

# WMRC Elected Members' Bulletin - 6 August 2018



## 1. Introduction

This Elected Members' Bulletin serves to provide a summary update to elected members on WMRC issues and developments in between WMRC Council meetings. I plan to issue it fortnightly.

## 2. Safety

We have re-instigated safety "toolbox" meetings at the WMRC waste transfer station. They're held every second Wednesday at 0700 hrs; and attended by all rostered transfer station staff, Waste Operations Manager and CEO. We have elected not to implement the earlier proposal for a safety consultant to work at the transfer station one day a week, in favour of undertaking required safety related work ourselves. We have commissioned a safety consultant to complete an independent review of our safety documentation and procedures; and undertake a waste transfer station site inspection; as a means of identifying any gaps in our safety system.

## 3. Legal

Her Honour Justice Archer will deliver judgment in the Service Charge proceedings on Wednesday, 8 August 2018 at 10:00 am. Her Honour's Associate will provide our legal team with an "advance copy" of the written judgment by email after 4pm on Monday, 6 August. The rules of the court do not allow for any detail of the judgement to be circulated prior to its declaration.

Cr Bruce Haynes, Aimee Hynes and I will attend court with Peter Ward and Lucas Wilk on Wednesday morning to receive the judgment.

## 4. Business Development

We met with the City of Perth on Friday 3 August to discuss the WMRC proposal for the City of Perth to realise very substantial efficiencies in the transport and disposal of its waste through utilising the transfer, consolidation and haulage services available at the WMRC waste transfer station.

The proposal is based on the WMRC earning a fee for consolidating the City of Perth's waste and hauling it for disposal to Tamala Park. It seeks to capitalise on transport efficiencies inherent in a single truck with one driver replacing up to four or five City of Perth trucks each crewed by up to three people on a two hour return trip to Tamala Park.

The WMRC proposal in outline had already been discussed with the CEO of Mindarie Regional Council and received positively. The discussions with the City of Perth went very well. It was agreed at officer level to further develop the proposal.

## 5. WMRC Hybrid Fee Model

We are working on a new hybrid fee model to replace our current model - which seeks to recover all costs on a tonnes delivered basis. Our new model divides our costs into fixed (around \$2m per annum) and variable, with the former equitably shared on a population basis; and the latter recovered on tonnes delivered.

The model still rewards waste reduction, while recognising that our fixed costs are unaffected by volume of waste throughput. The new hybrid fee model has the support of CEOAC. The model will more equitably share costs among member councils and facilitate attracting more throughput at the waste transfer station.

#### **6. WMRC Websites**

The WMRC maintains two websites (WMRC and Western Earth Carers), each in need of modernising. We have issued an RFQ for the two sites to be combined into one modern, user and social media friendly site.

#### **7. Waste Education Grant**

Our Waste Education team has been successful in winning a State Government grant of \$75k to evaluate its waste education program and devise methods of delivering its education objectives more effectively. As provided for by the grant, we have issued an RFQ for a specialist consultant to work with our team in undertaking this evaluation and development work.

#### **8. WMRC Human Resources Manual**

Work is well underway on our WMRC Human Resources Manual. We are undertaking the work in-house; and in doing so utilising the standard HR Policy templates that are available to us as subscribers to WALGA's industrial relations / HR policy service.

#### **9. Staff**

Alexandra Bell, our Services Support Officer, is taking maternity leave as from Friday 16 August. We have recruited Dianne Richman to fill in for Alex during her absence. Alex plans to return to work part-time at the end of this year.



Stefan Frodsham

Chief Executive Officer