WMRC Bulletin

28 May 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.

There have been no further break-ins at the West Metro Recycling Centre.

3. WMRC is relocating

Curtin Heritage Living has served notice on the WMRC to quit our lease at 40 Marine Pde, Cottesloe by December this year, owing to redevelopment of the site. We have commenced a search for a new office somewhere with our member Council area. Suggestions are welcome.

4. Free Mulch for Councils and Residents

WMRC's free mulch for member Councils and residents is proving popular with residents. Councils interested in using this mulch in their operations are requested to contact WMRC Manager Operations, Aimee Hynes. Email address here. Work is underway to test the mulch for pathogens however the process that has been used militates against any pathogens being present.

5. Problem Waste Drop-Off Day – Mosman Park



A Problem Waste Drop-Off event is being held jointly with the Town of Mosman Park and is anticipated to be the first of a series of such days. WMRC is making artwork available to all member Councils to promote these events. They feature a CDS scheme demonstration with 10c being given for the

return of eligible containers. Free coffee for everyone who brings a reusable mug!

6. WMRC Strategic Community Plan

The first stage of a new WMRC Strategic Community Plan is complete with a draft revised plan drawn up for initial review by WMRC Council at its 13th June 2019 meeting. Consultation with member Councils will follow prior to the draft being released for public consultation.

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 and volunteers

The second Waste Watchers Workshop (Beyond the Bins) is being held tonight. It is designed to be repeatable and modular for delivery in various formats and to a range of groups.

A recent WMRC workshop with existing volunteers uncovered new ways that they are keen to be involved in aspects of community education and this will be further developed over the next month.

9. Community Education – Bin stickers and flyers

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

Flyers for residents with three bin GO systems are currently in progress and have been approved by DWER.

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 65% of callers are from member council residents with Cambridge and Nedlands residents accounting for the bulk of the rest.

11. Policy and Advocacy

In response to a consultation process, two submissions have been made recently to DWER in concert with WALGA:

- 1. Revised better bins program agreed with WALGAs position with stronger emphasis on the inclusion of caddies and liners in funding for FOGO system.
- 2. Mandatory waste data reporting -agreed with WALGAs position and made several specific points aimed at simplifying data reporting specifically from a Transfer Station position.

A submission will be made on DWERs single use plastic issues paper prior to the 12 July closing date. The online survey, issues paper and details of workshops are listed here. WALGA is hosting a consultation session for Local Government on 24th June. Details here.

12. Waste and Recycle conference 2019

Delon

The call for papers for this conference to be held 25-26 September is currently open. More details here.

Stefan Frodsham

Chief Executive Officer