WMRC Bulletin

7 September 2020

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. Past Bulletins are now posted on our website at https://www.wmrc.wa.gov.au/about-us/publications/wmrc-bulletin/

2. Town of Cambridge – welcome aboard!

We are very pleased to welcome the Town of Cambridge as the first Participating Member of the WMRC. We have concluded a Memorandum of Understanding which provides their residents free access to services at the West Metro Recycling Centre, and paid disposal rates less than that of non-Member Councils in return for the Town paying a small annual per-household fee. We are also working closely with their staff in community education and promotion of events.

A similar offer is open to the City of Nedlands. In the absence of an agreement, a \$25 per visit gate fee continues to apply to Nedlands' residents for all services except for HHW and E-Waste.

3. Auditor General report - LG Waste Delivery

The Office of the Auditor General recently released a report into the delivery of waste services by Local Government. The AG is concerned that the overall LG recycling rate has not improved. Deficiencies identified include consistent waste communications; waste planning; and the State waste infrastructure plan identified as a priority in 2012.

A report on how WMRC and Member Councils are already meeting many of the recommendations will be presented at the next CEO's Advisory Committee meeting: our set of six waste plans are well advanced, our green and bulk waste is recycled, consistent communications are effective in reducing contamination in kerbside bins. State Government support for LG waste reduction and recycling has increased recently but is still low. There are considerable challenges to enable material recovery rates to reach strategy targets. The full OAG report is available here.

4. Waste sorting information in a range of languages



To further reduce kerbside bin contamination, it is important to have information available in a range of languages; those dealing with waste may be disproportionately low in English language skills.

Through our Recycle Right partnership with the SMRC we are pleased to provide waste sorting information in seven non-English languages on request. These can also be provided in print ready format for wider distribution. Please note, these are currently only available to WMRC Member Councils.

5. DWER FOGO in MUDs Forum 15 September

The Department is running an online forum focussing on the specific challenges which exist in introducing FOGO bins to multi-unit dwellings. With a relatively high and growing proportion of residents who live in MUDs, this will be an important issue in our region as we introduce FOGO services. More information and sign up here. Previous FOGO forum presentations are also available at the same link.

6. City of Subiaco Waste Audit



We partnered with City of Subiaco staff to undertake an administration and depot office waste audit as a way of educating City staff in waste sorting. We found recyclables in the general waste bin and vice versa. The service is also available to other Member Councils.

7. Waste Watchers Workshop



We are very happy to be back presenting a workshop face to face. This time at the Town of Claremont's offices.

To encourage council staff and elected members to learn about Bin Basics and Recycling Right we are inviting you to attend the next Waste Watchers Workshop for free of charge. To <u>book a free spot</u>, please use the promo code: **WASTEWISE**

8. Containers for Change

Locations have been announced for the Container Deposit Scheme, <u>Containers for Change</u>, which will start state-wide from 1 October coordinated by <u>WARRRL</u>. We will be supporting the local Refund point at <u>Paraquad Industries in Shenton Park</u> by having bins available onsite at the West Metro RC. There will also be refund points at the Claremont Showgrounds and Fremantle Recycling Centre.

9. Council Depot Waste

A reminder that our new Construction & Demolition waste recycling service diverts Council inert waste from landfill and is charged at a significantly lower rate than previously for Member and Participating Councils. Please ensure this material is kept separate from general waste.

Stefan Frodsham - Chief Executive Officer