
GREEN INDUSTRIES SA

Business Plan 2025–26



**Government
of South Australia**

Green Industries SA

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Green Industries SA (GISA) acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, water, sky and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

We acknowledge and respect Aboriginal peoples as the state's first peoples and nations and recognise them as traditional owners and occupants of land and waters in South Australia. Further, we acknowledge that the spiritual, social, cultural and economic practices of Aboriginal peoples come from their traditional lands and waters, that they maintain their cultural and heritage beliefs, languages and laws which are of ongoing importance, and that they have made and continue to make a unique and irreplaceable contribution to the state.

We acknowledge that Aboriginal peoples have endured past injustice and dispossession of their traditional lands and waters.

GISA is committed to supporting an inclusive society that recognises the rich histories, cultures and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. We acknowledge that environmental, social and economic sustainability objectives cannot be separated. The transition to a circular economy needs to be just, and our objective of advancing a just transition to a circular economy will be strengthened by platforming the voices of Australia's First Peoples in this change.

Artist - Karen Briggs

Foreword

The Green Industries SA (GISA) 2025-26 Business Plan sets out the programs and initiatives to be undertaken by the Agency under the *Green Industries SA Act 2004*.

The 2025-26 Business Plan has been prepared in the context of GISA developing the state's next five-year Waste Strategy, to accelerate South Australia's transition to a circular economy over the 2025-30 period.

The draft strategy will be released for public consultation around the same time this Business Plan is published, and therefore this Business Plan is subject to variation when the final 2025-30 Waste Strategy is adopted in late 2025.

During 2025-26, GISA will build upon our achievements from previous statewide strategies, and commence implementation and delivery of the actions outlined in the new strategy. Our commitment continues to drive change and South Australia's transition to a circular economy through our projects and programs. Core programs from 2024-25 will continue in 2025-26, including in the areas of:

- Advocacy, leadership and partnerships
- Policy development and implementation
- Grants, incentives, guidance and other assistance
- Education and behaviour change
- Data capture, analysis and reporting
- Disaster Waste Management

The Board of Green Industries SA and the Agency are proud to continue this important work, in anticipation and preparedness for the 2025-30 Waste Strategy, and 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 37 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 3 Jun 2025.

The 2025-26 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

Eliminate Waste

While South Australia continues to be a leader in resource recovery, opportunities exist to further enhance waste elimination and minimisation strategies, and to optimise waste management and resource recovery processes, systems and services.

GISA is committed to working with households, businesses, industry sectors and government to eliminate waste in their practices as far as possible, implement systems to circulate materials and facilitate the transition to a circular economy.

During 2025-26, GISA will continue to deliver on this focus area through the following programs and priority projects:

► Food Waste

Eliminating food waste is important for environmental, social and economic reasons and is a critical step towards creating a more sustainable and equitable future. GISA continues its commitment to reduce food waste disposed to landfill, striving for South Australia to be the first state in Australia to achieve zero food wasted.

In 2025-26, GISA will undertake various policy and project 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

Through the *Single-use and Other Plastic Products (Waste Avoidance) Act 2020* (SUP Act) the South Australian Government has committed to restricting and prohibiting various products.

In 2025-26, GISA will continue to progress initiatives to prepare the community and businesses for the implementation of the restricted and prohibited products in September 2025 and 2026 respectively, as announced previously by the SA Government. GISA will also work with the Environment Protection Authority in considering and implementing, where adopted by the government, the recommendations of the independent review of the SUP Act that was completed in 2024.

► Textiles

Textile waste from various sources – clothing, furnishings, fit-outs and technical applications – is an increasing and problematic waste stream.

In 2025-26, GISA will progress projects to continue its efforts to develop a circular economy for textiles, including related to educating the community and encouraging behaviour change, supporting sustainable and circular procurement, and supporting circular business models and design.

► Batteries

As a society we are increasingly confronted with a diverse range of products that contain embedded batteries. The absence of wide-spread and easily accessible collection or disposal arrangements means that consumers and the waste management and resource recovery sector are left to deal with these products at their end-of-life, causing challenges and risks to health and safety.

GISA will continue its work with partners in 2025-26 to develop and implement an interim solution to enable the community to safely dispose of embedded battery products.

GISA will also continue to work on establishing a long term arrangement for the collection of embedded batteries in South Australia, including working with our state and federal counterparts to create a safe, circular economy for batteries.

► Policy and Strategy

South Australia has undertaken significant steps to facilitate the shift towards a circular economy, however, requires continued effort to keep materials and resources in use, and ‘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 waste management and diversion programs to protect the environment and uphold the state’s leadership in landfill diversion. The cornerstone for this will be the finalisation and release of South Australia’s Circular Economy Waste Strategy 2025-2030 in late 2025. Other important projects include:

- the development of an updated Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Plan
- investigating and identifying options to support circular outcomes in housing, planning and the built environment
- an update of the Better Practice Guide for Multi-Unit Developments – Waste and Recycling for South Australia.

Eliminate Waste

GISA will also continue to contribute to national projects under the National Waste Policy Action Plan and product stewardship and support the Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association Australia [WMRR] South Australian WMRR Branch to coordinate events and consultations, and disseminate information amongst members and the industry

► Local Government Support

Data collated, analysed and reported by GISA indicates that there is substantial potential to improve the recovery of resources from the Municipal Solid Waste [MSW] stream delivering better services to the South Australian community, environmental benefits and efficiencies for councils, through standardisation, modernisation and improvements to collection systems.

GISA will continue to 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.

► Education

Recycling education programs play an essential role for improving participation, reducing waste, conserve resources and building a more sustainable future. They empower individuals to make smarter, more environmentally friendly decisions creating lasting positive change.

During 2025-26, GISA will continue to raise awareness and educate the community and business on:

- recycling behaviours through educational campaigns, with a focus on food waste reduction, disposal options for problematic waste such as embedded batteries and textiles and recycling to support kerbside collection systems;
- prohibited single-use and other plastic products, supporting the transition to alternative products and communicating exemptions through an educational campaign;
- along with undertaking other education, communication and stakeholder engagement activities for GISA and its programs under Focus Area: People, Systems and Performance.

► Waste Diversion Support

In 2025-26, GISA will continue to support the community with the safe disposal of problematic and hazardous waste 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

► Charitable Recyclers Subsidy

GISA will continue to administer the partial financial relief to charitable recyclers in 2025-26 to assist with the costs of disposing unusable and unrecyclable donated goods.

Transition to a Circular Economy

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 for the development of the circular economy, GISA is committed to driving South Australia's adoption of circular economy principles throughout government, industry, business and the community.

Whilst all of GISA's programs, including those listed under other focus areas in this Business Plan, support the development of a circular economy, in 2025-26 GISA will continue its longstanding history of providing support and investment to assist various sectors in their transition to a circular economy.

This support follows a review of GISA's funding programs that was undertaken and completed in 2024.

► Investment in Circular Economy Infrastructure

GISA will continue to support industry, local authorities and organisations in 2025-26 to purchase and install infrastructure and provide innovative approaches to increase the types, quantities and quality of resources that are kept circulating in the South Australian economy for as long as possible, at their higher possible value, and to recover resources and reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill each year.

► Recycling Modernisation Program

Through the South Australian Government and Australian Government National Partnership on Recycling Infrastructure (Recycling Modernisation Fund) GISA will continue to facilitate funding to support projects that increase capacity in glass manufacturing, mixed plastics reprocessing, soft plastics processing and the commercialisation of new plastic separation technology.

GISA will also continue its role in administering the agreements and reporting associated with South Australian projects awarded funding through the Recycling Modernisation Fund.

► Circular Business and Market Development Support

Funding support in 2025-26 will assist businesses, local authorities, industry groups, not-for-profit organisations, social enterprises and research institutions to accelerate transition to a more circular economy. This program aims to accelerate adoption of reuse and repair business models, solutions and practices that design out waste, and reduce reliance on virgin materials by keeping the materials and products in use longer and at their highest value use.

Supporting Sustainable Economic Development

The South Australian Government has identified sustainability as a key pillar of its economic agenda via the South Australian Economic Statement, and has also declared its commitment to addressing climate change and investing in initiatives that will build resilience against the negative impacts of climate change whilst advancing socio-economic outcomes for the community. The development of a circular economy is crucial for the achievement of these sustainable economic development and climate action goals.

GISA supports sustainable economic development generally through all of its projects and programs, as well as specifically through funding programs that assist South Australian businesses and industry sectors to identify and adopt circular economy and sustainability practices, as well as partnering with government, tertiary and research institutions, industry associations and other stakeholders to identify opportunities and collaborate on sustainability and climate change initiatives.

This focus area is also supported through other agency programs, such as GISA's implementation of requirements under Premier and Cabinet Circular 007 - Climate Ready Government, which sit within the Corporate and Policy areas.

► Business and Industry Sustainability

In 2025-26, GISA will continue to provide guidance, support and funding that assists South Australian businesses and industry sectors to accelerate sustainable change and transition to a more circular economy.

By identifying and prioritising better practice materials and resource efficiency, waste management and resource recovery, and implementing circular economy principles, businesses can improve profitability, productivity, and environmental performance. This also builds accountability and transparency into environmental reporting, giving businesses a competitive advantage, and savings can be reinvested for continuous improvement and economic growth.

► Circular social impact

GISA will foster the development and growth of social enterprise businesses in the circular economy in South Australia, recognising their role in sustainable economic development as well as their positive influence on social impact and inclusion.

Lead Disaster Waste Management

Managing the waste generated by an emergency event requires careful planning and preparation to ensure the effective expenditure of public funds, the management of impacts to the environment, safeguarding of public health, and the recovery of resources and materials where possible.

The South Australian Emergency Management Plan [SEMP] is a series of documents that ensures the state has effective arrangements in place to enhance the safety and security of the South Australian Community. The SEMP outlines the state's emergency management arrangements, roles, responsibilities, structures, guidelines and frameworks and is prepared under Section 9(1)(b) of the *Emergency Management Act 2024 [SA]*. Under the SEMP, GISA is responsible for Disaster Waste Management through a Capability Plan and Guidelines.

During 2025-26, GISA will continue to undertake and support planning activities to be better prepared for disaster events in South Australia by:

- updating the Disaster Waste Management Capability Plan and Guidelines, including reflecting on learnings from previous agency involvement in disaster waste management operational arrangements
- undertake procurement activity to establish arrangements that enable GISA to be better prepared and more readily respond to future emergency events
- build capability within the Agency and with dedicated staff on emergency and incident management training, as well as increasing overall agency capacity to respond to an activation under the SEMP.

These activities are predominantly actioned through the allocation of GISA FTE resourcing and do not require a large operational budget allocation*.

During 2025-26, GISA will also respond to any enquiries or follow-up actions related to the 2022-23 River Murray flood waste clean-up program, which was completed in June 2025.

* Should GISA be activated under the SEMP for the operational management of waste a debris resulting from a disaster event in 2025-26, a budget allocation separate to this section of the Business Plan will be progressed through government budget processes.

People, Systems & Performance

The delivery of GISA's projects and programs is reliant on the dedication of its staff, as well as the systems and resources they use. This focus area underpins the delivery of all focus areas, and comprises various corporate functions that enable and support GISA's team in the delivery of the Business Plan.

The following programs and projects deliver this priority:

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

A range of service agreements with other state government organisations also support GISA and staff to deliver on our Business Plan.

2025-2026 Budget and funding

GISA is funded by the Green Industry Fund established by the *Green Industries SA Act 2004*. The Fund comprises 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.

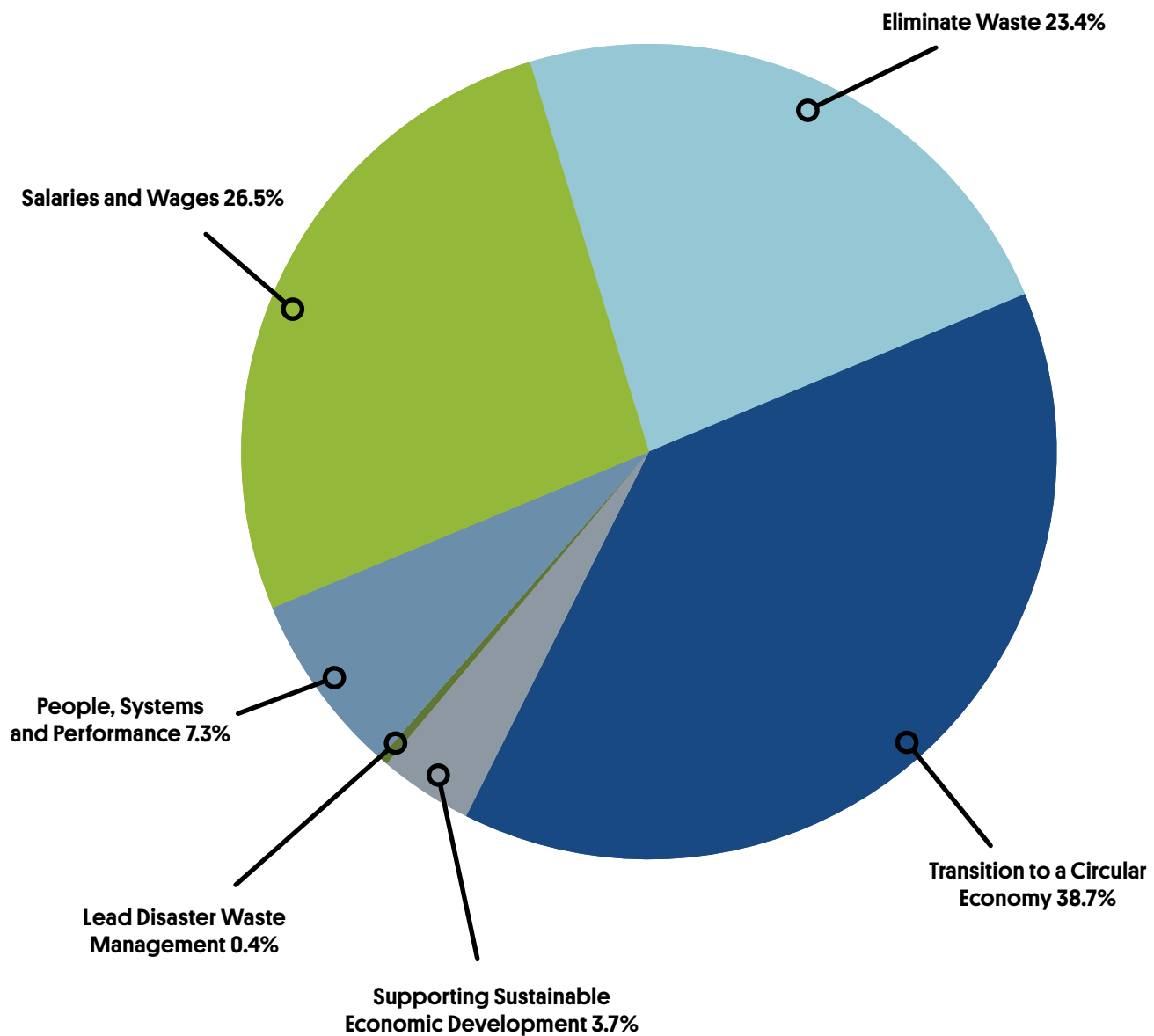
The Green Industry Fund can be applied by GISA in accordance with its approved Business Plan and as authorised by the Minister.

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, as identified in GISA's and the administering agencies' annual reports.

Department of Treasury and Finance Approved Revenue, Expenditure and Cash balance	2025-26 [\$]	2026-27 [\$]	2027-28 [\$]
REVENUE			
50% of waste levy payments from Environment Protection Authority	55,253,000	56,637,000	58,053,000
Charitable Recyclers Subsidy (EPA contribution)	126,000	129,000	132,000
Australian Government funding - Recycling Modernisation Fund – Plastics Technology Stream	1,184,000	-	-
Australian Government funding - Disaster Relief Funding Arrangements River Murray Flood	24,581,000	2,919,000	-
Interest received on Green Industry Fund	4,003,000	5,974,000	7,603,000
TOTAL REVENUE	85,147,000	65,659,000	65,788,000
EXPENDITURE			
GISA Expenditure Authority	19,588,000	13,847,000	14,127,000
<i>Focus Area: Eliminate Waste</i>	<i>4,584,000</i>	<i>4,529,000</i>	<i>4,536,000</i>
<i>Focus Area: Transition to a Circular Economy</i>	<i>7,585,000</i>	<i>1,935,000</i>	<i>2,140,000</i>
<i>Focus Area: Supporting Sustainable Economic Development</i>	<i>728,000</i>	<i>663,000</i>	<i>650,000</i>
<i>Focus Area: Lead Disaster Waste Management</i>	<i>70,000</i>	<i>50,000</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>Focus Area: People, Systems and Performance</i>	<i>1,424,000</i>	<i>1,272,000</i>	<i>1,272,000</i>
<i>Salaries and Wages</i>	<i>5,197,000</i>	<i>5,398,000</i>	<i>5,479,000</i>
Climate Change Initiative Funding	12,776,000	9,289,000	9,371,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	32,364,000	23,136,000	23,498,000
RESULT OF INCOME STATEMENT	52,783,000	42,523,000	42,290,000
CASH BALANCE			
CASH OPENING BALANCE	79,835,000	132,646,000	175,202,000
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH HELD	52,811,000	42,556,000	42,254,000
CASH CLOSING BALANCE	132,646,000	175,202,000	217,456,000

2025-26 Focus area by expenditure





**Government
of South Australia**

Green Industries SA

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