**Waste 2017 Abstract Submission**

**FOGO Shellharbour-*Ten year journey towards a sustainable kerbside waste collection***

*My presentation is relevant to the following topic area(s).*

🞎 Circular economy 🞎 Overseas experiences

🞎 Collection (inc MUD’s, transient population areas) 🞎 Problem/Hazardous waste (inc asbestos, clinical &

🞎 Container Deposit Schemes medical, ocean plastics, paint, tyres etc)

🞎 Economics (inc business cases, data gathering, 🞎 Product Stewardship

monitoring performance) 🞎 Regional issues

✓ Education (inc community engagement) 🞎 Recycling (inc CRC’s, collection)

🞎 E-Waste 🞎 Regulations and levies

🞎 Grants (outcomes and processes) 🞎 Social enterprise

🞎 Infrastructure (inc major waste grants, EfW, organics) 🞎 State based issues (eg. Fit for the Future NSW)

🞎 Innovative projects (case studies preferred) 🞎 Technology

🞎 Landfill (inc operations, regulations) 🞎 Tenders and contracts

🞎 Litter and/or illegal dumping (inc litter initiatives) 🞎 Other 🞎 Organics (inc collection, processing)

**Presenter information**

**Presenter name:** Dianne Tierney and Sue Fletcher

**Presenter position:** bothpresenters are Technical Waste Officer

**Presenter organisation:** Shellharbour City Council

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**Biography**

Dianne is a Technical Waste Officer for Shellharbour City Council, located in the Illawarra Region, about 100 kilometres south of Sydney. Currently the City serves a community of 67,830 people living in 25,136 households. Prior to joining Shellharbour Dianne was a Senior Strategic Environmental Planner at Hawkesbury City Council, and before that the Coordinator of Environmental and Waste Branch. Dianne has a Bachelor of Applied Science with a major in Environment Health and is passionate about developing sustainable waste management systems.

Sue is a Technical Waste Officer for Shellharbour City Council, located in the Illawarra Region, about 100 kilometres south of Sydney. Currently the City serves a community of 67,830 people living in 25,136 households. Prior to joining Shellharbour Sue was a Community Relations/Education Officer with REMONDIS Australia. Her responsibilities included developing innovative Waste Education programs to education the Shellharbour community about recycling, waste management and waste minimisation strategies. Sue has a Bachelor of Environmental Science (Honors).

**Abstract Summary**

Shellharbour City Council owns and operates its own landfill at Dunmore. The landfill’s finite life is a major challenge for Council. Redevelopments at this site completes a ten-year journey towards sustainable kerbside collection.

Our journey commenced in 2007 to engage the community on waste related challenges and opportunities for the ongoing management of household waste.

The implementation of a fortnightly collection of the red, yellow and green bins was an interim solution, to introducing a weekly Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) collection service.

This presentation will describe the journey undertaken in implementing a FOGO waste collection service in Shellharbour.

**Abstract**

Best practice for the collection of kerbside waste, is well documented by the NSW EPA. Shellharbour, like many other communities across Australia, is facing major challenges with implementing a sustainable kerbside waste collection service.

Shellharbour City Council has a history of delivering progressive waste management services. Shellharbour City Council owns and operates its own landfill at Dunmore. The landfill’s finite life is a major challenge for Council. Redevelopments at this site completes a ten-year journey towards sustainable kerbside collection and disposal.

Our journey commenced in 2007 to engage the community on waste related challenges and opportunities for the ongoing management of household waste.

 An outline of our commitment to waste avoidance will be provided. In addition, examples will be provided of Councils mandate to lead by example and set the standards for resident to follow. Statistical information on the recycling rates over the last ten years and tonnes of waste diverted from landfill will be provided. This will also include the new diversion data after the implementation of new FOGO waste collection service. Providing evidence that sustainable waste diversion at the kerb is possible.

The FOGO Community Education Program commenced in March 2016. The implementation of a new food organics and garden organics (FOGO) collection service incorporated downsizing 240L to 140L residual waste bin and changing the method of presenting bins at the kerb. The new FOGO collection service started four months later on 1 July 2016.

The presentation will showcase a variety of engagement methods that was applied prior and post implementation of the new FOGO service. With a focus on the successful methods of engagement and some challenges encountered along the way. Funding required for implementing such a program. The various stakeholders we collected along our journey and how residents are coping with the current changes.

Further information will be provided on the types of evaluation conducted prior and post implementation of the new FOGO service and the various results.

FOGO facts will be provided, including tonnes of waste diverted from landfill, number of resident’s voluntary downsizing their 240L waste bin to 140L with resident savings. Types of contamination found in the FOGO bins, types of contamination by suburb.

Understanding the needs of different population segments determines the type of ongoing engagement required to change people’s behaviour to reduce contamination and increase participation rates.

This presentation will describe the journey undertaken in implementing a FOGO waste collection service in Shellharbour.