



ECO BUY

## THE STATE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT **GREEN PURCHASING IN 2006/2007**

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



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## 1. Foreword

It's clear that we can change the planet by the way we consume. To date, we have been changing the planet like it can go on providing for us endlessly in our growing numbers. However the evidence of our consumption on the world's finite resources is mounting. In 2008 there is also plenty of evidence that humans are becoming more aware of the impact of their consumption, as well as the power of their purchasing decisions.

We are buying smaller more fuel efficient vehicles, we are conserving water and energy, and the percentage of Australians that consider the environment each time they make a purchase is on the increase. New research suggests that more than half the population now take health and sustainability into account in some of their purchasing decisions, and a growing number always has health and sustainability in mind when purchasing. Once seen as peripheral, 'buying green' is now mainstream for many individuals and for leading organisations that are well organised and planning for the future.

Environmental purchasing is no longer limited to recycled content products such as paper, but encompasses energy and greenhouse gas emissions reductions, water use reductions, waste reduction, fuel efficiency and reduced toxicity through priority purchasing areas such as transport, construction, and energy.

In addition to changing attitudes and purchasing behaviours, the introduction of an Emissions Trading Scheme in 2010 will help grow the momentum for green purchasing. Greener and less carbon intensive goods will become more competitive in a market where carbon has a cost from 2010.

ECO-Buy plays an important role in helping shape the demand and supply of green products in Victoria. Working with local governments, businesses and suppliers of verified green products, we support more sustainable purchasing practises throughout Victoria, and increasingly in wider Australia. Operating in this important area since 2000, over \$311million has been spent on green products by local governments through the ECO-Buy program, with over \$62 million this year alone.

I am delighted to present ECO-Buy's seventh local government green purchasing report, detailing the green purchasing successes of our local government members over the 2006/07 year. For ECO-Buy Ltd, this year is the first time that the organisation is reporting to its members as an independent not for profit company. The program that commenced life working through the Municipal Association of Victoria with the state's local governments has well and truly branched out. ECO-Buy Ltd has now been set up to generate change in purchasing behaviours across a much broader section of the Victorian community.

Our local government members are leading the way in environmentally preferable purchasing and will act as leaders for the rest of Victoria and Australia to follow, particularly with the launch of ECO-Buy's State Government Program pilot in July 2008. The success of ECO-Buy and its members has brought about widespread recognition of the leading edge programs that we operate, and has led directly to the establishment of ECO-Buy as a Centre of Excellence in Environmental Purchasing.

I'd like to acknowledge the efforts of local government members in making the program such a success, and offer my congratulations to them on their efforts. This is an area where local governments can be proud of the leadership role they have played; in this field Victorian local governments are streets ahead of other Australian States and Territories.

I hope you enjoy the report, and will be inspired to join with ECO-Buy in making your own contribution to a more sustainable Victoria.

**Mike Hill, Chair, ECO-Buy Ltd**

## 2. Introduction

The environmental impacts of products have gained an increasing focus in 2006/07, with greenhouse gas emissions and water use two particular concerns firmly established in the minds of government, businesses and the public. Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* had a large scale impact when it was released in September 2006, with the Federal Government announcing in February 2007 that incandescent light bulbs would be phased out in Australia by 2010. In February 2007, The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change also concluded that climate change is unequivocal and "very likely" (>90 per cent chance) to be a direct consequence of our generation of greenhouse warming gases.

The critical nature of environmental issues and the importance of adopting sustainable practices and policies to reduce environmental impacts are more important than ever. This is where the continued growth and success of the ECO-Buy Local Government program is a positive sign of what local governments can achieve locally and collectively, at a regional and state level, in reducing their environmental impacts.

ECO-Buy members demonstrate a practical commitment to sustainability in day-to-day operations and everyday purchasing decisions. This environmental leadership is clear in the organisational policies and targets set by Councils to guide staff purchasing behaviours, as well as in their annual expenditure on environmentally preferable products.

This seventh ECO-Buy Local Government Annual Report (formerly called the Great Report Cavort) details the green purchasing activities of 54 of ECO-Buy's 59 member councils in 2006/07, and highlights the progress made across many areas. When the program began in 2000/01, 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 six years to at least \$62 million spent across a broad range of green products.

ECO-Buy member councils are taking leadership in purchasing significant quantities of greenhouse gas saving, water saving, low toxic and recycled content products in 2006/07. These results showcase their collective efforts to purchase environmentally preferable products and reduce the impacts of their organisations: 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.

This expenditure is complemented by widespread implementation of green purchasing programs, through adopting Green Purchasing Policies and annual Action Plans, forming green purchasing Working Groups and including green specifications in contracts – all of which contribute to more environmentally preferable outcomes in local governments and their local communities.

In short, green purchasing under the ECO-Buy Local Government Program is in a good state, and can only get better in future years as members further embed green purchasing into their organisations.

The first part of this report outlines the benefits of green purchasing and details the expenditure on green products by ECO-Buy local governments in the 2006/07 year, based on findings from member annual reports. The second half of the report explores how ECO-Buy has been implemented and details some of the challenges and growing opportunities in green purchasing into the future.

### Six year headline accomplishments

The impressive green purchasing results in 2006/07 add to ECO-Buy's track record of success in supporting significant green purchasing outcomes in Victorian local governments since 2000. Cumulative six year headline accomplishments for the ECO-Buy Program are shown below.

#### SIX YEAR HEADLINE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2000/01 – 2006/07

Expenditure on green products	\$311,383,623
Total Annual Reports submitted by local government members	236
Green product types reported on in six years' reports	2,024

### 3. Key findings

- There are 59 local governments and at least 398 local government staff participating in the ECO-Buy program.
- Local government members are tracking and reporting on their green purchasing at an unprecedented level. 54 members, or 92 per cent of members, submitted green purchasing expenditure reports: the highest return rate in the history of the Local Government Program.
- Environmental concerns, demonstrating council leadership, benefiting the council and staff, and reducing costs were seen as the key incentives to be part of the ECO-Buy program and to purchase green products.
- ECO-Buy members spent \$62.4 million on green products in 2006/07. This is slightly down on the previous year's figure of \$75.7 million, which is partly due to the removal of a range of product types in the 2006/07 reporting template. There has also been a reduction in expenditure on green building and construction materials in 2006/07, due to the completion of Melbourne City Council's new CH2 building.
- Over the history of the Local Government Program, expenditure on green products has increased from \$5 million in 2000/01 to \$62.4 million in 2006/07.
- Members' annual average expenditure on green products has increased from around \$246,424 in 2000/01 to \$1.154 million in 2006/07.
- Members purchased 436 different types of green products during 2006/07
- The highest spending areas were recycled and greenhouse friendly products.
- Spending on recycled content products has increased in 2006/07. Expenditure on a range of greenhouse friendly products has also increased (energy saving, Gas Energy Rated, lighting, hot water saving, vehicles and Greenhouse Friendly Certified products), along with refurbished and second-hand products. Together with the increased expenditure on 'other' green water saving products, cleaning products, and green catering and events, this reflects the efforts of local governments to reduce their impact on climate change, to save water and to reduce waste.
- There has been a continual increase in the number of members using green specifications in their contracts and tenders, rising from 36 per cent in 2000/01 to 79 per cent in 2006/07. Waste management, road, footpath and cleaning contracts are most likely to include green specifications. This is a positive indication of the increasing use of minimum environmental performance standards in local government contracts and tenders.

### 4. About ECO-Buy and the State of Local Government Green Purchasing Report

ECO-Buy is an innovative program established to encourage the purchasing of green products across Local Government in Victoria. Green purchasing offers a great way for local governments to show leadership in environmental responsibility and demonstrate a practical commitment to sustainability with measurable results.

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

ECO-Buy began in 2000 as the Local Government Buy Recycled Alliance (LGBRA). The LGBRA worked with Victorian local governments to increase the level of recycled content products purchased. In 2002, additional

funding enabled the program to expand and encompass a full range of green products. The LGBRA then became the more comprehensive ECO-Buy program, which was funded by Sustainability Victoria, the Municipal Association of Victoria and through the Victorian Greenhouse Strategy.

In June of 2007 ECO-Buy became an independent not for profit organisation, funded by the Sustainability Fund, Sustainability Victoria and the Department of Sustainability and Environment. As well as its central program with Victorian local governments, ECO-Buy also works with large businesses, Victorian State Government departments and agencies, and Associate members in Victoria, Australia and internationally, to improve green purchasing. ECO-Buy is now based in the 60 L Green Building in Carlton.

### **ECO-Buy and suppliers of green products**

Suppliers of green products are vital to the success of the ECO-Buy program. ECO-Buy works with suppliers of green products to encourage the supply of such products and services. Suppliers who meet specified criteria and have independently verified accreditation of their green claims are listed on a comprehensive database of green products called ECO-Find. These suppliers not only provide environmentally preferable products, provide detailed information on the features of their products, work to improve their own supply chain and organisational purchasing, but also develop new and innovative green products to meet purchasers' needs.

A range of ECO-Find suppliers also provide discounts to local government members through ECO-Bonus incentives. These discounts make large-scale purchases of green products by local governments more competitive, supporting the shift to green purchasing. Full details of ECO-Find suppliers are available at [www.ecobuy.org.au](http://www.ecobuy.org.au)

### **The 2006/07 State of Local Government Green purchasing Report**

This report covers the period from July 2006 to June 2007. At the end of the 2006/07 year there were 59 member councils participating in the program. ECO-Buy members are provided with support, tools and resources to help them implement effective green purchasing programs. A full description of the membership services and support offered to local government members is available at [www.ecobuy.org.au](http://www.ecobuy.org.au). As part of their membership, local governments are required to commit to green purchasing and agree to track and report annually on their expenditure on green products.

#### **THE ANNUAL REPORTING PROCESS AIMS TO:**

- track members' progress in implementing the program and purchasing green products
- monitor the type and quantity of green products purchased by local government members
- help quantify the environmental benefits achieved by members
- determine future directions and strategies for the ECO-Buy program and its members.

In early 2007 a review of the reporting template was undertaken to ensure that all green product types listed were being purchased by local government members, and were in line with current green purchasing best practice. A range of changes were made as a result of this review, which are described on the next page. The revised 2006/07 reporting form was distributed to all ECO-Buy members electronically in July 2007. Each report was divided into two sections. Section 1 reports included qualitative questions about the implementation of the ECO-Buy program, while the Section 2 spreadsheet recorded quantitative expenditure on green products.

Members were asked to return their completed report by 21 September 2007. Of the 59 members in the 2005/06 year, 54 (92 per cent) submitted a Section 2 expenditure report, 53 (89 per cent) returned a Section 1 implementation report, while five members (8 per cent) did not complete either report. This represents the highest return rate in the history of the Local Government Program, showing that more Victorian local governments are tracking and reporting on their green purchasing performance than ever before.

## 4.1 Challenges in reporting green purchasing expenditure

Throughout the report, comparisons are made with data from previous years' reports to assess and evaluate the program over the past seven years. As noted in previous reports, 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 for some members the figures provided are best available assessments of 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.

Local governments with decentralised purchasing systems in particular face challenges in reporting full and accurate green purchasing expenditure. Under decentralised purchasing systems 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. Contractors, who purchase green products on behalf of a local government, often don't collect or report green purchasing data, for what can be large scale projects and considerable expenditure.

However, while the reporting process is not simple or perfect, ECO-Buy is unique in its work to help its members collect and report quantified green purchasing expenditure data. As is often noted, you can't manage what you don't measure, and reporting is an essential component of a continuously improving green purchasing program. ECO-Buy strives 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.

This report represents 54 of 59 local government members' green purchasing expenditure. The data in this report is therefore a snapshot of the true extent of green purchasing within the ECO-Buy program, and amongst all 79 Victorian local governments.

It is important to note that direct comparisons between different reporting years are constrained by changes in the ECO-Buy reporting template. In 2000/01 and 2001/02, only spending on recycled content products under the then Local Government Buy Recycled Alliance was reported. In late 2006 a review of the existing reporting template took place. This resulted in a range of changes to what local government members could report on in 2006/07.

## 4.2 Review of the Local Government reporting template

In late 2006 a review of the template for Local Government ECO-Buy reporting was undertaken. The objectives of the review were to improve the reporting process by simplifying the reporting template and ensuring all reporting categories were relevant and updated (i.e. some products were no longer purchased by members). The review also sought to ensure that all product types listed met green purchasing best practice, and to include quantities of some commonly purchased products in order to analyse the environmental benefits of members purchasing these products.

As a result of the review, which involved input from local government members, the following changes were made to the 2006/2007 reporting template:

1. All purchasing data is GST exclusive – the 10 per cent Goods and Services Tax component is now excluded from spending data.
2. Energy Star IT equipment has been removed – the energy saving benefits of Energy Star rated equipment are only achieved when features (such as switching into 'sleep' mode when a product is not being used or reducing the amount of power used when in 'standby' mode) are set up by IT staff. If these features are not enabled, the energy saving features are not active and intended environmental benefits achieved. (Other IT equipment which is energy saving by design and not reliant on behaviour to activate energy savings is recorded in the 'other' green section).
3. Products with a sleep function have been removed - the associated energy savings of products with a sleep function are a result of set up and behaviour, rather than an inherent feature of the product.

4. Reused products have been removed - reuse of products within councils constitutes avoided spending rather than actual green spending. Reuse dollar rates are also difficult to calculate given the reducing value of products and changing market rates since purchase. The 'Reused' category was changed to 'Refurbished and Second-hand', and includes only products that have been purchased from an external organisation.
5. Green Power spending now only includes power costs – service charges have been excluded.
6. Spending on Greenfleet has been removed, as this is a carbon offsetting service and not a product purchase.
7. Electronic Document (bill) presentation has been removed, as this is a service and not a product.
8. Products listed in previous years' templates that have not been reported on by members for a number of years have been deleted.
9. Recycled water (Class A and Class C) has been added as a new green product.

The changes to the reporting template as a result of the review has resulted in some significant changes to the reported spend of Victorian local governments in the 2006/2007 financial year. With the removal of a range of product types (such as reused products, Energy Star IT equipment and Greenfleet purchases), the exclusion of GST from all reported spending, and the exclusion of Green Power service costs, the results of this report cannot be directly compared to last year's figures.

To give an indicative assessment of the impacts of these changes, adding the 2005/06 expenditure on only reused products, Energy Star IT equipment and GST to the 2006/07 expenditure total brings the total to \$72 million: almost level with the \$75.7 million 2005/06 total green expenditure.

#### ASSESSING THE IMPACT OF CHANGES MADE TO THE 2006/07 REPORTING TEMPLATE

2006/07 total expenditure on green products (with revised reporting template)	\$62,352,834
GST amount	\$6,235,283
2005/06 expenditure on reused products	\$3,178,909
2005/06 expenditure on Energy Star IT equipment	\$222,631
2005/06 expenditure on GreenFleet	\$56,310
Adjusted total for 2006/07 expenditure (indicative)	\$72,045,967

The impact of the 2007 review should be noted in any comparisons between 2005/06 and 2006/07. With the improved reporting format introduced in 2006/07, ECO-Buy looks forward to being able to benchmark Local Government green purchasing for 2007/08 and future years against this year's report.

## 5. What are green products?

'Green' product credentials can be a confusing area, particularly in an era of increasing green marketing and greenwash. Strict criteria are used to guide local government members in what types of green products they can report expenditure on.

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. **Green purchasing** is choosing to buy products that are less damaging to our environment and human health than products that serve the same purpose.

#### IN THIS REPORT ECO-BUY CLASSIFIES GREEN PRODUCTS INTO THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

1. Recycled content
2. Greenhouse friendly (including energy saving and fuel efficient products)
3. Other green (including water saving and low toxicity products)
4. Green Power

**THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS APPLY TO GREEN PRODUCTS REPORTED IN THIS REPORT:**

**RECYCLED** products are those made with recycled content.

**GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY** products are those that create fewer greenhouse gas emissions in operation.

**OTHER GREEN** 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 and non-toxic products).

**GREEN POWER** must have the government accredited Green Power tick

**ENERGY RATED** products must be rated FOUR STAR or above

**WATER SAVING** products must be rated FOUR STAR or above

**GAS RATED** products must be rated FOUR STAR or above.

**FUEL EFFICIENT** vehicles must be FOUR CYLINDERS or fewer and purchased to replace larger vehicles with more cylinders. (Hybrid, electric and LPG vehicles are listed separately).

## 6. Benefits of green purchasing

Considerable environmental, economic, social and organisational benefits can be achieved through purchasing greener goods and services.

**BUYING GREEN HAS MANY ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS:**

- reduces the amount of resources used and the environmental effects of obtaining those resources
- reduces waste to landfill
- increases energy efficiency
- reduces greenhouse gas emissions
- saves water
- eliminates or reduces toxic materials entering the environment
- decreases air and water pollution
- improves indoor air quality
- preserves carbon sinks and habitat for flora and fauna.

**PURCHASING GREEN PRODUCTS ALSO BENEFITS THE ECONOMY:**

- expands the market for green products
- increases the availability of green products at cost-effective prices
- supports the growth of green industries and enhances innovation
- leads to employment creation in green businesses
- strengthens local and regional economic development
- increases productivity and reduced time lost from illness because of improved work environments
- increases demand for waste diversion and recycling services and helps 'close the loop' to make recycling viable.

## 6.1 Quantifying the environmental benefits of green purchasing

ECO-Buy has an ongoing program to better understand and, where possible, quantify the environmental benefits of green purchasing. ECO-Buy recently 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.

### Recycled asphalt

In 2006/07, local government members purchased over 32,000 tonnes of recycled asphalt, with a typical recycled content of 10 per cent. The bitumen content of this quantity of recycled asphalt alone saved a total of almost 24 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

### Recycled paper

The environmental benefits of paper recycling include a reduction in land clearance and biodiversity loss, and savings in greenhouse gas emissions. Water use impacts are about the same for virgin and recycled paper. In 2006/07, local government members purchased 185,304 reams or 464 tonnes of office paper with recycled content greater than 50 per cent.

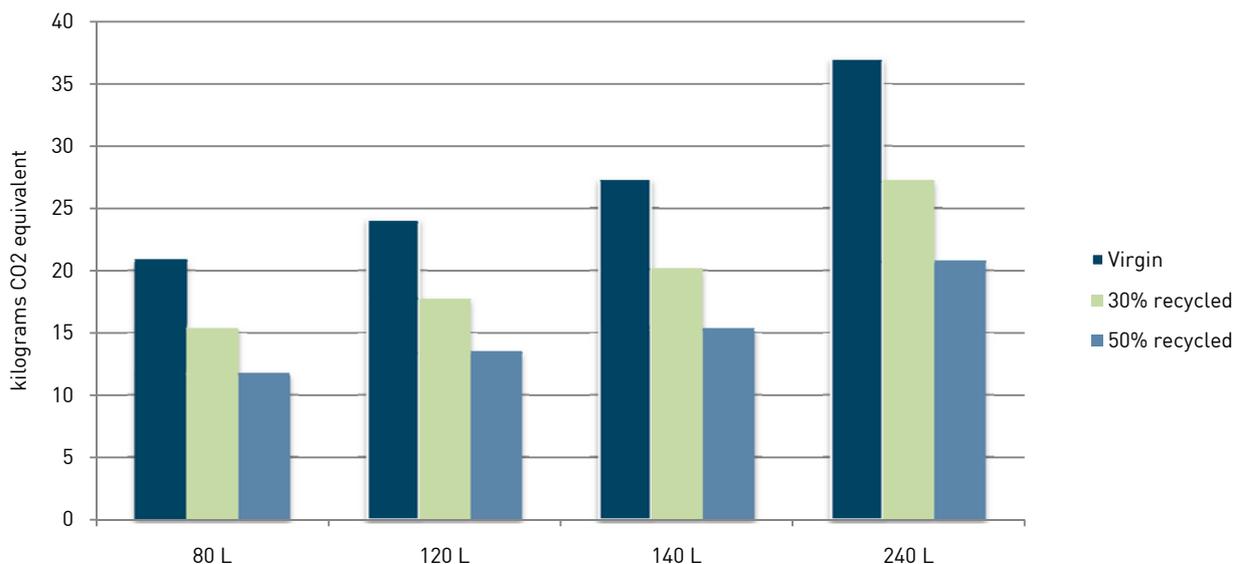
By purchasing paper with high recycled content (for example 80 per cent recycled), ECO-Buy's local government members saved around 43 tonnes greenhouse gas emissions and preserved the equivalent of 56 hectares of forest habitat.

### Mobile garbage bins

Recycled content plastic mobile garbage bins (MGBs) are an effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through local government purchasing. ECO-Buy's local government members purchased 100,000 MGBs in 2006/07 with a minimum recycled content of 30 per cent.

By purchasing recycled content MGBs, ECO-Buy's local government members saved around 970 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions compared to buying the equivalent number of virgin plastic bins. The graph below illustrates the greenhouse benefits of purchasing recycled content MGBs of different sizes.

### GREENHOUSE GAS SAVINGS FROM RECYCLED CONTENT MOBILE GARBAGE BINS



## 7. Excellence in Green Purchasing 2008 Awards

ECO-Buy holds an awards event for local government members each year to recognise success in green purchasing. All local government members should be congratulated on their commitment to green purchasing. Specific awards are presented to congratulate members on significant achievements they have made in green purchasing in 2006/07. This year's awards ceremony was held on 2 July 2008, with the following awards presented to members by the Minister for the Environment, Climate Change and Innovation, Gavin Jennings:

Award	Winner
Green Purchasing Champion: Metropolitan Local Government	Whitehorse City Council
Green Purchasing Champion: Regional Local Government	Mildura Rural City Council
Green Purchasing Champion: Small Rural Local Government	Alpine Shire Council
Green Purchasing Champion: Alpine Resort Management Board	Falls Creek Resort Management
Greenhouse Friendly Purchasing in 2006/2007	Buloke Shire Council
Recycled Product Purchasing in 2006/2007	Greater Bendigo City Council
Green Contracts in 2006/2007	Whitehorse City Council
Green Purchasing in Action in 2006/2007	Whittlesea City Council
Communicating Green Purchasing in 2006/2007	Boroondara City Council
Green Powered Champion 2006/2007	Mornington Peninsula Shire Council

## 8. Local Government green purchasing expenditure 2006/07

The following section looks at ECO-Buy members' expenditure on environmentally preferable products in the 2006/07 financial year.

The information in this section is drawn from members' Annual Reports, which lists quantitative expenditure data on a comprehensive range of green products. The number of products listed has grown from approximately 100 products in 2001 to just over 600 different green products in 2006/07, which are divided into recycled content, greenhouse friendly, 'other' green, refurbished and second-hand products, and Green Power.

### 8.1 Total amount spent on green products

Local government members have spent at least an impressive \$311million on green products since the beginning of the ECO-Buy Local Government Program. In 2006/07, members spent \$62.4 million on green products. This is a slight decrease from the previous year's expenditure of \$75.7 million, but is not directly comparable given the considerable changes that have been made in the reporting template between the two years.

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON GREEN PRODUCTS 2000/01 – 2006/07**

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	Cumulative total spend 2000 to 2007
Recycled	\$5,914,164	\$15,302,295	\$24,533,043	\$22,670,556	\$39,204,717	\$29,198,300	\$29,444,457	\$166,267,532
Greenhouse Friendly			\$7,933,446	\$11,341,947	\$23,900,073	\$22,660,232	\$18,551,167	\$84,386,865
Other green			\$1,063,938	\$1,679,982	\$14,261,247	\$17,483,792	\$11,409,229	\$45,898,188
Refurbished and second-hand				\$1,295,068*	\$2,357,201*	\$3,303,530*	\$348,204	\$7,214,964
Green Power					\$2,242,323^	\$3,177,981^	\$2,599,778	\$8,020,082
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,914,164</b>	<b>\$15,302,295</b>	<b>\$33,126,424</b>	<b>\$36,987,548</b>	<b>\$81,965,561</b>	<b>\$75,734,797</b>	<b>\$62,352,834</b>	<b>\$311,383,623</b>

\* Figure included reused spending, which was removed from the reporting template in 2006/07

^ Figure included Green Power service charges, which was removed from the reporting template in 2006/07

**8.2 Key trends in Local Government green purchasing**

Over the history of the Local Government Program, expenditure on green products has increased from \$5 million in 2000/01 to \$62.4 million in 2006/07. In 2006/07 expenditure on recycled products has increased, representing continual good practise amongst local government members in reducing waste and closing the loop on recycling by purchasing products with recycled content.

There has been a notable reduction in expenditure on green building and construction materials in 2006/07 across the recycled, greenhouse friendly and 'other' green categories. The reduction in purchasing building and construction materials is largely due to the completion of Melbourne City Council's CH2 building, which accounted for a total \$43.4 million expenditure in these categories in 2004/05 and 2005/06, but zero expenditure in 2006/07.

Expenditure in the subcategories of recycled, greenhouse friendly, other, refurbished and second-hand products, and Green Power is presented in the following pages. Details of total spending against every individual green product type are included in Appendix Two.

**OVERALL, EXPENDITURE ON THE FOLLOWING PRODUCT AREAS HAS INCREASED IN 2006/07:**

**Recycled products:** Compost and mulch, waste management, road and footpath, fleet management, miscellaneous

**Greenhouse friendly:** Energy saving, Gas Energy Rated, lighting, hot water saving, vehicles, Greenhouse Friendly Certified

**'Other' green:** Water saving, cleaning, catering and events, miscellaneous

**Refurbished and second-hand products**

Increases in purchasing in these product areas represent the achievements of local government members in working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save water, prevent waste going to landfill and reduce the quantity of toxic cleaning chemicals entering workplaces and waterways, through choosing to purchase more environmentally preferable products in these product areas .

While this report uses expenditure results to assess the state of Local Government green purchasing, it should be noted that successful green purchasing can often lead to environmental benefits from decreasing the amount of products purchased. An example of this is the purchase of multifunction devices set up to print and photocopy double sided, which saves paper and ink, and therefore reduces the quantity of paper and toner cartridges purchased. Of the 45 local governments who have a Green Purchasing Policy, or are in the

process of signing on off, 84 per cent require staff to minimise waste where possible in purchasing decisions, which includes preventing unnecessary purchases.

### 8.3 Comparative measurements of green expenditure

It has proved difficult in the past for members to capture the total product (green and non-green) expenditure of their organisation. Collecting data on total council revenue is an easier proxy to assess the proportion of local government spending that is going towards environmentally preferable products. In 2006/07 members were therefore asked to submit the total revenue and number of rateable properties in their council area for the first time.

This information allows green product expenditure to be measured against the total income available for product expenditure, as well as compared to the number of properties that contribute to a council's rating base. Alongside average and per capita expenditure, which enables smaller councils with smaller budgets to be compared more accurately with larger councils with considerably larger budgets, these assessments help put the state of Victorian Local Government green purchasing into better perspective.

#### Average expenditure on all green products

Members' average annual expenditure on green products has increased from around \$246,424 in 2000/01 to \$1.154 million per local government in 2006/07.

#### Per capita expenditure on green products

The average per capita expenditure on green products in 2006/07 is \$16.00.

#### Green spending as a percentage of total revenue

The average local government reported spending on environmentally preferable products as a percentage of total revenue is 1.9 per cent. Between councils however, this ranges from 0.1 per cent to 14.3 per cent of total revenue.

#### Green spending per rateable property

The average green spending per rateable property for local government members is \$31.20, but ranges between extremes of \$1.00 and \$142.10 reported green spend per rateable property in different local governments.

### 8.4 Total range of green products purchased

The range of products purchased by local governments gives us some idea of the breadth of green purchasing across all product categories. Of 605 product categories included in 2006/07, local governments listed purchases against 436 product types, or 72 per cent of those available. Total expenditure against each of these 436 product types is listed in Appendix Two.

### 8.5 Recycled content product purchasing

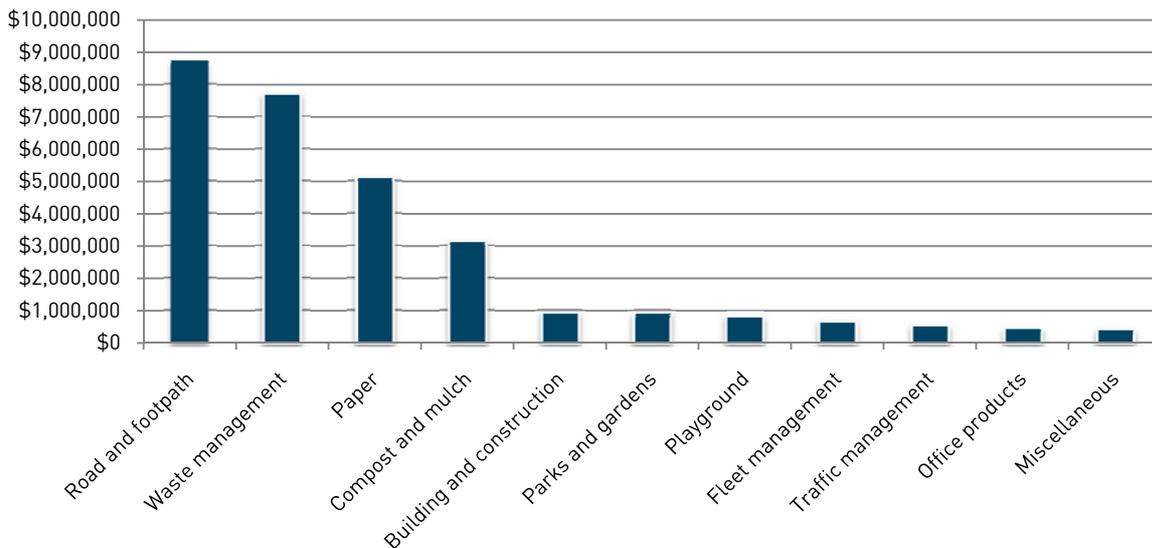
Expenditure on recycled products remained strong in 2006/07, with increases in the purchase of recycled content waste management products, road and footpath, compost and mulch and fleet management (predominantly biodiesel from waste products). The continued strength in recycled content product expenditure is a testament to the efforts of local government members in purchasing recycled products in their day to day operations.

Total expenditure on recycled content products was \$29,444,457. This was only slightly down on the recycled content product expenditure of 2005/06, which is more than accounted for by the removal of GST in the 2006/07 reporting template. However, there has been a decline in expenditure on recycled building and construction materials, due to the completion of Melbourne City Council's CH2 building.

### RECYCLED CONTENT PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2000/01 – 2006/07

Recycled Content product categories	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Building and construction			\$246,354	\$94,750	\$14,561,953	\$4,372,980	\$947,322
Waste management	\$1,154,954	\$6,028,640	\$11,253,978	\$11,648,135	\$7,806,132	\$7,134,600	\$7,698,654
Road and footpath	\$3,075,854	\$5,432,359	\$7,462,574	\$5,046,481	\$6,336,624	\$5,572,135	\$8,725,185
Paper	\$610,547	\$1,318,797	\$2,210,100	\$2,692,968	\$4,894,953	\$6,086,082	\$5,122,601
Compost and mulch	\$343,318	\$960,873	\$1,456,945	\$1,193,928	\$2,359,483	\$2,714,705	\$3,145,110
Parks and gardens	\$67,830	\$352,653	\$591,075	\$546,195	\$1,032,252	\$1,158,552	\$915,537
Playground	\$42,058	\$299,727	\$364,397	\$300,352	\$739,880	\$1,291,427	\$830,773
Office products	\$177,238	\$140,863	\$252,130	\$352,569	\$598,531	\$686,579	\$452,632
Fleet management			\$221,653	\$155,880	\$411,462	\$412,837	\$665,056
Traffic management	\$442,365	\$768,383	\$461,288	\$361,720	\$354,063	\$657,435	\$538,162
Miscellaneous			\$12,548	\$277,577	\$109,384	\$91,144	\$403,425
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,914,164</b>	<b>\$15,302,295</b>	<b>\$24,533,043</b>	<b>\$22,670,556</b>	<b>\$39,204,717</b>	<b>\$29,198,300</b>	<b>\$29,444,457</b>

### RECYCLED CONTENT PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2006/07



## 8.6 Greenhouse friendly product purchasing

Greenhouse friendly products are defined as those that create fewer greenhouse gas emissions in their operation. Many recycled content products can also be classified as greenhouse friendly, as products made from recycled materials generally create fewer greenhouse gases than new products. However, for the purposes of reporting, greenhouse friendly is defined by the following criteria.

#### 'GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY' PRODUCTS MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

- Energy Rated – only four star and above
- Gas Energy Rated - only four star and above
- Hot water saving – only four A and above
- Fuel efficient vehicles – only four cylinders or fewer and purchased to replace larger cylinder vehicles.

There has been an impressive increase in purchasing of greenhouse friendly products from 2002/03, increasing from \$7.5 million in 2001/02 to \$18.5 million in 2006/07. This figure is slightly down on the previous year's expenditure of \$23.5 million, partly due to the removal of Energy Star IT equipment and GST in the 2006/07 reporting template.

In the last year expenditure has increased on greenhouse friendly vehicles, efficient lighting, energy saving products, gas energy rated products, four star Energy Rated hot water saving products, and Greenhouse Friendly Certified fuels, paints and energy.

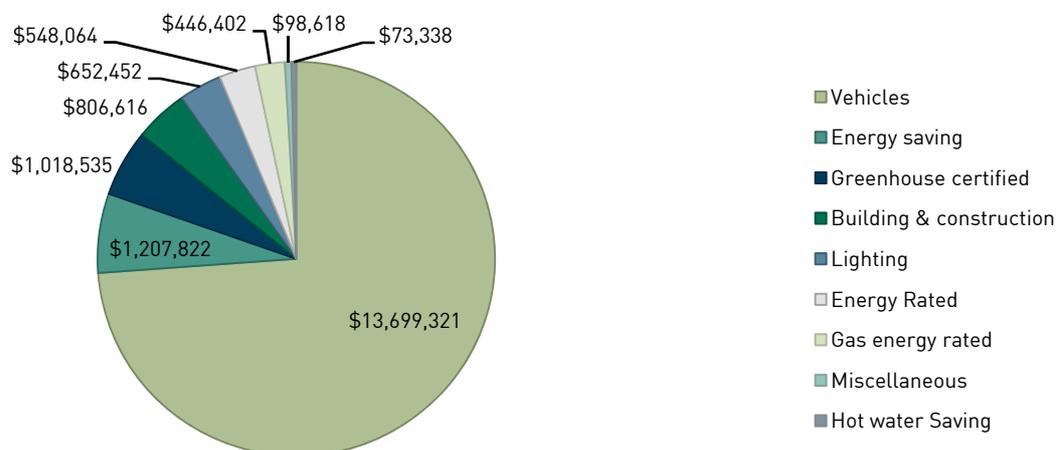
These increases reflect the leadership many local governments are taking in purchasing efficient and less carbon intensive products to help combat climate change. There is a widespread shift amongst local government members to downsized smaller cylinder vehicles and hybrid, electric, fuel efficient and dual fuel vehicles, with purchasing on vehicles increasing from \$9.7 million to \$13.7 million in the last year. Many local governments are also purchasing large quantities of compact fluorescent light bulbs and ballasts, efficient street lighting and solar and LED lights for outdoor uses.

### GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2002/03 – 2006/07

Greenhouse Friendly product categories	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Building & construction	\$581,200	\$68,558	\$10,886,220	\$6,211,885	\$806,616
Vehicles	\$5,116,610	\$7,927,765	\$5,612,385	\$9,707,588	\$13,699,321
Energy Rated	\$1,172,702	\$2,418,839	\$5,390,319	\$5,335,375	\$548,064
Lighting	\$499,417	\$315,812	\$722,035	\$520,748	\$652,452
Energy saving		\$156,415	\$409,227	\$841,315	\$1,207,822
Energy Star	\$63,056	\$149,779	\$319,984	\$222,631	N/A*
Hot water saving	\$57,700	\$129,759	\$109,402	\$25,346	\$73,338
Gas Energy Rated	\$38,829	\$39,114	\$78,502	\$60,177	\$446,402
Greenhouse Friendly Certified		\$20,442	\$25,268	\$460,720	\$1,018,535
Miscellaneous		\$115,466	\$346,731	\$122,912	\$98,618
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,529,514</b>	<b>\$11,341,949</b>	<b>\$23,900,074</b>	<b>\$23,508,697</b>	<b>\$18,551,167</b>

\* Energy Star Rated IT equipment was removed from the 2006/07 reporting template given that these energy saving features are reliant on set up and operation, rather than inherent features of the products themselves.

### GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2006/07



## 8.7 'Other' green product purchasing

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

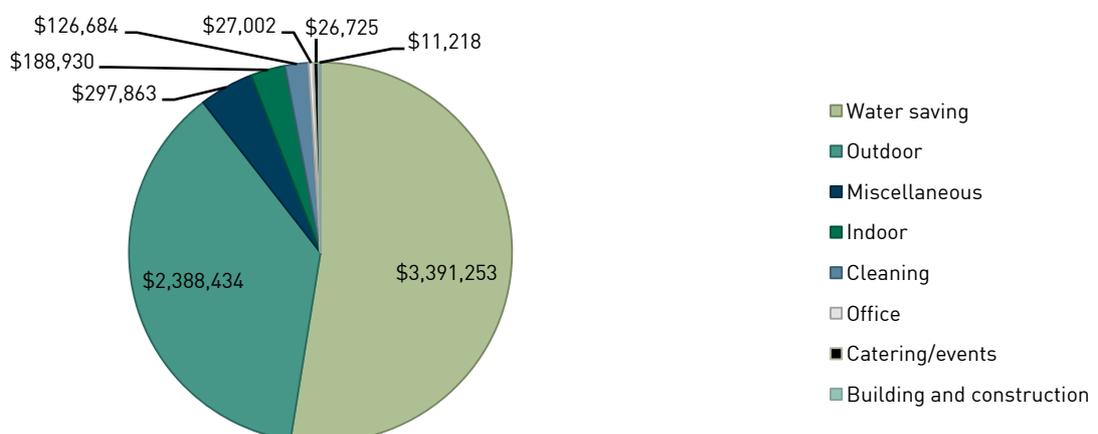
Members' expenditure on 'other' green products was \$11.4 million in 2006/07. The largest increase was in water saving, cleaning, catering and events, and miscellaneous green products, including printing using water-based inks, food waste recycling Bokashi bins, and reusable and biodegradable bags. The increase in water saving products is a good reflection of the efforts local governments are making to reduce their water use. Water saving products include drought resistant plants, retrofitted dual flush toilets, waterless urinals, composting toilets, water harvesting equipment such as water tanks and grey water systems, and flow regulators, low flow shower heads, and 4 Star and above dishwashers and washing machines. Class A and C recycled water has also been included in water saving products in the reporting template for the first time in 2006/07.

Expenditure on green building and construction materials has decreased in 2006/07, partly due to the completion of Melbourne City Council's CH2 Council building construction and fit out (which accounted for \$9.7 million in this category in 2005/06).

### 'OTHER' GREEN PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2002/03 – 2006/07

'Other' green product categories	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Building and construction	\$420,000	\$68,547	\$8,092,730	\$11,235,294	\$11,218
Outdoor	\$276,360	\$471,125	\$2,443,034	\$2,838,435	\$2,388,434
Water saving	\$238,821	\$771,159	\$2,437,405	\$2,745,514	\$3,391,253
Office			\$580,744	\$169,012	\$27,002
Cleaning	\$53,055	\$47,908	\$192,143	\$50,900	\$126,684
Catering/events			\$36,018	\$15,741	\$26,725
Indoor	\$15,702	\$33,319	\$9,957	\$679,708	\$188,930
Miscellaneous	\$60,000	\$287,923	\$469,216	\$160,761	\$297,863
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,063,938</b>	<b>\$1,679,982</b>	<b>\$14,261,245</b>	<b>\$17,895,364</b>	<b>\$11,409,229</b>

### 'OTHER' GREEN PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2006/07



## 8.8 Refurbished and second-hand purchasing

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

All products listed under refurbished and second-hand spending were purchased from an external organisation, rather than reused within council operations. The monetary value is the amount that the products would have cost if they were purchased new (using current market rates).

### REFURBISHED AND SECOND-HAND PRODUCT EXPENDITURE 2003/04 – 2006/07

	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Total spent on refurbished and second-hand products	\$349,660*	\$308,782*	\$124,621*	\$348,204

\* Figure only includes expenditure on refurbished products, not second-hand products

Reused products, which accounted for \$3,178,909 of the total expenditure in 2005/06, were excluded from the reporting template in 2006/07. This was because the reuse of products within organisations constitutes avoided spending rather than direct green spending. Reuse dollar rates are also difficult to calculate given the reducing value of products and changing market rates since purchase.

ECO-Buy continues to promote the reuse of products as an alternative to buying new products, which avoids the use of virgin materials, the resources used to extract and manufacture new products, and the quantity of waste sent to landfill. All members were sent a reused products spreadsheet in 2007 for their own internal reporting purposes.

## 8.9 Green Power purchasing

Green Power 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 Green Power for their electricity purchasing, as well as purchasing Green Power electricity for council buildings and street lighting.

### EXPENDITURE ON GREEN POWER 2004/05 – 2006/07

Green Power	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Total spent on Green Power	\$2,242,323	\$3,173,546	\$2,599,778*

\* 2006/07 figure excludes service charges

Members' spending on Green Power was \$2.6 million in 2006/07. This is a reduction on Green Power purchasing in 2005/06, which is due largely to the removal of Green Power service charges from reported spend in the 2006/07 reporting template. From 2006/07 onwards, Green Power spending figures will only represent power costs.

ECO-Buy expects that Green Power purchasing will increase in future years as local governments work to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with their operations. Green Power is particularly significant in the strategies of those local governments aiming to become 'carbon neutral' in the coming years.

## 9. Implementing green purchasing

This section focuses on members' implementation of ECO-Buy and the factors that influence green purchasing within their council. 53 local governments completed a Section 1 Annual Report for 2006/07, focusing on their implementation of the ECO-Buy program.

In Section 1 Reports members were asked to provide updates on their increases in green purchasing over the history of their membership and in the last financial year, as well as their progress in establishing a Green Purchasing Policy, including environmental specifications in contracts and setting up an ECO-Buy Working Group. This section also presents the main incentives for local government members to improve their green purchasing, and the green product areas that are rated as most important by members.

### 9.1 Progress in purchasing green products

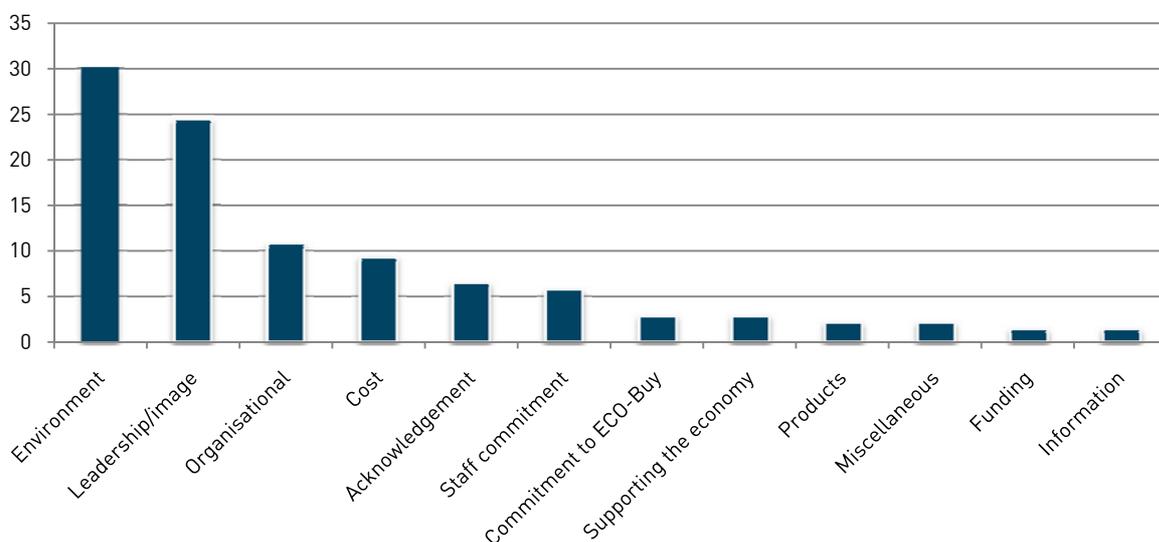
Purchasing green products is the key focus of ECO-Buy. ECO-Buy members are encouraged to continually improve their green purchasing efforts and spend a larger portion of their budget on environmentally preferable products. Members have access to a wide range of green products and green product discounts through ECO-Find, and are able to network throughout the year with other local government members who have experience using green products. An online [ECO-Guide](#) also includes tools and resources on how to design and implement a Working Group, Green Purchasing Policy, incorporate green specifications in contracts and tenders, and select between products based on their environmental features.

In 2006/07, 45 (85 per cent) members reported an increase in purchasing green products since joining ECO-Buy. The figures are encouraging, and suggest there is a growing awareness about green purchasing across member councils, along with a flexible approach to using new products. Twenty-four members also increased their purchasing of green products in the 2006/07 financial year.

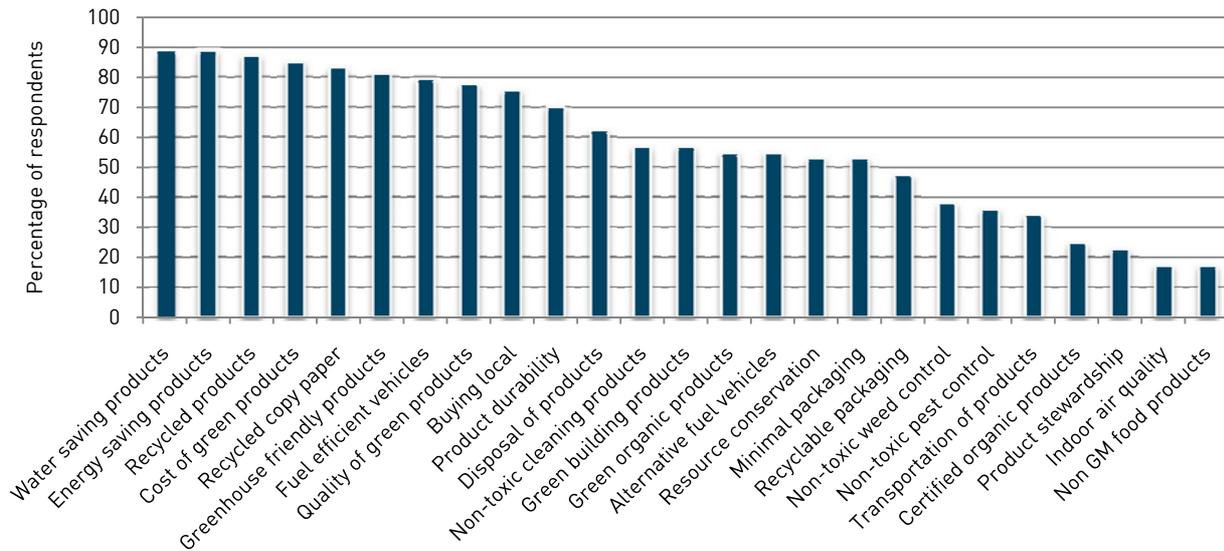
40 per cent of members have targets in place for increasing their green purchasing, or are in the process of doing so. 96 per cent of members also reported that they expected to increase their purchasing of green products over the next 12 months. Combined, this reflects a confidence in the continued improvement of green purchasing initiatives within local governments, as well as having the policies, tools, targets and action plans in place to achieve increased green purchasing.

### 9.2 The importance of green purchasing

#### THE BIGGEST INCENTIVES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEMBERS TO PURCHASE GREEN PRODUCTS ARE:



**THE FOLLOWING GREEN PURCHASING ISSUES ARE IMPORTANT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEMBERS:**



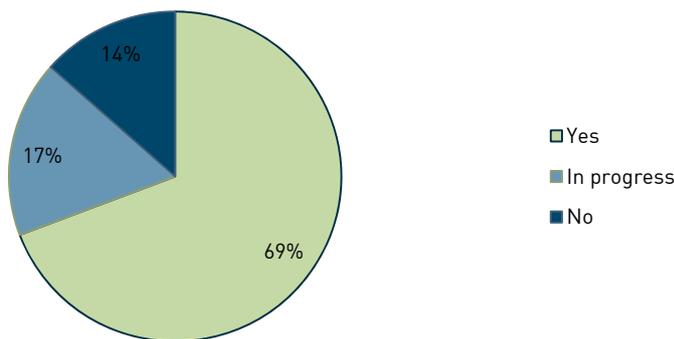
\*Members were invited to nominate as many key issues as were relevant to their council from a list.

**9.3 Green Purchasing Policies**

ECO-Buy members agree to adopt a Green Purchasing Policy when they join the ECO-Buy program. The policy confirms the Council’s commitment to give preference to purchasing green products whenever possible, and provides a framework for staff to give preference to green products in their everyday purchasing decisions.

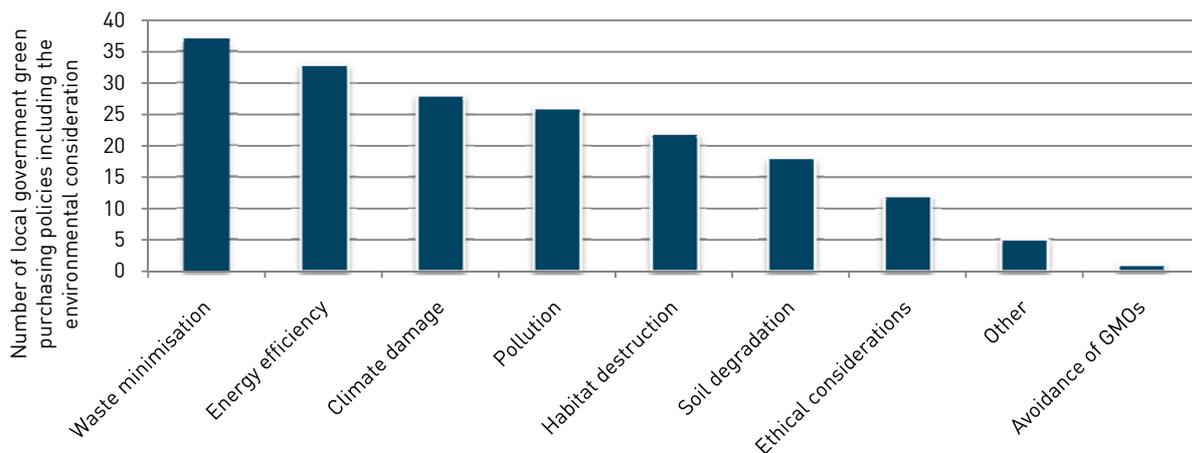
Thirty-six ECO-Buy members had adopted a purchasing policy and nine were in the process of formulating and adopting a policy in 2006/07. Seven members are yet to begin the process of developing and adopting a Green Purchasing Policy. These figures are consistent with previous years.

**HAVE YOU DEVELOPED A GREEN PURCHASING POLICY?**



The main considerations included in members’ purchasing policies in 2006/07 were waste minimisation, energy efficiency, climate change and pollution. These considerations reflect the concerns surrounding these issues amongst the wider public.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS INCLUDED IN GREEN PURCHASING POLICIES



### 9.4 Purchasing systems and tracking

The majority of ECO-Buy members have decentralised reporting systems, which often make reporting and tracking difficult. In 2006/07 only two members had a centralised purchasing system, while 36 had decentralised systems, and 15 a mixture of both.

A decentralised system makes compliance more complicated than a centralised system, where purchasing decisions can be more easily guided and tracked because they are made by one person or department. In a decentralised purchasing environment, purchasing decisions are made across all departments by a large number of staff. Unless all these staff are aware of the green product alternatives that can be bought, and the importance of recording their purchases of green products, they may not be reported. When it is time to complete the annual report, the ECO-Buy coordinator needs to follow up staff in every department to collect green purchasing data. In a centralised system, this information can be accessed more quickly and accurately, as all data is maintained and stored centrally.

However more members are now using electronic purchasing systems, which can help to simplify the tracking of green product purchases. Members who have electronic purchasing systems with the ability to record whether staff purchases are green or not generally find that the completion of their annual report is easier and the data is more accurate.

In 2006/07 39 members used an electronic purchasing system, with Finance One, AXS-1, Authority (Civica), Technology One and Finesse (Aus Soft) the most widely used software types. The number of members who have implemented a tracking system within their electronic purchasing software to record their purchasing of green products continues to increase. Thirty-five members (66 per cent) reported that they have a tracking system in place.

### 9.5 Green contracts and tenders

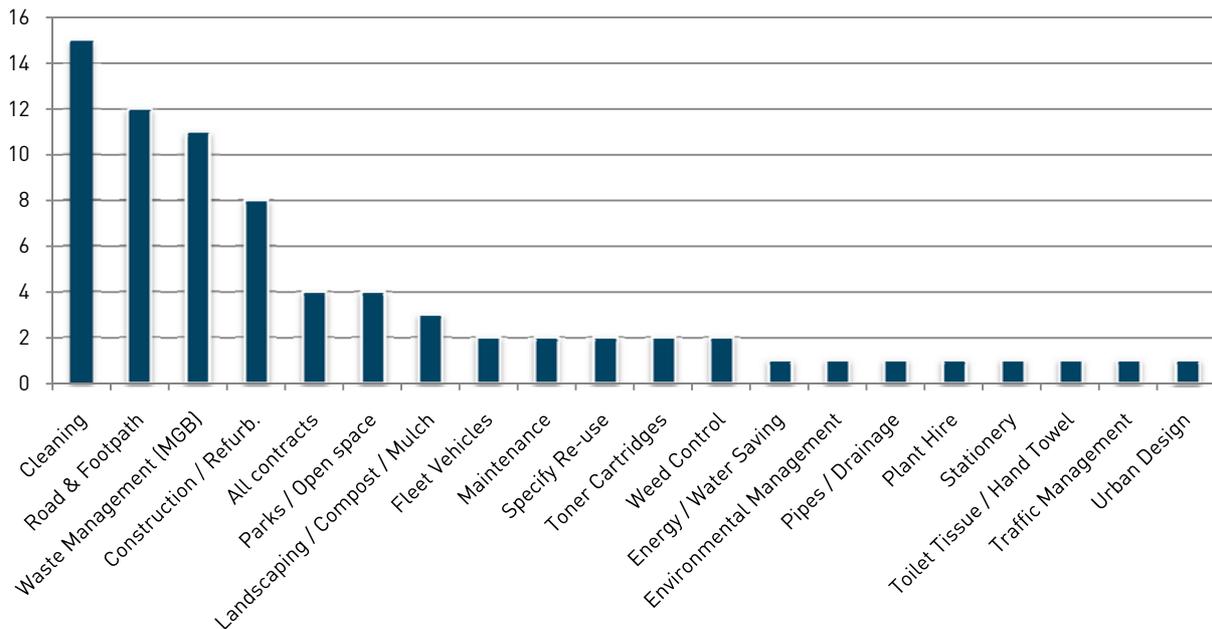
Most large scale purchasing in local governments is undertaken by a tender process. ECO-Buy has developed a range of model specifications which councils are encouraged to use when writing their contracts and tender documentation. Green specifications are one of the most effective ways councils can ensure preference is given to green products in large-scale purchases, conveying a clear message to tendering organisations, contractors and the public that Council is committed to giving preference to green products.

There has been a continual increase in the number of members using or in the process of using green specifications in their contracts, from 36 per cent in 2001 to 79 per cent in 2006/07. Cleaning, road and footpath, and waste management tenders are the most likely to include green specifications. It has now become standard for Victorian councils to specify for recycled content mobile garbage bins (MGBs), and many councils include recycled content products in their road projects. The number of green specifications being

included in construction and refurbishment tenders has also increased, accounting for 15 per cent of green contract specifications created by local government members in 2006/07.

The range of contract types including green specifications has doubled from 11 in 2001/02 to 20 in 2006/07. In 2001/02 there were 29 contracts covering 11 different product categories and by 2005/06 there were 60 contracts covering 18 different product categories. In 2006/07 this jumped to 84 contracts including green specifications, across 20 different product categories. This is a positive indication of the increasing use of minimum environmental performance specifications in Local Government contracts and tenders.

### CONTRACTS INCLUDING GREEN SPECIFICATIONS IN 2006/07



### 9.6 ECO-Buy coordinators and Working Groups

ECO-Buy member councils nominate a staff member to coordinate and manage the ECO-Buy program within council. Environment, sustainability or waste management/ education staff represent the largest group of ECO-Buy coordinators, with over three quarters of all coordinators coming from this area in 2006/07.

Working Groups support ECO-Buy coordinators to develop and implement the ECO-Buy program and promote green purchasing across council departments. Purchasing decisions are made by staff across the entire organisation, some of whom may not be aware of ECO-Buy or green purchasing. Working Groups are therefore an important forum to involve a wide range of staff in educating other staff about green products and helping improve green purchasing practices across council as a whole.

In 2006/07, 40 members had established or were in the process of establishing a Working Group to implement ECO-Buy. 398 staff from 30 different departments participated in these Working Groups, with environment or sustainability staff continuing to represent the largest group of participants. There was an increase in participants from areas such as purchasing, planning, corporate services, stores, media/communications, events/tourism, business services, general managers, building services/maintenance, and stores, as well as the local governments who include representatives from all the departments in the organisation. This indicates that green purchasing initiatives are having the necessary input and involvement from a range of staff across the whole of the council.

There were 13 members who did not have a Working Group in 2006/07. ECO-Buy will continue to encourage and support these members to establish Working Groups in the coming year, as these groups are an effective way to raise awareness and encourage people from all departments to become involved in implementing a successful green purchasing program.

## 10. Conclusion

This report has presented considerable achievements made by ECO-Buy's local government members in 2006/07. More members are tracking and reporting on their green purchasing expenditure than at any point in the history of the ECO-Buy Local Government Program.

Expenditure reports from 91.5 per cent of members in 2006/07 show that members spent at least \$62.4 million on green products last year. This is slightly down on the previous year's figure of \$75.7 million, which is partly due to the removal of a range of product types in the 2006/07 reporting template. There has also been a reduction in expenditure on green building and construction materials in 2006/07, due to the completion of Melbourne City Council's new CH2 building.

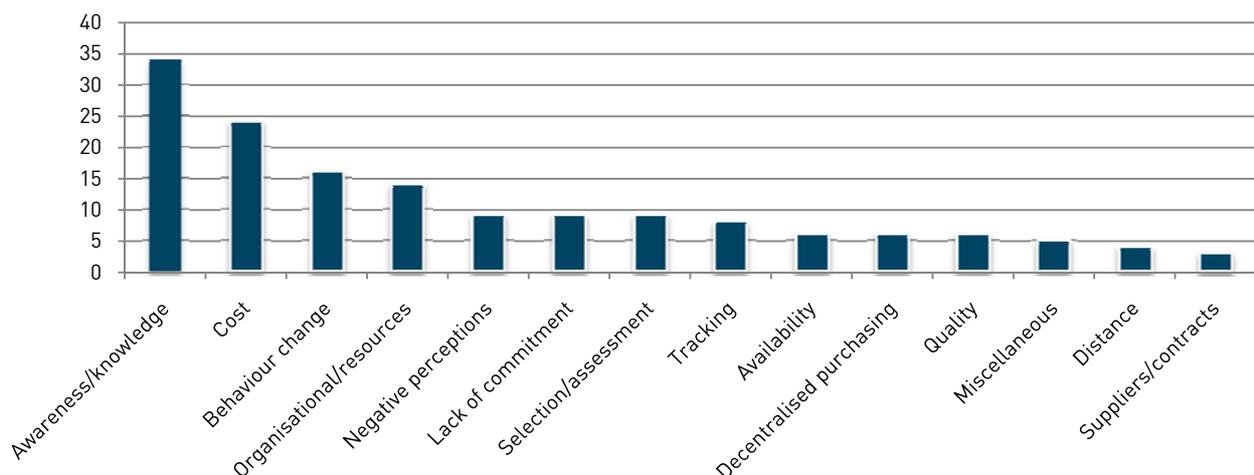
Local government members purchased 436 different types of green products during 2006/07, with highest spending on recycled and greenhouse friendly products. Members have increased their green purchasing in environmental areas of concern to their communities: reducing their impacts on climate change, saving water and reducing waste. As a reflection of this, expenditure on recycled content products has increased in 2006/07. Expenditure on a range of greenhouse friendly products has also increased (energy saving, Gas Energy Rated, lighting, hot water saving, vehicles and Greenhouse Friendly Certified products), along with expenditure on refurbished and second-hand products and 'other' green water saving products, cleaning products, and green catering and events.

There has been a continual increase in the number of members using green specifications in their contracts and tenders, rising from 36 per cent in 2000/01 to 79 per cent in 2006/07. Waste management, road, footpath and cleaning contracts are most likely to include green specifications. This is a positive indication of the increasing use of minimum environmental performance standards in local government contracts and tenders.

### 10.1 Barriers to green purchasing

Despite these achievements, ECO-Buy coordinators in local governments identified a number of barriers they felt they faced in improving green purchasing practices in their organisation into the future.

#### THE THREE BIGGEST BARRIERS TO YOUR COUNCIL PURCHASING GREEN PRODUCTS ARE:



ECO-Buy will continue to help raise staff awareness of green products through providing newly updated training for all members annually and producing educational resources for member use. This will also help counter negative perceptions of quality and cost of green products, and assist staff ability to assess and select appropriate green product alternatives in their purchasing decisions.

## 10.2 ECO-Buy going forward

Green purchasing will continue to be an important part of local government efforts to reduce their environmental impact. Already a significant sector of the purchasing market, the total market for sustainable goods and services in Australia is forecast to increase by 20 per cent annually, and to reach \$21 billion by 2010 (Mobium Group, 2007, Living LOHAS Report).

With the introduction of an Emissions Trading System (ETS) in 2010, the significance of green purchasing is set to increase further. As Professor Ross Garnaut, the author of the Federal Government's commissioned review of climate change in Australia, recently noted, "One of the intended effects of an ETS is to make emission intensive goods and services more expensive". Carbon intensive goods such as cement, concrete, metals and minerals will increase in cost via the flow on effect of emission costs attached to mining, processing and transport. While these price increases pose a risk for local governments and businesses, the ETS also presents an opportunity for local governments to move a higher proportion of their purchasing to environmentally preferable and low carbon emitting products, whose cost increases as a result of emissions trading will be lower. Not only are green products better for the environment, under an ETS they are more likely to be cheaper, both in short and long term price calculations.

ECO-Buy began its program with local governments as a unique leader in the green purchasing field. The climate within which ECO-Buy now operates has changed both environmentally and politically since 2000, with State, Federal and international governments and a rapidly growing number of purchasers now recognising the importance of environmentally preferable products.

In July 2008 ECO-Buy is launching new and enhanced services with its members in local government, state government and large businesses. Membership services will be more focused on assessments of purchasing, training, and recognising improvements in green purchasing practice. ECO-Buy is also increasing its focus on the quantified environmental benefits generated through member purchasing of environmentally preferable products. In future years ECO-Buy will be able to report the environmental savings associated with local government member purchasing in more detail, and benchmark future local government green purchasing against the 2006/07 year now that improvements have been made to the reporting template.

ECO-Buy looks forward to continuing to support local governments to further improve their green purchasing practice in an era of critically important environmental leadership.

# 11. Appendices

## 11.1 Annual Report submission by ECO-Buy member councils 2006/07

Council	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Alpine	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NR	√
Ararat	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Banyule	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Bass Coast	NR	√	√	√	√	√	√
Bayside	NM	NM	√	√	√	√	√
Bendigo (Greater Bendigo)	NM	NM	NM	NM	NM	NR	√
Boroondara	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Brimbank	NM	NM	NM	NR	NR	√	√
Buloke	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Campaspe	NM	NM	NR	√	√	x	x
Cardinia	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Casey	NM	√	√	√	√	√	√
Central Goldfields	NM	NM	NM	NR	√	√	x
Colac Otway	NM	NM	NM	NM	NR	√	√
Corangamite	√	√	√	x	√	X	√
Dandenong (Greater Dandenong)	√	x	x	√	x	√	√
Darebin	√	√	√	x	√	√	√
Falls Creek Resort Management Board	NM	NR	x	x	√	√	√
Frankston	√	√	x	√	√	√	√
Gannawarra	NM	NM	NM	NR	√	√	√
Geelong (Greater Geelong)	NR	NR	√	√	√	√	x
Glen Eira	NM	NM	√	√	√	√	√
Hepburn	NM	NM	√	√	√	√	√
Hobsons Bay	NM	NM	√	x	√	√	√
Horsham	NM	NM	NM	NR	√	√	√
Hume	NM	NM	NM	NR	√	√	√
Indigo	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Kingston	NM	√	x	√	√	√	√
Knox	NM	√	X	√	√	√	√
Loddon	NR	√	√	√	√	√	√
Macedon Ranges	NR	NR	√	x	√	*	√
Manningham	NM	NR	√	√	√	√	√
Maribyrnong	NM	NM	√	√	√	√	√
Maroondah	NM	√	√	√	√	√	√
Melbourne	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Melton	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Mildura	NR	√	√	√	x	√	√
Mitchell	√	√	√	√	x	NM	√
Moira	NM	NM	NM	NR	√	√	√
Monash	NM	√	√	√	√	√	√
Moonee Valley	NM	NM	NM	NR	√	√	NM
Moorabool	NM	NM	√	√	√	√	√
Moreland	√	√	√	√	√	√	x
Mornington Peninsula	NR	√	√	√	√	√	√
Mount Alexander	NM	NR	NR	x	√	√	√ [S1]
Moyne	NM	NM	√	√	√	√	√
Nillumbik	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Port Phillip	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Shepparton (Greater Shepparton)	NM	NR	√	√	√	√	√
Southern Grampians	√	x	√	√	√	√	√
Stonnington	NM	NM	NM	√	√	√	√

Surf Coast	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Towong	√	x	√	√	√	√	√
Wangaratta	NM	NR	√	√	√	√	√
Warrnambool	NM	NM	NM	NR	√	√	√
West Wimmera	NM	NM	NM	√	√	x	x
Whitehorse	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Whittlesea	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Wyndham	√	√	x	√	√	√	√
Yarra City	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Yarra Ranges	NM	NR	√	√	√	√	√
<b>Total submissions</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>54</b>

- √ 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 result have not been included in this report.

## 11.2 Total expenditure on all reported green product types

RECYCLED PRODUCTS	Total expenditure 2006/2007
<b>ORGANICS: COMPOST &amp; MULCH</b>	
Blended Soils	\$26,590
Brush Matting	\$6,000
Compost	\$67,638
Compost - Mushroom	\$ 9,234
Garden Soil	\$175,732
Hydro Mulching	\$28,895
Manure	\$1,082
Mulch	\$1,471,246
Organic Fertiliser	\$27,273
Pea Straw	\$2,486
Potting Mix	\$29,512
Soft Fall Mulch	\$491,674
Soil Conditioner	\$90,257
Weed mats	\$2,575
Wood Chips	\$329,258
Other	\$385,657
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$3,145,110</b>
<b>PARKS &amp; GARDENS</b>	
Animal Shelters	\$2,000
Bollards	\$161,584
Coir Bricks	\$1,160
Decking	\$45,625
Paper Dog Dropping Bags (recycled content)	\$18,882
Drinking Fountain Posts	\$ 4,650
Erosion Control	\$25,239
Fence Panels	\$7,200
Leaky Hose	\$2,395.20
Outdoor Chairs	\$35,157
Outdoor Tables	\$24,772
Paddles - signage	\$104,259
Park Benches	\$115,743
Paving	\$12,450
Picnic Settings	\$8,866
Planters / Plant Containers	\$2,900
Plastic Sheeting	\$660
Playground Panels	\$8,942
Poly Pipe	\$6,136
Recycled Timber	\$6,936
Resurfacing product	\$43,433
Root Wall	\$3,200
Rubber Top Dressing	\$1,000
Rubbish Bins	\$23,159
Signage	\$67,239
Sleepers	\$8,100
Totems	\$46,217

Tree Guards	\$13,518
Tree Guards - Milk Cartons	\$7,956
Tree Mats	\$3,352
Tree Stakes	\$17,648
Watering Systems	\$25,000
Weed Mats	\$24,965
Other	\$35,196
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$915,537</b>
PLAYGROUND	
Bollards	\$13,402
Decking	\$15,300
Edging	\$6,604
Fences	\$33,681
Play Structures	\$247,994
Rubber Swing Pads	\$73,586
Safety Mats (rubber)	\$47,555
Site-Pour Surfacing (rubber)	\$244,163
Soft-Fall Flakes (rubber)	\$85,000
Soft-Fall Pavers (rubber)	\$13,000
Other	\$50,487
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$830,773</b>
OFFICE	
Archive Boxes (plastic)	\$2,212
Bags	\$500
Frisbees	\$950
Furniture	\$34,882
Mousemats	\$200
Partitions	\$125
Pens & Pencils	\$11,905
Plastic Covers for Notepads	\$1,536
Plastic Folders	\$2,369
Remanufactured Cartridges	\$127,779
Remanufactured Toner/Cartridges Combined	\$143,333
Remanufactured Toners	\$103,567
Rulers	\$4,720
Whiteboard Markers	\$1,532
Other	\$17,022
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$452,632</b>
PAPER	
Archive Boxes (cardboard)	\$12,209
Brochures	\$475,708
Business Cards	\$101,986
Business Plans	\$7,817
Calenders	\$259,171
Council Plans	\$15,632
Diaries	\$10,614
Envelopes (all)	\$225,739
Flyers	\$39,550
Greeting Cards / Christmas Cards	\$1,476
Hand Towel	\$29,389
Information Cards	\$6,364
Invitations	\$1,315
Kitchen Towel	\$7,918
Labels	\$10,809
Letterhead	\$228,493
Magazine Holders	\$731
Mail Bags	\$216
Manila Folders	\$989
Newsletters - Community	\$678,961
Newsletters - Internal	\$11,525
Newsletters - Other	\$38,097
Notepads	\$10,183
Notepaper	\$1,364
Other Printed Materials	\$208,565
Paper - A3	\$54,116
Paper - Coloured	\$52,517
Paper - Copy A4 less than 50% recycled content	\$156,830
Paper - Copy A4 50% or more recycled content	\$1,028,119
Paper - Other	\$24,145

Paper Bags	\$3,482
Paper Cups	\$3,000
Parking Infringement Notices	\$5,000
Pencils	\$1,732
Phone Message Pads	\$1,300
Post Cards	\$17,606
Post-it Pads	\$9,620
Presentation Folders (paper)	\$16,362
Promotional Material	\$106,589
Raffle Tickets	\$830
Reports - Annual	\$156,225
Reports - Business	\$66,919
Reports - Department	\$18,873
Reports - Other	\$67,019
Signs	\$1,281
Suspension files	\$4,984
Tissue - Facial	\$4,252
Toilet Tissue	\$77,596
With Comps	\$14,769
Other	\$844,612
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$5,122,601</b>
<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT</b>	
Bin Liners	\$42,964
Bins - 11000 litre	\$9,000
Bins - Compost / Food Waste	\$32,721
Bins - Other	\$4,700
Bokashi Bins [recycled content]	\$730
Butt Out Bins & Poles	\$2,270
Compost Bins	\$51,500
Crates (30% or higher recycled content)	\$1,737
Green Waste Bags	\$22,024
MGB Bins (30% or higher recycled content)	\$6,836,199
MGB Lids	\$160,248
MGB Wheels	\$32,513
Oil Recycling Tanks	\$25,010
Pallets	\$5,010
Paper Recycling Receptacles	\$204
Personal Butt Bins	\$5,910
Street Sweeper Brushes	\$4,410
Transfer Station Skip	\$8,500
Worm Farms	\$48,515
Other	\$404,765
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$7,698,654</b>
<b>ROAD &amp; FOOTPATH</b>	
Asphalt	\$5,482,457
Asphalt Planings	\$189,343
Bluestone Pavers	\$55,800
Cement	\$50,000
Clean Fill	\$116,500
Concrete Aggregate	\$308,500
Crushed Concrete	\$854,941
Crushed Rock	\$1,061,245
Drainage Fill	\$1,741
Drainage Pipes	\$225,000
Geo Fabric	\$3,000
Glass / Concrete Mix / Glassphalt	\$10,000
Pit Lids	\$44,322
Road Base	\$100,000
Rubber Paving	\$44,250
Topsoil	\$141,173
Other	\$36,913
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$8,725,185</b>
<b>TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT</b>	
Bollards	\$237,922
Bus Shelter Panels	\$15,000
Guide Posts	\$40,275
Kerbing	\$45,000
Round-a-bouts	\$6,000
Sign Boards	\$5,000

Speed Humps / Cushions	\$172,339
Wheel Stops	\$5,300
Other	\$11,326
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$538,162</b>
<b>BUILDING &amp; CONSTRUCTION</b>	
Bench Tops	\$4,500
Bricks	\$16,925
Carpet / Carpet Tiles	\$10,000
Cement	\$50,000
Concrete - Slag	\$5,000
Concrete Underlay	\$451,149
Crushed Concrete	\$65,000
Doors	\$1,200
Fibre Cement	\$10,000
Flooring	\$26,000
Guttering	\$10,000
Insulation	\$26,000
Kitchen Fixtures	\$60,000
Masonry	\$50,000
Metal	\$15,000
Paint	\$40,000
Plasterboard	\$7,150
Plastic Pipes	\$7,500
Steel	\$32,050
Timber	\$42,454
Underlay	\$600
Windows	\$900
Other	\$15,894
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$947,322</b>
<b>FLEET MANAGEMENT</b>	
Bio Diesel	\$ 414,468
Coolants	\$17,450
Degreasers	\$10,000
Lubricants	\$86,526
Retreads	\$134,956
Other	\$1,656
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$665,056</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
2nd Hand Vehicles	\$277,900
Beverage Containers	\$640
Biodegradable Absorbents	\$900
Cleaning Rags	\$10,837
Clothing	\$1,358
Coir Peat Absorbents	\$10,395
Firewood (recycled timber/paper)	\$500
Floor Sweep Absorbent	\$3,977
Milk Cartons	\$2,000
Other	\$948919
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$403,424.99</b>
<b>RECYCLED TOTAL</b>	<b>\$29,444,456.61</b>
<b>GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY PRODUCTS</b>	
<b>ENERGY RATED EQUIPMENT</b> Must be FOUR STAR or above	
Air Conditioners	\$ 400,303
Clothes Dryers	\$3,099
Dishwashers	\$13,850
Freezers	\$9,500
Hot Water Systems	\$41,940
Refrigerators	\$ 25,387
Wall Heaters	\$19,301
Washing Machines	\$2,500
Water Boilers	\$23,102
Other	\$ 9,082
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$548,064</b>
<b>ENERGY SAVING</b>	
Digital Control Pool Dosers	\$ 32,000
Digital Control Pool Pumps	\$13,135

Draft Sealers	\$300
Door Sealers	\$4,000
Energy Controllers / Voltage Regulators / UPS	\$755
Heat Exchange Systems	\$23,500
Network Devices	\$509,045
Pool Blanket	\$161,000
Skylight	\$23,998
Solar Calculator	\$1,139
Solar Water Pump	\$20,000
Sun Lizard Solar Heater / Cooler	\$12,000
Timers	\$4,257
Window Sealers	\$5,500
Other	\$397,194
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$1,207,822</b>
<b>GAS ENERGY RATED</b>	
Must be FOUR STAR or above	
Cookers	\$14,285
Ducted Heating	\$20,700
Heaters	\$127,518
Hot Water Systems	\$198,833
Space Heaters	\$31,000
Water Boilers	\$41,166
Other	\$12,900
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$446,402</b>
<b>LIGHTING</b>	
Ballasts	\$106,000
C-Bus Controls	\$40,777
Compact Fluorescent Lights	\$59,373
Energy Saving Lighting Controls	\$38,150
Exit Signs	\$18,150
Fluorescent Down Lights	\$10,600
Fluorescent Lights - triphosphor	\$44,016
LED Lighting	\$11,098
LED Traffic Lights	\$ 440
Light Sensitive Lights	\$17,271
Motion Detectors	\$33,175
Outdoor Lighting	\$8,100
Power Savers	\$3,493
Reflectors	\$75
Sensor Lighting	\$5,500
Solar Lighting	\$59,759
Street Lighting	\$12,440
Other	\$184,035
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$652,452</b>
<b>HOT WATER SAVING PRODUCTS</b>	
Must be FOUR STAR or above	
Dishwashers	\$7,497
Flow Regulators	\$1,500
Showerheads	\$9,755
Solar Hot Water Systems	\$46,486
Taps / Faucets	\$3,100
Washing Machines	\$ 5,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$73,338</b>
<b>VEHICLES</b>	
Cars - Downsized	\$3,553,520
Dual Fuel Vehicles	\$1,583,457
Electric Vehicles	\$26,800
Fuel Efficient Vehicles	\$1,152,961
Hybrid Vehicles	\$490,296
LPG Vehicles	\$6,024,418
Other	\$857,670
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$13,699,321</b>
<b>BUILDING &amp; CONSTRUCTION</b>	
Air Conditioners	\$562,628
Cladding	\$12,500
Flooring	\$21,000
Heating	\$10,800
Hot Water Systems	\$ 19,000

Insulation	\$44,200
Roofing	\$5,000
Skylights	\$9,000
Solar Panels	\$51,066
Solar Power Systems	\$10,422
Other	\$61,000
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$806,616</b>
<b>GREENHOUSE FRIENDLY CERTIFIED</b>	
BP Autogas	\$232,961
BP Global Choice Commercial Fuels	\$403,224
BP Ultimate	\$240,000
Other	\$142,351
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$1,018,535</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
Met Cards	\$90,364
Other	\$8,254
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$98,618</b>
<b>GREENHOUSE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$18,551,167</b>
<b>OTHER GREEN PRODUCTS</b>	
<b>INDOOR</b>	
Desks	\$5,000
Floor Coverings	\$109,000
Furniture	\$74,440
Non-toxic Pest Control	\$285
Non-toxic Room Fresheners	\$ 206
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$188,930</b>
<b>COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WITH GREEN FEATURES</b>	
Audio Equipment / Stereos	\$15,000
Computers	\$2,566,334
Computers - Monitors	\$911,183
Faxes	\$1,000
Lap Tops	\$383,447
LCD Monitors	\$307,648
Multi Function Devices	\$339,036
Photocopiers	\$50,000
Printers	\$155,532
Scanners	\$4,231
TV / DVD	\$6,952
Other	\$ 210,757
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$4,951,120</b>
<b>OUTDOOR</b>	
Bollards	\$27,903
Brush matting	\$1,757
Furniture	\$25,000
Indigenous Plants	\$1,711,909
Jute Matting	\$24,658
Jute Ties	\$391
Non-toxic pest control	\$100
Non-toxic weed control	\$1,625
Organic Fertilisers	\$5,633
Pea Straw	\$5,905
Porous Paving	\$22,994
Timber Fencing (please specify)	\$80,000
Tree Stakes	\$32,142
Worms	\$ 3,346
Other	\$445,071
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$2,388,434</b>
<b>BUILDING &amp; CONSTRUCTION</b>	
Varnishes / glazes	\$825
Other	\$10,393
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$11,218</b>
<b>WATER SAVING</b>	
Must have FOUR STAR or higher Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards Labelling rating.	
Composting Toilets	\$7,038
Control Valves	\$16,223
Dishwashing Machines	\$4,100

Drought Resistant Plants & Grasses	\$565,317
Dual Flush Cisterns (retrofit)	\$7,598
Filtration Systems (water harvesting)	\$11,800
Flow Regulators	\$98,811
Grey Water Systems	\$18,000
Irrigation Systems	\$139,443
Rain Sensors	\$43,883
Recycled Water- Class A	\$884,716
Recycled Water- Class C	\$58,365
Shower Heads	\$2,600
Timers	\$12,196
Urinal Flushers	\$17,062.50
Washing Machines	\$5,000
Water Saving Crystals	\$29,908
Water Tanks	\$680,812
Watering Systems	\$236,668
Waterless Urinals	\$30,140
Other	\$521,574
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$3,391,253</b>
<b>CLEANING PRODUCTS</b>	
Dishwashing Liquid	\$192
Laundry Liquid	\$1,556
Micro Fibre Products	\$10,132
Non-toxic Cleaning Substances	\$40,478
Steam Cleaning Products	\$10,630
Toilet Disinfectant	\$8,000
Vinegar	\$11
Other	\$50,862
Other	\$4,810
Other	\$13
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$126,684</b>
<b>CATERING / FOOD / EVENTS</b>	
Beverage Containers	\$1,140
Crockery	\$1,260
Cutlery (please specify)	\$2,582
Food Packaging (biodegradable / recyclable)	\$109
Organic Catering	\$8,935
Organic Coffee	\$9,361
Organic Tea	\$2,185
Organic Wine	\$546
Paper Drinking Cups	\$111
Other	\$496
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$26,725</b>
<b>OFFICE</b>	
Batteries - Mercury Free	\$224
Batteries - Rechargeable	\$695
Copy Paper	\$21,898
Highlighters	\$841
Markers- Permanent	\$742
Markers- Whiteboard	\$750
Pencils	\$529
Pens	\$740
Other	\$583
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$27,002</b>
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>	
Bags- Cornstarch	\$4,489
Bin Liners	\$7,619.09
Bokashi Mix	\$570
Bokashi Composting bin (without recycled content)	\$1,003.72
Dog Poo Bags (biodegradable)	\$169,725
Printing - Water Based Inks (as part of print job)	\$3,480
Reusable Bags	\$52,860
Other	\$58,116
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$297,863</b>
<b>GREEN TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,409,229</b>
<b>REFURBISHED AND SECOND-HAND PRODUCTS</b>	
Air Conditioners	\$30,000

Furniture	\$30,000
Litter Bins	\$33,131
Park Furniture	\$1,000
Photocopiers	\$2,000
Playground Equipment	\$6,000
Printers	\$1,873
Signs	\$3,908
Other	\$240,293
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$348,204</b>
<b>REFURBISHED AND SECOND-HAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$348,204</b>
<b>GREEN POWER</b> HAS THE ACCREDITED GREEN POWER TICK	
ActewAGL	
ActewAGL GreenChoice	\$46,964
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$46,964</b>
AGL	
AGL Green Energy	\$1,177,156
Other	\$33,967
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$1,211,123</b>
CLIMATE FRIENDLY	\$ 750
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$750</b>
ENERGY AUSTRALIA Green Saver	\$6,920
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$6,920</b>
ENERGEX	\$586,703
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$586,703</b>
GREENSWITCH	\$124,512
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$124,512</b>
ORIGIN ENERGY	
Origin Energy - GreenEarth	\$283,040
Other	\$108,458
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$391,498</b>
TRUenergy 100per cent Wind	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$128,551</b>
OTHER PROVIDERS	\$102,756
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$102,756</b>
<b>GREEN POWER TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,599,778</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON ALL PRODUCT CATEGORIES</b>	<b>\$62,352,834</b>



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