



## Circular Economy Management System with CQG Consulting Group

This project aims to develop and implement a whole of Council approach to a circular economy management system over a four-year period

### Description

#### Proposal

Administration proposes to partner with CQG Consulting Group in a four-year project aimed at establishing a circular management system for council and present a case study and lessons learnt to enable more local governments to transition to a circular management system.

#### Background

In 2019, the City of Mitcham developed and presented a Circular Economy Roadmap 2020-2023, however, since then little action has been taken to implement a circular economy management system into the organisation's strategies, procurement, and waste management processes. The circular economy refers to the altering of the typical 'take, make, dispose' linear economy and replacing it with a circular economy with the eventual goal of total material reuse. This entails the gradual decoupling of economic activity from resource consumption, using waste as a resource, and designing products and services that have as little environmental impact as possible. Local governments are in a unique position to help facilitate this change, as they have relationships with State and Federal government, local businesses, residents, and waste management companies.

CQG Consulting has been liaising with Administration on an opportunity to deliver a four-year project that would include: an audit of existing whole of council management systems to identify risks and opportunities in a circular economy; conduct internal and external stakeholder consultation to identify and overcome barriers; develop and implement the circular management systems and measure the impact of the project over time; present a case study and lessons learnt of the project to share with other local governments (see Attachment C). CQG Consulting recently submitted a funding application to the LGA R&D Scheme with a letter of support from the City of Mitcham. However, they were unsuccessful in receiving grant funding as there was no financial or strategic contribution from Council. This proposal is suggesting the City of Mitcham partners with CQG Consulting Group to apply for the next round of grant funding, as well as other relevant grant opportunities, with Mitcham covering 50% of the project costs, as well as additional staff resourcing.

#### Community Benefits

- Supporting local suppliers and businesses in transition to a circular economy
- Reducing waste going to landfill; carbon emissions and pollutants; and council operating and material costs

### Category B

**Rate Impact:** 0.06%  
**Ongoing (Council):** \$35,000

#### Primary Theme

Theme 2.2 Sustainable  
Resources

#### Community Insight

I feel that Council is embracing alternative materials and methods in constructing roads, pavements and car parks, to lower the impact on our natural environment

#### Other Information

- ☐ Pending Grant Funding
- ☒ Future Grant Funding Request
- ☒ Priority Theme
- ☐ Non-Priority Theme

**General Manager**  
Wade Reynolds

**2023/24  
Annual Business Plan,  
Budget & LTFP**