



# Ray Williams MP

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Member for Castle Hill  
Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier  
for Western Sydney

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Wednesday, 20 January 2016

### **FAIRFIELD'S PLASTIC FORESTS AWARDED \$800,000 FOR INNOVATIVE PROBLEM WASTE SOLUTIONS STREAM 1**

Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier for Western Sydney, Ray Williams, has announced that Fairfield-based Plastic Forests Pty Ltd has been awarded funding of \$800,000 for its development of innovative ways of managing problem waste.

Plastic Forests is one of 19 NSW businesses awarded a share of \$6.9 million from the *Innovation in Priority Problem Wastes Management* grants program from the Environment Protection Authority.

“The program, from the Environment Protection Authority, was developed to encourage creative solutions to manage problem waste such as mattresses, plastics, tyres and nappies,” Mr Williams said.

“Each project aimed to change a problem waste into a productive resource, either through a new recycling method or through the development of new recycling markets.

Plastic Forest’s project involves Australia’s first Bulka Bag Recycling facility, processing up to 500,000 plus bags per annum.

Plastic Forests received its grant under stream one of the program, which awards individual grants of up to \$1 million to cover 50 per cent of the capital costs for the development of new and emerging technologies for problem waste recycling or resource recovery.

Environment Minister Mark Speakman said problem waste was defined as everyday items such as mattresses, plastics, treated timbers, tyres, rubber and nappies.

The grants are part of the NSW Government’s five year \$465.7 million *Waste Less, Recycle More* initiative, which aims to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, by increasing recycling, reducing illegal dumping and litter and tackling problem wastes.

For further information about the program and details of other grant recipients go to: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/ProblemWaste.htm](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/ProblemWaste.htm)