WMRC Bulletin

22 March 2021

1. Introduction

The WMRC Bulletin provides a fortnightly 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 posted on our website here.

2. Waste Plans - four of six endorsed by DWER

We are very pleased to announce that between our five Member Councils and ourselves, all Waste Plans have been passed by their relevant councils, four have been endorsed by DWER, one is in the process of endorsement and one is about to be submitted. DWER requires all Waste Plans to be submitted by 31 March with the first reporting period being the 2021-22 financial year. These plans will guide developments towards meeting Waste Strategy targets out to 2025; the plans are consistent across all six organisations.

3. Waste to Energy negotiations nearing finalisation



We are nearing the final stages of the negotiations with our preferred tenderer for receipt of residual (red-lid bin) waste for use to generate electricity. This will shield Member Councils from the increases we expect to be applied to landfilled waste through the Waste Levy. It will also contribute towards meeting the Waste Strategy target of no more than 15% of household waste being consigned to landfill.

4. GO FOGO together?



Following a recommendation from Member Council CEOs, we plan to take an item to our Council next week to coordinate the transition to FOGO across the western suburbs. This will give our Member Councils the benefits of economies of scale and make for simple and effective education and promotion. We expect to form a Project Control Group to plan and execute the project.

The DWER Better Bins go FOGO funding round for 2021-22 closes on 31 March.

Funds allocated carry over into subsequent years, so there is no disadvantage to applying early. This funding contributes towards the cost of bins, caddies, liners, and resident education.

5. New waste silos are on their way!



We are very excited to watch the progress in the fabrication of our new silos. These will be ready to transport waste efficiently to either FOGO processors or waste to energy plants. We are really looking forward to seeing them freshly painted and on the road.

6. Bintagging off to a great start



<u>Bintagging</u> is an integral part of the WMRC's campaign to contain Member Councils waste management costs by minimising contamination levels.

The first week of bintagging in Mosman Park and Cottesloe has gone well. All but two early-rising residents met in the course of tagging welcomed the taggers and were pleased that with the educational material provided. Bintagging will continue over the next few weeks.

This project is supported by the Government of Western Australia and administered by the Waste Authority.

7. Primary school incursions are back



We have been working with our SMRC counterparts to use their design expertise and share the costs of updating the materials used for our popular and busy primary school incursions. The redesign makes the materials more hygienic, relevant, and consistent. Activities are structured around the DWER Be a GREAT sort campaign and are intended for use in schools, at community events and during workshops. Our first incursion with the new material at Cottesloe Primary was a great success with staff ranking it 4.75 of 5.

8. Bicycles for Dismantle



We are now collecting used bicycles at the West Metro Recycling Centre and sending them to <u>Dismantle</u> for use in programs with at risk youth. We will share promotional material as soon as we have developed it with Dismantle.

9. One remaining Community Education event in March, more coming in May



After a March of many workshops and tours, the final one of our current collection of community education events is this coming weekend – reducing food waste in your bin by composting and worm farming. Book your place here

The next series will kick off with site visits and workshops in May.

Stefan Frodsham - Chief Executive Officer