



# Westport Sustainability Strategy

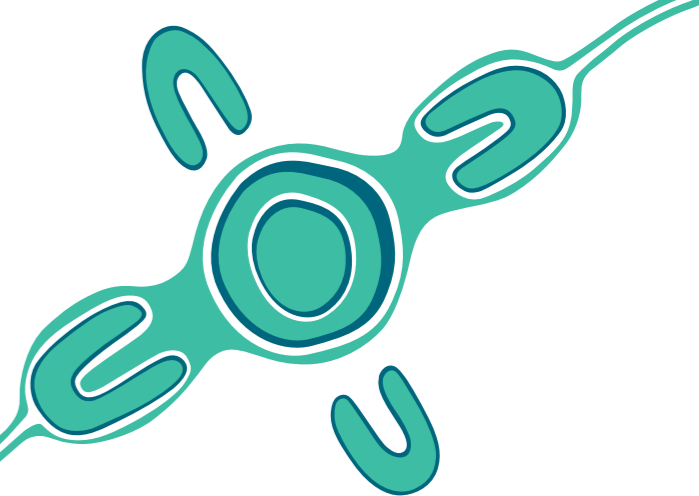
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# Westport overview

Westport is the WA State Government's plan to resolve future container trade constraints in WA by moving container trade from Fremantle to Kwinana. This includes planning new port facilities, a connected road and rail freight system, and logistics operations.

Westport is a once-in-a-century opportunity to design a new port that will deliver benefits for the economy, environment, Aboriginal people and the broader community. Westport's whole-of-asset-life approach to design, construction and operations allows environmental and social goals to be hard-wired through every phase of program delivery and use.

Following the completion of the detailed business case in Stage 3, Westport has entered Stage 4 project definition and delivery phase, with civil engineering contract procurement for infrastructure delivery to follow pending environmental approvals by state and federal regulators and a final investment decision by State Government.

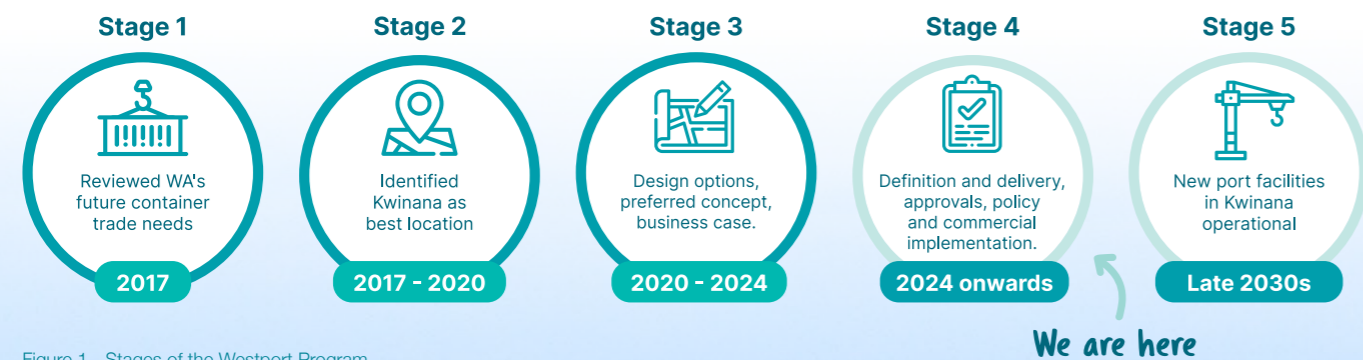


Figure 1 - Stages of the Westport Program

# Delivering Westport

The Westport Program will be delivered by the Westport Program Office (WPO) which provides management, control and assurance for the Westport Program.

The landside infrastructure sub-program includes upgrades to Anketell Road, and to the existing freight rail network between Kwinana and Cockburn. Westport's road and rail projects are being defined by integrated project teams (IPTs) managed by the Office of Major Transport Infrastructure Delivery (OMTID) on behalf of Westport. OMTID will also procure and manage the delivery contracts for these projects on behalf of Westport and asset owners/operators.

The marine sub-program includes design and delivery of the new container port, access channels and breakwater plus the redevelopment of Fremantle Ports' Kwinana Bulk Terminal. A Marine and Port Infrastructure Technical Advisor will provide Westport with specialist engineering expertise to ensure the marine and ports infrastructure design progresses in alignment with our Program Goals and industry best practice. The Integrated Delivery Partner (IDP) will provide Westport with specialist professional services for the delivery of the large-scale marine and port infrastructure construction program.

This Strategy guides how sustainability objectives will be considered across all aspects of the Westport Program including its delivery partners.

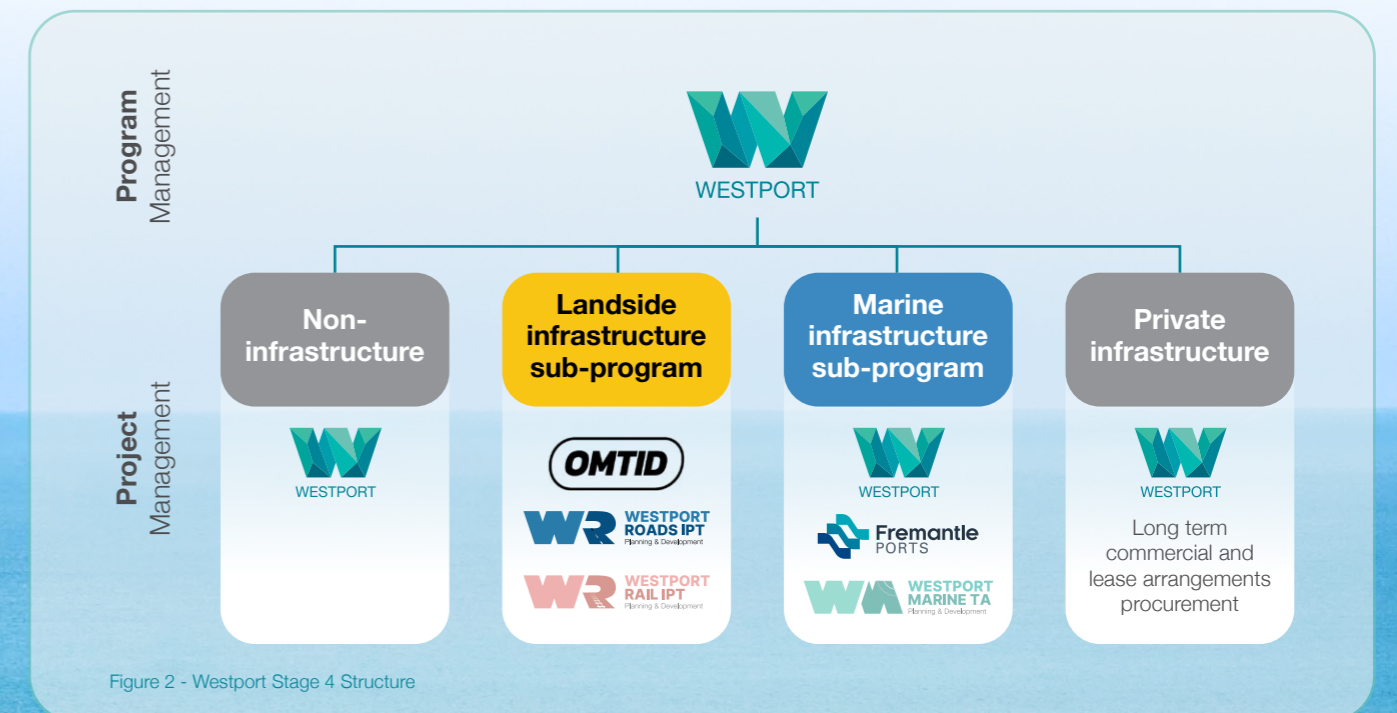
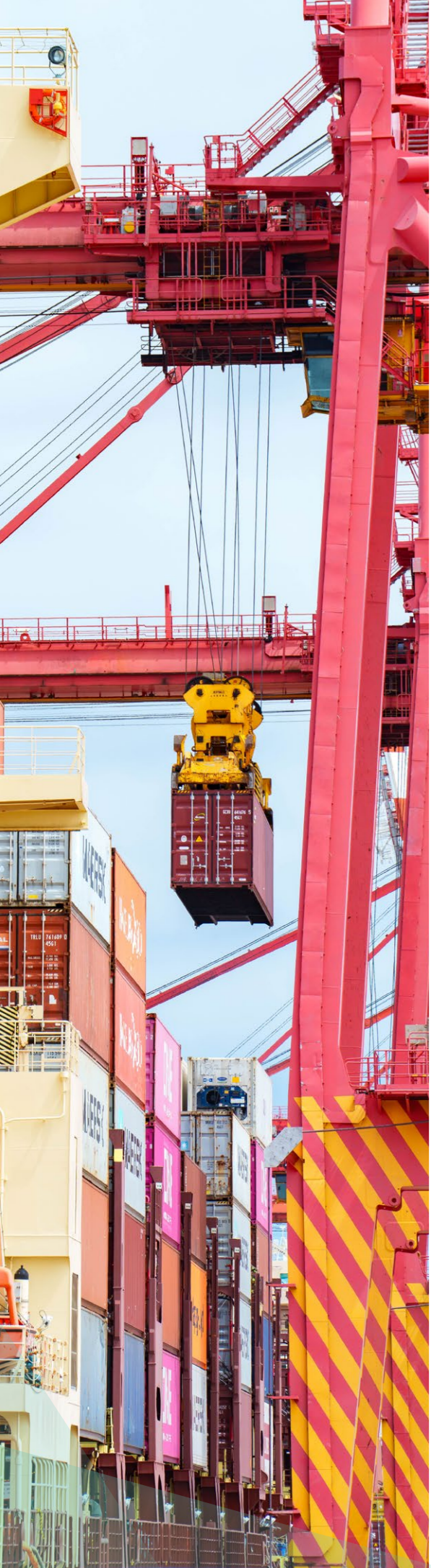


Figure 2 - Westport Stage 4 Structure





# Westport's sustainability journey

Westport's journey commenced in 2017 with an Independent Taskforce (Stages 1 and 2) that tested possible locations for a container port development.

Westport brought forward the environmental workstream in Stage 1 to ensure environmental objectives were integrated throughout the entire project lifecycle. In Stage 2, the WAMSI-Westport Marine Science Program was established to further support evidence-based environmental planning. These efforts align with Steps 1 and 2 of the PIANC Working with Nature framework, which aims to align navigation needs with environmental priorities. By establishing a comprehensive baseline of the physical and biological environment, Westport engaged stakeholders to move beyond impact mitigation and identify proactive opportunities for ecological enhancement.

Environmental and social outcomes were a key driver for decision making, having a major impact on the final option recommended. Key actions and considerations included:

- providing community development benefits for Greater Perth through increased employment opportunities
- moving heavy rail and road freight away from the increasingly populous Fremantle
- avoiding impacts to Mount Brown as a site of cultural and environmental significance
- extensive stakeholder engagement.

Governance followed best practice standards, with strong oversight and the use of decision-making tools that gave significant weighting to environmental and social considerations.

During Stage 3, Westport developed an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Strategy and Action Plan to guide key activities and prepare the Program to deliver broader economic and social benefits to the State.

The Strategy and Action Plan were informed by the knowledge and expertise of an ESG Reference Group established by Westport. The ESG Reference Group consisted of individuals with the capabilities and experience to support Westport in managing and minimising our ESG impacts, including WA academia and specialists in marine and terrestrial environments, sustainability and community networks.

Importantly, the ESG Reference Group offered valuable guidance, insights and assurance on Westport's approach to ESG and sustainability activities.

## Key Achievements in Stage 3 included



**Development of the Westport ESG Strategy and Action Plan, with ongoing public reporting on progress of the Actions.**



**Selection of preferred design for the port and container supply chain, which included:**

- Applying substantial weightings to environmental and social outcomes in the options assessment.
- Ensuring those weightings were informed by stakeholder advice on balancing competing design criteria.
- Undertaking sensitivity testing to stress-test the decision-making process.
- Identifying a preferred design that performed best in terms of environmental outcomes, with the least possible impact on Cockburn Sound and the lowest dredge requirements.
- Avoiding seagrass beds, thereby supporting key ecological functions such as snapper spawning.



**WAMSI-Westport Marine Science Program:**

- Investment of more than \$13.5 million on new research into the Cockburn Sound ecosystem with 150 scientists across 30 projects
- Science-informed decision making and design, ensuring environmental objectives were considered from the outset.
- All reports from the WAMSI-Westport Marine Science Program published as they became available.



**Working with Nature:**

- The PIANC Working with Nature approach was embedded in Stage 1 of Westport to guide planning and design. By understanding the physical and biological processes of Cockburn Sound, strategic decisions - such as selecting the South Kwinana Shelf / Anketell Road port option - were made to minimise dredging and avoid sensitive ecological and cultural areas, laying the groundwork for nature positive actions.



**Net Zero Strategy:**

- A Net Zero Strategy was developed to provide a road map for delivering a net zero port in construction and operations and catalysing net zero supply chain by 2050, in line with current and emerging decarbonisation policies of the Commonwealth and State Government.
- The Strategy was informed by subject matter experts, quantitative assessment and detailed carbon modelling, with the largest contributors to carbon emissions for the construction and operations identified to focus decarbonisation efforts and definition and design stage.



**Resource Efficiency Strategy:**

- A Resource Efficiency Strategy provides evaluations tools and methods aimed at improving resource efficiency decisions for Westport across the full asset lifecycle, leading to improved environmental outcomes in line with State and Commonwealth policy objectives.
- A Resource Efficiency Strategy complements Net Zero Strategy roadmap. The strategy identifies high impact construction materials and processes and is focused on embedding circular economy principles in decision making. The Strategy aims to accelerate use of recovered materials, reduce waste and program costs while improving material efficiency.
- The Strategy was informed by subject matter experts, consultants, and relevant Government agency experts, while engagement occurred with peak body representatives, contractors, suppliers, designers and innovators.



### Workforce Strategy:

- A Workforce Strategy was developed to ensure Westport secures the right quantum of workers, with the right skills at the right time.
- It aligns with current Commonwealth, State and Transport Portfolio regulatory frameworks developed in consultation with relevant agencies, industry and subject matter experts.
- Workforce demands were also forecast and peaks and potential skills and occupational shortages were identified.



### Stakeholder engagement

- More than 1,000 hours of engagement with stakeholders was undertaken including importers and exporters, industry groups, local governments, road and rail operators, shipping lines and port operators.
- 35 community pop-up events attended.
- Seven community webinars were held providing information on topics including Westport's EPA referral, preferred design and the Naval Base horse beach.



### Future proof design

- The preferred port design allows for future expansion as WA's population continues to grow over the next 100 years.
- Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategies were developed to guide design to ensure the future port and supply chain will recover from disruptions.
- Climate change and sea level rises were considered in Stage 3 design.
- Flexibility embedded in design to allow for innovation to be incorporated as opportunities arise.
- An Innovation Strategy was developed to create an innovative culture and drive productivity and efficiency in Stage 4 definition and delivery phase.



### Business Case

- The Westport Business Case Summary - published in November 2024 - considered not just economic and technical factors, but critical environmental and social considerations associated with a significant port development.
- The Business Case supported the decision-making process, promoting accountability and transparency to the community.



### Noongar Opportunities:

- A Westport Noongar Opportunities Strategy and Action Plan was co-designed in collaboration with Traditional Owners. The Strategy is guiding the Westport Program in ensuring benefits are maximised for Noongar communities with the development of the port and supply chain infrastructure.
- A community-elected advisory group was established to ensure local voices and Traditional Owners perspectives were embedded in project planning. Sixteen meetings were held with the Stage 3 Westport Noongar Advisory Group between late 2021 and 2024.
- An Aboriginal business register was established to capture Aboriginal businesses interested in future opportunities to work with Westport.
- A Cultural and Spiritual Values Mapping project was undertaken to inform planning and decision-making processes, including design selection through multi-criteria analysis.
- Four Noongar Opportunities reports were published in Stage 3, highlighting the progress and achievements of the Noongar Opportunities Strategy.
- Noongar Advisory Group members reviewed relevant sections of the Westport Business Case as key stakeholders for Westport.



# Sustainability Strategy for Stage 4

The Westport Sustainability Strategy is built on three pillars: Environmental, Social, and Governance. The purpose of the Westport Sustainability Strategy is to guide the planning, development and delivery of a port that sets a new standard for environmental, social and economic outcomes in Australia.

This Strategy is a review and update of the Westport Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Strategy prepared in Stage 3. The Sustainability Strategy will be reviewed annually as the Program progresses to ensure currency and support continuous improvement.

Table 1 summarises the relevant commitments and objectives by pillar.

Pillar	Commitment	Objective	Related UN SDGs
Environmental	Deliver positive long-term benefits for the natural and physical environment.	Minimise impacts to sensitive natural and physical environments, and strive for improved conditions post construction.	
		Deliver the critical baseline science and modelling to underpin port design to minimise environmental impact, deliver a robust impact assessment and support Cockburn Sound's long term holistic management.	
		Embed PIANC Working with Nature into Westport to deliver a port that is responsive to the natural and physical environment and which ensures lasting win-win solutions for navigation and the environment.	
		Design and deliver a net zero port in construction and operations and catalyse net zero supply chain by 2050.	
		Advance circular economy outcomes by reducing, reusing, and recovering materials during construction.	

Table 1 - Westport's ESG pillars

Pillar	Commitment	Objective	Related UN SDGs
Social	Create opportunities for social advancement.	Implement opportunities to facilitate industry capability and opportunities for local high-quality jobs.	
		Protect and enhance cultural values and deliver economic and social opportunities for the Noongar community and businesses through genuine engagement.	
		Implement safety in design to ensure both workers and the community surrounding transport links are safe.	
		Project outcomes, where possible, are informed by stakeholders, including industry and community.	
Governance	Make decisions which benefit Western Australians with strong, transparent governance and reporting.	Meet the needs of future generations by ensuring the efficiency, scalability, and resilience of the port and supply chain beyond 2070.	
		Demonstrate transparent and responsible governance.	
		Comply with legislative, regulatory and State Government policy obligations during the planning and delivery of the port and supply chain infrastructure.	
Underpinning Objectives		Ensure sustainability and Noongar economic participation are embedded into all relevant procurement.	
		Embed sustainability outcomes into both performance criteria for design of the port, and success criteria for the Westport Office.	
		Report on our sustainability performance against nationally and internationally recognised industry standards.	
		Plan for sustainability outcomes as part of project development plans and commercial agreements for design, construction and operation.	

# Strategic alignment

This strategy aligns to and seeks to accelerate and complement Western Australia's achievement of several existing commitments, policies and strategies. It also complements and supports the achievement of the Western Australian Transport Portfolio's ESG Vision and Framework.

## National and international commitments

Westport will contribute to achieving the Paris Agreement objective of keeping global warming to no more than 1.5°C by reaching net zero emissions by 2050. The Program will also align Stage 4 actions and future operations with the objectives of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. Westport will use leading industry standards, including the Infrastructure Sustainability Council (ISC) ratings process as benchmarks.

## State policies

This Strategy demonstrates Westport's adoption of WA State Government strategies and initiatives including:

- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Policy for Major Projects 2024
- Western Australian Climate Change Policy 2020
- Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030
- WA Aboriginal Empowerment Strategy 2021–2029
- WA Industry Participation Strategy 2024
- Workforce Diversification and Inclusion Strategy 2021–2025
- WA Procurement Rules and Environmental Procurement Guide 2024
- WA State Infrastructure Strategy 2022
- Supporting Continuous Improvement in ESG Outcomes 2021.

# Strategy implementation

The Sustainability Strategy provides direction for sustainability considerations and unifies sustainability sub-programs in a cohesive structure to align efforts across Westport in Stage 4.



Figure 3 - Stage 4 delivery of Sustainability





### Embedding sustainability in the Westport Program

Westport's sustainability commitments and objectives will be embedded in the Program through:

- Adoption of sustainability objectives by all Westport workstreams, including underpinning corporate governance to ensure adherence.
- Development of Implementation Guides for Noongar Opportunities, ISC and Net Zero & Resource Efficiency strategies to operationalise these strategies and facilitate specific and relevant sustainability requirements in key procurement processes and Project Development Plans.

### Sustainability Strategy Action Plan

The Sustainability Action Plan outlines the specific activities and approaches that will be implemented to achieve our Stage 4 objectives. This Strategy should be read in conjunction with the Sustainability Action Plan. The Action Plan will be reviewed annually as the Westport Program continues.

### Reporting

Westport will establish a Stage 4 sustainability reporting framework to promote transparency and accountability and track progress towards:

- Westport sustainability commitments and objectives
- Actions within the Sustainability Action Plan
- Westport's contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Reporting requirements and templates will be guided by ISC standards to ensure a consistent, transparent and comprehensive approach to sustainability reporting.

To ensure transparency and accountability with stakeholders and the community, reporting of Westport's Sustainability actions and progress will be compiled annually.

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## Further Information

To find out more about the Westport Program, our vision, and our goals visit [www.westport.wa.gov.au](http://www.westport.wa.gov.au)

