



The Rural City of  
**MURRAY  
BRIDGE**

Bridge to Opportunity

Local Government Centre  
2 Seventh Street (PO Box 421)  
Murray Bridge SA 5253

T 08 8539 1100  
F 08 8532 2766

[council@murraybridge.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@murraybridge.sa.gov.au)  
[www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au](http://www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au)

ABN 90 501 266 817

## MEDIA RELEASE

**Subject: Recycling Waste in a Circular Economy**

**Contact: Michael Sedgman  
Chief Executive Officer  
08 8539 1174  
[m.sedgman@murraybridge.sa.gov.au](mailto:m.sedgman@murraybridge.sa.gov.au)**

**Date: 23 September 2019**

---

IN AN AUSTRALIAN first, Council will work towards buying back 50% of the weight of kerbside plastics collected in the area over the next five years, to create a local market for our recycled waste.

The Rural City of Murray Bridge is one of nine South Australian Councils to participate in the Circular Procurement pilot project to prioritise buying products made from recycled materials.

The project aims to help develop local markets for recyclable materials by increasing demand for recycled content, ultimately reducing waste recycling costs for Councils.

Mayor Brenton Lewis signed a Memorandum of Understanding with eight other Councils committing to the change.

"This is an opportunity to reshape Australia's Recycling Industry by developing local markets," he said.

Mayor Lewis said Council would implement changes on a rolling basis, slowly increasing percentages until the 50% target was reached, by sourcing products made from recycled material such as street furniture, bollards and fencing.

"In the first year we will establish systems and processes to support the project, with a view to purchasing products or materials equivalent to 10% of the weight of plastics collected in our Council area," Mayor Lewis explained.

"Council will increase the purchasing percentage each year until we are buying back recycled materials equivalent to 50% of the weight of plastics collected in our area."

Based on an annual recycled plastic collection weight of 95.57 tonnes for The Rural City of Murray Bridge, a 10% buy back would mean 9.56 tonnes of recycled material used, and a 50% buy back would mean 47.79 tonnes of recycled material used.

Other participating Councils include Adelaide Hills Council, City of Burnside, City of Charles Sturt, Mount Barker District Council, City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters, City of Onkaparinga, City of Port Adelaide Enfield, and City of Prospect.