Media Release

27 May 2025

Let's get it sorted! Free Recycling Bin stickers to cut confusion and waste

We know recycling can sometimes be confusing. That's why Gladstone Regional Council (GRC) is offering FREE recycling bin stickers to assist residents in identifying the correct items that can go into their recycling bins.

Forming part of Council's broader Waste Education campaign and under the *Let's Get It Sorted* behaviour change initiative, free recycling bin stickers will be placed in your mailbox for residents in designated delivery areas.

They will also be available at our libraries, Waste Transfer Stations, local markets and community forums between now and the end of August.

Gladstone Region Councillor and GRC Waste Management representative Mellissa Holzheimer said each sticker displays information on what products can and cannot be placed into yellow recycling bins.

"Recycling bin stickers are weatherproof and are designed to be placed on the inside lid of your recycling bin," Councillor Holzheimer said.

"The stickers have visual representations of what items can be placed in our yellow bins, including steel and aluminium products, glass, moulded plastic like milk and shampoo containers, and clean paper or cardboard.

"It is also important to place these items loosely inside your recycling bin and not in a plastic bag as contamination in recycling bins can lead to rejected loads, increased processing costs, and environmental harm.

"Red bins should be a last resort, and only used for items that can't be recycled or taken to a drop off point. Household waste like soft plastics, nappies and soiled food items belong in your red bin, while items like batteries and e-waste must be taken to your local transfer station for safe recycling."

Cr Holzheimer added that Council is still encouraging the community to utilise the Recycle Mate app.

"Recycle Mate is Australia's first community driven recycling app that works to answer all your recycling questions," she said.

"It has a directory of more than 7500 items – from common household items to the more obscure ones – and is free to download from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store."

Visit <u>www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/waste</u> for more information about waste and recycling in the Gladstone Region. Visit <u>www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/recycling-bin-specialised-services</u> for more information about Council's *Let's Get It Sorted* campaign.

This initiative is supported by the Queensland Government's Recycling and Jobs Fund.

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