WMRC Bulletin

5th March 2019

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 18 February. Toolbox meetings at the West Metro Recycling Centre are held fortnightly. Following a number of break-ins, WMRC has awarded to upgrade the level of security at the West Metro Recycling Centre.

3. Legal

Legal activity on the issues around DiCOM continues. Work continues towards defending an appeal lodged by DiCOM against the August 2018 Supreme Court judgement in favour of WMRC.

4. WA Waste Strategy and Waste to Energy Forum – This Friday 9:30 -11:00 am at Town of Claremont

This promises to be a very informative event for Elected Members and officers alike. Speakers are as follows:

Marcus Geisler Chair WA Waste Authority, DWER

New WA Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 -

Implications for Local Governments

Jason Pugh CEO New Energy-HZI

Waste to Energy - and how does it fit with the new Strategy?

Registrations essential.

If you haven't yet registered your attendance please contact community@wmrc.wa.gov.au or reply to the Eventbrite email sent previously.

5. Pre-booked Bulk Waste Verge Collection Service

The feasibility of a 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. Experience from councils implementing such a service elsewhere suggest costs savings of around 20 percent can be realised. This week a draft project proposal and financial model will be provided to the Project Control Group (comprising of member council officer representatives) for review.

6. Community Education - Online material

A request for quotation has been forwarded to digital agencies to develop an online component for community education material. This is intended to be funded through remaining portion of the DWER Community and Industry Engagement funding and to be completed by end May 2019. Development of online material was a key recommendation from the Waste Education Evaluation survey/forum carried out December 2018.

7. Community Education – Workshops

As recommended by the recent community waste education survey, we are replacing the Earth Carers course with standalone modules. These will be known as Waste Watchers Workshops. Two introductory sessions, one field trip to Rockingham Landfill and a continuing session are being programmed through late April and May.

8. WMRC Recycle Hotline - 9384 6711

The WMRC Recycling Hotline continues to take calls across a range of recycling queries. Clarification on items accepted at the West Metro Recycling Centre and how to recycle items that do not go in the recycling bin are the most frequent questions. Around 70% of callers are from member council residents with Cambridge and Nedlands residents accounting for the bulk of the rest.

9. Serve Food Not Litter Forum

The Serve Food Not Litter Regional Forum was the first time food businesses in Perth's western suburbs had the opportunity to hear from experts in the field. More than 60 people attended. Guest speakers included: Town of Cottesloe Mayor Phil Angers; Daragh Maher from composting and food organic collection service, WRITE Solutions; Daniel Grosso, owner of reusable cup and crockery hire service Go2Cup; Darryl Naidu, co-owner and director of New Normal Bar + Kitchen, Subiaco; Tom Wheeler from Surfrider Foundation Perth; and Benn Rayner from Antz Inya Pants Cafes.

This event was made possible through a grant from Keep Australia Beautiful WA.

10. WA Container Deposit Scheme – implications

The legislation to put the CDS in place from early 2020 recently passed the Legislative Assembly and the scheme coordinator's appointment is reported to be imminent. Local Governments are advised to ensure that they have a Waste Local Law in place to cover issues arising from the Scheme. The WMRC can advise/assist.

Stefan Frodsham

Chief Executive Officer