



Sustainable Choice News

Issue 12, December, 2015

LGNSW Excellence in the Environment Awards 2015

The Local Government 18th annual Excellence in the Environment Awards ceremony was held on 1 December 2015.

Congratulations to **Wollongong City Council** who took out the overall winner of the Sustainable Procurement Category for their Green Cleaning Contract. Due to the lack of recognised green cleaning standards and limited examples to draw on, they developed a bespoke specification to incorporate stringent green cleaning requirements in the latest contract for the provision of cleaning services for the administration building. This project highlighted to the judging panel innovation, leadership and excellent policy in practice.

Congratulations to all the nominees and finalists for 2015.

This year we did not receive any nominations outside of Category C (population more than 60,000), so for those small to medium councils, be sure to start thinking about 2016.

To view other award categories and winners, please click [here](#), photos are also available [online](#).

Scorecards are on their way!

All members who completed the 2015 survey can expect to receive their sustainable procurement Scorecard before the end of December. The survey is a formal commitment and major part of belonging to the Sustainable Choice program. As such, the Scorecards are sent by formal correspondence to each member council's General Manager. If you would like an electronic copy of your Scorecard sent to you directly, please contact the [Sustainable Choice team](#).

Northern Sydney Sustainable Procurement Forum

On 22 October 2015, 27 Council officers attended a Sustainable Choice forum at Willoughby City Council. The forum allowed councils to present and explore strategies, innovation, resources and case studies to promote sensible, sustainable procurement.

Participants were treated to presentations from Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils, Local Government Procurement, Willoughby City Council, Fairfield City Council, industry representatives and the Sustainable Choice Program Manager. A trade show and 'meet the suppliers' discussion and networking session was a fun and productive way to engage and connect participants in a relaxed and casual setting.

The content, structure, presenters and the contribution of participants ensured that the event was a resounding success. Overall, 96% of participants considered it good or excellent. The Sustainable Choice program team are now using the lessons learned and participant feedback to guide and inform future events and activities.

Stay tuned for details of future events.

Database

Thank you to those members who have referred local suppliers for us to assess for inclusion on the Sustainable Choice database. We always need your help to increase the number of sustainable suppliers listed in order to improve our service. If you need any further information about the process please contact us. It is free for suppliers to display their products and services so long as they meet our criteria. More information on the criteria is available [here](#).

Social Enterprise Helping Councils to Digitise Records

Jigsaw is a social enterprise that provides employment training and skill development opportunities for people with disability. Over the past 18 months Jigsaw has built a digitisation service that adds significant financial and efficiency benefits to local government.

Through a partnership with Warringah Council Jigsaw has assisted Council to improve the time taken to process GIPA applications by 80% whilst saving over \$300,000 on offsite storage. This partnership has also enabled Warringah Council to fulfil guidelines set out in the Disability Inclusion Act through Jigsaw's incredibly talented team of people with disability.

Jigsaw is at the stage now where the growth of the business is dependent on more local government organisations using the digitisation service. Four more contracts similar to that of Warringah will enable Jigsaw to employ over twenty people with disability, whilst becoming a financially sustainable business that relies on no government funding. For more information on Jigsaw please contact Paul Brown (General Manager) paul@fightingchance.org.au.



Merry Christmas!

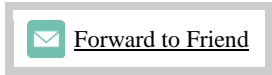
The Sustainable Choice team would like to wish you a very happy and safe Christmas. We look forward to working with you in 2016!

Contact the Sustainable Choice team today

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The Sustainable Choice program is a partnership between Local Government NSW and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.



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