

Date:	12 December 2024
Time:	6:30PM
Location:	City of Perth



Ordinary Council Meeting **Agenda**

MINDARIE REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTICE OF MEETING

06 December 2024

Councillors of the Mindarie Regional Council are advised that an Ordinary Meeting of the Council will be held at the City of Perth at 6.30 pm on 12 December 2024.

The agenda pertaining to the meeting follows.

Your attendance is respectfully requested.



SCOTT CAIRNS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

MINDARIE REGIONAL COUNCIL - MEMBERSHIP

Cr S Proud, JP (Stephanie) - Chair	City of Stirling
Cr K Vernon (Karen)- Deputy Chair	Town of Victoria Park
Cr R Fishwick, JP (Russ)	City of Joondalup
Cr C May (Christopher)	City of Joondalup
Cr L Gobbert, JP (Liam)	City of Perth
Cr A Creado (Andrea)	City of Stirling
Cr J Ferrante (Joe)	City of Stirling
Cr C Hatton (Chris)	City of Stirling
Cr A Castle (Alex)	City of Vincent
Cr P Miles (Paul)	City of Wanneroo
Cr J Wright (Jordan)	City of Wanneroo
Cr G Mack (Gary)	Town of Cambridge

NB: Although some Councils have nominated alternate members, it is a requirement that a Council carries a specific resolution for each occasion that the alternate member is to act.

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

2 ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Declaration of Financial/Conflict of Interest to be recorded prior to dealing with each item.

Disclosure of Financial and Proximity Interests

- (a) *Members must disclose the nature of their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting. (Section 5.65 of the Local Government Act 1995).*
- (b) *Employees must disclose the nature of their interest in reports or advice when giving the report or advice to the meeting. (Sections 5.70 and 5.71 of the Local Government Act 1995).*

Disclosure of Interest Affecting Impartiality

- (a) *Members and staff must disclose their interest in matters to be discussed at the meeting in respect of which the member or employee has given or will give advice.*

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE 28.11.2024 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

At the Ordinary Council meeting on 28.11.2024 the following public questions were received. The Chair elected to have the public questions treated as normal business correspondence in accordance with the Mindarie Regional Council Meeting Procedures Local Law 2020. The questions and answers are detailed below:

Ms O'Byrne, Kinross

Q1: What procedure(s) are applied to odour complaints submitted after hours when personnel are no longer on site to verify complaints?

A1: There are no administrative staff on site to handle odour reports received by MRC after hours.

Odour reports received after hours are actioned the next working day using data captured by the on-site, calibrated weather station and associated software at Tamala Park. This is then investigated against the weather conditions at the time of the odour impact as specified in the report, or – where that information is not provided – when the report was made.

Q2: Has Tamala Park Landfill operation ever operated without a valid license?

A2: Due to a billing error between the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and MRC in June 2023, Tamala Park did – between 25 June 2023 and 21 July 2023 – operate with a lapsed license.

Once the error was identified, MRC was issued with a new license. No suggestion of wrongdoing was made against MRC and the new license issued was a direct replacement of the previous license with regards to the conditions placed upon MRC, as operators of Tamala Park, by the regulator.

We are not aware of any other instance where Tamala Park operated without a license.

Q3: EDL energy operates the gas-powered power station at the facility and around 240 tonnes of carbon monoxide are emitted from the site every year – what perimeter monitoring is in place to monitor these emissions?

A3: The Tamala Park landfill gas power station is operated by an independent contractor - EDL - which prepares its own report for the National Pollutant Inventory (NPI), independent of MRC.

No monitoring for carbon monoxide around the site perimeter is currently carried out by MRC.

Q4: The National Pollutant Inventory (NPI) data clearly identifies PM2.5 and PM10.0 levels of airborne particulates at the MRC landfill site – where are these pollutants measured, noting that asbestos containing materials and respirable silica from building materials may constitute some of this fine particulate matter.

A4: Each year, MRC provides the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) with data from operations and practices carried out on site at Tamala Park.

DWER then uses this information to produce estimates of particular emissions and pollutants, which is used by the National Pollutant Inventory in its reporting.

In the case of asbestos and silica from construction and demolition waste (C&D), this is not part of the National Pollutant Inventory reporting requirements.

The particulates which Mrs O'Byrne refers to – (PM2.5 and PM10.0) are the kind produced by internal combustion engines on waste trucks, landfill machinery and the engines used by EDL as part of the landfill gas power station facility.

PM 2.5 and PM10.0 would be reported anywhere where significant amounts of pollution from internal combustion engines is produced. This might include a freeway, highway or a busy road – and this information is publicly available.

Q5: Given the presence of methane at the site and known levels of fugitive emissions, why is methane not reported as an emission to the NPI?

A5: Methane does not form part of the National Pollution Inventory (NPI) as it is not classified as a pollutant but instead as a greenhouse gas.

This is why MRC does not report methane as an emission to the NPI.

MRC is required to provide all reportable data relating to methane to the National Greenhouse Energy Regulator (NGER) which is the national framework for reporting information from companies or organisations regarding greenhouse gas emissions.

The NGER presents this data as CO2 equivalent (CO2e).

5	ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE PRESIDING PERSON
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6	APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE
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7	PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS
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8	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
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8.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 28 November 2024

The Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 November 2024 have been printed and circulated to members of the Council.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 November 2024 be confirmed as a true record of the proceedings.

9 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

9.1	FINANCIAL STATEMENT – FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 November 2024
Reference:	GF-23-000000019
Attachment(s):	Attachment 1
Date:	06 December 2024
Responsible Officer:	Executive Manager Corporate Services

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a set of financial reports in line with statutory requirements, which provides information on the financial performance of the Mindarie Regional Council (MRC).

BACKGROUND

Financial Management Regulations 34 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 defines reporting requirements.

The financial reports presented for the month ending 30 November 2024 consist of:

- Statement by Comprehensive Income by Nature
- Operating Income Statement by Program
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Statement of Financial Activity
- Statement of Reserves
- Statement of Investing Activity
- Cash and Cash Equivalents and Schedule of Investments
- Tonnage Report

DETAIL

The attached report provides an overview of the MRC's interim financial performance for the period ending 30 November 2024 and has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995, the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 and the Australian Accounting Standards. The report fairly represents, in all material respects, the results of the MRC's operations for the month being reported.

The financial reports for the period ending 30 November 2024 are enclosed in **Attachment 1** to this item. The Schedule of Investments and Tonnage Report up to 30 November 2024 are also contained within Attachment 1.

Summary of results for the year-to-date period ended 30 November 2024

	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Variance
	t	t	t
Tonnes – Members	76,288	72,808	(3,480)
Tonnes – Others	13,527	8,323	(5,204)
TOTAL TONNES	89,815	81,131	(8,684)
	\$	\$	\$
Revenue - Fees & Charges	17,257,438	15,592,838	(1,664,600)
Revenue - Other	3,331,580	3,539,388	207,807
TOTAL REVENUE	20,589,018	19,132,225	(1,456,793)
Expenses	(17,576,943)	(15,154,913)	2,422,030
Gross Profit	3,012,075	3,977,312	965,237
Net Profit / Loss on sales of assets	122,924	(18,282)	(141,206)
NET PROFIT	3,134,999	3,959,030	824,032

VARIANCE YEAR TO DATE

Mindarie Regional Council's financial result for the period ending 30 November 2024 reflects its performance from 1 July 2024 to 30 November 2024. The Council's operations have been conducted in line with the adopted budget at the OCM, 27 June 2024. In line with materiality adopted by the Council, variances below \$50k do not attract comments.

MRC recorded a net profit of \$3.96m for the period ended 30 November 2024.

REVENUE

Revenue for the year to 30 November 2024 was \$1.46m under the year-to-date budget. User charges across members and non-members including mattress charges were \$1.3m under budget. Trade discounts and Water Corp contracts ceasing contributed to this underspend. Interest earnings on term deposits were \$197k over budget. There have been no gas power generation sales yet, this is a timing issue. Variances will be analysed as part of mid-year budget review.

EXPENDITURE

The main areas contributing to the positive variance of \$2.4m were employment costs \$209k, materials and contracts \$1.9m and depreciation \$136k. Employment costs are subject to the timing of recruitment and enterprise bargaining agreement adjustment and should align as the year progresses. Project and maintenance timings have contributed to the materials and contracts variance. Waste to energy has not commenced yet, it is anticipated the start will not occur until later in the year. As a result of this event, the DEP levy cost has increased due to the tonnages being delivered to the MRC, thus returning a net positive outcome at month end of

approx. \$800k. An analysis of the expected position at year-end will be undertaken as part of the mid-year budget review.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

End of November 2024 the MRC's cash position is solid due to collection of fees and charges and positive earnings from the investments. Capital expenditure that is yet to be incurred impacts this position.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

There is \$2.3m or 14.8% capital expenditure incurred to 30 November 2024. This cost predominantly comes from landfill infrastructure and phase 2 capping work. The majority of budgeted capital expenditure is expected to be utilised by the year end.

RESERVE ACCOUNTS

The reserve accounts for the year-to-date have increased by \$2.6m due to planned transfer and interest earned netted off by capital expenditure for the period. Reserves will be analysed as part of mid-year budget review.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Section 6.4 of the Local Government Act 1995 and regulation 34(1) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

Receive the Financial Statements set out in Attachment 1 for the month ended 30 November 2024.



Financial Report
for the period ending
30 November 2024

Authorised by: Adnana Arapovic
Executive Manager Corporate Services

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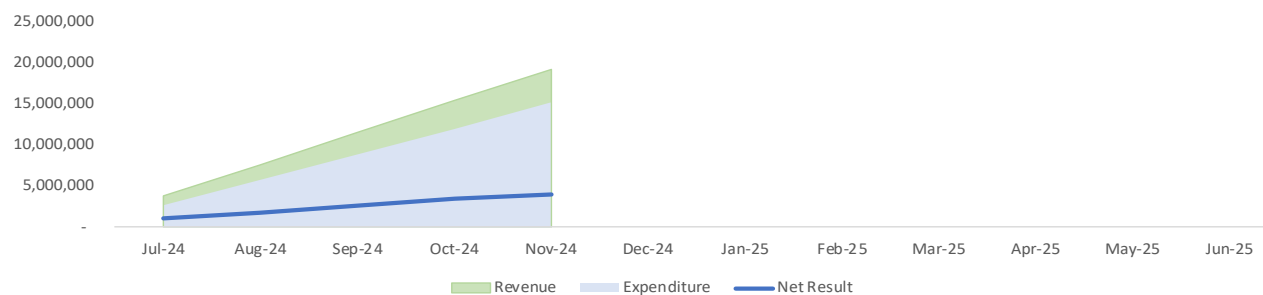
- 1.0 Financial Summary
- 2.0 Financial Statements
 - 2.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature
 - 2.2 Statement of Comprehensive Income by Program
 - 2.3 Statement of Financial Position
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 - 2.5 Statement of Financial Activity
 - 2.6 Statement of Reserves
 - 2.7 Statement of Investing Activity
- 3.0 Cash and Cash Equivalents and Schedule of Investments
- 4.0 Tonnage Report

1.0 Financial Summary For the period 30 November 2024

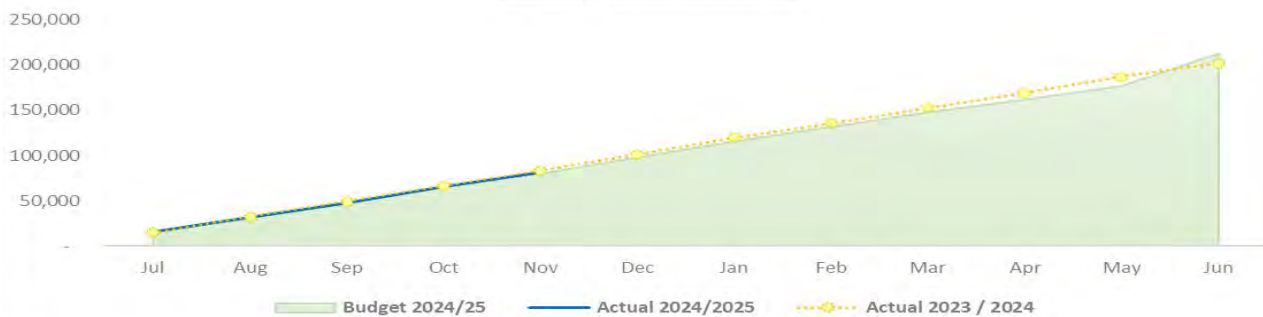
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Adopted Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance	Variance %	Status
Fees and Charges Revenue	\$ 40,782,585	\$ 17,257,438	\$ 15,592,838	\$ (1,664,600)	(10%)	↓
Other Revenue	\$ 7,630,062	\$ 3,331,580	\$ 3,539,388	\$ 207,807	6%	↑
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 48,412,647	\$ 20,589,018	\$ 19,132,225	\$ (1,456,793)	(7%)	↓
Operating Expenditure	\$ (47,150,125)	\$ (17,576,943)	\$ (15,154,913)	\$ 2,422,030	(14%)	↓
Net Operating Surplus	\$ 1,262,522	\$ 3,012,075	\$ 3,977,312	\$ 965,237	32%	↑
Net profit /(loss) on sale of assets	\$ 510,480	\$ 122,924	\$ (18,282)	\$ (141,206)	(115%)	↓
Net Result	\$ 1,773,002	\$ 3,134,999	\$ 3,959,030	\$ 824,032	26%	↑

Year to Date Net Result Cumulative



Tonnage Cumulative



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Original Budget	Actual Year to Date	Actual 30 June 2024
Current Assets	\$ 74,682,308	\$ 83,622,053	\$ 79,426,688
Non Current Assets	\$ 101,974,030	\$ 101,754,399	\$ 103,118,451
Total Assets	\$ 176,656,338	\$ 185,376,452	\$ 182,545,138
Current Liabilities	\$ 6,446,995	\$ 15,377,482	\$ 16,570,400
Non Current Liabilities	\$ 27,218,849	\$ 25,361,310	\$ 25,296,110
Total Liabilities	\$ 33,665,844	\$ 40,738,792	\$ 41,866,510
Equity	\$ 142,990,495	\$ 144,637,660	\$ 140,678,629

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

	Original Budget	Year to Date Actual	Variance \$	Variance %
Capital Expenditure	15,705,396	2,323,363	13,382,033	85.2%

2.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature For the period ended 30 November 2024

	Adopted Budget	Year to Date				Previous YTD Actual
	2024/25 \$	Adopted Budget \$	Actual \$	Variance \$	Variance %	30-Nov-23 \$
Revenue						
Member User Charges						
User Charges - City of Perth	2,700,714	1,047,913	1,035,829	(12,083)	(1%)	837,070
User Charges - City of Wanneroo	10,065,000	4,377,926	4,379,759	1,833	0%	3,364,592
User Charges - City of Joondalup	6,148,800	2,578,614	2,560,640	(17,974)	(1%)	2,049,517
User Charges - City of Stirling	10,461,194	4,358,831	3,772,979	(585,852)	(13%)	3,475,355
User Charges - Town of Cambridge	786,900	296,882	287,534	(9,347)	(3%)	367,904
User Charges - City of Vincent	1,006,499	439,962	435,890	(4,072)	(1%)	362,780
User Charges - Town of Victoria Park	1,943,460	860,561	860,489	(72)	(0%)	685,049
Total Member User Charges	33,112,568	13,960,688	13,333,120	(627,567)	(4%)	11,142,268
User Charges - Casual Tipping Fees	5,870,017	2,556,750	1,853,879	(702,871)	(27%)	1,914,137
Total User Charges	38,982,585	16,517,438	15,186,999	(1,330,439)	(8%)	13,056,405
Other Fees and Charges						
Mattresses Charges	1,000,000	406,667	405,838	(828)	(0%)	-
Gas Power Generation Sales	800,000	333,333	-	(333,333)	(100%)	40,599
Total Other Fees and Charges	1,800,000	740,000	405,838	(334,161)	(45%)	40,599
Total Fees and Charges	40,782,585	17,257,438	15,592,838	(1,664,600)	(10%)	13,097,004
Interest Earnings	2,984,150	1,443,396	1,640,852	197,456	14%	1,121,739
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions						
Reimb. of Admin/Governance Expenses	4,364,356	1,818,482	1,821,231	2,749	0%	1,940,216
Other Revenue						
Other Revenue	281,556	69,703	77,305	7,602	11%	91,307
Total Other Revenue	7,630,062	3,331,580	3,539,388	207,807	6%	3,153,262
Total Revenue	48,412,647	20,589,018	19,132,225	(1,456,793)	(7%)	16,250,267
EXPENSES						
Employee Costs	(6,779,990)	(2,689,600)	(2,479,767)	209,833	(8%)	(2,081,981)
Materials and Contracts	(28,294,000)	(9,968,546)	(8,067,811)	1,900,735	(19%)	(6,928,063)
Utilities	(818,250)	(328,229)	(254,020)	74,209	(23%)	(240,767)
Depreciation	(7,062,320)	(2,942,633)	(2,805,707)	136,926	(5%)	(2,614,844)
Amortisation	(2,119,200)	(883,001)	(883,001)	(0)	0%	(883,001)
Finance Costs	(1,040,175)	(433,406)	(427,395)	6,011	(1%)	(458,931)
Insurances	(665,100)	(202,000)	(154,717)	47,283	(23%)	(149,332)
Other Expenses	(371,090)	(129,528)	(82,495)	47,033	(36%)	(37,353)
Total Expenses	(47,150,125)	(17,576,943)	(15,154,913)	2,422,030	(14%)	(13,394,272)
Capital Grants, Subsidies and Contributions						
Capital Grants and Subsidies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Profit/(loss) from ordinary activities						
Profit on Sale of Assets	527,550	122,924	-	(122,924)	(100%)	-
Loss on Sale of Assets	(17,070)	-	(18,282)	(18,282)	-	-
Net result for the period	510,480	122,924	(18,282)	(141,206)	(115%)	-
Other Comprehensive income for the period						
Changes in asset revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	1,773,002	3,134,999	3,959,030	824,032	26%	2,855,995

2.2 Statement of Comprehensive Income by Program For the period ended 30 November 2024

	Adopted Budget 2024/25	Adopted Budget YTD 30 Nov 2024	Actual YTD 30 Nov 2024	Variance	Variance
	\$	\$	\$	\$	%
Revenue from Ordinary Activities					
Community Amenities	41,064,141	17,327,141	15,670,142	(1,656,998)	(10%)
General Purpose Funding	2,984,150	1,443,396	1,640,852	197,456	14%
Governance	4,364,356	1,818,482	1,821,231	2,749	0%
	48,412,647	20,589,018	19,132,225	(1,456,793)	(7%)
Expenses from Ordinary Activities					
Governance	(7,274,182)	(2,821,396)	(2,124,064)	697,332	(25%)
Community Amenities	(39,574,055)	(14,629,761)	(12,911,074)	1,718,687	(12%)
Total operating expenses	(46,848,237)	(17,451,157)	(15,035,138)	2,416,019	(14%)
Finance costs					
Governance	(301,888)	(125,787)	(119,775)	6,011	(5%)
Total finance costs	(301,888)	(125,787)	(119,775)	6,011	(5%)
Profit on sale of assets					
Community Amenities	527,550	122,924	-	(122,924)	(100%)
	527,550	122,924	-	(122,924)	(100%)
Loss on sale of assets					
Community Amenities	(17,070)	-	(18,282)	(18,282)	
Total profit / loss on sale of assets	510,480	122,924	(18,282)	(141,206)	(115%)
Net result for the period	1,773,002	3,134,999	3,959,030	824,032	26%
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	1,773,002	3,134,999	3,959,030	824,032	26%

2.3 Statement of Financial Position As at 30 November 2024

	Actual 30 November 2024	Actual as at 30 June 2024
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	21,505,816	21,681,423
Other Financial Assets	58,158,811	54,604,800
Debtors and other receivables	2,461,570	2,304,693
Inventories	14,196	12,330
Other Current Assets	1,481,660	823,442
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	83,622,053	79,426,688
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	33,761,768	34,467,151
Right of Use Asset	5,352,568	5,650,725
Infrastructure	48,809,917	50,404,389
Excavation and Rehabilitation Asset	13,830,146	12,596,186
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	101,754,399	103,118,451
TOTAL ASSETS	185,376,452	182,545,138
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	3,284,323	4,523,948
Provisions	844,377	821,751
Rehabilitation provision	10,851,829	10,544,209
Right of Use Asset - Leases	396,954	680,492
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	15,377,482	16,570,400
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	135,516	88,800
Rehabilitation provision	19,504,778	19,504,778
Right of Use Asset - Leases	5,721,016	5,702,532
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	25,361,310	25,296,110
TOTAL LIABILITIES	40,738,792	41,866,510
NET ASSETS	144,637,660	140,678,629
EQUITY		
Retained Losses	(27,803,047)	(29,128,650)
Reserves Accounts	28,038,205	25,404,778
Revaluation Surplus	55,316,776	55,316,776
Council Contribution	89,085,726	89,085,726
TOTAL EQUITY	144,637,660	140,678,629

2.4 Statement of Cash Flows

For the period ended 30 November 2024

	Adopted Budget 2024/2025	Actual YTD 30-Nov-24	Actual 30-Jun-24
	\$		\$
Cash flows from operating activities			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Contributions, re-imbursements and donations	4,364,356	1,821,231	4,656,518
Gas generation services	800,000	-	615,414
Fees and charges	41,317,586	15,444,506	31,709,699
Interest earnings	2,984,150	1,312,706	3,133,051
Other revenue	281,556	77,305	339,899
GST Received	-	865,592	3,061,094
	49,747,648	19,521,341	43,515,675
<u>Payments</u>			
Employee costs	(6,217,432)	(2,465,504)	(5,704,745)
Materials and contracts	(27,783,520)	(9,678,209)	(16,720,971)
Utilities	(818,250)	(254,020)	(591,004)
Insurance	(665,100)	(154,717)	(355,736)
Finance Costs	(301,090)	(119,775)	(324,573)
Other Expenditure	(70,000)	(82,495)	(204,320)
GST Paid	-	(829,982)	(3,106,273)
	(35,855,392)	(13,584,702)	(27,007,622)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	13,892,256	5,936,639	16,508,053
Cash flows from investing activities			
Grants and subsidiaries	-	-	38,000
Payments for purchases of property, plant and equipment and infrastructure	(15,705,396)	(2,323,363)	(1,684,830)
Investments term deposits	(4,354,150)	(3,554,011)	(14,108,890)
Proceeds from Sale of assets	1,370,000	49,758	1,293,291
Net cash used in investing activities	(18,689,546)	(5,827,616)	(14,462,429)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Lease payments	(559,266)	(284,630)	(626,342)
Net cash (used in)/from financing activities	(559,266)	(284,630)	(626,342)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(5,356,556)	(175,607)	1,419,282
Cash and cash equivalents 30 June 2024	25,503,246	21,681,423	20,262,141
Cash and cash equivalents 30 November 2024	20,146,690	21,505,816	21,681,423

2.5 Statement of Financial Activity

For the period ended 30 November 2024

	Adopted Budget 2024/25	Adopted Budget YTD 30-Nov-24	Actual YTD 30-Nov-24	Variance	Variance
	\$	\$	\$	\$	%
Revenue from operating activities					
Contributions and reimbursements	4,364,356	1,818,482	1,821,231	2,749	0%
Fees and charges	40,782,585	17,257,438	15,592,838	(1,664,600)	(10%)
Interest revenue	2,984,150	1,443,396	1,640,852	197,456	14%
Other revenue	281,556	69,703	77,305	7,602	11%
Profit on asset disposals	527,550	122,924	-	(122,924)	
	48,940,197	20,711,942	19,132,225	(1,579,717)	(8%)
Expenditure from operating activities					
Employee costs	(6,779,990)	(2,689,600)	(2,479,767)	209,833	(8%)
Materials and contracts	(28,294,000)	(9,968,546)	(8,067,811)	1,900,735	(19%)
Utility charges	(818,250)	(328,229)	(254,020)	74,209	(23%)
Depreciation & amortisation	(9,181,520)	(3,825,634)	(3,688,708)	136,926	(4%)
Finance costs	(1,040,175)	(433,406)	(427,395)	6,011	(1%)
Insurance	(665,100)	(202,000)	(154,717)	47,283	(23%)
Other expenditure	(371,090)	(129,528)	(82,495)	47,033	(36%)
Loss on asset disposals	(17,070)	-	(18,282)	(18,282)	(100%)
	(47,167,195)	(17,576,943)	(15,173,195)	2,403,749	(14%)
Add/less: Non-cash items					
Profit on asset disposals	(527,550)	(122,924)	-	122,924	(100%)
Loss on disposal of assets	17,070	-	18,282	18,282	
Depreciation & amortisation	9,181,520	3,825,634	3,688,708	(136,926)	(4%)
Employee benefit provisions	678,558	282,733	69,436	(213,296)	(75%)
Rehabilitation - unwinding of interest	738,287	307,620	307,620	-	0%
Other Provisions	696,004	174,001	-	(174,001)	(100%)
	10,783,888	4,467,063	4,084,045	(383,018)	(9%)
Amount attributable to operating activities	12,556,890	7,602,062	8,043,076	441,014	6%
Inflows from investing activities					
Proceeds from disposal of assets	1,370,000	-	-	-	0%
	1,370,000	-	-	-	
Outflows from investing activities					
Purchase of plant and equipment	(3,753,366)	(1,563,903)	(78,320)	1,485,583	(95%)
Purchase of land and buildings	(280,000)	(116,667)	(60,077)	56,590	(49%)
Purchase of computer equipment	(217,000)	(90,417)	(11,160)	79,256	(88%)
Purchase and construction of infrastructure	(11,455,030)	(4,772,929)	(2,173,806)	2,599,123	(54%)
	(15,705,396)	(6,543,915)	(2,323,363)	4,220,552	(64%)
Amount attributable to investing activities	(14,335,396)	(6,543,915)	(2,323,363)	4,220,552	(64%)
Inflows from financing activity					
Transfers from reserve accounts	7,808,366	3,253,486	206,402	(3,047,084)	(94%)
	7,808,366	3,253,486	206,402	(3,047,084)	(94%)
Outflows from financing activities					
Payments for principal portion of lease liabilities	(665,840)	(271,329)	(284,723)	(13,395)	5%
Transfers to reserve accounts	(8,054,124)	(2,785,052)	(2,839,830)	(54,779)	2%
	(8,719,964)	(3,056,380)	(3,124,553)	(68,174)	2%
Amount attributable to financing activities	(911,598)	197,106	(2,918,151)	(3,115,257)	(1581%)
MOVEMENT IN SURPLUS OR DEFICIT					
Surplus or deficit at the start of the year	49,252,469	49,252,469	49,497,963	245,494	0%
Amount attributable to operating activities	12,556,890	7,602,062	8,043,076	441,014	6%
Amount attributable to investing activities	(14,335,396)	(6,543,915)	(2,323,363)	4,220,552	(64%)
Amount attributable to financing activities	(911,598)	197,106	(2,918,151)	(3,115,257)	(1581%)
Surplus or deficit	46,562,365	50,507,721	52,299,525	1,791,804	4%

2.5 Net Current Assets

For the period ended 30 November 2024

	Actual As at 30 Nov 2024	Actual 30 June 2024
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	21,505,816	21,681,423
Other Financial Assets	58,158,811	54,604,800
Debtors and other receivables	2,461,570	2,304,693
Inventories	14,196	12,330
Other Current Assets	1,481,660	823,442
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	83,622,053	79,426,688
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	3,284,323	4,523,948
Provisions	11,696,205	11,365,960
Right of Use Asset - Leases	396,954	680,492
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	15,377,482	16,570,400
NET CURRENT ASSETS	68,244,571	62,856,288
Add Back Restricted Liabilities		
Provisions	11,696,205	11,365,960
Right of Use - Liabilities	396,954	680,492
Adjusted Net Current Assets	80,337,730	74,902,740
Less: Net current financial assets that back reserves		
Reserve Accounts	(28,038,205)	(25,404,778)
	52,299,525	49,497,963

2.6 Statement of Reserves

For the period ended 30 November 2024

Description	Actual 30 November 2024
<u>Site Rehabilitation</u>	
Opening balance	18,679,243
Interest income	321,241
Transfer to reserves	307,620
Transfer from reserves	-
Closing Balance	19,308,103
<u>Capital Expenditure</u>	
Opening balance	6,209,785
Interest income	118,799
Transfer to reserves	2,083,335
Transfer from reserves	(206,402)
Closing Balance	8,205,517
<u>Carbon Abatement</u>	
Opening balance	515,749
Interest income	8,836
Transfer to reserves	-
Transfer from reserves	-
Closing Balance	524,585
RESERVES SUMMARY	
Opening Balance	25,404,777
Interest income	448,876
Transfer to reserves	2,390,955
Transfer from reserves	(206,402)
Closing Balance	28,038,205

2.7 Statement of Investing Activity For the period ended 30 November 2024

	Adopted Budget 2024/25	Actual As at 30 November 2024	Actual vs Adopted Budget Variance	Actual vs Adopted Budget Variance
	\$	\$	%	
LANDFILL INFRASTRUCTURE				
Installation of Piggy Back Liner	3,631,235	74,272	3,556,963	2.0%
Stage2 - Phase2 capping work	5,395,426	2,031,303	3,364,123	37.6%
Leachate Processing Infrastructure	1,683,369	11,386	1,671,983	0.7%
	10,710,030	2,116,961	8,593,069	19.8%
INFRASTRUCTURE TAMALA PARK				
Transfer station extension (from alternative wt options)	65,000	-	65,000	0.0%
Recycling Asphalt Hardstand extension works	35,000	-	35,000	0.0%
Footpath at Administration building	10,000	-	10,000	0.0%
Leachate Extraction Well Stage2 Phase 2	150,000	9,250	140,750	6.2%
Waste Water Treatment Replacement (Washdown Bay)	65,000	-	65,000	0.0%
Leachate Holding Tanks and Pump Station	190,000	21,919	168,081	11.5%
Infrastructure Design Planning	200,000	-	200,000	0.0%
Transfer Station Fixed Lighting Towers	30,000	-	30,000	0.0%
4x new Monitoring Bores Install - Marmion Ave	55,000	-	55,000	0.0%
Facility Signage Upgrade	14,000	10,453	3,547	74.7%
Transfer Station Line Marking	18,000	-	18,000	0.0%
Weather Station Replacement - Budget in operational expense	-	15,223	(15,223)	-
	832,000	56,845	775,155	6.8%
BUILDING				
Admin building renewal	105,000	1,550	103,450	1.5%
Recycling Centre Roof Extension Works	15,000	-	15,000	0.0%
Master Distribution Board Upgrade	150,000	-	150,000	0.0%
Workshop Crib Room Kitchen refurbishment	10,000	-	10,000	0.0%
RRF Power Generator - Budget in operational expense	-	58,527	(58,527)	0.0%
	280,000	60,077	219,923	21.5%
COMPUTING EQUIPMENT				
CCTV install for Tip Face, Quarry and Transfer	10,000	-	10,000	0.0%
Weighbridge Software Upgrade	150,000	-	150,000	0.0%
DCS Replacements	30,000	-	30,000	0.0%
Replacement of IT equipments	27,000	11,160	15,840	41.3%
Wifi Access Point Replacements	27,866	-	27,866	0.0%
	244,866	11,160	233,706	4.6%
EQUIPMENT				
High Flow Leachate/ Water Transfer Pump (Diesel)	60,000	-	60,000	0.0%
2 way radios	6,500	-	6,500	0.0%
Odour monitoring units / control	80,000	69,740	10,260	87.2%
	146,500	69,740	76,760	47.6%
PLANT AND VEHICLES				
TAKEUCHI Skid Steer Loader TL10V2 2022 - PL151	245,000	-	245,000	0.0%
Skid Steer Bucket Replacements x 3	60,000	8,580	51,420	14.3%
CAT 2.5L Forklift - Plant117	85,000	-	85,000	0.0%
Komatsu Excavator 2018-C22211 - Plant131	385,000	-	385,000	0.0%
Compactor or Alternative waste compaction treatment	1,500,000	-	1,500,000	0.0%
Hino Bin Truck 1EAS815 - Plant83	390,000	-	390,000	0.0%
New Slow Speed Shredder/Crusher	800,000	-	800,000	0.0%
New Double Axle trailer	15,000	-	15,000	0.0%
Replacement of Skid Steer Loader	12,000	-	12,000	0.0%
	3,492,000	8,580	3,483,420	0.2%
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	15,705,396	2,323,363	13,382,033	14.8%

3.0 Cash & Cash Equivalents and Schedule of Investments As at 30 November 2024

Institutions with Standard & Poors Rating AA- or better

Institution	S&P Rating	Achieved
CBA	AA-	✓
NAB	AA-	✓
ANZ	AA-	✓
Westpac	AA-	✓



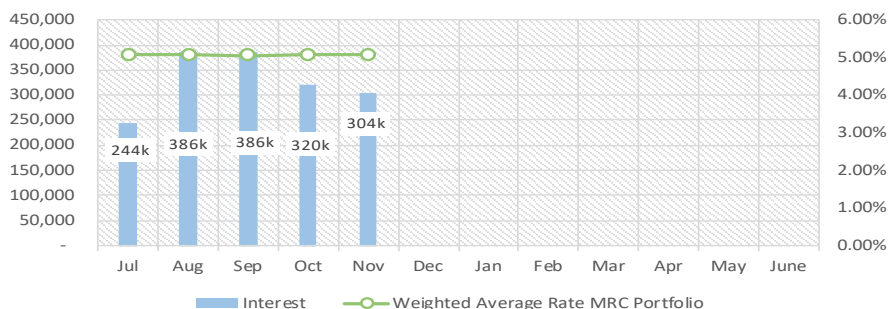
Where Tenor > 90 Days, maximum 50% held in one institution

Investments > 90 days tenor 94%

Institution	Amount Held \$m	% of Total Funds	Maximum	Achieved
CBA	\$ 13.45	23%	50%	✓
NAB	\$ 17.33	30%	50%	✓
ANZ	\$ 4.30	7%	50%	✓
Westpac	\$ 23.08	40%	50%	✓
<90 Days	\$ -			
	\$ 58.16			

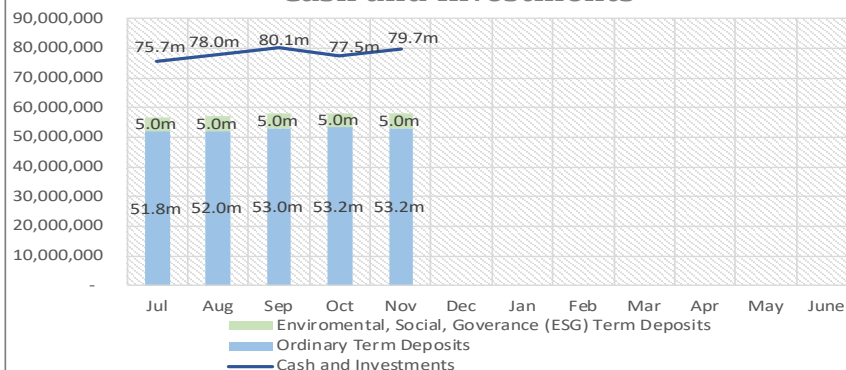
Where possible give preference to institutions that do not finance the fossil fuel industry and consider ethical, social and environmental aspects.

Monthly Interest and Rates



As the 30th November 2024, the MRC's interest earnings are \$197k above the adopted budget. The Reserve Bank of Australia has kept its cash rate unchanged at 4.35%, which has matched market estimates. The MRC's weighted average interest rate on fixed term deposit investments is 5.08%.

Cash and Investments

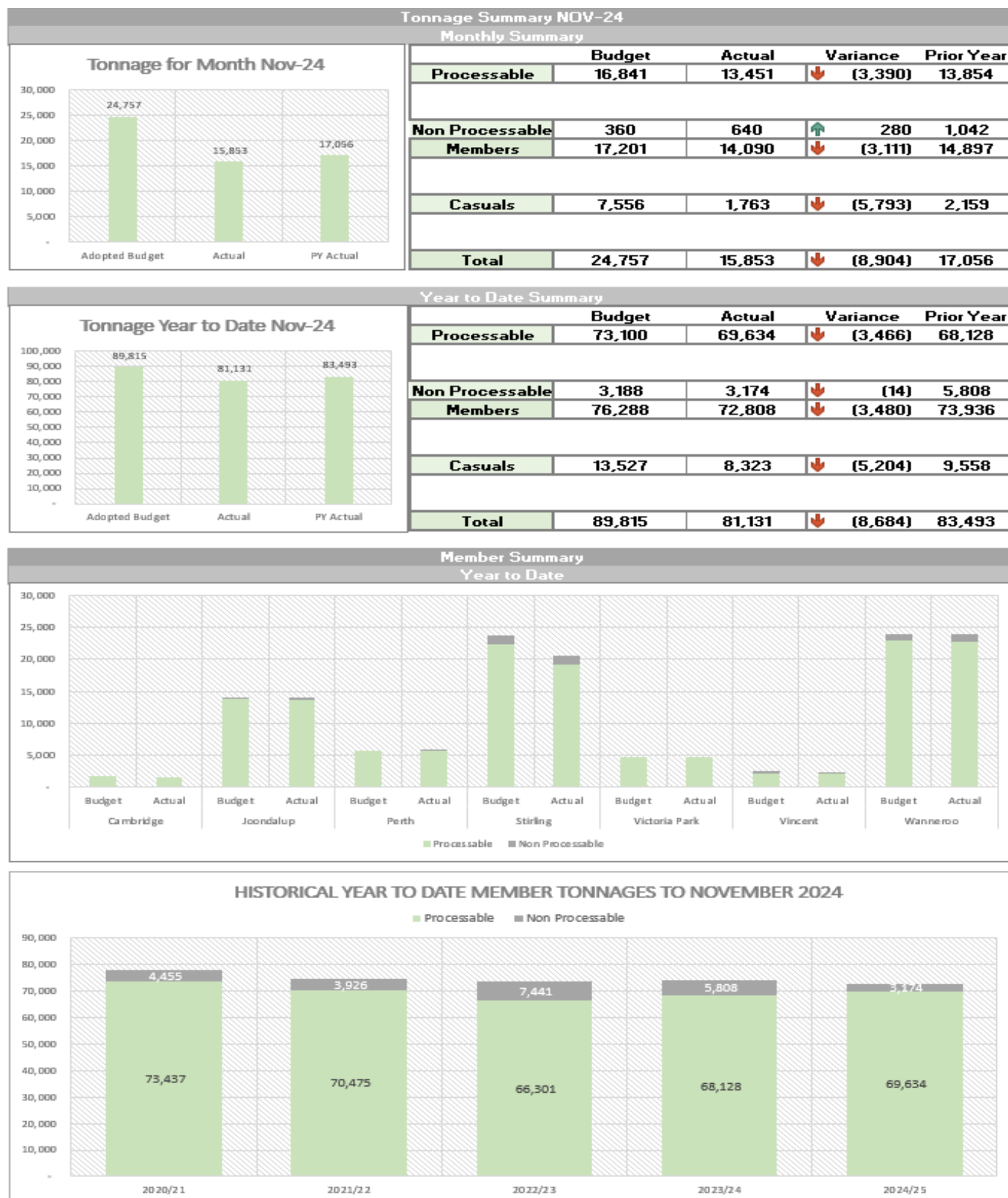


At the 30th November 2024, the MRC's total cash and investments amounted to \$79.7 million. \$58.2 million was invested in term deposits and \$13.1million is invested in a CBA saver account with the balance being held in the everyday accounts. 5.9% (i.e. 1 term deposit with a value \$5m) of the overall term deposits have environmental, social, and governance (ESG) ratings. For additional information please refer to page 15.

3.0 Cash & Cash Equivalents and Schedule of Investments As at 30 November 2024 (Continued)

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS							
Bank	Investment Date	Tenor (Days)	Investment Amt \$	Interest Rate %	Maturity Date	Gross Interest \$	Maturity Amt \$
ORDINARY TERM DEPOSITS							
ANZ 9797-07193	1/08/2024	133	2,161,684	4.94%	12/12/2024	38,912	2,200,596.0
NAB GMI-DEAL-10893903	15/07/2024	184	2,165,308	5.30%	15/01/2025	57,852	2,223,160.7
NAB 41-562-4966	9/09/2024	150	3,113,997	5.00%	6/02/2025	63,986	3,177,982.8
CBA 37309509 (trans 234)	18/09/2024	152	3,000,000	4.80%	17/02/2025	59,967	3,059,967.1
NAB 21-233-4933	23/08/2024	180	2,186,924	5.00%	19/02/2025	53,924	2,240,848.3
Wpac TD 032-108 988977	21/05/2024	275	4,300,000	5.21%	20/02/2025	168,790	4,468,789.7
ANZ 9796-92171	13/06/2024	273	2,137,282	5.00%	13/03/2025	79,928	2,217,210.1
NAB GMI-DEAL-10894013	14/10/2024	182	2,197,972	5.05%	14/04/2025	55,347	2,253,319.0
CBA CDA 37309509 (trans 237)	15/10/2024	182	5,309,368	4.84%	15/04/2025	128,135	5,437,502.9
CBA 37309509 (trans 231)	19/07/2024	273	5,139,818	4.97%	18/04/2025	191,062	5,330,879.8
Wpac TD 032-108 962507	1/05/2024	365	5,500,000	5.35%	1/05/2025	294,250	5,794,250.0
NAB GMI-DEAL-10933314	18/11/2024	182	2,222,220	5.10%	19/05/2025	56,511	2,278,731.7
Wpac TD 032-108 005408	29/11/2024	181	3,282,916	5.14%	29/05/2025	83,677	3,366,593.4
NAB GMI-DEAL-10902291	11/06/2024	365	3,238,861	5.25%	11/06/2025	170,040	3,408,900.9
NAB 36-705-5358	16/09/2024	270	2,202,460	5.00%	13/06/2025	81,461	2,283,921.3
Wpac 032-108 521306	23/08/2024	270	5,000,000	5.14%	23/12/2024	85,901	5,085,901.4
Total Ordinary Term Deposits			53,158,811			1,669,744	54,828,555
Wpac Green TD 11635312)	11/06/2024	122	5,000,000	5.10%	11/06/2025	255,000	5,255,000
Total ESG Term Deposits			5,000,000			255,000	5,255,000
Total Term Deposits			58,158,811	5.08%		1,924,744	60,083,555
Cash & Cash Equivalents as of 30th November 2024							
CBA Saver			13,110,873	Principal			
NAB Balance			1,179	Ordinary Term Deposits			
CBA Business			8,390,140	NAB	29.8%	17,327,743	
ANZ Balance			124	CBA	23.1%	13,449,186	
				ANZ	7.4%	4,298,966	
Petty Cash			2,000	Wpac	31.1%	18,082,916	
Floats			1,500			53,158,811	
				ESG Term Deposits			
				Wpac Green	8.6%	5,000,000	
				Invested	100%	58,158,811	
				Principal plus interest			
				Ordinary Term Deposits			
				NAB	29.7%	17,866,865	
				CBA	23.0%	13,828,350	
				ANZ	7.4%	4,417,806	
				Wpac	31.1%	18,715,535	
						54,828,555	
				ESG Term Deposits			
				Wpac Green	8.7%	5,255,000	
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents			21,505,816	Total	100%	60,083,555	
Total			79,664,627				

4.0 Tonnage Report for the period ended 30 November 2024



9.2 LIST OF ACCOUNTS PAID – FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 November 2024	
Reference:	GF-23-000000019
Attachment(s):	Attachment No. 1
Date:	6 December 2024
Responsible Officer:	Executive Manager Corporate Services

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide details of payments made during the period identified above. This is in line with the requirement under the delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), that a list of payments made from the Municipal Fund since the last Ordinary Council meeting be presented to Council.

DETAILS

In accordance with section 13(1) of the *Local Government Financial Management Regulations 1996*, Council has delegated to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) the exercise of its power to make payments from its Municipal and Trust Funds. A list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month (Fin Reg 13(2)) and be presented to the next Ordinary Council Meeting following such payments (Fin Reg 13(3)). The list of accounts paid for the month ended 30 November 2024 is attached at Attachment 1 to this Item.

Additionally, regulation 13A of the *Local Government Financial Management Regulations 1996* was added to increase transparency and accountability in local government through greater oversight of incidental spending. The regulation covers purchasing cards such as Bunnings and Fuel cards issued by local government to their employees. Under this regulation, a transaction listing is included for the MRC's fuel cards and Bunnings Power Pass cards.

Month Ended	Account	Vouchers	Amount \$
30 November 2024	General Municipal	Direct Payments	532,657.77
		EFT	2,067,220.32
		Cheques	-
		Inter-account transfers	-
			2,599,878.09

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Regulation 13 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

Note the list of accounts paid under delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer for the month ended 30 November 2024, in accordance with regulation 13(1) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1996.

Schedule of Payments for November 2024
Council Meeting - 12 December 2024

Date	Document No.	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
		-	-	\$ -
Total CBA Cheques				\$ -

Date	Document No.	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
1/11/2024	DP-02486	Australian Taxation Office	PAYG Payment	\$ 42,466.00
1/11/2024	DP-02487	Easi Salary Pty Ltd	Staff Salary Sacrifice	\$ 2,787.99
15/11/2024	DP-02489	Australian Taxation Office	PAYG Payment	\$ 40,078.00
15/11/2024	DP-02490	Easi Salary Pty Ltd	Staff Salary Sacrifice	\$ 2,787.99
18/11/2024	DP-02491	Australian Taxation Office	BAS Payment October 2024	\$ 276,871.00
4/11/2024	DP-02492	ANZ Bank	ANZ Transfer fee	\$ 28.00
4/11/2024	DP-02493	ANZ Bank	Account Fee	\$ 10.00
29/11/2024	DP-02494	Easi Salary Pty Ltd	Staff Salary Sacrifice	\$ 2,884.48
29/11/2024	DP-02495	Australian Taxation Office	PAYG Payment	\$ 42,832.00
29/11/2024	DP-02496	SuperChoice	Staff Superannuation	\$ 105,352.83
15/11/2024	DP-02497	Commonwealth Bank	CommBiz Fees	\$ 52.80
15/11/2024	DP-02498	Commonwealth Bank	Account Service Fees	\$ 8.80
2/11/2024	DP-02499	Commonwealth Bank	Merchant Fees	\$ 2,231.88
2/11/2024	DP-02500	Commonwealth Bank	Merchant Fees	\$ 110.43
27/11/2024	DP-02501	cancelled	-	\$ -
27/11/2024	DP-02502	MRC Credit Card	Refer to the schedule attached - credit card payments	\$ 14,145.57
29/11/2024	DP-02504	NAB Bank	Bank Charges	\$ 10.00
Total Direct Payments & Fees				\$ 532,657.77

Date	Document No.	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
6/11/2024	EFT-02450	Gerald Anthony McNulty	Recruitment - Police Check	\$ 99.00
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Albert Jacob	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 882.96
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Alexandra Castle	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,244.17
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Andrea Creado	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,244.17
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Chris Hatton	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,244.17
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Christopher May	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,244.17
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Gary Mack	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,244.17
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Joe Ferrante	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,244.17
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Jordan L Wright	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,244.17

Date	Document No.	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Karen Vernon	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,696.46
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Liam Gobbert	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,244.17
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Paul Miles	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 1,244.17
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Russel Fishwick	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 40.14
8/11/2024	EFT-02451	Stephanie Proud	Meeting Fees & ICT Allowance - Oct 2024	\$ 3,529.09
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	All 4 People Pty Ltd	Contract Labour Hire -Oct 24	\$ 1,619.48
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Alliance Surveying Pty Ltd	Drone Survey for the Whole of Site	\$ 3,190.00
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Australian Laboratory Services Pty Ltd	Dissolved Metals & Admin Fee	\$ 69.83
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Bunnings	Heavy Duty Tarps (x 8)	\$ 20,022.00
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Crown Security (WA) Pty Ltd	Tightened Power Lead for Network V/Recorder - Transfer Station	\$ 205.70
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	DC Wired Electrical & Air Conditioning Pty Ltd	Electrical Works	\$ 4,246.00
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Dragon Forklift Services Pty Ltd	Ignition Barrel/Key Set & Tyres Replacement	\$ 1,467.20
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Envirocare Systems	Monthly Hygiene Services & Supplies	\$ 771.32
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Fennell Tyres International Pty Ltd	PL120 & PL146 Fleet Service	\$ 569.73
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Global Spill Control Pty Ltd	Spill Kits maintenance and supplies	\$ 550.00
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Great Southern Fuel Supplies	Diesel Purchases	\$ 87,966.96
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Hello People	Chemcapture Cloud Hosting - AWS (Jul 24 to Dec 24)	\$ 3,795.00
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Jedi Auto Worx	PL146 & 151 Supply and fitting of Handheld Radios	\$ 6,206.42
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Komatsu Australia	PI131 Repairs	\$ 189.17
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	NAPA Parts	Hydraulic, Degreaser, Brake & Parts	\$ 1,340.62
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	North Star Security	RRF Nightly Patrol Services for 10 weeks	\$ 4,550.00
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Pirtek (Malaga) Pty Ltd	PL135 Service & Maintenance	\$ 799.62
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	PJ & JM Leonard Pty Ltd T/a Worldwide Joond	Weighbridge Weight Certificate Books	\$ 480.00
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Smart Waste Solutions Pty Ltd	Repair of Shute for EPS Baler	\$ 442.75
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Think Water Wanneroo	Pipe Fittings for Irrigation	\$ 263.10
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Total Green Recycling Pty Ltd	E-Waste Recycling	\$ 2,468.25
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Trade West Industrial Supplies	Safety Uniform & Equipment	\$ 1,392.84
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Western Tree Recyclers	Greens Recycling - City of Perth	\$ 1,146.11
8/11/2024	EFT-02453	Winc Australia P/L	Stationery & Cleaning Supplies	\$ 1,214.65
14/11/2024	EFT-02454	DC Wired Electrical & Air Conditioning Pty Ltd	Supply & install High Voltage Switchgear	\$ 64,379.70
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	A & G Wines Plumbing	Inspect & Investigate Septic Tank - Admin & Old Admin	\$ 1,705.00
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	A1 Locksmiths	Supply of Keys	\$ 240.00
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Air-Met Scientific Pty Ltd	Calibration of Gas Monitoring System	\$ 550.00
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	All 4 People Pty Ltd	Contract Labour Hire -Oct 24	\$ 9,279.20
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Ampol Australia Petroleum Pty Ltd	Fuel Usage	\$ 239.01
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Aussie Natural Spring Water	Bottled Water	\$ 43.00
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Australian Laboratory Services Pty Ltd	Leachate Sampling Testing	\$ 5,953.06
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Banhams WA Pty Ltd	RRF Monthly Fire System Maintenance	\$ 578.79
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	City of Wanneroo	TP Lease -Nov 24	\$ 14,784.73
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	DC Wired Electrical & Air Conditioning Pty Ltd	Exhaust Fans - Admin Bldg.	\$ 1,190.75

Date	Document No.	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	DCM Services	AirCon Service and Maintenance	\$ 1,089.00
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Digrite	PL151 Maintenance	\$ 1,070.00
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Enviro Nutrition Pty Ltd	Biowish Aqua Sachets - wastewater treatment	\$ 5,822.30
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Fennell Tyres International Pty Ltd	PL120 & PL146 Fleet Service and maintenance	\$ 1,434.22
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	GHD Pty Ltd	Consultancy Service	\$ 22,332.86
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Komatsu Australia	PL132, 133, 134 Fuel Filter Repairs	\$ 1,007.78
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	NAPA Parts	Hydraulic Filter Cartridge	\$ 113.85
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Pirtek (Malaga) Pty Ltd	PL132 Repaired Cracked Hoses	\$ 1,957.37
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Raich and Associates	Supply of New Weather Station at Tamala Park	\$ 10,585.30
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Spectur Ltd	Monthly Service Neerabup Portable CCTV	\$ 3,630.00
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Synergy	TP & RRF Electricity	\$ 39,605.32
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Telstra	Services & Equipment Rental to 24 Nov 24	\$ 1,210.00
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Think Water Wanneroo	Supply of Reticulation parts	\$ 1,669.07
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Total Green Recycling Pty Ltd	E-Waste Recycling	\$ 2,463.76
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	Tyrecycle P/L	Weekly Tyre Collections	\$ 3,603.55
15/11/2024	EFT-02455	WA Local Government Association	WALGA - Staff Training	\$ 654.50
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Alkimos Autocare	Cleaning costs	\$ 3,245.00
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	All 4 People Pty Ltd	Contract Labour Hire -Oct 24	\$ 6,316.48
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Aussie Natural Spring Water	Bottled Water	\$ 32.25
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	BOC Limited	Dissolved Acetylene & Gas Cylinders	\$ 131.87
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	City of Wanneroo	TP Council Rates 24/25	\$ 4,761.42
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Couplers Malaga	Fittings for Pressure Vessels	\$ 320.43
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	DC Wired Electrical & Air Conditioning Pty Ltd	RRF Electrical Review	\$ 467.50
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Dragon Forklift Services Pty Ltd	PL98 New Service and Maintenance	\$ 865.30
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Fennell Tyres International Pty Ltd	PL83 Fleet Service	\$ 288.75
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Flick Anticimex P/L	Pest Control	\$ 527.95
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Heavy Automatics PTY Ltd -WA	PL120 Gearbox Service	\$ 726.00
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Jedi Auto Worx	PL83 & 136 Battery and Reverse Camera	\$ 774.07
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Komatsu Australia	PL134 Replace Faulty SCR Nox Sensor	\$ 3,402.76
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Mark Gregory T/A M Gregory Legal	Legal Fees	\$ 506.00
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	NAPA Parts	Safety Triangle Set x 2	\$ 152.90
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Pirtek (Malaga) Pty Ltd	PL151 Oil Leak Repairs	\$ 309.39
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Raich and Associates	Installation of Weather Station	\$ 6,160.00
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	SafeWork Laboratories Pty Ltd	Drug and Alcohol Fitness Testing - Oct 24	\$ 3,666.36
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Think Water Wanneroo	Pressure Steel Tank and Irrigation Water Fitting	\$ 1,475.56
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Total Green Recycling Pty Ltd	E-Waste Recycling	\$ 2,422.15
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Tyrecycle P/L	Weekly Tyre Collections	\$ 812.16
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Waste Management & Resource Recovery	WMRR Landfill Webinar	\$ 600.00
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Wilfredo Higo	Sympathy flowers for staff - reimbursement	\$ 95.21
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Winc Australia P/L	Bin Liners, Batteries, Kleenex White Towels and Trolley	\$ 595.19

Date	Document No.	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Workpower Incorporated	Battery Rescue Recycling	\$ 17,374.67
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Wren Oil	Disposal of Oil	\$ 946.00
25/11/2024	EFT-02457	Xerces IT Pty Ltd T/a PSQ Group	Monthly Telephone Services	\$ 1,300.32
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Alkimos Autocare	Cleaning cost	\$ 720.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Aptella Pty Ltd - (prev Position Partners)	Bomag Software Compaction Monitoring	\$ 1,265.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Ashley Graham Castledine T/A Castledine Legal	Legal Fees - WTE Constitution Advice 18 to 28 Oct 2024	\$ 2,024.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Australia Post	Postage - Stamps	\$ 7.45
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Australian Organics Recycling Association	AORA Subscription	\$ 2,310.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Australian Services Union	Union Fees	\$ 159.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Blue Diamond Machinery Pty Ltd	Generator/Compressor Trailer Hire	\$ 2,411.65
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	BOC Limited	Supply of Acetylene & Gas Cylinders	\$ 602.38
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Brooks Hire	Skidsteer Service and Repairs	\$ 10,236.94
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Bunnings	Burner BBQ and Workshop Consumables	\$ 1,532.94
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	ChekRite Asia Pacific Pty Ltd	ChekRite Subscription	\$ 1,094.50
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	City of Perth	TP Lease - Nov 24	\$ 7,392.36
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	City of Stirling	TP Lease - Nov 24	\$ 29,569.46
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	City of Vincent	TP Lease - Oct 24	\$ 7,392.36
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	David Gray & Co P/L	Red and Green Bins	\$ 2,864.40
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	EMRC	CCA Recycling	\$ 726.35
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Environmental & Air Quality Consulting Pty Ltd	Odour Quality Consultant Services	\$ 836.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Fennell Tyres International Pty Ltd	PL120 Fleet Service	\$ 231.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	GHD Pty Ltd	FOGO Consultancy	\$ 361.63
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Herbert Smith Freehills	FOGO Legal Fees	\$ 1,911.80
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Instant Products Group	Toilet hire and service	\$ 266.55
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Iron Mountain Australia Pty Ltd	Monthly Data Backup Service	\$ 47.47
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	IW Projects	Capping Project Stage 2 West	\$ 30,014.60
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Jedi Auto Worx	Supply and install of Proximity Switches PL146	\$ 952.29
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Kyocera Document Solutions	Monthly copy cost of Photocopier	\$ 218.30
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Line marking and Signs WA	Line Marking	\$ 50,176.50
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	NAPA Parts	Supply of Grease	\$ 299.38
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Olivers Lawn & Landscaping Pty Ltd	Lawn Mowing Services	\$ 364.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Paxon Consulting Group Pty Ltd	Consultancy	\$ 2,227.50
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Pirtek (Malaga) Pty Ltd	PL133 Service	\$ 1,567.46
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Raubex Construction Pty Ltd	Capping Project Stage 2 West	\$ 834,073.92
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Redman Solutions Pty Ltd	Agenda Management Software	\$ 24,681.25
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Retail Express	Retail Express Subscription	\$ 2,943.60
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Ronald James Back	Consultancy	\$ 11,660.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Services Australia	Employees' deductions for Child Support	\$ 2,848.98
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd	Ground Water Management & Landfill Gas Monitoring	\$ 25,994.38
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Soft Landing	City of Stirling On Demand Monthly Mattress Collection	\$ 35,625.06

Date	Document No.	Vendor Name	Description	Amount
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Soft Landing	City of Stirling Balcatta Mattresses Collection	\$ 32,736.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Soft Landing	City of Joondalup Mattresses	\$ 27,826.30
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Soft Landing	MRC Monthly Mattress Collection	\$ 15,444.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Specialized Cleaning Group Pty Ltd	Monthly Road Sweeping	\$ 2,925.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Super Choice Services Pty Ltd	Monthly Single Touch Payroll	\$ 15.35
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Synergy	RRF Electricity	\$ 31,914.20
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	T & C Couriers	Monthly Courier Expenses	\$ 14.85
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Talis Consultants P/L	Landfill Consultancy Services	\$ 25,490.17
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Telstra	Mobile Usage & Service Charges Sept - Oct 24	\$ 1,025.86
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	The Information Management Group Pty Ltd	Cloud Backup Solution	\$ 188.93
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	The Lifting Company	PL133 Service	\$ 822.80
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Total Green Recycling Pty Ltd	E-Waste Recycling	\$ 2,499.40
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Town of Victoria Park	TP Lease - Nov 24	\$ 7,392.36
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Tutt Bryant Equipment WA	PL135 & Skidsteer Service	\$ 13,078.16
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Tyrecycle P/L	Weekly Tyre Collections	\$ 988.11
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Veolia Recycling & Recovery Pty Ltd	Confidential Paper Bin Rental Charge	\$ 88.08
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Western Tree Recyclers	Greens Recycling - City of Perth	\$ 744.39
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Winc Australia P/L	Batteries and Photocopy Paper	\$ 328.80
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Wren Oil	Disposal of Oil	\$ 473.00
29/11/2024	EFT-02458	Xerces IT Pty Ltd T/a PSQ Group	Monthly Telephone Services	\$ 589.13
1/11/2024	97	Payroll	Staff Payroll	\$ 131,733.22
15/11/2024	98	Payroll	Staff Payroll	\$ 124,883.08
29/11/2024	99	Payroll	Staff Payroll	\$ 130,528.93
Total EFT Payments				\$ 2,067,220.32
CBA Cheque No.				\$ -
Electronic Payments:				
DP-02486 to DP-02504				\$ 532,657.77
Inter-Account Transfers				\$ -
EFT-02450 to EFT-02458				\$ 2,067,220.32
Grand Total				\$ 2,599,878.09
CERTIFICATE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER				
This schedule of accounts which was submitted to each member of Council on 12 December 2024 has been checked and is fully supported by vouchers and invoices which are submitted herewith and which have been duly certified as to the receipt of goods and the rendered services and as to prices, computations, costing and the amounts due for payment.				

Schedule of Payments for November 2024
Council Meeting - 12 December 2024
CBA Credit Card

Date	Payment to	Description	Amount
1/11/2024	Epic Catering	Staff Melbourne Cup Day	\$ 275.00
4/11/2024	SETS Enterprises	Fire Training	\$ 2,340.03
6/11/2024	Find My Shift	Find My Shift Subscriptions	\$ 489.33
6/11/2024	Redimed	First Aid Supplies	\$ 188.00
6/11/2024	Harvey Norman	CCTV Cameras	\$ 4,787.95
7/11/2024	Universal Panel	Ford Ranger Insurance Excess	\$ 302.97
8/11/2024	Business Partners	Business Meeting Parking	\$ 10.80
	Total CBA Credit Card ending 7336		\$ 8,394.08
28/10/2024	ASIC	ASIC Report for new vendor application fee	\$ 20.00
28/10/2024	ASIC	ASIC Report for new vendor application fee	\$ 20.00
30/10/2024	Coles	Staff Amenities	\$ 323.90
31/10/2024	Joondalup Music	PA Speaker	\$ 499.00
31/10/2024	Alpha Trophies	Desk Name Plate	\$ 25.60
11/11/2024	ASIC	ASIC Report for new vendor application fee	\$ 20.00
13/11/2024	ASIC	ASIC Report for new vendor application fee	\$ 25.60
18/11/2024	Coles	Staff Amenities	\$ 184.30
20/11/2024	Sheridans	Name Badge	\$ 49.45
21/11/2024	Basils Fine Foods	Meeting Supplies	\$ 23.98
22/11/2024	Techbuy Pty Ltd	Projector for workshop	\$ 4,295.66
25/11/2024	Carramar Flowers	Sympathy flowers for Staff	\$ 127.00
25/11/2024	Carramar Flowers	Sympathy flowers for Staff	\$ 137.00
	Total CBA Credit Card ending 7977		\$ 5,751.49
Total CBA Credit Card Payments			\$ 14,145.57

Schedule of Payments for November 2024			
Council Meeting - 12 December 2024			
Ampol Purchasing card			
Date	Document No.	Description	Amount
4/10/2024	EFT-02455	Fuel	\$ 124.26
13/10/2024	EFT-02456	Fuel	\$ 114.75
	Total Ampol Card for Rego 9808		\$ 239.01
Total Ampol Purchase Card Payments			<u>\$ 239.01</u>

Schedule of Payments for November 2024
Council Meeting - 12 December 2024
Bunnings Power Pass

Date	Document No.	Description	Amount
10/10/2024	EFT-02458	Sanding Mesh	\$ 49.32
16/10/2024	EFT-02458	Garden Sprayer	\$ 37.05
31/10/2024	EFT-02458	Lubricant, Wireless Door Chime, Key Tags & Fly Bait	\$ 110.89
Total for Card ending 01614			\$ 197.26
24/10/2024	EFT-02458	BBQ + Accessories	\$ 976.85
24/10/2024	EFT-02458	Gas Cylinder	\$ 75.85
Total for Card Ending 60507			\$ 1,052.70
4/10/2024	EFT-02453	Heavy Duty Tarps (x8)	\$ 20,022.00
9/10/2024	EFT-02458	Line Trimmers	\$ 14.40
24/10/2024	EFT-02458	Odour & Fly Control Supplies	\$ 268.58
Total for Card ending 51400			\$ 20,304.98
Total Bunnings Power Pass Payments			\$ 21,554.94

9.3	MINDARIE REGIONAL COUNCIL COUNCIL MEETING AND WORKSHOP DATES FOR 2025
File No:	GF-23-0000410
Appendix(s):	Nil
Date:	05 DECEMBER 2024
Responsible Officer:	Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide notice of the dates, times and locations for the Mindarie Regional Council's (MRC) Ordinary Council Meetings (OCM) and to provide advice regarding Strategy Workshops (SW) and Budget Workshops (BW) for 2025.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 1995*, the MRC is required to schedule OCMs for the forthcoming calendar year and provide public notice of their dates, times and locations. In addition, the MRC also sets two SW and BW for the year.

DETAIL

In setting the dates for the 2025 OCMs consideration is given to the following:

- The Catalina Regional Council meeting dates for 2025
- The WALGA Metropolitan Zone meeting dates for 2025
- The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Annual Conference
- Relevant Waste Conferences
- Availability of Member Councils' Chambers.

Wherever possible, alternative dates to those already specified for the meetings above are proposed by the administration.

Catalina Regional Council

Catalina Regional Council (CRC) meeting schedule is outlined below. While 19 June 2025 is a proposed meeting date for MRC and a confirmed date for CRC, no councillors currently participate in both meetings, so no conflicts are anticipated. Initially, MRC considered 26 June 2025, however, this date coincided with the ALGA conference which Councillors may wish to attend.

- 20.02.2025
 - 17.04.2025
 - 19.06.2025
 - 21.08.2025
 - 16.10.2025
 - 11.12.2025
-

WALGA North Metro Zone (NMZ)

WALGA has confirmed that NMZ meeting dates are now held on Wednesdays.

Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Annual Conference

Conference date 24-27 June 2025.

Waste Conferences

There are no known meeting date clashes with dates for the 2025 waste conferences.

- Perth Waste Conference 10 & 11 September 2025.
- Coffs Harbour Waste Conference 13-15 May 2025
- AORA Waste Conference 3-5 June 2025

Public Holidays

Public Holidays which fall close to the proposed OCM dates are:

Friday 18 April 2025 – Good Friday

Sunday 20 April 2025 – Easter Sunday

Monday 21 April 2025 – Easter Monday

Friday 25 April 2025 – Anzac Day

Monday 29 September 2025 – King's Birthday

MRC acknowledge that the proposed meeting date of 24 April 2025 falls within the Easter period. MRC considered rescheduling it to the previous week, however this would still result in a public holiday immediately following the meeting. Moving the meeting to the beginning of the month is not an option as it would not provide Administration sufficient time to complete the statutory required financial reporting.

Local Government elections

The Local Government Elections will be held on 18 October 2025.

Special Council meeting

MRC proposes a Special Council meeting on 13 November 2025. This will be to appoint members onto Committees. A strategic workshop is proposed following this meeting.

Financial Reporting

The MRC must arrange its council meetings to ensure that financial reports are presented to council within 2 months after the end of the month to which the statement of financial activity relates in accordance with s.6.4 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and s.34(4) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

Proposed Ordinary Council Meeting Schedule

27 February 2025	6.30pm	City of Joondalup	Ordinary Council meeting
24 April 2025	6.30pm	City of Wanneroo	Ordinary Council meeting
19 June 2025	6.30pm	Town of Cambridge	Ordinary Council meeting
17 July 2025	6.30pm	City of Stirling	Ordinary Council meeting
25 September 2025	6.30 pm	City of Vincent	Ordinary Council meeting
13 November 2025	6.30 pm	City of Stirling	Special Council meeting
27 November 2025	6.30 pm	Town of Victoria Park	Ordinary Council meeting
18 December 2025	6.30 pm	City of Perth	Ordinary Council meeting

Strategic and Budget Workshops

The MRC also propose to hold budget workshops and two strategic workshops during the year ahead. These workshops are important as they provide Councillors, member council CEOs and representatives on the Strategic Working Group an opportunity to review and discuss the MRC's strategic direction and have oversight on the budget proposals before its adoption.

17 February 2025	6.30pm	City of Stirling	Strategy Workshop
10 April 2025	6.30pm	City of Stirling	Budget Workshop
22 May 2025	6.30pm	City of Stirling	Budget Workshop (if required)
13 November 2025	6.30pm	City of Stirling	Strategy Workshop

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995
Local Government (Administration) Act 1996

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

COMMENT

The administration has sought, through the dates proposed, to set an OCM and Workshop schedule which provides council the opportunity to make all necessary decisions in accordance with its statutory requirements, and takes into account the effects thereafter on individual member councils' obligations under the *Local Government Act 1995 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, whilst allowing sufficient provision for adequate briefing through workshops on matters relevant to council.

Workshops are seen as important as they provide Councillors and member council administrations an opportunity to review and discuss the MRC's strategic direction and have oversight on the administration's budget proposals.

Efforts have been made wherever possible to reduce the potential impact on councillors' already busy schedules due to their individual member council responsibilities.

The proposed meeting schedule for 2025 is submitted for approval.

VOTING REQUIREMENT

Simple Majority

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the meeting dates as follows:

27 February 2025	6.30pm	City of Joondalup	OCM
24 April 2025	6.30pm	City of Wanneroo	OCM
19 June 2025	6.30pm	Town of Cambridge	OCM
17 July 2025	6.30pm	<i>tbc</i> (City of Stirling)	OCM
25 September 2025	6.30pm	City of Vincent	OCM
13 November 2025	6.30 pm	<i>tbc</i> (City of Stirling)	SCM
27 November 2025	6.30pm	Town of Victoria Park	OCM
18 December 2025	6.30pm	<i>tbc</i> City of Perth	OCM

2. Issue a Public Notice on the meeting locations, dates and times as detailed in (1) above in accordance with Part 12 (1) of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* and the *Local Government Act 1995*.

3. Note the following Budget Workshop and Strategy Workshops planned for 2025, as follows:

17 February 2025	6.30pm	City of Stirling	Strategy Workshop
10 April 2025	6.30pm	City of Stirling	Budget Workshop
22 May 2025	6.30pm	City of Stirling	Budget Workshop (if required)
13 November 2025	6.30pm	City of Stirling	Strategy Workshop

9.4	TAMALA PARK ODOUR MANAGEMENT REPORT
File No:	GF-23-0000350
Appendix(s):	Nil
Date:	06 DECEMBER 2024
Responsible Officer:	Chief Executive Officer

1. SUMMARY

This report seeks to inform Council on matters relating to odour management at the Tamala Park Waste Management Facility (Tamala Park).

2. BACKGROUND

Tamala Park – which is operated by Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) – is one of Western Australia’s largest waste management facilities.

Tamala Park’s landfill provides a household residual municipal waste disposal service to seven local government areas from the Perth Metropolitan Area (MRC’s *member councils*). It has provided this service since 1991.

Operating a landfill which accepts putrescible waste produces odour which must be managed to what are deemed acceptable levels (odour management).

In the past 18 months, MRC has received numbers of complaints about odour from residents who live near the boundary of Tamala Park which are unusual in the context of the site’s operational history. Prior to June 2022, it was expected that MRC would receive zero, one or two odour complaints from nearby residents per month.

This increase in complaints has resulted in significant interest in MRC as an organisation from the community, stakeholders, regulators, government agencies and the media. It has also resulted in increased criticism of MRC in the context of its ability to control odours and operate the landfill in what is perceived to be an orderly and controlled manner.

This report seeks to better inform council on the reasons behind the odours created at Tamala Park; the history of odour management at the site; why the number of complaints about odour have increased and what measures have been taken/are being developed to minimise odours now and in the future.

3. DETAIL

3.1. LOCATION OF ODOURS AT TAMALA PARK

To date, all indications - from MRC's operations; its contractors and external specialists; and in complaints received from the community – are that odours produced at Tamala Park are solely associated with the landfill and landfill operations.

Aside from the landfill, Tamala Park is also home to a drop-off/recycling centre where residents can deposit recyclable items and items which require specialist disposal. Tamala Park is also home to a transfer station, which provides a disposal service to local residents and small businesses.

The only material from the drop-off/recycling area which might be disposed of in the Tamala Park landfill are items which have been offered for sale at the Reuse Shop but have failed to sell.

None of the items handled at the drop-off/recycling centre or transfer station present a significant odour profile which would be perceptible away from their immediate location.

There has been no suggestion that the drop-off/recycling centre or transfer station contributes to the odours experienced by residents living near to the site.

3.2. MATERIALS ACCEPTED FOR LANDFILL

The Tamala Park landfill accepts waste from MRC's seven member councils: the cities of Joondalup, Perth, Stirling, Vincent and Wanneroo, and the towns of Cambridge and Victoria Park. It also accepts a much smaller amount of waste from the Tamala Park transfer station which allows the community and small businesses to dispose materials in the landfill for a fee.

At the time of writing this report, household residual waste from member councils and much smaller amounts of waste from the transfer station are the only sources of waste accepted for disposal in the Tamala Park landfill.

The waste which is received from MRC's member councils only comes from the red-lidded bins into which residents deposit residual household waste and from a significantly smaller amount of bins collected from parks, etc. The contents of these bins arrive at Tamala Park in the same form that they were collected by the member council and – with the exception of the City of Stirling and (on occasion) the City of Perth which transfer the waste to another vehicle – in the same trucks which carry out the kerbside collections. The Tamala Park landfill does not accept any materials from other types of residential bin (such as comingled recyclables, garden waste or FOGO bins).

3.3. MATERIALS ACCEPTED TO LANDFILL (HISTORY)

Tamala Park opened its gates to landfill disposal by its member councils in 1991.

Since that time, approximately 8.9 million cubic metres of the planned 10 million cubic metres of landfill space has been filled. By the end of 2024 - in terms of available space filled - the landfill will be filled to approximately 90 per cent of its total capacity.

Throughout this time, the waste deposited into the landfill has – almost entirely – comprised residual household waste and much smaller amounts of waste from the transfer station. However, some known exceptions to this, are:

- For more than a decade, until August 2024, MRC received waste materials from water treatment operations which contained highly odorous constituents. This arrangement ended at MRC's request in August 2024 in response to community concern over odours.
- On occasion, Tamala Park is asked to accept unusual waste/disposals. A notable example was the disposal of a 30-tonne whale carcass at the landfill in November 2014. A similar incident occurred in 2012.

However, even in the case of these notable or exceptional cases, the type of waste disposed of throughout its operational life has been Class II putrescible waste or inert waste (ie: waste which rots or waste which does not) in line with its WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) licence.

In short, the waste accepted at Tamala Park throughout its operational life has not materially changed in type and has remained largely consistent since 1991.

3.4. ODOUR SOURCES

Given the types of waste accepted at the Tamala Park landfill, there are a limited number of potential odour sources which might impact nearby residents. These are listed below in no particular order:

3.4.1. ODOURS FROM FRESH WASTE

These are the odours which are produced by waste as it is being deposited by member council trucks on the landfill surface and before it has been covered.

MRC's independent odour consultant – EAQ Consulting – describes the odour profile from fresh waste as follows:

'Odours from the active-tip face resemble rubbish, rotten rubbish-type odours, which are the types of odour descriptions generally observed from residential waste collection trucks'

3.4.2. ODOURS FROM ROTTING WASTE WITHIN THE LANDFILL MASS (LANDFILL GAS)

These are the odours which come from waste which has been deposited at the landfill previously and is sitting somewhere within the landfill mass.

The odours from this waste are as a result of organic matter being broken down by bacteria and microbes. Aside from these organisms smelling themselves, they also produce odorous gases like hydrogen sulphide and along with non-odorous gases like methane. Collectively, these are known as 'landfill gas'.

How odorous this waste is depends on how long it has been in the landfill, at what stage of decomposition it is and what proportion of that waste was comprised of organic material. In

any case, if this waste remains within the landfill mass and the gas it produces remains trapped or is suitably extracted before it can escape, then the potential for this type of odour to impact residents is minimal.

MRC's independent odour consultant – EAQ Consulting – describes the odour profile from landfill gas as follows:

'The odour of landfill gas is often difficult to describe and can be referred to as a gas-type odour, sweet, sharp, dirty and pungent – and – given the odours observed are known and/assumed by the receiving environment to be landfill gas from a landfill, often a description may be pungent rubbish, or as before a gas-type odour where the observer may describe the odour as gas-type or rotten egg because it resembles natural gas odour which has (...) sulphur compounds added to it so it can be recognised'

3.4.2.1. NOTE: HEALTH IMPACTS OF LANDFILL GAS

DWER has confirmed, through consultation with the WA Department of Health that the odours experienced by residents living nearby Tamala Park are not hazardous to human health. This conclusion supports MRC's own findings on this matter and those of its independent consultants.

This information has been communicated to the community through the MRC website and through responses to correspondence from individuals who have contacted MRC.

3.4.3. ODOURS FROM LEACHATE

Leachate is the term used by the waste management industry to refer to rainwater which has travelled down through the top of the landfill and into the landfill mass.

Leachate at Tamala Park exists (and has existed for many years) both in the landfill mass and within 'leachate ponds' where – historically – leachate has been collected/allowed to accumulate so it can be reduced in volume through evaporation.

Leachate contained within the landfill (ie: sub-terrain) does not pose a risk for odours being experienced at the surface of the landfill or off-site.

Leachate is comprised (in the majority) of water (rainwater). The odorous component comes from the waste which the water has mixed with. MRC's independent odour consultant – EAQ Consulting – describes the odour profile from leachate as follows:

'Leachate odours at the surface of the landfill (ie: surface layer of the leachate ponds) are complex and depend on the concentration and types of contaminants within the leachate. On balance, though, leachate odours often resemble an acidic type odour which may include odours from organic acids, sulphurous compounds, organic alcohols and aromatic hydrocarbons – and – as a mixture, leachate odour can be difficult to describe in ambient air, but such descriptions may include acidic, sour, fermented etc., and may also include a description synonymous with sewage.'

3.5. ODOURS DETECTED AND CONFIRMED IN THE COMMUNITY

Between April 2024 and November 2024, MRC engaged *Environmental & Air Quality Consulting (EAQ)* to undertake a program of odour field assessments (OFAs) at Tamala Park and in the surrounding community.

OFAs as carried out by EAQ are a field-based technique which records the presence (observation), intensity (strength) and frequency of observations of odours, downwind of the odour source. EAQ undertakes OFAs in accordance with WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) guidelines which specify that “*OFA surveys are undertaken by trained odour panellists who follow a strict methodology to record odour at specific locations*”

EAQ presented its findings from the OFAs in a report provided to MRC on 27 November 2024.

A summary of these findings taken from OFAs in the community is provided below:

Date	Comments
16 April 24	<i>Odour character sharp, sweet, at times difficult to describe where it was almost chemical/gassy and very persistent.</i>
10 May 24	<i>Landfill gases were the primary odours observed during the investigation.</i>
19 June 24	<i>Odours resembled a ‘weak’ rubbish-type odour. Winds were too calm so OFA was called off.</i>
28 June 24	<i>Intermittent odours of rotten garbage/fruit</i>
9 August 24	<i>Intermittent odours, sweet and resembling landfill gas/gassy and rubbish-type</i>
21 October 24	<i>Transient odours which followed wind gusts. Odours diminished as winds persisted.</i>
22 October 24	<i>Rubbish, dirty/rotten gas, swampy. Intermittent odours during calmer winds.</i>
23 October 24	<i>Rubbish, dirty/rotten gas, swampy. Intermittent odours during calmer winds, intensifies with gusts.</i>
25 October 24	<i>Rubbish, dirty/rotten gas, swampy. Intermittent odours during calmer winds, intensifies and lingers with gusts. A single sewer type odour, not sure of origin.</i>
26 October 24	<i>Gassy odours were obvious with an overtone of fruity/rotten fruit. Gassy odour was sweet.</i>
28 October 24	<i>Generally subtle odours that were at times weak</i>
30 October 24	<i>Although subtle odours, the tone of the odours seemed more unpleasant when a ‘tangy’ character was observed. Salty/seaweed type odours also observed, albeit not from the site. Winds became too light, so OFA was called off.</i>
31 October 24	<i>Higher intensity odours (ie: obvious) were observed when considering odour descriptions from previous OFAs.</i>
3 November 24	<i>In general, the gassy odours were obvious with an overtone of fruity/rotten fruit. Gassy odour was sweet.</i>

In analysing the findings of the OFAs conducted in the community, EAQ concluded in its 27 November 2024 report that the odour descriptors resembling gassy, fruity, sweet or dirty odours were attributable to landfill gas odours. EAQ further concluded that, while odours from surface leachate evaporation may have been observable as part of the overall 'suite' of odour descriptors (what MRC has referred to as the 'total' odours) downwind of Tamala Park, these odours were not prominent when compared to landfill gas odours.

Furthermore, instances where 'sour' or 'sewer-type' odours were observed might be attributed to vapours from surface level leachate ponds, but, the sulphur chemistry associated with these odours is also emitted as part of landfill gas.

In instances where odour descriptors corresponded to rubbish, rotten rubbish, etc. EAQ believed that – while these could be attributed to the active tip face – they may also be attributed to diluted odour characteristics from landfill gas emissions, given it was deemed unlikely that tip-face odours were observable at such distances.

3.6. ODOURS DETECTED AND CONFIRMED ON-SITE (TAMALA PARK)

3.6.1. SITE INSPECTION AND OFA – 21 AUGUST 2024

On 21 August 2024, EAQ attended Tamala Park to carry out a site inspection/odour field inspection (OFA).

During the inspection, winds were considered light to calm.

A total of eight sites across the Tamala Park landfill were inspected and EAQ attempted to characterise the odours which were observed in each of these locations. These locations and a summary of EAQ's findings there are listed below:

Site number	Location	Comments
Site 1	Next to side wall liner, Stage 2, Phase 3 of landfill	<i>Odour character of biogas/landfill gas ('gassy') which was prominent, high intensity and clean (no other landfill odours contributing/mixing) and localised in puffs. Odour was persistent.</i>
Site 2	Haul road 2, capped area, Stage 1 of landfill	<i>Location presented some malodour when nearing it, though the prominence of odours was short lived due to calm conditions. Odours resembled a 'dirty' gassy odour.</i>
Site 3	Track – Stage 2, Phase 2 of landfill, temporary capped area	<i>Odour was very prominent and resembled sewer type odours mixed with a 'dirty' gas type odour. The odour was persistent.</i>
Site 4	Next to leachate pond (Stage 2, Phase 3 of landfill) on capped area where Stage 1 and 2 of landfill meet	<i>Inspected to determine if odours at Site 3 were originating from this location. Odours here were the same as Site 2 and comparable to Site 3, although calm winds meant odours were less prominent and less persistent.</i>
Site 5	Hazardous areas, Stage 2, Phase 2 of	<i>Odours here resembled off-milk and sickly. The odour was persistent.</i>

	landfill, muddy with recent rain	
Site 6	Temporary capped area, Stage 2, Phase 2 of landfill	<i>Odours here were a 'dirty' gassy odour and the area was covered with bubbling puffs where the landfill gasses were puffing out of the ground. The odour was persistent.</i>
Site 7	Daily covered area on the day's deposited waste, Stage 2 Phase 2 of landfill	<i>Was the active tip face and odours resembled more of a garbage type odour, but still has a 'dirty' gas and leachate odour to it.</i>
Site 8	Bitumen road, next to recent cut and fill of capping of western edge, Stage 2, Phase 2/3 of landfill	<i>Similar odours to Sites 2 and 6, albeit of a lower persistence.</i>

EAQ concluded that, given the volumes of odours observed from landfill gas during the site visit – as well as the 'dirty gas' smell which indicated where landfill gas had mixed with and carried leachate odours upwards from inside the landfill system and surface ponds – it would be highly unlikely that odours from the active tip face would be perceptible outside the site boundary.

In short, EAQ's findings suggest that the primary odours evident during the site visit were:

- A 'clean' gas odour from landfill gas
- A 'dirty' gas odour (sewer-like) from landfill gas which has passed over and 'carried' odours from leachate

3.7. ODOUR MANAGEMENT AT TAMALA PARK (PRIOR TO FEBRUARY 2023)

The following describes the way in which odours were managed prior to changes made by MRC in response to increased community concern in the past two years.

3.7.1. DAILY COVER

Each day the landfill operations team would apply a minimum of 150mm of crushed and screened limestone from the Tamala Park quarry in line with the terms of MRC's licence issued by the regulator (DWER).

In instances where additional cover was required (due to settlement, rainwater, disturbance of the cover from daily activity on the landfill, etc.) cover would be reapplied or applied in greater amounts. These requirements would be identified during monthly Environmental Inspection Reports conducted by MRC, in line with the conditions of its license issued by DWER.

3.7.2. LANDFILL GAS POWER STATION

Tamala Park is home to Western Australia's largest landfill gas (LFG) power station, operated by EDL.

The facility – which was opened in 2004 and expanded in 2007 – extracts landfill gas from the landfill mass in order to capture methane. The methane is then used as fuel for generating electricity which is sent to the grid.

The remaining landfill gases (also captured from the landfill) are disposed of in this process. This includes odorous gases which might otherwise impact nearby residents.

Historically, the LFG power station has formed an important part of MRC's odour management and MRC has worked closely with EDL to maintain and expand the infrastructure of wells required to extract gas from the landfill mass.

3.7.3. LEACHATE AND RAINWATER MANAGEMENT

Prior to February 2023, Tamala Park had long-established methods of managing leachate and rainwater which – in both cases - was designed to keep leachate moving around the site and prevent it from accumulating in un-planned areas or being absorbed into the landfill mass.

A longstanding issue for MRC in its management of leachate at Tamala Park has been the lack of dedicated, permanent leachate ponds and evaporation system. In fact, Tamala Park is the only landfill in Western Australia which faces this particular problem.

Because of this, MRC has always relied upon the development of temporary infrastructure for the holding and transfer of leachate and rainwater and a network of pumps, sprinklers and irrigation to promote evaporation. This included:

- utilising 'rainfall benches' on active landfill areas to collect rainfall in defined areas before it becomes leachate;
- pumping rainfall from benches to sprinklers situated in capped areas of the landfill where the water would be sprayed onto the surface for evaporation;
- leachate extraction pumps operating within the landfill mass 24/hrs
- leachate transfer tanks to store pumped leachate for distribution around the landfill;
- <1m deep HDPE lined evaporation mats (lined with black plastic to encourage heat transfer from the sun), evaporation ponds and irrigation batters/benches to receive the pumped leachate from the transfer tanks;
- 'drizzle towers' sitting within the evaporation ponds to increase the surface area for evaporation;
- irrigation sprinklers to spread the leachate across a wide area within the active landfill to be more easily evaporated (in favourable weather conditions only – only on areas with intermediate capping or which have daily cover)

As the landfill expands and further waste lifts are put in place, the temporary evaporation mats and leachate or rainwater ponds would be decommissioned, filled with waste and capped. New infrastructure would then be created in a new location, close to the new active tip face.

3.7.4. ODOUR NEUTRALISERS, ABSORBENTS AND SUPPRESSANTS

Prior to February 2023, MRC had a standardised methodology for the application of odour neutralisers, absorbents and suppressants.

The products used by MRC were as follows:

- Zeolite – a naturally occurring mineral absorbent for leachate management
- BioWish – a treatment solution for surface water which removes organic matter and other contaminants
- EcoSorb - a plant-based odour neutraliser derived from pine, aniseed, clove, lime and other sources
- Odour pods – an aerated container which distributes an odour neutraliser in a highly localised area

In the main, applications of odour neutralisers, absorbents and suppressants were carried out in direct response to individual complaints – which, as outlined above – were usually no more than one, two or three per month.

3.8. INCREASE IN ODOUR COMPLAINTS AND OPERATIONAL CHANGES

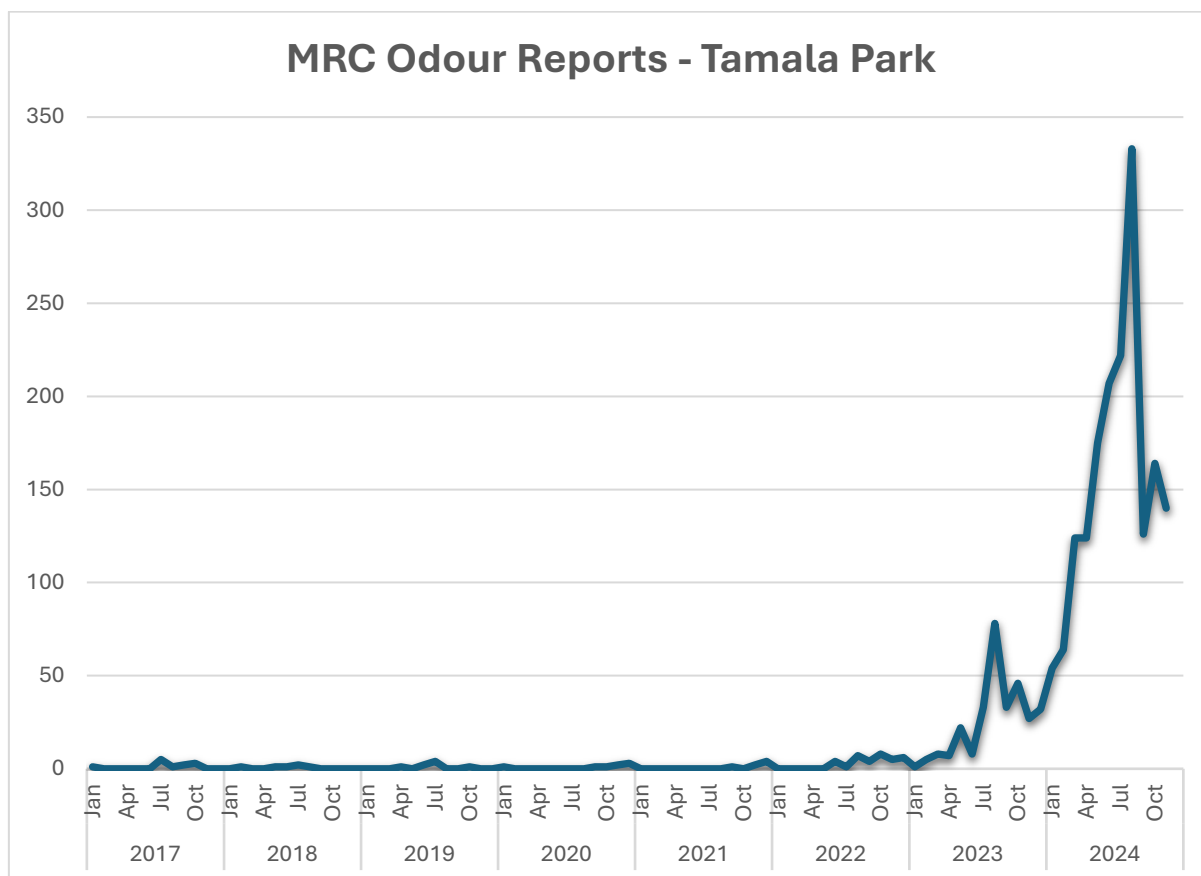
Between January 2017 and December 2021, MRC received – on average – 0.68 odour complaints per month, at which time leachate evaporation through the temporary infrastructure discussed previously was utilised daily to manage leachate volumes on site.

During this period, the highest number of complaints received was five (5) in July 2017 and it was not unusual for MRC to experience no (zero) complaints in any given month. For instance, of the 60 months between January 2017 and December 2021, there were 38 months where MRC received no (zero) complaints.

Over the past 18 months, MRC has seen an unprecedented increase in odour complaints being received from the surrounding community.

This began around August 2022 when MRC received seven (7) complaints in the month – an usually high amount for the time. This number was surpassed by eight (8) complaints in October 2022 and 22 complaints in May 2023.

The graph below shows the number of odour complaints received by from January 2017 to October 2024.



3.8.1. TIMELINE

The table below outlines the number of complaints which MRC received from January 2023 to date and – where relevant – the changes to operations at Tamala Park which resulted.

The subsequent section of this document explains the operational changes listed below in more detail.

Month	No. of complaints	+/-	Operational changes/notes
Jan 23	1	-	
Feb 23	5	+4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC ceases leachate evaporation/irrigation
Mar 23	8	+3	
Apr 23	7	-1	
May 23	22	+15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tamala Park and odour become campaign strategy for local councillors ahead of LG elections MRC replaces temporary tarps used on parts of the day's waste with permanent limestone cover
Jun 23	8	-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC begins reducing working landfill cell 'lift' height (the vertical depth of each day's deposited waste)

			<p>from 5M to 3.5M, decreasing the total surface area to reduce odour egress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC stops receiving deliveries of waste at night
Jul 23	33	+25	
Aug 23	78	+45	
Sep 23	33	-45	
Oct 23	46	+13	
Nov 23	27	-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC begins trials of daily applications of EcoSorb on the active landfill
Dec 23	32	+5	
Jan 24	54	+22	
Feb 24	64	+10	
Mar 24	124	+60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Number of odour complaints surpasses 100 for the first time</i>
Apr 24	124	0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC appoints independent odour consultant to assess extent and type of odours
May 23	175	+51	
Jun 24	207	+32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC places strict conditions on receipt of odorous loads and makes changes to their handling to reduce odour impact
Jul 24	222	+15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Number of odour complaints surpasses 200 for the first time</i> MRC provides notice in advance to WaterCorp it will soon be ceasing receipt of odorous loads
Aug 24	333	+111	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC stops receiving odorous loads from WaterCorp MRC begins trial of mister technology to suppress odours MRC meets with EDL to discuss gas extraction The daily cover placed on each day's waste is increased MRC engages EAQ consultant to inspect the whole site and prepare a site report as a result of landfill gas generation impact on odour levels RFQ is prepared for the installation of a new leachate risers MRC considers the use of a vacuum excavator truck to attend site to suck up any standing surface waters on current benches
Sep 24	126	-207	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Number of odour complaints surpasses 300 for the first time</i> Batters are given excessive amounts of extra cover Over saturated areas of the landfill have water pumped into other less saturated areas Increased use of odour suppressants and absorbents

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC attempts to clear flooded landfill gas infrastructure (within the landfill) to increase gas capture
Oct 24	164	+38	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Community presentation on 6 October – residents are encouraged to continue to report to MRC</i> MRC and EDL install new landfill gas capture infrastructure within the landfill (particularly to areas with scant infrastructure coverage)
Nov 24	140	-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC and EDL continue to install new landfill gas capture infrastructure within the landfill (particularly to areas with scant infrastructure coverage) MRC concludes the mister trial
Dec 24	-	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MRC and EDL continue to install new landfill gas capture infrastructure within the landfill (particularly to areas with scant infrastructure coverage)

3.8.2. OPERATIONAL CHANGES IN DETAIL

MRC decision to cease evaporation of leachate

Due to concerns related to the increase in odour complaints being received, MRC made the decision to cease leachate extraction and the use of lined evaporation mats/ponds in February 2023. It also decided, at this time to cease irrigation across the surface of the landfill.

At the time, it was believed by MRC that by ceasing to evaporate leachate, some of the total odour produced at the site could be removed and the total odour impact on residents could be reduced.

This decision was made in full consultation with DWER and was welcomed by the regulator at the time as a positive step to helping reduce overall odours from the Tamala Park site.

Replaces temporary tarps used on parts of the day's waste with permanent limestone cover

Prior to May 2023, MRC utilised tarpaulins at the end of each day's operations to cover the 'rises' (the sloped ends of the waste layer which had been applied that day) overnight. The tarpaulins served to reduce odour by creating a barrier between the open rises and the atmosphere and to prevent birds and pests from accessing the waste. These tarpaulins would be removed the following day and disposal of waste would continue alongside the previous day's.

In May 2023, the role which tarpaulins played on the landfill was replaced (and replicated) by the use of permanent limestone cover. As such, rather than simply covering and uncovering the rises between each day of operation, a layer of limestone was applied to the *entire* days waste, inclusive of the rises.

Reducing working landfill cell 'lift'

From June 2023, MRC began work to decrease the 'lift' height (or vertical depth of each day's deposited waste) from 5 metres to 3.5 metres.

This operational change resulted in a reduction in the exposed surface area of fresh waste on site during operational hours.

MRC begins trials of daily applications of EcoSorb on the active landfill

MRC began to apply EcoSorb (a plant-based odour neutraliser derived from pine, aniseed, clove, lime and other sources) on each day's waste in November 2023.

This was as a direct response to community concern over odour.

MRC appoints independent odour consultant

In April 2024, MRC engaged the services of an industry-leading, independent odour consultant (*Environmental & Air Quality Consulting (EAQ)*) to examine the impact of odour on the community and the type and intensity of odours coming from the Tamala Park landfill (see sections: *Odours detected and confirmed in the community*, and, *Odours detected and confirmed on-site (Tamala Park)*)

Stopped accepting odorous loads from WaterCorp

Until August 2024, MRC had accepted odorous material from WaterCorp for disposal in the Tamala Park landfill. The decision to stop accepting these loads was made as a direct response to increased community concern over odours and to reduce the total amount of odours at the site which could be experienced by nearby residents.

Prior to stopping these loads (June 2024), MRC had trialled making changes to the way in which these loads were accepted, adopting special measures to prevent the odours they produced from travelling off site. This included disposing the material lower in the landfill (to prevent the wind from carrying any odours) and ensuring that the loads were immediately covered.

However, MRC remained unsatisfied that the odours from these loads could be adequately mitigated and WaterCorp was notified in July 2024 that Tamala Park would no longer be accepting them for disposal in the landfill.

Misters trial

Between April 2024 and November 2024, MRC engaged *Environmental & Air Quality Consulting (EAQ)* to undertake a program of odour field assessments (OFAs) at Tamala Park and in the surrounding community.

While carrying out this work, EAQ were asked to assess the effectiveness (or lack thereof) of a trial of new odour management technology - what MRC has publicly referred to as 'misters'.

These 'mistifiers' are industrial water cannons designed to suppress odours by dispersing a plume of water vapour, which (the droplets in the air being heavier than the odour causing molecules) should in theory 'capture' odour causing molecules in the air and prevent them from travelling off site. Odour neutralising compounds can also be added to the water which is fed through the system to – in theory – provide an additional odour suppressing benefit.

The mistifiers were deployed in strategic locations around the site from 22 October 2024 with EAQ using its methods to assess their effectiveness in minimising the impact of odour from the landfill operations on nearby residents. EAQ also looked to judge the effectiveness of the mistifiers on different kinds of odours from the landfill (such as the odours from leachate, from landfill gas and from fresh waste).

In the findings provided to MRC on 27 November 2024, EAQ described the effectiveness of the mistifiers as '*unremarkable*' based upon the OFAs carried out at Tamala Park and in the community.

Increased deployment of cover (daily waste and batters)

In September 2024, in response to a considerable increase in odour complaints in the preceding month, MRC made the decision to deploy excessive levels of cover across open areas of the landfill and – in particular – the landfill batters (sides of cells). This work was carried out by MRC's contractor, Raubex.

Pumping of leachate and rainwater from oversaturated areas

In September 2024, following a period of exceptional weather which resulted in some areas of the active landfill site becoming waterlogged and oversaturated, MRC began pumping rainwater and some surface leachate away into other parts of the landfill which had greater capacity to hold water.

This work was intended to help the waterlogged areas to dry out and prevent the creation of an odorous 'mud-like' substance which resulted over the winter period in 2024 on the surface of the active landfill (see section: *Unfavourable weather conditions*)

Increased use of odour neutralisers, suppressants/absorbents

In September 2024, in response to a record number of odour complaints from the community in the preceding month, MRC greatly increased its use of odour neutralisers, suppressants and absorbents.

Many of these had been in use at Tamala Park for many years, including:

- Zeolite – a naturally occurring mineral absorbent for leachate management
 - BioWish – a treatment solution for surface water which removes organic matter and other contaminants
 - EcoSorb - a plant-based odour neutraliser derived from pine, aniseed, clove, lime and other sources
-

- Odour pods – an aerated container which distributes an odour neutraliser in a highly localised area

In addition to these, MRC also trialled ‘mistors’, which are industrial water cannons designed to suppress odours by dispersing a plume of water vapour into the air where odours are present. (See section: *Mistors Trial*).

From September 2024 onwards, these solutions were applied more widely and more judiciously than they had been previously with the expressed aim of reducing and controlling odours from the landfill which might travel off-site and impact the community.

Attempts to clear flooded landfill gas infrastructure (within the landfill) and installation of new infrastructure

Through consultation with the operator of the Tamala Park landfill gas power station (EDL) and investigations of the landfill site, it was found that an increase in the levels of leachate within the landfill and an increase in the amount of rainwater affecting the top levels of the active landfill surface had waterlogged or blocked some of the essential landfill gas capture infrastructure.

In response, MRC began efforts to clear the vertical and horizontal ‘wells’ which allow for landfill gas to be extracted from the landfill mass. This produced mixed results, initially, as it was found that some wells had been deformed during compaction and the pumps required to clear them would no longer fit. In response, MRC ordered new, more compact pumps to clear away any standing water/leachate and much of this infrastructure has been restored to a greater capture capacity.

In addition to these works, MRC – along with EDL – has worked to increase the total number of wells present within the landfill mass by the installation of horizontal ‘sacrificial wells’ to extract a greater amount of landfill gas.

This work has resulted in an increased amount of gas being captured by EDL and a greater amount of odorous gases being disposed of in the power station process.

3.9. FACTORS WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO AN INCREASE IN ODOUR/ODOUR COMPLAINTS

MRC has obtained technical input into its investigations of the factors which are likely to have contributed to an increase in odour from the Tamala Park site, and – subsequently – an increase in the number of odour complaints it has received.

MRC’s consultancy team comprised *Talis Consultants* (Talis) and *Environmental Air Quality Consulting* (EAQ).

Talis has assisted MRC on the delivery of its various landfilling engineering projects over the past five years and is also engaged by the operator of the Tamala Park landfill gas power station, EDL, to provide advice on optimising gas capture from the landfill mass.

EAQ has undertaken all odour related works on and around the Tamala Park site on behalf of MRC, including field assessments and odour management plans.

3.9.1. ENCROACHMENT OF RESIDENTIAL AREAS ON TAMALA PARK SITE



The image above shows the Tamala Park site (in blue) with neighbouring areas of housing highlighted.

When the landfill first opened to waste disposal by its member councils in 1991, the area surrounding Tamala Park was largely bushland.

At that time, development to the north of the Tamala Park site boundary was just under 1km away at Mindarie. The closest development to the south of the site boundary was at the emerging suburb of Kinross just over 750m away at its northernmost point.

By 2001, the suburb of Kinross had been developed right up to the southern boundary of Tamala Park, no more than a few metres away at its northernmost point. Meanwhile, to the north, the emerging suburb of Clarkson had developed southwards to approximately 800m from Tamala Park's northern border.

Today, development/established homes to the north, south and northeast of Tamala Park are no more than 300m from the site boundary, in each direction. At the extreme end of this range, the closest houses in the newer Catalina Estate are just over 140m away, while to the south, the closest homes are just under 12m away.

The image below shows the boundary of the Tamala Park site (in blue) superimposed over satellite imagery from 31 December 1991 (left) and 30 June 2024 (right).



This marks a dramatic change in Tamala Park's operational circumstances and makes even relatively low odour levels – which might be typical of any landfill of Tamala Park's size and type – a potential detrimental impact upon nearby residents.

3.9.2. HEIGHT OF THE LANDFILL PROFILE

It is true of all landfill sites that as they become fuller (and subsequently higher on the landscape) the potential for odours to travel away from the site increases.

This is because fresh waste (the waste which arrives in trucks from member councils) is deposited at a greater height and the natural topography which surrounds the landfill is no longer sufficient to shelter odorous waste from the wind.

Consequently, the odours from fresh waste are more easily – and more often – blown off site and travel greater distances.

This issue is particularly pronounced at Tamala Park which, today, is surrounded on three sides by residential development and sits in a location where strong winds are commonplace.

Between June and August 2024 when odour complaints surpassed 200 and 300 per month for the first time, deliveries of waste to landfill were being deposited at a height of approximately between 45m and 49m above sea level. By comparison, Marmion Avenue to the west (approx. 41m above sea level), Connolly Drive to the east (approx. 20m above sea level), Aviator Boulevard (Catalina Estate) to the north approx. (between approx. 18 and 49m above sea level) and Kinross Drive (Kinross) to the south (between 47 and 31m above sea level).

3.9.3. INCREASED LEVELS OF LEACHATE

As outlined previously, in February 2023, due to concerns related to the increase in odour complaints being received, MRC made the decision to cease leachate extraction and evaporation of leachate in lined mats/ponds. At the same time, leachate irrigation across the surface of the landfill was stopped.

In its report to DWER in November 2024, MRC and its consultancy team suggested that this decision represents the most significant alteration to operations at Tamala Park prior to and during the increase in odour complaints received since February 2023.

Also, in the same report to DWER, MRC and its consultancy team suggested that the result of ceasing leachate extraction/evaporation/irrigation led to an unseasonally high level of leachate accumulating in the landfill by winter 2024 and – consequently – had a detrimental effect on the ability to control landfill gas emissions.

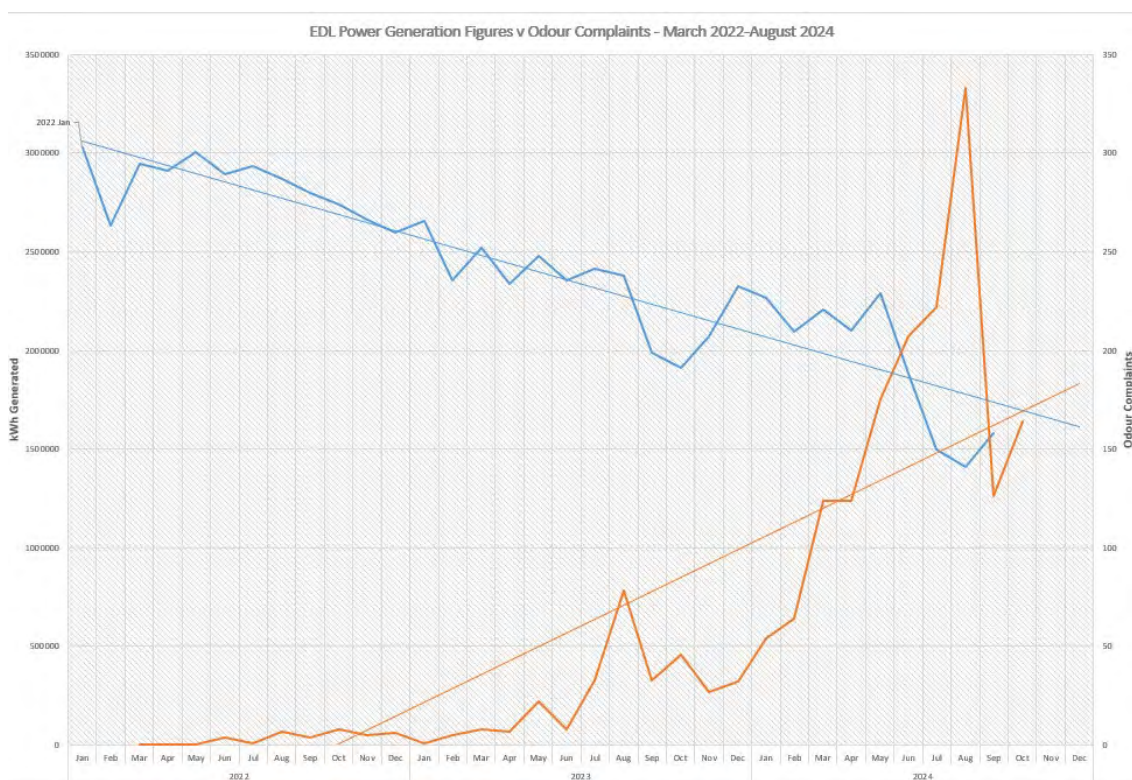
Consistent with best practice guidelines for landfills across Australia, MRC monitors leachate levels as they appear within the landfill liner system at regular intervals. Historically, these intervals have been at no less than one month and – more recently – up to twice a month.

The reason for this monitoring is that:

1. the hydraulic pressure acting on the lining system is minimised as far as reasonably practicable to reduce infiltration; and
 2. that the landfill gas extraction system can operate as effectively as possible to maximise the efficiency of capture through existing infrastructure (landfill gas cannot be extracted from gas wells which are submerged in leachate).
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3.9.4. LANDFILL GAS

The graph below shows the number of complaints received by MRC between January 2022 and October 2024, alongside data from the operator of the Tamala Park landfill gas power station (EDL) showing power generated at their facility.



The key findings from the datasets, when considered together, are:

1. Power generation from the Tamala Park landfill gas power station has been dropping consistently since May 2022
2. Odour complaints have been consistently rising since late 2022, with significant increases and spikes which correlate with similarly significant drops in power generation (particularly during the winter of 2024).

In relation to the power output data in the table above, it is important to note that drops in power output are not necessarily because of a decrease in the amount of gas produced by the landfill itself (referred to as the 'gas field' by EDL). The amount of gas generated by any given landfill over its life does not materially alter or fluctuate within a 12-month period.

Therefore, over the duration of this data, the amount of gas generated by the Tamala Park landfill would be relatively consistent.

However, a critical factor for the capture of landfill gas is the level of leachate within the 'gas field' (the landfill mass). If leachate levels are sufficient to saturate areas where gas wells and associated infrastructure are present within the landfill, gas cannot be efficiently extracted from that area (or at all).

Unlike a conventional gas field (such as a deep-sea LNG gas field) where a single point of egress is drilled and engineered for extraction, landfills are – in essence – ‘open’ gas fields where gas produced by rotting waste will escape from the places of least resistance if it is not otherwise captured.

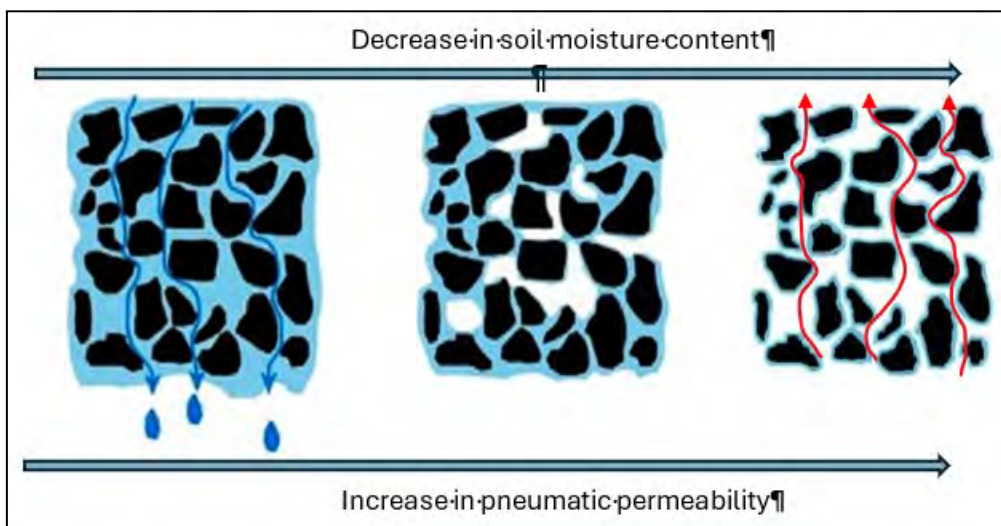
Any landfill gas which is not - or cannot be – extracted from the landfill mass can escape ‘as fugitive emissions’. These fugitive emissions will include highly odorous gases.

MRC and its consultancy team, in its letter and report to DWER on 11 November 2024 outlined its belief that there has been a significant increase in fugitive landfill gas emissions from the Tamala Park site. This is consistent with the findings in MRC’s odour consultant’s report which stated that *“Site malodours at large distances from Site still prevail, which in the view of EAQ is due to uncontrolled landfill gas emissions.”*

3.9.5. CEASING OF IRRIGATION AND RESULTING CHANGES TO COVER STRUCTURE

An unforeseen side effect of the decision to cease irrigation of leachate and rainwater onto the landfill surface in February 2023, was that the temporary capping and the layers of waste directly underneath have begun to dry out and the moisture content has been reduced.

This drying has, potentially, opened up more vertical preferential pathways which allow the gas to migrate to the surface more easily and at the expense of the extraction wells. In short, MRC’s consultancy team believe that increased permeability of the surface soils and waste layers reduces the effective gas capture range of the vertical gas extraction wells present within the landfill. Uncaptured gas is then freer to migrate to the surface in the form of fugitive emissions.



In the diagram above (not to scale and illustrative only) the blue lines represent the direction of travel of irrigated leachate/rainwater down through and into the temporary capping and top layers of waste in the landfill. By filling the gaps in the granular structure of these layers, greater resistance is provided against landfill gas rising through the landfill to the surface. In

the third illustration, the landfill gas (in red) is able to travel through channels which have emerged in the granular structure due to a decrease in moisture content.

As well as optimising the effectiveness of landfill gas capture in areas where vertical gas extraction wells are present, suitable levels of irrigation is one of the best options to limit the escape of fugitive gas emissions until a permanent cap can be installed.

In its report to DWER in November 2024, MRC and its consultancy team suggested that ceasing the irrigation of leachate and rainwater across the open landfill areas has had a significant impact on the effectiveness of the landfill gas collection system and the release of fugitive emissions at the site.

3.9.6. UNFAVOURABLE WEATHER CONDITIONS

In winter 2024, the Perth metropolitan area experienced an unusually high number of rain-affected days.

According to the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) (and reported by the ABC) the metro area experienced 62 rain-affected days between June and August in 2024 – the most since the winter of 1996.

This reporting matches the anecdotal evidence from MRC's operations team who reported unusually wet conditions on the landfill, including large areas of standing water and a saturated top of the landfill waste layers. Some staff, who have worked on the landfill for more than a decade, commented that the conditions were as bad as they had seen.

In its presentation at the community forum on 6 October, MRC suggested that that the wet conditions – coupled with the usual high winds and storms experienced in the area over winter - resulted in the top part of the landfill becoming over-saturated with water which percolated down through the top of the landfill. This – we believe – created a connected system of waste layers, rehydrated waste within the top part of the landfill which would otherwise have remained dry, increased the total surface area of the waste within the system and created a highly odorous 'mud', smells from which rose to the surface during compaction and under the weight of heavy machinery.

Combined with the fresh waste, which is deposited on the landfill each day, odours from this mud were easily blown off site, due to the height of the active tip face within the surrounding landscape.

MRC has communicated through its owned channels and at the community presentation on 6 October 2024 that the exceptional winter weather conditions – and the knock-on effects that they created within the landfill – were a major contributor to the record number of odour complaints during the winter in 2024.

3.10. INCREASED SCRUTINY OF MRC AND ITS IMPACT

3.10.1. REPUTATIONAL IMPACT

There can be little doubt that there has been a significant and detrimental impact to MRC's reputation as a result of community concern over odour.

Assigning a value or measure to this impact is difficult. However, there are a number of indicators which allow for the impact to be better understood.

- Since appointing a communications professional in August 2024, MRC has recorded the number, type and sentiment of media stories or mentions of the organisation and the Tamala Park facility.
 - Since August, there have been 63 mentions relating to MRC and Tamala Park.
 - Of that number, 61 have been of *negative sentiment* – that is to say that the story or mention reflected negatively on MRC as an organisation or was critical of it.
 - Media outlets which carried stories or segments which reflected negatively on MRC as an organisation or were critical of it included: *The West Australian; Perth Now; 6PR; ABC Radio Perth and 96FM*.
 - In particular, 6PR carried multiple segments on the odour issue at Tamala Park between 6 September and 6 November, in which a number of residents called in to complain about the odour issue or to criticise MRC.
 - At a community meeting organised by local ward councillors, between 350-400 people (the majority of whom were local residents) attended. The evening was emotionally charged and – at times – hostile towards MRC and the Tamala Park facility.
 - Following the community meeting (in addition to an increase in the number of odour complaints received through the MRC website), MRC received an unprecedented number of written complaints or letters to the CEO (see *Complaints handling*, below) relating to the odour issue.
 - Following the community meeting, a resident's group – *Tamala Park Odour Action Group (TPOAG)* – was set up on Facebook with the expressed aim of shutting Tamala Park as soon as possible.
 - This group has conducted letter drops in the local community and coordinated a letter of signatories to DWER
 - Members of the group have also appeared in the media
 - MRC's handling of odour complaints was investigated by the Office of the WA Ombudsman (see *Complaints handling*, below).
 - Tamala Park has emerged as a campaign issue for politicians and candidates at a local and state level. Several have made the odour issue at Tamala Park a key component (or primary issue) for their campaigns for election or re-election.
 - MRC has come under increased scrutiny from the regulator, which has communicated publicly on the issue of odour with the community. The regulator has also encouraged residents in the residential areas surrounding Tamala Park to make complaints to the department and to MRC directly. The department has also met with the residents group TPOAG and the local MLA, Mark Folkard.
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3.10.2. OPERATIONS IMPACT

The issue of odour has had a significant and wide-ranging impact on MRC's day-to-day operations, to the extent that the MRC CEO has stated that all work across the organisation should now be viewed through the 'lens' of potential odour impacts on the community.

That is to say that all decisions, projects, works, operational changes, improvements or development of new services are now – before any other consideration – evaluated against how they might impact the work MRC is doing to manage and minimise odours.

This has transformed the way in which decisions are made at MRC and – consequently – significantly increased the workload of staff across the organisation.

With odour management taking top priority, it has also meant that other functions of the administration are necessarily denied some of their usual resource to compensate, or has required staff to work longer hours.

This – as well as the impact of working in an organisation which is under considerable scrutiny - has placed additional pressure on MRC staff (as outlined below).

The financial considerations of the additional work required to tackle the odour issue, and to explore new and innovative solutions which have not traditionally formed part of MRC's operations, has been significant – the details of which will be assessed during the MRC's mid-year financial review process.

3.10.3. COMPLAINTS HANDLING

Since May 2023, the number of odour complaints received by MRC has increased exponentially.

The majority of these complaints come to MRC through its website – specifically the odour management FAQ and guide, which explains to complainants how MRC manages odours and the reason behind the recent increase they have experienced.

However, in instances where complaints do not come to MRC through its website (such as by email to the admin inbox), or where the odour management FAQ is not sufficient to answer their complaint, or where the complainant is an MP, councillor or other prominent opinion former, it is necessary to draft a bespoke response.

In September and October 2024, MRC received a number of odour complaints or enquiries relating to odour which required a bespoke response. This created significant additional workload within administration and the numbers were such that some responses went without a reply for several days. Some, due to error, went unanswered until a second complaint was received.

This was particularly true following the community meeting on 6 October where MRC's ability to respond to these complaints appropriately was overwhelmed. This necessitated MRC to prioritise this work over other existing activities.

As of November 2024, the number of such complaints/correspondence which MRC receives has returned to a more manageable level. However, MRC has explored ways in which it may wish to increase its complaints handling capacity in future (whether through new staff, external consultants to review its current processes, or other means), should this be required.

3.10.4. STAFF MORALE

Working in an organisation which is under considerable public scrutiny has impacted MRC staff.

The past 18 months – in particular – have been very challenging for staff, especially those who live in the local area and spend their time away from work in and amongst the communities which are impacted by odours. MRC managers have been told that some staff try to avoid discussing where they work with neighbours or people they meet in the community to avoid conversations or confrontations about the odour issue.

3.11. CHANGES TO MRC PUBLIC FACING COMMUNICATIONS IN RESPONSE TO INCREASE COMMUNITY CONCERN OVER ODOURS

Since August 2024, MRC has committed considerable resources and funds to the wholesale improvement of its public facing communications on the issue of odour.

In August, MRC employed a full-time communications specialist whose immediate priority has been improving the standard of MRC's communications with the community.

These improvements have included:

- substantial upgrades to the odour management page of the MRC website, including a detailed FAQ and guide;
 - This guide details
 - Why landfills create odour
 - How waste is handled at Tamala Park
 - An explanation of leachate and its management
 - How odours are able to travel away from the site
 - That the odours are not injurious to human health
 - What MRC has done thus far to reduce odours
 - Why the odours were particularly noticeable in winter 2024
 - When the landfill will close
 - Factors which prevent the landfill from closing sooner
 - How Waste to Energy and FOGO relate to the landfill closure
 - How a resident can make a complaint
 - an overhaul of the online complaints process with a focus on usability;
 - improving the standard of MRC's responses to complaints;
 - publishing alerts to the MRC website home page when on-site operations might result in an increase in odours;
 - and, providing training to MRC staff on how to handle and properly direct complaints by telephone.
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Further to this, on Sunday 6 October 2024, MRC gave an extensive presentation on odour management to approximately 350-400 residents at a community forum organised by three local councillors from the cities of Joondalup and Wanneroo.

As well as providing detailed information on odour management and waste management practices at Tamala Park the presentation also provided information on how MRC operates; the scale of those operations; how decisions are made and the composition of MRC's Council.

Importantly, that presentation provided information to residents about:

- the odours from Tamala Park and where in the landfill process they arise;
- how MRC responded to an increase in odour with regards to on-site operations and why;
- how MRC proposes to manage odours in future and why;
- why odours have been particularly noticeable by nearby residents in the past 18 months;
- the number of complaints that MRC has received during that period;
- and, MRC's expectations and projections for the levels of odour likely to be experienced during the landfill's remaining operational life.

The administration has been encouraged by the feedback it has received from many members of the public regarding the presentation and changes to MRC's public facing communications. Many residents approached the CEO in person at the community meeting or later wrote to the CEO to say that they had found the information provided to them was helpful and that they had noticed a positive change to the odour complaints process.

Equally, some communications received remained highly critical of MRC, the presentation, and the operations of Tamala Park in general.

3.12. REGULATORY ACTION – WA DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION (DWER)

3.12.1. DWER DRAFT PREVENTION NOTICE

On 26 September 2024, DWER contacted the MRC CEO noting that it was considering the issuing of a draft Prevention Notice (the notice).

On 27 September 2024, DWER issued that draft Prevention Notice under Section 73A of the Environmental Protection Act 1986, accompanied by a Statement of Reasons and invited MRC to a meeting on 1 October 2024.

The draft notice asserted that DWER had identified 'concentrated' leachate stored on-site at Tamala Park as the primary source of the odours experienced by residents in the surrounding areas, and that MRC had acknowledged this.

As MRC communicated to DWER following the receipt of the draft notice – both verbally and in writing – both of these assertions were inaccurate and did not reflect the latest information which MRC had gleaned from its investigations of the odour issue.

If served to MRC in its final form, the draft notice would have prevented MRC from resuming the evaporation of leachate from the site at a time (spring-summer 2024) when conditions were most favourable to do so.

Evaporation of leachate was – and remains – the only methodology available to MRC for the management of leachate at the landfill.

The draft notice also asserted that *‘through the department’s consultation with MRC, they have acknowledged the need for the Prevention Notice and are supportive of the issue of this notice’*.

In its initial written response (email) to DWER and subsequent meeting on 1 October 2024, MRC responded to the department as follows:

- That MRC did not acknowledge the need for the notice and was not/is not supportive of it
- That MRC was greatly concerned that DWER was considering the notice while not in possession of the most relevant and up-to-date information
- That MRC disagreed with DWER’s assertion that leachate was the primary source of odours at Tamala Park over the past 18 months
- That, notwithstanding the conditions caused by exceptional weather conditions over the winter of 2024, MRC had identified landfill gas as the primary source of the odours
- That MRC had developed additional management plans which were in progress to manage the impacts of landfill gas and the leachate levels at Tamala Park
- That the notice – if issued – would severely hinder MRC’s ability to manage and minimise leachate at a time when it was most expedient to do so

DWER noted that it would need to consider this additional information, and later confirmed, via email, on 4 October 2024 that it did not intend to issue the prevention notice in its final form, but that *‘all regulatory options were being discussed’*.

3.12.2. FURTHER MEETINGS/CORRESPONDENCE WITH DWER AND SITE VISITS BY THE REGULATOR

DWER representatives attended the Tamala Park site on 10 October 2024 to obtain a better understanding of site operations.

MRC received correspondence from DWER on 14 October 2024 confirming that it was still considering all the information that MRC provided in response to the draft prevention notice, and – though MRC wished to proceed with evaporation of leachate to manage levels at the landfill - that the construction of the temporary leachate evaporation ponds should not be undertaken unless they were approved through an amendment to MRC’s licence, or otherwise approved by DWER, (ie: through an Environmental Protection Notice (EPN)).

Between the 15 October and 8 November 2024, DWER representatives attended the site on two further occasions to collect additional data with relation to odours.

The MRC CEO met with DWER representatives on 5 November 2024 to discuss a way forward in relation to resolving the outstanding matter of DWER's response to the information MRC had provided. During that meeting, DWER raised an item regarding the issuing of an *Environmental Protection Notice (EPN)*.

DWER confirmed that they were considering the issuance of an EPN and would provide the pertinent details of this to MRC as soon as possible for review and further discussion.

Following this meeting MRC made its position on the matter of odour clear in a letter to DWER sent on 11 November 2024.

In this letter, MRC – utilising the technical expertise of *Talis Consultants* (Talis) and *Environmental Air Quality Consulting (EAQ)* provided comprehensive information on the current situation regarding the issue of odour and odour management at Tamala Park, including:

- the outcome of odour survey reports by EAQ between May and November 2024 which identified landfill gas as the predominant source of odour experienced by the community;
- the outcome of a comprehensive review of operations at Tamala Park (undertaken by MRC and Talis) over the past 18 months and assessing data in relation to landfill gas management, leachate management and any correlation between on-site operations, climate data and odour complaints;
- changes to leachate practices (including the decision to cease leachate evaporation in February 2023);
- measurements of leachate levels within the landfill;
- a review of landfill gas power outputs plotted against odour complaints between January 2022 and October 2024;
- the potential impact which ceasing irrigation of leachate and rainwater across the landfill surface might have had in creating a more porous granular structure for landfill gas egress; and,
- a list of proposed solutions to the odour issue in light of these findings and reports.

3.12.3. PROPOSED SOLUTIONS PROVIDED TO DWER IN WRITING ON 11 OCTOBER 2024

Based upon input from its consultancy team and from the operator of the Tamala Park landfill gas power station (EDL), MRC proposed the following solutions to resolve the odour issue at the site:

1. *Landfill gas*
 - a. *Continue to install additional sacrificial horizontal landfill gas wells within the waste mass;*
 - b. *Continue the application of excessive cover material on all areas*
 - c. *Continue to prohibit the acceptance of odorous materials*
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2. *Leachate immediate actions*

- a. *Further progress immediate actions to reduce the leachate levels within the landfill*
 - i. *Recommence the use of existing temporary evaporation mats at the site to boost evaporation;*
 - ii. *Recommence the irrigation of the leachate across the open landfill areas;*
 - iii. *Install additional temporary leachate ponds on top of previously filled areas to increase the evaporation of leachate;*
 - iv. *Further progress the feasibility of installing storage bladders and similar temporary surface infrastructure at the site*

3. *Leachate to sewer option:*

- a. *Continue to progress the leachate to sewer concept as a long-term solution for the site including:*
 - i. *progressing the procurement process to select a preferred contractor to undertake a pilot trial at the site; and*
 - ii. *further engaging with Water Corporation (WaterCorp) in relation to obtaining approval to accept leachate into their network/facility and any associated requirements (such as pre-treatment, leachate quality and quantity aspects, etc.)*

4. *Dedicated leachate pond facility*

- a. *Further progress with the dedicated leachate pond system in the quarry area of the site. This will initially consist of leachate evaporation ponds but at a later stage will provide the feed and brine ponds for the proposed leachate treatment plant to facilitate the discharge to WaterCorp's network. Once installed, these ponds will allow MRC to actively reduce the leachate levels within the landfill, and in turn maximising the performance of landfill gas capture and management system.*

5. *Phased closure of site*

- a. *Continue with the phased closure of landfill activities, including:*
 - i. *delivery of the Stage 2 West Capping works (set to be complete in January 2025);*
 - ii. *submit the Works Approval for the piggy back lining system to ensure that the Stage 2 landfill area can be filled and capped to a best practice final fill profile;*
 - iii. *continue to progress capping of the Stage 2 area including capping of Stage 2 East by 2026 and Piggyback Area by 2029.*
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3.12.4. DWER ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE (EPN)

On Thursday 28 November, MRC received an Environmental Protection Notice (EPN/the notice) from the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER). This notice was issued - in DWER's words – *'to ensure MRC addresses the odour emissions from the Tamala Park premises and the impact they are having on the community and investigates any increased risks to groundwater caused by elevated leachate levels in the landfill site.'*

The EPN requires MRC to:

1. *Develop a plan to manage the significant leachate volumes at the site. This plan must include details of the measures that will be taken to ensure leachate management does not cause odour impacts outside of the premises boundary and odour monitoring to ensure this is the case.*
- 8j *Provide additional landfill cover over areas of leachate seepage to minimise odour emissions.*
- 9j *Inspect the final landfill cap and temporary landfill cover across the site, and identify and implement remedial measures to minimise uncontrolled landfill gas emissions.*
- 0j *Review the existing landfill gas collection and management system to ensure it is working as effectively as possible to maximise the collection of landfill gas.*
- 1 *Engage a suitable expert to undertake a comprehensive review of the adequacy of the landfill gas collection and management system and identify and implement any improvements necessary to prevent odour impacts outside of the landfill premises.*
- 2 *Engage a suitable expert to carry out an updated groundwater risk assessment that considers the elevated leachate levels in the site and identifies any actions necessary to mitigate any increased risks to groundwater.*

As outlined above, MRC and its consultancy team has gone to great lengths to demonstrate to the department that, contrary to what was set out in the draft prevention notice that the primary source of odours from Tamala Park was associated with landfill gas, not with stored leachate. This has taken the form of correspondence, phone calls and face-to-face meetings (as outlined above).

MRC has publicly welcomed this step by the regulator and is confident that the steps outlined by DWER are practicable and realistic. Indeed, many of these requirements are already being actioned by MRC.

However, the EPN does not allow MRC to recommence evaporation at this time.

MRC had plans to develop temporary holding ponds in the lead up to summer this year. The aim of these holding ponds was to increase evaporation of leachate during the summer months, when conditions were most favourable.

In the past, MRC has carried out evaporation (and created the necessary temporary infrastructure) without a formal approval process (such as a Works Approval or Licence

Amendment) similar to other landfill sites across the state. This aspect of MRC's operations has been well understood by DWER.

However, DWER has recently indicated that it would not permit MRC to utilise new evaporation infrastructure without a formal approval.

3.13. WASTE TO ENERGY AND FOGO

The waste which is received at Tamala Park at the time of writing contains a significant portion of food waste as part of the 'red lidded' bins contents which is collected by member councils.

This food waste is putrescible waste (waste which rots) and therefore has the potential to be highly odorous, both as fresh waste and as it decomposes within the landfill mass (landfill gas).

The MRC Council is currently progressing with plans to utilise both Waste to Energy/Energy Recovery) (W2E) and Food Organics/Garden Organics recycling (FOGO) facilities as part of its commitment to sustainable waste management further up the waste hierarchy.

W2E presents the opportunity to substantially reduce the amount of odorous materials received by Tamala Park (by approximately 50 per cent).

Likewise, utilising a FOGO facility would result in all food waste being diverted away from Tamala Park, eliminating the vast majority of new odour producing sources from being deposited in the landfill.

Should MRC utilise W2E and/or FOGO facilities to divert this waste (as outlined above) away from Tamala Park, then an opportunity may present itself to attract greater (and substantial) amounts of construction and demolition waste (C&D) to fill the 'air space' created by the elimination of odorous food waste.

C&D waste, generally, does not contain odorous material.

4. CONSULTATION

Over the past 18 months, numerous discussions have taken place between MRC and other parties in relation to these matters; including DWER, other landfill operators, member council administrations, member council councillors, Talis Consultants, EAQ Consulting, etc.

The CEO presented to members of the community on these matters at an open meeting on 6 October 2024, then took and responded to questions thereafter.

The development of the detail stated in DWER's EPN has been completed collaboratively between both parties as a solution which allows MRC to move forward is identified.

5. STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

MRC holds licence L9395/2023/1 under Part V of the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

MRC’s Environmental Policy (EP 01) highlights MRC’s commitment to pollution prevention strategies and compliance with legal and non-legal requirements.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The MRC incurred additional cost, however, it has been able to manage those costs within the available budgets, the full impact will be assessed during MRC’s mid-year budget review process.

8. STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

1. Deliver best practice services	Operate waste management services effectively
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9. COMMENT

The MRC administration is of the firm belief that, from its peak in August 2024, the issue of odours impacting the local community has reduced significantly. This is corroborated by the reduction in the number of complaints received by MRC.

Further to this, MRC believes that this reduction in overall odours impacting the community is as a direct result of the positive changes made to landfill operations as well as work which has taken place to improve other operations related to odour management (such as restoration, improvement and extensions to the landfill gas capture infrastructure).

The cause of the odours created at Tamala Park is due to a combination of factors, including residential encroachment on the site; the increased height of the landfill profile; increased levels of leachate; changes to irrigation practices, and; an increase in the egress of landfill gas from the landfill area.

This combination of factors makes the odours issue at Tamala Park unique.

However, as outlined in the *Detail* section above, based upon comprehensive investigations (both by MRC and by independent consultants) MRC is of the firm belief that *the majority of odours created at Tamala Park – and the vast majority of odours experienced by the communities surrounding the site – are as a result of landfill gas egress from the operational landfill area.*

MRC now believes that landfill gas has been the primary odour source for the past 18 months, exacerbated by the exceptional weather conditions experienced at Tamala Park between June

and August 2024, which created additional odours from an oversaturated top layer of the landfill.

The administration has informed the regulator (DWER) of this belief and the data/investigations which support it.

Importantly, MRC has also made it clear to the regulator that – based on the evidence and data it has available – the odour issue, as it is today, can be further managed and minimised.

MRC is working with the regulator and welcomes collaboration with DWER.

In relation to the EPN issued by DWER in November 2024, MRC welcomes it and is of the opinion that the requirements set out by the regulator are realistic, practicable and achievable. It is also highly encouraging to see the regulator acknowledge for the first time – if only in part – that landfill gas is a significant contributor to the odours experienced in the community. This illustrates that DWER is willing to work with MRC and values its input on strategies to reduce odour impacts on the community.

Nonetheless, the administration is of the opinion that the measures outlined in the EPN - in isolation - will not be sufficient to reduce the odour impact on nearby residents to the levels which, historically, have largely been considered acceptable for the type and size of the Tamala Park landfill, and – in the main – have not attracted large numbers of complaints.

While MRC is, today, able take a number of steps to reduce the impact of odours on the community, it is constrained by the limitations currently imposed upon it regarding leachate management.

MRC remains of the opinion that it will be necessary to create new leachate evaporation infrastructure to manage leachate levels appropriately. The management of leachate levels, in this manner, is required to complete many of the actions necessary to better control the levels of odour experienced in the community (in particular, the need to restore, repair and install new landfill gas infrastructure to an appropriate level).

Separately to this, if MRC is not able to effectively control levels of leachate, through evaporation, it may be that the administration's planned schedule of works to finish the landfill in line with its license could be significantly delayed. This risk will be better understood in the weeks ahead.

While it is MRC's desire to see odour complaint levels return to those seen prior to 2022, given the level of encroachment Tamala Park has experienced from residential development to its north, north-west, north-east, south, south-east and south-west, the administration considers this to be a very difficult proposition.

It is also worth noting that the levels of residential encroachment surrounding Tamala Park are likely to increase in the coming years as development continues at Catalina Estate and any further parcels of land which are released for development.

There is no similar landfill, to MRC's knowledge, operating in Western Australia, which has the same amount and density of housing directly at its border which makes the administration's obligations to control odour impacts on the community uniquely challenging.

As outlined in this report, the increased community concern over odours and the scrutiny which has resulted has created a multitude of impacts on MRC's day-to-day operations.

In short, for so long as the issue of odour affecting nearby residents continues, it will be necessary to divert resources and staff hours away from other functions to address it.

Particularly significant among these impacts is the effect on the administration's staff, which has seen its working environment transform in terms of its exposure to public scrutiny. There is no doubt that the circumstances under which staff are working at the time of writing are far more challenging than they were prior to the emergence of the current odour issue 18 or more months ago.

However, it is encouraging and heartening to see the resilience and pride that MRC staff have brought to their work during this challenging time. It is clear that the reputation of MRC and the Tamala Park site matters a great deal to them, and this is understandable for an organisation which has so many long-serving members of staff.

As CEO of MRC, I share their desire to address this issue – not merely for the benefit of MRC – but for the many people in the community areas surrounding Tamala Park who, quite rightly, have been deeply unhappy with the inconvenience and discomfort they have experienced over the past 18 months.

As this report demonstrates, I am confident that MRC is now better equipped and better informed to tackle this issue effectively and expeditiously.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note the details contained within the report.**
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10 MEMBERS INFORMATION BULLETIN – ISSUE NO. 88

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Members Information Bulletin Issue No. 88 be

11 MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

12 URGENT BUSINESS

13 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Date of submission	22 November 2024
Meeting date	2 December 2024
Name of Councillor	Councillor Jordan Wright
Question on Notice	
<p>Could the CEO please provide an update on current fire mitigation practices at Tamala Park, specifically focusing on any recent improvements or changes made to enhance safety and reduce fire risks?</p>	
Officer Response	
<p>Answer: Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) has several measures in place, designed to both prevent fires from occurring and to manage them, quickly, safely and effectively, if and when they occur.</p> <p>Our response to fires is governed by MRC's Emergency Management plan, which sets out what actions are to be taken – and by whom – in the event of a fire on site. We have trained specialists employed full-time dedicated to planning for and managing incidents, like fires, at Tamala Park.</p> <p>MRC's landfill staff receive fire management training, with the most recent round of training completed in November of this year. This training ensures that staff understand our processes around fires on the landfill and their role within those processes.</p> <p>As part of our planned response to fires on the landfill, we have a dedicated water cart and utility vehicle which are maintained to be ready for deployment on site at any time. These assets have already been deployed on twenty-four separate occasions during the 2024 calendar year to manage fires from waste materials received on site.</p>	

To reduce the risk of spreading, bushfire risk assessments are undertaken and fire breaks are regularly maintained around the site boundary and within the site itself. This work is carried out by trained contractors, particularly at this time of year with summer approaching.

MRC also conducts regular boundary checks to identify any potential hazards or items which might prevent us from managing a fire effectively. This includes removing any wind-blown waste from the boundary fence.

MRC receives alerts from the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer during total fire bans (TFB) and or harvest and vehicle movement bans. In such circumstances, we amend our internal procedures to minimise the risk of fire.

The Tamala Park site receives visits from local fire service officers to allow them to review the site's bushfire management methods and ensure that they are up to speed with operations and aware of any changes that may have been implemented in recent times. The most recent visit took place in November with no issues highlighted.

MRC's member councils, through their waste education programmes, aim to educate their residents on the proper disposal of batteries to prevent fires from igniting in the landfill. On site, MRC carries out its own education to the public who use our waste disposal facilities, displaying warnings against disposing of batteries in landfill at both the front gate and the weighbridge.

14 MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Nil

15 NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Council meeting is proposed for 27 February 2025 at the City of Joondalup.

16 CLOSURE
