



South West WastED Survey

Tuesday, February 21, 2017



CITY OF
BUNBURY

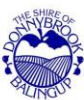


354

Total Responses

Date Created: Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Complete Responses: 347

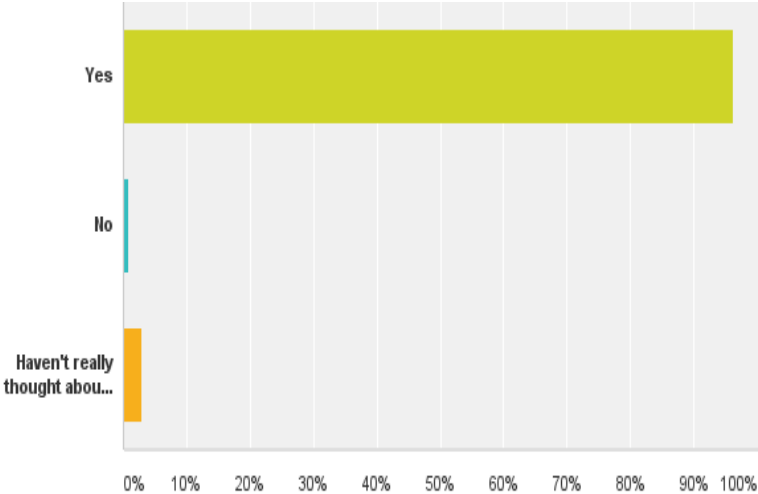


CITY OF
BUNBURY



Q1: Do you think its important to recycle rubbish away from landfill for future generations?

Answered: 352 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	96.31%	339
No	0.85%	3
Haven't really thought about it	2.84%	10
Total		352

Comments Summary:

12 Comments received.

The need for waste avoidance was a common theme within the comments, with participants noting that recycling is carbon positive and its unethical to leave non-degradable toxic waste in the earth for future generations to deal with.

Comment highlights:

“Easier to avoid problem than fix it and we don't seem capable of taking responsibility for the future often enough and politicians seem to have absolutely no concern!!”

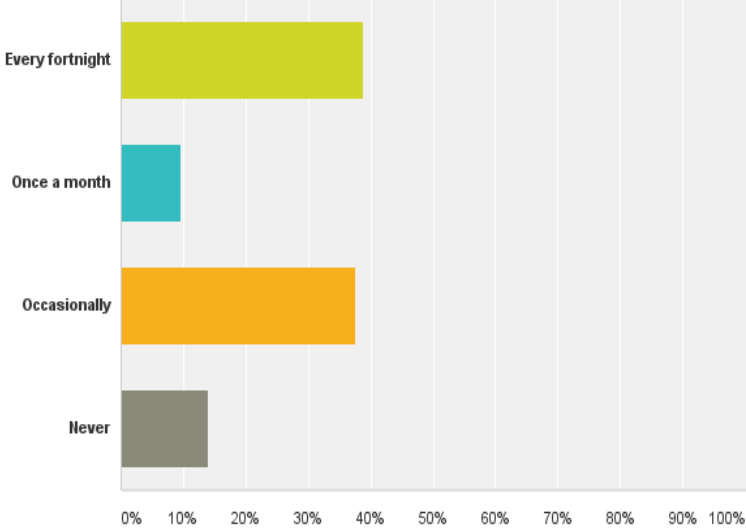
“Economics is the only thing that can control this”

“We need to make better packaging decisions”



Q2: How often is your recycling bin over full before the collection day?

Answered: 343 Skipped: 11



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Every fortnight	38.78%	133
Once a month	9.62%	33
Occasionally	37.61%	129
Never	13.99%	48
Total		343

Comments Summary:

35 comments received.

Those who had received larger recycling bins commented positively, saying their recycling excess was reducing. Many also quoted Christmas time and birthdays as times when bins overflowed. For those residents in the Shire of Harvey, 44% said their recycling was over full every fortnight.

Comment highlights:

"I find there is more in recycle bin than other bin"

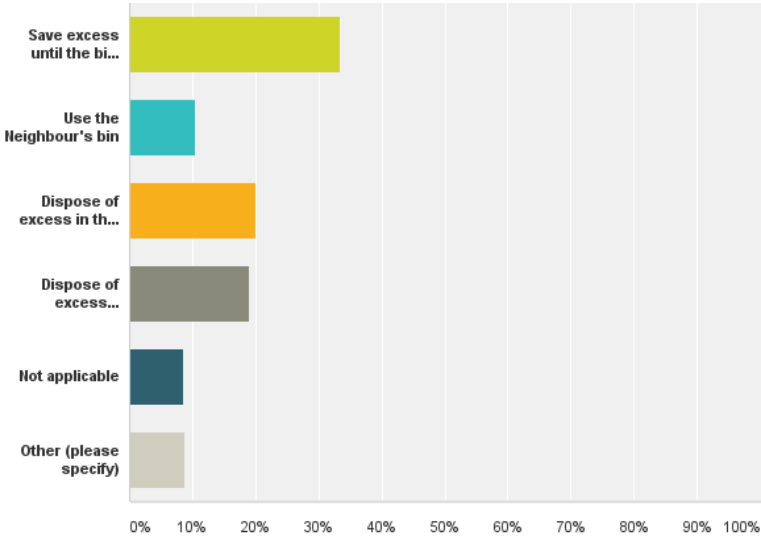
"often have to stand on the plastic and cardboard to compress it "

"Had to get a second bin which cost an extra \$183"



Q3: What do you do with excess recycling when the bin is full?

Answered: 354 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Save excess until the bin is emptied	33.33% 118
Use the Neighbour's bin	10.45% 37
Dispose of excess in the red top waste bin	20.06% 71
Dispose of excess cardboard and paper in the green organics bin	18.93% 67
Not applicable	8.47% 30
Other (please specify)	8.76% 31
Total	354

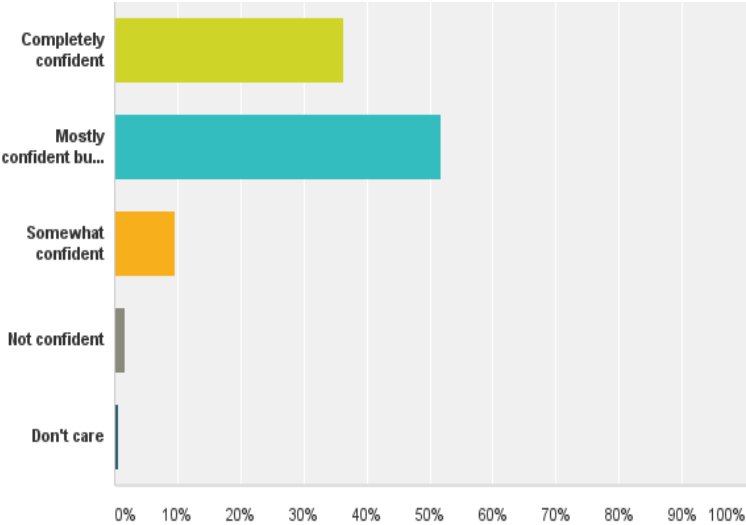
Comments Summary:

0 comments received.



Q4: How confident are you about what items belong in the Recycling Bin?

Answered: 352 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Completely confident	36.36%	128
Mostly confident but unsure on a few things	51.70%	182
Somewhat confident	9.66%	34
Not confident	1.70%	6
Don't care	0.57%	2
Total		352

Comments Summary:

11 Comments received.

Respondents commented about confusion with plastics, lids and plastic bags.

Comment highlights:

“Plastic bags are recyclable but are not permitted which is a bit concerning as they prove to be one of the biggest impacts on landfill and the environment ”

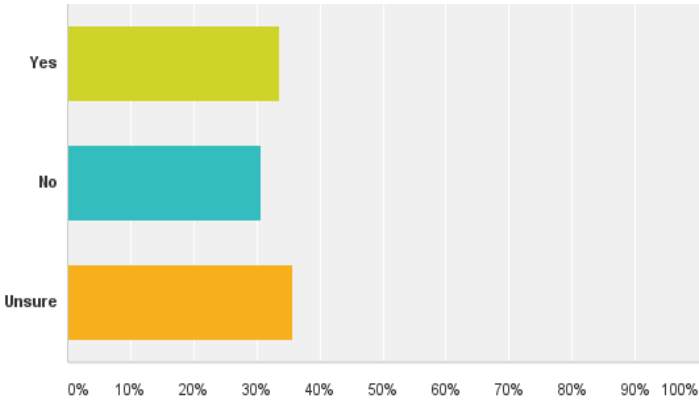
“Confused at some of choices eg polystyrene trays i use have triangle 6 on them= suitable for recycling but x on list”

“Lids etc are confusing”



Q5: Are you confident that material placed in the recycling bin is actually being recycled?

Answered: 352 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	33.52%	118
No	30.68%	108
Unsure	35.80%	126
Total		352

Comments Summary:

25 Comments received.

Most respondents were hopeful that recycling is actually being recycled, but many were not completely confident. More than one respondent commented that more information was needed.

Comment highlights:

“Not enough information is provided to households regarding how materials are sorted and recycled”

“One would hope that the council is true to it's word”

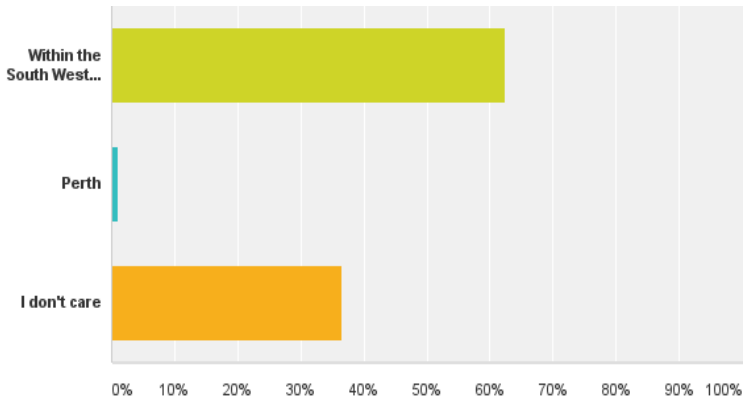
“I know our plastics get sent to China- how do we know they are actually being recycled?”

“Have heard that the recycle truck in Harvey/Cookernup area doesn't go to a recycling Depo - it just goes to the tip - this was from the person at the tip and other people have confirmed seeing the recycle truck there”



Q6: Where would you prefer recycling to be processed (sorted)?

Answered: 351 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
Within the South West region	62.39% 219
Perth	1.14% 4
I don't care	36.47% 128
Total	351

Comments Summary:

37 Comments received.

There were three common themes within the comments:

1. If it's in the SW it will create jobs locally
2. Wherever it is most efficient
3. As long as its actually recycled the location isn't important.

Comment highlights:

“As long as it is being recycled I'm not fussed where the process takes place, although I suppose if it were to occur in the South West it may create more jobs down here for people”

“What ever makes recycling economically viable is more important than where it is done”

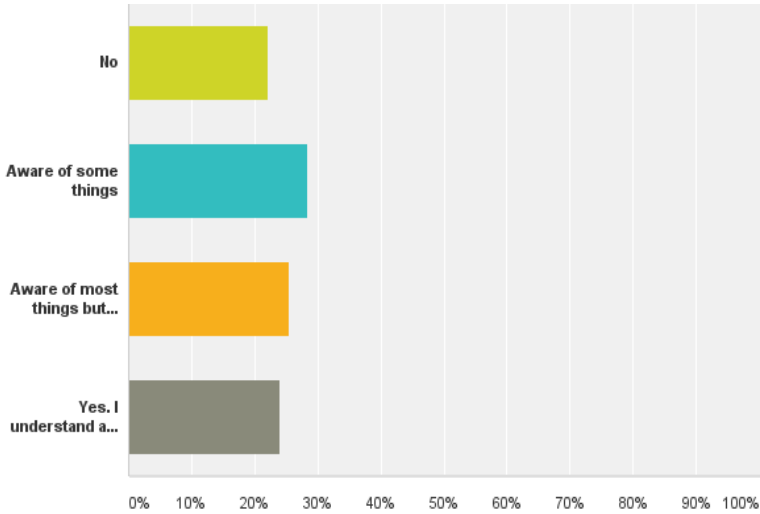
“Of course locally is best to reduce transport and reliance on fossil fuels and danger from increased trucks on roads ”

“Jobs”



Q7: At your local tip (or transfer station), do you know which items can be separated from the general waste and diverted from landfill?

Answered: 349 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses
No	22.06% 77
Aware of some things	28.37% 99
Aware of most things but unsure on a few things	25.50% 89
Yes. I understand all recycling options at the tip	24.07% 84
Total	349

Comments Summary:

25 Comments received.

Many respondents commented that they don't use the tip very often. Of those that do, a common theme was that the tip attendants were helpful in guiding them.

Comment highlights:

"Extremely limited options"

"usually get guidance from attendants"

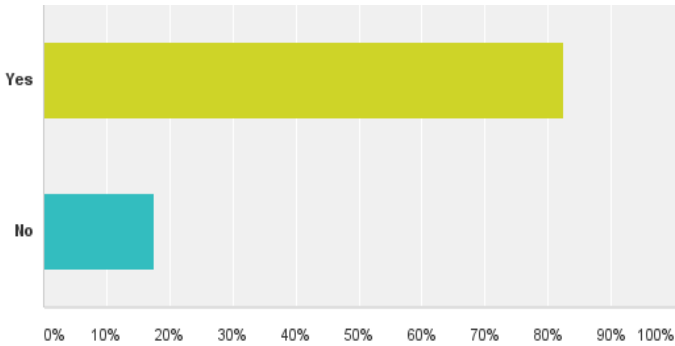
"Haven't really used the tip site that often. The E-waste transfer station at McCombe St would benefit by a large sign explaining location of various waste bay locations and what should be dumped at each bay"

"don't use it use council waste collections"



Q8: Would you use a map of your local tip (or transfer station) showing what can be diverted from landfill and where to leave it?

Answered: 349 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	82.52%	288
No	17.48%	61
Total		349

Comments Summary:

22 Comments received.

Of those respondents that use the tip, most responded that a map would be of use and many stated that the map as a sign at the tip would be of better use than a piece of paper that could get lost.

Comment highlights:

"Maybe - I think a map at the tip site would be better, per my comments above - I would most likely loose the map"

"things like tv, electrical etc yes "

"More often then no, you are directed on where to take your rubbish upon arrival at the local tip "

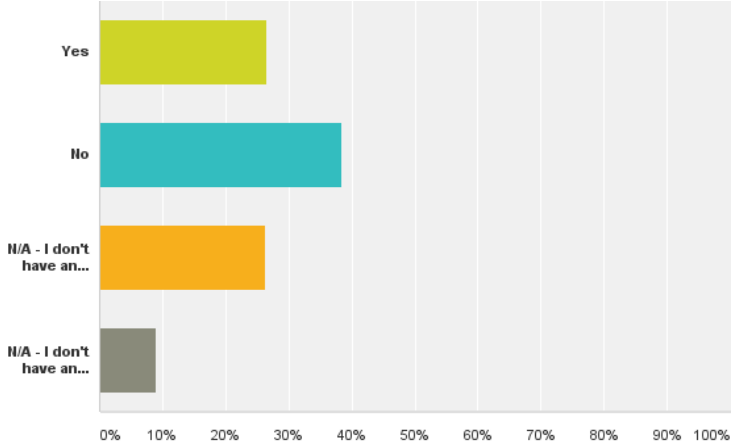
"Need recycling bins at Richardson road Harvey for this though"

"When you arrive with a trailer of trash, You want to dump it ... If you want to make money off these other items, YOU SORT THEM"



Q9: Do you know what happens to your organics waste once its collected?

Answered: 347 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	26.51% 92
No	38.33% 133
N/A - I don't have an organics bin, but I'd like my Council to provide one	26.22% 91
N/A - I don't have an organics bin and I'm not interested	8.93% 31
Total	347

Comments Summary:

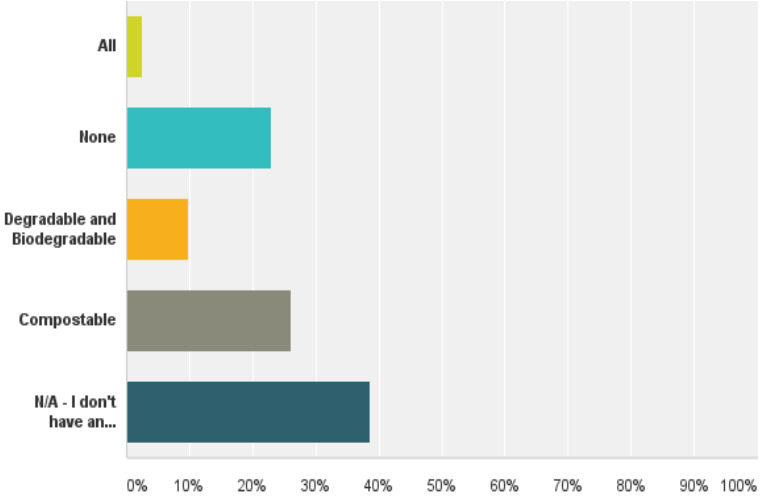
31 Comments received.
 Most respondents who have their own home compost/chooks commented on their personal composting practices, however there was some evidence that the public are keen for more information about the Organics loop.
 Comment highlights:

- "But would be interested to find out"*
- "I think it is composted. ?? "*
- "The 3 bins system should be all through Harvey shire"*
- "What is a organics bin?"*



Q10: Which type of plastic bags do you use in your organics bin?

Answered: 353 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
All	2.55% 9
None	22.95% 81
Degradable and Biodegradable	9.92% 35
Compostable	26.06% 92
N/A - I don't have an organics bin	38.53% 136
Total	353

Comments Summary:

20 Comments received.

Many respondents stated that they use the green compostable bags, but many also highlighted some issues with these bags. Many respondents also separated organic waste between the third bin and home recycling activities (eg. Chooks and compost).

Comment highlights:

“Can't afford the green biodegradable ones and they always end up with maggots as they break down too quickly!”

“we only use it for garden clippings, all food waste goes to the chooks”

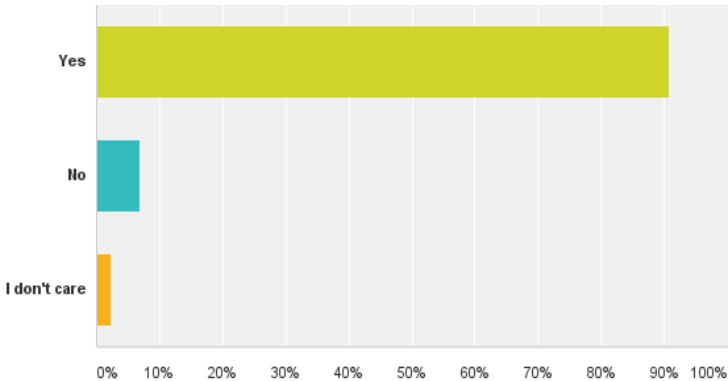
“Do not want one! ”

“we purchase online from Compost-A-Pak as they don't sell these in the local supermarkets”



Q11: Unfortunately, only compostable bags will break down enough to be used in the Organics bins. Would you like to see more retailers use compostable bags?

Answered: 44 Skipped: 310



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	90.91%	40
No	6.82%	3
I don't care	2.27%	1
Total		44

NOTE: ONLY RESPONDENTS WHO ANSWERED AS USING NON-COMPOSTABLE BAGS IN THEIR ORGANICS BINS IN THE PREVIOUS QUESTION ANSWERED THIS QUESTION

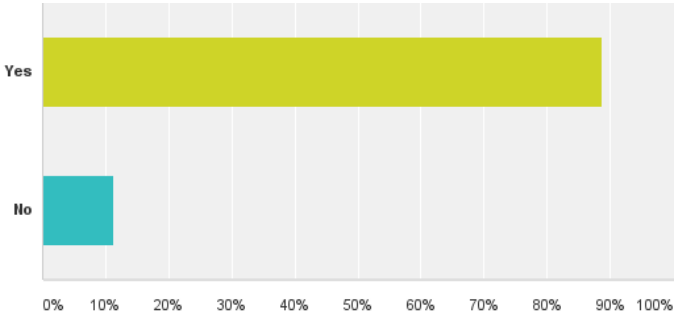
Comments Summary:

0 Comments received.



Q12: Do you see plastic bags as being an environmental issue in the South West?

Answered: 308 Skipped: 46



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	88.64%	273
No	11.36%	35
Total		308

Comments Summary:

33 Comments received.

Many respondents acknowledged that plastic bags are an issue, but commented that they always reuse their shopping bags. There were a number of respondents that called for a ban on plastic bags too.

Comment highlights:

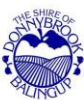
“Plastic Bags (especially shopping bags) are reusable and save us buying "bin liner bags" from suppliers. bafs are only "single use" if you choose to not re-use them!”

“They are being banned in more and more places. About time in WA”

“Plastic bags should absolutely be banned (after lots of community education) I do a lot of rubbish collecting and we have sooo many plastic bags in our waterways”

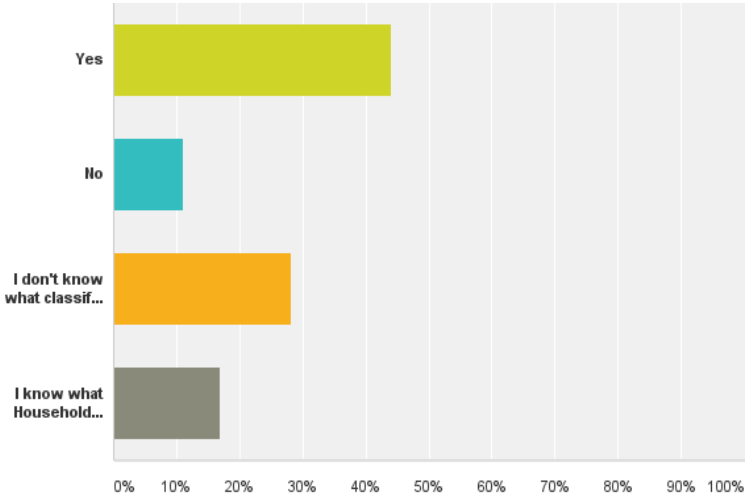
“yes, they break down very slowly and also blow around to be found in the bush and streams ”

“More could be done to promote recycling of these whilst they are still in use”



Q13: Household Hazardous Waste: Do you know what it is and where to dispose of it?

Answered: 345 Skipped: 9



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	44.06% 152
No	11.01% 38
I don't know what classifies as Household Hazardous Waste	28.12% 97
I know what Household Hazardous Waste is, but I don't know where to take it	16.81% 58
Total	345

Comments Summary:

14 Comments received.

The respondents who commented had varying knowledge of HHW and where to take it. Some admitted confusion.

Comment highlights:

"I think that this waste category is the least well known, for eg CFL light globes are HHW but how many people know and how many people know where to take them. There should be labeling on all CFL packaging"

"Batteries? Fridge/freezers, ovens?"

"Although not sure where to take batteries in the SW"

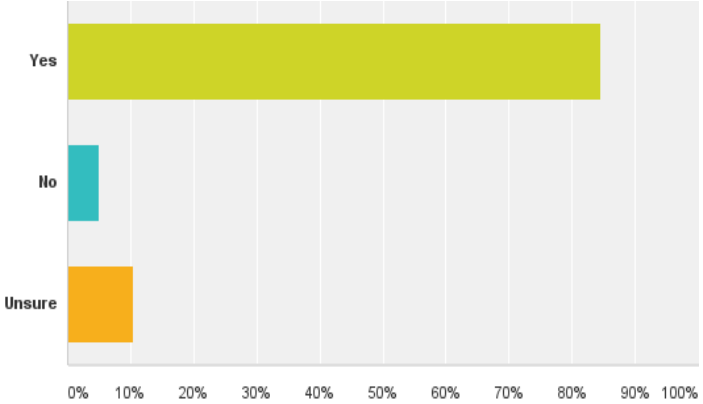
"I currently tip it in the red bin"

"Not keen on more red tape"



Q14: Do you think more should be done to educate the community on recycling and waste issues?

Answered: 342 Skipped: 12



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	84.50% 289
No	4.97% 17
Unsure	10.53% 36
Total	342

Comments Summary:

25 Comments received.

There were various comments covering various issues or ideas. The only relatively common thread was ‘people will only learn if they are willing’

Comment highlights:

“I think more should be done to educate policy makers about recycling and sustainable living”

“More of what can be recycled, where and reaffirm that it is being ‘recycled’ and not just buried ‘elsewhere.’”

“Education should begin at a young age and reinforced in school.”

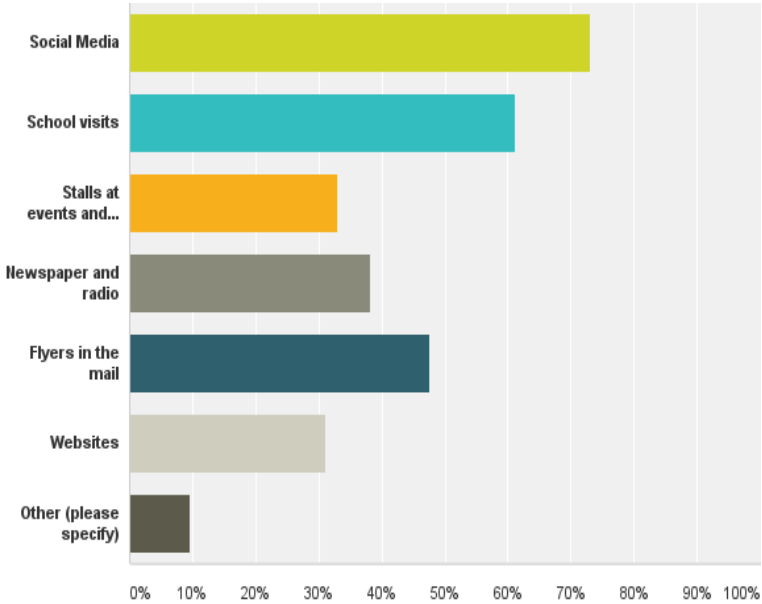
“I attended a recycling and waste excursion with my daughter's class at school. It was life changing!”

“It would be wiser to spend the money making sure that all ratepayers have equitable collection services”



Q15: What do you think are the best ways to get Waste Education messages out there? (select up to three)

Answered: 345 Skipped: 9



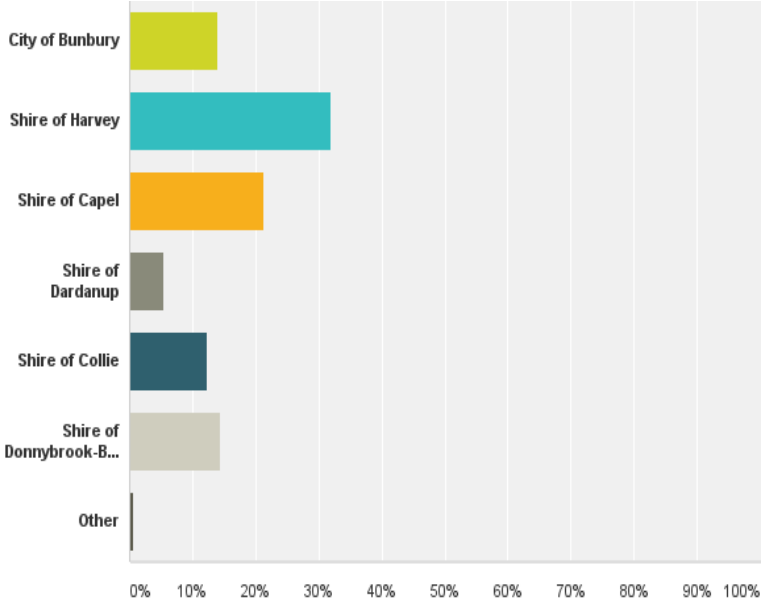
Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Social Media	73.04%	252
School visits	61.16%	211
Stalls at events and shopping centres	33.04%	114
Newspaper and radio	38.26%	132
Flyers in the mail	47.54%	164
Websites	31.01%	107
Other (please specify)	9.57%	33
Total Respondents: 345		

Comments Summary:
0 Comments received.



Q16: In which Council area do you live?

Answered: 348 Skipped: 6



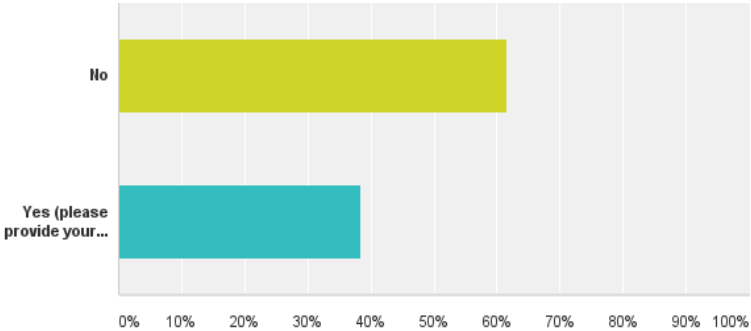
Answer Choices	Responses
City of Bunbury	14.08% 49
Shire of Harvey	31.90% 111
Shire of Capel	21.26% 74
Shire of Dardanup	5.46% 19
Shire of Collie	12.36% 43
Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup	14.37% 50
Other	0.57% 2
Total	348

Comments Summary:
0 Comments received.



Q17: The Shire of Capel may have some larger recycling bins available to residents who feel they need it (360L capacity). Would you like to receive a larger recycling bin free of charge?

Answered: 73 Skipped: 281



Answer Choices	Responses
No	61.64% 45
Yes (please provide your name, street and phone number)	38.36% 28
Total	73

NOTE: THIS QUESTION WAS ONLY ANSWERED BY THOSE RESPONDENTS THAT ANSWERED THE LAST QUESTION AS RESIDING IN THE SHIRE OF CAPEL

Comments Summary:

20 Expressions of interest in larger bins were forwarded to the Shire

