

MAYORAL MINUTE

(ITEM MM15/21) BURWOOD COUNCIL TACKLES PLASTIC POLLUTION

File No: 21/27972

MAYORAL MINUTE BY CR JOHN FAKER (MAYOR)

Summary

Burwood Council is taking part in the global movement 'Plastic Free July' with the launch of a new Repurpose, Reuse and Recycle Program.

Local residents and businesses have told us that sustainability and reducing our environmental footprint is important to them, with many already joining the movement to reduce the use of single-use plastics in their day-to-day lives. But plastic pollution must also be tackled at a government level.

Burwood Council is doing its part to prevent waste and educate the community through the launch of a new pilot program. The Repurpose, Reuse and Recycle Program will be delivered in two phases in partnership with the Croydon Park Business Chamber, Scouts and Croydon Park Public School.

- Phase one will see the distribution of over 500 re-usable Boomerang Bags made from converted post-consumer material to local community members as part of Plastic Free July 2021.
- Phase two will see Council investigate innovative opportunities to recycle its own materials, repurposing Burwood street flags into vibrant, sustainable and reusable bags sewed by our community for our community.

Both initiatives aim to reduce single-use plastics and the amount of pollution entering our Local Government Area (LGA) and the Cooks River.

In addition to the environmental benefits, the program will offer young leaders and community groups opportunities to work collectively with government to effect real change.

We can all do our bit to reduce the amount of plastic we use every day and volume that enters our environment. Together I look forward to building a stronger, more sustainable Burwood.

Operational Plan Objective

3.2.2 Identify waste management solutions

2.2.3 Clear targets for recycling and reducing waste to landfill

2.2.4 Initiatives to encourage more sustainable practices in the community and around the home

I therefore move that:

1. Council agrees to donate \$1,200 to the Scouts to purchase 500 Boomerang Bags and 20 community posters as part of Plastic Free July 2021, with the donation funded from the 2020/2021 Mayor's donations budget.
2. That the General Manager investigate opportunities to recycle Council materials including street flags into sustainable products for our community

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.