

1. Introduction

The WMRC Bulletin serves to provide a summary update on key issues and developments in the periods between WMRC Council meetings. It is issued fortnightly and circulated to WMRC Councillors, Deputies, CEOs and key office bearers across the region we serve.

2. COVID-19 measures

The West Metro Recycling Centre, as an essential service, continues to remain open for receipt of waste and resident drop off for bulk, recyclables, and problematic waste. Staff are following social distancing guidelines, cleaning has been increased, new sanitiser dispensers have been installed throughout the site, appropriate PPE is available and worn when required, weighbridge transactions are with EFTPOS, A contingency plan is also in place should Government guidelines change or our services be directly affected by the coronavirus. Services through the WMRC Administration office are being delivered with extensive use of online tools.

3. Resident Access Pass and City of Nedlands

I addressed the Council of the City of Nedlands at their Committee meeting on 12 May concerning our request that City contribute to the cost of WMRC waste recycling and treatment services that are heavily relied upon by their residents. The City's officers had recommended in their Technical Services Report to not contribute, saying the State funds our HHW service (it does not) and preferring Nedlands residents be charged for each visit to the West Metro RC (we can't charge for our HHW or E-Waste services). The Committee deferred the matter pending a Council briefing forum, a good outcome. The WMRC followed up by providing the Councillors with our 'Waste Matters' elected members' guide and inviting them to tour the West Metro Recycling Centre, with three tours organised this week for them.

We are preparing the residents' access pass (RAP) to ensure Member Council residents gain free access to the West Metro RC to enable them to drop off hazardous, problematic, and bulky waste streams for responsible treatment and recycling. Initially this will take the form of a proof of residence check on entry until the passes are distributed to all MC residents. If Nedlands and Cambridge come on board we will remain freely open to all comers as we have been for over 25 years.

Following consultation with Member Council officers we are finalising the RAP and ascertaining the relevant number of Recycling Centre Passes (aka 'tip' passes) to be attached for each Member Council.

4. Verge Valet – our pre-booked bulk waste service

Verge Valet continues to be much appreciated by residents of Mosman Park with an exceptional level of satisfaction (93% from 152 responses to survey, only 7% indicating that they prefer the old system) continuing to be reported by users. There are still issues with a few residents not using the system correctly. The first quarter report written jointly with ToMP will be released imminently. Analysis of invoiced amounts over the period indicate that the collection and disposal costs to ToMP of bulk verge waste of both types will be at or under the Town's budget. We are working with the Town of Cottesloe on joining the *Verge Valet* program as from July 2020. All indications are that the much-improved pre-booked bulk waste service *Verge Valet* will be delivered at no additional cost to budget.

5. Changes at West Metro Recycling Centre

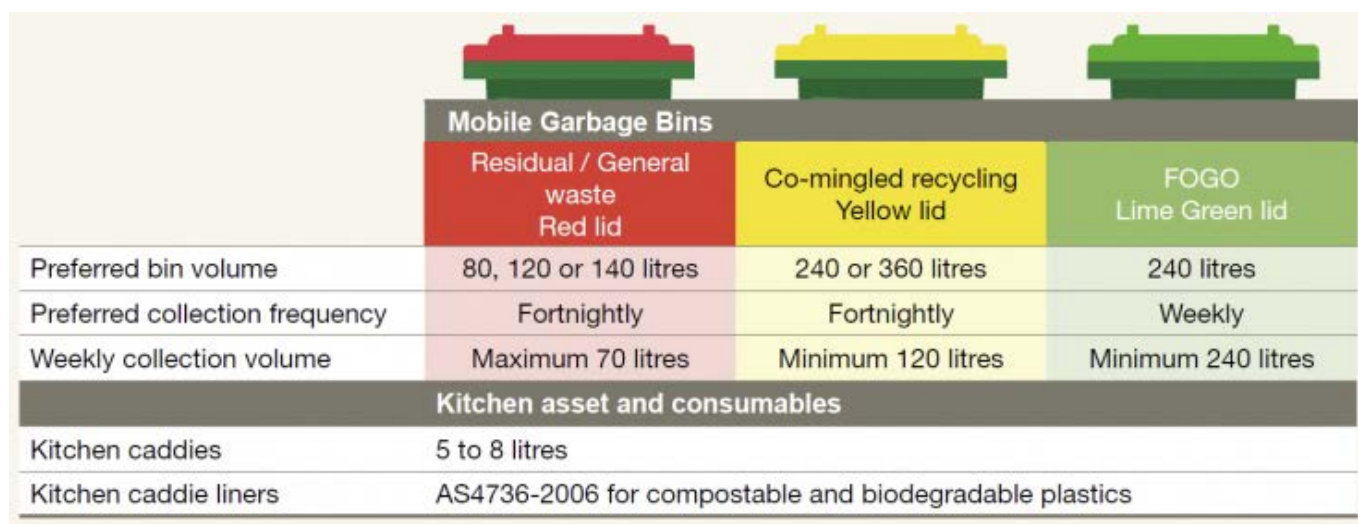
The contract for a carport-style cover over the Hazardous Household Waste (HHW) drop off area has been let; and preparations are underway to accept C&D waste for recycling. This will also improve the collection area for our free mulch for residents service. Signage is continually being improved and we remain happy to conduct site tours for interested parties. Contact keith.swift@wmrc.wa.gov.au.

6. FOGO preparations

A licence amendment has been submitted to DWER, requesting permission for WMRC to receive FOGO material from councils in the region, for efficient transport to treatment facilities.

DWER have been publishing their online forums and [the material presented can be found here](#) with audio tracks. The final session will be on Friday 29 May 10:00-12:30 on engagement and education. For further information and to sign up contact fogo.rollout@dwer.wa.gov.au

DWER have released their Better Bins GO FOGO funding scheme for a standard SUD service consistent with the diagram below.



	Mobile Garbage Bins Residual / General waste Red lid	Co-mingled recycling Yellow lid	FOGO Lime Green lid
Preferred bin volume	80, 120 or 140 litres	240 or 360 litres	240 litres
Preferred collection frequency	Fortnightly	Fortnightly	Weekly
Weekly collection volume	Maximum 70 litres	Minimum 120 litres	Minimum 240 litres
Kitchen asset and consumables			
Kitchen caddies	5 to 8 litres		
Kitchen caddie liners	AS4736-2006 for compostable and biodegradable plastics		

Applications for funding in 2020-21 closes 10 July 2020. Funded amounts available per bin decrease year on year according to the year the service is provided and vary according to whether the local government has received funding under the prior scheme. [Details here.](#)

7. WMRC Waste to Energy service

We are preparing a tender for WMRC Council approval for residual (red bin) household waste to be efficiently transported to a waste to energy plant. It will be discussed first with Member Council CEOs this week. The tender will strictly on a waste arising basis with no committed quantities to be delivered. The waste to energy plants are both licenced to take residual waste only after a better practice source separation process has been applied. In effect this means a three bin FOGO system. Two plants are under construction, with the first expected to start accepting residual waste for energy recovery from late 2021. We plan to make our WtE service available to all municipalities in our region.



Stefan Frodsham - Chief Executive Officer