



## Waste Data Online

# Fact sheet: Terminology used in Waste Data Online

[Waste Data Online](#) is the approved form for making and lodging:

- annual returns under r.18C of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Regulations 2008 (WARR Regulations)
- annual reports on the implementation of waste plans developed under s.40(4) of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* (WARR Act).

This fact sheet defines some of the terms used in Waste Data Online to assist with preparing annual returns and waste plan reports.

## Terminology – reporting under regulation 18C of the WARR Regulations

Term	Definition	Relevant forms
Alternative method	Any method used to estimate the amount of reportable waste that is different from those set out in Attachment 1 under the CEO Notices.	All
Annual return	Information to be reported as required by the CEO Notice for local governments under regulation 18D of the WARR Regulations. The annual return must be made in Waste Data Online.	All
Approver	A person allocated with an approver role in Waste Data Online can create and prepare an annual return and lodge the return to the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (the department). Approvers should be the CEO or equivalent.  Further information about user roles can be obtained from <a href="#">Quick guide: User role and return status</a> .	All
CEO Notice	The CEO Notices contain the information required to be reported under r.18D of the WARR Regulations, and the procedures to be followed in reporting that information. CEO Notices can be accessed from the department's <a href="#">website</a> .	All
Co-mingled dry recycling	Collection of mixed dry recyclables in a container destined for sorting at material recovery facility (MRF) e.g. a yellow topped bin kerbside service.	Local government
Commercial services	Any waste or recycling services provided by a local government to a commercial premise, including services provided by contractors on behalf of the local government.	Local government



Term	Definition	Relevant forms
Container deposit depot	A refund point for the collection of containers eligible for the 10 cent Containers for Change refund.	Local government
Contaminants	Materials incorrectly placed in a recovery stream e.g. asbestos in C&D waste or glass placed in a paper and cardboard only recycling bin.	Local government
Conversion values	A factor applied to convert cubic metres into tonnes based on an assumed material density. Default conversion values are available in Attachment 1 under the CEO Notices.	All
Destination facility	The facility where the collected waste will be transported to for either recovery or disposal.	Local government
Destination of removed waste or products	Fate of waste leaving the landfill premises.	Non-metropolitan landfill
Disposed on another site	Waste destination - waste that is removed from one landfill for disposal at another landfill.	Non-metropolitan landfill
Dry recyclables Drop-off	A collection point where residents can bring dry recyclables such as paper, cardboard, and recyclable packaging for recycling.	Local government
DWER	Department of Water and Environmental Regulation	All
Final product	Waste destination - recovered waste that requires no further processing before its end use.	Recycler
FOGO - combined food organics and garden organics	Containerised collection of combined food organics and garden organics.	Local government
Further processing WA	Waste destination - recovered waste that has been sent to another facility in WA for further reprocessing prior to becoming a final product or production input or exported.	Recycler
Green waste drop-off	A collection point where residents can bring garden waste for recovery.	Local government
Hard waste	Bulky wastes such as furniture and white goods.	Local government
Hard waste or bulk rubbish drop-off	A collection point where residents can bring unwanted bulky items for reuse or sale, usually at a transfer station or a waste reuse store. Includes drop off points for urban timber.	Local government
Intended destination	Anticipated fate of processed waste leaving recycling premises.	Recycler
Material category (Tier 1)	High level grouping for waste types.	All
Material sub-category (Tier 2)	Detailed grouping of waste type. Also referred to as material type.	All



Term	Definition	Relevant forms
Material type	Detailed grouping of waste type also referred to as "Material sub-category".	All
Mixed Recycling Services	Collection of co-mingled dry recyclables (commercial premises).	Local government
Paper & Cardboard Only	A service type where paper and/or cardboard is collected in a separate container or baled.	Local government
Processed stockpiles	An accumulation of reprocessed waste.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Production input	Recovered waste that is ready for use in the production of a new product. Includes organic material that has been mulched and sold as a compost input.	Recycler
Received	All solid waste entering a facility.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Recovered	A waste fate in which materials or energy are extracted from a waste stream through reprocessing, recycling, or recovering energy from waste.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Recycled	A waste fate in which solid wastes are collected, sorted, processed (including through composting), and converted into raw materials to be used in the production of new products (excludes recovering energy from waste).	Local government, non-metropolitan landfill
Recycled materials	Materials that have been extracted from the waste stream for the purpose of recovery (excludes waste to energy).	Local government
Reportable waste	Waste that is solid matter as described under r.18A of the WARR Regulations.	All
Reporter	A person allocated with a reporter role in Waste Data Online creates and prepares an annual return but cannot lodge the return. Further information about user roles can be obtained from <a href="#">Quick guide: User role and return status</a> .	All
Reprocessing	Processing recovered materials to make raw materials for use in making new products or for direct use.	Recycler
Reprocessing losses	Wastes that cannot be recovered from the recovery stream and are sent for disposal.	Recycler
Residuals	Materials determined to be unsuitable for recovery.	Local government
Separated dry recyclables	Collection of separated recyclables in a container. For example, a glass only collection.	Local government
Service Type	Classification of collection services based on waste type, waste service and the intended fate (recycling, waste to energy or disposal) of the collected waste. Examples are FOGO – combined food organics and garden organics, co-mingled dry recycling, mixed waste collected and transported to landfill.	Local government



Term	Definition	Relevant forms
Source region - Other Western Australian region	Anywhere in WA, excluding the Perth and Peel regions.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Source region - Outside Western Australia	Outside of WA.	Recycler
Source region - Peel region	City of Mandurah, Shire of Murray, and the Shire of Waroona.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Source region - Perth metropolitan region	As defined by the Metropolitan Region Scheme.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Source waste stream - C&D	Construction and demolition (C&D) waste is waste produced by demolition and building activities, including road and rail construction. For further guidance, see <a href="#">Fact sheet: Waste data reporting – assessing the source of waste at the gatehouse.</a>	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Source waste stream - C&I	Commercial and industrial waste (C&I) is waste that is produced by institutions and businesses including retail, hospitality, manufacturing, mining, and utilities. Also includes waste from primary and secondary production, such as mining and minerals processing. For further guidance, see <a href="#">Fact sheet: Waste data reporting – assessing the source of waste at the gatehouse.</a>	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Source waste stream - MSW	Municipal solid waste (MSW) is waste primarily produced by households and collected by local governments. For further guidance, see <a href="#">Fact sheet: Waste data reporting – assessing the source of waste at the gatehouse.</a>	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Special events	An event held by the local government that will require additional bins to be provided on a one-off or ad hoc basis.	Local government
Specific product vergeside collection	Collection of specific unwanted items from a residence e.g. a mattresses collection or fridge collection service. Collections are provided on-demand or at infrequent intervals.	Local government
Stockpile	Stored waste or waste products.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Stockpile measure - Estimation by physical measurement	Where only a small amount of material is stored on-site (<200m <sup>3</sup> ), the stockpile volume may be estimated by physically measuring the dimensions of the stockpile as set out in Attachment 1 under the CEO Notices.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill



Term	Definition	Relevant forms
Stockpile measure - Mass balance	The net weight of stockpiles can be calculated by determining whether the amount of the stockpiled reportable waste grew or reduced over the year by comparing it to the amount of stockpiled reportable waste at the start of the year as set out in Attachment 1 under the CEO Notices. This method is only suitable for non-degradable material.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Stockpile measure - Volumetric survey	A volumetric survey may be used to estimate the amount of waste held in stockpiles. Under the CEO Notices, volumetric surveys are not required to be conducted by a qualified surveyor. For example, surveys may be conducted using a drone or a stockpile measurement app.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Stockpile measure - Weighed	The preferred method for estimating the amount of reportable waste is for waste to be weighed using a weighbridge, load cell or scales.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Tip shop	A waste reuse store that receives waste and products that enter a waste and waste recovery facility.	Local government
Unprocessed stockpiles	An accumulation of received waste that has been stored prior to reprocessing.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Used on-site	Waste destination – waste that is recovered for use at the facility e.g. C&D waste reprocessed onsite at a landfill into road base that is subsequently used in road construction at a landfill.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Volume estimation	A method for estimating quantities of waste that requires each waste load to be assessed for material type and volume. The approved method of volume assessment is set out in Attachment 1 in the CEO Notices.	All
WARR Regulations	Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Regulations 2008.	All
Waste Data Online (WDO)	The approved form for making and lodging annual returns under r.18C of the WARR Regulations. WDO is an online form that is accessed at <a href="#">Waste Data Online</a> .	
Waste (garbage) Services	Collection of waste destined for disposal.	Local government
Waste service	Classification of collection services based on where the collection occurs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kerbside</li> <li>• Vergeside</li> <li>• Drop off</li> <li>• Public place/special events</li> <li>• Commercial premises.</li> </ul>	Local government



Term	Definition	Relevant forms
Waste to energy	Waste destination – waste that is sent offsite for the purposes of energy recovery. Is reported as wet weight. Excludes landfill waste that produces methane gas used for energy recovery.	Recycler, Non-metropolitan landfill
Waste Type	Classification of collection services based on the waste categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recycling</li> <li>• Waste (garbage)</li> <li>• Bulky (vergeside only)</li> <li>• Other.</li> </ul>	Local government
Weighed	This is the preferred method for estimating the amount of reportable waste and requires that waste be weighed using a weighbridge, load cell or scales.	All

## More information

For further information about reporting waste and recycling data, please email [waste.data@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:waste.data@dwer.wa.gov.au).

## Related documents

Visit our page on [waste data reporting](#) under r.18C of the WARR Regulations.

## Legislation

This document is provided for guidance only. It should not be relied upon to address every aspect of the relevant legislation. Please refer to the Parliamentary Counsel's Office at the Department of Justice (DoJ) for copies of the relevant legislation, available electronically from the [Western Australian Legislation](#) page of the DoJ website.

## Terminology – reporting on waste plans under the WARR Act

Term	Definition
Action	A commitment that the local government has made in their waste plan implementation plan or included for the first time in its waste plan report.
Actual Completion Date	The date the action or milestone in a waste plan or waste plan report was completed.
Anticipated Commencement Date	The planned commencement or start date of the specific action or milestone in a waste plan or waste plan report.
Anticipated Completion Date	The planned completion date of the specific action or milestone in a waste plan or waste plan report.
Avoid	The prevention or reduction of waste generation and is the most preferred option in the waste hierarchy.
Better practice	Better practice refers to practices and approaches that are considered by the Waste Authority to be outcomes-focused, effective and high performing, which have been identified based on evidence and benchmarking against



Term	Definition
	comparable jurisdictions. Better practice will be supported by the Waste Authority through the development of better practice guidelines, measures and reporting frameworks, which will be developed to reflect the different capacities and challenges faced by waste generators and managers. Better practice is synonymous with the term 'best practice' but captures the dynamic nature of best practice.
Cost of implementation	The cost of implementing an action in a waste plan.
Food organics and garden organics (FOGO)	Food organics include waste food, inedible food and parts of food that are not consumed and/or are considered undesirable (such as seeds, bones, coffee grounds, skins and peels). Garden organics include organic wastes that arise from gardening and maintenance activities, such as lawn clippings, leaves, cuttings and branches. It can also include other organic wastes that may be compatible with FOGO collections and can include items such as paper and cardboard.
Implementation Plan	A waste plan Implementation Plan outlines the actions (and related information) which the local government will take to contribute to the achievement of relevant waste strategy targets and objectives.
Major Regional Centre	The cities of Albany, Busselton, Bunbury, Greater Geraldton and Kalgoorlie-Boulder, which are local governments outside the Perth and Peel region that have both a relatively large population and reasonable access to markets. Other major regional centres may be identified by the Waste Authority.
Milestones	The steps put in place to achieve the implementation of the associated action. Milestones must be SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, timed).
Perth and Peel region	The Perth region, or Perth metropolitan region, is the area defined by the Metropolitan Region Scheme. The Peel region is the area defined by the Peel Region Scheme.
Protect	Managing waste responsibly to eliminate or reduce its impact on the environment.
Recover	The process of extracting materials or energy from a waste stream through reuse, reprocessing, recycling, or recovering energy from waste.
Residual waste	<p>The waste strategy defines residual waste as waste that remains after the application of a better practice source separation process and recycling system, consistent with the waste hierarchy as described in section 5 of the WARR Act. Where better practice guidance is not available, an entity's material recovery performance will need to meet or exceed the relevant stream target (depending on its source – MSW, C&amp;I or C&amp;D) for the remaining non-recovered materials to be considered residual waste.</p> <p>To process residual waste at waste to energy facilities and be consistent with the waste strategy, local governments would need to meet one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They must be operating a better practice three-bin kerbside collection system for garden organics (GO) or food organics and garden organics (FOGO) prior to 2025, and a FOGO system after 2025</li> <li>• Their material recovery performance must meet or exceed the relevant stream target (depending on its source – municipal solid waste, commercial and industrial or construction and demolition) for the</li> </ul>



Term	Definition
	remaining non-recovered materials to be considered residual waste and be able to be recovered via waste to energy.
Target	The outcome to be achieved by implementing a waste plan action.
Waste Management Tool	<p>There are several waste management tools that local governments may employ to avoid waste generation, recover more materials from waste, and protect human health and the environment from the impacts of waste. Waste plans and waste plan reports are structured around the following waste management tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• waste services</li> <li>• waste infrastructure</li> <li>• policies and procurement (contracts, local laws and policies, land use planning instruments and sustainable procurement)</li> <li>• data</li> <li>• behaviour change programs and initiatives.</li> </ul>
Waste Plan	A plan created under s.40(4) of the WARR Act and approved by the local government's Council that aligns local government waste services with the waste strategy.
Waste Plan Approver	<p>A person allocated with the Waste Plan Approver role in Waste Data Online can create and prepare a waste plan report and lodge the report to the department. Approvers should be the CEO or delegated equivalent.</p> <p>Further information about Waste Data Online user roles can be obtained from <a href="#">Guide: Waste Data Online user roles and report status (Waste plans)</a>.</p>
Waste Plan Reporter	<p>A person allocated with the Waste Plan Reporter role in Waste Data Online can create and complete a waste plan annual report but cannot lodge the report to the department.</p> <p>Further information about Waste Data Online user roles can be obtained from <a href="#">Guide: Waste Data Online user roles and report status (Waste plans)</a>.</p>
Waste services	<p>Waste services are defined by the WARR Act as one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the collection, transport, storage, treatment, processing, sorting, recycling, or disposal of waste</li> <li>• the provision of receptacles for the temporary deposit of waste</li> <li>• the provision and management of waste facilities, machinery for the disposal of waste and processes for dealing with waste.</li> </ul>
Waste strategy	<a href="#">Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030</a>

## More information

Further information about waste plan reporting is available on the department's [website](#) or by emailing [wasteplans@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:wasteplans@dwer.wa.gov.au).