Councillor Cox has submitted the following Notice of Motion –

“I formally move that –

1. Council welcomes the announcement from Prime Minister Scott Morrison, that the federal government will commit $20 million for innovative projects to grow the Australian recycling industry.

2. Council writes to Prime Minister Morrison, the NSW Premier and the Federal Minister for Industry, Science and Technology, Karen Andrews, to express an interest that Wollongong be the site of a new Australian recycling plant.”

Background provided by Councillor Cox:

Wollongong is an ideal location to develop a new recycling industry, given that we have a port, rail access, industrial land, and a skilled workforce. New jobs in the recycling industry would be welcomed in our city, and would assist in diversifying our economy.

Already, the South Coast Labor Council has called for more support for green jobs in the Illawarra, to speed the transition to a cleaner economy and create new jobs in the industries of the future. Our own Economic Development Strategy has a target of 10,000 new jobs, and new projects like this would help us to achieve that target.

While local government is not eligible for the grant funding, the City of Innovation is in a unique position to indicate our willingness to be the site of one of these projects.

The Prime Minister’s announcement can be found here: https://www.pm.gov.au/media/greener-recycling-industry