

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. DiCOM Appeal

DiCOM has been meeting its obligations to pay court costs as when the payments fall due. Negotiations between WMRC and DiCOM are underway as to the future of the DiCOM facility.

3. Safety and Security

There have been no new safety incidents since our last Bulletin. Toolbox meetings attended by the CEO are held every fortnight at the West Metro Recycling Centre and now monthly for the Administration office. An additional camera and other security equipment have been installed to augment surveillance and alarm systems. The WMRC has released an RFQ for the installation of security fencing and automatic sliding gates. The new gates will allow remote control operation to facilitate 24-hour operation of the WMRC's waste transfer service for commercial customers.

4. WMRC Draft Strategic Community Plan

The draft SCP is available on our website [here](#). Comment has now closed. Thanks to all for their comment and input. The SCP will be put forward to the WMRC Council for approval at its next meeting on 4 October 2019. Following approval, the WMRC will undertake its new Corporate Business Plan which represents the other principal requirement of the Local Government Integrated Planning Framework.

5. Pre-booked vergeside bulk waste collection

The closing date for the Request for Tender for this service was extended to Friday 6 September. The pre-booked vergeside bulk waste collection service will be offered to all member councils on an opt-in basis. It will offer improved convenience to residents; will boost resource recovery; and will end the unsightliness of whole districts at a time having bulk waste on vergeside for extended periods. The contract will include provision for collection of illegally dumped materials on behalf of participating Councils.

A draft MoU to guide the relationship between participating member Councils and the WMRC in managing the contract will be submitted for consideration of CEOAC at its next meeting on 19 September 2019.

6. Polystyrene and X-Ray Recycling

The new polystyrene recycling service at the West Metro Recycling Centre is proving highly popular and we have increased our collection capacity to cope with demand.

We are now about to introduce a recycling service for photographic images from X-rays and MRIs. The service is provided by Siltech PMR Pty Ltd which specialises in the treatment and disposal of film processing waste and has collection centres throughout Australia.

X-ray films contain silver in the form of halides, which can be extracted and converted into pure silver. The films are heated using temperatures of over 1,000 degrees Celsius in extracting the silver which is then refined into a purer silver form.

The silver is then be reused for things like silver solder, jewellery, the silver plating of utensils, electrical components and film manufacture.

The new WMRC X-ray recycling service will be provided to the community free of charge.

7. Waste Plans

The current timeline for submission of Local Government Waste Plans (obligatory for all Perth and Peel councils) has the format being finalised on October/November; waste plans being developed from then until early 2020; and adoption by Councils by July/August 2020. Waste plans are to be implemented from FY 2020/21 and reported on by 1 October annually.

WMRC will be providing expert assistance and coordinating the development of Waste Plans for member Councils.

8. Container Deposit Scheme “Containers for Change”

WMRC is focussing on providing a Container Deposit Scheme collection point at the West Metro Recycling Centre for the benefit of residents and ratepayers. Available space limits the opportunity for us to act as a refund point, which necessitates providing cash refunds direct to the public as well as sorting containers into 11 different categories. Instead, WMRC is looking to act as a feeder station for nearby ParaQuad Industries, in doing so accepting container donations and labelled bags of containers. ParaQuad Industries plans to act as a refund point, providing the opportunity for people with disabilities to have gainful employment in operating the service, including carrying out the extensive sorting required.



Stefan Frodsham

Chief Executive Officer



Participants enjoying ‘Ace your Op Shopping’ event last Saturday, hosted at WMRC’s admin office with tours of Subiaco’s Op Shops.