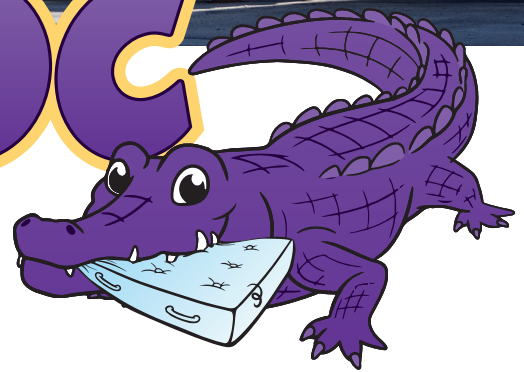




THE CROC

MATTRESS SHREDDER



1. What is the reason for the shredder?

Disposal of mattresses to landfill is undesirable, not only because it can cost up to \$137 per unit, but most landfills have exhausted their capacity to receive. Collection and transportation costs will become prohibitive as local Sydney landfills are exhausted by 2034.

Liverpool City Council's approach is both aligned with, and in response to, the Western Sydney Regional Waste & Sustainable Materials Strategy 2022-2027.

It will also reduce disposable costs for ratepayers, create a new revenue stream by providing outsourced mattress disposal services to other councils, leading the local government transition to circular economy.

2. How many mattresses are discarded in the Liverpool LGA each year?

Historically, Liverpool City Council collected and took to landfill thousands of mattresses each year. More recently, we have been working with a supplier whose business diverts mattresses from landfill - and now we are taking ownership and will do this in-house.

3. What does it cost council to dispose of them?

The cost to Council of getting these mattresses taken away by a private contractor is close to \$800,000 per annum.

4. Will the shredder save council money and how much?

On the basis of the mattresses Liverpool residents dispose of each year, Council expects to save in excess of \$500,000 per annum by processing these in-house.

5. How does this help the environment?

Recycling the mattresses meets five of seven priority areas of the Western Sydney Regional Waste & Sustainable Materials Strategy 2022-2027 including:

- Meeting Waste Infrastructure Needs by 2030 and Beyond (1)
- Building Resilience to Climate Change Impacts on Waste Services (3)
- Facilitating the Transition from a Linear to Circular Economy (5)
- Protecting the Region from Waste Pollution (6)
- Exploring Joint Procurement of Waste Services and/or Infrastructure (7).



THE CROC

MATTRESS SHREDDER



6. What can they be recycled into?

There are two products extracted from the mattresses after recycling – flock and steel. The flock can be turned into:

- Civic Quality Street Pavers
- Blocks
- Street Furniture
- Pavers
- Tiles
- Toilet Dividers
- Seats and Tables
- Public Artwork



It is estimated that around **1.8 million mattresses** are thrown out each year in Australia with around **40 per cent of them – 22,140 tonnes – ending up in landfill.**

