

21 August 2025

Waste Authority  
C/O Department of Water and Environmental Regulation  
Level 7, Prime House  
8 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup  
Locked Bag 10, JOONDALUP DC WA 6919

Dear Sir/ Madam,

**Ref: Submission on the Review of Western Australia's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030**

As the peak automotive industry association of Western Australia, we are pleased to provide feedback on the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030. Our submission highlights current initiatives, essential considerations and offers recommendations to enhance resource recovery and waste reduction in the automotive sector.

**Industry Overview**

The Motor Trade Association of Western Australia (MTA WA) is the peak industry body for the Western Australian motor industry and represents approximately 1,600 businesses. The membership incorporates all aspects of the motor industry from automotive franchise dealers, used motor vehicle dealers, imported motor vehicle dealers, body repairers, manufacturers and technicians to heavy transport operators.

A key role of the MTA WA is to advocate on behalf of its members in relation to issues that affect the Western Australian motor industry with government and policymakers at all levels. This assists industry to support government initiatives and achieve positive outcomes.

The MTAWA represents 20 different sectors of the automotive industry and almost all sectors at one time or another have to deal with the disposal of waste of some kind.

The industry is a major consumer of resources including metals and plastics and is an industry which contributes substantially to waste generation, including greenhouse gas emissions.

**Current Initiatives**

*Green Stamp Program*

Green Stamp is an environmental management initiative developed by the Motor Trade Association of Western Australia (MTAWA) in conjunction with the Waste Authority and supported by local government.

The program has been designed to assist businesses within the automotive trades to incorporate processes and practices that allow them to dispose of their wastes in an environmentally sensitive manner. It has also assisted businesses in the industry to become resource efficient and more environmentally sustainable.

Having demonstrated significant success via measurable outcomes, the program has been scaled up nationally. The program seeks to increase its take up from 6% of businesses to 20% over a 5 year period, however requires government assistance to achieve these goals.

## Challenges

### *Funding Constraints:*

To continue its impactful work, the program requires additional funding, as it currently incurs costs for participating businesses and the industry.

### *Recycling Costs:*

The cost of collecting and recycling materials such as controlled waste, paper, cardboard, tyres and plastic bumpers remains high and is greater than general waste costs.

More efficient collection and recycling processes are necessary.

To reduce waste plastic bumpers going into landfill, whether whole or shredded, there have been a number of initiatives by local businesses to produce useful products using plastic from waste bumpers. Unfortunately, without the support of local and state governments, these initiatives and products are not taken up. One example is a company can produce plastic posts (made from plastic bumpers) that can replace current wooden barrier logs commonly used by local governments. Take up from government departments in utilising products made from waste is imperative to reducing landfill and setting an example for other commercial businesses to follow suit.

### *Hydrocarbon Waste:*

There is a need to develop initiatives and incentives to avoid hydrocarbon waste from landfill.

### *Tyre Stewardship:*

Inconsistent progress in tyre collection and recycling affects effectiveness and contributes to illegal dumping.

Cost of keeping waste tyres out of landfill in regional WA is costly for businesses. Support for regional businesses to recycle waste without transporting to the Perth metropolitan should be considered a priority and strategies worked on with local industry, local and state government.

### *Remote Communities:*

Addressing high recycling costs and limited access to recycling markets in regional remains a major industry issue.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

To address these challenges and support the state's environmental goals for waste management and resource recovery, we advocate for:

### **1. Increased Funding:**

Secure additional funding to support and expand the Greenstamp program and similar initiatives.

**2. Improved Recycling Processes:**

Invest in more efficient collection and recycling technologies for materials like paper, cardboard, and plastic bumpers.

**3. Hydrocarbon Waste Management:**

Develop initiatives and incentives to minimize hydrocarbon waste and enhance disposal methods.

**4. Enhanced Tyre Stewardship:**

Implement consistent and effective tyre collection and recycling programs to prevent illegal dumping in regional and metropolitan areas. For example, enlisting the involvement of local government authorities as collection points.

**5. Support for Remote Communities:**

Introduce actions to lower recycling costs and improve access to recycling markets in regional and remote areas, with a focus on supporting Aboriginal communities.

**6. Innovation and Collaboration**

Encourage collaboration between the motor industry and government on waste reduction and recovery.  
Government departments to lead industry change by utilising recycled products in innovative ways.  
Support innovation in waste management technologies, including advanced recycling processes.

**Conclusion**

We are committed to achieve the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 objectives and advocate for ongoing collaboration between government and the motor industry to achieve the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 objectives. Implementing these recommendations will advance waste management and resource recovery, driving sustainable progress. The MTA welcomes further discussion and collaboration and is committed to working with and supporting Waste Authority WA on industry solutions.

Kind regards,

**Melanie Pool**  
**Membership Services and Engagement**