WMRC Bulletin

29 April 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 is issued fortnightly and circulated to Councillors, their deputies, CEOs and relevant officers of our member councils.

2. Safety and Security

There has been no safety incidents since our last Bulletin. Toolbox meetings involving all operational staff and attended by the CEO continue to be held every fortnight.

We are most pleased with the success of the security upgrade at the West Metro Recycling Centre. Unauthorised nocturnal visits have sharply fallen.

3. Legal

The Court of Appeal has set 22-23 July as the date of the hearing of DiCOM's appeal against the Supreme Court judgment of August 2018.

4. WMRC Tour

The next WMRC Tour will be a site visit to the Millar Road, Rockingham resource recovery and landfill disposal site in the afternoon of Thursday 16th May 2019. This is where Member Council general waste is disposed of after consolidation at our waste transfer station. A light lunch will be provided at WMRC administration office before departure. Details and booking here. The password is wisely (all lower case).

→ If you are interested, please book by COB Wednesday May 1st so that we can organise transport and catering.

5. Free Mulch for Councils and Residents

The arrival of our first pile of free mulch at the recycling centre for the use of Councils and their residents is imminent. Councils interested in using this mulch in their operations are requested to contact WMRC Operations Manager, Aimee Hynes. Email address here.

6. Waste Plans

All Metropolitan Local Governments will be required to develop Waste Plans to indicate progress towards Waste Strategy Targets as part of Integrated Planning and Reporting. We are taking part in initial consultation on these plans with the aim of making them fit for our member Councils' needs.

7. Waste Local Laws

Member Councils are reminded of the importance of developing a Waste Local Law particularly as a safeguard upon the introduction of the Container Deposit Scheme and as a precursor to Waste Plans. The WALGA Template Waste Local Law is available here. WMRC remains available to assist where appropriate.

8. Community Education – Waste Watchers Workshops

We have around 30 people enrolled for the first Waste Watchers workshop on Tuesday evening.

9. Community Education – Bin stickers

Our recycling bin stickers for Member Council residents have been delivered to all front desks. More are available on request

10. 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.

11. Policy and Advocacy

In the past two weeks, WMRC staff have contributed to the following policy area through submissions, working groups, committees or forums as appropriate: Metropolitan Waste Advisory Committee.

Stefan Frodsham

Chief Executive Officer