

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 5 March. Toolbox meetings at the West Metro Recycling Centre are held fortnightly. Following a number of break-ins, including another this week, WMRC has awarded a contract 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. In the Supreme Court judgement of August 2018, the WMRC was awarded costs. To recover these costs, WMRC this week filed its Bill of Costs with the Supreme Court.

4. WMRC Forums and Tours

The new WA Waste Strategy and developments in waste to energy were the subject of a well-attended WMRC forum held at the Town of Claremont on 8th March. Presentations were made by the Chair of the Waste Authority, Marcus Geisler and CEO of New Energy, Jason Pugh. A lively Q&A session followed the presentations.

To assist elected members and Member Council staff keep up to date with a rapidly evolving waste management scene, the WMRC will offer a regular program of waste management briefings, seminars and site-tours on a quarterly basis (i.e. one every three months).

Next cab off the rank will be a site visit to the Millar Road, Rockingham resource recovery and landfill disposal site. Please pencil in your diaries for the afternoon of Thursday 16th May 2019.

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. The draft project proposal has this week been circulated to Member Councils for review and discussion.

6. Town of Mosman Park introducing a 3rd bin

Congratulations to the Town of Mosman Park councillors and staff for the recent decision to introduce a 3rd bin service for Mosman Park residents. The third bin will divert greenwaste

(garden organics – GO Bin) for processing into mulch and compost, decreasing disposal costs by \$105 per tonne. WMRC incentivised the 3rd bin by reducing its greenwaste receival fees from \$90 to \$50 a tonne. We'll be looking to reduce it further still to pass on the savings expected to result from our recent greenwaste processing tender.

7. Cottesloe Bin Counting and Stickers

In conjunction with the Town of Cottesloe, we are managing the daily deployment of casual staff to record serial numbers and put up-to-date information stickers on all the Town's recycle and landfill bins (around 10,000 bins). The project is expected to take a total of 6 weeks.

8. Community Education

We have received responses to the request for quotation for development of online community waste education material. We expect to award this contract shortly and for the material to be available in June. This will be funded through the WARR Account CIE grant funding process.

Enrolments are coming in for the new Waste Watchers Workshops and tour in April and May. [Details here.](#)

9. 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.

10. WA Container Deposit Scheme – implications

The legislation to put the CDS in place from early 2020 has passed the WA Parliament 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