

# FWR Future Waste Resources SYMPOSIUM | 2026

18 & 19 March 2026 | InterContinental Brisbane

HOSTED BY:



EVENT PARTNER:



## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM & INVITATION TO REGISTER

THANK YOU TO OUR SYMPOSIUM PARTNERS & SPONSORS



## YOUR INVITATION TO JOIN US FOR FWR 2026



**The Waste Recycling Industry Association Queensland (WRIQ) is pleased to invite you to register for the 2026 Future Waste Resources Symposium (FWR 2026), to be held on 18 & 19 March 2026 at the Intercontinental Brisbane.**

Following the success of FWR 2025, this streamlined two-day symposium has been designed to maintain momentum and foster continued collaboration across Queensland's waste and recycling sector. The event will bring together industry, government and key stakeholders to address the most pressing and complex challenges facing our sector.

The program will focus on three key areas:

- Strengthening collaboration between councils and industry to improve household waste recycling and diversion
- Exploring regional and metropolitan approaches to lift municipal solid waste (MSW) recycling rates
- Understanding the systemic complexities and identifying actionable next steps for real change

While the challenges facing our industry are complex, they also present significant opportunities—for innovation, economic development, and positioning Queensland as a national leader in recycling.

We invite you to register for the Future Waste Resources Symposium 2026 and be part of the conversation shaping a more sustainable, resilient and collaborative waste and recycling future for Queensland.



*Alison Price*

Alison Price  
Chief Executive Officer  
Waste, Recycling Industry Association

## HOST ORGANISATION



### Waste, Recycling Industry Qld (WRIQ)

WRIQ represents more than 90 Queensland-based organisations, ranging from multinational operators to small, family-owned businesses that deliver essential services to every community in the State. Our members manage 97% of Queensland's waste collections, support 16,000 jobs, contribute \$2.7 billion to Gross State Product, and operate \$3.8 billion in essential infrastructure across Queensland.

For more than a decade, WRIQ has earned a reputation as a leader in sectoral policy development and driving change to improve the operating environment for Queensland's waste management, recycling and resource recovery sectors. Recognised as a non-partisan organisation that works effectively with all levels of government, WRIQ is acknowledged as an influential and respected advocacy group in Queensland.

Visit: [www.wriq.au](http://www.wriq.au)



## VENUE

### InterContinental Brisbane 190 Elizabeth St, Brisbane City QLD 4000

Perfectly positioned moments from Queen Street Mall, InterContinental Brisbane rises as a striking city landmark - Australia's only hotel designed by visionary modernist architect Harry Seidler.

Blending timeless sophistication with contemporary comfort, InterContinental Brisbane offers an inspired collection of elegant guest rooms and suites, exceptional conference and event spaces, and curated experiences that celebrate the best of Brisbane.

Guests can unwind in the outdoor swimming pool and terrace, recharge in the fitness centre, or savour modern Australian cuisine at the hotel's signature restaurant and bar. With a range of thoughtful amenities including complimentary WiFi, personalised service, and refined dining options catering to all preferences, every stay is designed to be unforgettable.



# THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS & SPONSORS

WRIQ would like to acknowledge the generous support of our sponsors and partners:

## Local Authority Waste Management Action Committee (LAWMAC)

EVENT PARTNER



LAWMAC is a not-for-profit association representing councils and corporate members across Northern and Central Queensland. We bring local government and industry together to collaborate, share expertise, and drive best-practice waste management and resource recovery. Through regional forums, partnerships, and practical problem-solving, we work toward sustainable solutions that support a circular economy and our shared goal of zero waste.

[lawmac.org.au](http://lawmac.org.au)

## Bucher Municipal

EVENT SPONSOR

# BUCHER municipal

Bucher Municipal is a global leader in the development and manufacturing of specialized municipal vehicles. Our comprehensive portfolio includes street sweepers, refuse collection vehicles, static and transportable compactors, sewer cleaning, and winter maintenance equipment. We are committed to innovative technology and sustainable solutions that promote cleaner, safer, and more efficient cities worldwide.

[buchermunicipal.com](http://buchermunicipal.com)

## Kwinana Energy Recovery

SAPPHIRE SPONSOR



Kwinana Energy Recovery is Australia's first energy recovery facility, which delivers world-leading waste treatment technology to convert residual waste into renewable baseload energy while recovering valuable resources. ACCIONA is a global leader in renewable energy and infrastructure solutions, actively driving the transition towards a low-carbon economy and is dedicated to contributing to a sustainable future.

[kwinana.energy](http://kwinana.energy)

## Resource Innovations

LANYARDS SPONSOR



Resource Innovations provides the waste management and resource industry with environmental and engineering expertise across all project stages including feasibility, planning, engineering and operations.

With Integrity, Accountability and Diligence as the core values of our business and a commitment to environmental stewardship, we empower the businesses we work with to create a sustainable future.

[resourceinnovations.com.au](http://resourceinnovations.com.au)

## Criterion Underwriting

DINNER SPONSOR



At the forefront of Queensland's waste and recycling revolution, we partner to deliver bespoke, future-proofed insurance solutions that support long-term business sustainability. For almost a decade, we've tackled high-risk challenges others sidestep with niche products, exclusive capacity, and a proprietary methodology that enables true innovation. Headquartered in Brisbane and operating internationally, our track record and progressive approach make us the definitive partner for managing the complex demands of the sector.

[criterionunderwriting.com.au](http://criterionunderwriting.com.au)

## REMONDIS Australia

WATER BOTTLES SPONSOR



WORKING FOR THE FUTURE

REMONDIS Australia provides full-service, end-to-end waste collection, treatment, resource recovery and management solutions right across the country, in all industry sectors. In partnership with our clients, we believe we can achieve a more sustainable future – a future in which waste is a resource.

[remondis-australia.com.au](http://remondis-australia.com.au)

# TECHNICAL TOURS

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Join us for a full-day technical tour, with two tour options to choose from, showcasing some of South East Queensland's most innovative waste, recycling and resource-recovery operations.

Each bus tour offers delegates a unique behind-the-scenes look at facilities driving improvements in how waste is managed, recycled and repurposed across the region.

Tours will depart the InterContinental Brisbane between 9:00 and 9:30am (exact time for each tour to be advised). The buses will return at approximately 5:00pm. All participants are required to wear long pants and enclosed, flat shoes. Lunch and snacks will be provided. We recommend that you bring a hat and sunscreen.

## TOUR 1: SOUTH WEST

### Salvos Stores Textile Recovery Facility

Visit Australia's first automated textile sorting and decommissioning facility and see charity retail innovation at scale. This advanced plant uses automation to sort wearable and unwearable textiles, maximise reuse outcomes, and generate clean, fibre-specific fractions for recycling markets. Attendees will gain insight into how strategic partnerships with brands, retailers and recyclers enable higher-value circular outcomes, demonstrating the vital role social enterprises play in delivering efficient, large-scale textile recovery.

### BlockTexx® Textile Recovery Facility

This site visit offers an exclusive look inside BlockTexx's world-first commercial-scale textile recycling facility. Attendees will see how the proprietary S.O.F.T. (Separation of Fibre Technology) process transforms hard-to-recycle clothing and textiles into high-quality recycled polyester (rPET) and cellulose. The tour highlights end-to-end resource recovery, showcasing practical circular economy solutions that divert textiles from landfill while creating valuable feedstock for new manufacturing applications.

*Due to radio-frequency equipment on site, visitors with pacemakers must remain in the office area. Entry to the facility is subject to signing a non-disclosure agreement (NDA).*

### Phoenix Power Recyclers

Details coming soon.



## TOUR 2: NORTH EAST

*This tour will begin with a scheduled stop at Brisbane Domestic Airport at approx 9:30 - 10:00am to collect delegates arriving on morning flights.*

### Wildfire Energy

This site visit offers an in-depth look at Wildfire Energy's patented, world-leading Energy Recovery from Waste technology, designed to deliver the economics of large-scale incineration at a fraction of the scale. Attendees will tour the \$10 million pilot plant and learn how unsorted residual wastes, including MSW, C&D and C&I streams, are converted into energy, hydrogen and other biofuels through continuous, 24/7 operations.

### Endeavour Foundation E-Waste Recycling Centre

This site visit showcases Endeavour Foundation's Kippa-Ring Business Solutions site. At this facility, e-waste recycling occurs, where technology recovery and social impact go hand in hand. Attendees will see how NTCRS-eligible e-waste such as printers, computers, monitors, laptops and televisions are dismantled for recycling, with around 93 per cent of materials recovered. The tour highlights inclusive employment in action, where people with disability perform all on-site roles, while delivering certified, high-performing e-recycling outcomes in accordance with the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme.

### Infrabuild Recycling

Details coming soon.

*Places on each tour are strictly limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. For safety reasons, self-drive to tour sites is not permitted. All delegates must travel via the coach from the InterContinental Brisbane.*

## HEADLINE SPEAKERS

### Hon. Andrew Powell MP

Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation



Andrew Powell is the Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation, a proud father of five, and the local Member for Glass House.

Mr Powell completed secondary school at Redcliffe and was awarded degrees in Science and Arts at the University of Queensland. He worked with the Defence Department in Canberra, and after working overseas returned to Queensland where he worked for the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Department of Child Safety.

He was elected as the Member for Glass House in 2009 and was appointed Minister for the Environment from 2012 to 2015. He's served in a range of positions since including as Manager of Opposition Business from 2022 – 2024. Andrew was appointed Minister in November 2024.

### Joakim Brodahl

Head of Public Affairs/  
Vice President  
Håll Sverige Rent (Sweden)



Joakim Brodahl is Head of Public Affairs/Vice President at Keep Sweden Tidy (Håll Sverige Rent), where he has spent over 20 years influencing public behavior around waste management in Sweden. With a background in economics and marketing, he has developed extensive international expertise in waste management and behavioral change. His passion lies in strengthening societal norms around personal responsibility for waste and community well-being. Based in Stockholm, Joakim brings both strategic insight and hands-on experience to discussions on future waste resources. When not working to create cleaner public spaces, he enjoys skiing, cooking, and exploring culinary experiences.



## ACCOMMODATION

A limited number of rooms have been secured at the InterContinental Brisbane at the heavily discounted rate of \$250 inc. GST per night for Wed 18 and Thu 19 March 2026 and \$299 inc. GST for Tue 17 March 2026.

Breakfast is available on a consumption basis at a reduced rate of \$30.00 per person, per day if pre-arranged with the hotel.

To book accommodation please visit: <https://www.wriqsymposium.com.au/registration/accommodation-intercontinental-brisbane/>

*A Credit Card guarantee for all accommodation rooms is required at the time of booking..*

*Availability of discounted rooms is strictly on a first-come, first-served basis.*

# SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM Thu 19th March 2026

**0800 Registration, tea and coffee**

## OPENING PLENARY

**0900 Symposium opening and housekeeping**

**Alison Price**, CEO - Waste, Recycling Industry Association QLD

**0910 Welcome from WRIQ**

**Richard Taylor**, Chair - Waste Recycling Industry Association (QLD)

**0915 Welcome from LAWMAC**

**Cr Brett Moller**, Cairns Regional Council & LAWMAC President

**0920 Welcome from LGAQ**

**Alison Smith**, CEO - Local Government Association of Queensland

**0925 Opening address**

**Hon. Andrew Powell MP**, Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation

**0940 KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: The Swedish Model – Making waste a thing of interest for the Swedes**

**Joakim Brodahl**, Håll Sverige Rent (Sweden)

**1010 Questions and discussion**

**1025 Sponsor Spotlight: Innovations in waste collection equipment**

**Warrick Grime**, Bucher Municipal

**1030 Morning tea break and opportunity to view Bucher truck**

## DRIVING INNOVATION THROUGH COLLABORATION

**1100 PANEL DISCUSSION: Trust, Transparency and Leadership - Strengthening social licence across the sector**

Community trust and confidence are critical considerations for councils and industry delivering essential services and infrastructure across Queensland. Panellists will discuss how trust is shaped by politics, performance and communication; lessons from recent inquiries; and how expectations around transparency and engagement are evolving.

**Facilitated by:**

> **Alison Price**, WRIQ

**Panellists include:**

- > **Trevor Evans**, Interim CEO - Container Exchange
- > **Alex Kanaar**, Director of Strategic Projects - Ecological Transformation - Veolia
- > **Jules McMurtrie**, Chief Optimist - Climate Action Schools
- > **Greer Quinn**, Head of Community and Reputation - ARRC Gold Coast

**1200 PANEL DISCUSSION: Procuring for Progress: Contracts, collaboration and innovation in waste and recycling**

Innovation is widely encouraged across the waste and resource recovery sector, yet procurement and contracting models are often cited as major constraints. Panellists will discuss the real-world barriers faced by councils and suppliers, the limitations of current contract structures, and how procurement approaches could evolve to support regional solutions, new technologies and innovative service models, while still meeting governance and probity requirements.

**Panellists include:**

- > **Aaron Carter**, Cleanaway
- > **Scott Reynolds**, General Manager - Kwinana Energy Recovery



1230 Lunch

## INNOVATION SNAPSHOTS: DRIVING IMPROVED HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING OUTCOMES

**1330** This fast-paced session shines a spotlight on practical innovations shaping the future of household recycling. Featuring a series of short, sharp presentations of no more than five minutes each, speakers will showcase emerging solutions, policy leadership and proven models that are delivering results across priority waste streams. The session will conclude with a moderated Q&A, giving participants the opportunity to explore ideas further.

- > **Evolution of tyre recovery opportunities in Australia**  
**Robert Kelman**, Executive Officer - Australian Tyre Recyclers Association
- > **Battery Fires & Safety: NSW policy leadership meets QLD innovation**  
**Keiran Travers**, Director - Harbak & **Brett Lemin**, Executive Director - WCRA NSW
- > **Improving refrigerant recovery for end-of-life appliances**  
**Natalie Churn**, Assistant Director - DCCEEW
- > **Best-Practice Mattress Recycling for SEQ: Proven model and rollout pathway**  
**David Petrie**, General Manager - Soft Landing

Questions and discussion

1500 Afternoon tea break

## WHERE TO NEXT FOR QUEENSLAND'S WASTE AND RECYCLING SECTOR?

**1545** **What is 'waste' and why does it matter?**  
**Flynn Rush and Kristen Burey**, HWLE Lawyers

**1600** **Managing risk, enabling recovery, and what QLD needs in the next Waste Strategy**  
**Kali Martin & Mason Grave**, Pure Environmental

**1620** **PANEL DISCUSSION: Where to next for Queensland's waste and recycling sector?**  
This closing panel brings together local government and industry leaders to reflect on the newly released Queensland Waste Strategy. Moving beyond policy intent, panellists will explore what must happen next to turn ambition into delivery, discussing the critical enablers - planning, infrastructure, markets, regulation and partnerships - needed to move from strategy to action and accelerate progress across the sector.

**Panellists include:**

- > **Brett Lemin**, Executive Director - Waste Contractors & Recyclers Association of NSW
- > **Michael O'Keeffe**, Manager Waste and Recycling - Rockhampton Regional Council
- > **Sarah Collins**, Head of Assets - ARRC Gold Coast
- > **Lacey Webb**, CEO and Founder - ResourceHub
- > **Richard Taylor**, Business Development Manager - JJ's Waste and Recycling

**1710** **Review of key points for FWR 2026 communique**  
**Lacey Webb**, CEO and Founder - ResourceHub

**1720** **Wrap up and close**  
**Alison Price & Richard Taylor**, Waste, Recycling Industry Association QLD

1730 Symposium Close

1830 Networking Dinner

Future Waste Resources 2026 will deliver more than conversation. WRIQ, with the support of ResourceHub, will produce and publish a formal FWR Communiqué and Symposium Wrap-Up, capturing key insights, themes and takeaways from across the program and site tours.

## NETWORKING DINNER Thu 19th March 2026

Wrap up the day at our relaxed Networking Dinner. Unwind, connect, and share informal conversations with fellow delegates, speakers, and exhibitors.

On the night, take part in our charity auction supporting Women's Legal Service Queensland, helping fund vital legal and support services for women and children affected by domestic and family violence.

**Date:** Thursday 19 March 2026

**Time:** 6:30 – 10:30pm

**Venue:** Pool Terrace, Level 8  
InterContinental Brisbane

**Dress:** Casual

**Tickets:** Included in full registrations or optional event for \$160. If you wish to purchase additional tickets, please visit the online registration form.

*Sponsored by:*



## FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

**08:30am – 10:00am**

### **LAWMAC Quarterly Meeting**

LAWMAC members, along with officers from the Local Government Association of Queensland, the Department of Environment and Science, Queensland Health, waste industry groups, and related waste management organisations, are encouraged to attend and contribute information and insights. Attendance by non-members is in an observer capacity only and does not include voting rights.

To register your interest, please contact Christine Blanchard, LAWMAC Secretary, at [secretary@lawmac.org.au](mailto:secretary@lawmac.org.au).

**10:00am – 12:00pm**

### **Roundtable Discussions**

Join focused discussions between Councils and Industry on key topics shaping Queensland's waste and recycling sector. These concurrent roundtables offer participants the chance to engage directly with peers, experts, and industry leaders on issues including Lithium Batteries Stewardship, Mattress Recycling, Energy from Waste, Landfill Security, the Queensland Waste Infrastructure Plan, and more.

Participants will be encouraged to select the discussions most relevant to their interests and bring questions or insights to share. The goal will be to agree on next steps for each topic.

Refreshments will be served, providing a relaxed environment to network, exchange ideas, and explore practical solutions.

To confirm your attendance, please tick the relevant box on your FWR registration form or email [events@wriq.com.au](mailto:events@wriq.com.au).

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## HOW TO REGISTER

All registrations must be completed through the online booking form available at [wriqsymposium.com.au](http://wriqsymposium.com.au).

Payment by credit card is required at the time of registration. To request an invoice for EFT payment (a purchase order will be required), please email [events@wriq.com.au](mailto:events@wriq.com.au).

On receipt of your completed form, you will receive a confirmation email and tax invoice. Please note, registrations are not confirmed until payment is received in full.

Conference registrations cannot be shared. Strictly one delegate per registration only.

## CANCELLATIONS

Cancellation of your registration must be advised in writing to [events@wriq.com.au](mailto:events@wriq.com.au). Cancellations received on or before 9 January 2026 will receive a full refund less a \$220 administration fee, cancellations received after this date will not receive a refund, however, we will accept delegate name changes at any time leading up to the event.

## DRESS CODE

The dress standard for the event is business/smart casual including the networking function. The dress code for the Symposium Dinner is casual - comfortable, flat shoes are recommended.

## DISCLAIMER

Every effort has been made to present all the information contained in this brochure as accurately as possible. The organisers reserve the right to change, without notice, any or all of these details.

## REGISTRATION PACKAGES & FEES

*\*All amounts are excluding GST*

<b>Early</b>	Up to 13 February 2026
<b>Standard</b>	14 Feb - 13 Mar 2026

**BOOKINGS CLOSE FRI 13 MARCH 2026**

### Full Registration

Includes:

- > Symposium Day (Thu 19 Mar, with morning/afternoon tea and lunch)
- > 1 x Technical Tour ticket (Wed 18 Mar)
- > 1 x Networking Dinner ticket (Thu 19 Mar)
- > Access to symposium papers/ presentations following the event (subject to speaker approval)

	MEMBER	NON MEMBER
Early	\$670	\$770
Standard	\$745	\$845

### Symposium Day

Includes:

- > Symposium Day (Thu 19 Mar, with morning/afternoon tea and lunch)
- > Access to symposium papers/ presentations following the event (subject to speaker approval)

	MEMBER	NON MEMBER
Early	\$350	\$450
Standard	\$425	\$525

### Optional Tickets

- > **TECHNICAL TOUR** Ticket  
Wed 18 Mar 2026  
WRIQ Member - \$180 each  
Non Member - \$280 each
- > **NETWORKING DINNER** Ticket  
Thu 19 Mar 2026 - \$160 each

## PRIVACY

In registering for this event relevant details may be incorporated into a delegate list for the benefit of all delegates (name, organisation and title) and may be made available to parties directly related to the event including WRIQ and sponsors (subject to conditions). If you do not wish to be included in the delegate list please email [events@wriq.com.au](mailto:events@wriq.com.au).

## PARKING

Valet parking is available at a cost of \$60.00 per vehicle per day, for InterContinental Brisbane accommodation guests only. Valet parking is subject to availability and cannot be pre-booked. The maximum vehicle height is 1.85m.

The Wintergarden Car Park (162 Elizabeth Street), is located directly next door. It offers undercover, secure parking, with options for hourly, daily, and weekend rates, often with pre-booking available via [Secure Parking](#)

## PHOTOGRAPHY/RECORDING

By registering for the FWR Symposium you consent and grant permission to WRIQ, its agents and others working under its authority, to take and to have full and free use of video/photographs containing your image/likeness. These images and recordings may be used for promotional, news, online/multimedia, research and/or educational purposes by and for WRIQ. Copies of the event photographs will be made available to the attendees after the event.

## CONTACT

If you have any questions about the event, registration or WRIQ please contact:

T: 07 3067 3315  
E: [events@wriq.com.au](mailto:events@wriq.com.au)





## CONTACT US

Should you have any questions regarding any of the information contained within this brochure, please contact the FWR team today.

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