



12 Sep 2019

Adelaide Advertiser, Adelaide

# The Advertiser

## Clean up our act

RATEPAYERS could help councils begin making millions of dollars if they start to recycle properly.

As a new report by consultants EY has found, councils are missing out on huge revenue possibilities because there is too much contamination in yellow bins.

Rather than treating them as an extra rubbish receptacle, households can follow some simple rules to ensure recycling can be processed – and sold for profit.

At the NAWMA recycling facility in Adelaide's north, paper, cardboard, glass, plastic and metal put into yellow bins is being

sorted, baled and sent off to various buyers who pulp, melt or crush it to make more paper, cardboard, glass, plastic and metal.

But it has to be clean. If it is dirty, it must be dumped at landfill at the cost of \$110 a tonne because of the contentious Solid Waste Levy.

By diverting more recycling from landfills, councils can save on the levy while earning money by selling yellow bin material.

NAWMA, set up by three councils, is being recognised nationally for its efforts to create a circular economy. Everyone can help by using their yellow bins properly.