

WMRC Elected Members' Bulletin

10th December 2018

1. Introduction

The WMRC Elected Members' Bulletin serves to provide a summary update to elected members on WMRC issues and developments in the periods between WMRC Council meetings. It's issued fortnightly and circulated to Councillors, their deputies and CEOs of our member councils.

2. Safety and Security

There have been no safety incidents in the past fortnight. A new remote control for the vertical waste compaction system has been acquired and is now in operation, improves the safety for our transfer station attendants. An engineering consultant has been engaged to scope up the specifications for the replacement of our worn-out waste silos.

3. Legal

WMRC has lodged its Respondent's Case with the Supreme Court. Court-supervised mediation between WMRC and DiCOM is still in process; and a second round of mediation set for the 29th of January 2019.

4. Mixed Fee Model

Council approved on 6 Dec 2018 a new WMRC fees and charges model to apply from 1 January 2019. The model, under development since July 2018, provides that WMRC fixed costs will be equitably shared on a population basis amongst its member councils; leaving variable costs to be met by substantially reduced gate fees at the West Metro Recycling Centre at Brockway Rd, Shenton Park. The reform will improve the competitiveness of the WMRC's services, making additional throughput and economies of scale more likely.

Member Council Gate Fees	Old Model (\$/tonne)	Mixed Fee model from 1 Jan 2019 (\$/tonne)
General Waste	255	155
Bulk Waste	255	170
Green Waste	90	50

The Waste Education Surcharge will be abolished.

5. Business Development

Feedback from Mindarie Regional Council suggests that its members, apart from the City of Perth, will not be able to realise savings from using our West Metro Recycling Centre as current contracts don't provide for savings to be passed on from reduced waste haulage distance. This means Mindarie's southernmost members may have to await the expiry of their current waste collection contracts before they're in a position to benefit from using our efficient waste transfer and haulage services.

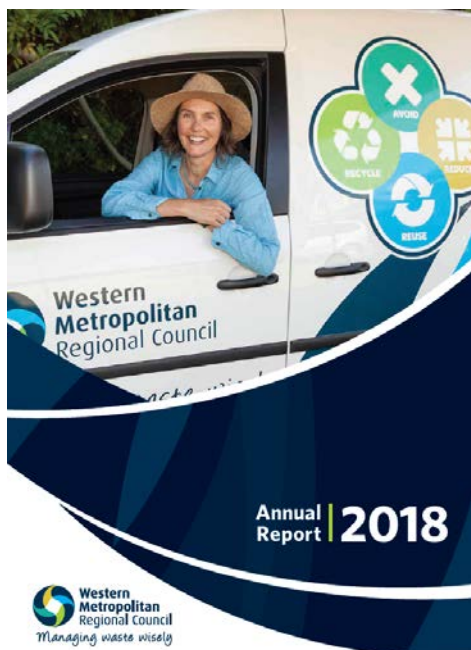
We are otherwise waiting on the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council to formally respond to our proposal to access its disposal services.

We are in discussion with a number of our Member Councils regarding the opportunity to introduce new bulk waste verge collection services.

6. WMRC rebranding

This project is progressing well. The new single website to replace both the WMRC and Earth Carers sites is being filled with content before going live in the New Year. The branding is being progressively applied to all internal and external communications and signage.

7. Annual Report 2017-18



The Annual Report was approved by Council at its meeting of 6 December 2018. A copy of the report is being sent with a covering letter to member council Mayors and CEOs, and key stakeholders in State and Local Government including the Minister for the Environment and the Chairman of the Waste Authority. [It is available at this link.](#)

The Annual Report 2018 focuses on the opportunities ahead for WMRC to provide better services and improved value for money for its member councils. It also explains WMRC's plans to serve as an instrument for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of waste management across the west central metropolitan area.

8. WMRC Recycle Hotline – 9384 6711

The recycling hotline continues to take calls across a wide range of recycling queries. Caller suburbs and queries are being recorded. Full launch of the service is still awaiting an upgraded phone system. The Hotline will divert to the West Metro Recycling Centre over the Christmas Break

9. Evaluating Community Waste Education

Nearly 1,200 residents responded to the online survey with some going to great lengths to complete it. This was over twice the estimated response rate. Our consultants are currently facilitating the online forum with a group of 40 respondents selected from the near 500 who indicated a willingness to take part. The online forum allows interaction between participants and stimulates discussion of options for waste education delivery formats. This work is being led by social marketing specialists, Painted Dog Research and funded through a WA Waste Authority Community and Industry Engagement Grant.

10. Happy Christmas

The Staff of the WMRC wish you all a very Happy Christmas and we look forward to working with you in the New Year. The next Elected Members' Bulletin will be published on the 7th January.



Stefan Frodsham

Chief Executive Officer