

Discussion Paper

The standard of service for the delivery of waste and recycling services to households by councils and alpine resorts



September 2022

vic.gov.au/circular-economy



Photo credits

Cover photo: DELWP

Page 4: SGr

Page 8: Anna Hoychuk

Page 16: DELWP

Page 22: DELWP

Back cover: Dropperder

Acknowledgment

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

We are committed to genuinely partner, and meaningfully engage, with Victoria's Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities to support the protection of Country, the maintenance of spiritual and cultural practices and their broader aspirations in the 21st century and beyond.



© The State of Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning 2022

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence. You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria as author. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, the Victorian Government logo and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) logo. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

ISBN 978-1-76136-054-1 (pdf/online/MS word)

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136 186, email customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au, or via the National Relay Service on 133 677 www.relayservice.com.au. This document is also available on the internet at www.delwp.vic.gov.au.

Content

1. Overview	1
A consistent household recycling system	1
The Legislative Framework	1
2. The purpose of this paper	2
3. How to participate	3
4. Service standards overview	4
4.1 What the standard of service will cover	4
4.2 Who the first standard of service will apply to	4
4.3 What the standard of service will apply to	5
4.4 What the standard of service will not cover	5
5. Acceptable service arrangements	6
5.1 FOGO and glass streams	7
5.2 Mixed recycling and household rubbish streams	8
5.3 Reasonable access to communal drop-off facilities	8
6. Standard lists for consistent sorting of household waste and recycling	11
6.1 Compliance with standard lists	12
6.2 FOGO: food organics caddies and caddy liners	13
7. Consistent bin lids	15
7.1 Bin lid replacement	15
8. Commencement of the service standard	17
9. Compliance with the service standard and regulations	19
9.1 Exemptions	19
9.2 Penalties	20
10. Review of standards	21
11. Next steps	22
Appendix 1 – Standard lists	23
Proposed standard list for the glass recycling stream	23
Proposed standard list for the mixed recycling stream	25
Proposed standard list for the FOGO stream	29
Proposed standard list for the household rubbish stream	33
Appendix 2 – List of Victorian Local Government Comparator Groups and alpine resorts	37
Glossary	39

1. Overview

A consistent household recycling system

The Victorian Government has invested over \$515 million to deliver the most significant transformation and reform of Victoria's waste and recycling industry in our state's history. This includes \$380 million to deliver the Government's circular economy policy, *Recycling Victoria: a new economy*.

Recycling Victoria: a new economy commits to all households having access to standardised services across the state, including services for separated glass recycling. Currently, there is variation across councils and alpine resorts in the number of household waste and recycling stream services provided.

The Government is supporting councils and alpine resorts to roll out a new standardised four-stream household waste and recycling system across Victoria, and encouraging them to transition as soon as possible including through dedicated funding, such as through the Kerbside Reform Support Fund and the Transfer Station Upgrade Fund.

This new system will enable more and improved recycling and result in less waste going to landfill. A state-wide education program will also help people understand and better use the four-stream system.

The Legislative Framework

Under section 60 of the *Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021* (the Circular Economy Act), councils and alpine resorts have an obligation to provide household waste and recycling services on and from dates prescribed in forthcoming regulations (i.e. when the obligation commences). Services that must be provided to households are:

- residual waste (household rubbish)
- mixed recycling (separate from glass recycling or food organics and garden organics)
- glass recycling, and
- food organics and garden organics (FOGO).

Household waste and recycling services provided by councils and alpine resorts will be regulated by the Head of Recycling Victoria (RV) via a service standard and accompanying regulations made under the Circular Economy Act. This will provide greater consistency in services for the public, increase the quality of material collected from households so it can be turned into new products, and divert more waste from landfill.

The legislative framework under which service standards may be made is outlined in the [Service Standards Framework](#). It explains the legislative provisions that set out what a service standard is, what they can cover and to whom they can apply. It also explains how they can be prepared, made, reviewed, amended and revoked, the mandatory consultation requirements and how they will be implemented and enforced by RV.

2. The purpose of this paper

This document is not the draft service standard.

This discussion paper seeks feedback on the proposed policy and options to inform the development of the first standard of service to be required by councils and alpine resorts. The first service standard is intended to support councils and alpine resorts to provide high-quality, consistent services across the state.

The policy settings and options outlined in this paper are not final and may change in response to feedback received and further analysis of costs and benefits. We are releasing the discussion paper now to get early feedback on the proposals to help us draft the first service standard. The draft service standard, corresponding draft regulations, and associated Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) will be released for formal public consultation in 2023. There will be further opportunity to comment at this time. Final service standards and regulations are expected to be made in the second half of 2023.

Further service standards for other waste streams and other waste and resource recovery sector participants may be developed in the future, in consultation with industry and other affected stakeholders. For more information on the process for making future standards, including the opportunities to participate their development, please refer to the [Service Standards Framework](#).

3. How to participate

Survey questions for councils, alpine resorts, industry and members of the community can be found throughout this document. Please submit your responses to these questions through the [Engage Victoria website](#).

It is recommended that this discussion paper is read in conjunction with the Service Standards Framework, which is a supporting document that provides context on service standards and how they are made. It is also available on the Engage Victoria website.

Consultation on this discussion paper will close on Wednesday 26 October 2022.

For more information, please read the Frequently Asked Questions (available on [Engage Victoria](#)) or contact DELWP at circulareconomy.legislation@delwp.vic.gov.au



4. Service standards overview

4.1 What the standard of service will cover

It is proposed that the standard will cover:

- who the standard applies to,
- which services it applies to,
- acceptable service arrangements in different circumstances (outlining what is reasonable access, including where alternative service arrangements to kerbside collection are acceptable),
- standard lists,
- standard bin lid colours, and
- the date or dates when it will commence.

4.2 Who the first standard of service will apply to

The first standard of service will further specify the obligation on councils and alpine resorts to provide the four-stream household waste and recycling services. It is proposed to apply directly to councils and alpine resorts:

- where they, or their contractors, provide a household waste and recycling service, and
- to all new residential developments they will service.

For this standard, households are proposed to include single-dwelling developments, multi-dwelling developments, temporary boarding houses, public housing, retirement villages and nursing homes.

It is proposed to apply to services that councils and alpine resorts provide to these residential properties, regardless of whether these properties are owner-occupied or rented on a short- or long-term basis.

While this standard will apply directly to councils and alpine resorts, it is recognised that it will impact members of the public as recipients of the service. It will also impact industry participants such as those contracted by councils to collect waste and recycling, with flow-on effects for other industry participants, including organisations involved in processing and reprocessing waste and recycling materials.

It is proposed that the first standard of service will only apply to councils and alpine resorts and not to other household waste and recycling service providers. In some residential settings (for example, some multi-dwelling developments), councils and alpine resorts are not involved in the provision of household waste and recycling services. In these cases, waste and recycling industry participants are directly contracted by private parties, such as owners corporations or building managers, to deliver the service. In these circumstances, there are complex issues to work through to determine how best to apply standards. This will be addressed through subsequent service standards to ensure that, in time, all households will have access to consistent services. In the interim, such service providers are encouraged to enter an arrangement that reflects the service standards applied to councils/alpine resorts.

4.3 What the standard of service will apply to

The standard of service will apply to the following services that councils and alpine resorts (or their contractors) provide:

- kerbside household waste and recycling services provided to residential developments
- communal household waste and recycling services provided to multi-dwelling developments
- alternative collection arrangements (drop-off services) for household waste and recycling services.

4.4 What the standard of service will not cover

It is proposed that the first standard will not cover services that are outside of the four-stream household waste and recycling system or matters that require further work in the context of broader forthcoming reforms. Consistent with the desire of councils and alpine resorts to retain flexibility over local service models, some elements of service delivery that are less relevant to state-wide outcomes are also out of scope. This includes:

- some infrastructure considerations (i.e. bin sizes, bin body colours, configurations, and frequency of collection) which are more appropriately left to councils and alpine resorts to decide based on community needs and local considerations and changing behaviour of local households over time,
- service performance and reporting requirements as these will be considered in the context of future data and reporting requirements and regulations to be progressed in 2023,
- hard waste collections,
- public place bins that are not part of a household drop-off service, such as council-serviced bins in parks and reserves, or
- non-residential properties that are serviced by councils and alpine resorts, as these will be considered in the context of future reforms to require businesses to sort their waste.

The proposed scope of the standard of service is not intended to prevent or preclude councils and alpine resorts from applying this standard in servicing non-residential properties if it is appropriate to do so. However, the service standard will not mandate this.

5. Acceptable service arrangements

This section outlines potential policy settings for acceptable access to services in different circumstances and proposed criteria that councils and alpine resorts must consider for alternative arrangements.

In line with the overarching *Recycling Victoria: a new economy* objective of standardising services across the state, a kerbside service is the preferred method of providing access to household waste and recycling services unless there is a strong rationale and genuine need for an alternative. Providing the service directly to the household makes it convenient and simple for people to separate their waste and recycling, resulting in better quality materials for recycling. In some circumstances, delivery of a kerbside service may be impractical, such as in dense urban environments where servicing large multi-dwelling developments is not provided by councils due to inappropriate fleet or site access issues, or in rural areas where large geographical distances make kerbside services inefficient.

Where a council or alpine resort considers it reasonably impracticable to comply with the requirement to provide a kerbside service for any of the streams, appropriate exceptions to a kerbside service are outlined below. For anything other than these exceptions, councils and alpine resorts will need to apply for an exemption under section 23 of the Circular Economy Act (see section 9.1).

We seek feedback on the following proposed service arrangements.

5.1 FOGO and glass streams

The following section outlines the proposed standard for council and alpine resort provision of the new separate FOGO and glass streams, as required by the Circular Economy Act.

To support the principles of reducing waste and increasing recycling, councils and alpine resorts must aim to eliminate organic material from the household rubbish stream and glass from the mixed recycling stream, through the provision of separate FOGO and glass services.

It is proposed that there will be provision for alternative arrangements in the following settings:

- **Metropolitan councils, interface councils and regional cities**¹: will be required to provide all households they service with a kerbside FOGO service and kerbside separate glass service. The only exception to this is where a council determines that a kerbside FOGO and/or glass service is not practicable such as in a multi-dwelling development that it or its contractors service. In these circumstances, councils may provide alternative drop-off services for these households.
- **Small shires, large shires and alpine resorts**¹: must provide all households they service with a kerbside FOGO service and kerbside separate glass service, except in regional or rural areas where it is not practicable, for example where existing drop-off services are already provided because of large geographical distances. In these circumstances, councils may provide similar drop-off services for FOGO and glass streams.

The service standard may include principles or criteria that councils and alpine resorts would need to consider in determining whether a non-kerbside service is appropriate.

1. Refer to Appendix 2 for a description of these groups.

It must be noted that an 'opt in' service model for kerbside FOGO and glass services will not satisfy the standard of service. The default position is that a kerbside service will be provided by councils and alpine resorts.

However, all councils and alpine resorts providing a kerbside FOGO service may, at their discretion, allow households to opt out, subject to conditions.

It is proposed that councils and alpine resorts will not have discretion to allow households to opt out of a kerbside glass service.

5.1.1 Options for households to opt out of kerbside FOGO service

There may be circumstances where individual households prefer to manage the FOGO material they generate onsite or via a community compost facility, instead of via a kerbside bin. It is proposed that in these cases, the standard of service will enable councils and alpine resorts to permit, at their discretion, households to opt out from a kerbside FOGO service. Conditions of opt-out arrangements will be informed by this consultation.

Where a household demonstrates that they have the means available to manage all FOGO material onsite or via a community compost facility, councils and alpine resorts may not be required to provide a kerbside FOGO service. We are considering what requirements councils and alpine resorts would need to meet in these circumstances.

These requirements could include:

- the provision of communal drop-off facilities for households to access should their onsite or community facilities be unavailable



- the ability for households to easily resume a kerbside FOGO service at a later date, if their circumstances change
- having behaviour change and communications materials in place to encourage residents to follow the correct disposal steps for FOGO materials
- reporting on opt-out arrangements.

5.2 Mixed recycling and household rubbish streams

The following section outlines how councils and alpine resorts are to provide mixed recycling and household rubbish streams, as required by the Circular Economy Act.

Councils and alpine resorts must support the diversion of recyclables from landfill through the provision of a mixed recycling service and household rubbish service.

It is proposed that the standard of service will require councils and alpine resorts to provide kerbside mixed recycling and kerbside household rubbish services except where councils and alpine resorts currently provide an existing drop-off service for mixed recycling and/or household rubbish.

It is proposed that councils and alpine resorts will not have discretion to allow households to opt out of a kerbside mixed recycling or household rubbish service.

Councils and alpine resorts may choose to provide both a kerbside collection and a complementary drop-off service for households.

When a council or alpine resort introduces the new separate glass service in accordance with the requirements of the standard of service, the mixed recycling requirements (excluding glass) would apply. Similarly, once a council starts providing a separate FOGO service in accordance with the requirements of the standard of service, the household rubbish requirements (excluding FOGO) would also apply.

5.3 Reasonable access to communal drop-off facilities

As noted above, some councils and alpine resorts may provide alternative measures where, for instance, it may not be practicable to provide a kerbside service.

In circumstances where drop-off facilities are permitted, consistency across councils and alpine resorts in the way that access to communal drop-off services is provided is important so that Victorians have fair and reasonable access.

To achieve this, it is proposed that the number and location of communal drop-off facilities provided would need to meet accessibility requirements such as:

- be at reasonable distances for residents to travel to access the nearest communal drop-off facility
- be accessible (walking and travelling by car or public transport, including for people with limited mobility)
- be reasonably placed having regard to the desirability for proximity of drop-off facilities to other existing community facilities or services that people visit or access regularly
- meet certain requirements for the operating hours for drop-off facilities (including weekends)
- have sufficient capacity to service the number of people a facility would be catering to
- reduce risk to the safety of pedestrians by limiting the number of crossings of major roads required to access the drop-off point
- adequately provide for logistics for collection/truck access (optimising an overall network)
- comply with other environmental legislation and regulations (e.g. noise and odour considerations) and planning provisions.

Consultation questions

Acceptable service arrangements

To assist us to understand your preferences for service arrangements, please respond to the following questions in the [Engage Victoria survey](#):

Questions for councils/alpine resorts:

1. Do you anticipate any issues for your council/alpine resort in aligning with the proposed acceptable arrangements for glass recycling services?
If yes: What issues do you anticipate?
2. Do you anticipate any issues for your council/alpine resort in aligning with the proposed acceptable arrangements for FOGO services?
If yes: What issues do you anticipate?
3. Do you anticipate any issues for your council/alpine resort in aligning with the proposed acceptable arrangements for mixed recycling and household rubbish?
If yes: What issues do you anticipate?
4. Do you think it should be appropriate for households to have the ability to opt out of a kerbside FOGO service?
If yes: Under what circumstances do you think it should be appropriate for households to opt out of a kerbside FOGO service? Select from list provided in online survey.
If no: Please specify.
5. The discussion paper lists a number of factors proposed for consideration in determining the location of a drop-off facility. Are these factors suitable?
If no: Please specify.
6. Are there any additional factors that should be considered when determining reasonable access to a drop-off facility?
7. Do you anticipate that your community might face any issues in using drop-off facilities?
If yes: What issues do you think your community might face when taking FOGO and/or glass recycling to a drop-off facility? Select from list provided in online survey.
8. Should the service standard specify a maximum distance residents should be required to travel to access a FOGO or glass recycling drop-off facility?
If yes: What do you think the maximum distance should be?

Questions for the community:

1. What type of home do you live in? Select from list provided in online survey.
2. Would you like the option to apply to your council/alpine resort to opt out of a kerbside FOGO service?

If yes: Why might you consider applying to opt out of a kerbside FOGO service? Select from list provided in online survey.
3. In most residential settings (particularly those in metropolitan councils, interface councils and regional cities), the most suitable way to ensure reasonable access to the four-stream system is by providing a kerbside bin. However, alternative drop-off facilities will be required in limited circumstances where a kerbside bin is not practicable. Do you support the proposed approach to providing access to drop-off facilities in limited circumstances?

If no: Why not?
4. What issues/barriers do you think your household might face in taking FOGO and/or glass recycling to a drop-off facility? Select from list provided in online survey.
5. Does your council/alpine resort provide drop-off facilities for glass recycling?

If yes: Approximately how often do you use drop-off facilities for glass recycling? Select from list provided in online survey.
6. Does your council/alpine resort provide drop-off facilities for FOGO?

If yes: Approximately how often do you use drop-off facilities for FOGO? Select from list provided in online survey.
7. How would you travel to a drop-off facility for FOGO or glass? Select from list provided in online survey.
8. How far would you travel to access a drop-off facility (for either FOGO or glass recycling, not including Container Deposit Scheme collection points)?

6. Standard lists for consistent sorting of household waste and recycling

To support the use of the new four-stream system and maximise the value we get from our precious resources, we are defining the items that can go in each of the four streams for Victorian households.

From 22 November 2021 to 12 January 2022, the Government sought community and industry input on proposed draft lists for sorting FOGO, glass and mixed recycling at home through online consultation on the Engage Victoria platform and targeted industry workshops. DELWP has developed updated proposed standard lists, informed by feedback provided during the consultation period (these draft lists are in **Appendix 1**). Further information is available at [Standardising recycling at home across Victoria | Engage Victoria](#).

Standard lists will lead to more and better recycling:

- making it easier for people to put items in the right stream no matter where they are in Victoria,
- creating cleaner material streams, and
- reducing contamination and the risk of materials going to landfill.

Some items will not be suitable for inclusion in any of the four waste and recycling streams. Households will need to take these items to alternative collection points. An example of this is e-waste.

Some materials have been included or excluded from the lists to maximise recycling and in response to emerging technologies and markets. For example, beverage cartons are proposed to be accepted in the mixed recycling stream to encourage new investment in Victoria, replicating a new facility currently being built in NSW to convert beverage cartons into particle board for construction.

Soft plastics are proposed to be included. The timing of inclusion of soft plastics in the mixed recycling stream will take into consideration processing

capacity and industry readiness to accept this material. Advanced recycling processes are currently being established in Victoria which will enable soft plastics to be recycled.

We understand that soft plastics can contaminate other streams and impact sorting equipment. Any system to collect soft plastics will consider this before being introduced (e.g. the use of standardised collection bags for consolidating soft plastics).

A number of councils, recycling facilities and the National Plastics Recycling Scheme are currently conducting trials which will inform how and when soft plastics will commence being collected. Councils will advise their communities when the standard lists take effect.

The proposed standard lists for the glass, mixed recycling and household rubbish streams direct households to refer to an item's Australasian Recycling Label (ARL). The ARL is an evidence-based on-pack label endorsed by all Australian governments. The label can be added to packaging and gives instructions for how to recycle or dispose of it. Directing households to the ARL supports correct recycling of a more complex and comprehensive range of packaging. Where an item does not have an ARL, households should follow the standard lists.

DELWP is not seeking feedback on the contents of standard lists during this consultation. A further opportunity to comment on the standard lists will be provided, once the standard has been developed, as part of the formal RIS public consultation process in 2023.

6.1 Compliance with standard lists

Councils and alpine resorts will be expected to demonstrate compliance with the standard lists, for example by providing evidence that they have communicated the accepted and not accepted materials for each stream to their community and have strategies in place to minimise contamination.

The Head of RV will have powers to enforce compliance with the lists by councils and alpine resorts and inclusion of the lists in contracts with providers.

Consultation questions

Standard lists for consistent sorting of household waste and recycling

To assist us to understand impacts associated with the standard lists, please respond to the following questions in the [Engage Victoria survey](#):

Questions for councils/alpine resorts:

1. What steps do you anticipate that your council/alpine resort will need to take to align with the proposed standard lists?
2. What methods are you using, or considering using, to support and monitor compliance with the standard lists? Select from list provided in online survey.
3. How long do you estimate that it will take for your council/alpine resort to align with the proposed standard lists?
4. Do you anticipate any costs associated with adjusting to the proposed standard lists?
If yes: What are the costs that you anticipate?

Questions for industry:

1. Do you anticipate that your organisation will require significant changes to infrastructure and/or operations to align with the proposed standard lists?
If yes: How long do you estimate the changes to infrastructure and/or operations will take?
What do you estimate the changes to infrastructure and/or operations will cost?
2. Do you anticipate that the standard lists will change how you monitor and manage contamination?
If yes: How?

6.2 FOGO: food organics caddies and caddy liners

Council provision of food organics caddies and caddy liners plays a significant role in community uptake of FOGO services and can reduce contamination.

To support households and compost facility operators to identify appropriately certified caddy liners, it is proposed that they must meet the following requirements to be accepted in the FOGO stream:

- a shade of green (to align with FOGO stream bin lid)

- no handles (to support messaging that caddy liners should remain untied, as knots can remain in compost for a longer period than other FOGO materials)
- certified Industrial Compostable to the Australian Standard (AS 4736).

These requirements are consistent with caddy liners currently available in the market, including in many supermarkets. Councils and alpine resorts may decide if and how they supply caddy liners and/or food organics caddies to the households they service. Councils and alpine resorts may also opt to provide paper caddy liners.

Consultation questions

FOGO: food organics caddies and caddy liners

To assist us to understand your preferences for service elements, please respond to the following questions in the [Engage Victoria survey](#):

Questions for councils/alpine resorts:

1. It is proposed that compostable caddy liners used in the FOGO bin/service are standardised in terms of colour, type, and Industrial Compostable certification. Do you support this approach?
2. Does your council currently provide (or intend to provide) caddy liners to households?

If yes: How does your council provide (or intend to provide) caddy liners to households? Select from list provided in online survey.

Are the caddy liners certified to AS 4736?

What colour are the caddy liners your council/alpine resort provides? Select from list provided in online survey.

Questions for industry:

1. It is proposed that caddy liners used in the FOGO bin/service are standardised in terms of colour, type, and Industrial Compostable certification. Do you support this approach?
2. *Question for caddy liner manufacturers:* What is the specific colour or colours used for industrial compostable caddy liners produced by your organisation? Please specify the colour and RGB code.
3. *Question for organics processing facilities:* What characteristics would assist you in identifying and processing certified Industrial Compostable caddy liners? Select from list provided in online survey.
4. It is proposed that only green AS 4736 certified caddy liners are permitted in the FOGO stream. Do you have any concerns regarding this colour requirement?

Questions for the community:

1. To support households and compost facilities to identify caddy liners that are suitable for the FOGO stream, it is proposed that caddy liners used in the FOGO bin/service are standardised in terms of colour, type, and Industrial Compostable certification. Do you support this approach?

If no: Please specify.
2. If certified Industrial Compostable caddy liners were not provided by your council, what actions would you take? Select from list provided in online survey.

7. Consistent bin lids

The service standard will include requirements for the bin lid colours to be red, yellow, lime green and purple.

7.1 Bin lid replacement

Two options are being considered for replacement of bin lids:

Option 1: By a set date	Option 2: Gradual replacement
<p>New services and existing services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All bin lid colours must be consistent with the standard by a set date/s.• The set date/s will be defined in the standard of service.	<p>New services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All new bins must be consistent with the standard by a set date/s. <p>Existing services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bin lid colours consistent with the standard may be implemented gradually, as bins/bin lids reach 'end of life'.



Consultation questions

Consistent bin lids

To assist us to understand your preferences for the approach to bin lid replacement, please respond to the following questions in the [Engage Victoria survey](#):

Questions for councils/alpine resorts:

1. For consistency across different service types, it is proposed that alternative services (such as drop-off facilities) use colours (for example, in signage) consistent with the bin lid colours required for kerbside bins. Do you support this approach?
2. We understand that many councils/alpine resorts will need to update bin lid colours to comply with colours specified in the standard. For existing services that require new lids to be compliant with the standard, does your council/alpine resort intend to change whole bins, or lids only?
3. How does your council/alpine resort intend to replace bins/bin lids? Select from list provided in online survey.
4. What is your council/alpine resort's preferred approach to standardising bin lid colours for existing services? Select from list provided in online survey.
5. What are the main cost and other considerations for your preferred option for bin lid replacement?
6. If you chose replacement of bin lids over time, how would your council or alpine resort manage any potential confusion for residents?

Question for the community:

1. Which is more important to you?
 - Making household waste and recycling more consistent by standardising bin lid colours across Victoria as quickly as possible.
 - Reducing waste by using existing household bin lids until they reach end of life.

8. Commencement of the service standard

The commencement of the obligation to provide the four-stream household waste and recycling services (in accordance with section 60 of the Circular Economy Act) is different to the commencement of the service standard.

The service standard will specify the commencement date (or dates) when councils and alpine resorts must comply with the specific requirements detailed in the service standard (i.e. how the service must be provided to households).

The Head of RV can enforce the service standard once it has commenced.

We are considering a number of options for the commencement of the standard of service, including a proposal for commencement via a **staged commencement approach**.

Under a staged commencement approach, the standard of service would commence once a new service or services is provided by a council or alpine resort. This means that even if the service is provided voluntarily, before the council or alpine resort must provide the service under the Circular Economy Act, the council or alpine resort would need to comply with the standard for services they provide.

In this model:

Councils and alpine resorts that:	Proposed staged approach
Complete transition to a new service/s before the service standard is made.	Granted a grace period (e.g. 6-12 months from the date the service standard is made) in which to align their services to comply with the service standard.
Complete transition to a new service/s after the service standard is made.	Required to comply with the service standard from the time transition is completed.

Further work will be required to determine how this model may operate, including how 'transition' would be defined.

Before a council or alpine resort transitions, there would not be a requirement to comply with the service standard. The staged commencement approach is intended to encourage consistent service delivery of the standardised material streams as soon as possible, which will provide greater certainty to industry and confidence to communities. It will also ensure that councils and alpine resorts already in the process of transitioning comply with the standard of service sooner.

Consultation questions

Commencement of the service standard

To assist us to understand your views on commencement of the requirements set out in the service standard, please respond to the following questions in the [Engage Victoria survey](#):

Questions for councils/alpine resorts:

1. Do you have any comments on the proposal for staged commencement of the requirements of the service standard?
2. What issues do you anticipate for your council/alpine resort with this proposal?
3. What benefits do you see with this proposal?
4. Do you have any comments on the interaction between the standard of service and waste contracts?

Questions for industry:

1. Do you have any comments on the proposal for staged commencement of the requirements of the service standard?
2. What issues do you anticipate for your organisation with this proposal?
3. What benefits do you see with this proposal?
4. What would be the key market impacts for your industry with this proposal?
5. Do you have any comments on the interaction between the standard of service and waste contracts?

Question for the community:

1. What do you think of the proposal for staged commencement of the requirements of the service standard?

9. Compliance with the service standard and regulations

Compliance with the requirements in the service standard can be enforced by the Head of RV from the date (or dates) it commences.

The Circular Economy Act contains a graduated and proportionate suite of compliance and enforcement mechanisms, including the use of information gathering notices, improvement notices and enforceable undertakings, to enable the Head of RV to adequately discharge its regulatory duties. Tools to support, monitor and enforce compliance are summarised in Diagram 1.

Supporting councils and alpine resorts to comply with the required standard of service will be a key role for RV, particularly while the requirements are new.

For further information about exemptions and penalties, please read the [Service Standards Framework](#).

9.1 Exemptions

Councils and alpine resorts may apply for an exemption from requirements in a service standard. Exemption applications will be considered by the Head of RV on a case-by-case basis.

The Circular Economy Act stipulates that the Head of RV must not grant an exemption unless they are satisfied that:

- the exemption will not pose a serious risk of failure of, or disruption to, waste, recycling or resource recovery services,
- it is not practicable for the service provider to comply with the relevant provision, and
- the exemption is necessary to enable the efficient administration of the relevant provision.

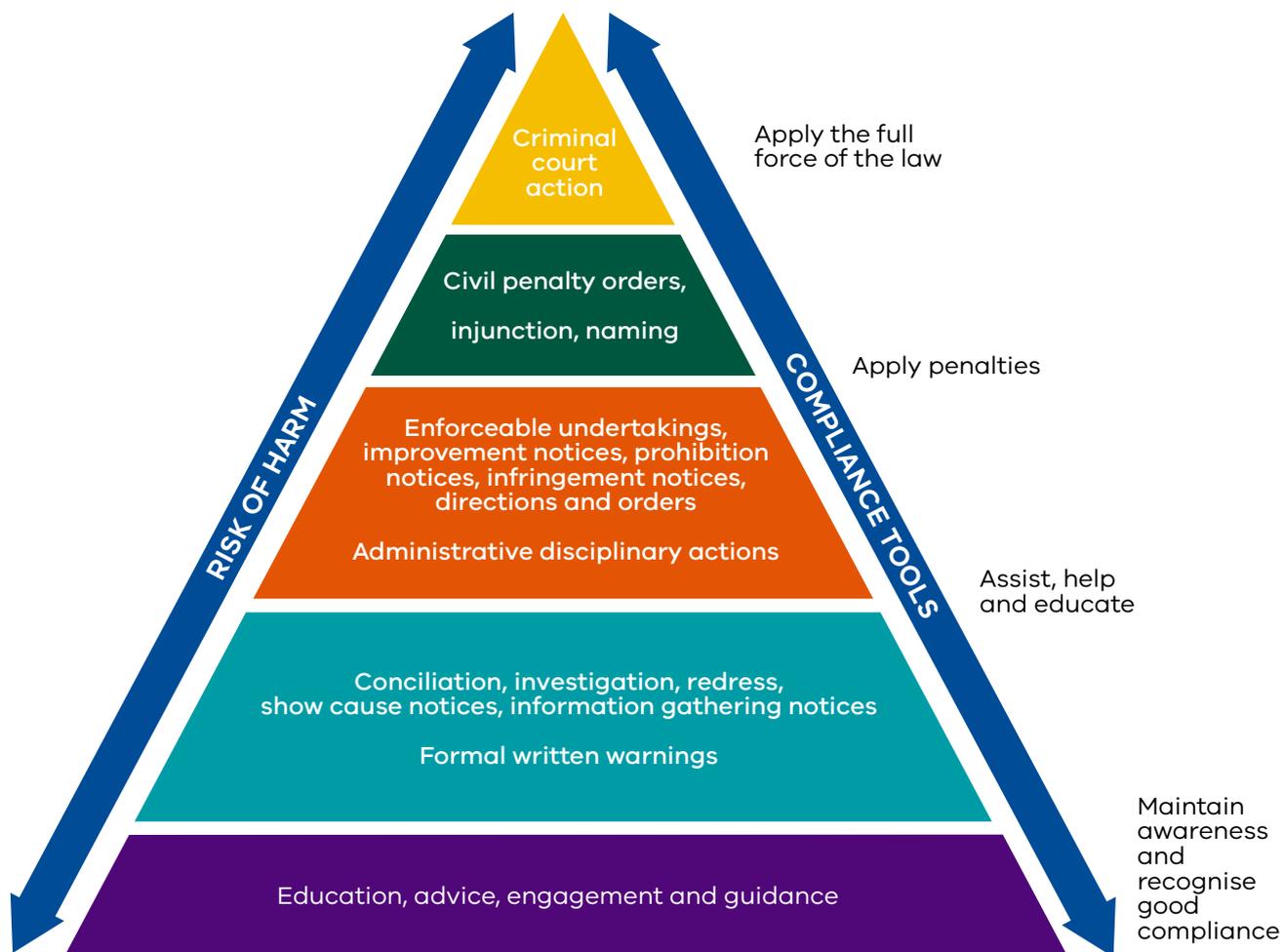


Diagram 1.

Tools to support, monitor and enforce compliance.

Application forms for applying for an exemption will be included in regulations and may include additional information required to support an exemption application.

The Head of RV is not able to provide an exemption from requirements set out in the Circular Economy Act, such as the obligation to provide the four separate stream services; they can only provide an exemption from requirements in the service standard or regulations.

It is envisaged that councils and alpine resorts will be well placed to comply with the service standard requirements and not need to rely on seeking exemptions. However, there may be exceptional circumstances where a council or alpine resort submits an exemption application to the Head of RV, and it is considered on its merits.

9.2 Penalties

The regulations may prescribe a penalty for failure to comply with the requirement to provide the four services by the required dates.

The Circular Economy Act outlines offences and associated penalties that can apply in the event of non-compliance with a service standard. Penalties may apply if there is a refusal or failure to comply with the service standard or a refusal or failure to incorporate the relevant service standard into any agreement entered in connection with providing the waste, recycling or resource recovery service (sections 69 and 71 of the Circular Economy Act).

Consultation questions

Compliance with the service standard and regulations

To assist us to understand your views on compliance with the service standard and regulations, please respond to the following questions in the [Engage Victoria survey](#):

Questions for councils/alpine resorts:

1. What barriers/challenges do you see for your council/alpine resort in complying with the proposed elements of the service standard outlined in this discussion paper?
2. Would you like to make any other comments regarding the development of the service standard?

If yes: Select topic from list provided in online survey.

Questions for industry:

1. Would you like to make any other comments regarding the development of the service standard?

If yes: Select topic from list provided in online survey.

Questions for the community:

1. Would you like to make any other comments regarding the development of the service standard?

If yes: Select topic from list provided in online survey.

10. Review of standards

The Minister *must* review a service standard at intervals of no longer than three years but may also review a service standard at any time at the request of the Head of RV if the Minister is satisfied it is in the public interest to do so.

The Minister may also, at any time by written notice, direct the Head of RV to review the operation of a service standard and to report to the Minister on the results of that review.

A review of this service standard would allow for consideration of items that could be recovered through the four-stream system in the future. A review of the standard lists for each stream will aim to balance certainty and consistency for industry and the community with the flexibility to respond to market, technological and other changes.



11. Next steps

Thank you for sharing your views and providing feedback on proposed policy settings to inform the development of the first draft service standard for councils and alpine resorts for delivering waste and recycling services to households.

Your contribution will help us understand how best to support councils and alpine resorts to provide a high-quality, consistent service across Victoria.

During this period of public consultation, we will undertake targeted consultation with councils, alpine resorts and industry. If you are interested in participating, please contact us at circulareconomy.legislation@delwp.vic.gov.au

A draft service standard and corresponding draft regulations will be released with a RIS for formal public consultation in 2023. There will be another opportunity to provide feedback on the draft service standard and draft regulations during this process.

You can also subscribe for updates on this project via the [Engage Victoria website](#).

Figure 1.

Timeline for the development of the service standard



Appendix 1 – Standard lists

Proposed standard list for the glass recycling stream

Check items for the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL). Glass items with a 'recyclable' ARL can be placed in the glass recycling stream. If the item does not have an ARL, refer to the list.

ACCEPTED		
Category	Items	Presentation
Glass bottles and jars for food and drinks Any size Intact or broken	Soft drink, juice, water, milk bottles	Empty, lightly rinsed
	Beer, wine, spirits bottles	Lids on
	Sauce, condiment, oil bottles and jars	No need to remove bottle rings, pourers or labels
	Food jars (e.g. pasta sauce, jam, pickles, coffee)	
Glass bottles and jars for medicine, toiletries Any size Intact or broken	Medicine bottles	
	Vitamin and supplement bottles	
	Bottles and jars for toiletries and cosmetics (e.g. lotions, oils) – no nail polish, perfume, aftershave bottles	

NOT ACCEPTED*

Category	Items
Lids (loose)	Bottle lids, jar lids
Other closures	Bottle pumps, spray nozzles, droppers, corks
Soft plastics	Bagged recyclables, plastic bags
Metal, plastic, paper or cardboard containers	Drink cans Plastic bottles Milk cartons Drink packaging (e.g. cardboard carriers)
Bottles or jars with contamination	Bottles/jars with items inside them (e.g. cigarette butts, straws, food, liquid)
Glass kitchenware (intact or broken)	Drinking glasses, glass cookware and containers (e.g. Pyrex), crystal glass Reusable coffee cups and water bottles Crockery and ceramics
Glass household items (intact or broken)	Perfume and aftershave bottles, nail polish bottles Essential oil bottles, candle jars Picture frame glass, mirrors Light bulbs, fluorescent tubes Decorative glass items (e.g. vases) Glass from furniture, appliances, electronics (e.g. microwave turntables)
Other glass (intact or broken)	Medical or laboratory glass Plate glass (window glass and windscreens), fibre glass Eyeglasses/sunglasses

*For disposal advice, refer to the Recycle Mate website/app or your local council.

Proposed standard list for the mixed recycling stream

Check items for the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL). If the item does not have an ARL, refer to the list.

ACCEPTED		
Category	Items	Presentation
Plastic bottles and containers	Beverage bottles (e.g. soft drink, juice)	Empty, lightly rinsed
	Plastic sauce bottles (e.g. tomato sauce)	Crush bottles and replace cap
	Toiletry bottles and tubes (e.g. shampoo, shower gel, moisturiser – no toothpaste tubes)	No bottle pumps or spray nozzles
	Laundry bottles (e.g. laundry detergent)	Remove plastic film/ plastic wrapping
	Household cleaning bottles (e.g. dishwashing liquid, bathroom cleaners)	No need to remove labels
	Plastic jars and lids (e.g. peanut butter)	
	Plastic food tubs and lids (e.g. yogurt, butter, ice cream)	
	Biscuit and chocolate trays	
	Fruit/vegetable trays and punnets	
	Plastic takeaway containers and lids	
Plastic plant pots		
Tins, foil, metal lids	Beverage cans (e.g. soft drink cans, beer cans)	Empty, lightly rinsed
	Food tins (e.g. tomato tins, pet food tins)	No aerosol cans that:
	Drink powder tins (e.g. instant coffee, hot chocolate)	- contain any liquid
	Biscuit and chocolate tins	- have a Schedule 6 rating under the Poisons Standard (empty or full)
	Cooking oil canisters (no need to remove plastic pourer)	
	Aerosol cans (must be empty)	- are barbecue cleaners (empty or full)
	Aluminium foil (scrunch into a ball the size of a golf ball or larger), foil trays	
Metal bottle/jar lids (any size)		
Paper and cardboard	Cardboard boxes (including boxes with sticky tape)	Remove solid food (cardboard containers with food stains can be recycled)
	Pizza boxes	
	Uncoated cardboard food containers (e.g. burger boxes, coffee cup carry trays, paper plates)	Remove any plastic wrapping, lining, polystyrene, cutlery, sachets, receipts
	Box packaging (e.g. tissue boxes, detergent boxes, cereal boxes)	
	Office paper (not shredded)	Flatten cardboard boxes
	Cardboard tubes (e.g. for toilet paper or paper towel)	
	Moulded cardboard packaging (e.g. egg cartons, produce trays)	

Paper and cardboard	<p>Greeting cards (without glitter/attached items)</p> <p>Cardboard postal envelopes (without bubble wrap)</p> <p>Brochures, leaflets and flyers</p> <p>Newspapers, magazines and catalogues</p> <p>Letters and envelopes (including windowed envelopes)</p> <p>Books, phone books</p> <p>Paper gift wrap (no foil/plastic gift wrap or tissue paper)</p> <p>Butchers paper (no plastic-lined deli paper)</p> <p>Paper bags (e.g. lunch bags, food delivery bags)</p>	
Beverage cartons	<p>Gable-top cartons (e.g. milk, juice)</p> <p>Long-life cartons (e.g. soy milk, long-life milk, soup, stock, juice boxes)</p>	<p>Empty, lightly rinsed</p> <p>Replace caps, leave straws in juice boxes</p>
Soft plastics	<p>Sandwich bags, freezer bags, zip lock bags, cling wrap</p> <p>Food bags (e.g. for bread, produce, rice, cereal)</p> <p>Plastic grocery and shopping bags, netting bags</p> <p>Silver-lined plastic bags/wrappers (e.g. for chips, chocolate)</p> <p>Food pouches (e.g. yogurt pouches, pet food pouches)</p> <p>Bags and wrapping for homewares</p> <p>Plastic sachets and film lids</p> <p>Plastic post satchels, bubble wrap, cellophane</p> <p>Pet food and potting mix bags</p>	<p>Presentation to be determined following soft plastics recycling trials</p>

NOT ACCEPTED*

Category	Items
Glass	<p>Glass bottles and jars</p> <p>Glass kitchenware (e.g. drinking glasses, Pyrex glassware)</p> <p>Glass household items (e.g. vases, mirrors, nail polish bottles)</p> <p>Other glass (e.g. broken glass, window glass)</p>
Plastic	<p>Meat trays, deli meat trays</p> <p>Cordial bottles</p> <p>Plastic plates, bowls, cups, cutlery, straws, drink stirrers</p> <p>Items labelled compostable, biodegradable, degradable, oxo-degradable, plant-based, bioplastic</p> <p>Reusable plastic containers (e.g. reusable coffee cups, reusable water bottles, baby bottles, lunch boxes)</p> <p>Household items (e.g. coat hangers, toothbrushes, toys, eyeglasses)</p> <p>CDs, DVDs, video tapes, cassette tapes and their cases</p> <p>Plastic strapping</p> <p>Bank cards, loyalty cards</p> <p>Plastic items under 5cm in diameter (e.g. bottle lids/caps, bread tags, single-serve sauces)</p> <p>Plastic items larger than a 3L bottle (e.g. laundry baskets, water cooler bottles)</p>
Expanded polystyrene (Styrofoam)	<p>Foam trays</p> <p>Plates, bowls, cups</p> <p>Takeaway containers (e.g. clamshells), noodle cups</p> <p>Loose fill packaging (e.g. packing peanuts)</p> <p>Moulded packaging (e.g. for packaging home goods)</p>
Metal	<p>Kitchenware (e.g. pots, pans, cutlery)</p> <p>Reusable metal containers (e.g. stainless steel water bottles, lunch boxes)</p> <p>Metal household items (e.g. coat hangers, tools, screws, keys, magnets, wire)</p>
Paper and cardboard	<p>Tissues, serviettes, napkins, paper towels, tissue paper, toilet paper</p> <p>Coffee cups and lids, smoothie/milkshake cups and lids</p> <p>Frozen food cartons and tubs (e.g. ice cream cartons)</p> <p>Laminated, coated or lined paper and cardboard (e.g. straws, fish and chips paper, deli paper, plastic-lined takeaway containers)</p> <p>Cardboard with a wax coating (e.g. waterproof fruit and vegetable boxes)</p> <p>Baking paper, wax paper</p> <p>Receipts, photographs, stickers</p> <p>Shredded paper, paper/cardboard items smaller than a business card (e.g. bread tags)</p>

Other fibre	<p>Wood/bamboo containers, cutlery and straws</p> <p>Sugarcane containers, cutlery and straws</p> <p>Chopsticks, drink stirrers, skewers, toothpicks, icy pole sticks</p> <p>Bamboo household items (e.g. toothbrushes, dish brushes), corks</p> <p>Cat litter</p>
Composite items	<p>Toothpaste tubes, dental floss containers, blister packs</p> <p>Coffee pods, cardboard cans with a metal base (e.g. chip containers, gravy containers)</p> <p>Bottle pumps, spray nozzles</p>
Textiles	<p>Clothing, fabric, rags (natural or synthetic fibres)</p>
Sanitary and personal care items	<p>Wipes (e.g. cleaning wipes, baby wipes, make up wipes)</p> <p>Nappies, sanitary pads, tampons</p> <p>Cotton wool, cotton bud sticks, makeup pads, sponges</p>
Hazardous items and substances	<p>Batteries of any kind</p> <p>Gas cylinders, CO2 canisters</p> <p>Aerosol cans that are not empty</p> <p>Aerosol cans with a Schedule 6 Poisons rating; barbeque cleaner aerosols (empty or full)</p> <p>Paint tins (including empty paint tins), containers used for toxic or corrosive chemicals/oils</p> <p>Printer cartridges</p> <p>E-waste (any item that uses a cord, battery, or charger)</p> <p>Light bulbs, fluorescent tubes, string lights</p> <p>Sharps, medical waste, asbestos</p>
Construction materials, furniture, appliances	<p>Ropes, cables, straps</p> <p>Wood, pipes, wallpaper</p> <p>Bricks, concrete, rubble</p> <p>Drop sheets, tarpaulins</p> <p>Furniture, appliances</p>

*For disposal advice, refer to the Recycle Mate website/app or your local council.

Proposed standard list for the FOGO stream

ACCEPTED		
Category	Items	Presentation
Food organics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fruit and vegetables including raw and cooked vegetables and peelings Food unsuitable for home composting (e.g. onions, garlic, avocado seeds, citrus) Uneaten food, leftovers and plate scrapings Out of date or mouldy food Loose leaf tea Coffee grounds, coffee filter paper (no pods) Raw and cooked meat, poultry and seafood Raw and cooked bones from food waste, including meat, fish, poultry carcasses Shellfish shells (e.g. oyster shells, mussel shells) Cheese, yogurt, cream Eggs and eggshells Rice, pasta, beans, cereal Nuts and seeds Lollies, chocolates, and jellies Baked goods (e.g. bread, cakes, pastries) Cooking oil soaked up with paper towel Pet food 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove all containers, packaging, labels, stickers
Garden organics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass and lawn clippings Weeds (e.g. ivy) Leaves, flowers and plants (including dead and diseased plants) Twigs, sticks, branches and prunings Vegetable waste from the garden Real Christmas trees Hay and straw Small amounts of soil and mulch (e.g. soil attached to dead plants) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut to fit in the bin with the lid closed Branches no more than 10cm in diameter (width) and 40cm long
Hair, feathers, fur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hair (human/animal) Feathers, fur 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No synthetic or dyed feathers No dead animals, no rugs

Industrial Compostable caddy liners (AS 4736)	AS-certified Industrial Compostable caddy liners (must have the seedling logo) – green colour only	As a container for food organics Leave the caddy liner untied
Paper wrapping/lining materials for food organics	Newspaper sheets Paper towels Paper caddy liners	As wrapping for food organics or lining for food caddies
Used paper towels and napkins	Paper towels Paper napkins/serviettes	No chemicals or cleaning products
Office paper (shredded), cardboard bread tags	Shredded office paper Cardboard bread tags	No glossy or coated paper No receipts or staples
Uncoated paper used for food	Brown paper lunch bags Paper produce bags (e.g. mushroom bags)	No coated or lined paper No receipts, staples or stickers

NOT ACCEPTED*

Category	Items
Liquids	Liquid food products (e.g. milk, cooking oil) unless soaked up with paper towel Other liquids (e.g. cleaning products, fertiliser)
Packaging and food containers	Stickers (e.g. fruit stickers), elastic bands, cling wrap Coffee pods, tea bags Coffee cups Takeaway containers
Plastic single-use tableware	Cutlery, straws and stirrers Dinnerware (e.g. bowls, plates, cups)
Metal, glass, plastic	Metal (e.g. drink cans) Glass (e.g. beer bottles) Plastic items (e.g. plastic cutlery) Soft plastics, plastic bags, netting bags Expanded polystyrene

Wood and bamboo items	Wood/bamboo containers, cutlery and straws Chopsticks, drink stirrers, skewers, toothpicks, icy pole sticks Bamboo toothbrushes, dish brushes
Recyclable cardboard items	Pizza boxes Cardboard food containers (e.g. burger boxes, paper plates) Moulded cardboard packaging (e.g. egg cartons, produce trays)
Coated paper and cardboard	Laminated, coated or lined paper and cardboard (e.g. paper straws, fish and chips paper, plastic-lined deli paper, coated paper plates) Baking paper, wax paper Receipts Cardboard with a wax coating (e.g. waterproof fruit and vegetable boxes)
Any certified compostable items (except AS 4736 caddy liners) Items labelled compostable, biodegradable, degradable, oxo-degradable, biobased, bioplastic, plant-based	Coffee cups, smoothie/milkshake cups and lids Compostable plastic containers, cutlery and straws Sugarcane containers, cutlery and straws Bags (e.g. grocery/produce bags), coffee bags Postal satchels, packing peanuts Dish brushes, cloths, wipes
Hazardous materials	Batteries, sharps, asbestos, chemicals E-waste (any item that uses a cord, battery, or charger)
Hygiene and sanitary items	Nappies, including compostable or biodegradable nappies Sanitary items (e.g. wipes, sanitary pads), including compostable or biodegradable items Used tissues Cotton balls, cotton bud sticks
Timber, sawdust Treated, coated or engineered wood	Garden stakes, fence posts, sleepers, furniture Sawdust, wood chips, wood shavings Engineered wood products (e.g. plywood, MDF, particle board)
Building, gardening, and landscaping material	Dirt, sand, mulch, soil Gravel or rocks, bricks, concrete, rubble Ash, charcoal Fencing/screens (e.g. brush fencing, bamboo screens)

Garden implements and pots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant pots (plastic or ceramic) Gardening supplies (e.g. fertiliser, weed killer) Gardening tools Hoses, ropes, string, twine Artificial plants, artificial Christmas trees Garden furniture
Dust, lint and litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vacuum dust, washing machine/dryer lint Cigarette butts Chewing gum
Animal waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animal faeces (e.g. pet poo) Synthetic cat litter (e.g. crystal), biodegradable cat litter (e.g. corn, paper, clay) Deceased animals
Textiles, latex and wax products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clothing, fabric, rags (natural or synthetic fibres) Balloons, gloves Candles, beeswax wraps
Bulky garden organics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large branches (i.e. over 10cm diameter and/or more than 40cm long) Tree stumps Whole real Christmas trees

*For disposal advice, refer to the Recycle Mate website/app or your local council.

Proposed standard list for the household rubbish stream

Check items for the Australasian Recycling Label (ARL). If the item does not have an ARL, refer to the list.

ACCEPTED		
Category	Examples	Presentation* (if relevant)
Glass items not accepted in the glass recycling stream	<p>Bottles/jars with items inside them (e.g. cigarette butts, straws, food, liquid)</p> <p>Drinking glasses, glass cookware and containers (e.g. Pyrex), crystal glass</p> <p>Reusable coffee cups and water bottles</p> <p>Perfume and aftershave bottles, nail polish bottles</p> <p>Essential oil bottles, candle jars</p> <p>Light bulbs, fluorescent tubes</p> <p>Glass from furniture, appliances, electronics, decorative items (e.g. vases, picture frames, microwave turntables)</p> <p>Mirrors, plate glass (window glass and windscreens), fibre glass</p> <p>Eyeglasses/sunglasses</p> <p>Medical or laboratory glass</p>	Intact or broken
Plastic and packaging items not accepted in the mixed recycling stream	<p>Stickers (e.g. fruit stickers), elastic bands</p> <p>Meat trays, deli meat trays</p> <p>Cordial bottles</p> <p>Plastic plates, bowls, cups, cutlery, straws, drink stirrers</p> <p>Reusable plastic containers (e.g. reusable coffee cups, reusable water bottles, baby bottles, lunch boxes)</p> <p>Plastic strapping, drop sheets, tarpaulins</p> <p>Bank cards, loyalty cards</p> <p>CDs, DVDs, video tapes, cassette tapes and their cases</p> <p>Plastic items under 5cm in diameter (e.g. bottle lids/caps, bread tags, single-serve sauces)</p> <p>Plastic items larger than a 3L bottle (e.g. laundry baskets, water cooler bottles)</p>	
Expanded polystyrene (Styrofoam)	<p>Foam trays</p> <p>Plates, bowls, cups</p> <p>Takeaway containers (e.g. clamshells), noodle cups</p> <p>Loose fill packaging (e.g. packing peanuts)</p> <p>Moulded packaging (e.g. for packaging home goods)</p>	

Composite items	<p>Toothpaste tubes, dental floss containers, blister packs</p> <p>Coffee pods, tea bags</p> <p>Cardboard cans with a metal base (e.g. chip containers, gravy containers)</p> <p>Bottle pumps, spray nozzles, droppers, corks</p>	
Paper and cardboard items not accepted in the mixed recycling stream	<p>Tissues, tissue paper, toilet paper</p> <p>Coffee cups and lids, smoothie/milkshake cups and lids</p> <p>Frozen food cartons and tubs (e.g. ice cream cartons)</p> <p>Laminated, coated or lined paper and cardboard (e.g. straws, fish and chips paper, deli paper, plastic-lined takeaway containers)</p> <p>Cardboard with a wax coating (e.g. waterproof fruit and vegetable boxes)</p> <p>Baking paper, wax paper</p> <p>Receipts, photographs</p> <p>Shredded paper, paper/cardboard items smaller than a business card (e.g. bread tags)</p>	
<p>Certified compostable items (except AS 4736 certified caddy liners)</p> <p>Items labelled compostable, biodegradable, degradable, oxo-degradable, biobased, bioplastic, plant-based</p> <p>Wood and bamboo items</p>	<p>Compostable bags (e.g. grocery/produce bags, coffee bags)</p> <p>Postal satchels, packing peanuts</p> <p>Compostable/biodegradable coffee cups and lids, smoothie/milkshake cups and lids</p> <p>Compostable/biodegradable plastic containers, cutlery and straws</p> <p>Sugarcane containers, cutlery and straws</p> <p>Wood/bamboo containers, cutlery and straws</p> <p>Wood/bamboo household items (e.g. toothbrushes, dish brushes)</p> <p>Chopsticks, drink stirrers, skewers, toothpicks, icy pole sticks</p> <p>Compostable/biodegradable dish brushes, cloths, wipes</p>	
Liquids	Liquid food products (e.g. cooking oil) – household quantities only	Pour into a container and close lid tightly

Small broken household items	Smoke detectors Toys Coat hangers (any type) Crockery, ceramics and kitchenware (e.g. cutlery, plates, pots and pans) Reusable metal containers (e.g. stainless steel water bottles, lunch boxes) Metal household items (e.g. tools, screws, keys, magnets, wire) CDs, DVDs, video tapes, cassette tapes and their cases Hoses, ropes, string, twine Artificial plants	No batteries No toys that use a battery, cable or cord
Textiles, latex and wax products	Clothing, bedding, fabric, rags (natural or synthetic fibres) Balloons, gloves Candles, beeswax wraps	
Sanitary, personal care and cleaning items	Nappies, including compostable or biodegradable nappies Sanitary items (e.g. wipes, sanitary pads, tampons), including compostable or biodegradable items Tissues, face masks Paper towel used with chemicals/cleaning products Cotton wool, cotton bud sticks, makeup pads, sponges Toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, dental floss First aid items Blister packs (empty) Razors, razor cartridges Makeup products	Nappies: empty contents into toilet Tissues, face masks: double-bagged if unwell
Timber and engineered wood (small pieces), sawdust	Small pieces of timber/engineered wood Sawdust, wood chips, wood shavings	Less than 40 cm long
Dust, lint and litter	Vacuum dust, washing machine/dryer lint Cigarette butts (put out) Chewing gum	
Ash and charcoal	Wood heater ash Barbeque ash	Must be completely cooled before placing in the rubbish bin
Animal waste	Animal faeces (e.g. pet poo) Synthetic cat litter (e.g. crystal), biodegradable cat litter (e.g. corn, paper, clay)	
Small deceased animals	Insects, spiders Birds, fish, rodents	

*All items must be securely bagged or wrapped to prevent litter.

NOT ACCEPTED IN ANY HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING STREAM**

Category	Examples
Hazardous items, e-waste	<p>Batteries of any kind</p> <p>Any item that uses a cord, battery, or charger (e-waste)</p> <p>Mobile phones, tablets, televisions, computers</p> <p>Printers, printer cartridges</p> <p>Electrical cables, earphones</p> <p>Light bulbs, fluorescent tubes, string lights</p> <p>Aerosol cans that are not empty</p> <p>Aerosol cans with a Schedule 6 Poisons rating; barbeque cleaner aerosols (empty or full)</p> <p>Paint tins (empty or full), containers used for toxic or corrosive chemicals/oils</p> <p>Gas cylinders, CO2 canisters</p> <p>Fire extinguishers</p> <p>Sharps, medical waste, asbestos</p>
Hazardous substances	<p>Medicine</p> <p>Acids and alkalis</p> <p>Ammonia-based cleaners</p> <p>Nail polish remover</p> <p>Petrol, kerosene, turpentine, paint thinners</p> <p>Pesticides and herbicides</p> <p>Automotive products (e.g. car polish, anti-freeze, brake and transmission fluids, body filler)</p> <p>Pool chemicals</p> <p>Aerosol cans containing liquid</p> <p>Barbeque cleaner aerosol cans (empty or containing liquid)</p> <p>Aerosol cans with a Schedule 6 Poisons rating (empty or containing liquid)</p> <p>Items labelled: Corrosive 8, Oxidizing agent 5.1, Toxic 6.1, Flammable liquid 3, Flammable solid 4.1</p> <p>Cooking oil (commercial quantities)</p>
Bulky garden organics	<p>Large branches (i.e. over 10cm diameter and/or more than 40cm long)</p> <p>Tree stumps</p> <p>Whole Christmas trees</p>
Furniture and appliances	<p>Carpets, furniture, appliances</p> <p>Large pieces of timber/engineered wood (i.e. more than 40cm long)</p>
Construction and landscaping materials	<p>Bricks, concrete, rubble,</p> <p>Dirt, sand, mulch, soil</p> <p>Gravel or rocks, bricks, concrete, rubble</p> <p>Scrap metal</p>
Large deceased animals	<p>Deceased dogs, cats</p> <p>Deceased livestock</p>

**For disposal advice, refer to the Recycle Mate website/app or your local council.

Appendix 2 – List of Victorian Local Government Comparator Groups and alpine resorts

VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMPARATOR GROUPS				
Metropolitan	Interface	Regional City	Large Shire	Small Shire
Banyule	Cardinia	Ballarat	Bass Coast	Alpine
Bayside	Casey	Greater Bendigo	Baw Baw	Ararat
Boroondara	Hume	Greater Geelong	Campaspe	Benalla
Brimbank	Melton	Greater Shepparton	Colac-Otway	Buloke
Darebin	Mornington Peninsula	Latrobe	Corangamite	Central Goldfields
Frankston	Nillumbik	Mildura	East Gippsland	Gannawarra
Glen Eira	Whittlesea	Warrnambool	Glenelg	Hepburn
Greater Dandenong	Wyndham	Wodonga	Golden Plains	Hindmarsh
Hobsons Bay	Yarra Ranges	Horsham	Macedon Ranges	Indigo
Kingston		Wangaratta	Mitchell	Loddon
Knox			Moira	Mansfield
Manningham			Moorabool	Murrindindi
Maribyrnong			Mount Alexander	Northern Grampians
Maroondah			Moyne	Pyrenees
Melbourne			South Gippsland	Queenscliffe
Monash			Southern Grampians	Strathbogie
Moonee Valley			Surf Coast	Towong
Moreland			Swan Hill	West Wimmera
Port Phillip			Wellington	Yarriambiack
Stonnington				
Whitehorse				
Yarra				

ALPINE RESORTS

Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board

Mount Buller and Mount Stirling Alpine Resort Management Board

Falls Creek Alpine Resort Management Board

Southern Alpine Resort Management Board (responsible for Lake Mountain and Mount Baw Baw alpine resorts)

COUNCIL TYPES

Metropolitan council	A metropolitan council is predominately urban in character and located within Melbourne's densely populated urban core, as categorised by Local Government Victoria.
Interface council	An interface council is one of the nine municipalities that form a ring around metropolitan Melbourne, as categorised by Local Government Victoria.
Regional city	A council that is urban and partly rural in character, as categorised by Local Government Victoria.
Large shire	A municipality with more than 15,000 inhabitants that is predominantly rural in character, as categorised by Local Government Victoria.
Small shire	A municipality with less than 15,000 inhabitants that is predominantly rural in character, as categorised by Local Government Victoria.

Glossary

Alpine resort	Alpine Resort Management Board as defined in the Circular Economy Act. Note that Alpine Resort Management Boards will be replaced by Alpine Resorts Victoria from 1 October 2022. The Circular Economy Act will be updated to reflect this change.
Circular Economy Act	<i>Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021.</i>
FOGO	Food organics and garden organics.
Four-stream system	Separate glass recycling, food organics and garden organics, mixed recycling and household rubbish.
Head of Recycling Victoria	The Head of Recycling Victoria is established under the Circular Economy Act and provides leadership stewardship and oversight of waste, recycling or resource recovery services and supports the development of a circular economy. The Head is the regulator for the service standard.
Households	Includes single-dwelling developments, multi-dwelling developments, temporary boarding houses, public housing, retirement villages/nursing homes.
Recycling Victoria (RV)	A business unit within DELWP that supports the Head of RV.
Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS)	An assessment that the Government uses to analyse how regulations will impact the community. This helps the Government choose the best approach for achieving better community outcomes.
Service Standards Framework	Overarching framework for the making of service standards and regulations under the Circular Economy Act.



