

1. Introduction

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

2. Safety and Security

There have been no safety incidents since our last Bulletin of 4 February. Toolbox meetings at the West Metro Recycling Centre are held fortnightly. Hazard inspections were conducted at the West Metro Recycling Centre on 21 January and 6 February; and at our Wearne House offices on 6 February.

3. Legal

Legal activity on the issues around DiCOM continues. A Court-supervised mediation session between WMRC and DiCOM was held at the Supreme Court on 29 January 2019. The DiCOM appeal against the Supreme Court judgment of 8 August 2018 will likely not be heard until August or September this year. WMRC Councillors are briefed regularly.

4. Pre-booked Bulk Waste Verge Collection Service

This potential new service aims to deliver a cheaper and more convenient junk and/or green waste service to member council residents on a pre-booked basis without reliance on skip bins. The Shire of Swan implemented such a service around six months ago. WMRC Council at its 7th February meeting resolved to endorse the development of a plan for the service and that a Project Control Group, comprising officers of Member Councils, be formed to guide the investigation and development of the project.

5. Resident Recycling Centre Pass

The WMRC OCM approved work on this project for the 2019-20 financial year.

6. WMRC Website

Content continues to be loaded to the new site at wmrc.wa.gov.au and work is progressing on updating member council weblinks. Feedback is welcome!

7. Community Education Evaluation

A program of activities based on the detailed data returned from the household online survey and forum will include at least three stand-alone workshops for residents, some upgraded social media and an approach to the market for the development of some online tools. This last item will be funded through the remaining DWER grant funding.

8. WMRC Recycle Hotline – 9384 6711

The WMRC Recycling Hotline continues to take calls across a wide range of recycling queries. It is generating useful information to guide communications activities.

9. Serve Food Not Litter – 5:30 PM Today

This free forum will be held at the Town of Cottesloe 5:30pm **today**. It is partially funded by Keep Australia Beautiful and jointly hosted by the Town of Cottesloe and the WMRC. It is focussed on highlighting ways in which local businesses can reduce their use of disposable items that may become litter. Over 50 registrations have been received. More information and registrations [here](#).

10. Waste to Energy – What’s it all about? Forum

You should have received an invitation to this event to be held 9:30 on 8th March at the Town of Claremont. The main speaker will be Jason Pugh, CEO of New Energy – HZI and the event is intended for member council Elected Members and staff. If you have not received an invitation please email community@wmrc.wa.gov.au and your name will be added to the invitation list. Registrations are essential.

11. WA Container Deposit System – implications

This scheme will present both opportunities and challenges for local governments. Opportunities include hosting donation and/or refund points. Challenges include planning considerations of refund/donation sites; ensuring benefit sharing arrangements are in place with MRF operators through kerbside collection/processing contracts; and instituting a Waste Local law to deal with issues around removal of materials from kerbside and public place bins. The WMRC can advise/assist with any of these aspects.

12. New Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030

The long-awaited new Waste Strategy has been published and it is available [here](#) with an accompanying action plan available [here](#). Two major implications for all member councils are:

1. A consistent **three bin kerbside collection system**, which includes a FOGO bin, to be provided by all local governments in the Perth and Peel region by 2025.
2. **Local governments are required to develop waste plans** that align their waste planning with the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030*.

The WMRC is consulting with DWER to ascertain the essential components of waste plans and will be available to develop these plans with member council staff as appropriate.

13. WMRC OCM

Minutes from the meeting held on 7 February are available [here](#)



Stefan Frodsham

Chief Executive Officer