

1. Introduction

Happy New Year and welcome to the first WMRC Bulletin of 2019.

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 since our last Bulletin of 10 December 2018.

WMRC has taken delivery of mobile extendable safety barriers (pictured at left) that now enable an area where mobile plant is operating to be safely separated from customers and other visitors at the West Metro Recycling Centre.

3. Legal

In relation to the appeal by DiCOM against the August 2018 ruling by Justice Archer, WMRC has lodged its Respondent's Case with the Supreme Court. Mediation between WMRC and DiCOM as supervised by the Court is still in process. A second round of mediation is set for the 29th of January 2019.

4. Mixed Fee Model Goes Live

WMRC's Council approved on 6 Dec 2018 a new WMRC fees and charges model to apply from 1 January 2019. WMRC last week wrote to all Councils confirming the implementation of the new model. The model 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.

5. Waste Disposal Negotiations

The Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council (EMRC) has informally advised that the WMRC proposal to access its disposal services will be approved. Details will be provided once we receive formal advice from EMRC.

6. On-Demand Bulk Waste Verge Collection Service

WMRC has been in discussion with a number of our Member Councils regarding the opportunity to go to market in procuring an on-demand bulk waste verge collection service to cover our region. Mr Bill Marchbank, as the designated WMRC Project Officer, will be working closely with Member Councils in developing the service specifications for this new customer-focused waste collection service. Experience demonstrates that on-demand services of this nature act to reduce both waste volumes and costs.

The concept plan for the project will be discussed with Member Council CEOs next week.

7. WMRC rebranding

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

8. WMRC Recycle Hotline – 9384 6711

The WMRC 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 awaits an upgraded WMRC phone system.

9. Evaluating Community Waste Education

WMRC is delighted at the public response to its online community waste education survey. This results of the survey will be the subject of a briefing with social marketing specialists, Painted Dog Research, on 23 January 2019. We look forward to sharing with Member Councils the results of the survey and its implications for waste education and communication as soon as made available for release by the Waste Authority.



Stefan Frodsham

Chief Executive Officer