

Key findings

This tenth ECO-Buy Local Government Annual Report details the green purchasing activities of 36 of ECO-Buy's 55 member councils in 2009/10, and highlights once again the progress made across many areas. This includes the following achievements:

- o Demonstrating leadership and environmental concern are seen as the key drivers for local government members to undertake green purchasing
- o Members have invested over \$ 67,4 million in environmentally preferred products in 2009/10 – which reflects a \$ 5,8 million drop from 2008/09, however the average expenditure has remained the same.
- o 65 percent of member reported to ECO-Buy in 2009/10 (5 percent lower than 2008/09), reflecting the continuing difficulty in collecting and reporting green purchasing expenditure
- o Over 37,500 tonnes of CO²e were avoided 9,9 giga litres of water and 84 hectares of land saved through the combined purchase of recycled content asphalt, compost, mobile garbage bins and paper,
- o The number of green products purchased by members has grown from 80 in 2000/01 to over 430 in 2009/10
- o Recycled product spend has increased by \$3.3 million since 2008/09, in part due to the increase in fleet management products.
- o There is a decrease of over \$4.5 million in greenhouse friendly products in 2009/10 compared to 2008/09. 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.
- o Investment in water saving products has dropped by 44 percent. The previous 2 years saw a large amount of investment in water tanks and water systems which are one off or periodic purchases. This may explain the reduced spending in these categories.
- o Spending in fleet management has increased in excess of \$3.2 million, mainly through the purchasing of biodiesel.
- o Reported spending in green cleaning products is 47 times higher than the previous reporting year, increasing to \$948,701.
- o 77 Percent of members are making good progress in developing policies and strategies that will help them embed green procurement within their organisation. Fifteen percent scored Gold level in the policy dimension of the Sustainable Procurement Assessment Tool (SPAT) through their own self-assessment.
- o 23 members have analysed their expenditure, with the majority of the remaining councils in the process of completing this analysis.
- o 19 Percent of members have scored silver during self-assessment of their measurement and results in the SPAT

To read the full report, go to www.ecobuy.org.au/publications