

Relevant Information for Council

FILE: X021464.009 **DATE:** 14 March 2025

TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Veronica Lee, Executive Director City Services

THROUGH: Monica Barone PSM, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 7.3 – Planning For a Food Organics Recycling Services to All Households

Alternative Recommendation

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) note that **staff have determined that a** food organics (FO) service ~~has been determined as~~ is the optimal service type for recycling of food scraps in City of Sydney households;
- (B) endorse implementation of a FO service to all City households and continue providing a separate garden organics service in line with the NSW Government mandate for councils to provide food and garden organics (FOGO) services to all households by 2030;
- (C) endorse progression to the next stage of service rollout planning; ~~and~~
- (D) note that suitable service collection and processing methods and service levels will be reported back to Council for consideration; **and**
- (E) **note that the City will extend the current food scraps collection service in May 2025 by offering it to all houses currently on the waitlist (as at 14 March 2025).**

Purpose

To provide additional information and an alternative recommendation to Council regarding Planning For a Food Organics Recycling Services to All Households.

Background

At the meeting of the Environment and Climate Change Committee on 10 March 2025, further information and an alternative recommendation was sought by Councillors on the following items regarding Planning For a Food Organics Recycling Services to All Households:

More Detail on Proposed Timeline for Service Rollout

More detailed information with estimated timelines specifically for project stages 4 and 5 (Build the Plan and Implement) is provided in the table below. It should be noted that the completion dates and timelines are approximations only at this stage and more specific timings can be provided as the project progresses.

It is the intention of the City to rollout the service as soon as possible, however timings will be contingent upon many variables including Council decisions regarding collection and processing types as well as market responses to tenders.

Project Stage	Service Component	Task	Estimated Timeframe
4. Build the plan	Collection	Depot properties analysis	Mid - late 2025
	Collection	Collection service early industry engagement (or EOI) for the purposes of establishing a price point and enable assessment of the collection options	Mid 2025 - early 2026
	Processing	Complete and evaluate insect farming trial	Early 2026
	Collection	Sourcing plan and cost modelling	Mid - end 2026
	Processing	Processing Tender	Early 2026 - early 2027
	Processing	Council Decision 3 - Processing Type	Early 2027
	All	Service operations plan	Early - mid 2027
	Collection	Council Decision 4 - Collection Type	Mid 2027

Project Stage	Service Component	Task	Estimated Timeframe
	Collection – option 1	Secure, recruit and procure depot space, staff and plant and equipment* <i>*If Council resolves to insource</i>	Mid 2027- 2029
	Collection – option 2	Collection Service Tender* <i>*If Council resolves to outsource</i>	Mid 2027 - early 2028
	Collection	Procure caddies and liners	Mid - late 2027
	All	Draft communications and education plan	Mid - late 2027
5.Implement	All	Communication and education campaign	2028 - 2030
	Collection	Bin roll-out	2028 - 2029
	Collection	Collection transition	2028 - 2029
	Processing	Processing contract commencement	2028 - 2029
	All	Service commencement	2028 - 2029

Expansion Of Current Service / Number of Residents On Service Waitlist

We currently have a waitlist of 819 houses. To extend the current service, in May 2025 we will offer the service to all houses on the waitlist.

Apartment buildings are able to join our food scraps recycling service with strata committee approval. Those in houses can also submit an expression of interest to be added to the service and we will continue to try and accommodate those that seek to join the service.

Memo from Veronica Lee, Executive Director City Services

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Approved

P. M. Barone

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Chief Executive Officer