

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. Excellent financial results

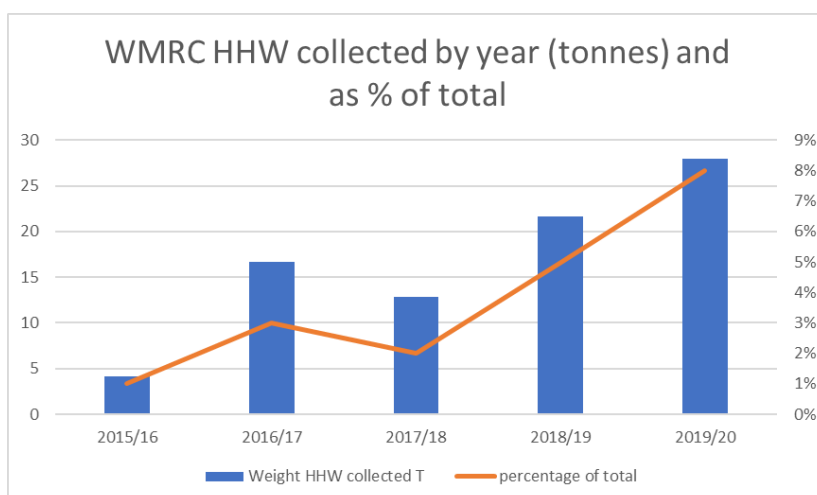
2019-20 was a good financial year for the WMRC and therefore its Member Councils. Income was up 9% on the previous year and 6% on budget, while operating expenses were only up 0.7% on the previous year and 3% below budget. The improvements are attributed to increased patronage and throughput at the West Metro RC – a result very much in keeping with the WMRC's new *Strategic Community Plan*.

3. Verge Valet Cottesloe!

Verge Valet The Town of Cottesloe's first *Verge Valet* bulk waste collections have occurred without a hitch and the number of collections booked is slowly *Cottesloe* ramping up. There will be press advertising over the next few weeks. The entry of Cottesloe has triggered the first 3.5 percent reduction in collection charges for Member Councils.

4. WMRC HHW collection

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is a specified list of household chemicals including paint, flammables and pesticides, batteries, fluoro lights, gas bottles and the like which cannot be disposed of kerbside, vergeside or down the drain. Although the state government covers the cost of processing the materials, safe receipt, cataloguing and storage is an expensive service for the WMRC.



Data released by WALGA for the collection HHW through the 16 permanent facilities across the state shows that The West Metro Recycling Centre collected 28 tonnes of HHW in 2019-20 - the 4th highest tonnage in the state, and representing a greatly increased percentage of total HHW collected.

In previous years we have been around 11th in the state. The three sites collecting more HHW are all at facilities serving very much larger areas (Tamala Park, Red Hill and Balcatta).

The substantial increase in HHW collection can be attributed to a big increase in patronage through better customer service, extended opening hours and improved promotion.

5. Resident Access Pass

We are now charging non-Member Council residents a \$25 entry fee at the West Metro Recycling Centre. Approaching half of the non-Member Council residents are paying the fee. Member Council residents still have free entry upon proof of residence. A driver's licence will suffice until the Residents Access Passes are received with rates notices. FAQs have been emailed to front desks on how these and the new waste passes will operate in the new financial year.

Please ensure any remaining old-style waste passes (tip passes) are destroyed. Any old card passes already in residents' possession will be only valid until end 2020.

6. Town of Cambridge

Staff from the Town visited the West Metro RC as their Council is deciding on whether to contribute towards the cost of the facility and thereby save their residents the \$25 entry fee. We are hopeful of a positive outcome.

7. New Fees and Charges

The 2020/21 Fees and Charges are on the website and offer significant discounts to Member Councils and their residents. A copy is available [here](#).

8. Waste to Energy tender

WMRC is currently evaluating tenders received for the provision of a waste to energy service to replace landfill disposal of residual waste (red lidded bin). WMRC's tender evaluation panel includes a representative of a Member Council. Energy recovery is not only environmentally better than landfill disposal, but also offers Member Councils the potential to reduce the risk of exposure to future increases in the \$70 per tonne waste levy, the level of which is under State Government review now.

9. Recycle Right



We have joined the EMRC and others in supporting the use of the Recycle Right brand, tools, and materials on our Member Councils. The A-Z of how to deal with specific waste types in Recycle Right is the repository for the agreed consistent communications terminology. Tools available in Recycle Right include the ability for residents to be reminded which bins go out when.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Stefan Frodsham', is written in a cursive style.

Stefan Frodsham - Chief Executive Officer