



Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Assessment Summary

The Triple Bottom Line Assessment is required to be published in accordance with Part 4, section 23 (1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2016

20/388 Stimulus funding from Commonwealth Government for roads – matched funding and enhancements to the ACT Materials Recovery Facility

Summary of impacts:

- The proposal has largely positive or neutral social, economic and environmental impacts.

Level of impact	Positive	Negative	Neutral
-----------------	----------	----------	---------

Social		
Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Positive	Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This package of works benefits all Canberrans through providing economic stimulus. The proposed upgrades to the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) are expected to benefit all Canberrans and people living in the five local regional councils utilising the MRF to process recyclable materials collected from homes and businesses.
Positive	Access to services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a positive impact on services through the local roads community infrastructure program and the stimulus funding for roads and road safety. The proposed upgrades to the MRF will have a positive impact on access to services by underpinning the ACT's kerbside recycling collection services and services provided by local commercial businesses delivering to the MRF.
Positive	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While there are no specific impacts anticipated for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the upgrades and improvements to service delivery and environmental benefits will benefit all Canberrans.
Positive	Multicultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While there are no specific impacts anticipated for certain cultural or ethnic groups, the upgrades and improvements to service delivery and environmental benefits will benefit all Canberrans.
Positive	Impacts on different age groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This package of works will benefit all Canberrans. The MRF 'Recycling Discovery Hub' has a positive impact on the lives of school aged children and all visitors to the MRF and is expected to do so into the

		<p>future if this proposal is successful by shoring-up recycling operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycling ensures that finite resources will be available for future generations.
Positive	Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whilst there are no specific impacts anticipated for people with a disability, the package of works will benefit all Canberrans.

Economic		
Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Positive	Productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The upgrade to the MRF will significantly increase productivity of the facility by reducing, or potentially eliminating, the production of mixed plastic bales which do not attract as high a price as pure plastic polymers. Improvements to the layout of the arrivals area of the MRF will also improve productivity by reducing the need to manage loads and will allow the removal of gross contaminants which often lead to breakdowns in the facility.
Positive	Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The upgrades will include the use of high-tech systems which will provide real-time MRF production data, linked with the scanning units that monitor the composition of material being fed to the plant. This will allow the ACT Government to work more closely with waste collection contractors and educators to inform the community about what to/not to put in their yellow bins.
Positive	Employment and labour force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This package of works will create construction jobs and the MRF upgrade is also expected to create up to four new ongoing FTEs. The local roads and community infrastructure program will support jobs and the resilience of local economies.
Positive	Small business impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many small businesses are indirect customers of the Hume MRF commercial waste services. The gate fee charged to the commercial sector needs to remain lower than the price charged for landfill as an incentive to drive recycling. The upgrades to the facility are designed to shore-up the financial viability of the operation by continuing access to recycling commodity markets. This may remove the pressure to charge higher gate fee amounts to small business. In addition, the Hume MRF is strategically located in the ACT. Without it, small businesses wishing to access recycling services would be forced to pay transport costs associated with using interstate facilities.

Neutral	Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no direct impacts on skills expected, however construction work will require suitable technically qualified labour.
Neutral	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no direct impacts on education levels expected, however construction work will require technically qualified labour.
Positive	Investment and Economic Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This package of works was developed to continue to stimulate the ACT economy as a result of COVID-19. While machinery may be manufactured outside the ACT, associated works and installation would be conducted by the local industry where possible.
Neutral	Competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed upgrades to the MRF are expected to be neutral in terms of competitive neutrality as there are no privately operated MRFs currently in the ACT or surrounding region capable of processing the volumes of co-mingled kerbside material collected each year.
Neutral	Cost of living	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While the cost difference between recycling and landfill of ACT household services is equal (because the Territory manages its own landfill), the cost of recycling for workplaces and institutions is far cheaper due to commercial landfill charges. Therefore, on balance, the impact to the cost of living is expected to be positive.
Neutral	Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any required procurement will be subject the ACT Government policies.

Environmental		
Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Neutral	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MRF proposal will reduce fire risks associated with stockpiling recyclable material. This supports biodiversity values which can be negatively impacted by fire.
Neutral	Environmental Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MRF proposal will remove the current MRF output of mixed-plastic waste, which contains recoverable material streams along with other unrecoverable contaminants which can break down into microplastics with resulting damage to ecosystems. This will support the safe disposal of these plastic contaminants into landfill avoiding further damage if left to degrade in the environment.
Neutral	Climate Change mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stockpiling and landfilling of paper and cardboard waste leads to anaerobic degradation and greenhouse gas emissions. There is some leakage of these emissions even with the Territory's greenhouse gas harvest and flaring from landfill. In contrast, recycling paper and cardboard both reduces emissions, and minimises the need for virgin forests to be logged in paper production, and so supports the retention of carbon sinks.

Positive	Waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The main outcome from this project will be a significant increase in the amount of recyclable material that is effectively reused both in domestic and international markets. The project will have a major effect on beneficial use of waste resources.
----------	-------	--