuring that safety, environmental standards and compliance are practiced at a high level of competence across the NSW and ACT sector.

Nationally accredited training courses covering Chain of Responsibility regulations and obligations, Fatigue Management regulations and Work Safely Near Overhead Wires were delivered throughout the year. Whilst most of these sessions were delivered at WCRA Wetherill Park, sessions were also delivered at Nowra, Moruya, Kirrawee, Blacktown, Smithfield and Canley Vale.

Due to the impacts of Covid-19 and the subsequent lockdowns WCRA's ability to deliver training throughout 2020/21 was severely limited, with many planned training sessions cancelled.

In relation to Chain of Responsibility, it should be noted that unit number TLIF0002 is no longer a nationally accredited training option. WCRA has identified a replacement CoR training unit, TLIF0009 and is working with TAFE NSW to develop the relevant training material.

In January 2021 WCRA lodged a formal submission for CoR training under the Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative 2021-22, Round 6 with the NHVR.

Course	Unit nos.	No. of sessions	No. of Attendees
Chain of Responsibility	TLIF0002	5	50
Chain of Responsibility - Toolbox	N/A	8	104
Chain of Responsibility – non-accredited	N/A	0	0
Fatigue Management	TLIF2010	1	5
Work Safely Near Overhead Wires	CPPWMT3063A	6	74
Incident Cause Analysis Method (ICAM)	RIIWHS301D BSBWHS505B	0	0
Intro. to Waste & Resource Recovery	N/A	1	15

Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, training sessions & conventions were forced to be delivered on-line.



*AWRE Virtual 2020 Expo. WCRA led a session to discuss the impacts of Covid-19 on the waste sector session with Tony Khoury (WCRA), Jim Perry (JR Richards), Mike Ritchie (MRA Consulting) & City of Sydney Councillor Linda Scott (President of Local Government NSW)*

## WCRA working with Government



*Ms Rayne de Gruchy, Chair of the Board, NSW EPA addressing a WCRA Breakfast Briefing at Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021. This event was attended by 130 Members.*



*From left to right, also at the WCRA Breakfast Briefing, Tony Khoury Executive Director WCRA, Rayne de Gruchy Chair of the Board EPA, Tracy Mackey CEO EPA and Harry Wilson President WCRA.*

## Waste & Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041

In June 2021 the NSW Government released the NSW Waste & Sustainable Materials Strategy 2041 along with a guide to future infrastructure needs and a plastics action plan. In releasing these plans, the Hon Minister Matt Kean confirmed that the NSW Government is committed to playing its part in making the transition to a circular economy over the next 20 years. Supported by \$356 million in funding, some of the key reforms will include:

- phasing out problematic single use plastic items
- financial incentives for manufacturers and producers to design out problematic plastics
- having government agencies preference recycled content and invest in research and pilots for recycling innovation
- introducing tighter environmental controls for energy from waste in NSW, with further consideration of planning and infrastructure needs underway
- mandating the source separation of food and garden organics for households and selected businesses
- incentivising biogas generation from waste materials.

## Federal bans on the export of recyclables

Throughout the year a number of forums were attended by WCRA including discussions with the Hon. Trevor Evans MP, Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction and Environment Management. In summary the Federal Government has passed Recycling and Waste Reduction legislation confirming the following:

- From 1 January 2021, a licence is now required to export waste glass
- From 1 July 2021, the rules for what plastic can be exported have changed
- From 1 July 2022, a licence will be required to export all types of waste plastics
- From 1 December 2021, a licence will be required to export tyres
- From 1 July 2024, a licence will be required to export mixed paper and cardboard.

## Waste industry challenges and developments

In April 2021 WCRA commissioned and received an updated report from A. Prince Consulting which detailed a significant and unprecedented number of issues and challenges for the waste industry. As a result of consultation with WCRA Members, the top five issues affecting their businesses in order of priority are:

1. Regulation compliance and dealing with the NSW EPA (diversify lobbying efforts to other Ministers with a focus on job creation. Convince the NSW Premier that the environment portfolio is important enough to have its own Minister. Lobby the Minister to diversify the EPA Board to include waste industry experience)
2. China Sword impacts (and the Federal restrictions on the export of recyclables)
3. CDS (the need for a review of the MRF protocol)
4. End markets for glass (stockpiling limits hinder the use of recycled glass in large projects)
5. Fire safety compliance (and the continued increases in insurance premiums)

The report identified twenty-nine proposed actions to support Members in addressing these issues. This updated report was sent to the EPA and the Minister for the Environment. The standard reply to WCRA has been that these issues will be addressed in the NSW 20-year waste strategy.

# IPART Domestic Waste Management Charges Review

In October 2020 WCRA commissioned and received a report from A. Prince Consulting which WCRA submitted to IPART detailing the extraordinary issues and events that have occurred in the industry. WCRA stated that due to these issues and events and the wide and varied services offered to Councils, any attempt to control pricing by IPART is likely to hamper good outcomes for Councils. A full copy this submission is available to Members at [www.wcra.com.au](http://www.wcra.com.au)

## Matters involving Government included:

- Member feedback to WCRA is that our industry is poorly represented on the Board of the EPA. This concern has been discussed and agreed by WCRA Executive.
- In June 2021 WCRA met with the Hon. Paul Scully MP, Member for Wollongong to discuss waste management issues relevant to the Illawarra area.
- WCRA continued discussions with the Hon. Kate Washington MP, NSW Shadow Minister for the Environment in relation to the need for C&D recycling sites to have an asbestos detection procedure and briefings on waste management issues across NSW.
- In August 2020 WCRA was interviewed by the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet in relation to an energy from waste proposal for the Parkes Special Activation Precinct.
- In August 2020 Members were advised of opportunities to apply for grants from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency.
- In August 2020 Members were advised of opportunities to apply for Federal seed funding grants to cut Australia's food waste in half.
- In September 2020 the Hon. Minister Matt Kean advised WCRA of the appointment of a new Chair of the Board of the EPA, Ms Rayne de Gruchy.
- In September 2020 the NSW Greens proposed a bill the phase out single use plastics, with WCRA making a formal submission in April 2021. A NSW Parliamentary Inquiry was conducted into this bill with WCRA appearing to give evidence in June 2021.
- In November 2020 WCRA met with senior adviser to the Hon Minister Matt Kean discussing issues in WCRA's 2020 Annual Report, the 20-year waste strategy, funding for stockpile training and business confidence arising from the revocation of the RROs affecting AWTs.
- In February 2021 WCRA along with other peak resource recovery associations met with the Hon. Minister Matt Kean to detail our concerns in relation to the waste levy, energy from waste and the delays in announcing the 20-year waste strategy for NSW. The Minister responded with letters addressed to each association.

## Work Health and Safety – SafeWork NSW

- The WCRA WHS Group met bi-monthly throughout 2020/21 with the following charter.

*The WCRA WHS Group is a forum for advancing health and safety in the industry.*

*We agree to:*

- ✓ *Maintain ethics and treat each other's contributions with respect.*
  - ✓ *Not to share commercially sensitive information and, if received, such information to not be shared outside of the group.*
  - ✓ *When sharing agreed information outside of the group (such as lessons learnt from an incident/ event) that best efforts are made to maintain the privacy / confidentiality of the people/ businesses involved.*
- A number of presentations were made to the Group by SafeWork NSW staff including Mr Robert Mayell & Mr Gregg Frost.
  - The WCRA & SafeWork NSW partnership arrangement is now in its twelfth year, (the original agreement was signed on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009).
  - A working group made up of WCRA WHS Members, waste equipment manufacturers and SafeWork NSW started a review of the Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines for the Collection, Transport and Unloading of Non-hazardous Waste and Recyclable Materials 2003.
  - Fire risks, lithium-ion batteries, pedestrian separation from plant and overhead wire incidents were some of the consistent concerns throughout the industry discussed at the meetings.
  - Throughout the year WCRA distributed safety alerts from SafeWork NSW relating to mental health and a board range of workplace injury and fatality issues.
  - In October 2020 WCRA made a submission to SafeWork NSW on managing asbestos in soils.
  - In April 2021 a WCRA circular was sent to all Members following the tragic death of four police officers when a fatigued heavy vehicle driver was instructed by his supervisor to complete one more delivery.

*““Commercially we are fierce competitors,  
but when it comes to workplace safety,  
we need to share key learnings”*

Glenn Caffyn, Projects Manager, WCRA

## Transport for NSW / NHVR

- Whilst WCRA was unsuccessful in its 2020/2021 application for NHVR funding to deliver Chain of Responsibility training workshops and toolbox sessions throughout the NSW & the ACT, the application for 2021/2022 has been successful.
- WRIQ is developing an NHVR endorsed national code for waste vehicle load management compliance. WCRA will continue to monitor and advise Members with any relevant updates.
- Ahead of the opening of the North Connex Tollway in October 2020 WCRA was successful in lobbying for exemptions for local work along Pennant Hills Road.



*Throughout the year WCRA received a number of concerns from Members highlighting the operational issues with lawfully collecting solid & liquid waste from No Standing / No Stopping zones.*

*This sign demonstrates the level of confusion that drivers face on a daily basis.*



## EPA

The relationship between WCRA and the EPA is of critical importance to the effective operation of our industry and on occasions it continues to be challenging. WCRA has long advocated that a healthy dynamic waste management and resource recovery industry needs a strong, well-resourced, well-informed, politically independent & operationally transparent regulator to provide a level playing field for industry.

The current year has seen a further restructure of the EPA and DPIE. This has resulted in the EPA assuming direct responsibility for resource recovery as well as enforcement. WCRA, via Executive Director Tony Khoury, has continued to develop a solid working relationship with regular meetings and communications, including attendance at the EPA's quarterly Waste Advisory Group meetings. There have been many interactions between WCRA and EPA staff throughout 2020/21 and whilst we continue to have our differences, all discussions and interactions were conducted with a healthy professional respect. A feature of these discussions was the regular contact and clarification between Mr Stephen Beaman and WCRA throughout the Covid-19 crisis.

Throughout the year WCRA President Mr Wilson and Mr Khoury met with the EPA Chairs, initially Ms Carolyn Walsh and then Ms Rayne de Gruchy. The agenda at these meetings was to promote high level discussions on the key issue affecting our industry.

WCRA continued to pursue the EPA for a resolution to a broad range of issues such as:-

- The 20-Year Waste Strategy for NSW
- Better funding outcomes for the industry
- Off-balance sheet finance options for Financial Assurances
- To more effectively regulate rogue and unlicensed operators
- The National Sword, the recycling crisis and the Federal Government exports bans
- A realistic asbestos strategy that is not based on a zero-tolerance level at recycling facilities
- A waste levy rebate on shredder floc
- Funding for an industry support officer
- Funding for waste industry worker training
- A position paper on Resource Recovery Orders and Exemptions (prepared by Ross Fox)
- A range of recycling industry concerns, with solutions from WCRA
- Critical industry issues resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic
- Bushfire waste and recycling co-ordination
- Waste levy rates for 2021/22
- Audit General's Office review of the NSW waste levy and infrastructure performance
- Energy from Waste policy and issues
- Construction and demolition recycling issues

Covid-19 had a major impact on the health and safety of waste management industry workers. Throughout 2020/21, the NSW Government updated the fact sheets relating to the waste management sector. These fact sheets included "Keeping waste and recycling facilities open", "Information for the waste and recycling industry" and "Information for non-healthcare facilities". These fact sheets provided valuable advice that addressed the following:-

- Essential waste services continue
- Keeping waste and recycling facilities open for workers
- Worker health and safety
- How to protect yourself and others
- Covid-19 testing and compliance with the NSW Public Health Orders
- Covid-19 safe work plans (including business continuity plans)

As mentioned elsewhere in this Report, agreement on a procedure or protocol to deal with an unexpected find of asbestos in a C&D recycling facility is no closer now, than what it was in previous years.

Throughout the year there were a number of EPA sessions and draft documents on the proposed 20-year waste strategy. WCRA attended several focus group sessions and was interviewed by several EPA appointed consultants. This strategy was released in June 2021, entitled, “NSW Waste Sustainable Materials Strategy”, “Guide to Infrastructure Needs” and the “NSW Plastics Action Plan”.

The NSW Waste Levy rates for 2022/22 were advised by the EPA to WCRA and Members -: solid waste metropolitan area \$147.10 per tonne (2020 \$146) and regional areas \$84.70 (2020 \$84.10). It is worth noting that since 2010 the metropolitan area levy has more than doubled from \$70.30 per tonne to \$147.10

The sudden announcement by the EPA in 2018 that the processed outputs from AWT facilities would no longer be lawfully applied to agricultural, forestry and mining land continues to cause unease across the entire industry. The debate and the fallout from this decision has led to genuine wide-spread industry concern that Resource Recovery Orders and Exemptions (RRO/E) can be too easily changed and amended by the EPA. This decision has led to concerns for general investment in waste management infrastructure. These concerns have been further magnified by the EPA’s plan to revoke the RRO/E for recovered fines from mixed C&D waste inputs.

The implications of the China Sword recycling decision continued to trouble the recycling sector. To support the sector, WCRA continued to advocate for the Stakeholder Group to be reconvened. These requests were not acted on by either the EPA, DPIE or the NSW Government. WCRA and Members were firmly of the view that more needs to be done and appointed A. Prince Consulting to develop a strategy addressing AWT, CDS, MRF and recycling issues and a pathway forward. These matters continued to be a concern and this strategy was updated in March 2021.



*The new Bucher Municipal Urbin RL60 , rear loader.  
100% Australian made with best-in-class performance ,versatility and reliability.*



# Relationships

## INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIONS

In December 2020 joint representations were made by WMRR, AORA and WCRA requesting the NSW Government to find a home for the 500,000 tonnes of misplaced material (ex MWOO).

In early 2021 joint representations were made by WMRR, NWRIC, ACOR, ALOA and WCRA executives to the Minister for the Environment seeking better waste management outcomes for NSW, including a review of the waste levy and clarification on the requirements for energy from waste.

### WMRR

WCRA has a good working relationship with the Waste Management & Resource Recovery Association of Australia's (WMRR), in particular the C&D Waste Group, chaired by Jason Sweeney, where we jointly continue to work with the EPA to develop a procedure for the safe management of a small piece of asbestos at C&D recycling sites. WMRR is led by Gayle Sloan who is a strong industry advocate with regular comments on industry developments, regular media releases and branch activities in each Australian capital city.

### NWRIC

WCRA is the NSW and ACT Affiliate of the National Waste & Recycling Industry Council (NWRIC), which is led by CEO Rose Read. Membership of the Council is restricted to organisations with national operations. The current Council members are: Cleanaway, Veolia, JJ Richards, Resource Co, Sims and Solo. State and Territory Associations represented at Council meetings as observers are: WRIQ, WRINT, WRIWA, WRISA, VWMA and WCRA. Council meetings are held approximately every three months with venues alternating to different state capitals. WCRA NSW & ACT was represented throughout the year by Harry Wilson, Greg Turner and Tony Khoury. Executive Officer meetings are held each month, either by teleconference or at face-to-face meetings, where Tony Khoury provides a short update on relevant NSW and ACT matters. WCRA's involvement in NWRIC is an opportunity to progress contentious and national issues. These regular meetings & updates maximise the potential for better communication across all Australian jurisdictions. It should be noted that NWRIC competes with WMRR & ACOR.

### AORA

Australian Organics Recycling Association, WCRA collaborates with AORA led by Peter Olah on matters of joint interest including the NSW Guidelines for waste facilities (Fire + Rescue NSW) and NSW Resource Recovery Orders and Exemptions.

### VWMA

Victorian Waste Management Association (VMWA), led by Executive Officer Alex Serpo, and WCRA continue to enjoy a close relationship and work together on a number of matters including resource recovery, transport and stockpile management training.

### WRIQ

Waste Recycling Industry Queensland (WRIQ) led by CEO Mark Smith and WCRA maintain a good working relationship. WRIQ is currently leading the national project on a code of practise for load management along with a review of waste levy and grants (across all Australian jurisdictions).

### ALOA

Australian Landfill Owners Association (ALOA) and WCRA collaborate on matters of mutual benefit to our Members as and when they arise.

## ACOR

Australian Council of Recycling (ACOR) is the peak national industry recycling association. WCRA continues to work with ACOR on matters of joint interest, in particular the Recycle Mate APP (to reduce contamination in kerbside recycling), general recycling, AWT (MWOO ban) and discussions on accreditation for recycling facilities. In June 2021 a new ACOR CEO was appointed, Ms Suzanne Toubourou.

## The Total Environment Centre (TEC)

The TEC has worked with Australian communities for over 40 years to preserve the ecosystems that support living landscapes and healthy communities across Australia. They also push for recycling infrastructure to protect our waterways and oceans from plastic pollutants, and sturdy legislation around native animals and plants to ensure food and water security for future Australians. They advocate for renewable energy by encouraging innovation, a more flexible modern energy market, and incentivising government investment.

In September 2020 WCRA organised a briefing for the TEC concerning unexpected asbestos finds in C&D recycling including visits for the TEC's Jeff Angel to several Member yards in Western Sydney.

## Other Organisations

WCRA collaborates and cooperates with a large number of organisations whose interests and expertise are relevant, including -:

- Civil Contractors Federation
- Asbestos Diseases Foundation
- Clean Up Australia
- Keep Australia Beautiful NSW
- Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation
- Institute of Public Works and Engineering
- Waste Recycling Industry South Australia
- Waste Recycling Industry Western Australia
- Waste Recycling Industry Northern Territory
- Fiji Waste Management & Resource Recovery Association
- Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

## AWRE

Australian Waste and Recycling Expo was scheduled to be held in Darling Harbour on 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Due to Covid-19 restrictions this was rebadged and held as AWRE 2020 Reimagined Online. Mr Khoury chaired the opening session and introduced the Hon Matt Kean, MP, Minister for Energy and the Environment. WCRA & AWRE continue to enjoy mutual support and promotion through an ongoing agreement which covers 2021 and 2022.

## Groups

Within WCRA there are a number of single-sector, industry or regional sub-groups. Meetings and workshops for these groups are scheduled and facilitated by WCRA and reported in the WCRA Executive monthly meetings.

### WCRA ACT GROUP

The introduction of the waste levy in the ACT continues to be on hold due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

At the WCRA ACT Group meeting in March 2021 discussion was focused on the proposed export ban on recyclables and the proposed ACT waste levy.

WCRA had a series of discussions which were confirmed in writing to ACT No Waste Government representatives detailing industry concerns that ACT landfill and MRF price increases were not advised by 31 May 2021. Members have long expressed these concerns that ACT waste management price increases could not be communicated to customers in time to reflect actual cost recovery.

In August 2020 the ACT MRF received funding from the Recycling Modernisation Fund of \$21 million for an upgrade (to comply with the proposed export bans).

### Liquid & Hazardous Waste Group

Many specific issues affecting this group relate to Sydney Water (who regulate the disposal of grease trap waste and trade waste discharges). Amongst the issues referred to Sydney Water were reminder notices for missed scheduled services, adjustments to service frequencies resulting from business shutdowns due to Covid-19, potentially non-compliant operators & concerns relating to waste tracking (lawful disposal).

Members continue to be concerned that Sydney Water has inadequate resources to fulfil its regulatory oversight of the sector. WCRA continues to seek reassurance and to address these concerns by obtaining a re-commitment from Sydney Water via our existing Code of Practice.

The EPA's waste levy on liquid waste was set at \$78.80 for 2021/22 (previously \$78.20). These funds are part of the consolidated revenue for NSW and are not hypothecated back for the benefit of the NSW liquid waste sector.

Throughout the year the EPA conducted a series of compliance audits on the resource recovery orders for the land application of treated grease trap waste. As at the date of this report these findings have not been tabled by the EPA for discussion with industry.

An enforceable undertaking issued by the EPA resulted in a Member engaging EnviroCom to develop national guidelines for the collection and management of PCB contaminated waste oil.

Looking ahead into the coming year, this sector will face a number of potential challenges including PFOS acceptance criteria at liquid treatment facilities, question marks over the EPA's Resource Recovery Orders (treated grease trap waste) and a strategy to pressure the regulators (EPA & Sydney Water) to enforce compliance with the NSW liquid waste & grease trap waste regulations.

## C&D Waste Group

Throughout the year the Group met several times to discuss and address a range of issues including -:

- The group's activities continued to be chaired by Mr Brent Lawson from Concrete Recyclers.
- An allowable asbestos limit or procedure for dealing with a rogue piece or two of asbestos in a C&D recycling facility. This group along with WMRR's C&D group have had numerous meetings with the EPA in an attempt to address this matter. With a first draft having been produced in November 2011, however we seem to be no closer now to a resolution than we were in 2011.
- A series of meetings and discussions were held with the Office of the Minister for the Environment (Mr Christian Dunk) to detail the Group's concerns relating to the lack of an allowable asbestos limit or procedure for dealing with a rogue piece or two of asbestos in C&D recycling.
- The impacts & management of Asbestos on the NSW Construction and Demolition Industry, an Industry based exercise supported by the industry associations, WMRR and WCRA. The industry has collectively contributed \$111,500 to cover the cost including consultant's scientific report, economic analysis and legal advice. As at, 30 June 2021 a balance of \$24,525 remained unspent.
- The Group continues to work closely with WMRR C&D Group and meets jointly from time to time presenting a united voice in response to (often ill-considered) Government regulatory proposals.
- WCRA continues to promote the EPA's Standards for Managing Construction Waste in NSW to Members. These Standards detail how an incoming load is to be inspected. Further sections include sorting, storage and transport. There is also a section on training. On behalf of Members, WCRA lobbied the EPA and the Minister for the Environment seeking clarification on sorting requirements, inspection points, storage, rejected loads, funding for asbestos detection equipment and the education of waste generators.
- Early in 2021 Members reported a series of hooklift bin thefts from the inner Sydney area. WCRA provided information to the Redfern Area Police Command, who investigated.

In August 2019 the NSW Court of Criminal Appeal in EPA v Grafil Pty Ltd and Mackenzie overturned a decision of the NSW Land and Environment Court (LEC) that lifted the standard of proof for waste dumping offences and challenged the statutory definition of asbestos waste. The court's decision determined that one fragment of asbestos (regardless of its type or size) in a waste stockpile (no matter how large it is) will mean that the whole stockpile is classified as "asbestos waste". This judgement has significantly impacted the C&D recycling sector, in particular recovered fines and aggregates. As at the date of this report the LEC is yet to determine the sentencing in this case number 2016/00157886.

Looking ahead into the coming year, this sector is facing a number of major issues including an EPA review (with a possible revocation) of the Resource Orders and Exemptions for recovered fines and a continuation of the debate on a procedure for managing asbestos in recycling facilities.

## Scrap Metal Group

Throughout 2020/21, a 47% waste levy concession applied on floc waste landfilled within NSW (from 1 July 2021 this concession will reduce to 42.5%). This concession is a NSW Government initiative designed to encourage scrap metal recyclers to accept scrap from regional areas along with products that have a marginal scrap metal value (eg. fridges, washing machines, etc. that contain significant plastic, non-scrap metal parts). An additional benefit of this concession was that it removed incentives to transport floc waste residue to cheaper SE QLD landfills. This concession will reduce to 25% by 1 July 2023.

Throughout the year, there were several fires at car wrecking yards across NSW. It was noted by Members and advised to Fire + Rescue NSW (and NSW EPA) that these yards are not covered by the NSW Fire Waste Guidelines. One such fire at a car wrecking yard in western Sydney had to be extinguished with access to bulk water tanks from a compliant neighbour (a WCRA Members' scrap metal yard).

NSW regulations pertaining to no cash payments for scrap metal continue in NSW, albeit with the Police no longer having a dedicated unit for the proper enforcement of these laws. This lack of enforcement continues to cause business issues for legitimate operators, whilst the business model of rogue operators flourishes. To this extent WCRA and Members lobbied Government to review the Scrap Metal Industry Act 2016 and the Motor Dealers and Repairers Act. WCRA and Members met with the Minister for Police, the Hon David Elliott in March 2021 to present their concerns.

It was reported to WCRA by Members that due to the significant volume of exported unprocessed scrap metal, to ensure there was adequate feedstock, NSW steel mills have imported scrap metal shipments from overseas.

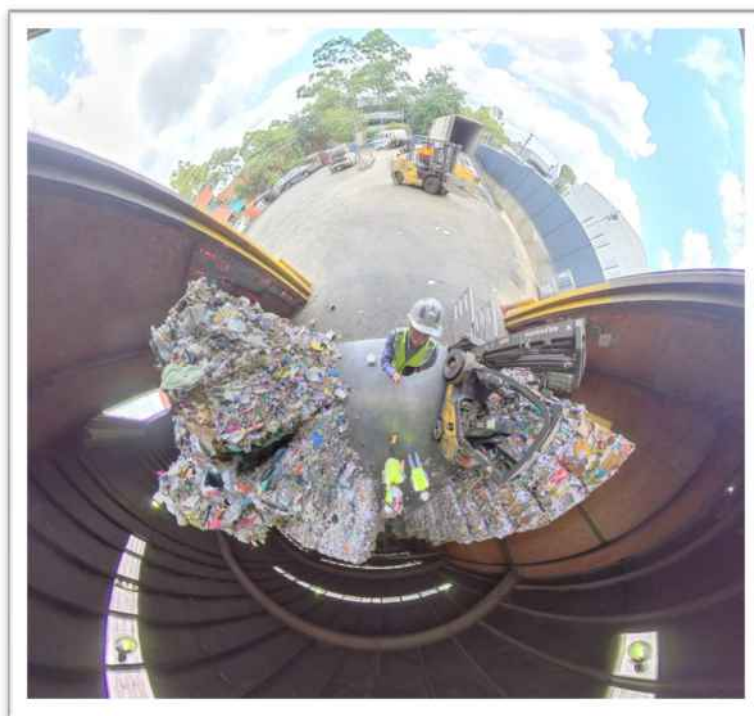


*A tiny planet photo showing representatives from the University of Wollongong's sustainable building faculty visited Concrete Recyclers in February 2021 to better understand the principles of construction waste recycling.*

## Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) GROUP

In March 2021 the Executive decided to form a WCRA MRF discussion Group. The Group addressed a number of issues including:

- A review of the MRF protocol
  - An update of the recycling report produced by A. Prince Consulting
  - Meeting with ACOR to better understand project Recycle Mate
  - Discussions with Gallagher to address insurance risk and premiums
  - A letter to the Federal Government detailing concerns for the export ban of mixed plastics
  - Working with local government to achieve better contract collection and processing outcomes.
- This has led to several discussions and presentations from the Southern Sydney Region of Council (SSROC), including the regulatory reforms required for a circular economy.



*A tiny planet photo showing representatives from the University of Wollongong's sustainable building faculty visited Polytrade in February 2021 to better understand the principles of municipal recycling, including circular economy objectives.*



## The Issues We Address

### NSW Container Deposit Scheme

The NSW CDS has now been in operation for three and a half years with the NSW Government reporting that the scheme has been a phenomenal success story. Conceived as a litter reduction initiative, Return and Earn has now collected more than 6 billion containers in just over three years.

A number of issues remain unresolved:

- The NSW EPA has flagged to WCRA that the MRF refund sharing protocol will be reviewed.
- Several Members expressed concerns to WCRA that bin raiders are taking eligible CDS containers from kerbside bins. These concerns include public liability, personal injury, littering and loss of revenue.
- The issue of CDS refunds for commercial co-mingled materials remains unresolved.
- With South Australia reviewing its CDS regulations, there are possible implications for NSW (wine bottles, spirit bottles & value per eligible container all under review)



*Members of the public support the convenience of using the Return & Earn Vending machines.  
In return the quality of recycled material is very high.*

### Glass Recycling

Several positive discussions have taken place with the RMS who have indicated that they propose to increase the percentage of recycled glass content in asphalt mixes.

WCRA continues to lobby the NSW Government to mandate the prioritisation of recycled glass content in road-making materials.

A number of WCRA Members continue to play a leading role in advancing glass recycling through the construction of recycling plants. However, the most significant issue that continues to face this sector is the inability to legally hold adequate volumes and stockpiles of end product to supply large scale infrastructure projects.

## Load Management Waste & Recycling Industry Code of Practice

WRIQ is leading the development of a NHVR endorsed Waste & Recycling Industry Code of Practice for Load Management. The code is currently being reviewed by WRIQ prior to a re-assessment by the NHVR.

## Long Distance Transport of Waste

Despite the failure by the NSW EPA to enforce the Proximity Principle, it continues to retain its place amongst NSW regulations. Despite the QLD waste levy, substantial volumes of waste continue to be transported north. Disappointingly, there were several major road accidents involving waste carted by long-haul trucks.

## Standards Australia – MGBs and Mobile Bin Lifting Equipment

In mid-2020 the Technical Committee established for a review of the Mobile Waste Container Standard along with an additional part for mobile bin lifters began to take shape. In February 2021 WCRA, WMRR and Australian Industry Group representatives agreed on the 15 stakeholder organisations to be consulted in the review of AS4123.1 to AS4123.7. At the time of writing this report, Standards Australia had agreed to the constitution of Technical Committee PL-047 and the committee has now commenced the review.

## National Clothing Textile Waste Roundtable

In May 2021 WCRA attended this roundtable in Canberra where the Federal Government advised that end-of-life clothing will be added to the priority list of waste to be diverted from landfill. To support this action the Federal Government has allocated \$1million. A summit will be convened in 2021/2022. In WCRA's view this may present an opportunity for the collection of textile waste in the kerbside recycling bin.



*The statistics in support of consideration for the kerbside collection of textile waste recycling*



## Media

WCRA continues to review the industry and general media for articles of specific interest to WCRA Members. Across 2020/21, approximately 17 media articles per month were brought to the attention of the Executive. Amongst the key media themes were the following:-

- It's bin a wheely tough year, now garbage rates are going up.
- Return & Earn reaches 4 billion containers returned
- Welcome to new EPA Chair, Ms Rayne de Gruchy
- Federal budget 2020, \$250 million boast for Australia's recycling infrastructure
- AWRE takes a close look at waste management and Covid-19
- NSW Audit Office recommends review of waste levy settings
- New rules for the export of glass
- WCRA interview, ABC Radio, best practise collection systems and frequencies
- The role of Energy from Waste in meeting the resource recovery challenge
- Lithium-ion battery disposal causing fire hazard in recycling
- Four Victorian police officers killed by non-compliant heavy vehicle driver (fatigue & drug use)
- Insurance guidance for waste and recycling business operators
- Why is grease trap collected in dedicated trucks?
- NHVR approves electronic work diary
- Concerns on the export ban on recycled plastics
- Veolia & Suez agree on terms for merger
- Bingo agrees to \$2.3 billion Macquarie Bank takeover deal
- Canberra Times, "more cardboard recycled, but pizza scraps a problem"

## What do WCRA Members want from Government?

### WCRA Members

- We want a level commercial playing field;
- Regulations should provide certainty;
- We should be consulted & listened to;
- Waste including recyclables should be managed in a safe, sustainable & environmentally sound manner;
- Regulations and proper practices need to be enforced by all regulators, the EPA, DPIE, RMS, NHVR, Police, ATO, SafeWork NSW, Councils, Health, etc.
- NSW Government (with ~ \$750 m of waste levy to consolidated revenue) is well placed to intervene and assist in addressing issues that affect the waste management sector.

### WASTE LEVY

- ▶ NSW waste levy has increased by 148% over the last 10 years, while Waste Less Recycle More funding has decreased by 43% over the last 8 years.
- ▶ 2020 NSW Auditor-General report recommended levy be regularly reviewed to ensure it encourages policy objective of waste minimisation and resource recovery.
- ▶ IPART indicates increased WARR investment by NSW government will stimulate competition and jobs; need for levy revenue transparency; state role in underwriting regulatory risk.



## Functions and Events

### WCRA Annual Dinner and Awards night – November 2020

The very popular WCRA Annual Dinner was scheduled for 27th November 2020 in the Sales Arena at the luxurious The William Inglis Hotel at Chipping Norton, however due to Covid-19 health restrictions the event was cancelled.

Whilst it was disappointing that this dinner was cancelled, a number of Members gathered for a virtual drinks and charity session where over \$3,000 was raised and donated to the Children's Hospitals at Westmead, John Hunter & Randwick.

### Industry Update Conference – June 2021

This annual event was held at the Kirribilli Club in June 2021. 160 delegates attended the update sessions followed by dinner with special guests the Hon. Trevor Evans, Federal Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction along with the Hon. Kate Washington, NSW Shadow Minister for the Environment. A special presentation was delivered by Nestlé (the re-use of soft plastics in Kit Kat wrappers).

The update session presentations included:

- Regulatory update 2021 - current waste management & environmental matters
- Liquid the forgotten waste - industrial liquid, lessons from Covid-19, role of Sydney Water
- Recent waste industry changes, developments & impacts on recyclers.
- Regulations – the importance of enforcement
- NSW 20-Year Waste Strategy and updates from the NSW EPA



*Industry Update Conference at the Kirribilli Club in June 2021*



*The Hon. Trevor Evans, Federal Assistant Minister for Waste Reduction,  
Tony Khoury Executive Director WCRA, Harry Wilson President WCRA and  
The Hon. Kate Washington NSW Shadow Minister for the Environment*

## Breakfast Briefing 9 March 2021

Ms Rayne de Gruchy, Chair of the Board, NSW EPA addressing close to 100 Members, Sponsors & other Stakeholders with a presentation on the objectives of the NSW EPA. Earlier, the industry outlined its position via a series of short presentations delivered by:-

- Ms Ros Dent, Bingo, waste management facilities
- Mr Brent Lawson, Concrete Recyclers, construction & demolition recycling
- Mr Richard Kirkman, Veolia Environmental Services, commercial & industrial waste
- Mr David Clancy, Cleanaway, municipal waste contracting & infrastructure.



*Breakfast Briefing held at Dooleys Catholic Club, Lidcombe*

## Industry Updates via Zoom

Heath orders may limit our ability to meet together in person however, they don't stop the need for our Members to be well informed. To this end WCRA hosted seven (7) online briefings via Zoom throughout the year to ensure Members were armed with the most up to date information. Hundreds of Members attended these online sessions covering the following topics:

- August 2020 – How to manage the risk and avoid the personal, professional and organisational impacts of conviction for environmental offences
- September 2020 – Trends in employment law including sub-contracting
- September 2020 – EPA prosecution trends and managing an EPA investigation
- October 2020 – Leading self and others with mental toughness
- December 2020 – Waste Management Award 2020
- January 2021 – NSW EPA Roadshow 2021
- February 2021 – Waste Industry Insurance Workshop 2021



## WCRA Golf Day

The Ron Horswell Memorial WCRA Golf Challenge was held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at Cabramatta. Nineteen teams of Members, Sponsors and their Guests enjoyed a wonderful day and spectacular weather. The four ball Ambrose format is a popular event, with the winning team being JJ's Waste and Recycling captained by Wayne O'Connor.



*The Able Waste golf team captained by Dave Haugh*

## Retirees Luncheon

The annual luncheon for Retirees from across the waste management industry was held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at the Dooleys venue in Lidcombe. This is a very popular and well attended get-together. One of the guests was a very happy retired Rod Wenzel and his good mate Richard Carlyle who travelled down from St Huberts Island. Another guest was an equally happy Wally Forbes who was in sparkling form.

## Harness Racing, WCRA Sponsor's Night

This annual event was due to be held at the Penrith Harness track on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 was cancelled due to a series of heavy storms that hit Western Sydney.

## WCRA Premises

The premises owned by WCRA in Wetherill Park provides the Association and our Members with an excellent location for meetings, training and administration at no additional cost. The convenience of plentiful parking is an added advantage. WCRA is the only waste and recycling industry association in Australia to own its own premises. With the advent of Covid-19, the boardroom has been fitted out with the necessary hardware, laptop, speakers, camera and screen so that meetings can be held via either Zoom or Microsoft Teams.

## Executive Director of WCRA, Tony Khoury



The waste management sector provides an important and essential service across all parts of the community, collecting a broad range of waste and recyclables from households and the business sector. What was once a relatively simple industry, is now complex and highly regulated. The key regulator in our sector is the NSW EPA and in recent years they appear to have lost touch with how to regulate to support good, legitimate waste management business operators. It is also a fact that many of our waste management laws, and regulations do not provide investors with consistency, certainty and fairness. Nor do they create an environment that promotes employment, resource recovery, recycling and circular economy outcomes.

If we are to achieve an 80% diversion rate by 2030 then the industry will need assistance from the NSW Government. We will also require a greater slice of the waste levy to be invested in new recycling infrastructure. We require a voice within the NSW Government to promote the procurement of

Australian recycled content and to generally champion the arguments that will support and encourage business to invest in better resource recovery outcomes.

As we enter WCRA's 74<sup>th</sup> year, I would like to extend a massive thankyou to WCRA's staff and contractors, the Executive, along with all Members, Sponsors and Stakeholders for your support and engagement.



## WCRA's valued Sponsors

We would like to thank our generous Sponsors for their continued support of the Association. Sponsors assist us to provide better services to our Members and to the industry. When seeking a product or a service, we encourage Members to please support our Sponsors by requesting a proposal for their product or service offering. Here is a link to the Sponsor's page on the WCRA website, <http://wcra.com.au/Partnership.html>



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**WASTE CONTRACTORS AND RECYCLERS  
ASSOCIATION OF NSW  
ABN 72 805 135 472**

**FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30 JUNE 2021**



**WASTE CONTRACTORS AND RECYCLERS  
ASSOCIATION OF NSW**

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**STIRLING WILLIAMS  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
ABN 24 389 387 809**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WASTE CONTRACTORS AND  
RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION OF NSW**

**Opinion**

I have audited the financial report of Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2021, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW as at 30 June 2021, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended on that date in accordance with:

- a) the Australian Accounting Standards; and
- b) any other requirements imposed by the *Industrial Relations Act 1996 (NSW)*.

I declare that management's use of the going concern basis in the preparation of the financial statements of the Association is appropriate.

**Basis for Opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

**Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon**

The Committee of Management is responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is in the Operating Report accompanying the financial report.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report, or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Responsibilities of Committee of Management for the Financial Report**

The Committee of Management of the Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Industrial Relations Act 1996 (NSW)*, and for such internal control as the Committee of Management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee of Management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee of Management either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Committee of Management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Committee of Management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW to express an opinion on the financial report. I am responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Association's audit. I remain solely responsible for my audit opinion.

I communicate with the Committee of Management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I declare that I am an approved auditor, a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and hold a current Public Practice Certificate.

Stirling Williams



Roger C Williams  
Partner  
Auditor Registration Number 932  
Dated 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021

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## WASTE CONTRACTORS AND RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION OF NSW

### Operating Report For the year ended 30 June 2021

The Committee of Management presents its operating report on Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW for the year ended 30 June 2021.

#### Committee Members

The names of committee members at the date of this report are:

Harry Wilson	President
Susie McBurney	Vice President
Gregory Turner	Treasurer
Jeffrey Brandstater	Secretary
Mark Falanga	Committee member
David Johnston	Committee member
David Harrison	Committee member
David Clancy	Committee member
Ros Dent	Committee member
David Gater	Committee member
Graham Knowles	Committee member

#### Review of principal activities, the results of those activities and any significant changes in the nature of those activities during the year

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were to provide support and services to members of the Association. There were no significant changes in the nature of the activities of the Association during the year.

The deficit for the year amounted to \$32,431 (2020 surplus of \$48,866).

*Please refer to the 2021 Executive Report for further information.*

#### Right of members to resign

All new Members are advised of the rules of the Association via the Membership Application form and a full current copy of the Rules is available on the WCRA website. Further, Members are reminded that the provisions of Rule 7 must be complied with in relation to the cessation of Membership.

**Officers or members who are superannuation fund trustee(s) (include position details) or director of a company that is a superannuation fund trustee where being a member or officer of a registered organisation is a criterion for them holding such position**

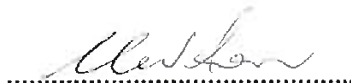
Not applicable.

#### Number of Members

The number of members at 30 June 2021 was 209 – (205 members in 2020).

#### Number of employees

Not applicable. The Association engages contractors only.



Harry Wilson - President

Dated 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021

# WASTE CONTRACTORS AND RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION OF NSW

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2021

		2021	2020
	Note	\$	\$
<b>Revenue from contracts with customers</b>			
Membership subscriptions		335,482	450,820
Sponsorship income		70,517	118,252
Levies		-	-
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>		<u>405,999</u>	<u>569,072</u>
<b>Income for furthering objectives</b>			
Grants – NHVR	3(a)	-	32,800
Functions and events		43,607	43,104
Training fees		52,483	57,866
<b>Total income for furthering objectives</b>		<u>96,090</u>	<u>133,770</u>
<b>Other Income</b>			
Revenue from recovery of wages activity		-	-
Investment income		2,672	15,922
Other income		52,989	300
<b>Total other Income</b>		<u>55,661</u>	<u>16,222</u>
<b>Total Income</b>		<u><b>557,750</b></u>	<u><b>719,064</b></u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Administration expenses	4(a)	45,266	42,168
Audit fees	4(b)	5,200	5,400
Bad and doubtful debts		-	2,500
Contracting fees		396,734	420,956
Depreciation	4(c)	18,538	16,225
Donations		-	-
Functions and events		42,702	59,162
Grants - NHVR Training		649	35,133
Legal fees	4(d)	30,964	33,400
Property expenses		22,260	23,228
Training expenses		27,868	32,026
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<u><b>590,181</b></u>	<u><b>670,198</b></u>
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus for the year</b>		(32,431)	48,866
<b>Other comprehensive income:</b>			
Items that will not be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss		-	-
Items that will be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year</b>		<u><b>(32,431)</b></u>	<u><b>48,866</b></u>

*The above statement should be read in conjunction with the notes*



**WASTE CONTRACTORS AND RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION OF NSW**

**Statement of Financial Position**

**As at 30 June 2021**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
		\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	<b>5(a)</b>	1,165,051	1,257,863
Trade and other receivables	<b>5(b)</b>	420,194	339,567
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>1,585,245</u>	<u>1,597,430</u>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Strata Property	<b>6(a)</b>	611,454	626,872
Plant and equipment	<b>6(b)</b>	9,426	6,425
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<u>620,880</u>	<u>633,297</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u><b>2,206,125</b></u>	<u><b>2,230,727</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade payables	<b>7(a)</b>	79,695	74,188
Other payables	<b>7(b)</b>	562,757	571,365
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>642,452</u>	<u>645,553</u>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Provision	<b>8(a)</b>	48,055	37,125
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<u>48,055</u>	<u>37,125</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u><b>690,507</b></u>	<u><b>682,678</b></u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><b>1,515,618</b></u>	<u><b>1,548,049</b></u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained Earnings	<b>9</b>	1,515,618	1,548,049
<b>Total Equity</b>		<u><b>1,515,618</b></u>	<u><b>1,548,049</b></u>

*The above statement should be read in conjunction with the notes.*

**WASTE CONTRACTORS AND RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION OF NSW**

**Statement of Changes in Equity**

**For the year ended 30 June 2021**

	<b>Retained Earnings \$</b>	<b>Total Equity \$</b>
<b>Balance as at 1 July 2019</b>	1,499,183	1,499,183
<b>Comprehensive income</b>		
Surplus for the year	48,866	48,866
Other comprehensive income	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<u>48,866</u>	<u>48,866</u>
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2020</b>	<u><b>1,548,049</b></u>	<u><b>1,548,049</b></u>
 <b>Balance as at 1 July 2020</b>	 1,548,049	 1,548,049
<b>Comprehensive income</b>		
Deficit for the year	(32,431)	(32,431)
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive loss</b>	<u>(32,431)</u>	<u>(32,431)</u>
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2021</b>	<u><b>1,515,618</b></u>	<u><b>1,515,618</b></u>

*The above statement should be read in conjunction with the notes.*

**WASTE CONTRACTORS AND RECYCLERS ASSOCIATION OF NSW**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**For the year ended 30 June 2021**

		<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Cash received</b>			
Membership fees		362,074	405,783
Sponsorship income		76,221	138,161
Other income		106,079	255,770
Grants received		-	32,800
Interest		11,095	17,840
<b>Cash used</b>			
Payments to suppliers and other customers		(642,160)	(643,574)
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities</b>	<b>10(b)</b>	<b>(86,691)</b>	<b>206,780</b>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Cash used</b>			
Payment for plant and equipment		(6,121)	(5,725)
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(6,121)</b>	<b>(5,725)</b>
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash held</b>		<b>(92,812)</b>	<b>201,055</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		1,257,863	1,056,808
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>	<b>5(a)</b>	<b>1,165,051</b>	<b>1,257,863</b>

*The above statement should be read in conjunction with the notes.*

**Notes to the financial statements**

**INDEX**

Note 1	Summary of significant accounting policies
Note 2	Events after the reporting period
Note 3	Revenue and income
Note 4	Expenses
Note 5	Current assets
Note 6	Non-current assets
Note 7	Current liabilities
Note 8	Non-current liabilities
Note 9	Equity
Note 10	Cash flow
Note 11	Contingent liabilities, assets and commitments
Note 12	Related party disclosures

**Note 1 Summary of significant accounting policies**

**1.1 Basis of preparation of the financial statements**

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements and have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period, and the *Industrial Relations Act 1996 (NSW)*. For the purpose of preparing the general purpose financial statements, the Waste Contractors and Recyclers Association of NSW is a not-for-profit entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and in accordance with the historical cost, except for certain assets and liabilities measured at fair value, as explained in the accounting policies below. Historical cost is generally based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars.

**1.2 Comparative amounts**

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

**1.3 Significant accounting judgements and estimates**

There were no accounting assumptions or estimates that have been identified which have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

**1.4 New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted**

**Adoption of New Australian Accounting Standard requirements**

The entity has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

**1.5 Revenue**

The Association enters into various arrangements where it receives consideration from another party. These arrangements include consideration in the form of membership subscriptions, sponsorship, grants, and donations.

The timing of recognition of these amounts as either revenue or income depends on the rights and obligations in those arrangements.

**Revenue from contracts with customers**

Where the Association has a contract with a customer, the Association recognises revenue when or as it transfers control of services to the customer. The Association accounts for an arrangement as a contract with a customer if the following criteria are met:

- the arrangement is enforceable; and
- the arrangement contains promises (that are also known as performance obligations) to transfer goods or services to the customer (or to other parties on behalf of the customer) that are sufficiently specific so that it can be determined when the performance obligation has been satisfied.

### **Membership subscriptions**

For membership subscription arrangements that meet the criteria to be contracts with customers, revenue is recognised when the promised services transfer to the customer as a member of the Association.

If there is only one distinct membership service promised in the arrangement, the Association recognises revenue as the membership service is provided, which is typically based on the passage of time over the subscription period to reflect the Association's promise to stand ready to provide assistance and support to the member as required.

If there is more than one distinct service promised in the membership subscription, the Association allocates the transaction price to each performance obligation based on the relative standalone selling prices of each promised service. In performing this allocation, standalone selling prices are estimated if there is no observable evidence of the price that the Association charges for that service in a standalone sale. When a performance obligation is satisfied, which is when the service transfers to the customer (for example, member services or training course) the Association recognises revenue at the amount of the transaction price that was allocated to that performance obligation.

For member subscriptions paid annually in advance, the Association has elected to apply the practical expedient to not adjust the transaction price for the effects of a significant financing component because the period from when the customer pays and the good or services will transfer to the customer will be one year or less.

When a member subsequently purchases additional services from the Association at their standalone selling price, the Association accounts for those sales as a separate contract with a customer.

### **Levies**

Levies paid by a member (or other party) in an arrangement that meets the criteria to be a contract with a customer is recognised as revenue when or as the Association transfers the services.

In circumstances where the criteria for a contract with a customer are not met, the Association will recognise levies as income upon receipt.

### **Income of the Association as a Not-for-Profit Entity**

Consideration is received by the Association to enable the entity to further its objectives. The Association recognises each of these amounts of consideration as income when the consideration is received (which is when the Association obtains control of the cash) because, based on the rights and obligations in each arrangement:

- the arrangements do not meet the criteria to be contracts with customers because either the arrangement is unenforceable or lacks sufficiently specific promises to transfer services to the customer; and
- the Association's recognition of the cash contribution does not give to any related liabilities.

During the year, the Association received cash consideration from the following arrangements whereby that consideration will be recognised as income upon receipt:

- donations and voluntary contribution from members; and
- government grants.

### **Volunteer services**

During the year, the Association did not receive volunteer services.

### **Interest income**

Interest revenue is recognised on an accrual basis using the effective interest method.



## **1.6 Current versus non-current classification**

The Association presents assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position based on current/non-current classification.

An asset is current when it is:

- Expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the normal operating cycle;
- Held primarily for the purpose of trading;
- Expected to be realised within twelve months after the reporting period; or
- Cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period

All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is current when:

- It is expected to be settled in the normal operating cycle;
- It is held primarily for the purpose of trading;
- It is due to be settled within twelve months after the reporting period; or
- There is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period

The terms of the liability that could, at the option of the counterparty, result in its settlement by the issue of equity instruments do not affect its classification.

The Association classifies all other liabilities as non-current.

## **1.7 Cash**

Cash is recognised at its nominal amount. Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with bank, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturity of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

## **1.8 Financial instruments**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Association becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

## **1.9 Financial assets**

### **Contract assets and receivables**

A contract asset is recognised when the Association's right to consideration in exchange of services that has transferred to the customer when that right is conditioned on the Association's future performance or some other condition.

A receivable is recognised if an amount of consideration that is unconditional is due from the customer (i.e., only the passage of time is required before payment of the consideration is due).

Contract assets and receivables are subject to impairment assessment

### **Initial recognition and measurement**

Financial assets are classified, at initial recognition, and subsequently measured at amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income (OCI), or fair value through profit or loss.

The classification of financial assets at initial recognition depends on the financial asset's contractual cash flow characteristics and the Association's business model for managing them. With the exception of trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component, the Association initially measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs.

In order for a financial asset to be classified and measured at amortised cost or fair value through OCI, it needs to give rise to cash flows that are 'solely payments of principal and interest' (SPPI) on the principal amount outstanding. This assessment is referred to as the SPPI test and is performed at an instrument level

The Association's business model for managing financial assets refers to how it manages its financial assets in order to generate cash flows. The business model determines whether cash flows will result from collecting contractual cash flows, selling the financial assets, or both.

Purchases or sales of financial assets that require delivery of assets within a time frame established by regulation or convention in the marketplace (regular way trades) are recognised on the trade date, i.e., the date that the Association commits to purchase or sell the asset.

For purposes of subsequent measurement, financial assets are classified in five categories:

- (Other) financial assets at amortised cost
- (Other) financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income
- Investments in equity instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income
- (Other) financial assets at fair value through profit or loss
- (Other) financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss

#### **Financial assets at amortised cost**

The Association measures financial assets at amortised cost if both of the following conditions are met:

- The financial asset is held within a business model with the objective to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows and
- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding

Financial assets at amortised cost are subsequently measured using the effective interest (EIR) method and are subject to impairment. Gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss when the asset is derecognised, modified or impaired.

The Association's financial assets at amortised cost includes trade receivables.

#### **Derecognition**

A financial asset is derecognised when:

- The rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired or
- The Association has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a 'pass-through' arrangement; and either:
  - a) the Association has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or
  - b) the Association has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset but has transferred control of the asset.

When the Association has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from an asset or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, it evaluates if, and to what extent, it has retained the risks and rewards of ownership.

When it has neither transferred nor retained substantially all of the risks and rewards of the asset, nor transferred control of the asset, the [reporting unit] continues to recognise the transferred asset to the extent of its continuing involvement together with associated liability.

#### **Offsetting**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset, and the net amount is reported in the statement of financial position if there is a currently enforceable legal right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

## **Impairment**

### **Expected credit losses (ECL)s**

Receivables for goods and services, which have 30-day terms, are recognised at the nominal amounts due less any loss allowance due to expected credit losses at each reporting date. A provision matrix that is based on historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment has been established.

#### **(i) Trade receivables**

For trade receivables that do not have a significant financing component, the Association applies a simplified approach in calculating expected credit losses (ECLs) which requires lifetime expected credit losses to be recognised from initial recognition of the receivables.

Therefore, the Association does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The Association has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

## **1.10 Liabilities relating to contracts with customers**

### **Contract liabilities**

A contract liability is recognised if a payment is received, or a payment is due (whichever is earlier) from a customer before the Association transfers the related goods or services. Contract liabilities include deferred income. Contract liabilities are recognised as revenue when the Association performs under the contract (i.e., transfers control of the related goods or services to the customer).

### **Refund liabilities**

A refund liability is recognised for the obligation to refund some, or all of the consideration received (or receivable) from a customer. The Association's refund liabilities arise from customers' right of return. The liability is measured at the amount the Association ultimately expects it will have to return to the customer. The Association updates its estimates of refund liabilities (and the corresponding change in the transaction price) at the end of each reporting period.

## **1.11 Contingent liabilities and contingent assets**

Contingent liabilities and contingent assets are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are reported in the relevant notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset or represent an existing liability or asset in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured. Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain, and contingent liabilities are disclosed when settlement is greater than remote.

## **1.12 Property, plant and equipment**

### **Asset recognition threshold**

Purchases of, buildings, plant and equipment are recognised initially at cost in the statement of financial position. The initial cost of an asset includes an estimate of the cost of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located

### **Depreciation**

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful life using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation. Depreciation rates (useful lives), residual values and methods are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate. Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are based on the following useful lives:

	2021	2020
Strata building	2%	2%
Plant and equipment	15%-33.33%	15%-33.33%

## **Derecognition**

An item of buildings, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in the profit and loss.

### **1.13 Income Tax**

The Association is exempt from income tax under Section 23(h) of the Income Tax Assessment Act however still has obligation for the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of GST except:

- a) where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office; and
- b) for receivables and payables.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the Australian Taxation Office is classified within operating cash flows.

### **Note 2 Events after the reporting period**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

#### *Estimation of useful lives of assets*

The Association determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

#### *Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic*

Judgement has been exercised in considering the impacts that the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had, or may have, on the Association based on known information. This consideration extends to the nature of the products and services offered, customers, supply chain, staffing and geographic regions in which the association operates. Other than as addressed in specific notes, there does not currently appear to be either any significant impact upon the financial statements or any significant uncertainties with respect to events or conditions which may impact the Association unfavourably as at the reporting date or subsequently as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

**Note 3 Revenue and Income****Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers**

A disaggregation of the Association's revenue by type of arrangements is provided on the face of the Statement of comprehensive income. The table below also sets out a disaggregation of revenue by type of customer.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Type of customer</b>		
Members	405,999	569,072
<b>Total revenue from contracts with customers</b>	<b>405,999</b>	<b>569,072</b>

**Disaggregation of income for furthering activities**

A disaggregation of the reporting unit's revenue by type of arrangement is provided on the face of the Statement of Comprehensive Income. The table below also sets out a disaggregation of income by funding source:

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>Type of customer</b>		
Members	96,090	133,770
<b>Total income for furthering activities</b>	<b>96,090</b>	<b>133,770</b>

**Note 3(a) Grants and other donations**

Grants – NHVR	-	32,800
<b>Total grants and donations</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,800</b>

**Note 4 Expenses****Note 4(a): Administration expenses**

Advertising fees	474	195
Bank Charges	1,625	2,482
Computer expenses	4,676	3,505
Consulting fees	5,450	-
Insurances	13,609	10,510
Other	8,489	8,854
Printing, postage and stationery	4,772	5,941
Travel and meeting expenses	6,171	10,681
<b>Total administration expenses</b>	<b>45,266</b>	<b>42,168</b>

**Note 4(b) Audit Fees**

Financial Statements audit services	3,650	3,750
Other services	1,550	1,650
<b>Total grants and donations</b>	<b>5,200</b>	<b>5,400</b>

**Note 4(c): Depreciation**

Strata property	15,418	15,418
Plant and equipment	3,120	807
<b>Total depreciation</b>	<b>18,538</b>	<b>16,225</b>

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
<b>Note 4(d) Legal costs</b>		
Litigation	-	-
Other legal costs	30,964	33,400
<b>Total legal costs</b>	<b>30,964</b>	<b>33,400</b>

**Note 5: Current Assets**

**Note 5(a) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash on hand	500	500
Cash at bank	356,648	470,449
Funds held in Trust	48,055	37,641
Short term deposits	759,848	749,273
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>1,165,051</b>	<b>1,257,863</b>

**Note 5(b) Trade and Other Receivables**

Trade debtors	421,987	324,253
Provision for doubtful debts	(5,000)	(5,000)
Interest receivable	-	7,493
Prepayments	3,207	12,821
	<b>420,194</b>	<b>339,567</b>

**Note 6 Non-Current Assets**

**Note 6(a) Strata Property**

Strata property at cost	639,941	639,941
Improvement costs	130,947	130,947
	770,888	770,888
Less accumulated depreciation	(159,434)	(144,016)
<b>Net book value of strata property</b>	<b>611,454</b>	<b>626,872</b>

**Note 6(b) Plant and Equipment**

Furniture and fittings	8,532	8,532
Less accumulated depreciation	(8,532)	(8,532)
	-	-
Office equipment	32,558	26,437
Less accumulated depreciation	(23,132)	(20,012)
	9,426	6,425
<b>Net book value of plant and equipment</b>	<b>9,426</b>	<b>6,425</b>

**Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances**

<b>Strata Property as at 1 July 2020</b>	770,888	770,888
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(144,016)	(128,598)
<b>Net book value 1 July 2020</b>	626,872	642,290
Additions by purchase	-	-
Depreciation expense	(15,418)	(15,418)
<b>Net book value 30 June 2021</b>	<b>611,454</b>	<b>626,872</b>



	2021	2020
	\$	\$
<b>Plant and Equipment at 1 July 2020</b>		
Gross book value	34,969	29,244
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(28,544)	(27,737)
<b>Net book value 1 July 2020</b>	6,425	1,507
Additions by purchase	6,121	5,725
Depreciation expense	(3,120)	(807)
<b>Net book value at 30 June 2021</b>	<b>9,426</b>	<b>6,425</b>

#### **Note 7 Current Liabilities**

##### **Note 7(a) Trade Payables**

Trade creditors	32,768	20,354
Accrued expenses	46,927	53,834
	<b>79,695</b>	<b>74,188</b>

##### **Note (7b) Other Payables**

GST payable	5,012	16,335
Subscriptions in advance	495,584	371,258
Sponsorships in advance	37,636	31,932
Income in advance - Solo Resource Recovery	-	50,000
Industrial Exercise Asbestos	24,525	101,840
Legal costs	-	-
	<b>562,757</b>	<b>571,365</b>

#### **Note 8 Non-Current Liabilities**

##### **Note 8(a) Provision**

Loyalty Agreement	48,055	37,125
	<b>48,055</b>	<b>37,125</b>

#### **Note 9 Equity**

Retained Earnings		
Balance as at start of the year	1,548,049	1,499,183
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	(32,431)	48,866
Balance as at end of the year	<b>1,515,618</b>	<b>1,548,049</b>

#### **Note 10: Cash Flow**

##### **Cash Flow Reconciliation**

##### **10(a) Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents as per the balance sheet to cash flow statement:**

##### **Cash and cash equivalent as per:**

Cash flow statement	1,165,051	1,257,863
Balance Sheet	1,165,051	1,257,863
Difference	-	-

	2021 \$	2020 \$
<b>10(b) Reconciliation of (deficit)/surplus to net cash from operating activities</b>		
Surplus for the year	(32,431)	48,866
<b>Adjustments for non-cash items: -</b>		
Depreciation	18,538	16,225
<b>Cash flow in operating activities not in operating surplus: -</b>		
Solo Resource Recovery	-	50,000
Industry exercise Asbestos income	(77,315)	101,840
<b>Changes in assets/liabilities</b>		
(Increase)/decrease in net receivables	(80,627)	(1,985)
Increase/(decrease) in trade creditors and accruals	(55,816)	1,039
(Decrease)/Increase in subscriptions in advance	124,326	(39,114)
Increase/(decrease) in sponsorship in advance	5,704	19,909
Increase in other liability	10,930	10,000
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>(86,691)</b>	<b>206,780</b>

#### **Note 11 Contingent liabilities, assets and commitments**

The company had no contingent assets, liabilities and commitments as at 30 June 2021 and 2020.

#### **Note 12: Related Party Disclosure**

##### **Related party transactions for the reporting period**

##### **Terms and conditions of transactions with related parties**

Transector Pty Ltd (Transector) and the Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW (WCRA) have an existing agreement dated 6 May 2005 which commenced on 1 June 2005, providing Transector a yearly loyalty agreement of \$10,000, the express purpose of which is to ensure that WCRA retains the services of Tony Khoury via Transector Pty Ltd until at least 30 June 2021.

Since 1 June 2005 the Executive Members of WCRA have reviewed and authorised variations to this agreement. The Executive is satisfied that Transector has met its obligations in relation to the Agreement and these Deeds. The Executive of WCRA have confirmed that they seek to again vary clause 18 of this existing agreement and that WCRA formally offers Transector the following. A further one-year loyalty agreement, whereby each year commencing with the 2020/2021 year an amount of \$10,000 be set aside by WCRA for the benefit of Transector.

In June 2019, \$100,000 was paid to Transector Pty Ltd.

Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW has no employees

The following table provides the total amount of transactions that have been entered into with related parties for the relevant year.

##### **Expenses paid to Transector includes the following:**

The provision of management and administration of the Association, including payments to sub-contractors performing these services.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Contractor fee	244,520	232,580
Administration fee	79,124	98,628
Training and Research	51,091	62,358
	<b>374,735</b>	<b>393,566</b>
<b>Amounts owed to Transector include the following:</b>		
Loyalty fee per agreement	<b>48,055</b>	<b>37,125</b>