
GREEN INDUSTRIES SA

Business Plan 2024–25



**Government
of South Australia**

Green Industries SA



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Acknowledgement of country

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Custodians whose ancestral lands we live and work upon and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and respect their deep spiritual connection and the relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders people have to Country. We extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their nations in South Australia and across Australia.

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Foreword

South Australia is recognised as a long-established leader in resource recovery and waste management, core components of a circular economy.

Green Industries SA [GISA] is committed to sharing expertise and driving change, and we recognise the important role that better waste management and resource recovery has in reducing emissions and providing a competitive advantage for our state.

During 2024-25 the Board of GISA and Agency will continue to focus on supporting South Australia's transition to a circular economy, as well as a sustainable future, through our 2024-25 Business Plan.

The 2024-25 Business Plan provides for:

- developing and implementing policy and advocating locally and nationally to drive all elements of the circular economy transition;
- supporting the waste and resource recovery sector through various grants and incentive programs to increase the recovery, value and markets for materials;
- helping businesses and industries to become more circular through resource efficiencies and other sustainability initiatives; and
- working with councils and the community directly to drive circular economy behaviours.

In 2022-23, South Australia experienced one of the largest natural disasters in its history with the River Murray flooding event. As the lead State Government Agency for disaster waste management under the State Emergency Management Plan, GISA was activated to assist with recovery efforts, and coordinate a waste and debris clean-up program. This program is due to be completed in 2024-25.

We will also continue our approach to banning single-use and other problematic plastic products, to help replace the waste and adopt 'clean and green' alternatives for our State.

The Board of Green Industries SA and the Agency, are committed and proud to continue this work to benefit all South Australians economically, environmentally, and socially.



Nikki Govan

Presiding Member, Board of Green Industries SA

About Green Industries SA

GISA is a statutory corporation established under the *Green Industries SA Act 2004* with objectives to:

- a) promote waste management practices that, as far as possible, eliminate waste or its consignment to landfill; and
- b) promote innovation and business activity in the waste management, resource recovery and green industry sectors, recognising that these areas present a valuable opportunity to contribute to the state's economic growth.

GISA is guided by the following statutory principles:

- the circular economy
- the waste management hierarchy
- ecologically sustainable development
- best-practice methods and standards in waste management and efficient use of resources.

GISA is a leader in:

- the circular economy
- improving our environment and wellbeing
- creating prosperity and economic development
- valuing our resources and reducing pollution and waste.

Further to the functions outlined in the *Green Industries SA Act 2004*, GISA is the designated functional lead for disaster waste management under the State Emergency Management Plan. When activated in accordance with the Plan, GISA will provide advice, participate in and as required, administer the coordinated management and clean-up of waste and debris generated by a disaster event.

GISA is a leader in the circular economy: improving our environment and wellbeing; creating prosperity and economic development; valuing our resources and reducing pollution and waste.

Our vision is to create a sustainable future, focusing on the value of materials in a circular economy and providing economic, social and environmental benefits.

GISA has a governing board, is led by a Chief Executive and has 34.9 full-time equivalent staff.

Section 14 of the *Green Industries SA Act 2004* requires GISA to prepare an annual business plan that sets out the agency's major projects, programs and priorities and budget for three financial years. This Business Plan was approved by the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water on 17 June 2024.

GISA's 2024-25 Business Plan is prepared under the following focus areas:

- Eliminate Waste
- Transition to a Circular Economy:
- Support Sustainable Economic Development:
- Lead Disaster Waste Management
- People, Systems and Performance

Funding shown in the tables on pages 6-10 is operating expenditure. Salaries and wages are shown as a total on page 10 and in the Expenditure summary on page 11.

Focus area: Eliminate Waste

GISA is focused on ensuring that materials achieve their maximum use / productivity and re-circulate through the economy.

South Australia continues to be a leader in resource recovery, however there are key areas where opportunities remain to improve waste minimisation, resource recovery and enhance waste management services.

ELIMINATE WASTE		
2024–25	2025–26 (indicative)	2026–27 (indicative)
\$4,474,000	\$4,585,000	\$4,746,000

During 2024-25, GISA will continue to deliver on this focus area through the following programs;

▶ FOOD WASTE

GISA is committed to making South Australia the first state in Australia to achieve zero food wasted which is demonstrated through the Valuing Our Food Waste 2020-2025: South Australia's strategy.

By implementing comprehensive strategies to tackle food waste, we can not only conserve valuable resources but also contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving food security, and fostering a more sustainable society. In 2024-25, GISA will continue to implement policy and projects to deliver the SA Food Waste Strategy and undertake initiatives to increase food waste avoidance and reduction, as well as maximise the recovery of food waste from households and the commercial and industrial sector for productive use.

▶ SINGLE-USE-PLASTICS

The South Australian Government has committed to restricting and prohibiting additional products under the *Single-use and Other Plastic Products (Waste Avoidance) Act 2020* [SUP Act] over 2023, 2024 and 2025, building on the nation-leading bans implemented in 2021 and 2022.

In 2024-25, GISA will continue to progress initiatives to prepare the community and businesses for the implementation of new restricted and prohibited products, as well as undertake the necessary policy and legislative work required to underpin the bans. GISA will undertake a mandatory review of the SUP Act in accordance with its legislative requirements.

GISA will also continue to support the Plastic-Free SA Program that assists South Australian businesses to phase-out single-use and other plastic products.

▶ TEXTILES

Textile waste is a growing environmental issue being fuelled by consumer behaviour. Worn and unwanted textiles are often of poor quality and difficult to re-sell leading to a large influx of used textiles into the waste sector. Disposing of textiles through council kerbside general waste bins provides negative outcomes both economically and environmentally, and donation of unusable textiles is impacting the charitable recycling sector.

GISA will continue to undertake programs aimed at reducing the environmental impact of clothing textiles through the development of policies, programs and behaviour change campaigns to increase recovery and diversion of these valuable materials, including at a national level.

▶ WASTE DIVERSION SUPPORT

In 2024-25, GISA will continue to support the community to divert problematic waste from landfill through the following programs:

- Household Hazardous Waste Program – providing South Australians with a free and safe disposal service for household chemicals and paint
- BackLight Program – collection and recycling of used light globes

In addition to this, GISA will continue to provide financial relief to charitable recyclers to assist with the costs of disposing unusable and unrecyclable donated goods through the Charitable Recyclers Subsidy Program.

▶ EDUCATION

Recycling education programs play a crucial role in fostering sustainable waste management practices and are essential for promoting a long-term shift in attitudes and behaviours.

During 2024-25, GISA will continue to raise awareness and educate the community and business on:

- recycling behaviours through the *Which Bin* education campaign, with a focus on food waste reduction and recycling to support kerbside collection systems;
- prohibited single-use and other plastic products, supporting the transition to alternative products and communicating exemptions through the *Replace the Waste* education campaign;
- along with undertaking other education, communication and stakeholder engagement activities for GISA and its programs under Focus Area: People, Systems and Performance.

GISA will also continue its partnership with KESAB through a service level agreement for the Wipe Out Waste school education program, *Which Bin* telephone hotline and kerbside bin audits.

Focus area: Eliminate Waste

► POLICY AND STRATEGY

South Australians lead the nation in diverting more than 80 per cent of all waste generated from landfill. Whilst South Australia has undertaken significant steps to facilitate the shift towards a circular economy it now requires continued effort to keep materials and resources in use, or 'circulating', for as long as possible, while creating local solutions to our waste and recycling issues and expanding the sector.

GISA will continue to support essential waste management and diversion programs to protect the environment and uphold the state's leadership in landfill diversion.

In 2024-25 GISA will deliver the following projects and programs:

- Development of the next SA Waste Strategy 2025-2030, which will be focused on developing the state's circular economy
- Policy and Evaluation Program – policy development and implementation and project delivery, as well as contribution to national projects under the National Waste Policy Action Plan and product stewardship
- Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association Australia (WMRR) partnership – supporting the South Australian WMRR Branch to coordinate events and consultations, and disseminate information amongst members and the industry

► LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

Circular Economy Resource Recovery (CERR) Reports, previously known as Recycling Activity Survey Reports, and Kerbside Performance Reports demonstrate that South Australia will not meet landfill diversion targets for municipal solid waste (MSW) set out in *South Australia's Waste Strategy 2020-2025* (SA Waste Strategy).

These reports indicate that there is substantial potential to improve the recovery of resources from the MSW stream delivering better services to the South Australian community, environmental benefits and efficiencies for councils, through modernisation and improvements to collection systems.

GISA will provide support to local government through programs that incentivise increased diversion through kerbside systems, projects and initiatives that aim to modernise, innovate, trial and implement new services and systems, and improve regional outcomes.

Focus area: Transition to a Circular Economy

A sustainable future depends on resource circularity and completing the material flow loop, which will promote social and environmental benefits in addition to economic development outcomes.

The circular economy is a guiding principle of GISA's establishing legislation – the *Green Industries SA Act 2004* and as the lead State Government agency, GISA is driving South Australia's transition to a circular economy through government, industry, business and the community.

All of GISA's programs support the development of the circular economy, which is identified as a key element of the sustainability pillar of the South Australian Economic Statement.

TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY		
2024–25	2025–26 [indicative]	2026–27 [indicative]
\$2,296,000	\$2,320,000	\$2,320,000

Programs being delivered under this focus area in 2024-25 include:

- Policy and strategy development in the circular economy – statewide and in specific sectors, including related to sustainable procurement
- Evaluation, metrics and reporting – data collection, analysis and reporting, including report publications
- Circular Economy leadership recognition – supporting education, research and leadership in the circular economy
- Local Government Association of SA (LGA) partnership – implementing the circular economy in South Australian Local Government

▶ REMANUFACTURING INFRASTRUCTURE & SUPPORT

South Australia has a strong history in significant investment in resource recovery and remanufacturing infrastructure, including through combined South Australian and Australian government funding programs.

GISA will continue to support industry to develop and implement infrastructure and invest in projects that seek to develop or expand markets for recycled content products and materials. There are significant opportunities to leverage South Australia's well-established resource recovery infrastructure towards remanufacturing opportunities to create higher value materials and products from the resources recovered.

In 2024-25, GISA will continue the delivery of the following programs:

- Recycling Infrastructure Grants Program – funding towards new or upgraded infrastructure to divert materials from landfill, increase recycling, processing, remanufacturing and add value to recyclable commodities
- Recycling Modernisation Grants Program – funding towards new or upgraded infrastructure through the South Australian Government and Australian Government National Partnership on Recycling Infrastructure (Recycling Modernisation Fund)
- Circular Economy Market Development Grants – funding to support projects that establish or innovate circular economy business models and practices, including through South Australian recycled content products and materials.

Focus area: Supporting Sustainable Economic Development

In 2022, the South Australian Parliament declared a climate emergency and committed to working with business, industry and community to transform the economy to net zero emissions by 2050.

GISA will continue to lead the support of a sustainable future for South Australia in 2024-25 through all of our programs. This will be achieved through support and funding to assist South Australian businesses and industry sectors to identify and adopt circular economy and sustainability practices, and partnering with government, tertiary and research institutions, industry associations and other stakeholders to identify opportunities and collaborate on sustainability and climate change initiatives.

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		
2024–25	2025–26 [indicative]	2026–27 [indicative]
\$625,000	\$550,000	\$550,000

► BUSINESS & INDUSTRY SUSTAINABILITY

In 2024-25, GISA will continue its Business Sustainability Program which provides guidance, support and funding to assist South Australian businesses and industry sectors to identify and adopt circular economy and sustainability practices.

GISA will seek to partner with businesses and industry sectors to support the adoption of Environmental, Social and Governance [ESG] and net-zero commitments through targeted projects under the Economic Growth and Sustainability Program.

► SUSTAINABILITY ENGAGEMENT & INNOVATION

GISA will continue to work with all stakeholders to drive climate action and sustainability approaches that support economic development, nature positive outcomes and social justice.

During 2024-25, GISA will continue to engage and collaborate with stakeholders, industry sectors, government, and the business community, on circular economy and sustainability initiatives.

Focus area: Lead Disaster Waste Management

Proper planning and coordination are crucial in handling the debris, hazardous materials, and other waste generated during an emergency situation. Having a well-defined waste management plan in place helps to minimize environmental impacts, protect public health, and ensure the efficient use of resources during the clean-up and recovery process.

During 2024-25, GISA will continue to undertake and support planning activities to be better prepared for disaster events in South Australia by:

- Finalising the external review of the 2022-23 River Murray Flood Clean Up Program and consider its recommendations for the management of future disasters
- Continue to undertake preparedness activities aligned to GISA's role as functional lead for disaster waste management under the State Emergency Management Plan.
- Update the Disaster Waste Management Capability Plan and Guidelines.

LEAD DISASTER WASTE MANAGEMENT		
2024–25	2025–26 [indicative]	2026–27 [indicative]
\$50,000*	\$30,000	\$30,000

*This Focus Area and budget does not include operational activities under the 2022-23 River Murray Flood disaster waste management program.

Focus area: People, Systems & Performance

GISA is committed to fostering a diverse, inclusive and equitable workplace where all staff have the opportunity to thrive and succeed. By prioritising the wellbeing and growth of staff, GISA strives to be an employer of choice and maintain a culture of excellence and success.

GISA staff have strong values alignment with the organisation's vision to create a sustainable future for South Australia and the outcomes that can be achieved economically, environmentally and socially through the delivery of our programs.

The following programs and projects deliver this priority:

- Staff training and development
- Wellbeing and inclusion initiatives
- Corporate communication and stakeholder engagement
- Data capture and management
- Systems, processes and digitisation
- Board support
- Corporate services

PEOPLE, SYSTEMS AND PERFORMANCE		
2024–25	2025–26 [indicative]	2026–27 [indicative]
\$1,306,000	\$1,205,000	\$1,205,000

Salaries and wages

GISA's programs are delivered by 34.9 full-time equivalent employees who work across all priorities and focus areas.

SALARIES AND WAGES		
2024–25	2025–26 [indicative]	2026–27 [indicative]
\$4,831,000	\$4,928,000	\$5,026,000

Funding provisions

GISA is funded by the Green Industry Fund established by the *Green Industries SA Act 2004*. The Fund is made up predominantly of 50 per cent of the solid waste levy collected by the Environment Protection Authority under section 113 of the *Environment Protection Act 1993*. GISA's expenditure authority is determined by the State Budget.

The Green Industry Fund can be applied by GISA in accordance with its approved Business Plan and as authorised by the Minister. The Fund can also be applied by the Minister towards the costs of

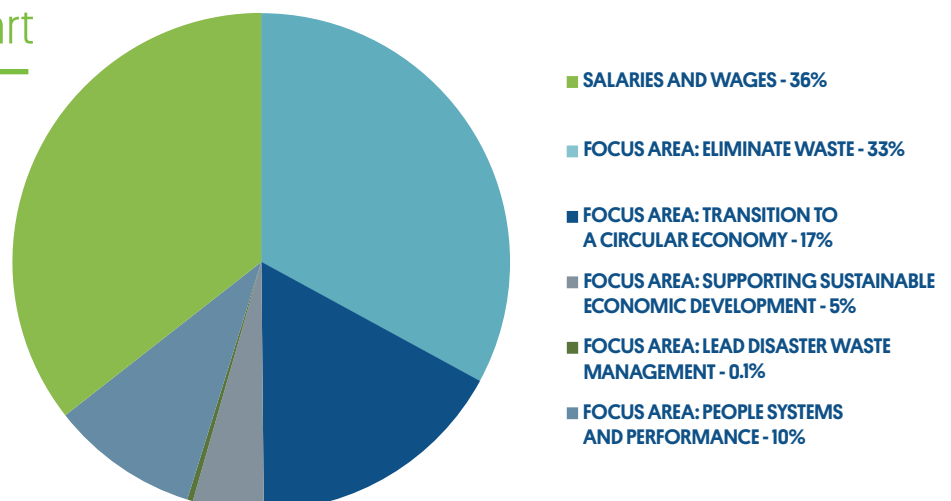
climate change initiatives and for disaster waste management purposes.

Climate change initiatives are approved by the Minister under the *Green Industries SA Act 2004* independent of GISA and its Board and are therefore not detailed within GISA's Business Plan. Further information on climate change initiatives can be obtained by the state government agencies administering the initiatives.

Department of Treasury and Finance Approved Revenue, Expenditure and Cash balance	2024-25 (\$)	2025-26 (\$)	2026-27 (\$)
REVENUE			
50% of waste levy payments from Environment Protection Authority	52,000,000	54,049,000	56,145,000
Recycling Infrastructure Loan Repayments	778,000	780,000	522,000
Charitable Recyclers Subsidy [EPA contribution]	123,000	126,000	129,000
Australian Government funding - Disaster Relief Funding Arrangements River Murray Flood	6,027,000	23,973,000	-
Interest received on Green Industry Fund	2,204,000	3,834,000	5,535,000
TOTAL REVENUE	61,132,000	82,762,000	62,331,000
EXPENDITURE			
GISA Expenditure Authority	13,582,000	13,618,000	13,877,000
<i>Focus Area: Eliminate Waste</i>	4,474,000	4,585,000	4,746,000
<i>Focus Area: Transition to a Circular Economy</i>	2,296,000	2,320,000	2,320,000
<i>Focus Area: Supporting Sustainable Economic Development</i>	625,000	550,000	550,000
<i>Focus Area: Lead Disaster Waste Management</i>	50,000	30,000	30,000
<i>Focus Area: People, Systems and Performance</i>	1,306,000	1,205,000	1,205,000
<i>Salaries and Wages</i>	4,831,000	4,928,000	5,026,000
Climate Change Initiative Funding	17,042,000	14,331,000	10,883,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	30,624,000	27,949,000	24,760,000
RESULT OF INCOME STATEMENT	30,508,000	54,813,000	37,571,000
CASH BALANCE			
CASH OPENING BALANCE	41,027,000	72,153,000	126,994,000
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH HELD	31,126,000	54,841,000	37,604,000
CASH CLOSING BALANCE	72,153,000	126,994,000	164,598,000

Budget distribution chart

2024–25 Expenditure by focus area, salaries & wages



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