ECO BUY

THE STATE OF VICTORIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT GREEN PURCHASING IN 2010-11

An analysis of green purchasing by Victorian Local Governments under the ECO-Buy Local Government Program

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1. Foreword

Welcome to the eleventh ECO-Buy State of Victorian Local Government Green Purchasing Report for 2010-11.

It is a good time to reflect on the origins of ECO-Buy and why the organisation (originally just a program) was first established. This helps us understand why Green purchasing is just as relevant, if not more so, than it was over a decade ago. We were set up as a practical way of supporting the market for recycled products at a time when kerbside collection was too successful for its own good; more recycled material was being collected than was being processed. Victorian local governments recognised that they had an opportunity to play a role in supporting markets for waste derived products; to create the 'pull-through' needed to drive sales of recycled product.

As new waste strategies emerge across Australia nearly all recognise the value of sustainable procurement as an important market mechanism for reducing waste to landfill. It is featuring more prominently as part of strategies that value resources more effectively and seek to manage material flows in different ways.

Increasing landfill levies and the introduction of the Clean Energy legislation in 2012 will be a further prompt for us to change the way we deal with waste materials. Integrating sustainable procurement into the way we operate at home, at work and at play is an important objective on the road to a society that is smarter with the way it uses our finite resources.

Illustrating progress this report shows that in 2010-11, the average expenditure on recycled products has grown by 11%. As one of six categories that are reported on, the spend on recycled products makes up the largest single component of the overall reported expenditure. The report also shows an increase in reported expenditure on another category, refurbished and second hand products, which is again a positive sign of how local governments increasingly value materials and the efficient use and flow of materials.

This report features a decline in the average expenditure on water saving products. This is likely to be due to wetter conditions reflecting the more volatile climate and we would expect a return to a focus on water efficiency as predicted longer term drier conditions become a more regular feature of our weather.

The environmental focus of Victoria's local governments remains strong at a time when the media has lost its sense of this being an important issue for our society. This local action sustains the community's commitment to environmental protection.

Local Government members continue to have strong policy and strategy commitment to sustainable purchasing whilst some of the areas of delivery such as supplier engagement offers scope for improvement. Local sustainable supply chains are part of local economic response to a carbon constrained future. This is a vital area and opportunity for ECO-Buy and local governments as we work together to forge a more sustainable future.

Congratulations to all of our local government members who have contributed to this report.

Mike Hill, Chair, ECO-Buy Ltd

2. Introduction

ECO-Buy aims to protect and enhance the environment by encouraging the increased demand for, and use of, environmentally preferable products and services. We do this by operating as a Centre of Excellence in Environmental Purchasing, and influencing the market towards more sustainably preferable choices by providing purchasing organisations with effective information, knowledge and tools.

As ECO-Buy now moves to become the leading organisation providing advice and guidance on sustainable procurement, the language over time will change from talking just about green purchasing to just about sustainable procurement. For the purposes of this report, local government spend at this stage is primarily about green procurement.

ECO-Buy's success continues to grow with the support of our membership programs, ECO-Find and consultancy projects. But it is the strength of the ECO-Buy Local Government Program that has paved the way for other levels of government and for business. The annual reporting process is a cornerstone of this success, allowing us to monitor the green purchasing progress over eleven years and observe emerging green product trends and opportunities.

This eleventh ECO-Buy Local Government Annual Report details the green purchasing activities of 26 of ECO-Buy's 55 member councils in 2010-11, and highlights once again the progress made across many areas.

When the program began in 2000, members' expenditure on green products was $5 million, and was exclusively spent on recycled content products. As this report shows, this figure has increased over the last eleven years to at least $58.7 million spent across a broad range of green products in 2010-11.

This expenditure is complemented by good practice in implementing important elements of ECO-Buy's sustainable purchasing program such as adopting Sustainable/Green Purchasing Policies and annual Action Plans, forming sustainable purchasing Working Groups and including green specifications in contracts – all of which contribute to more sustainable procurement outcomes.

The green purchasing results outlined in this report are a demonstration to communities, businesses and other levels of government of what can be achieved with a genuine commitment to our environment and health into the future.

2.1. Eleventh year headline accomplishments

The impressive green purchasing results in 2010-11 add to ECO-Buy's track record of success in supporting green purchasing outcomes in Victorian local governments since 2000. Cumulative eleven year headline accomplishments for the ECO-Buy Program are $582 million dollars has been spent on green product since 2000 and there have been 382 reports submitted in that time.

3. Key findings

- There were 55 members of the ECO-Buy Local Government Program in 2010-11
- Demonstrating leadership and environmental concern are seen as the key drivers for local government members to undertake green purchasing.
- Members have invested over $58.7 million in environmentally preferred products in 2010-11 – which reflects a $8.8 million drop from 2009-10, noting that the number of reporting local governments has fallen. However the average expenditure has remained the same.
- 47 per cent of members reported to ECO-Buy in 2010-11 (18 per cent lower than 2009-10), reflecting the continuing difficulty in collecting and reporting green purchasing expenditure.
- Over 28,365 tonnes of CO_2-e were avoided 3.4 mega litres of water and 34 hectares of land saved through the combined purchase of recycled content asphalt, compost, mobile garbage bins and paper.
- The number of green products purchased by members has grown from 80 in 2000-01 to over 399 in 2010-11.
- Recycled product spend has decreased by $5.7 million since 2009-10, in part due to the decrease in fleet management (e.g. bio fuels) and paper products. However the average spend of this category has increased by 11 per cent to 46 per cent.
- There is a decrease of over $2.9 million in greenhouse friendly products in 2010-11 compared to 2009-10. This is indicative of the large amount of investment in the previous year on one off purchases that do not require annual replacement, such as vehicles and hot water saving products.
- Investment in water saving products has continued to drop. This year it has reduced by 51 per cent compared to 44 per cent in 2009-10. As the drought restrictions have been lifted and the large amount of investment in previous years it is perhaps not surprising to see this product category drop.
- Reported spending in refurbished and second hand products has increased by 49 per cent from the previous reporting year, increasing to $500,318.
- Four councils have reported spend in the new category of Green Services with a total of $109,163. These were all for green printing services.
- 79 per cent of local government members have strong sustainable procurement priorities and strategies in place. 36 per cent scored Gold level in the policy dimension of the Sustainable Procurement Assessment Tool (SPAT) through their own self-assessment.
- 15 of the 28 members who returned a Part 1 analysis of the SPAT have analysed their expenditure, with the majority of the remaining councils in the process of completing this analysis.
- 11 per cent of members have scored silver during self-assessment of their measurement and results in the SPAT. While the majority have scored bronze (53 per cent), this suggests that there is opportunity to improve reporting and tracking processes for these local governments and therefore making significant progress in this area.

The full findings of the 2010-11 State of Local Government Green Purchasing is presented in the following sections.

4. About the Reporting Process

Reporting annual expenditure of green products is a key requirement of membership to the ECO-Buy Local Government Program. However, the benefits of tracking and reporting green spend are much broader in that it:

- Assists organisations to monitor their green purchasing year to year, allowing them to benchmark progress, monitor the implementation of their Sustainable/Green Purchasing Policy and Action Plan and set targets for increasing green purchasing
- Assists organisations to identify what green products they are currently buying, and where opportunities exist to expand the range of green products being purchased
- Supports internal monitoring and reporting on the implementation of sustainability programs (e.g. Climate Change Action Plans)
- Helps to quantify the environmental benefits achieved through green purchasing
- Assists organisations to communicate green purchasing successes in tangible terms and seek recognition for achievements.

4.1. Part one – Sustainable Procurement Assessment Tool (SPAT)

Part one of the SPAT requires members to provide a self-assessment of their progress in implementing a sustainable purchasing program within their organisation, and auditing the supply chain practices. It focuses on 5 dimensions of sustainable purchasing including:

- People – e.g. presence of a champion to lead on sustainable procurement
- Policy – e.g. establishment of sustainable procurement policy and action plans
- Procurement process – e.g. understand the organisation's sustainability impacts of procurement and considering sustainability criteria in tenders and contracts
- Engaging with suppliers – e.g. communication and assessment of the sustainability of suppliers
- Measurement and results – e.g. the use of tools to track and report on sustainable procurement

There are 21 questions which are scored on a rating of one to five, five being the highest.

4.2. Part two – green product expenditure

The primary indicator used by ECO-Buy to track green purchasing progress is the annual expenditure on sustainable products, also known as 'green spend'. Part two of the report requires members to track and report their annual green spend for an entire financial year. ECO-Buy has set criteria around the types of products that qualify as 'green'.

WHAT CAN BE REPORTED

- Products with 10 percent or higher recycled content
- Equipment with 4 stars or higher energy rating (as per the Energy Rating scheme)
- Products that save energy
- Products with 4 stars or higher gas rating (as per the Gas Energy Rating scheme)
- Products with 4 stars or higher water rating (as per the WELS scheme)
- Vehicles that have 4 stars of higher as per the Green Vehicle Guide, or downsized vehicles (e.g. 6 cylinder to 4 cylinder cars)
- Products that are non or low toxic, water saving, sourced from renewable resources, are compostable, biodegradable or certified organic
- Refurbished or second-hand products
- Accredited GreenPower and Renewable Energy Certificates
- Accredited Green Services for printing, cleaning and accommodation.

WHAT CANNOT BE REPORTED

- GST is excluded from all reported expenditure
- Investment in services not included in the green services category (e.g. wood chipping, e-waste recycling)
- The provision of environmental advice to councils (e.g. energy audits)
- Installation costs from contracts that include green products

- Training or performances used to promote environmental programs
- Products used to promote environmental programs (thermometers, timers, publications etc) UNLESS they are less damaging to the environment and/or health than other similar products (e.g. contain recycled content)
- Waste management products (ashtrays, litter bins etc) UNLESS they are less damaging to the environment and/or health than other similar products (e.g. contain recycled content)
- Staff salaries.

4.3. Reporting categories

Determining what makes a product 'green' can be a confusing area, particularly in an era of increasing green marketing and 'greenwash'. ECO-Buy works from the premise that every product purchased impacts the environment in some way. Our definition of a green product is one that is less damaging for the environment and/or human health than competing products that serve the same purpose.

In order to simplify the reporting process and enable benchmarking year on year, ECO-Buy uses the following categories to capture green product expenditure:

- Recycled
- Greenhouse Friendly
- Other Green
- Refurbished and Second Hand
- Green Power
- Green Services

4.4. Data consistency

It is important to note that direct comparisons between different reporting years are constrained by changes in the ECO-Buy reporting template over time. In 2000-01 and 2001-02, only spending on recycled content products under the then Local Government Buy Recycled Alliance was reported.

It is also worth noting that different numbers of members have submitted annual reports each year (see Appendix 8.2), and the range of products that can be reported on has increased in a number of different reporting templates over the last ten years due to an increase in the range and availability of green products.

In early 2007 a review of the reporting template was undertaken. A range of changes were made as a result of this review, including removing reused products, products with Energy Star, Green Fleet carbon offsetting, and excluding GST costs.

Following these changes, the reporting template is now in its fifth year of use, and allows results since then to be benchmarked against previous years.

Significant changes in the 2008-09 reporting template were made include a review of the 'total budget' figure. Prior to that, members have reported their projected annual budget for that financial year. However there were some concerns that members were interpreting this guidance inconsistently.

In a bid to create a consistent framework to which all members reported, total expenditure figures are now derived from council's Annual Report financial statements and are calculated as the total revenue for that financial year (including recurrent and non-recurrent revenue) less employee benefits (excluding contractors) and less depreciation.

For the 2010-11 reporting year a new category was added to the template. Green services were added in recognition of the growing number of services available that have demonstrated improved environmental practice in terms of the water and energy use, and waste management. The services are green printing, cleaning and accommodation. These services may have achieved an accreditation relevant to their industry.

This year we have focused more closely on changes in the average expenditure on different categories as changes in total expenditure simply reflect the changes in the number of local governments reporting.

4.5. Challenges in reporting

ECO-Buy members continue to experience some difficulty in tracking and recording their green purchases. When reading this report it is important to keep in mind that some members are capturing only part of their actual expenditure, and the figures provided are best possible assessments of current green purchasing expenditure. It is therefore more likely that this report under represents rather than over represents spending on green products by local government members.

ECO-Buy coordinators rely on data capture of green purchases by all staff, who are each responsible for recording the green features of a product when they record each purchase they make. This creates a challenge to report full and accurate green purchasing expenditure as it relies on staff understanding of what is a green product and purchase. Contractors, who purchase green products on behalf of a local government, do not always collect and report green purchasing data for what can be large scale capital works projects of considerable expenditure.

While most organisations report only on parameters such as energy and water use and waste production, Victorian local governments report on their green purchasing more comprehensively than any other sector. Therefore, while the reporting process isn't perfect, it is a unique record of quantified green purchasing expenditure data. ECO-Buy will also continue to help members improve the accuracy of their tracking and reporting of green product purchases over time, as well as improving the value of the reporting process to members.

5. Expenditure Findings

This report covers the period from July 2010 to June 2011. At the end of the 2010-11 year there were 55 member councils participating in the program.

TABLE 1 – RETURN RATES

	Expected to return a report	Completed both sections	Completed Part One SPAT	Completed Part Two	Did not return any report
2000-01	30	24 (80%)	25 (83%)	24 (80%	5 (17%)
2001-02	42	30 (71%)	38 (90%)	30 (70%)	4 (10%)
2002-03	48	39 (81%)	41 (85%)	40 (83%)	6 (13%)
2003-04	50	40 (80%)	43 (86%)	42 (84%)	5 (10%)
2004-05	59	41 (69%)	49 (83%)	46% (78%)	5 (8%)
2005-06	62	41 (66%)	49 (59%)	52 (83%)	5 (8%)
2006-07	59	53 (90%)	54 (91%)	53 (90%)	5 (8%)
2007-08	59	42 (71%)	38 (64%)	46 (78%)	12 (20%)
2008-09	56	39 (70%)	39 (70%)	39 (70%)	17 (30%)
2009-10	55	35 (64%)	35 (64%)	36 (65%)	19 (35%)
2010-11	55	19 (35%)	28 (51%)	26 (47%)	21 (38%)

Members were asked to return their completed report by 14 September 2011. Of the 55 members in the 2010-11 year, 19 (35 per cent) completed Part One of the SPAT and an expenditure report. 21 members (38 per cent) did not complete either report. The challenges in reporting range from lack of resources/time to collect the information to the quality of data being collected.

This report therefore represents 47 percent of ECO-Buy local government members' green purchasing expenditure and is a snapshot of the true extent of green purchasing within the ECO-Buy program, and amongst all 79 Victorian local governments. One council completed their report using the Part 2 of the SPAT. They have not been included in the above table, or in the detailed analysis following, but their overall figures have been included in the totals spent by all reporting councils

5.1. Quantifying the environmental benefits of green purchasing

In 2007, ECO-Buy engaged the Centre for Design at RMIT University to develop a methodology for quantifying the environmental outcomes of purchasing environmentally preferable products. The project included life cycle analysis of some of the top expenditure areas in the Local Government Green Purchasing Report, the results of which are included below.

To capture the environmental savings from these product purchases, their tracking system must be able to record the quantity or volumes purchased (e.g. cubic metres/tonnes or number of reams etc).

ECO-Buy's 26 reporting local government members brought about the following environmental savings in 2010-11 through their combined purchasing of just five product types.

TABLE 2 – QUANTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL SAVINGS THROUGH KEY GREEN PRODUCT PURCHASES

Product	Quantity purchased	Greenhouse gas savings (tonnes)	Land use savings (ha)	Water savings (litres)
Asphalt	23,805 m^3	58	-	-
Compost	726 m^3	216	1.1	348,247
Mobile garbage bins	98,878 units	1,040	-	-
Paper	102,781 reams	26	33.01	-
GreenPower	22,335,212 kWh	27,026		
Cumulative savings		**28,365**	**34.1**	**348,247**

- indicates where an environmental saving is not relevant, or where life cycle assessment data is poor quality or does not contain information on water or land use impacts for the product type.

Asphalt: The environmental benefit is based on typical 10 percent recycled content with a 20:1 bitumen ratio.
Compost: Environmental benefits are based on the avoidance of 2.2 tonnes of organic matter from landfill for every tonne of compost purchased.
Paper: Greenhouse and land use savings are based on reported number of reams of paper.
Mobile Garbage Bins: The environmental benefit is based on a typical 240L MGB with 30 percent recycled content compared to an equivalent sized virgin plastic content bin.
GreenPower: The environmental benefit is based on the calculation for Victoria from the Department for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (National Green House Factors July 2011) x kWh Green Power x 1.21 kg CO2-e = y kg CO2-e

5.2. Total expenditure on green products

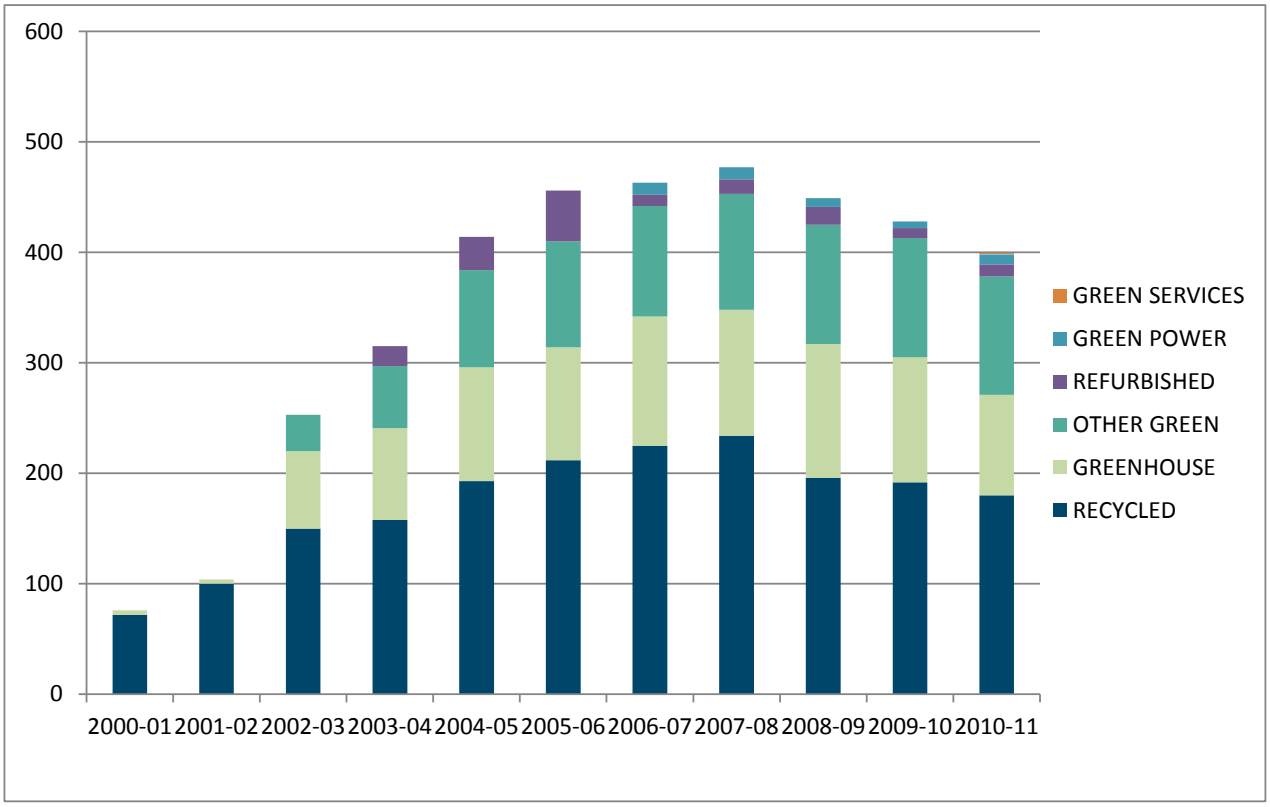
In the eleven years that local government members have been reporting the number of products that can be reported has grown from approximately 80 products in 2000-01 to 399 different green products in 2010-11. The main growth areas are 'other green', 'refurbished' and 'green power' categories.

Local government members have spent over $582.8 million on green products since the beginning of the ECO-Buy Local Government Program. In 2010-11, members invested an impressive $58.7 million on products which reduce negative impacts on the environment. As mentioned previously these total figures above include the total spend from one council that submitted a short report via the Sustainable Procurement Assessment Tool and did not have the full breakdown of spend. Therefore all data following in the report does not include this councils spend.

This is a decrease from the previous year's expenditure of $8.8 million. Though this decline may not seem encouraging it is important to note that as members progress through the implementation of green procurement some categories will report a lower spend due to the reduced need to invest in green. Investments in products that save water and energy are not annual purchases as they will often last a number of years before they need replacing. It is also important to note that there were nine fewer reports which would account for a significant amount of spend.

While this report uses expenditure results to assess the state of local government green purchasing, it should be noted that successful green purchasing can also result in environmental benefits from decreasing the amount of products purchased.

GRAPH 1 – NUMBERS OF PRODUCTS REPORTED OVER TIME



GRAPH 2 – TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON GREEN PRODUCTS 2000-01 – 2010-11

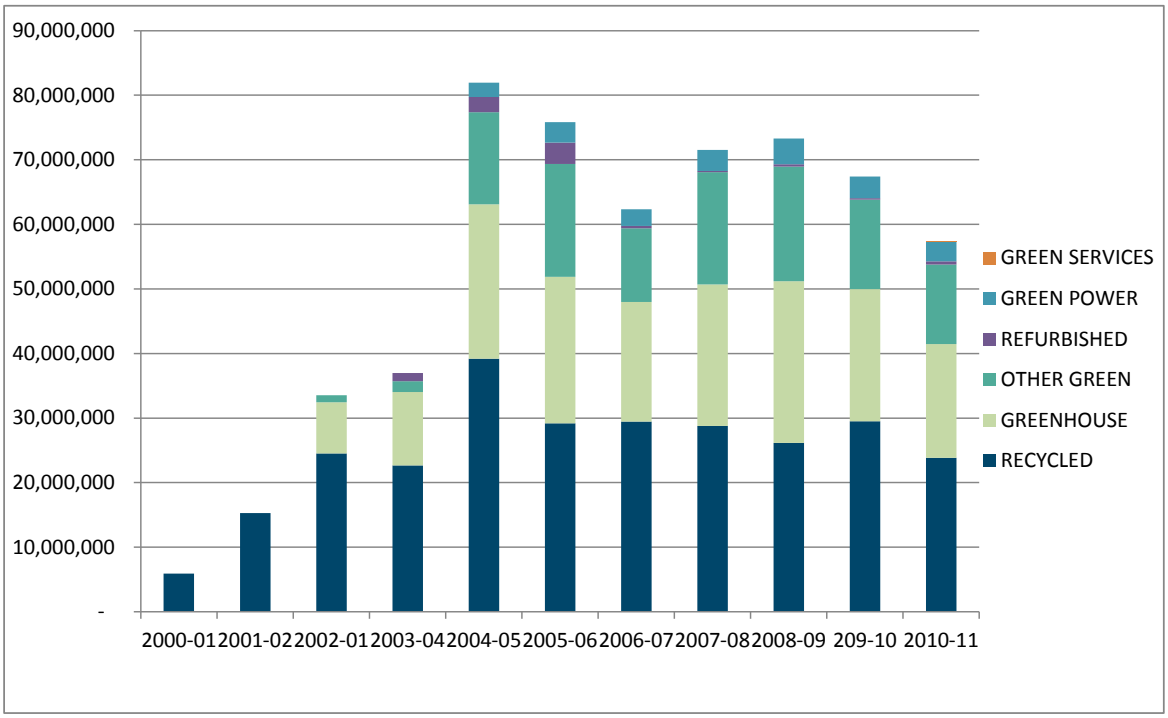


TABLE 3 – TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON GREEN PRODUCTS 2000-01 – 2010-11

	Recycled	Greenhouse	Other green	Refurbished and second-hand	Green Power	Green Services	**Total ($)**
2000-2001	5,914,164						**5,914,164**
2001-2002	15,302,295						**15,302,295**
2002-2003	24,533,043	7,933,446	1,063,938				**33,126,424**
2003-2004	22,670,556	11,341,947	1,679,982	1,295,068*			**36,987,548**
2004-2005	39,204,717	23,900,073	14,261,247	2,357,201*	2,242,323^		**81,965,561**
2005-2006	29,198,300	22,660,232	17,483,792	3,303,530*	3,177,981^		**75,734,797**
2006-2007	29,444,457	18,551,167	11,409,229	348,204	2,599,778		**62,352,834**
2007-2008	28,802,092	21,915,945	17,361,836	188,215	3,278,475		**71,546,563**
2008-2009	26,165,037	25,051,190	17,728,416	379,528	3,952,065		**73,276,236**
2009-10	29,505,725	20,480,156	13,832,172	254,633	3,323,399		**67,396,085**
2010-11	23,834,262	17,615,681	12,324,281	500,318	3,076,027	109,163	**57,459,732**

* Figure included calculated dollar values for reused products, which were removed from the reporting template in 2006-2007
^ Figure included Green Power service charges, which were removed from the reporting template in 2006-2007

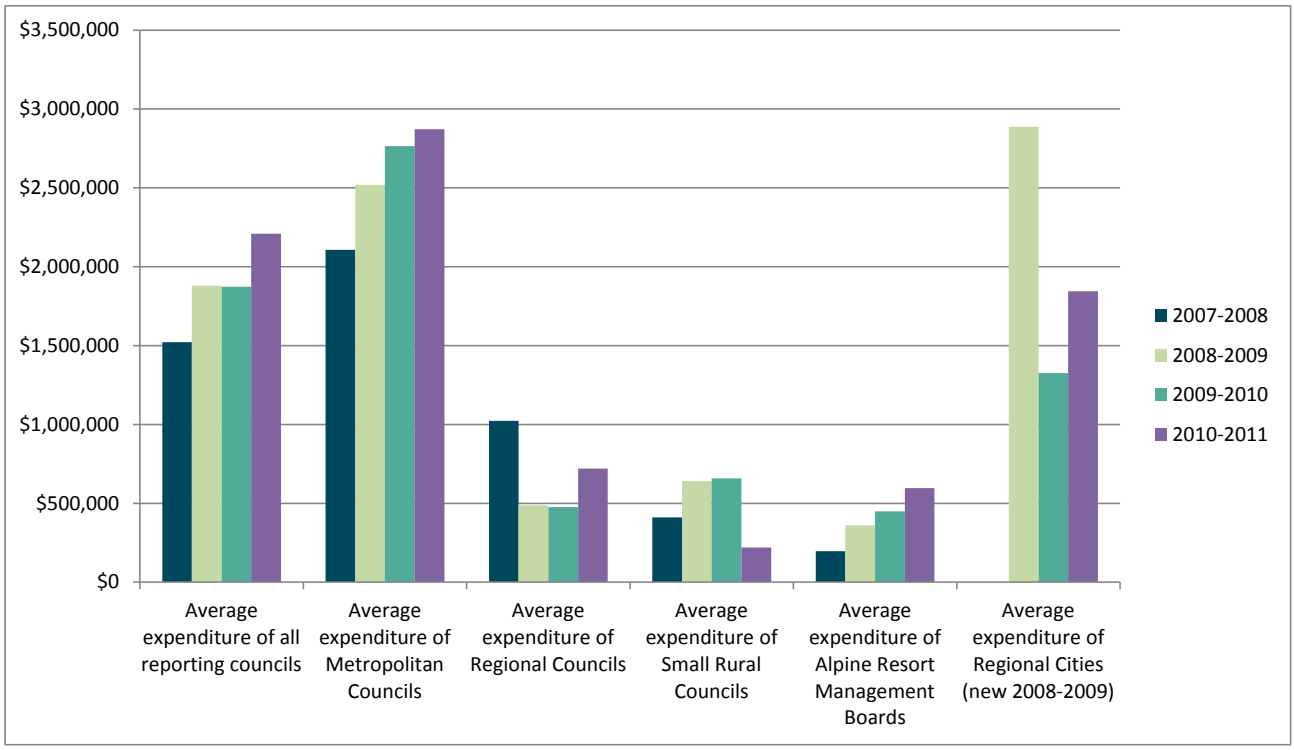
TABLE 4 – CUMULATIVE TOTAL SPEND BY PRODUCT CATEGORY 2000-01 – 2010-11

Green product category	Cumulative reported expenditure ($ million)
Recycled	275
Greenhouse Friendly,	169
Other green	107
Refurbished and second-hand	9
Green Power	22
Green Services	.1
Total	**582**

5.3. Benchmarked green purchasing results – council category

Benchmarking green purchasing results against year-to-year performance is useful for establishing key trends although these are affected by changes in numbers of reporting local governments. However, comparing results against the average expenditure, total available budget and rateable properties of all ECO-Buy local government members provides better data for making comparisons across different sized/resourced councils.

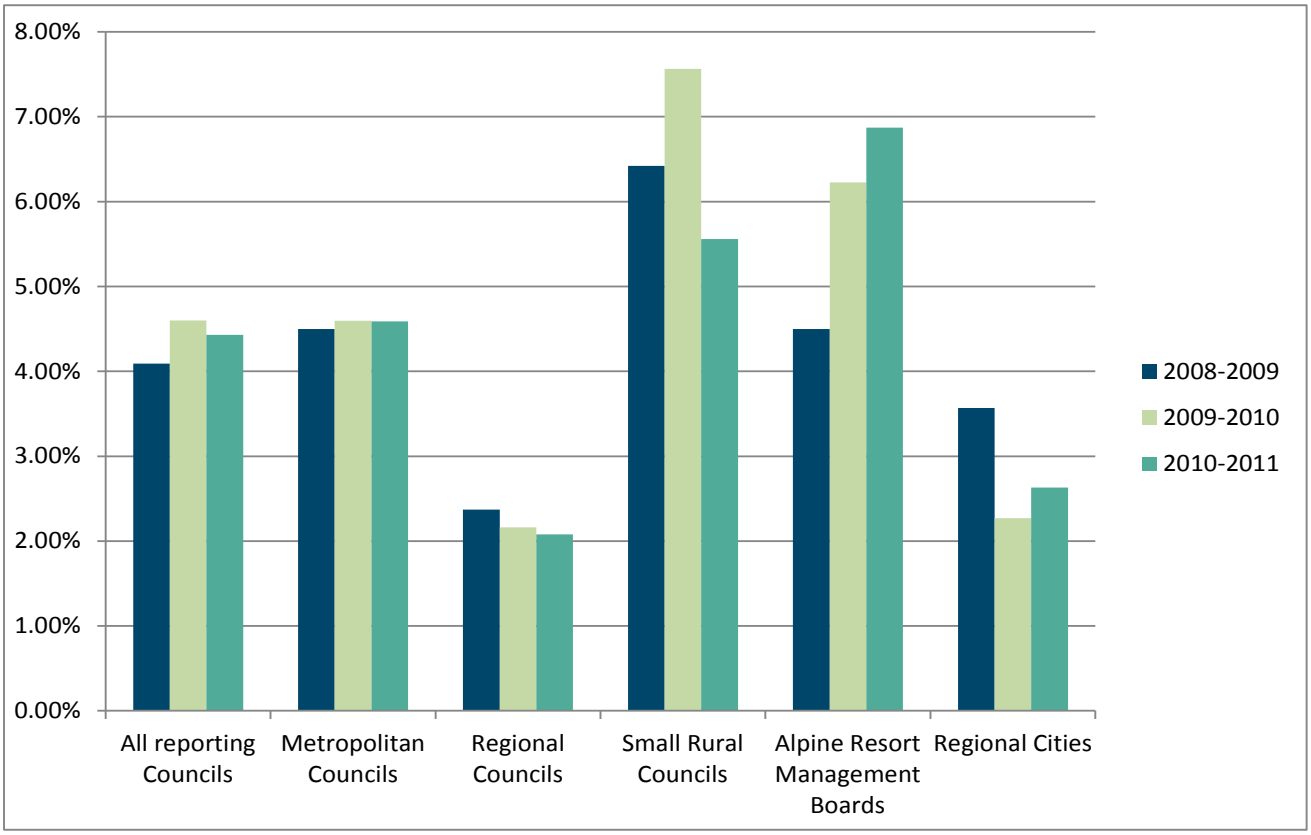
GRAPH 3 – AVERAGE EXPENDITURE BY COUNCIL CATEGORY 2007-08 – 2010-11



^Regional cities were a new council category in 2008-2009 and have been removed from the 'regional council' category.

It is positive to see that the average expenditure on green products has increased for all council categories in 2010-11 with the exception of small rural councils.

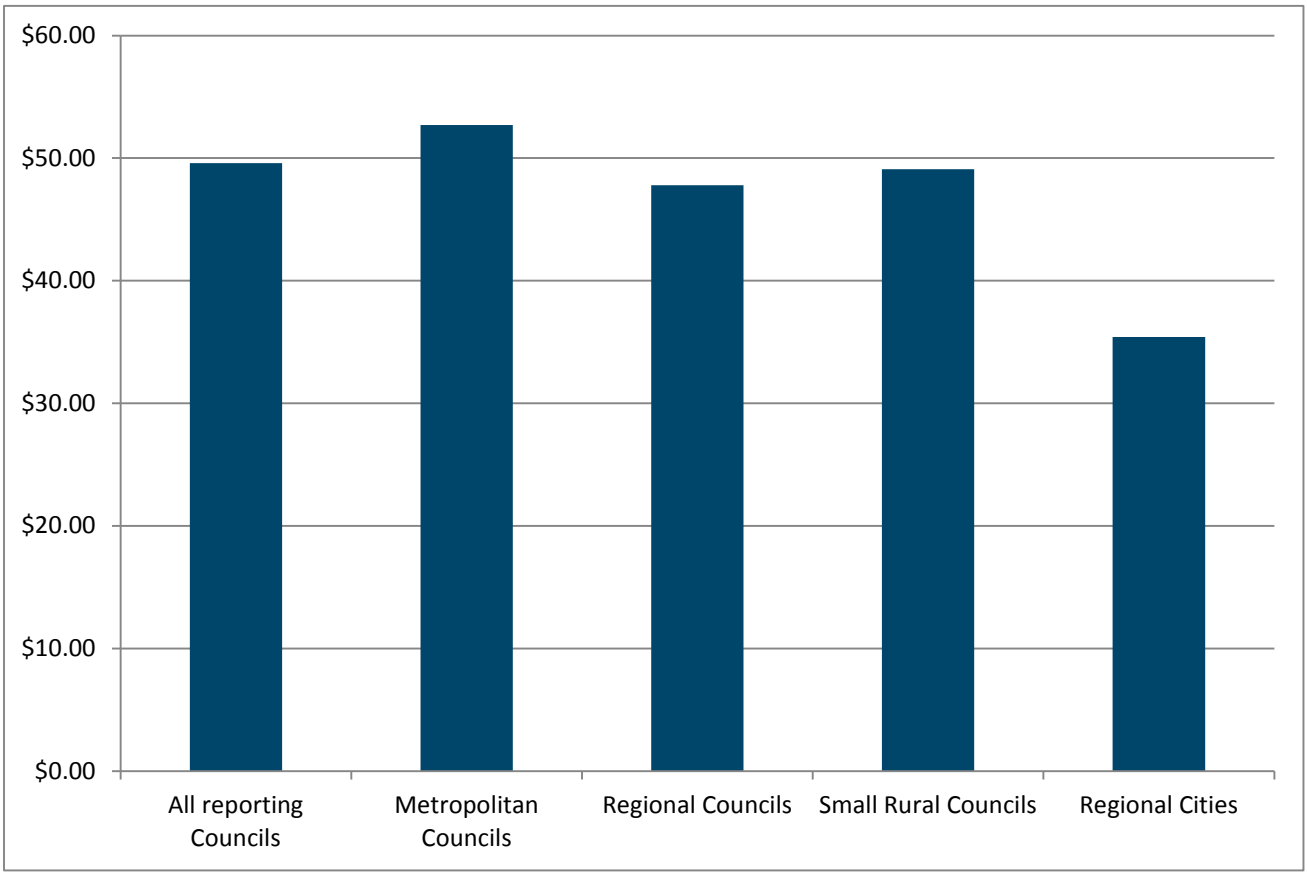
GRAPH 4 – AVERAGE GREEN SPENDING AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL AVAILABLE EXPENDITURE



The average reported spend on environmentally preferable products as a percentage of total available expenditure (all councils) is 4.4 per cent for 2010-11 ($2.2M). The methodology for calculating total available expenditure changed in 2008-09, allowing results now to be benchmarked with results since then. We can report, as shown in Graph 4, that the Alpine Resort Management Boards are on average spend the highest percentage of available expenditure on green products (6.9 per cent) followed by small rural councils and metropolitan councils (5.6 per cent and 4.6 per cent).

The average green spending per rateable property for local government members is $50 (up from $49 in 2009-10), but ranges between extremes of $16 up to $91 reported green spend per rateable property in different local governments. The results shows that average across the different councils is pretty similar though regional cities are spending approximately $15 less. As Alpine Resort Management Boards do not have rateable properties they are excluded from this analysis.

GRAPH 5 – AVERAGE GREEN SPENDING PER RATEABLE PROPERTY 2010-11



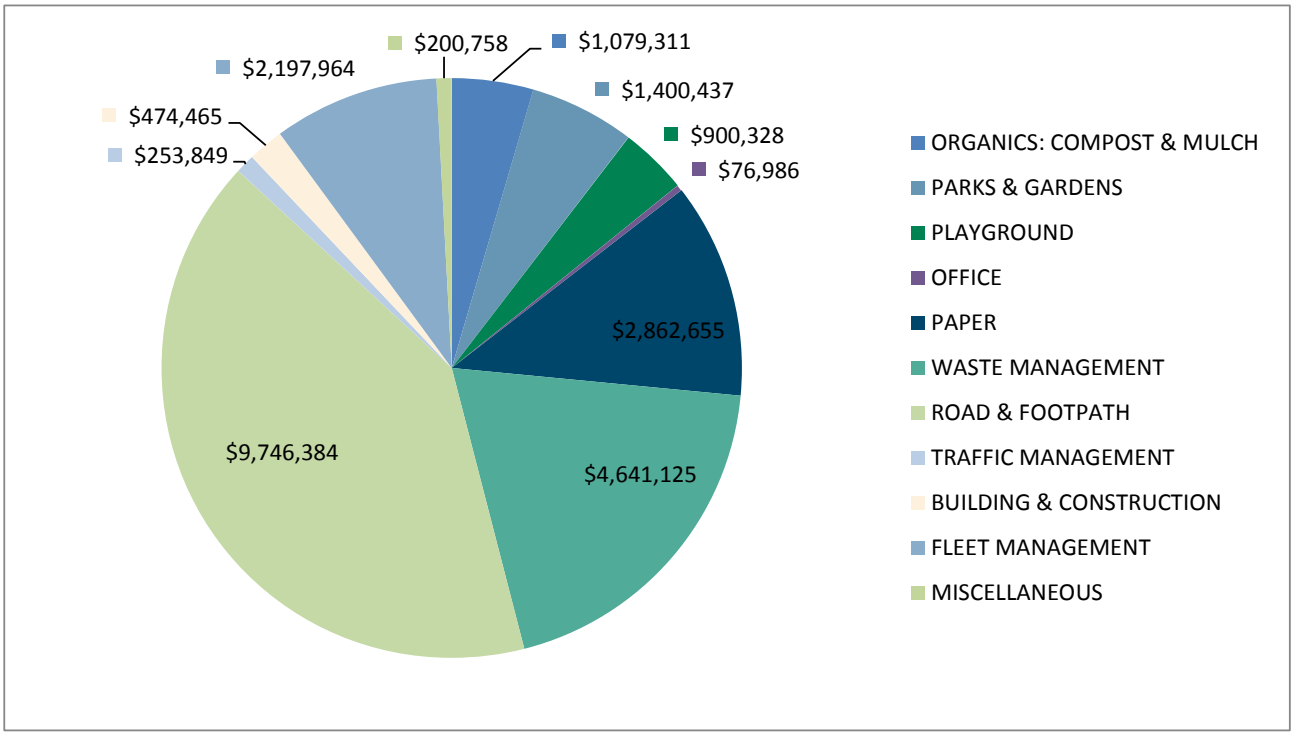
5.4. Recycled product purchasing

Total expenditure on recycled content products was $23.8 million. This represents an average of $916,702 spent on green products by the reporting councils. This is an 11 per cent increase from 2009-10. There were increases in the purchase of recycled products for playground, waste management, building and construction, and miscellaneous categories. This includes increased spending on playground decking and safety mats, 1100 litre bins, carpet tiles and plaster board.

TABLE 5 – RECYCLED PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2010-11

Compost & Mulch	Parks & Gardens	Playground	Office	Paper	Waste Management	Road & Footpath	Traffic Management	Building & Construction	Fleet Management	Miscellaneous	**Total**
1,079,311	1,400,437	900,328	76,986	2,862,655	4,641,125	9,746,384	253,849	474,465	2,197,964	200,758	**23,834,262**

GRAPH 6 – RECYCLED PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2010-11



5.5. Greenhouse friendly product purchasing

Greenhouse friendly products are defined as those that create fewer greenhouse gas emissions in their operation. More local governments are developing greenhouse action plans and purchasing goods and services that reduce their emissions will help them to reach their targets. A carbon price has been introduced to help Australia to reduce its carbon emissions, so those local governments that are already taking action are placing themselves ahead of the game.

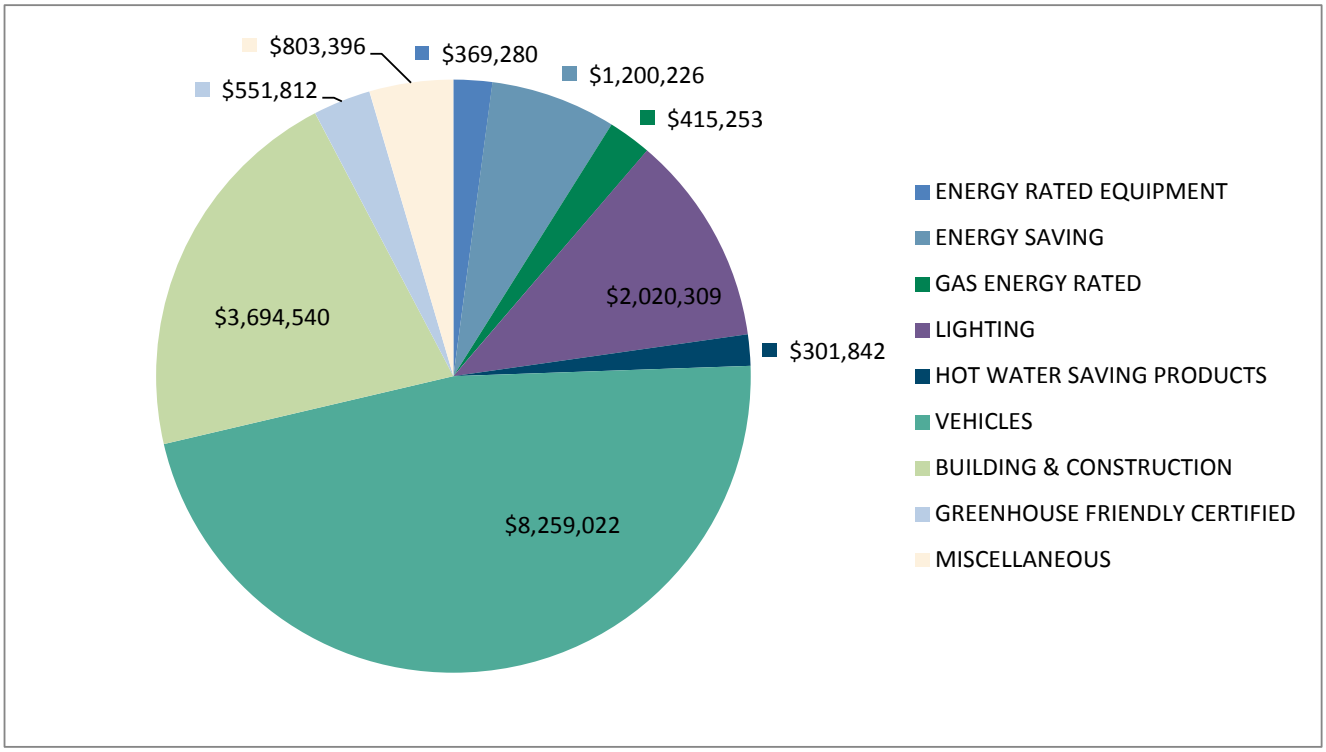
A spend of $17.6 million in this category amounts to average spend of $677,526 on green products and services. This is an increase in average from the previous year (16 per cent). The nature of this category is that spend tends to be long term/one off purchases that are not necessarily bought year on year. In 2009-10 there was a lot of investment in fuel efficient vehicles, energy rated products, and greenhouse friendly certified products, which are not necessarily annual purchases and expenditure as a result could vary from year to year. There has been increased spending in LED lighting, solar panels (in spite of purchase costs coming down), and solar hot water systems.

TABLE 6 – GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2010-11

Energy Rated Equipment	Energy Saving	Gas Energy Rated	Lighting	Hot Water Saving Products	Vehicles	Building & Construction	Greenhouse Friendly Certified *	Miscellaneous	**Total ($)**
369,280	1,200,226	415,253	2,020,309	301,842	8,259,022	3,694,540	551,812	803,396	**17,615,681**

*Greenhouse Friendly Certified has now been replaced by the National Carbon Offset Standard (NCOS)

GRAPH 7 – GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2010-11



5.6. 'Other' green product purchasing

'Other' green products are those that have less impact on the environment and often human health compared with competing products or services that serve the same purpose, but don't fit in the recycled or greenhouse friendly categories. Water saving products are included in this category. Lower toxicity products leading to improved air quality and less harm in ecosystems and waterways are also included in this section.

Members' expenditure on 'other' green products averaged at $474,011 which is a 19 per cent increase in 2010-11.

There has been a continued decrease in water saving products which as last year is indicative of the investment councils have made to reduce the amount of water that they use during the drought years.

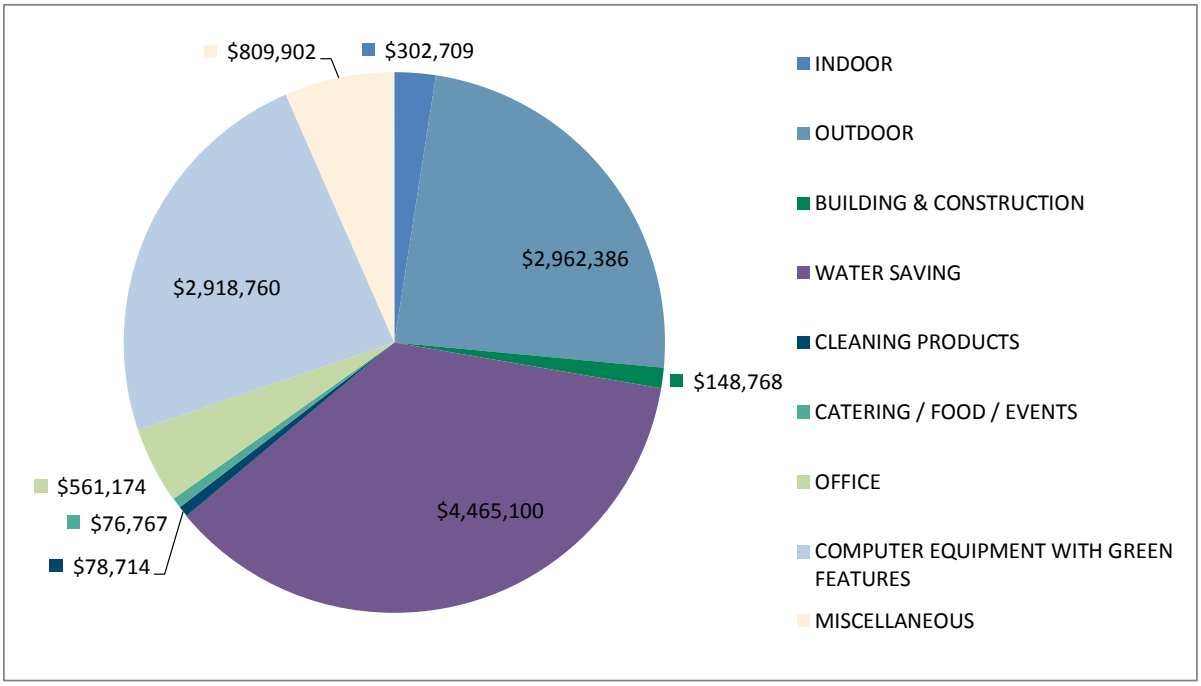
Expenditure on computer equipment with green features has increased indicating that local government are investing more sustainably in equipment that is used in high frequency in an office environment.

Outdoor equipment has also seen an increase in spend on products like indigenous plants and non-toxic weed control.

TABLE 7- 'OTHER' GREEN PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2010-11

Indoor	Outdoor	Building & Construction	Water Saving	Cleaning Products	Catering / Food / Events	Office	Computer Equipment	Miscellaneous	**Total ($)**
302,709	2,962,386	148,768	4,465,100	78,714	76,767	561.174	2,918,760	809,902	**12,324,281**

GRAPH 8 – OTHER' GREEN PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2010-11



5.7. Refurbished and second-hand purchasing

Using a refurbished or second-hand product prevents usable material being sent to landfill, and reduces the requirement to purchase new products made from virgin materials.

All products listed under refurbished and second-hand spending were purchased from external organisations, rather than reused within council operations.

Refurbished and second-hand product expenditure has nearly doubled in the last year. This is primarily due to a significant purchase of second hand timber by City of Casey for a new library in Pakenham.

TABLE 8 – REFURBISHED AND SECOND-HAND PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2010-11

Refurbish and Second Hand	2010-11
Total (S)	500,066

5.8. GreenPower purchasing

GreenPower is a national accreditation program for renewable energy products offered by electricity suppliers to businesses and households across Australia. Many local governments actively encourage their residents to choose GreenPower for their electricity purchasing, as well as purchasing GreenPower electricity for council buildings and street lighting.

Purchasing GreenPower, along with more energy and fuel efficient products, is one of the main avenues local governments have to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with their operations. GreenPower is particularly significant in the strategies of those local governments aiming to become 'carbon neutral'.

Members' spending on GreenPower was $3.1 million in 2010-11. Overall a majority of those local governments that did report have reported an increase in spend with the average spend of $116,309 for all reporting councils (63 per cent increase from previous year).

TABLE 9 – EXPENDITURE ON GREEN POWER 2010-11

Green Power	2010-11
Total (S)	3,076,027

5.9. Green Services purchasing

This is the first year that councils have been able to report on green services. These include green cleaning, printing and accommodation. This year councils have only reported spend in the printing services.

TABLE 10 – EXPENDITURE ON GREEN SERVICES 2010-11

Green Services	2010-11
Total (S)	109,163

6. Sustainable Procurement Assessment Findings

In previous years local government members have completed an annual survey to determine how they are implementing the ECO-Buy program and what the factors are that influence green purchasing within their council. The 2009-10 reporting cycle utilised the newly developed Sustainable Procurement Assessment Tool (SPAT) and has continued for 2010-11.

The tool assists organisations to measure their success in reducing their environmental, social and economic impacts through purchasing. It is based on the Mayor of London's Green Procurement Code progress review, an online self-evaluation for London based organisations committed to reducing their environmental impact through responsible purchasing.

As a result all ECO-Buy members were asked to complete the tool as part of their annual reporting commitments. In 2009-10 Victorian Local Governments were involved in a project with the Department of Planning and Community Development. As the project is now complete only ECO-Buy members were asked to complete Part 1 of the SPAT.

On completion of Part 1 of the tool, a score is given: entry, bronze, silver or gold.

Gold: The organisation demonstrates best practice or near-best practice in all five dimensions of sustainable procurement: people, policy, process, suppliers and measurement. These organisations also tend to drive sustainability among their suppliers.

Silver: The organisation demonstrates best practice or near best practice in three or more of the five dimensions of sustainable procurement.

Bronze: The organisation has established sustainable procurement management systems across three or more of the five dimensions of sustainable procurement. Best practice or near practice may even have been achieved in one or two of the five dimensions.

Entry: The organisation may be at the beginning of its sustainable procurement journey or may have started to develop sustainable procurement management systems

This scoring done by officers and assumes a good knowledge of sustainable procurement progress when completing the self-assessment. The majority of the scores have not been independently validated. Validation would require additional information to be provided to confirm the answers provided.

Part one of the SPAT is divided in to 5 sections asking a total of 21 questions on the organisation's engagement with their staff, implementation of policy, processes, supplier engagement and the use of tools to track and measure their purchasing.

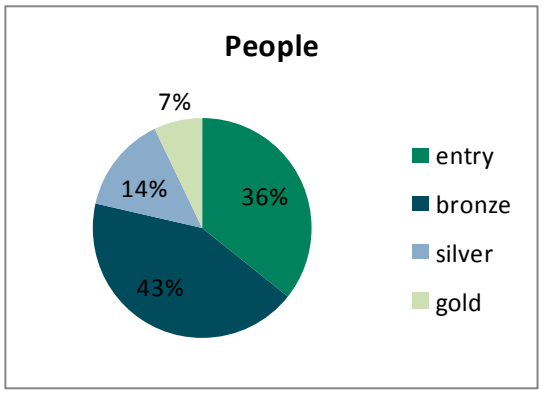
The results from the assessment tool will be evaluated in the following sections.

6.1. People

The people dimension measures the extent to which an organisation has embedded sustainable procurement within the corporate culture, including engaging, training and holding staff accountable at all levels. The five statements that organisations have to score themselves against are:

1. A sustainable procurement champion has been identified.
2. Key procurement staff have received training.
3. Most procurement staff have received training.
4. Sustainable procurement is included in staff personal development and appraisal process.
5. Sustainable procurement achievements are publicised.

The ability for staff who are involved with procurement within the organisation to understand how best to use sustainable procurement to their advantage is vital in ensuring the environmental, social and economic impacts of procurement is minimised. To have an effective sustainable procurement management system, staff need to be adequately trained and leadership of Senior Managers is key. The following charts demonstrate where having a program of implementing sustainable procurement practices is of great benefit to the organisation's performance. This will also be demonstrated in the other dimensions.



GRAPH 6.1 ECO-BUY MEMBERS - PEOPLE

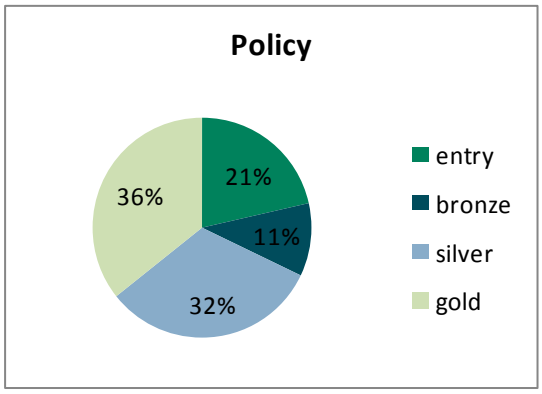
ECO-Buy members are progressing well in this area with a good uptake of training as part of their membership. Members recognise that leadership is important to help drive sustainable procurement within the organisation. More could be done to get senior level support. A key area of improvement in this category is to include sustainable procurement objectives into staff appraisals. This along with publication of achievements in sustainable procurement will help ECO-Buy members achieve improved scores in this dimension.

6.2. Policy

The policy dimension demonstrates the ability of organisations to use policy and strategy to their advantage ensuring that sustainable procurement is embedded within all operations.

The five statements are:

1. Sustainable objectives have been agreed.
2. A sustainable procurement policy is in place.
3. A sustainable procurement strategy is in place.
4. The sustainable procurement strategy is linked with other strategies and management systems.
5. The sustainable procurement strategy is reviewed regularly.



GRAPH 6.2 ECO-BUY MEMBERS - POLICY

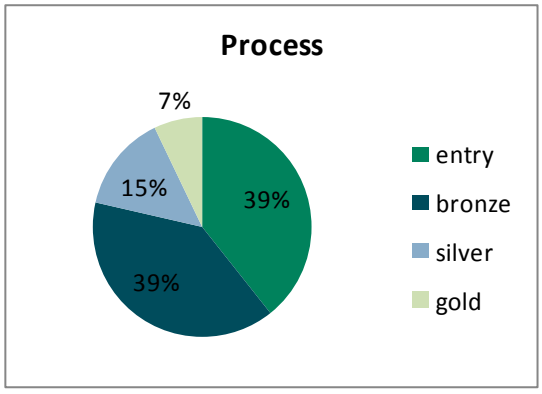
With only 21 per cent of ECO-Buy members remaining at entry level with regards to policy implementation and all others between bronze to gold, this is a good demonstration of the level understanding that the right policy framework is central to embedding sustainable procurement within the organisations. To raise their score, members should look at linking their sustainable procurement strategies with other management systems as well as regular review of their policy. It is encouraging to see that 36 per cent of members have scored gold for this section and 32 per cent have reached silver level.

6.3. Process

This dimension is where an organisation demonstrates it has assessed the impacts of its supply chain and integrated sustainability considerations in to supplier selection and contracts. The use of sustainability criteria in contracts and tenders is the best way to manage high priority spend areas. The use of supplier performance targets also helps an organisation manage environmental risks.

The statements in this dimension are as follows:

1. Expenditure is analysed.
2. The sustainability impacts of procurement are known.
3. Sustainability criteria are considered in contracts.
4. Sustainability risks in the supply chain are managed effectively through contracts.
5. Key suppliers have targets or KPIs to improve their sustainability performance.



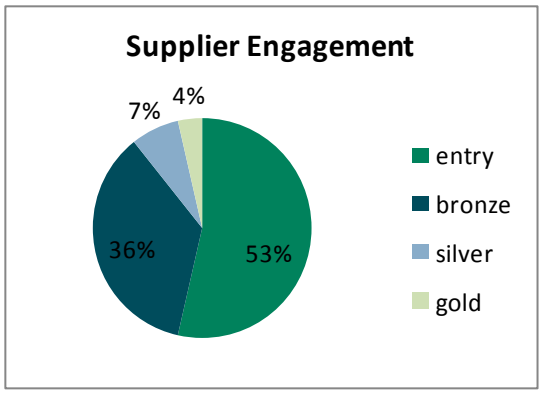
GRAPH 6.3 ECO-BUY MEMBERS - PROCESS

ECO-Buy members are demonstrating an understanding of the need to address environmental impacts in their procurement process. Overall more work could be done to embed sustainable criteria into contracts and tenders. What appears to be of difficultly for members is how to use contracts to manage the risks in the supply chain as well as using performance KPIs to help suppliers improve sustainability performance.

6.4. Supplier Engagement

This dimension measures the extent to which an organisation has engaged its suppliers in improving their sustainability. In this dimension there are three areas to assess performance against. These are processes against the following statements:

1. We communicate with suppliers on sustainability
2. We assess the sustainability performance of suppliers
3. We engage with suppliers in continuous improvement programs



GRAPH 6.4 ECO-BUY MEMBERS – SUPPLIER ENGAGEMENT

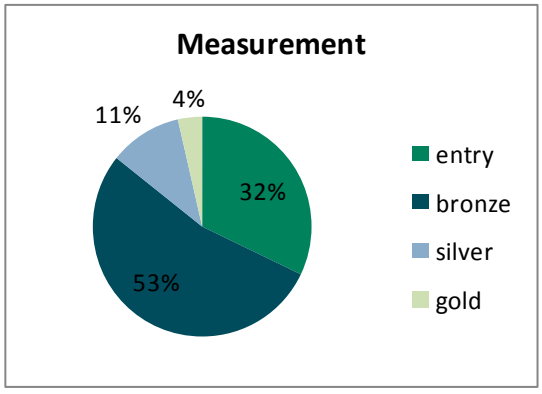
For ECO-Buy members this is an area which requires more work. However looking at previous dimensions where performance is good it can be expected that this will improve as processes encourage dialogue with suppliers on how best to meet councils' sustainability objectives that already have been set. As councils improve their engagement with suppliers so does their scoring and therefore we see increases in the higher levels and scores in the lowest levels come down. Supplier engagement is always a challenge for regional members due to a lack of availability of green products from local suppliers. This is where conversations with those suppliers can include finding out whether they are aware of the organisation's commitments to reducing their impact on the environment. Once they are aware of this they may be encouraged to look at alternative or more sustainable product ranges, especially if they see the council as a key client of theirs.

6.5. Measurement and Results

This is the last dimension of Part One of the SPAT and looks at the use of tools to track, assess and report on what sustainable procurement has taken place at the organisation. There are also only three areas to assess performance against and they are:

1. Systems are in place to measure achievements in sustainable procurement
2. We measure our sustainable procurement performance and use this information in management decisions
3. We compare our sustainable procurement performance against other organisations.

The ability for an organisation to assess its performance regularly is important for any good system to work. It allows for the setting of performance targets and monitoring the implementation and success of a strategy. The use of finance systems help organisations to track and report expenditure and can help to measure performance and use the results to inform management decisions. It is also a useful tool to compare performance against other organisations. A key indicator used is annual investment in sustainable procurement.



GRAPH 6.5 ECO-BUY MEMBERS - MEASUREMENT

Members of ECO-Buy are in a good position as they are able to collect data through the purchases that they make which demonstrates how those purchases are to the benefit of their community, environment and economy. Tracking and reporting green/sustainable spend has historically been a challenge for local governments whether this is done electronically or manually. These challenges include the accuracy of information inputted into systems, lack of staff awareness on what a green product is, and limited resources to collate the information. This is reflected by the low return of expenditure reports for 2010-11.

7. Conclusion

This report of Victorian Local Government Green Purchasing in 2010-11 shows a continued commitment from ECO-Buy local government members to procure more sustainably by the purchase of environmentally preferable goods and services.

Average expenditure by reporting local governments remains at similar levels to the previous year (2009-10) at $2.2M. This perhaps reflects the fact that many of the 'easy wins' have been achieved and for local government to move to the next level of sustainable procurement it will require embedding onto day to day purchasing activities.

Specific trends for this reporting period include increases in average expenditure on recycled products which aligns with a growing focus in local government on improved resource efficiency.

Increases in energy saving product expenditure for products such solar panels and LED lighting reflects the rising cost of energy, the falling costs of certain energy saving products and the subsequent growth in investments by local governments in this area.

Water saving products expenditure has fallen, perhaps just a temporary reflection of wetter than normal conditions. As climatic conditions change, as we continue the general trend for drier conditions resulting from climate change, this expenditure may well increase again.

In terms of systems and processes in place to support more sustainable procurement, local government members are well advanced with relevant policies and strategies in place. There are also good processes in place to enable the consideration of sustainability issues through procurement. Capacity building through training of staff and knowledge sharing is another strength of ECO-Buy local government members.

Areas that need further work include the need to improve supplier engagement and to communicate council commitments to purchase environmentally preferable products to local suppliers. The area of measurement and results also needs increased focus. The ability to track and report expenditure needs to be reinforced along with the use of information gathered to inform management decisions.

Overall it should be recognised that local government members are organisations that are amongst the leaders in more sustainable procurement. This reporting process and the contributions from local government members represent a unique record of expenditure on more sustainable products and services in Australia.

8. Appendices

8.1. ECO-Buy Reporting Categories

Category	Details
Recycled	**Definition**: Products made with recycled materials (as opposed to recyclable) (min. 10 per cent). **Key Environmental Benefits:** Reduces demand for virgin materials (i.e. timber, plastics etc) Diverts waste from landfill and help close the recycling loop Reduces litter and pollution in the natural environment Provides an alternative to more resource intensive alternative materials **Examples:** Composts and mulches that meet the Australian Standard 4454 Paper and cardboard products such as copy paper, napkins, toilet tissue.
Greenhouse Friendly	**Definition**: Products that create fewer greenhouse gas emissions. **Key Environmental Benefits:** Products that use less energy, produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions to reduce the threat of climate change and reliance on fossil fuels **Examples**: Appliances that are 4 stars or higher energy and gas rated Products that reduce the need for heating and cooling for example insulation and draft stoppers Fuel efficient transportation for example bikes or hybrid vehicles.
Other Green	**Definition:** Products are less damaging to the environment and/or human health than similar products but do not fit into the 'recycled' or 'greenhouse' categories (for example, water saving, biodegradable, organic and non-toxic products). **Key Environmental Benefits:** Low toxic products have low less impact on human health, eco-system health and water quality. Products made with renewable resources have a reduced impact on biodiversity through less demand on forest reserves. Water saving products reduce consumption or assist collection of scarce water resources. As products that would otherwise find their way into the litter stream, compostable and biodegradable products are environmentally preferable as they do not persist in the environment and create hazards for wildlife. Organic farming eliminates the use of chemical fertilisers, pesticides and genetically modified organisms **Examples:** Non-toxic and biodegradable cleaning products Dishwashers with a minimum 4 star water saving rating Accredited timber Biodegradable dog-poo bags Organic and Fair Trade certified catering products.
Refurbished and Second-hand	**Definition:** Products that have been re-used in place of sending to landfill and/or procuring new products. **Key Environmental Benefits:** Re-using products extends the life of the product and reduces demand for virgin materials that would have been used in the manufacture of replacement products and diverts waste from landfill. **Examples:** Re-furbished signs and playground equipment Second-hand carpet tiles

GreenPower	**Definition:** Energy products that are sourced from renewable energy and have the accredited GreenPower tick **Key Environmental Benefits:** Reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from coal-fired power plants into the air and atmosphere **Examples:** Green Power is electricity purchased from accredited energy retailers where Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) are purchased and surrendered on the consumer's behalf. Eligible Green Power is sourced from recently built renewable source such as wind or solar. Buying Green Power does mean that less electricity from conventional sources is needed to meet customer demand.
Green services	**Definition**: Green Services have demonstrated improved environmental practice, for example in terms of energy and water use, and waste management. **Key Environmental Benefits**: reduced energy and water use, reduced waste to landfill, use of low toxic chemicals reduces contamination to water ecosystems. **Examples:** Printing, Cleaning and Accommodation.

8.2. Annual Report submission by ECO-Buy member councils

Council / Year	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Alpine	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	NM
Ararat	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	NM	NM	NM
Banyule	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Bass Coast	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Bayside	NM	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	S2 only
Baw Baw	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NR	X	X
Bendigo (Greater Bendigo)	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	S2 only
Boroondara	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	S2 only
Brimbank	NM	NM	NM	NR	NR	✓	✓	S2 only	X	X	X
Buloke	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Campaspe	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cardinia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Casey	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Central Goldfields	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X
Colac Otway	NM	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓
Corangamite	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dandenong (Greater Dandenong)	✓	X	X	✓	X	√	✓	✓	X	X	X
Darebin	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Falls Creek Resort Management Board	NM	NR	X	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X
Frankston	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gannawarra	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	NM	NM	NM	NM
Geelong (Greater Geelong)	NR	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	X	X
Glen Eira	NM	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hepburn	NM	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X

Hobsons Bay	NM	NM	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Horsham	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	X	NM	NM	NM
Hume	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓part 2 SPAT
Indigo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
Kingston	NM	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Knox	NM	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Latrobe	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NR
Loddon	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	S1 only	NM	NM	NM
Macedon Ranges	NR	NR	✓	X	✓	*	✓	✓	✓	✓NM	NM
Manningham	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Maribyrnong	NM	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maroondah	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Melbourne	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NM	NR	X
Melton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	NM	✓	✓
Mildura	NR	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	S2 only	✓ late	X	X
Mitchell	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	NM	✓	X	X	X	X
Moira	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	S2 only	X	✓	X
Monash	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Moonee Valley	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	NM	NR	X	X	X
Moorabool	NM	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NM
Moreland	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓
Mornington Peninsula	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mount Alexander	NM	NR	NR	X	✓	✓	S1 only	X	X	X	X
Mt Buller Mt Stirling Alpine Resort Management Board	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓
Moyne	NM	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Nillumbik	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	S2 only	✓	✓	✓
Port Phillip	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shepparton (Greater Shepparton)	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Southern Grampians	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Stonnington	NM	NM	NM	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X
Surf Coast	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X
Towong	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	NM	NM
Wangaratta	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Warrnambool	NM	NM	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
West Wimmera	NM	NM	NM	✓	✓	X	X	NM	NM	NM	NM
Whitehorse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whittlesea	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wyndham	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X
Yarra City	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Yarra Ranges	NM	NR	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X
Total submissions	23	29	40	44	54	54	54	47	39	36	27

✓ Report submitted (Section 1 and/or Section 2) for the financial year
X Report not submitted (Section 1 or Section 2) for the financial year
NM Not a member in that financial year
NR Not required. Submission of a report is not compulsory within the first year of joining the ECO-Buy program
***** Report submitted after the data collation process was completed, therefore the results have not been included in the report

8.3. Top 100 green products reported on by local government members

Specific Item	Total Reported	% of Councils	Product Category	Section
Other Recycled: Office (please specify)	22	88.0%	Recycled	OFFICE
Other Recycled: Office (please specify)	22	88.0%	Recycled	OFFICE
Paper - Copy A4 50% or more recycled content	21	84.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Green Miscellaneous (specify product and green credentials)	21	84.0%	Other Green	MISCELLANEOUS
Indigenous Plants	19	76.0%	Other Green	OUTDOOR
Other Green Office (specify product and green credentials)	19	76.0%	Other Green	OFFICE
MGB Bins (30% or higher recycled content)	18	72.0%	Recycled	WASTE MANAGEMENT
Other Recycled: Paper (please specify)	18	72.0%	Recycled	PAPER
ACCREDITED GREENPOWER TOTAL	17	68.0%	GreenPower	ACCREDITED GREEN POWER TOTAL
Other Green Outdoor (specify product and green credentials)	17	68.0%	Other Green	OUTDOOR
Cars - Downsized	16	64.0%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
Water Tanks	16	64.0%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Other Refurbished & Second hand (please specify)	16	64.0%	Refurbished/Second Hand	REFURBISHED AND SECONDHAND
Soft Fall Mulch	15	60.0%	Recycled	ORGANICS: COMPOST & MULCH
Other Greenhouse: Energy Saving (please specify)	15	60.0%	Greenhouse	ENERGY SAVING
Other Greenhouse: Energy Saving (please specify)	15	60.0%	Greenhouse	ENERGY SAVING
Mulch	14	56.0%	Recycled	ORGANICS: COMPOST & MULCH
Other Green Water Saving (specify product and green credentials)	14	56.0%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Letterhead	14	56.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Paper - A3	13	52.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Green Water Saving (specify product and green credentials)	13	52.0%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Other Recycled: Parks & Gardens (please specify)	13	52.0%	Recycled	PARKS & GARDENS
Other Green Cleaning Product (specify product and green credentials)	13	52.0%	Other Green	CLEANING PRODUCTS
Computers	12	48.0%	Other Green	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WITH GREEN FEATURES
Bollards	12	48.0%	Recycled	PARKS & GARDENS
Other Green Miscellaneous (specify product and green credentials)	12	48.0%	Other Green	MISCELLANEOUS
Other Greenhouse: Building & Construction (please specify)	12	48.0%	Greenhouse	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
Business Cards	11	44.0%	Recycled	PAPER

Specific Item	Total Reported	% of Councils	Product Category	Section
Notepads	11	44.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Recycled: Waste Management (please specify)	11	44.0%	Recycled	WASTE MANAGEMENT
Newsletters - Community	10	40.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Recycled: Paper (please specify)	10	40.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Worm Farms	10	40.0%	Recycled	WASTE MANAGEMENT
Crushed Concrete	10	40.0%	Recycled	ROAD & FOOTPATH
Other Recycled: Miscellaneous (please specify)	10	40.0%	Recycled	MISCELLANEOUS
Toilet Tissue	10	40.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Greenhouse: Miscellaneous (please specify)	10	40.0%	Greenhouse	MISCELLANEOUS
Diaries	10	40.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Recycled: Miscellaneous (please specify)	10	40.0%	Recycled	MISCELLANEOUS
Envelopes (all)	9	36.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Compact Fluorescent Lights	9	36.0%	Greenhouse	LIGHTING
Dual Flush Cisterns (retrofit)	9	36.0%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
LPG Vehicles	9	36.0%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
Pens & Pencils	9	36.0%	Recycled	OFFICE
Other Greenhouse: Lighting (please specify)	9	36.0%	Greenhouse	LIGHTING
Drought Resistant Plants & Grasses (please specify)	9	36.0%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Dishwashing Liquid (please specify)	9	36.0%	Other Green	CLEANING PRODUCTS
Met Cards	9	36.0%	Greenhouse	MISCELLANEOUS
Asphalt (please state % of recycled content)	8	32.0%	Recycled	ROAD & FOOTPATH
Other Printed Materials*	8	32.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Archive Boxes (cardboard)	8	32.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Green Catering (specify product and green credentials)	8	32.0%	Other Green	CATERING / FOOD / EVENTS
Promotional Material	8	32.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Organic Coffee	8	32.0%	Other Green	CATERING / FOOD / EVENTS
Brochures	7	28.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Fuel Efficient Vehicles	7	28.0%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
Compost Bins	7	28.0%	Recycled	WASTE MANAGEMENT
Calenders	7	28.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Flyers	7	28.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Non-toxic Cleaning Substances (please specify)	7	28.0%	Other Green	CLEANING PRODUCTS
Crushed Rock	7	28.0%	Recycled	ROAD & FOOTPATH
Solar Panels	7	28.0%	Greenhouse	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION

Specific Item	Total Reported	% of Councils	Product Category	Section
Other Green Computer Equip (specify product and green credentials)	7	28.0%	Other Green	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WITH GREEN FEATURES
Paper - Coloured	6	24.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Organic Catering	6	24.0%	Other Green	CATERING / FOOD / EVENTS
Plastic Folders	6	24.0%	Recycled	OFFICE
Reusable Bags	6	24.0%	Other Green	MISCELLANEOUS
Signage	6	24.0%	Recycled	PARKS & GARDENS
Retreads	6	24.0%	Recycled	FLEET MANAGEMENT
Post-it Pads	5	20.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Suspension files	5	20.0%	Recycled	PAPER
MGB Lids	5	20.0%	Recycled	WASTE MANAGEMENT
Potting Mix	5	20.0%	Recycled	ORGANICS: COMPOST & MULCH
Air Conditioners	5	20.0%	Greenhouse	ENERGY RATED EQUIPMENT
Hybrid Vehicles	4	16.0%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
Cleaning Rags	4	16.0%	Recycled	MISCELLANEOUS
Timers	4	16.0%	Greenhouse	ENERGY SAVING
Hand Towel	4	16.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Greenhouse: Friendly Certified (please specify)	4	16.0%	Greenhouse	GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY CERTIFIED
Dog Poo Bags (biodegradable)	4	16.0%	Other Green	MISCELLANEOUS
Tree Guards	4	16.0%	Recycled	PARKS & GARDENS
Whiteboard Markers	4	16.0%	Recycled	OFFICE
Paper - Other	4	16.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Greenhouse: Vehicles (please specify)	4	16.0%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
Park Benches	3	12.0%	Recycled	PARKS & GARDENS
Remanufactured Toners	3	12.0%	Recycled	OFFICE
Recycled Water- Class A	3	12.0%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Play Structures	3	12.0%	Recycled	PLAYGROUND
Speed Humps / Cushions	3	12.0%	Recycled	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT
Tree Stakes	3	12.0%	Other Green	OUTDOOR
Tree Stakes	3	12.0%	Recycled	PARKS & GARDENS
Newsletters - Other	3	12.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Manila Folders	2	8.0%	Recycled	PAPER
Water Saving Crystals	2	8.0%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Compost	2	8.0%	Recycled	ORGANICS: COMPOST & MULCH
Bins - Other	2	8.0%	Recycled	WASTE MANAGEMENT

Specific Item	Total Reported	% of Councils	Product Category	Section
Dual Fuel Vehicles	2	8.0%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
Paints (please specify)	2	8.0%	Other Green	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
Other Green Building (specify product and green credentials)	1	4.0%	Other Green	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
Bins - Compost / Food Waste	1	4.0%	Recycled	WASTE MANAGEMENT
Insulation	-	0.0%	Greenhouse	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION

8.4. Top 50 green products by total reported expenditure

Specific Item	Total Spent	% of Category Spend	Product Category	Section
Asphalt (please state % of recycled content)	5,645,937	17.0%	Recycled	ROAD & FOOTPATH
MGB Bins (30% or higher recycled content)	3,731,312	11.2%	Recycled	WASTE MANAGEMENT
ACCREDITED GREENPOWER TOTAL	3,034,049	60.4%	GreenPower	ACCREDITED GREEN POWER TOTAL
Cars - Downsized	3,761,113	21.4%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
Biodiesel	1,964,173	5.9%	Recycled	FLEET MANAGEMENT
Indigenous Plants	1,820,035	11.3%	Other Green	OUTDOOR
Fuel Efficient Vehicles	1,636,973	9.3%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
Other Greenhouse: Building & Construction (please specify)	1,378,909	7.8%	Greenhouse	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
Crushed Concrete	1,277,595	3.8%	Recycled	ROAD & FOOTPATH
Computers	1,242,142	7.7%	Other Green	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WITH GREEN FEATURES
Drought Resistant Plants & Grasses (please specify)	1,218,600	7.6%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Water Tanks	1,063,683	6.6%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Crushed Rock	1,022,468	3.1%	Recycled	ROAD & FOOTPATH
Street Lighting (please specify)	936,634	5.3%	Greenhouse	LIGHTING
Dual Fuel Vehicles	863,083	4.9%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
LPG Vehicles	733,462	4.2%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
Newsletters - Community	719,118	2.2%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Greenhouse: Miscellaneous (please specify)	693,342	3.9%	Greenhouse	MISCELLANEOUS
Other Green Outdoor (specify product and green credentials)	634,257	3.9%	Other Green	OUTDOOR
Other Green Miscellaneous (specify product and green credentials)	621,895	3.9%	Other Green	MISCELLANEOUS
Paper - Copy A4 50% or more recycled content	551,938	1.7%	Recycled	PAPER
Multi Function Devices	481,822	3.0%	Other Green	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WITH GREEN FEATURES
Other Green Computer Equip (specify product and green credentials)	462,793	2.9%	Other Green	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WITH GREEN FEATURES
Windows	445,923	2.5%	Greenhouse	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
Solar Panels	406,988	2.3%	Greenhouse	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
Skylight	403,042	2.3%	Greenhouse	ENERGY SAVING

Specific Item	Total Spent	% of Category Spend	Product Category	Section
Soft Fall Mulch	402,382	1.2%	Recycled	ORGANICS: COMPOST & MULCH
Hybrid Vehicles	376,423	2.1%	Greenhouse	VEHICLES
LED Lighting	340,833	1.9%	Greenhouse	LIGHTING
Other Greenhouse: Energy Saving (please specify)	334,525	1.9%	Greenhouse	ENERGY SAVING
Irrigation Systems (please specify)	325,405	2.0%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Water Boilers	320,000	1.8%	Greenhouse	GAS ENERGY RATED
Other Recycled: Road & Footpath (please specify)	314,517	0.9%	Recycled	ROAD & FOOTPATH
Bins - Other	307,571	0.9%	Recycled	WASTE MANAGEMENT
Safety Mats (rubber)	291,633	0.9%	Recycled	PLAYGROUND
Other Green Water Saving (specify product and green credentials)	276,776	1.7%	Other Green	WATER SAVING
Lap Tops	273,946	1.7%	Other Green	COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WITH GREEN FEATURES
Letterhead	272,498	0.8%	Recycled	PAPER
Other Refurbished & Second hand (please specify)	258,350	41.9%	Refurbished/Second Hand	REFURBISHED AND SECONDHAND
Air Conditioners	256,955	1.5%	Greenhouse	ENERGY RATED EQUIPMENT
Solar Power Systems	250,554	1.4%	Greenhouse	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
Mulch	244,164	0.7%	Recycled	ORGANICS: COMPOST & MULCH
Other Recycled: Organics (please specify)	241,805	0.7%	Recycled	ORGANICS: COMPOST & MULCH
Watering Systems	241,524	0.7%	Recycled	PARKS & GARDENS
BP Global Choice Commercial Fuels	237,046	1.3%	Greenhouse	GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY CERTIFIED
Air Conditioners	234,860	1.3%	Greenhouse	BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION
Solar Hot Water Systems	230,042	1.3%	Greenhouse	HOT WATER SAVING PRODUCTS
Retreads	228,292	0.7%	Recycled	FLEET MANAGEMENT
Speed Humps / Cushions	212,466	0.6%	Recycled	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT
Bollards	211,795	0.6%	Recycled	PLAYGROUND

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Disclaimer: The information presented in this report is based on data provided by reporting members of ECO-Buy's Local Government Program. No responsibility is taken for any inferences drawn from inaccurate data provided by submitters.

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