

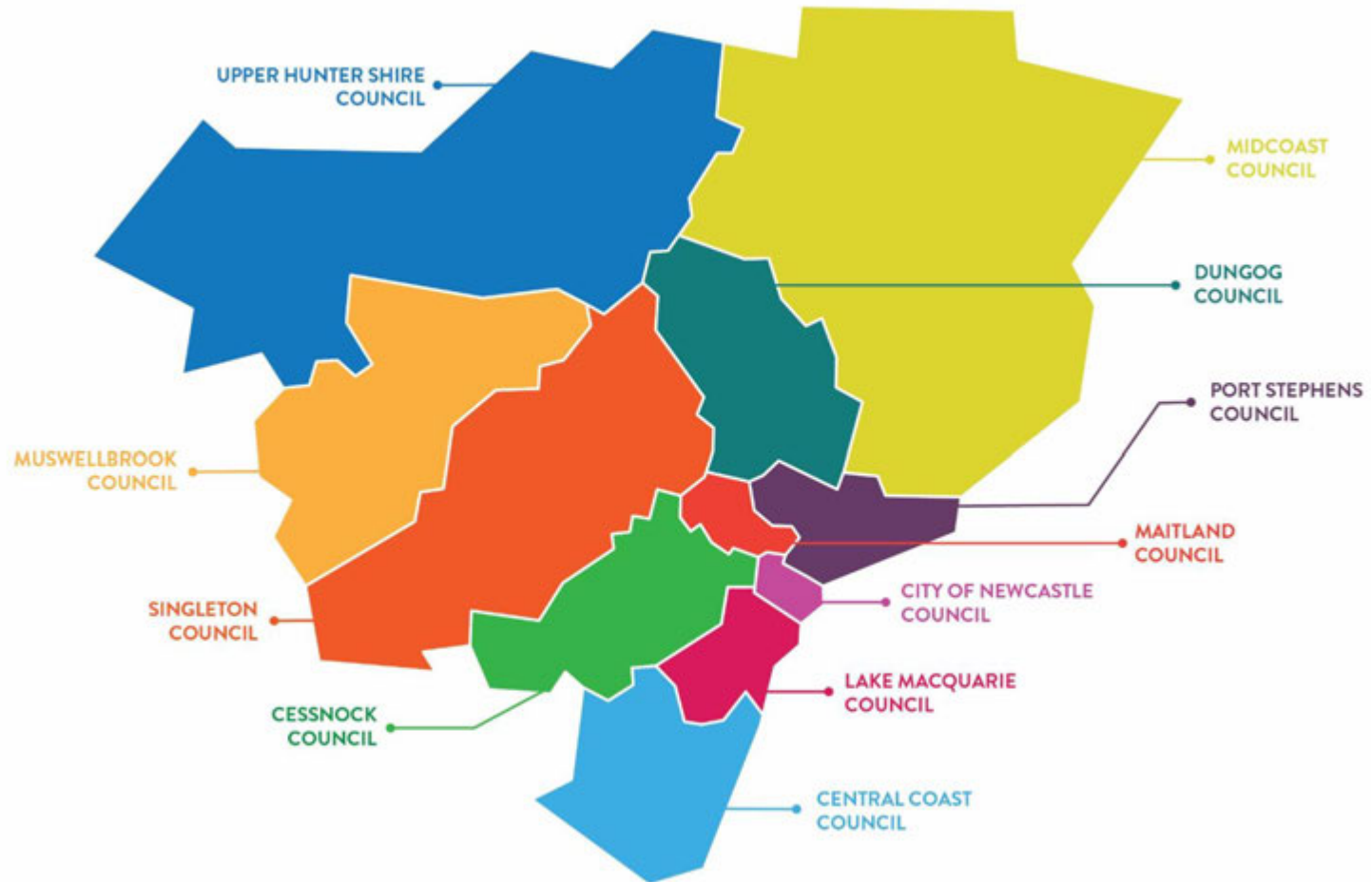


# Circular Economy Precincts and Futures Hub

12 months on – an update

Australian Bioeconomy Conference September 2024

# Our Member Councils



# Our region's challenge and opportunity

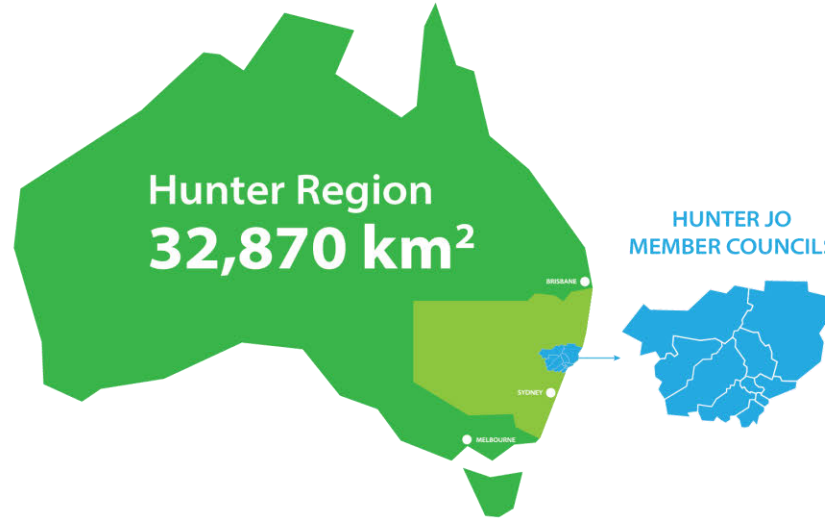
Hunter 2041 Population  
NSW Government Forecast

**949,833**

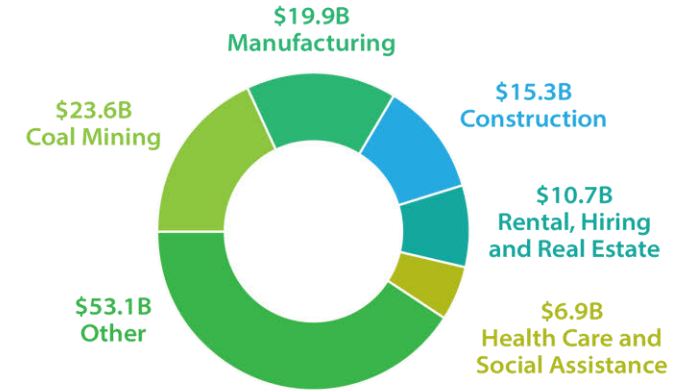


Current Hunter  
Population

**798,963**



Regional Exports - Hunter Region  
(2021 Release 2)



Regional NSW GRP



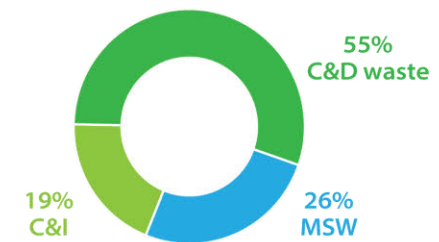
Gross Regional  
Product

**\$73B**

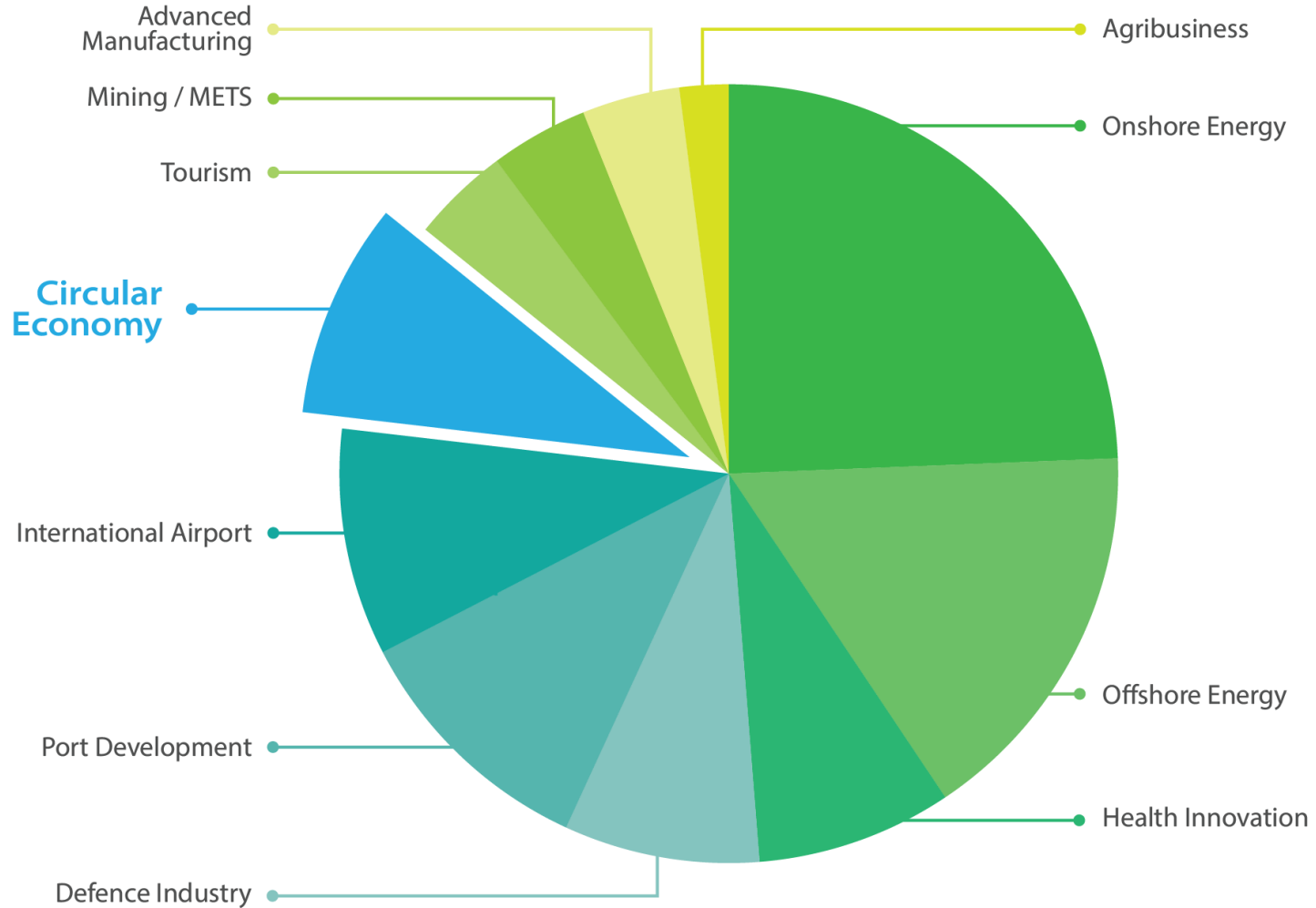


A Powerhouse of the NSW  
and National Economies

2.2 million tonnes of MSW, C&I and  
C&D generated annually\*



# Economic Evolution (imagined)



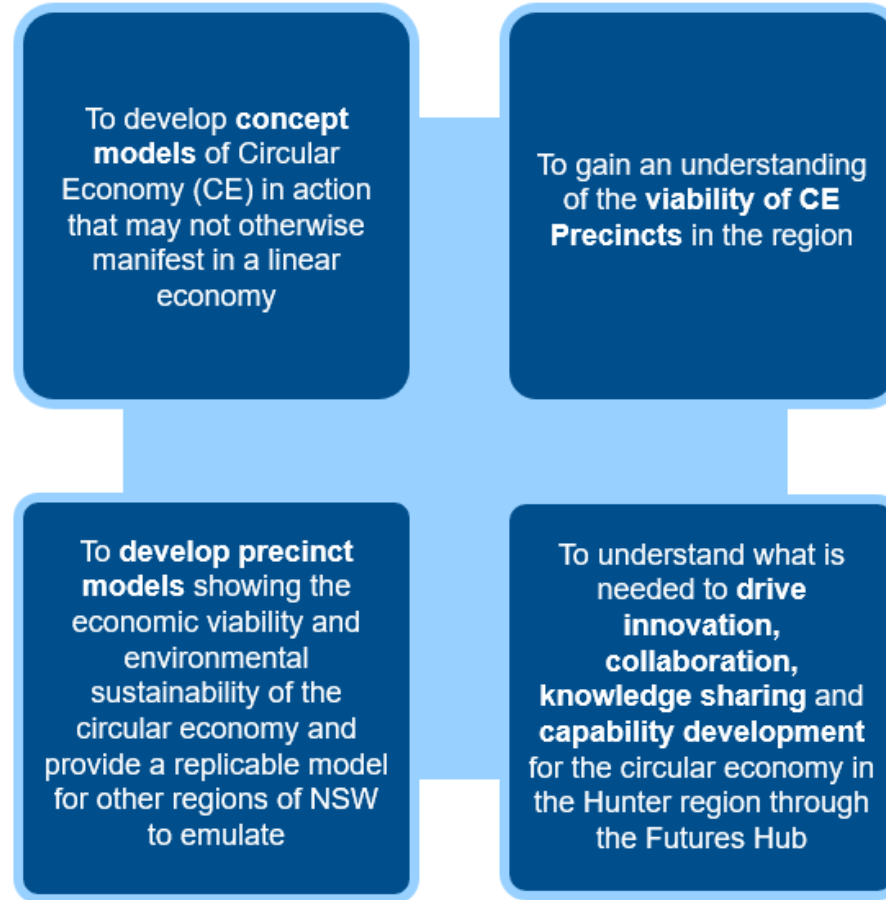
# Circular Economy Precincts and Futures Hub

## Purpose

To investigate the circular economy at an industrial scale in the Hunter and Central Coast to assist the economic and net-zero evolution of the region.

## Deliverables

- 4x CE Precinct Concept Plans
- CE Futures Hub Strategy and Concept design
- Business Case
- Communications pitch video



Project objectives

# Business Case

Delivered in NSW Govt.'s simplified business case template (required by BCSD Fund).

GHD could not monetise the benefits directly associated with the Precincts and Hub at this stage, total potential impacts of CE to the region include:

- Diverting 80% of the Hunter and Central Coast Region's waste from landfill could result in an **additional 1,020 jobs**.
- The potential economic value of CE to the Hunter and Central Coast Region is estimated to be in the order of **\$1.1 billion**.
- Economic diversity, environmental benefits, and supporting State and National goals are among other benefits.

## Hunter Circular Activation – Industrial Precincts and Innovation Hub BUSINESS CASE

PREPARED BY GHD PTY LTD  
PREPARED FOR HUNTER JOINT ORGANISATION  
VERSION 0 - FINAL  
27/03/2024

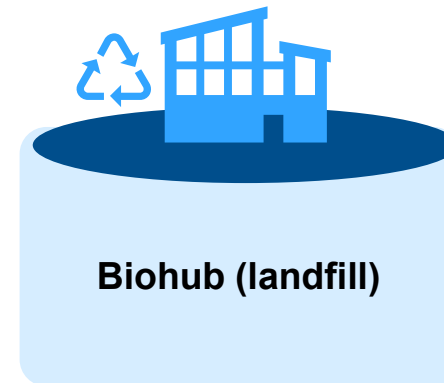
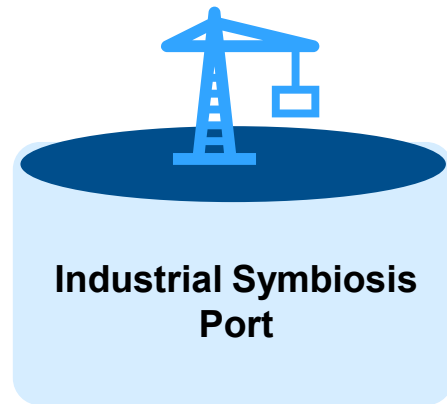
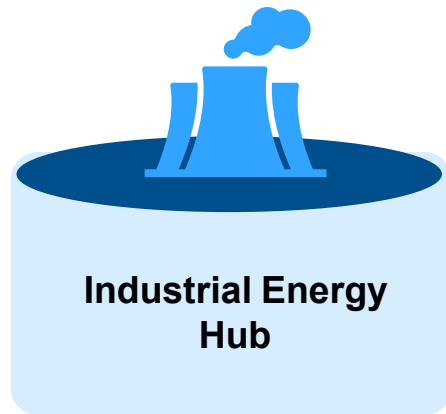
### CONTENTS

Disclaimers	4
1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	6
2 CASE FOR CHANGE	8
2.1 BACKGROUND	8
2.2 RATIONALE FOR INVESTMENT	21
2.3 STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	23
2.4 EXPECTED OUTCOMES	39
2.5 STAKEHOLDER & COMMUNITY SUPPORT	40
3 ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSAL	46
3.1 OBJECTIVES & INDICATORS	46
3.2 THE BASE CASE	47
3.3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED	47
3.4 INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROPOSAL	52
3.5 PROJECTED COSTS	70
3.6 COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS	74
3.7 FINANCIAL APPRAISAL	79
3.8 PROPOSED FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS	80
3.9 FINANCIAL HEALTH & SUPPORT	80
4 IMPLEMENTATION CASE	81
4.1 PROGRAM & MILESTONES	81
4.2 GOVERNANCE	84
4.3 KEY RISKS	86
4.4 LEGISLATIVE, REGULATORY ISSUES & APPROVALS	88
4.5 PROPOSED MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	88
5 References	89
Attachments	92

# Circular Economy Precincts Concept Plans

The Precinct Concept Plans scope four potential precincts in the region, and looked at:

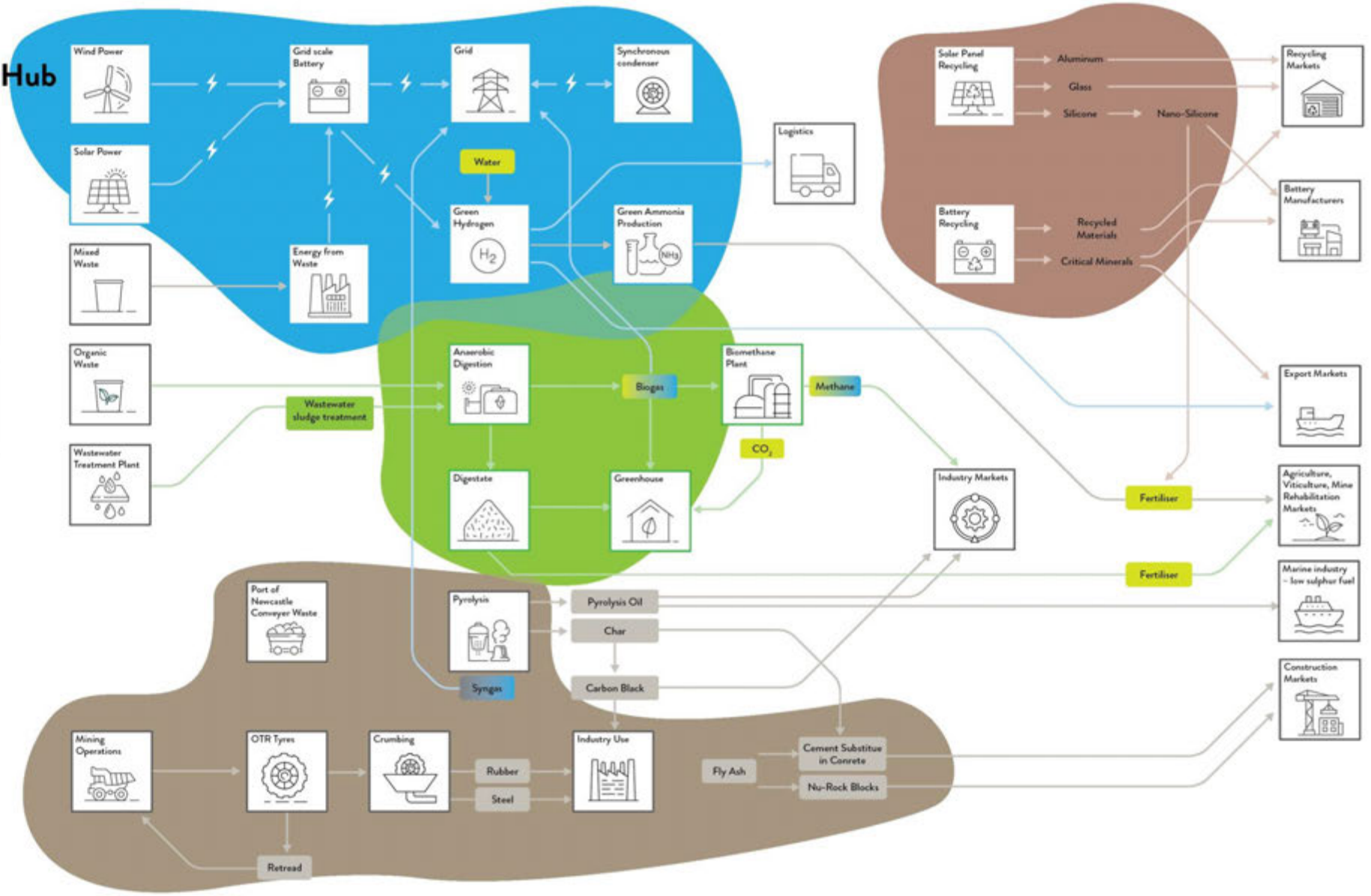
- sites,
- resources,
- stakeholders,
- potential technologies,
- and market features.



# Concept 1: Industrial Energy Hub

**Mission Statement**  
A circular, clean energy industrial precinct delivering economic, social and environmental benefits for the Region.

- Zones**
- Energy
  - Renewable Energy
  - Organics Processing
  - Mine Waste
  - Recycling





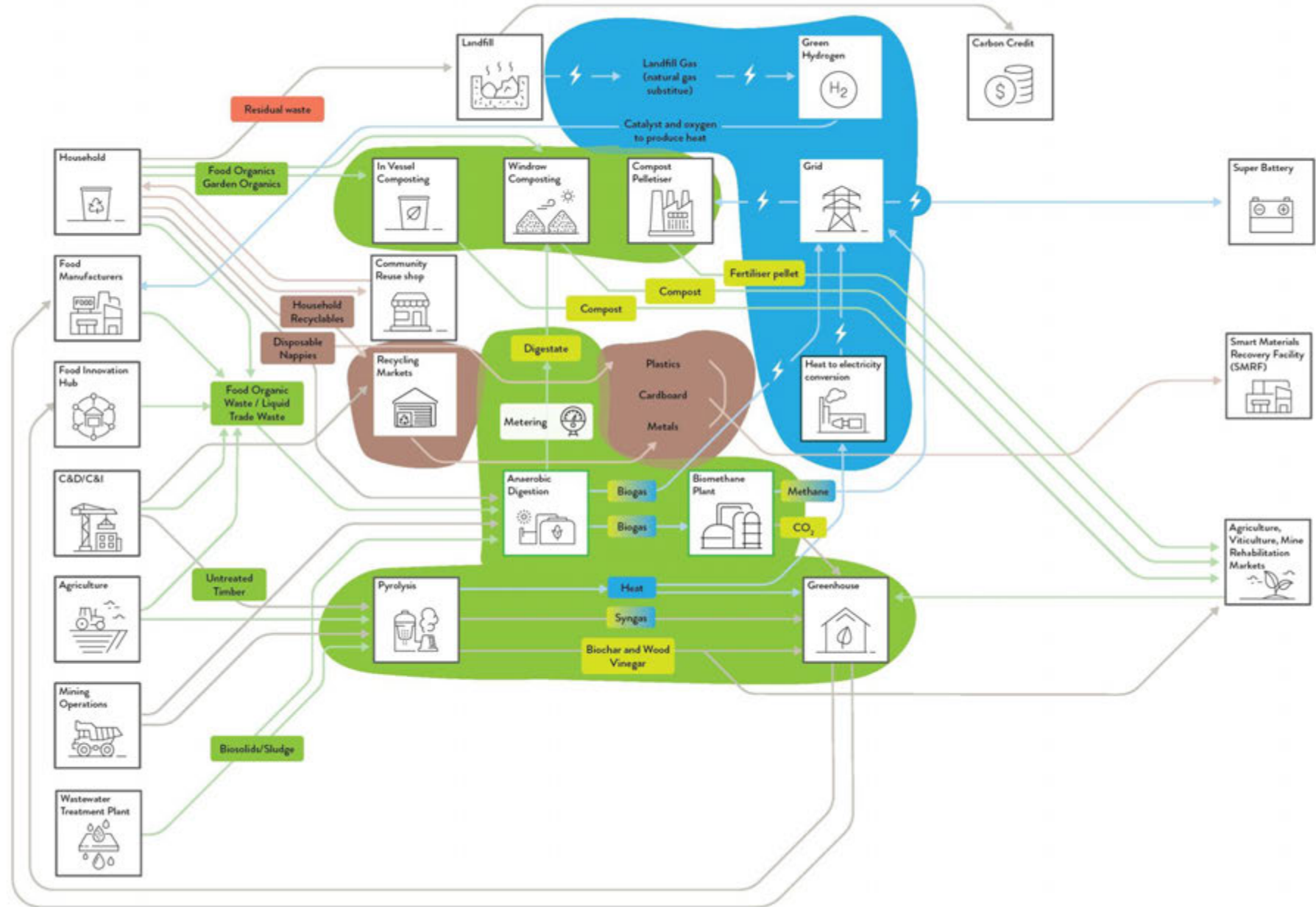
## Concept 2: Biohub

### Mission Statement

Showcase resource recovery technologies to develop a regional BioHub, that halves organic waste to landfill and circulates resources in the local economy.

### Zones

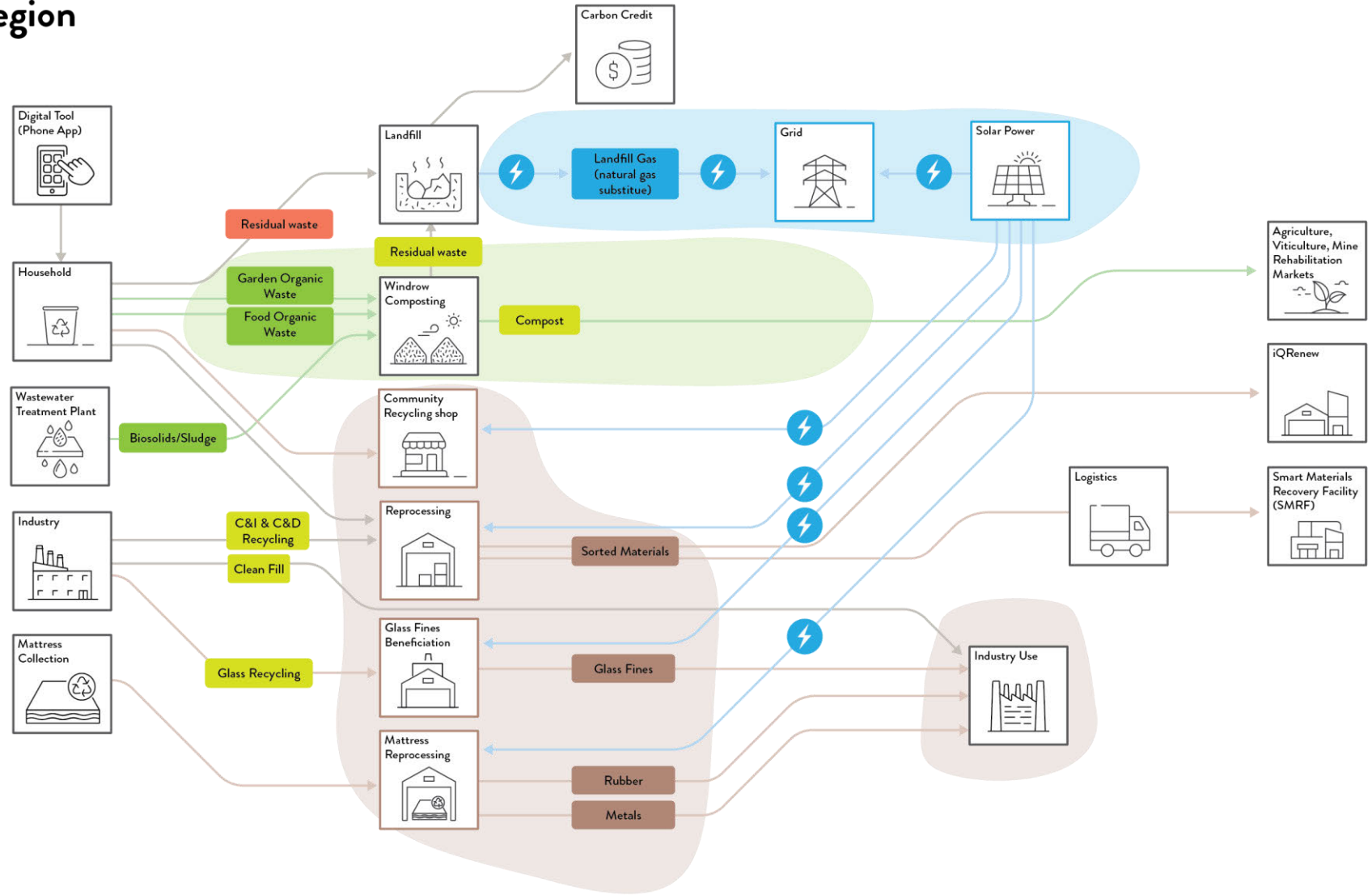
- Energy
- Renewable Energy
- Organics Processing
- Recycling



# Concept 3: Towards Zero Waste Region

**Mission Statement**  
Towards a zero waste Region by integrating circular practices and technologies, to reduce resource consumption, and increase resource recovery through reuse, repurposing and recycling creating sustainable economic growth.

- Zones**
- ⚡ Energy
  - ☀️ Renewable Energy
  - 🌱 Organics Processing
  - ♻️ Recycling



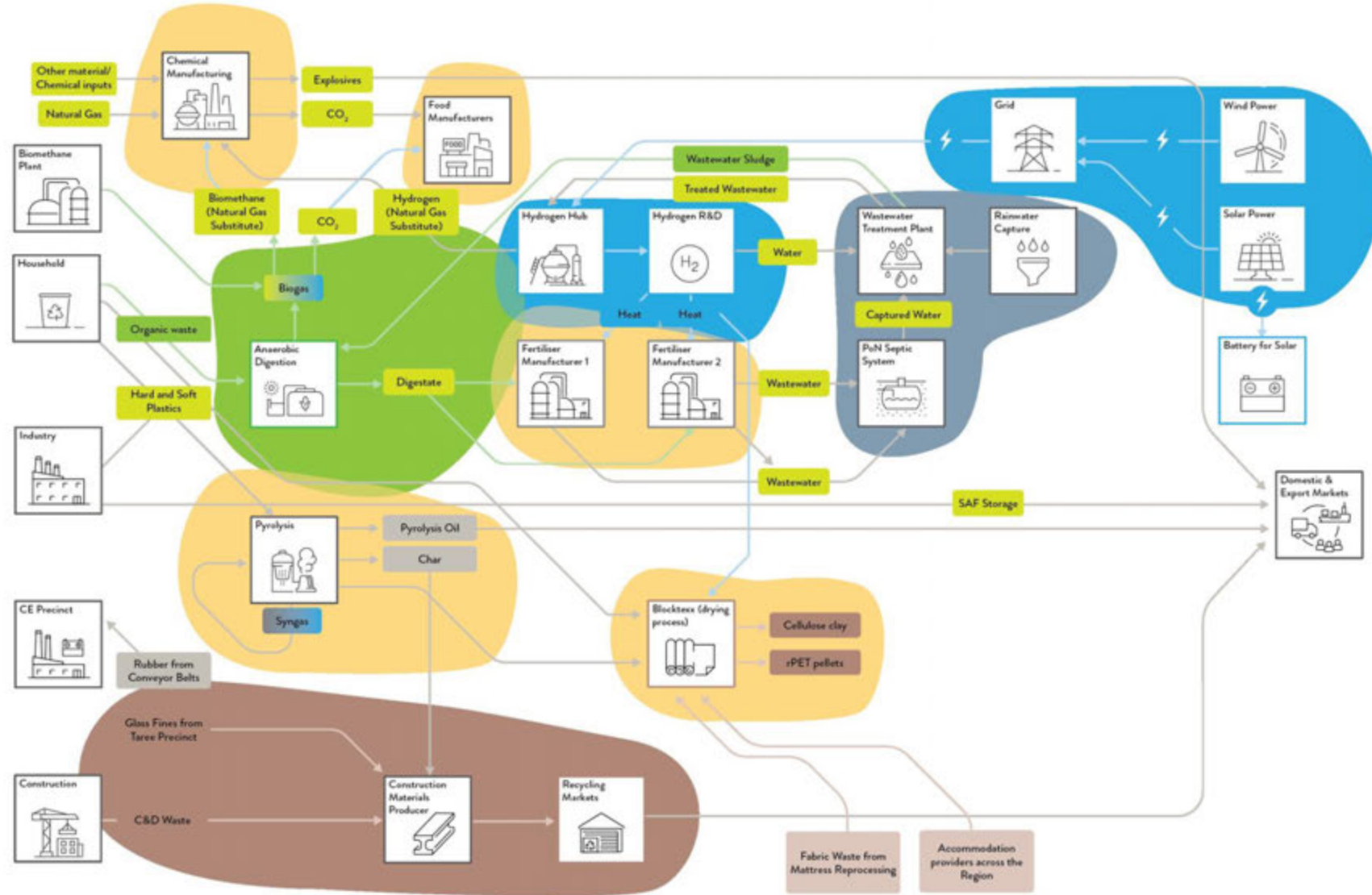
# Concept 4: Industrial Port

## Mission Statement

Develop an industrial symbiosis precinct within the port that maximises resource efficiency and inter-organisational collaboration to show that by-products from one organisation can be used as an input to another.

## Zones

- Energy
- Renewable Energy
- Organics Processing
- Industrial Processes
- Recycling
- Water



# Circular Economy Futures Hub

“The Circular Economy Futures Hub will provide a trusted body to help activate and grow the precincts while being a key point for circular economy knowledge and data.”



**PURPOSE**

The Futures Hub will provide a trusted body to help activate and grow the precincts while being a key point for circular economy knowledge and data.



**FOCUS AREAS**

Activate Circular Economy Precincts	Circular Industrial Processes	Policy and Regulation advocacy	Industrial enablers	Research and knowledge sharing
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**OBJECTIVES**

promote a shared understanding and agreed vision of circular economy in the Hunter	build trusted relationships between a network of symbiotic stakeholders	collect reliable data on material generation, volumes & supply chains in the region	sustain its own operation to deliver services
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**SERVICE AREAS AS ENABLERS**

CE Advocacy and Communications
Concierge and Curation of Hunter CE Network
Access to CE research expertise and knowledge sharing
Data collection and sharing for material and resource management
Coordinate portfolio of CE projects with access to funding
Circular Economy Consultancy

## CE Futures Hub Strategic focus areas

## Proposed Services of the Futures Hub



**CE Advocacy and Communications**



**Concierge and Curation of Hunter CE Network**



**Access to CE research expertise and knowledge sharing**



**Data collection and sharing for material and resource management**



**Coordinate portfolio of CE projects with access to funding**



**Circular Economy Consultancy**

Including enablement of CE Precincts

### Tasks

1. Rank the proposed services in priority order

# Implementation Pathway



  
we're here

## Current challenges

### **Greater buy-in**

Need for deeper and broader engagement with stakeholders

### **Limited in-house resourcing**

To facilitate engagement and collaboration processes

### **Timing of grants**

Ability to be in a position to apply for known funding rounds e.g. RPPP

## Questions for you

- ? What is your level of enthusiasm for being involved in progressing the CE Futures Hub concept?
- ? What is the likelihood of success? What are we missing?

## Questions for me?



## Get in touch

**Tim Askew**  
Director of Programs

[www.huntercircular.com.au](http://www.huntercircular.com.au)