

# Agenda

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING (OCM 03/26)

28 May 2026  
Commencing at 5:30 pm

City of Subiaco  
Level2, 388 Hay Street  
Subiaco WA 6008

Dear Chair and Councillors

I advise that an Ordinary Meeting of the Western Metropolitan Regional Council will be held at the City of Subiaco, Level 2, 388 Hay Street, Subiaco on **Thursday 28 May 2026** commencing at **5.30pm**.

Stuart Devenish  
Chief Executive Officer

### **Open Council Meetings – Procedures**

1. All Council meetings are open to the public, except for matters raised by Council under “confidential items”.
2. Members of the public may ask a question at an Ordinary Council meeting under “public question time”.
3. Members of the public who are unfamiliar with meeting procedures are invited to seek advice at the meeting. If unsure about proceedings, just raise your hand when the presiding member announces public question time.
4. All other arrangements are in accordance with the Council’s Meeting Procedures Local Law, policies and decisions of the organisation.

Stuart Devenish  
Chief Executive Officer  
25 July 2025

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# 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

## 2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

### Councillors

Cr P Kelly	Chair	Town of Claremont
Cr A Maurice	Deputy Chair	Town of Mosman Park
Cr L Young	Deputy Member	Town of Cottesloe
Cr P Macintosh	Member	Shire of Peppermint Grove
Cr N Johnson	Deputy Member	City of Subiaco

### Staff

S Devenish	Chief Executive Officer	WMRC
B McInnes	Chief Operating Officer	WMRC
L Eustance	Strategy & Corporate Lead	WMRC
J Hallt	Finance Lead	WMRC
E Hindle	Communications & Education Lead	WMRC
J Crowe	Verge Valet Lead	WMRC
E Collasius	Finance & Customer Service Officer	WMRC

### Leave of Absence

Nil

### Visitors

### Observers

### Apologies

### **3. DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

### **4. RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

### **6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

### **7. PETITIONS, APPROVED DEPUTATIONS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS**

### **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION**

### **9. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MINUTES**

#### **9.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held on 2 April 2026 were circulated earlier under separate cover. A copy of the April OCM minutes is at [this link](#) with the relevant attachments [at this link](#).

#### **RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

- 9.1.1 Council accepts the minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held on 2 April 2026 as a true and accurate record of proceedings.**

# 10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS

## 10.1 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>Finance Lead</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>18th May 2026</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>10-1A Financial Report for March 2026</b> <b>10-1B Financial Report for April 2026</b>

### PURPOSE

To provide a monthly and year-to-date summary of the WMRC's operating performance and financial position, along with explanations of variance to budget.

### BACKGROUND

*Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 34* requires monthly financial activity statements to be presented to the Council. The statements include a statement of financial activity reporting on revenue and expenditure, as set out in the annual budget under FM regulation 22(1)(d).

Each year, Council is required to adopt a percentage or value to be used for material variance (actual versus budget/forecast) reporting accompanied with explanatory notes. At its meeting on 12 June 2025, Council adopted a value of \$20,000 or 10% for reporting material variances (actual versus budget/forecast).

### DETAILS

The following financial attachments outline business performance and position for the year-to-date periods ended 31 March 2026 and 30 April 2026

#### ***March Year-to-date***

Total Year-to-Date (YTD) to 31 March 2026, WMRC recorded comprehensive income (net income) of \$443,646 compared to an amended budget of \$480,599. Further details are in **Attachment 10-1A**.

Operating revenues YTD are \$10,388,522 against an amended budget of \$10,276,239 (1.09% over budget)

Operating expenses YTD are \$9,944,876 against an amended budget of \$9,795,640 (1.52% over budget)

#### ***April Year-to-date***

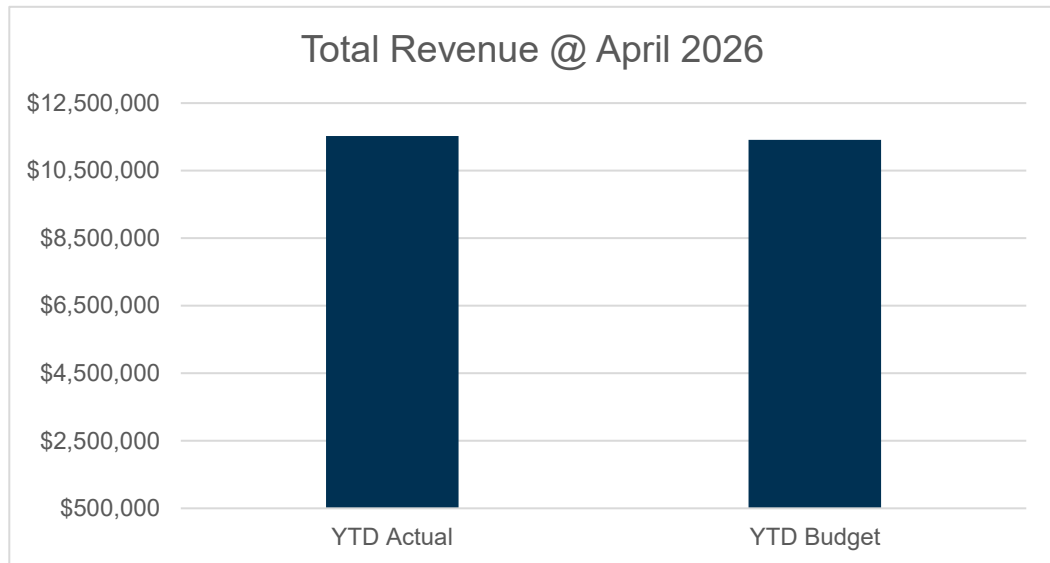
Total Year-to-Date (YTD) to 30 April 2026, WMRC recorded comprehensive income (net income) of \$523,514 compared to an amended budget of \$525,446. Further details are in **Attachment 10-1B**.

Operating revenues YTD are \$11,521,138 against an amended budget of \$11,414,055 (0.094% over amended budget)

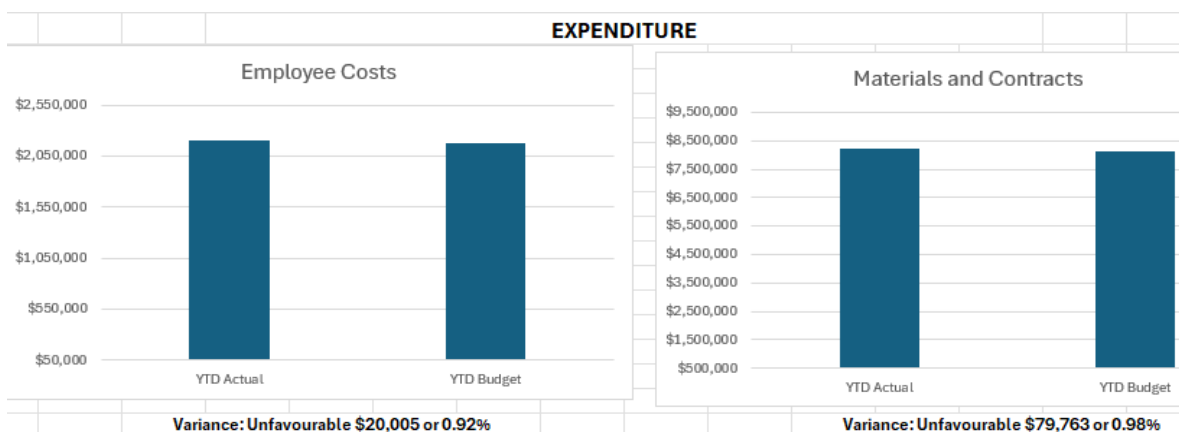
Operating expenses YTD are \$10,997,625 against an amended budget of \$10,888,609 (1% over budget)

Variance analysis in relation to each activity area is included in the attachments.

**Summary of Major Activity Areas**



For the first ten months of the 2025–26 financial year, total revenue — including Fees & Charges, Service Delivery Charges, and other income sources — amounted to \$11,521,138, compared to an amended budget of \$11,414,055, resulting in a favorable variance of \$107,083.



On the expenditure side, employee costs are over amended budget by \$20,005 and material and contract costs \$79,763 reflecting increased volumes of FOGO, Bulk Waste and General Waste.

Depreciation and Amortisation is \$10,033 higher than amended budget.

Overall the net result to April 2026 (YTD), is \$1,932 unfavourable to amended budget.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Regular reviews, careful planning and reporting, and continuous improvements on process and controls help to manage WMRC's financial risks.

## **COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION**

The financial performance of the WMRC is discussed amongst WMRC management and with the member CEO group at its meetings every two months.

## **REPORT IMPLICATIONS**

### **Legislation and Policy Alignment**

#### ***Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations***

Regulation 34 requires monthly financial activity statements to be presented to Council. A Statement of Financial Activity is the minimum requirement and must contain:

- annual budget estimates
- monthly budget estimates
- monthly actual expenditure, revenue, and income
- material variances between comparable amounts with an explanation of material differences
- the net current assets at month end
- statement of financial position

The financial reporting is prepared in accordance with Council Policy: Finance. Policies are reviewed from time to time as required to ensure compliance with legislative and statutory obligations.

### **Business and Strategic Alignment**

Strategic action 5 in the Strategic Community Plan is to develop a strong and capable organisation.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

The report presents the operating performance and statement of financial position of the Council.

## **COMMENTS**

It is recommended that Council note the financial results to date against budget.

## **VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple majority.

### **RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**10.1.1 Council resolve to note the financial reports for March 2026 and April 2026 respectively.**

## 10.2 CREDITOR AND DEBTOR PAYMENTS

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>Customer Service &amp; Finance Officer</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>18 May 2026</b>
<b>Attachment:</b>	<b>10.2A March 2026 Payments</b> <b>10.2B March 2026 Credit Card Payments</b> <b>(26 February 2026 – 26 March 2026)</b> <b>10.2C April 2026 Payments</b> <b>10.2D April 2026 Credit Card Payments</b> <b>(27 March 2026 – 28 April 2026)</b> <b>10.2E Debtors Outstanding as of 30 April 2026</b>

### PURPOSE

The schedule of accounts paid for March and April 2026 is attached for the endorsement of Council. The schedule of debtors as of 30 April 2026 is attached for receipt by Council.

### BACKGROUND

In accordance with Regulation 13 and 13A of the *Local Government (Financial Management Regulations) 1996*, if the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund, a list of accounts paid is to be prepared for each month.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

This report addresses and aids mitigation of the following areas of the Corporate Risk Register:

<b>Strategic:</b> OS3 – Exposure to Sole Supplier	<b>HR management:</b> OHR9 – Over reliance on individuals
<b>Governance:</b> OG3 – Inadequate Reporting OG5 – WMRC Service Delivery OG7 – Compliance with processes	<b>Information Technology:</b> SIT1 – Loss of access to digital OIT2 – Financial/business continuity
<b>Financial:</b> OF5 – Fraud and Corruption	

## COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

None.

## REPORT IMPLICATIONS

### Legislation and Policy Alignment

- *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*
- *Local Government Act 1995*

### Business and Strategic Alignment

This is aligned to strategic actions as follows:

- Key Strategy 1: Achieve a comprehensive, cost-effective waste management service across the region.
- Key Strategy 5: Develop a strong and capable organisation – Deliver responsible financial management.

### Financial and Resource Implications

Nil.

## COMMENTS

The statements attached to the report satisfy the reporting obligations of the Act and schedule payments made in accordance with appropriate authorities. The schedules are recommended for endorsement and receipt accordingly.

## VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple majority.

## RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

- 10.2.1 Council endorses the schedule of accounts paid of \$1,677,865.46 and \$1,084,995.73 for the months of March and April 2026 respectively.**
- 10.2.2 Council endorses the schedule of accounts paid of \$11,303.57 and \$6,258.07 Credit Card Statements for March and April 2026 respectively.**
- 10.2.3 Council receives the schedule of debtors outstanding as of 30 April 2026.**

## 10.3 PROPOSED COUNCIL PLAN 2026 & CORPORATE PLAN 2026

**Responsible Officer:** Chief Executive Officer

**Date:** 28 May 2026

**Attachments:** 10.3A – Proposed Council Plan 2026  
10.3B – Proposed Corporate Plan 2026  
10.3C – Schedule of Submissions

### PURPOSE

For Council to consider adoption of the Council Plan 2026 and the Corporate Plan 2026.

### BACKGROUND

#### *Review Methodology*

In December 2025, Council resolved to commence a review of the Strategic Community Plan in line with the following program:

Strategic Community Plan Review Program	
Steps	Timeframe
Determine review program and methodology	December 2025
Consider Discussion Paper reviewing current Strategic Community plan via Member Council CEO group and WMRC Council. Identify key issues and priorities	January 2026
Consider modifications to the Strategic Community Plan for the purposes of public consultation	March 2026
Advertise proposed modifications for public comment	April 2026
Consider final approval of modified Strategic Community Plan	May 2026

The March Ordinary Council Meeting (rescheduled to 2 April) considered a proposed Council Plan 2026 and a Corporate Plan 2026. Council resolved to support the proposed Council Plan 2026 for the purposes of public advertising as required by regulation.

#### *Council Plan 2026*

This document sets the overarching direction for WMRC over the medium to long term. It outlines a refined vision, strategic objectives and priorities to guide decision-making, resource allocation and service delivery.

The Plan is structured around interrelated strategic themes focused on delivering safe, reliable and high-quality services for Member Councils, optimising asset performance, improving environmental outcomes, and strengthening financial sustainability. It also emphasises sector leadership, collaboration, community engagement and organisational capability, providing a clear and cohesive foundation to guide investment, advocacy and long-term resilience.



For each of the six strategic themes, clear statements of intent, desired outcomes and strategic directions are provided. These establish the foundation for the actions and associated program of activities detailed in the proposed Corporate Plan.

### **Corporate Plan 2026**

This Plan picks up the six strategic themes established in the Council Plan 2026 and defines 29 action areas and 74 specific actions. These actions are prioritised and programmed across four years, covering initiatives such as improving data use, enhancing resource recovery, advocating for regulatory reform, strengthening community behaviour-change programs and building organisational resilience.

The document also references the WMRC's governance, risk management framework and organisational structure, noting that the Corporate Plan will be "monitored and regularly reported to Council" and is subject to annual review.

Although the Corporate Plan does not need to be advertised for public comment, it was intended to be released alongside the advertising of the Council Plan. Presenting the two documents together helps readers understand not only the strategic direction but also the practical means by which the Council Plan will be implemented.

## **DETAILS**

In accordance with Council resolution of 2 April 2026, the proposed Council Plan 2026 was advertised for public comment, commencing 13 April through to close of submissions on 12 May.

Advertising and invitation for comment was facilitated through the following means:

1. Notice on the WMRC website;
2. Posting to WMRC social media channels Facebook and Instagram;
3. Newsletter advertisement mailed to around 2,000 registered addresses;
4. Newspaper advertisement within the 'Post' on Saturday 18 April;
5. Direct invitation to Member Councils via representative elected members and CEO's.

Submissions could be made via mail or online form on the website. At the close of the submission period, one submission had been received reading as detailed at Attachment 10.5C. The intent of the submission is to encourage minimisation of commercial waste such as single use food containers. The terms of the Council Plan and the actions of the Corporate plan are seen as encompassing these considerations. Supporting information addressing commercial waste related initiatives is also included in the attachment. Taking these matters into account, no changes to the Plans are recommended.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

The policy addressed in this report relate to, and assist mitigation of risks associated with the following areas of the Corporate Risk Register:

### Strategic;

- SS1 – Long term planning
- SS2- Circular economy opportunities
- SS3 –environmental outcomes
- SS7 – competitiveness
- SS8 – emerging technologies
- SS9 – strategy misalignment
- SS10 – volume reduction
- OS1 – resource allocation
- OS2 – operational inefficiencies
- OS4 – operational scale
- OS5 – organisational capability

### Commercial and Legal;

- SC2 – value for money
- SC3 – economies of scale
- Financial;
- SF1 – financial health
- OF1 – revenue
- Reputational;
- SR1 – decision-making
- SR2 – executive leadership
- SR6 – cost escalation
- OF8 – public criticism

### Governance;

- SG1 – priorities and programs
- SG5 – governance duty
- OG5 – efficiency and quality

## COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

Regulation 19C(9) of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* requires electors and ratepayers to be consulted during the development of or modifications to a strategic plan. The advertising undertaken as set out above fulfill this requirement.

## REPORT IMPLICATIONS

### Legislation and Policy Alignment

*Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* applies. Regulations 19C and 19DA provide for Council to adopt the Council and Corporate Plans respectively.

### Business and Strategic Alignment

The Council Plan and Corporate Plan establish the strategy and directions for the organisation.

### Financial and Resource Implications

The review has been undertaken through internal resources. The terms of the Plans will guide the allocation of resources and setting of priorities.

## COMMENTS

The proposed Council Plan 2026 is a key strategic document that establishes the overarching directions for service delivery across the organisation. It provides the foundation for operational planning, with the accompanying Corporate Plan 2026 outlining how these strategic priorities will be implemented in practice.

Officers consider that the Plan achieves an appropriate balance between optimising environmental outcomes, promoting economic efficiency, and delivering community-focused services.

Finalisation of the Plans will confirm the organisation's strategic direction, support effective priority setting, and guide the allocation of resources to service delivery and key initiatives. Adoption is therefore recommended.

## VOTING REQUIREMENT

Absolute majority.

## RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

- 10.3.1** That Council resolve, pursuant to regulation 19C(7) of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* to adopt the proposed Council Plan 2026 as included at Attachment 10.5A.
- 10.3.2** That Council resolve, pursuant to regulation 19DA(6) of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* to adopt the proposed Corporate Plan 2026 as included at Attachment 10.5B.

## 10.4 WEST METRO RECYCLING CENTRE CONCEPT REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>Projects Lead</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>28 May 2026</b>
<b>Attachment:</b>	<b>Attachment 10.4A</b>

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council endorsement of the Concept Redevelopment Plan ('Plan') for the West Metro Recycling Centre.

Adoption of this Plan will guide the future development of the West Metro Recycling Centre ('RC').

### BACKGROUND

At the 30 January 2025 OCM, Council considered the long-term objectives of the RC to provide 'best practice' outcomes in the following key areas:

- Environmental goals
- Economic goals
- Statutory compliance
- Safety for staff, contractors and the community
- Customer service outcomes increasing the Recycling Centre attractiveness to users

At that meeting, Council endorsed a Project Plan to develop a Plan for the RC, using specialist consultancy support. To properly brief these consultants, Council participated, along with key industry stakeholders and Administration staff in an Investment Logic Mapping ('ILM') process conducted by Treasury Corporation WA. This ILM process produced a robustly developed ranked set of possible development requirements for the RC from which a Design Brief for the consultants could be developed.

Council endorsed the Design Brief for the Consultants to develop the Plan at the 31 July 2025 OCM.

Council were briefed on progress of the Plan on 11 December 2025.

### DETAIL AND OPTIONS ANALYSIS

#### Design Team

The Design Team engaged for development of the Plan was GHD resulting from a competitive Request for Quotation undertaking. Their scope of services on offer was deemed more attractive than others due to having experienced Waste Management expertise, a senior Consultant who was very familiar with the DiCOM facility and potential reuse of parts of DiCOM, an Architect who could consider layouts and the customer perspective and finally an external qualified Quantity Surveyor who would add expertise in development of cost planning.

## **Development of Plan**

Fundamentally, the Plan is structured around making best use of the full 1.53 Ha lot that the RC occupies on the presumption that DiCOM leases and licences are extinguished and all unnecessary DiCOM facilities removed or demolished in situ.

A key feature in the precursor to the work by GHD was the Investment Logic Mapping workshop and report by Western Australian Treasury Corporation which fundamentally 'set the scene' of what could be developed after a rigorous and objective analysis methodology. This Report was presented to Council at the July 2025 OCM.

GHD were then briefed to develop a Concept that optimised the key drivers for long term development of the RC working closely with key WMRC staff and broader discussions with all WMRC staff.

The Plan & GHD Report is provided as Attachment 10.4A to this Report.

## **Preferred Development Scenario**

The preferred development scenario is shown as Figure 13 in Attachment 10.4A. Key features of this scenario are:

- Community Recycling Centre (community free drop off) located fully undercover within the old DiCOM building with more effective materials handling systems
- Relocation of Gatehouse and Weighbridge to provide extensive off-street queuing for incoming vehicles
- Expansion of lower compactor area (and new compactors) under the main tipping floor for increased capacity and throughput of Residual and FOGO Waste Streams
- Redevelopment of Paid Waste Services to physically separate the public from RC plant, mitigate fall from height risks and provide growth for future demand
- Reserved footprint for possible WMRC administration facility
- 'Hot Load' bay to safely stand any incoming rubbish trucks that have fires in their load
- Improved parking for visitation and staff, improved staff facilities
- Improved management of receipt and despatch of low volume and bulk greenwaste streams
- Internal one-way traffic flows (Enter Gate 1, Exit Gate 3) and traffic systems in place to efficiently guide the public to their selected waste drop off area
- Substantive improvements to drainage systems to better manage leachate waste and deal with stormwater run off

The report in Attachment 10.4A provides substantively more detail of the process used to develop the preferred Scenario and the specific details.

## **Project Cost**

GHD through their Quantity Surveyor provided a high level indicative cost estimate for the Plan, commensurate with the Conceptual level of the Plan. This estimate (March 2026 \$) was \$ 21.1m (ex GST)

Internal review of this cost plan revealed some significant allowances for on costs, fees, furniture and equipment and construction preliminaries that were deemed excessive. A more realistic view would be that the plan cost estimate (March 2026 \$) would be **\$18.7m (ex GST)**

Note that cost estimates specifically exclude any new mobile plant requirements for individual waste streams and construction of a potential Administration facility.

### Project Staging

GHD developed, in collaboration with WMRC a proposed Staging plan for the construction of the Plan that minimised operational disruptions and each Stage facilitating the development of subsequent Phases.

It is noted that the Indicative Costs are in March 2026 \$, exclude GST however include a higher overheads and preliminaries allocation recognising the staged nature of construction.

Their Preferred Staging Plan (and Indicative Costs) are as follows:

Stage	Indicative Outcomes	Indicative Cost
1	Preliminary earthworks for new roads and gatehouse, drainage works at Gate 3	\$ 3.14m
2	New roads to relocated entry, completion Gate 3 works, new traffic flow into Bunker Tipping Floor	\$ 3.50m
3	New Gatehouse, additional compactors and loading area, conversion of DiCOM building for CRC	\$ 3.81m
4	Commissioning of new CRC area, bulk earthworks for Paid Services	\$ 4.90m
5	Demolition of old gatehouse and old CRC, bulk earthworks for western Paid Services, commissioning of Eastern Paid Services	\$ 3.42m
6	Commissioning of all Paid Services area and Bulk Greenwaste	\$ 0.40m
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 19.17m</b>

It will be reasonably foreseeable that in practice the Staged development of the Plan will not fully align with the GHD assumptions. Any subsequent decision to implement a part (Stage) of the Plan prioritise and balance competing drivers:

- Financial return
- Capital funding availability
- Customer service enhancements
- Possible regulatory requirements
- Cogent staging plans that facilitate future stages

Any proposal to commence a stage of the Plan would necessitate a comprehensive Business Case to be prepared for Council decision.

## Next Steps

Upon adoption of the Plan as the long-term development scenario for the RC, Council will be asked to consider later in the year two enabling strategies:

- **Financial Strategy** – aimed at identifying and evaluating different methods for funding of major capital investments
- **Business Strategy** – a framework for identifying emerging opportunities including a basis for scenario modelling, market insights, feasibility assessments, strategic options and implementation planning.

It is also worth noting that the construction of the Plan fundamentally predicates that DiCOM facilities are removed or demolished to provide ground space for development. Thus, any subsequent decisions to proceed with construction of the Plan requires this condition precedent to be cleared.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

Key strategic risks have been identified and comprehensively addressed in the Risk Register. The outcomes of this report address the following risks:

### Strategic Risks:

- SS1 – Long Term planning for the future of the Recycling Centre
- SS2 – Circular Economy Opportunities

### Workplace Health and Safety Risks:

- WHS1 – Maintaining a safe workplace

### Financial Risks:

- SF1 – declining financial health

### Reputational Risks:

- SR5 – Effectiveness of Resource Recovery

## COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

The development of the Plan took into account the following key consultations and communications:

- Project Steering Group comprising WMRC Leadership Group
- WMRC staff at Recycling Centre and Administration
- CEOs & Senior Staff of Member Councils
- WMRC Councillors
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
- Technology supplier (Mandalay)

## REPORT IMPLICATIONS

### Legislation and Policy Alignment

The adoption of this Plan does not in itself trigger any Legislative or Policy requirements. Subsequent decisions to implement any aspect of the Plan will necessitate Works Approvals from DWER including advice to City of Nedlands. Necessary procurement actions will align with Purchasing Policy.

### Business and Strategic Alignment

The development of this Plan is a core element of enabling the Council Plan 2026.

### Financial and Resource Implications

Business Cases for implementation of parts of the Plan will by necessity include financial and resource implications.

## COMMENTS

The development of the Recycling Centre Concept Redevelopment Plan represents a significant milestone in planning for the future of the Western Metropolitan Regional Council. The Plan establishes a robust and responsible framework to guide the progressive development of the site toward its full potential. It ensures the facility is positioned for its highest and best use, supporting safe, efficient operations that maximise resource recovery outcomes.

The scalable nature of the proposed investment will strengthen the Centre's capacity to generate its own revenue, ultimately reducing reliance on subsidisation from member Councils.

Endorsement of the Plan is now recommended, enabling further work to progress on a financial strategy that will support the staged renewal and upgrade of the site.

The Administration acknowledges and thanks Council for their enthusiasm and input into this 'once in a generation' document.

## VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple majority

### RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

- 10.4.1 That Council endorse the Concept Redevelopment Plan and Report as the basis for future development of the West Metro Recycling Centre, as detailed in Attachment 10.4A.**

## 10.5 WASTE 2026 CONFERENCE REPORT

**Responsible Officer:** Strategy and Corporate Lead

**Date:** 19 May 2026

**Attachment:** Attachment 10.5A

### PURPOSE

This report is intended to summarise information from attendance at Waste 2026 held in Coffs Harbour.

### BACKGROUND

Now in its 30<sup>th</sup> year, the 2026 Waste Conference (12–14 May) aimed to support councils and industry to improve waste management outcomes through innovation, collaboration and knowledge sharing. It focused on advancing circular economy practices, strengthening local government capability, exploring new technologies, and addressing policy and regulatory changes, while promoting effective community engagement and sustainable, cost-efficient service delivery.

Attendance by WMRC provided an opportunity to gain up-to-date insights into best practice waste management, emerging technologies and interstate policy directions. The conference also supported collaboration and the identification of practical solutions that can be applied locally. Participation was intended to strengthen WMRC's capacity to deliver efficient, compliant and forward-looking waste services, while identifying opportunities to improve resource recovery and community outcomes.

### DETAILS

Although the conference was designed largely around the NSW regulatory environment, infrastructure provision, policy priorities and staff capabilities, there was much information that was of relevance to the WA environment.

**Attachment 10.5A** is the summary of all sessions produced by the conference organisers.

#### **WMRC representative attendance:**

##### **All keynote and plenary sessions including panel sessions**

The clear focus was on FOGO, product stewardship and circular economy with speakers drawn from NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Italy and England at federal, state and local governments, peak bodies, consultants, academics, not-for-profits and commercial organisations.

##### **The following concurrent sessions:**

- Circular Economy
- Product Stewardship/ Extended Producer Responsibility
- FOGO – overview, collection, processing
- Sustainability in practice
- Reuse and repair

### The exhibition with the following being of particular interest:

- Ecobatt – fire safe public battery collection infrastructure/servicing through BCycle
- Cleanbins – AI contamination monitoring in collection vehicles
- Waste Initiatives – Static Compactors
- Wastetech – Static Compactors
- NSW EPA – communications and policy settings
- Encaps – fire suppression systems (inc Li Ion batteries)
- Westone – infrastructure funding

### Main headline points:

Transitioning to a circular economy requires long-term, coordinated policy frameworks and planning certainty to support infrastructure investment and system-wide change. It also depends on developing strong end-markets for recovered materials and using policy mechanisms to drive demand, improve material quality, and enable commercially viable circular solutions. Examples cited included: NSW FOGO mandates and associated funding, Goterra's insect-based composting, microfactories transforming waste into high value products, and community campaigns such as 'never bin a battery' and 'Move Smooth' which link education with convenient systems.

Mandatory product stewardship schemes are increasingly seen as essential to make recycling of problematic waste streams economically viable. Target streams include batteries, packaging, plastics, and white goods. Data is patchy but the 96 voluntary product stewardship schemes in Australia are capturing 1-16% of product (outliers: Tyres 70%, Paint 83%), and in contrast the 9 mandatory schemes (CDS x 8 and Oil) capture 60-80%.

Successful FOGO systems are designed as end-to-end supply chains, where strong service settings, low contamination, and consistent product quality support viable end markets and return organics to soil. They rely on user-friendly system design, targeted behaviour change, and strong links between collection, processing, and market demand, rather than education alone.

Sustainability initiatives embed data-driven planning, user-centred system design, and early integration into operations, recognising that behaviour change is driven by well-designed systems rather than education alone. Examples include reusable serviceware at events in Byron Shire and City of Parramatta and material flow analysis at City of Penrith.

Reuse and repair systems are most effective when integrated into existing waste services and community networks, unlocking significant environmental and social value by capturing materials earlier and addressing behavioural—not technical—barriers. Examples included The Bower which furnishes homes for people in need by diversion from bulk waste collections and MedEarth which recovers surplus medical equipment for global redistribution.

### Possible areas of investigation for WMRC include:

Build partnerships with relevant organisation/s to divert more reusable furniture items from Verge Valet™ collections/ Recycling Centre drop off.

Consider alternate contamination measurement systems/ contractual arrangements for FOGO including an AI-enhanced visual contamination methodology.

Test the robustness of the pathway for collecting/reprocessing refrigerated white goods including responsible degassing.

Consider mechanisms to share/coordinate communications and education activities with neighbouring Local Governments to maximise reach, effectiveness and consistency.

Advocate strongly for mandatory Product Stewardship/Extended Producer Responsibility schemes including for batteries, PVs, packaging.

Ensure effective management of battery related fire risk on site and in transport vehicles

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Attendance at the Waste 2026 Conference is anticipated to assist in managing the following strategic risks:

Strategic;

SS2 – circular economy opportunity optimisation

SS8 – emerging technologies not harnessed

SS9 – strategy misalignment with member councils and/or federal/state governments

SS11 – unmanaged and unidentified risks

HR Management;

SHR3 – service delivery impacted by poor organisational knowledge

SHR4 – lack of critical thinking and challenge

## **COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION**

Nil

## **REPORT IMPLICATIONS**

### **Legislation and Policy Alignment**

Nil

### **Business and Strategic Alignment**

Following through on the matters in this report will contribute towards achieving the following Council Plan themes:

1. Service excellence and asset optimisation – organisation positioning in response to changing service expectations
2. Environmental performance and resource recovery – reduced waste generation, improved material recovery
3. Market development and financial stability – market development for recovered resources
4. Policy influence and sector leadership - policy setting to enable effective waste prevention, building relationships with governments etc, credible regional advocacy leadership
5. Community engagement and behaviour change – improved community understanding and participation
6. Organisational capacity and resilience – capacity to respond to change, growth and emerging challenges

## **Financial and Resource Implications**

Nil

## **COMMENTS**

Attendance at the Waste 2026 Conference has provided valuable information to enable WMRC to fulfil Member Council expectations.

## **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple majority

## **RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**10.5.1 That Council note the report.**

# 11 INFORMATION BULLETINS

## 11.1 SAFETY AND OPERATIONS REPORT

**Responsible Officer:** Manager Operations

**Date:** May 2026

**Attachment:** Nil

### PURPOSE

To provide Council with an integrated overview of WMRC's safety performance, risk management, and operational activities for January to March 2026, including key initiatives, compliance outcomes, and service delivery across the West Metro Recycling Centre.

### BACKGROUND

The West Metro Recycling Centre continues to maintain a strong focus on safety, compliance, and operational performance. Ongoing initiatives reflect a structured and proactive approach to risk management, workforce capability, and continuous improvement across site operations.

### DETAIL

#### Safety Actions Undertaken and Planned Improvements

- **Toolbox and Safety Briefings:** Regular fortnightly toolbox talks continue to be conducted, reinforcing hazard awareness, sharing operational updates, and promoting safe work behaviours across the Recycling Centre workforce.
- **Safety Committee:** The Site Safety Committee meets monthly on a structured basis, providing a forum for reviewing incidents, discussing emerging risks, and identifying practical safety improvements. Actions arising from these meetings are tracked and progressed to ensure continuous improvement and shared responsibility for safety outcomes. Expressions of interest were recently sought from RC staff for WHS representative nominations, with nominations now received and voting outcomes to be reviewed and formally appointed at the May WHS Committee meeting.
- **Audits, Inspections and PPE Compliance:** A proactive compliance framework remains in place, with routine site inspections and operational audits undertaken to identify hazards, validate existing controls, and maintain adherence to safety standards. Monitoring PPE compliance and reinforcement of minimum site requirements continues across all operational areas.
- **Induction and Training:** Enhanced induction and training processes have now been implemented to support consistent competency and safe operating practices, including an

electronic induction module, refresher training, and additional Mandalay and finance process training to strengthen administrative oversight and transaction control. Staff upskilling has also been undertaken through loader and forklift ticket training, providing a broader operational resource pool and improving productivity across the site. Additional First Aid and HHW standards training has also been completed to further strengthen safety capability and compliance outcomes.

- **Customer and Contractor Safety:** Ensuring the safety of customers and contractors remains a key operational focus. Site supervision, traffic management controls, and clear operational expectations continue to be reinforced to support safe movement and compliant behaviours across the facility.
- **Workforce Wellbeing:** the continuation of initiatives supporting staff wellbeing and resilience remains a focus, promoting early intervention, workforce engagement, and a positive safety culture across site operations.

### Recorded Incidents

1. 17/05/2026 – Loader fuelling incident (no injury): During refuelling of the CASE loader, approximately one litre of two stroke premix was inadvertently added to the hydraulic oil tank. The issue was identified immediately and corrective action was undertaken. Contributing factors included a cluttered work area and unsecured fuel containers.
2. 04/05/2026 – Contractor interaction incident (no injury): A contractor driver attended site with a damaged e-waste cage and became verbally frustrated following discussions regarding replacement availability and stock limitations. The matter was deescalated onsite and highlights the importance of contractor communication and stock coordination.
3. 05/05/2026 – Minor burn injury: An employee sustained a minor friction burn to the hand while handling the BPU cable within the tipping floor area. First aid was administered onsite and the incident reviewed.
4. 06/05/2026 – Boom gate vehicle strike (no injury): A customer vehicle made contact with the site boom gate after visibility was impacted by sun glare while reversing from the weighbridge area. Minor damage occurred to the boom gate, however the gate remained operational.
5. 06/05/2026 – Customer laceration incident: A customer sustained a laceration to the arm while unloading scrap metal. First aid was administered onsite and the customer was advised to seek further medical assessment if required.
6. 10/05/2026 – Security breach incident: Overnight unauthorized access was gained through the western perimeter fence resulting in damage to fencing infrastructure. Security footage confirmed offenders remained onsite for approximately one hour before leaving the premises.
7. 04/05/2026 – Traffic control near miss (no injury): A customer vehicle drove through temporary traffic control tape within the general waste area while operational activities were underway. No injuries or damage occurred.
8. 01/05/2026 – Mattress area operational issue: Concerns were raised regarding housekeeping and workflow management within the mattress storage area, including delayed material processing and lack of follow-up actions.

9. 01/05/2026 – Scrap metal loading incident (no injury): During loading activities involving a scrap metal bin, concerns were raised regarding loading practices, supervision, and communication between operators. No injuries occurred, however operational learning was identified.
10. 12/05/2026 – E-waste table damage (no injury): A contractor vehicle collided with traffic cones before making contact with the e-waste table while manoeuvring onsite. Minor property damage occurred with no injuries reported.
11. 20/04/2026 – Staff communication complaint: Concerns were raised regarding radio communication practices and staff interactions following a customer-related operational issue. The matter was addressed internally.
12. 20/04/2026 – Rope barrier vehicle incident (no injury): A customer vehicle entered a restricted area and made contact with a rope barrier due to poor visibility and driver inattention. Minor vehicle damage was reported.
13. 30/04/2026 – Fuel spill incident (no injury): Approximately four litres of diesel fuel was discharged onto the ground during loader refuelling activities due to a hose issue. Spill response procedures were immediately implemented and the area cleaned using absorbent material.
14. 10/05/2026 – Loader/bin damage incident (no injury): During scrap metal handling operations, a loader bucket made contact with two yellow bins causing damage to one bin and minor damage to another. Contributing factors included equipment selection and communication issues between operators.
15. 27/04/2026 – Customer behavioural incident: A customer became verbally aggressive toward staff following direction regarding traffic and unloading arrangements within the cardboard recycling area. The matter was managed onsite without escalation.
16. 15/04/2026 – Customer interaction incident: A dispute occurred between a customer and operational staff member regarding traffic controls and unloading directions within the cardboard and bulk waste area. The incident highlighted the ongoing challenges associated with customer compliance and traffic management controls during peak operational periods.

All incidents have been recorded in accordance with WMRC reporting procedures and reviewed to identify operational learnings, corrective actions, and opportunities for continuous improvement where appropriate.

## Operational Highlights

- **Housekeeping & Site Standards:** Housekeeping and site presentation standards have improved significantly following a full site reset, reinstatement of daily litter collection, and strengthened tipping floor preparation practices. Some inconsistency has occurred during periods of staff shortages and adverse weather, with additional supervision and reinforcement measures continuing to support improved consistency and operational standards.

- **Traffic & Hazard Management:** Traffic management and public safety remain a key operational focus across the Recycling Centre. Temporary control measures including improved signage, barriers, traffic direction practices, and revised tipping controls remain in place, while contractor collections continue to be scheduled outside peak periods to minimise congestion and interaction risks.
- **Green waste Tipping Area:** The existing green waste tipping and storage area is now considered non serviceable due to ongoing ground surface deterioration resulting from sustained heavy vehicle, plant, and material handling activity. As a result, alternate operational arrangements and storage solutions continue to be explored, including revised loading methods aimed at improving efficiency and reducing operational costs. This includes progressing arrangements for elevated ramp self-loading operations, which would remove the ongoing requirement for the hired telehandler while supporting safer and more cost effective material handling outcomes.
- **Plant, Equipment & PPE:** The continued growth in waste volumes, combined with ongoing dependence on a single static compactor, has placed increased pressure on operational equipment and infrastructure, resulting in higher levels of scheduled servicing, repair works, and maintenance activity. A strong focus remains on preventative maintenance across key plant and equipment assets to maintain safe operations, reduce unplanned downtime, and support ongoing site productivity.
- **Security:** Security arrangements at the Recycling Centre continued to be strengthened through the ongoing deployment of the Site Sentry remote monitoring system, including the addition of a second mobile surveillance camera unit to enhance after-hours coverage across the site.

The enhanced live monitoring and rapid response capability has contributed to a significant reduction in unauthorized access incidents and reduced the duration of offender presence on site. This has improved operational continuity and reduced the amount of staff time required for post-incident clean-up and rectification activities.

While break ins have declined considerably, the facility recently experienced an incident where offenders gained access through a solid foam-filled perimeter fence panel, resulting in significant damage to sections of fencing infrastructure. The incident reinforces the importance of continued investment in both physical and electronic security measures to protect site assets and operations.

## Waste Volumes – Operational Overview (12 March - 12 May 2026)

### Key Operational Metrics

Metric	Result
Total Throughput	14,062.57 tonnes
Throughput Growth	+16.69%
Transactions Completed	12,744
Peak Daily Throughput	402 tonnes
Average Weekday Throughput	260–360 tonnes

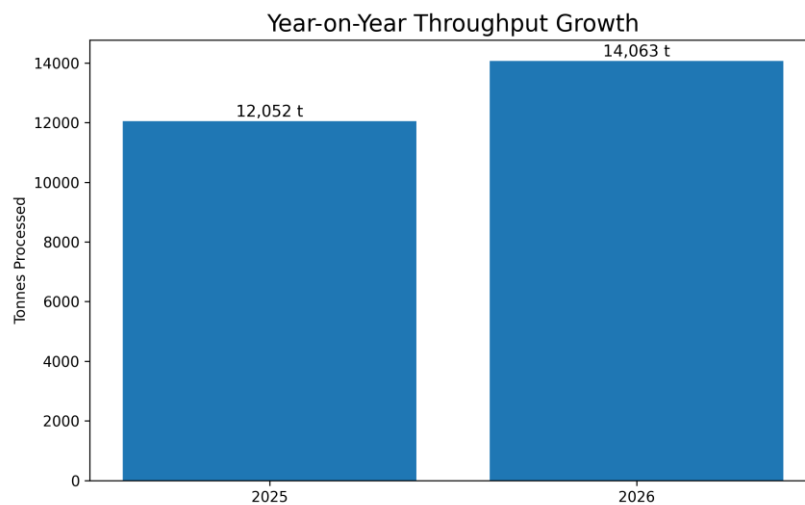
The Recycling Centre continued to deliver strong operational performance throughout the reporting period, with sustained throughput growth reflecting increasing facility utilisation and ongoing demand across multiple waste streams.

Month to date net weight processed reached 14,062.57 tonnes, representing an increase of 2,010.87 tonnes, or 16.69%, compared to the same period last year (12,051.70 tonnes). This continued growth demonstrates the facility's expanding operational role within the regional waste management network and reflects increasing volumes being managed through the site.

A total of 12,744 transactions were completed during the reporting period. While transaction volumes were marginally lower than the same period last year (13,575 transactions), overall throughput increased materially. This trend indicates a continued shift toward larger average load sizes and higher volume receivals, particularly from commercial and bulk waste streams.

Operational performance remained consistently robust across the reporting period, with several days exceeding 350 tonnes processed per day and peak daily throughput reaching approximately 402 tonnes. These sustained throughput levels continue to place increased demand on operational resources, haulage capability and material handling infrastructure.

The continued increase in throughput reinforces the strategic importance of ongoing infrastructure planning, operational optimisation and future capacity improvements to ensure the Recycling Centre can sustainably accommodate increasing demand while maintaining operational efficiency, compliance outcomes and service delivery standards across the region.



Throughput growth continued to trend positively throughout the reporting period, reflecting increasing utilisation of the Recycling Centre by both member councils and commercial operators.

### Customer Activity

The Recycling Centre continued to experience strong utilisation across both local government and commercial sectors throughout the reporting period, with throughput and revenue performance reflecting sustained demand for waste management and resource recovery services across the western metropolitan region.

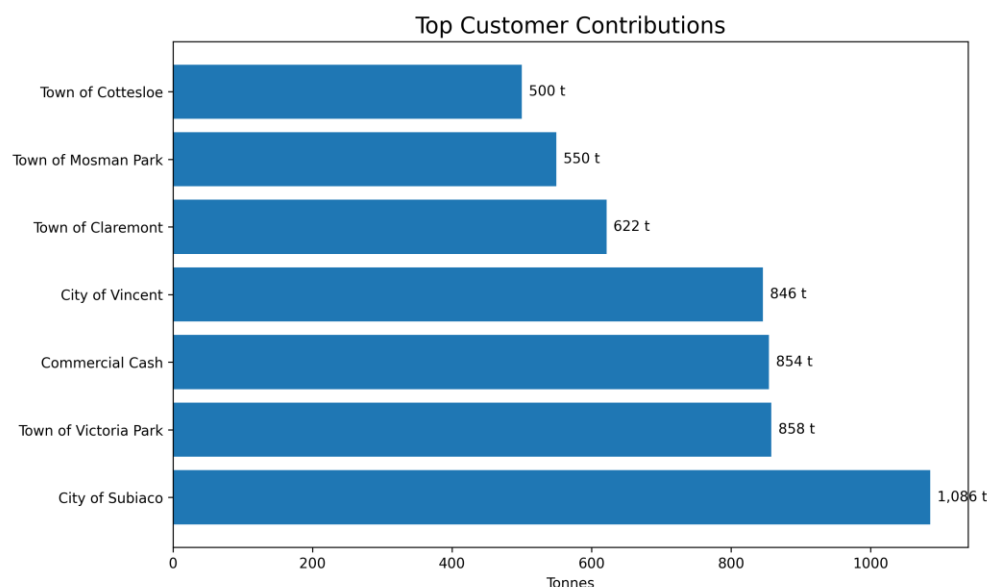
Operational throughput remained concentrated amongst several key users of the facility. For Local Government customers, the City of Subiaco recorded the highest overall tonnage contribution during the reporting period at approximately 1,085.82 tonnes, followed by the Town of Victoria Park at approximately 857.84 tonnes and the City of Vincent at approximately 845.80 tonnes. Significant

throughput was also generated by the Town of Claremont (621.58 tonnes), Town of Mosman Park (549.76 tonnes) and the Town of Cottesloe (500.35 tonnes), demonstrating continued reliance on the facility by both member and non-member councils.

Commercial activity also remained a significant contributor to overall operational performance. Commercial cash transactions generated approximately 854.45 tonnes during the reporting period, while resource recovery and private sector operators, including SUEZ Recycling & Recovery and JJ Waste and Recycling, continued to utilise the facility for higher volume receivals and material management activities.

The reporting period also demonstrated substantial growth across several customer groups when compared to the previous corresponding period. This continued growth reflects increasing utilisation of the Recycling Centre as a regional waste management asset and highlights the growing demand being placed on site infrastructure, haulage capability and operational resources.

- **Top five users:** City of Subiaco, Town of Victoria Park, Commercial cash customers, City of Vincent, Town of Claremont.
- Member council tonnages steady; residential self-haul volumes consistent.



## Staffing

- **Workforce Resourcing:**  
Staffing levels remained lean; additional casual employees have been engaged to support operational coverage following recent departures.
- **Training & Capability:**  
Training initiatives include loader VOC assessments, forklift licensing, and plant operation training, supporting a multi-skilled and flexible workforce.
- **Organisational Alignment:**  
Appointment of a Recycling Centre Administration Officer (from existing staff allocations) has strengthened administrative and financial processes.

- **Leadership & Oversight:**  
Progression of an Acting Team Lead role will improve supervision, shift coordination, and operational control.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Risks continue to be actively managed through the WMRC Risk Register, with focus on:

- Workplace health and safety compliance
- Operational continuity and resilience
- Infrastructure and plant reliability
- Traffic and public interface risks

## **COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION**

Relevant stakeholders, including internal management and member councils, have been kept informed of operational performance and key initiatives.

## **REPORT IMPLICATIONS**

### **Legislation and Policy Alignment**

Operations remain compliant with relevant legislation, licences, and Work Health and Safety requirements.

### **Business and Strategic Alignment**

Operations support WMRC's strategic objectives relating to service delivery, waste diversion, customer growth, and organisational capability.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

Activities have been delivered within existing operational resources.

## **COMMENTS**

The report is presented for Council's information and noting.

## **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple majority

## **RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**11.1.1** That the Safety and Operations Report be noted.

## 11.2 COMMUNICATIONS AND EDUCATION REPORT

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>Communications and Education Lead</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>20 May 2026</b>
<b>Attachment:</b>	<b>Nil</b>

### PURPOSE

To note the Communications and Education team activity for the period.

### BACKGROUND

Under the draft Council Plan, the Communications & Education team have direct input into three of the six themes:

- 2 - Environmental performance and resource recovery
- 4 - Policy influence and sector leadership
- 5 - Community engagement and behaviour change

and indirect impact across the others.

### DETAIL

Activities will be described under relevant themes from the draft Council Plan.

#### **Environmental Performance and Resource Recovery**

The Communications and Education team delivers a range of engagement activities designed to encourage waste avoidance and promote correct waste sorting. These activities span in-person events, website content, social media, and printed materials, with many delivered at the request of Member Councils. Key highlights are outlined below.

**West Metro Recycling Centre tours.** The Communications and Education team deliver guided tours of West Metro Recycling Centre. These sessions cover a wide range of waste education content, including the history of waste management in Perth, the waste streams accepted at the facility and where these materials are sent for processing (for recycling, repurposing, recovery and reuse). The tours are opportunities for diverse audiences, across our member councils and beyond, to learn more what WMRC does, and understand key waste and resource recovery concepts and behaviours that align with the waste hierarchy.

## WEST METRO RECYCLING CENTRE TOURS

- Community tour, 8<sup>th</sup> April
- Curtin University School of Design tour, 21<sup>st</sup> April
- Mosman Park staff tour, 30<sup>th</sup> April
- Subiaco Women's Shed tour, 11<sup>th</sup> May

Across these tours, we hosted 37 people.

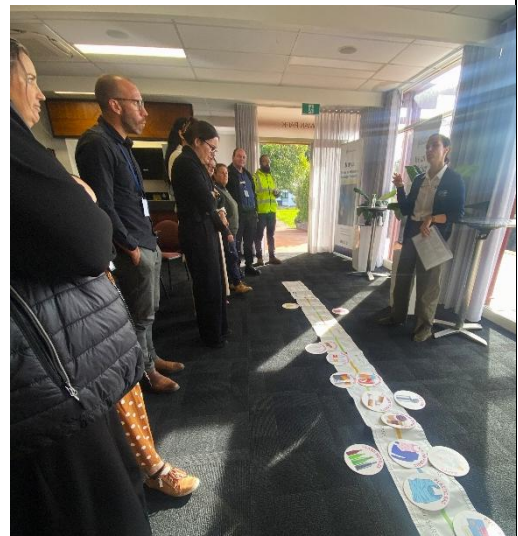


**Training Member Council staff in correct waste sorting.** The team has provided practical training sessions for Member Council staff, covering content such as; the services WMRC provides to member councils, the history of waste management in WA, correct waste sorting, updates on accepted items for FOGO, and the environmental outputs for recovering waste.

## TOWN OF MOSMAN PARK TRAINING SESSION, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2026

The Town of Mosman Park requested a professional development session to educate staff on waste and resource recovery content.

The session was delivered to employees from across the Town, including the Chief Executive Officer, Director of Operations, and staff from the Parks, Customer Service, HR, Finance, Building Compliance and Assets, and Operations teams.



**Communications resources for Member Councils.** The team continues to prepare digital assets, print materials and signage on request.

A current major project is the 2026-27 waste calendars, which we custom design for each of the member councils.

In addition to bin collection calendars and waste sorting information, this year's calendars will include informative content about the transition from landfill to waste to energy, with the aim of minimising confusion and misinformation for residents by providing a definitive source of information.

**Ongoing communications.** The team regularly produces electronic direct mail, social media content, print ads and print materials to support consistent, up-to-date messaging. Website information is continually reviewed and updated to ensure it remains accurate and relevant. Main points include the following:

- **EDM** – The March newsletter went out to 1,703 recipients, with an open rate of just over 50%. This is higher than local government benchmark data provided by Mailchimp (39.6%).
- **Socials** – Social activity has been streamlined due to changing social media usage trends and best practice. Our social posts reached an audience of around 1,133 people (Facebook) and 237 people (Instagram). Some popular posts included:
  - Recycling Centre Easter opening hours information
  - How to recycle Easter foil
  - Promotion for upcoming Recycling Centre tours
- **Website** – continued to review and update website information.
  - Fees & Charges information has been streamlined to minimise the risk of discrepancies
  - Recycle Right widgets (Find My Nearest and A-Z) were recently released by DWER and have been added to the website. This allows users to search for waste information without leaving the WMRC site.
- **POST Newspaper ad** – released each month

**WMRC's Word on Waste**

**Having a clear out?**  
Book your Verge Valet™ collection before allocations reset on 30 June.\*  
Book at [vergevalet.com.au](http://vergevalet.com.au)

**Keep your recycling loose in the bin**  
Plastic bags should never go in your yellow-lidded recycling bin – and that includes bin bags!  
Tip everything loose in the bin to make sure it gets recycled.

**Recycling Centre tours**  
Go behind the scenes at the West Metro Recycling Centre.  
What you'll learn on a small group tour:  
 how the items you bring to us are reclaimed or recycled  
 how to dispose of things that don't go in bins  
 what happens to the contents of your bins  
 Tickets \$5  
 9-10:30am or 11am-12:30pm | Sat 23 May

**West Metro Recycling Centre – Open 7 days**  
 Located on corner of Brockway Road and Lemnos Street, Shenton Park (enter off Brockway Rd)  
 Weekdays: 7:30AM – 4:00PM  
 Weekends: 8:00AM – 4:00PM  
 Public holidays: 7:30AM – 2:00PM  
 Fees apply for some items. Visit [wmrc.wa.gov.au](http://wmrc.wa.gov.au) for details.

**Western Metropolitan Regional Council**  
 Member Councils  
 Town of Claremont | Town of Cottesloe | Town of Mosman Park  
 Shire of Peppermint Grove | City of Subiaco

**Recycling Hotline 9384 6711** Join us online or sign up to our monthly newsletter – visit [wmrc.wa.gov.au](http://wmrc.wa.gov.au) for details.  
 WesternMetroRegionalCouncil | western-metropolitan-regional-council | @westernmetroregionalcouncil

## Policy Influence and Sector Leadership

The team maintains regular engagement with state and local government agencies, not-for-profit organisations and industry bodies to support best practice and strengthen WMRC's influence in sector-wide policy conversations. During this period, key activities included:

**WALGA – Consistent Communications Collective and Reducing Illegal Dumping Working Group.** The team contributed to state-wide communications planning, including messaging related to FOGO and other waste streams. Participation also provided early insights into upcoming state communication changes and helped shape a best-practice framework aimed at reducing illegal dumping across participating Local Governments.

**WALGA – Hot Loads Webinar.** The team attended this session on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, which covered recommended processes for preparing for, responding to and following a hot load, and communications and education approaches to support behaviour change around battery disposal. This key information has been noted and distributed to relevant WMRC staff to inform our operations and communications processes on battery safety and management. The content also contributes to the battery safety and product stewardship advocacy work discussed later in this report.

**WMRR – Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia.** Through involvement with WMRR, three staff members attended the WA Women of WARR Leadership Breakfast on 1<sup>st</sup> May. This engagement was an opportunity to learn from women who are driving change in the waste and resource recovery sector, find out about developments happening in the field, and network with others in the industry.

**Battery Product Stewardship and Management Advocacy.** The WMRC has been undertaking research into battery product stewardship and safety management practices, in recognition of the rapidly escalating safety, environmental and financial risks associated with batteries (particularly lithium-ion batteries) entering household waste streams.

The previously mentioned discussion paper is being prepared for the July Council meeting to outline: safety considerations and procedures for safe battery collection and management, the purpose and importance of product stewardship initiatives, the problems they are designed to address, and the outcomes that a mandatory, producer-funded approach could deliver for Western Australia. This topic is increasingly critical as battery-related fires become a routine operational hazard for councils and waste facilities.

## Community Engagement and Behaviour Change

### SCHOOL WASTE EDUCATION DAY, Mosman Park Primary School and Mosman Park School for Deaf Children, 6th and 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026

The team delivered our award-winning School Waste Education Day incursion for the students from Years 1-6. Student groups rotated through interactive games to learn the key waste management behaviours of Gifting, Recycling, Earthcycling, Avoiding, and Taking.

Across the two days, sessions were run by one WMRC staff member, with assistance from three of our Waste Watcher volunteers, two staff members from the Town of Mosman Park, and Year 6 student leaders. We interacted with and educated approximately 340 students and 25 staff members.



The previously outlined new projects listed below remain in the scoping and selection stage. These have been assessed and shortlisted according to criteria including reach, efficacy, effort and cost. These include:

- A. **Bin tagging data analysis** – Will not to be undertaken at this time.
- B. **Reuse and repair partnerships** – Will not to be undertaken at this time.
- C. **Large-scale community event education program (e.g. farmers markets)** – Will be undertaken in this financial year.
- D. **Reusable-first event policy guidelines** – Likely to be undertaken in this financial year.
- E. **Multi-Unit Developments waste sorting improvements** – This will certainly be going ahead this financial year.
- F. **Sustainable procurement policies** – We will look to start to do some work in this area.
- G. **Photovoltaic (PV) recycling** – Will not to be undertaken at this time.

## PLANNING AND RESOURCING

### WMRC Workforce Plan

As the transition towards the 2026 WMRC Workforce Plan is still in progress, the Communications and Education team continues to support the Verge Valet team in delivery of the service; including responding to queries, liaising with host councils and contractor staff, managing administrative tasks, producing communications content, and ongoing improvement of Hubspot customer support software.

Following changes implemented under the Workforce Plan, and with adjusted priorities for the team under the Council Plan 2026, there has been postponement or cancellation of some planned activities, including:

- Delivery of Low Waste Living initiatives – cancelled
- Attendance at Subiaco Farmers’ Markets – postponed to a later date in the coming months.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT**

This report addresses and aids mitigation of the following areas of the Corporate Risk Register:

Strategic:	Financial:
SS2 –circular economy opportunities	SF2 – cross-subsidising
SS3 –environmental outcome demand	
SS9 – misaligned strategy	Reputation:
Governance:	SR3 – public statements
SG1 – Member Council alignment	SR5 – public scepticism
SG4 – Member Council relationship	OR1 – service quality
HR management:	OR6 – public scepticism
SHR2 – staff retention	OR7 – NGO influence
SHR5 – capability/capacity gap	
OHR3 – industry knowledge	

## **COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION**

Nil

## **REPORT IMPLICATIONS**

### **Legislation and Policy Alignment**

N/A

### **Business and Strategic Alignment**

These activities are aligned to key strategies 2,4, and 5, of the WMRC Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

These activities are anticipated under current budgeting.

## **COMMENTS**

The information is presented for noting.

## **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple majority

### **RESPONSIBLE OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION**

**11.2.1 The Communications and Education report to 20 May 2026 to be noted.**

## 11.3 PROJECTS REPORT

**Responsible Officer:** Projects Lead

**Date:** 28 May 2026

**Attachment:** Nil

### PURPOSE

This report provides Council with an overview of the major projects currently underway.

### BACKGROUND

The WMRC is embarking on significant improvements including new strategies supporting business operations and significant capital works undertakings. The Projects Lead role is to facilitate some of these improvements.

### DETAIL AND OPTIONS ANALYSIS

#### RC Concept Redevelopment Plan

The Consulting Team has finalised the Redevelopment Plan and supporting Report, including cost estimates of the staged development.

This matter is on the agenda for this OCM.

#### Second Waste Compactor

Council at the 2 April 2026 OCM endorsed a Business Case to procure a second waste compactor for FOGO & Residual Waste consolidation at the Recycling Centre. Tender package is being finalised for the works. The project is expected to be completed in the 2026/2027 Financial Year.

#### Asset Management Planning

Works have commenced in developing the WMRC's new Asset Management Plan. This Plan will be developed in response to the new Council Plan. It will inform the Long-Term Financial Plan in terms of forecast need for funding for asset renewals and inform the annual Corporate Plan each year.

Site investigations at the Recycling Centre have concluded which will now be used to revalue the Fixed Assets Register within the Finance System and guide the development of the Asset Management Plan for renewal cost planning.

#### Business Strategy

A Business Strategy is being developed. This Strategy will outline the framework for emerging opportunities, scenario modelling, market insights, feasibility assessments, strategic options and implementation planning. After internal review and workshopping, it is proposed to bring this Strategy to Council later this year for adoption.

## Finance Strategy

A Finance Strategy is being developed. Its aim is to set in place a framework that identifies and evaluates funding methods for major capital investments to facilitate good decision making.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

Key strategic risks have been identified and comprehensively addressed in the Risk Register. The outcomes of this report address the following risks:

### Strategic Risks:

SS1 – long term planning

SS3 – environmental outcomes

SS4 – access to land

### Commercial and Legal Risks

SC2 – value for money

### Workplace Health and Safety Risks

WHSS1 – safe workplace

### Operational Risks:

S02 – risk identification

### Reputational Risks:

SR1 - Leadership

### Project Risks – RC Renewal Plan:

P1 – plan staging

P2 – regulatory approvals

P5 – cost overrun

P3 – delayed procurement

P4 – skilled resource

P5 – cost overrun

P6 – workplace injury

## COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

Councillors and Member Council Administration have been briefed on the progress of these projects.

## REPORT IMPLICATIONS

### Legislation and Policy Alignment

Procurement activities comply with relevant legislation

### Business and Strategic Alignment

These activities are in response to the Draft Council Plan to be considered for adoption as well as works that have been provided in the 2025/2026 Budget. The Council Plan then informs the Draft Corporate Plan for 2026/2027 onwards in which some of the above actions have been identified.

### Financial and Resource Implications

Works underway are within budget allocations, outcomes of these works that have budget implications will be discussed at the appropriate juncture.

## COMMENTS

Considerable traction has been achieved since early 2025 in scoping, procurement and works phases of projects allied to Recycling Centre improvements. The eventual completion and adoption of the Recycling Centre Concept Redevelopment Plan will set a clear set of staged improvements to

facilities within the Recycling Centre that will yield environmental, economic, service standard and safety benefits for those served by the organisation.

## **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple majority

## **RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**11.3.1 That the Projects Report be noted.**

## 11.4 VERGE VALET™ REPORT

**Responsible Officer:** Verge Valet Lead

**Date:** 20 May 2026

**Attachment:** Nil

### PURPOSE

This report provides updates on the Verge Valet™ service, including the extension of the service to the Town of East Fremantle.

### BACKGROUND

Verge Valet™ provides residents of host councils with year-round access to prebooked verge waste collections. It currently services around 100,000 properties.

The following table summarises the arrangements for each Host Council, covering 99,973 properties (ABS 2021):

<i>Name</i>	<i>MOU/ contract</i>	<i>Service start date</i>	<i>No of properties (ABS2021)</i>	<i>Allocation per property</i>		
				<i>Bulk*</i>	<i>Green</i>	<i>Mattress</i>
<i>Town of Mosman Park</i>	MOU	February 2020	4113	2	1	Y
<i>Town of Cottesloe</i>	MOU	August 2020	3609	2	1	Y
<i>Shire of Peppermint Grove</i>	MOU	March 2021	620	3	3	Y
<i>City of Subiaco</i>	MOU	September 2025	8820	0	3	N
<i>Town of Cambridge</i>	Contract	November 2020	11497	2	1	N
<i>City of Vincent</i>	Contract	April 2021	16794	2		Y
<i>City of Fremantle</i>	Contract	September 2023	15687	1	0	Y
<i>City of South Perth</i>	Contract	July 2025	20851	1	2	Y
<i>Town of Victoria Park</i>	Contract	July 2025	17982	2	1	N
<i>Town of East Fremantle</i>	Contract**	July 2026	3321	1	2	Y

*\*bulk allocations may be used for green collections, not vice versa*

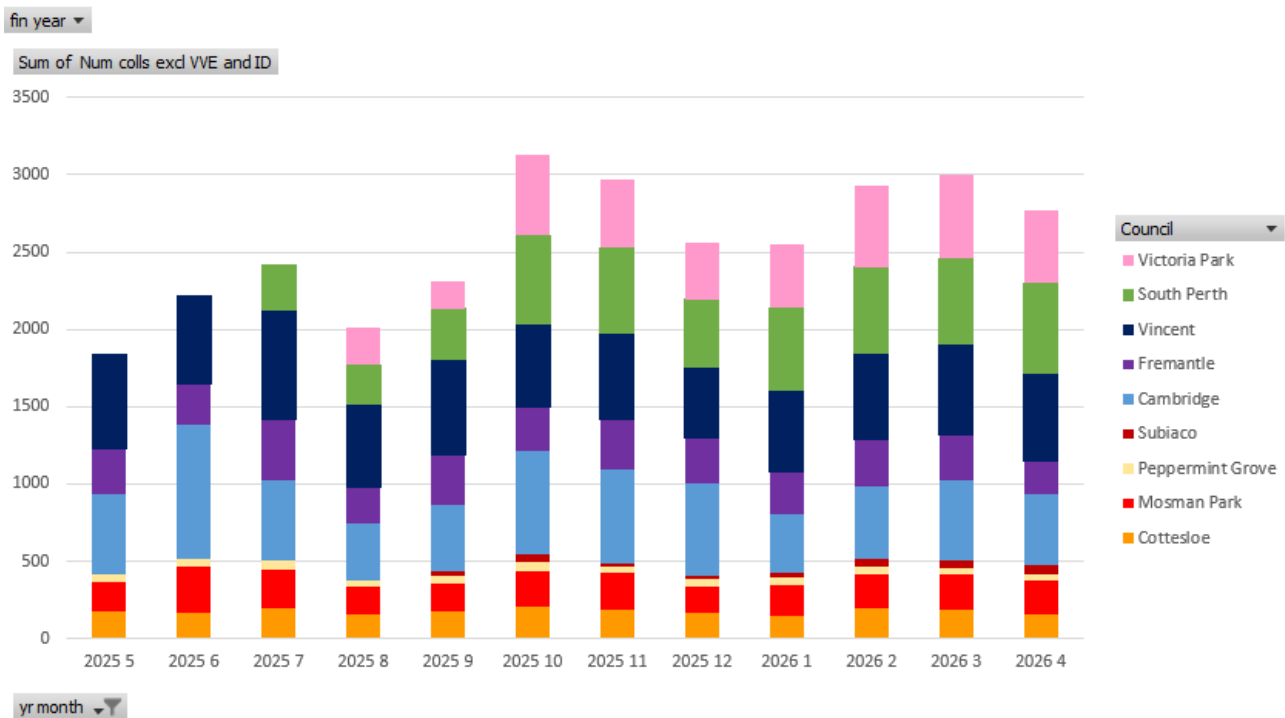
*\*\*Pending finalisation of the contract*

Reports are provided for each Ordinary Council Meeting with an update on collections, along with summary survey results from those who have used the service. Further, the proportion of waste recovered (based on processor estimates) is reported. This is the waste that is separated and forwarded to re-processors and consequently diverted away from landfill. These waste streams are green waste, metal, cardboard and wood.

## DETAIL AND OPTIONS ANALYSIS

### Number of collections

The following chart shows the number of collections per month across Verge Valet host councils since May 2025. Collection numbers increased during October and November as Victoria Park bulk waste collections began and an additional collection day in South Perth was introduced. Collection numbers dipped across December and January, reflecting the impact of the two-week Christmas shutdown and have since returned to 2700-3000 collections per month.



The collector separates e-waste, white goods and mattresses during collection. Our contractor, Perth Bin Hire, sorts the rest and reports the proportion of bulk waste recovered. This is the same sorting facility as used for the bulk waste from other sources delivered to the Recycling Centre and reported monthly. The latest available figures (to April) show that around 85% of the collected bulk waste is recovered. Material recovered comprises paper and cardboard, ferrous metals, and wood. 100% of the green waste is recovered.

The team continues to use a cloud-based management system (HubSpot) which helps streamline managing enquiry volumes and resident communications. The Verge Valet team has also utilised

HubSpot to identify recurring service issues, using these insights to guide service improvements and inform targeted communication initiatives.

### **New Customer**

WMRC continues to collaborate with Town of East Fremantle staff on planning and scheduling of the Verge Valet service rollout. Bookings will be open in July and collections will begin in August. We will deliver training, communications material and FAQs for council staff and information sessions for Elected Members and residents throughout June and July. The addition of the Town's 3340 households will be manageable for the Verge Valet team.

### **WMRC Workforce Plan**

In line with the WMRC Workforce Plan, responsibility for Verge Valet has now transitioned to the Operations team. The recruitment process for two casual Verge Valet Service Officer positions is scheduled to occur in late May and early June.

### **Communications enhancement**

The Communications and Education team continues to support the Verge Valet team by developing customised communication materials, including animations, social media assets, and collaborative media stories. Most of these requests have been initiated by the new host councils.

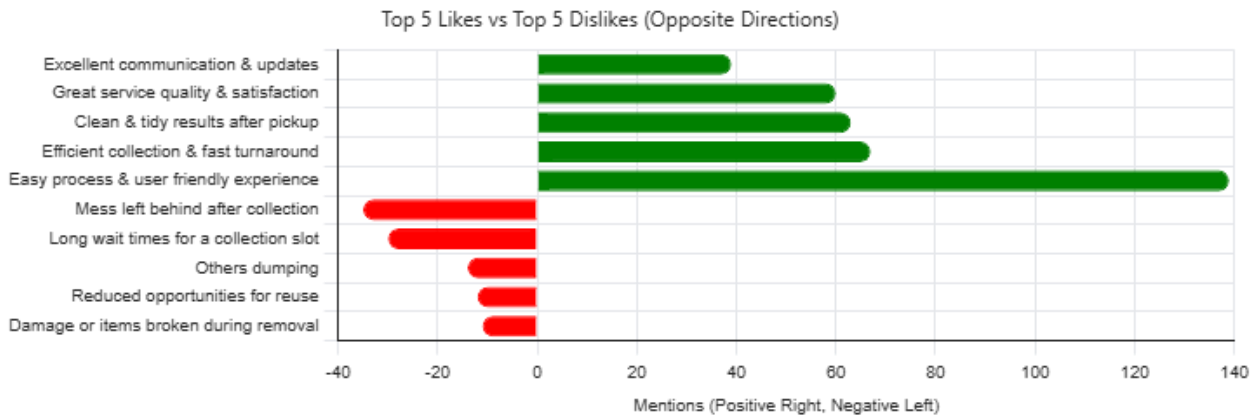
### **Verge Valet Fuel Update**

Verge Valet service costs will be aligned with the Fair Work Commission's Order of 20 April 2026. Any increases in contractor collection costs, including changes in the National Average Terminal Gate Price, will be calculated and passed on to Councils without any additional margin applied by WMRC.

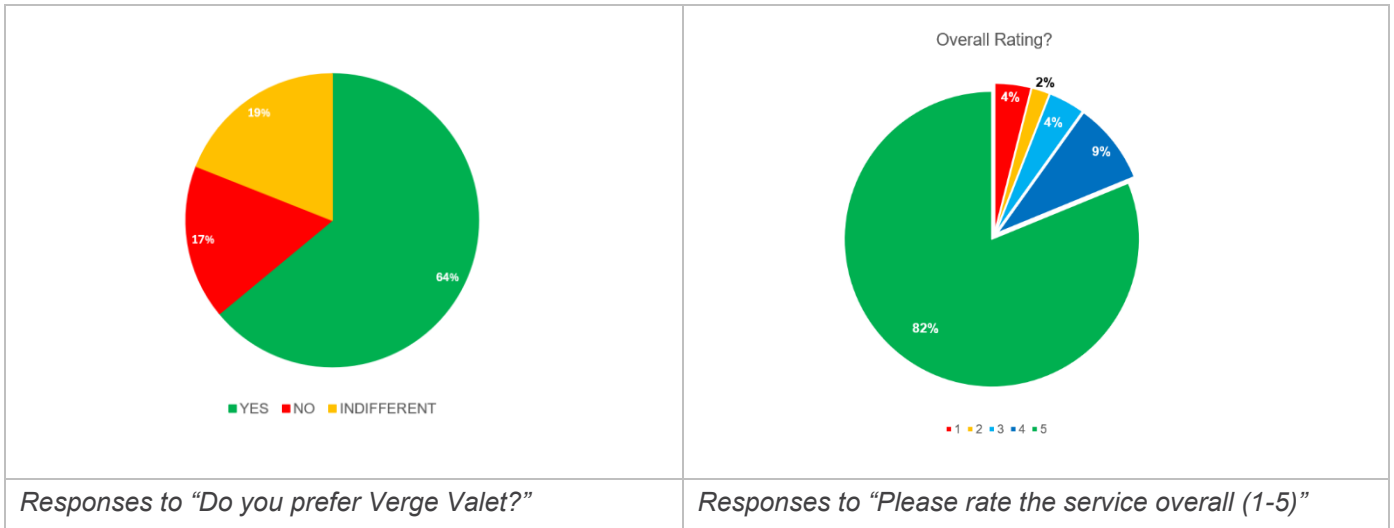
### **User feedback**

Following a Verge Valet service to a property, those residents are invited to complete a survey. Eight questions provide a rating and/or comments on each of the booking processes, the collection process, and the overall service.

Positive (green) and negative (red) comment themes are summarized below:



Overall user ratings for this financial year remain consistent as shown below:



## RISK MANAGEMENT

This report addresses and aids mitigation of the following areas of the Corporate Risk Register:

**Strategic:**

- SS2 –circular economy opportunities
- SS3 –environmental outcome demand
- SS9 – misaligned strategy
- OS1 – resource allocation
- OS3 – sole supplier
- OS5 – organisational structure

**Governance:**

- SG1 – Member Council alignment
- SG4 – Member Council relationship

**HR management:**

- SHR5 – capacity/capability gaps
- OHR8 – organisational productivity

**Operational:**

- OO5 – service provider failure
- OO9 – contractor compliance

Commercial:

- SC3 – economies of scale
- OC2 – intellectual property
- OC3 – contract management
- OC7 – contractor non-performance

WHS:

- WHSS1 – safe workplace
- WHS07 – contractor practices
- WHS09 – sharps
- WHS011 – manual handling
- WHS012 – 16 – Hazardous substances

Financial:

- SF1 – financial health
- SF2 – cross-subsidising

IT:

- SIT1 – digital information access
- SIT2 – unauthorized digital access

Reputation:

- SR5 – public scepticism
- OR2 – contractor standards
- OR6 – public scepticism
- OR7 – NGO influence

## COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

Nil.

## REPORT IMPLICATIONS

### Legislation and Policy Alignment

The Verge Valet™ service is provided under contract to non-Member Councils and under a Memorandum of Understanding to Member Councils.

### Business and Strategic Alignment

This report is aligned with the following Key Strategies (SCP 2023):

1. Achieve a comprehensive, cost-effective waste management service across the region
2. Increase the number of Councils, businesses and people using our services
3. Divert waste from landfill by making materials and energy recovery available
4. Promote and facilitate waste avoidance and responsible waste management in the community

### Financial and Resource Implications

The financial implications of Verge Valet™ have been considered in the budget setting process. We continue to staff the phone service through existing staff levels.

## COMMENTS

The Verge Valet service has expanded markedly and continues to receive positive feedback from users. The service continues to have a positive impact on our financial position.

## VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple majority

### RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

#### 11.4.1 The Verge Valet report be noted.

# 11.5 PROGRESS ON COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>28 May 2026</b>
<b>Attachment:</b>	<b>11-5A Progress on Council Resolutions</b>

## PURPOSE

Council monitors progress on its resolutions at each OCM. A schedule showing progress on WMRC resolutions up to and including 28 May 2026 is presented at Attachment 11-5A. Only uncompleted resolutions, and those recently completed, are shown on the schedule.

## BACKGROUND

In October 2007 Council decided that an information bulletin item tracking the progress of Council resolutions be presented at future meetings.

## DETAIL AND OPTIONS ANALYSIS

Please refer to Attachment 11-5A. The schedule is colour coded. Red - resolutions not yet commenced; orange – resolutions in progress; green – resolutions complete.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

The implementation of Council resolutions relates to, and assists mitigation of risks associated with the following areas of the Corporate Risk Register:

Strategic;

OS1 – allocation of resources

Governance;

OG5 – service delivery

HR Management;

SHR3 - service delivery

OHR7 – roles and responsibilities

## COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

Council resolutions and progress on their implementation are discussed at CEOAC meetings.

## REPORT IMPLICATIONS

### Legislation and Policy Alignment

*Local Government Act 1995*

### **Business and Strategic Alignment**

Progress on Council Resolutions is aligned to all six key strategies of the WMRC *Strategic Community Plan*.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

Not applicable

## **COMMENTS**

The report is provided for noting.

## **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple majority.

### **RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**11.5.1 The progress on Council resolutions be noted.**

## 11.6 CEO FORUM – RECORD OF MEETING

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>28 May 2026</b>
<b>Attachment:</b>	<b>11-6A CEO Forum – Record of Meeting May 2026</b>

### PURPOSE

For Council to receive a summary of the CEO Forum meeting of May 2026.

### BACKGROUND

Council has adopted a policy addressing arrangements for member Council CEO forums. The policy sets out arrangements for forums that enable discussion and input into key issues relevant to the WMRC.

### DETAILS

Please refer to **Attachment 11-6A**.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

The forums assist mitigation of risks associated with the following areas of the Corporate Risk Register:

#### Governance

- SG1 – member needs
- SG3 – relationship management
- SG4 - relationship management

#### Financial

- SF2 – cross subsidisation

#### Reputational

- SR1 - decision making
- OR8 – public criticism

### COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

Nil.

### REPORT IMPLICATIONS

#### Legislation and Policy Alignment

*Local Government Act 1995*

### **Business and Strategic Alignment**

Business of the CEO Forums includes all key strategies of the WMRC *Strategic Community Plan*.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

Not applicable

## **COMMENTS**

The record is provided for noting.

## **VOTING REQUIREMENT**

Simple majority.

## **RESPONSIBLE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**11.6.1 The CEO Forum – Record of Meeting held on 21 May 2026 be noted.**

## **12 MOTIONS FOR WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

## **13 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

## **14 MEMBERS' QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

## **15 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION**

## **16 MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS**

It is proposed that the following item be considered in a closed session:

### **16.1 East Rockingham Resource Recovery Facility – Waste Supply Agreement**

#### **RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

That in accordance with Sections 5.23(2) of the Local Government Act 1995, the meeting is closed to members of the public with the following aspect of the Act being applicable to these matters:

16.1 (c), (d), (e)

- 
- (a) a matter affecting an employee or employees;
  - (b) the personal affairs of any person;
  - (c) a contract entered into, or which may be entered into, by the local government and which relates to a matter to be discussed at the meeting; and
  - (d) legal advice obtained, or which may be obtained, by the local government and which relates to a matter to be discussed at the meeting; and
  - (e) a matter that if disclosed, would reveal —
    - (i) a trade secret; or
    - (ii) information that has a commercial value to a person; or
    - (iii) information about the business, professional, commercial or financial affairs of a person, where the trade secret or information is held by, or is about, a person other than the local government.
  - (f) a matter that if disclosed, could be reasonably expected to —

(i) impair the effectiveness of any lawful method or procedure for preventing, detecting, investigating or dealing with any contravention or possible contravention of the law; or

(ii) endanger the security of the local government's property; or

(iii) prejudice the maintenance or enforcement of a lawful measure for protecting public safety; and

(g) information which is the subject of a direction given under section 23(1a) of the Parliamentary Commissioner Act 1971; and

(h) such other matters as may be prescribed.

## **17 BUSINESS NOT DEALT WITH FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING**

## **18 GENERAL BUSINESS**

## **19 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

**Next Ordinary Council Meeting: 30 July 2026, Town of Mosman Park**