



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Issue No. 79



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**MINUTES - ODOUR MANAGEMENT KEY STAKEHOLDER
WORKING GROUP**

D-23-0006664



MRC

Odour Management Key Stakeholder Working Group

4th October, 2023 at 9.30am

Minutes

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1. ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

Attendance –

Executive Manager Operations (EMO)
 Environmental Supervisor (ES)
 Waste Management Supervisor (WMS)
 Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
 Administration Officer (AO)

Apologies

Commercial Relations Officer (CRO)

Note: Orange text highlights actions outstanding, discussions/ items raised from this meeting.

2. MRC – OMKS –actions from last meeting

- Information to provide to /or available on website, new website due soon
 Action: 10.8.2023 request form to IT for hyperlinks to the four dot points in odour management on the website – completed
- Reporting chain-in line with MRC Customer Service Charter
 Action: AO and ES to review before next meeting.
 - AO and ES reviewed - completed
 - **Action:** Leadership Team to discussion the charter
- Odour Flyer Information
 Action: Resident Newsletter -sent to Catalina Regional Council, Satterley, DWER and available on website - completed
- Landfill – Discussion about tonnes to landfill after hours
 - Tonnes to landfill
 - Collect after hour tonnes to landfill data in relation to odour complaints
 Action: EMO- discussed with City of Perth regarding after hours tipping – completed
 Action: EMO- discussed with City of Stirling regarding after hours tipping – update – restricted tipping times may be implemented by an amended DWER Licence.

3. MRC – OMKS – Working Group

Open discussion on its role and assign roles:

Discussion on roles: receiving and processing notifications/complaints

- Administration/ Environmental Department
 - Temporary Administration Officer (AO) hired to provide assistance with odour reports/registrations, data collection, responses and filing.
 - ES to provide training in – receiving, reply (with templates), filing, data collection, maintain database.
 - AO to draft agenda and minutes in future
 - AO to provide website assistance in uploading minutes, newsletter, flyers etc.
- Proposal that new administration assistance to access admin@mrc.wa.gov.au email
 - Can be accessed to assist in managing the inward and outward odour correspondence.

- Efficiencies - to track, file, reply and investigate
- **Action:** Proposal to be brought to Leadership Team Meeting for discussion
- **Action:** IT to thereafter organise computer, access to required software
- Community Champions
 - Discussion – Their potential role, attendance at meetings, Invite to be a community champion, evaluate nominations?
 - Number of community Champions?
 - **Action:** On hold – due to Local Council elections

Existing Key Stakeholders			
MPL Burns Beach	Catalina Regional Council	DWER	Member Councils' Information Bulletin – Provide key outcomes
Community Champion 1 – Kinross resident	Community Champion 2 – Kinross resident	Community Champion 2 – Catalina resident	Community Champion 2 – Catalina resident

- Southern Odour Pods
 - Weather Pattern moving to summer pattern, afternoons south-westerly and morning easterlies.
 - Damage to odour pods on southern boundary through vandalism by an external party, thank you to the resident who shared the situation with us, after hours.
 - **Action:** Decommission the southern odour pods and move to northern side of landfill
- EcoSorb – scheduled delivery to landfill
 - Daily delivery of EcoSorb to landfill at scheduled times, breeze dependant
 - Reviewed Mon/Thursday so the week and weekend has coverage of EcoSorb
 - EcoSorb delivered – start of the afternoon sea breeze – south westerly. Also a north, north – east/west breeze into Kinross.
 - EcoSorb delivery schedule has been added to the daily pre-start and numbers of odours from the previous night mentioned.
 - EcoSorb ordering and delivery – stock trigger levels action the purchase of additional EcoSorb considering there can be a 6 week wait for delivery.
 - **Action:** Investigating the benefits of Scheduled EcoSorb delivery to landfill under certain wind conditions.
 - **Action:** order another 10 drums, as back up in the event that product takes longer than 6 weeks for delivery from eastern states.
 - **Action:** discussions with landfill staff about increasing concentrations of EcoSorb.
- Zeolite – 20 ton
 - Delivery pending, has arrived on the wharf from Queensland, customer clearances ongoing and then delivery to site expected thereafter.
 - Expecting delivery by the end of the next week.
- Ongoing discussion with Department of Water and Regulations (DWER)
 - MRC provided the following documents:
 - Odour Report
 - The last OMKSWG minutes
 - Resident – Landfill Newsletter
 - MRC in discussion with DWER to amend DWER licence to assist in reducing odour generation.
 - **Action:** DWER has added the MRC to its Community Update webpage: <https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-water-and-environmental-regulation/community-updates> website

D-23-0006664

- MRC Investigating options for Site Tours – (new item)
 - Last Friday of every month
 - Start November
 - On-line booking form
 - 6-10 capacity
 - Adults only
 - PPE – enclosed shoes, hat, sunglasses,
 - Information to be released on website
- Action: Proposal to be brought to Leadership Team Meeting, for discussion

4. Operations Optimisation Programs to reduce odours

Operational activity to reduce odours on site during the period September 2023

Item	Activities on site to reduce odour issues	Comments
Landfill Operations	EcoSorb (odour neutralisation product (enzymes that eat odour gases)	EcoSorb being applied to landfill strategically.
	Zeolite	20 Tonne on order and being shipped from Queensland, arriving 29 th September 2023
	Odorous Loads/ Special Burials	One odorous load linked to an odour registration event
	Covering the waste	150mm limestone and/ or tarps cover applied daily to delivered waste
	Zeolite spread out on wet areas on landfill	Continue to be spread over the working bench
	Investigating barrier mitigation	Third party quoting and presentation
	Southern Barrier Odour Pods	Decommissioned and being moved due to change in weather patterns
	Landfilling bench	5m reduced to 3.5m
Power Station	Generated Kwh	Yet to be supplied for September
	Efficiencies – Tonnes CO _{2-e} Abated	Yet to be supplied for September
Landfill gas	Landfill Gas Monitoring	Within Licence Condition parameters
	Efficiencies	Sept 2023 Wellfield adjustment Program - completed
Leachate	Leachate pond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BioWish added once a week.

5. Special Investigations

Odour Management – Third Party Desk Top Audit and Off-Site Investigation – Odour Report

Key Outcomes:

- Development an Odour Management Plan (OMP) – **To Be Actioned**
- Redo Odour Source Audit on site - **incorporated in OMP**
- Field Odour Observations proposed (including night time) – **to be discussed further**
- Undertake training in performing field odour observations and patrols – **to be discussed further**
- Investigation of after hour tonnages to landfill and odour generation – **completed**
- Odour modelling due to residential development – **incorporated in OMP**
- Auto-population of odour reporting data on website, rather manual entering by residents – **To be investigated**
- Performance trial on EcoSorb - **underway**
- MRC to discourage new residential areas with distance of MRC - **Flyer sent to Catalina Regional Council, Satterley and available on the website.**
- No ambient air quality monitoring programs recommended at this time
- Improvements on potential fugitive odours from landfill (eg interim capping material) **Discussions with third party contractors**

Budget Discussion:

- 2023/24 Budget in place
 - Ongoing works funded
 - Mitigation measure, part of daily operations
 - Future work budgeted
 - Investigation Leachate Treatment Plant options
 - Preliminary investigations underway
 - **update – working on a number of valid options**
 - Capping of Western side of landfill
 - Preliminary investigations underway
 - **update – specifications and drawings available soon for the tendering process**
 - Ambient Air Monitoring Units -
 - RFQ – two units (mobile)
 - Sensors to include determination of the following gases: hydrogen sulphide, total volatile organic compounds, nitrogen dioxide, carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide, Temperature, Humidity, wind, direction
 - **Under discussions due to Odour Report recommendations**
 - Odour Misting/vapour system ring around landfill
 - Requesting a performance based product including service and maintenance
 - **Quote document currently In draft format**

6. Community complaints investigation/ interpretation as of September 2023

	June	July	Aug	Sept
Total	124	33	90	37

General information:

- From the odour locations registered, it has been noticed that the summer pattern appears to be coming into play. In the early part of September most odour complaints were from Kinross, while in the later part of September, Clarkson showed most complaints.
- Community Complaints for August, September and October will be presented at next meeting.

7. External Correspondence

Contacted by DPLH regarding a proposed development application in a neighbouring northern section of land – seeking information relating to the number of odour complaints received from within that specific area over the past 5 years.

DWER has informed the MRC of the DWER website now showing their community updates:
<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/departement-of-water-and-environmental-regulation/community-updates>

Community Odour meeting was apparently held by a resident. No contact has been made to or from the MRC since the meeting took place.

8. Key Meetings / Events Ahead

Local Council Elections pending

9. Next Meeting

To be scheduled for early November.

**MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL (MWAC) –
AUGUST AND OCTOBER 2023 MINUTES**



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting the Environment Right"

Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Minutes

3:00pm Wednesday, 30 August 2023

Online

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Attendance

Cr Giorgia Johnson (City of Bayswater)	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Cr Les Price (Cue)	WALGA State Council	
Cr Peter Abetz	City of Gosnells	
Cr Karen Wheatland (Melville)	Resource Recovery Group	
Mr Nick Edwards	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council	
Mr Michael Dufour	City of Greater Geraldton	
Mr Tim Youé	Resource Recovery Group	<i>OAG Chair</i>
Mr Stefan Frodsham*	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Peter Klein (Wyalkatchem)	Non-Metropolitan Local Government	
Ms Rebecca Brown	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Tazra Hawkins	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Candy Wong	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Nicole Matthews	WALGA	

*Mr Frodsham was WMRC's nominated MWAC Representative for this meeting.

Apologies

Cr Doug Thompson (Fremantle)	WALGA State Council	<i>Chair</i>
Cr Karen Chappel JP	WALGA President	<i>Observer</i>
Ms Ruth March (Albany)	Non-Metropolitan Local Government	<i>OAG Deputy</i>
Cr Andrew Maurice (Mosman Park)	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Kevin Ketterer (Kalgoorlie-Boulder)	Non-Metropolitan Local Government	
Mr Brett Jackson (Kalamunda)	Metropolitan Local Government	
Cr Karen Vernon (Victoria Park)	Mindarie Regional Council	
Mayor Ruth Butterfield (Armadale)	WALGA State Council	
Ms Conor Macgill	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Cr Bob Hall	City of Greater Geraldton	
Mr Marcus Geisler	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	

Acknowledgement of Country

WALGA acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia, including Boorloo (Perth) on the land of the Whadjuk Noongar People where WALGA is located, and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present. WALGA is committed to supporting the efforts of WA Local Governments to foster respectful partnerships and strengthen relationships with local Aboriginal communities.

1 Procedural Matters

1.1 MWAC Minutes tabled at WALGA State Council

A summary of the Minutes of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council will be noted at the next WA Local Government Association State Council meeting.

1.2 Confirmation of the Previous MWAC Minutes

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (CR ABETZ/CR PRICE)

The Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council held on Wednesday, 28 June 2023 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

1.3 Out of Session Flying Minute – Product Stewardship for E-waste and PV Systems***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (CR ABETZ/CR PRICE)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council confirm the outcome of the out of session Flying Minute – Submission on the Discussion Paper *Wired for change: Regulation for Small Electrical Products and Solar Photovoltaic System Waste* – 10 July 2023 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Background

The out of session Flying Minute of 10 July 2023 has been distributed to the Council for ratification, the outcome was as follows:

Submission on the Discussion Paper *Wired for change: Regulation for Small Electrical Products and Solar Photovoltaic System Waste*

For:

Cr Doug Thompson (Fremantle)	WALGA State Council
Cr Georgia Johnson (City of Bayswater)	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council
Mayor Ruth Butterfield (Armadale)	WALGA State Council
Cr Les Price (Cue)	WALGA State Council
Cr Tresslyn Smith	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council
Cr Peter Abetz	City of Gosnells
Cr Bob Hall	City of Greater Geraldton
Cr Karen Wheatland (Melville)	Resource Recovery Group
Cr Andrew Maurice (Mosman Park)	Western Metropolitan Regional Council

Against, including no response:
Cr Karen Vernon (Victoria Park)

Mindarie Regional Council

Business Arising

A	Issue	June 2021 MWAC Item 5.8 FOGO in MUDs		
	Action	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Executive Officer will follow up to determine if information on the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007</i> can be provided to Development Assessment Panels (DAPs) so the members understand the regulatory requirements regarding Local Government waste collection. The Chair requested that the Executive Officer provide information on how the amount/type of education a Local Government undertakes can impact on their contamination rate. 		
	Timeframe		Status	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Complete. Complete.

3 Decision Items

3.1 Policy Statement and Advocacy Position Review – HHW***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (CR WHEATLAND/CR ABETZ)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council:

- Rescind the existing WALGA *Household Hazardous Waste Policy Statement 2003* and Advocacy Position 7.11 *Household Hazardous Waste*; and
- Endorse a revised WALGA Household Hazardous Waste Policy Statement 2023 and Advocacy Position as follows:

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is a small but significant component of the waste stream which requires specialised management strategies to protect human health, property and the environment. This requires:

- Effective Product Stewardship for all HHW; and*
- The maintenance and expansion of the HHW Program, funded by the State Government and Product Stewardship Schemes, to provide for the management of HHW collected from the community by Local Government.*

In Brief

- The WALGA *Household Hazardous Waste Policy Statement* was endorsed in 2003, prior to the launch of the HHW Program and the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*.
- The Policy Statement has been updated to clearly identify roles and expectations for all tiers of government, industry and the producers of materials which become HHW.
- The Advocacy Position on HHW outlines the key areas of advocacy regarding HHW and the expectations of Local Government.

Background

The WALGA [Household Hazardous Waste Policy Statement](#) was endorsed in 2003, prior to the enactment of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* and was used as the basis to advocate for the Household Hazardous Waste Program currently administered by WALGA.

In reviewing the Policy Statement, consultation occurred with the Officers Advisory Group, Municipal Waste Advisory Council, as well as the Local Governments and Regional Councils which are part of the HHW Program. The feedback received focused on the concerns regarding the inequity for Local Governments/Regional Councils where a large proportion of those using the HHW facilities are not rate payers contributing to the facility operations.

The existing WALGA Advocacy Position [7.11 Household Hazardous Waste \(HHW\)](#) is:

Local Government:

1. *Acknowledges the importance of a state-based collection system for Household Hazardous Waste;*
2. *Considers that the EPR approach should be applied to this waste stream; and,*
3. *Acknowledges there is a need for the principle of waste minimisation to be applied to the management of this waste stream in the future (with regard to the Waste Management Hierarchy).*

It is proposed to replace the existing Advocacy Position with:

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is a small but significant component of the waste stream which requires specialised management strategies to protect human health, property and the environment. This requires:

1. *Effective Product Stewardship for all HHW; and*
2. *The maintenance and expansion of the Household Hazardous Waste Program, funded by the State Government and Product Stewardship Schemes, to provide for the management of HHW collected from the community by Local Government.*

Comment

Household Hazardous Waste is, and continues to be, of significant importance for Local Government in relation to waste management. For example, the challenges presented by the management of lithium batteries in relation to fires are just one example of why this waste stream above and beyond other types of waste requires a specific Policy Statement and Advocacy Position.

The HHW Policy Statement (2003) has been a successful document, as it provided the basis for WALGA to effectively advocate for a HHW Program for Local Government. Through the three subsequent iterations of the HHW Program, it has been used as a reference point for ensuring the inclusion of agreed roles and responsibilities in the Program design.

This review of the Policy Statement, and associated Advocacy Position, has focused on documenting the key roles and responsibilities for all tiers of government and the importance of product stewardship in ensuring the ongoing effective management of HHW.

Following discussion at the Officers Advisory Group meeting, the policy statement was updated to reflect that Local Government responsibility for collecting and reporting on HHW data was limited to material accepted at drop facilities and temporary collection days.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Clarity was sought on why the wording in the revised Policy Statement indicates that HHW is ‘*a small but significant component of the waste stream*’. The Executive Officer provided an example relating to lithium-ion batteries. Feedback received by WALGA from local and national stakeholders has highlighted an increased incidence of battery fires in waste trucks and resource recovery

facilities. These incidences have been attributed to an upsurge in products containing lithium-ion batteries being released into the consumer market and their improper disposal at end of life. The chemistry of lithium-ion batteries makes them highly flammable particularly if they are penetrated or subjected to external pressure.

3.2 MWAC Budget 2023 24***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (CR WHEATLAND/CR ABETZ)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse the MWAC Budget 2023-24.

In Brief

- The MWAC Budget for the 2023-24 financial year has been developed including income from WALGA, Regional Councils and the Household Hazardous Waste Program.
- WALGA restructuring and staffing changes have resulted in a decrease in costs to the MWAC Budget.

Background

The MWAC Budget has three main sources of income – WALGA, Regional Councils and the Waste Authority (through the Household Hazardous Waste Program). A new 5-year Household Hazardous Waste Program funding agreement has been entered into (see Item 5.1), which provides ongoing funding certainty for this Program.

A one-year extension of the Bin Tagging Program has been negotiated, but currently the income is not included in the MWAC Budget. To include the income from the Bin Tagging Program, and any other changes which may occur in the MWAC Budget, the Regional Councils will be initially invoiced for half of their contribution. At the WALGA midterm budget review, a second invoice to the Regional Councils will be issued and any savings passed on.

Comment

A change to staffing has been confirmed, with the former Manager Waste and Recycling, now responsible for the management of both the Waste and Environment Teams. Consequently, costs for this role have been split between the MWAC and WALGA Environment budgets. To ensure continued high-level support for MWAC, the responsibilities of the former Waste Management Specialist role have been upgraded and the position reclassified as a Senior Policy Advisor, Waste Management. These changes have reduced staffing costs to the MWAC Budget by approximately \$30,000.

The Rivers Regional Council has yet to transition to a Regional Subsidiary. Therefore, the MWAC Budget has been calculated to exclude that income.

WALGA has been progressing a Governance Review and the WALGA Executive Director, Organisations Services and Executive Manager, Policy has met with some of the Regional Council CEOs to discuss this Review and the MWAC Partnership Agreement.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Rivers Regional Council provided WALGA with the required notice to withdraw from MWAC and has not made contributions since that time. It was indicated that the Rivers Regional Council will be wound up and move to a regional subsidiary in the next financial year.

4 Discussion Items

4.1 Policy Statement and Advocacy Position Review – Waste Management Education***

In Brief

- The WALGA *Waste Management Education Policy Statement* was first endorsed in 2008.
- The Policy Statement has been updated to reflect the changes in the approaches to community engagement which have occurred and to highlight the primacy of waste education to achieve effective waste management outcomes.
- A new Advocacy Position has been drafted, and feedback is sought on the content.

For Discussion

- Key elements of an Advocacy Position on waste education.
- Draft Advocacy Position

Background

The WALGA [Waste Management Education Policy Statement](#) was endorsed in 2008, prior to any significant investment by the State or Federal Government in waste education. The Policy Statement was developed to inform WALGA and Local Government advocacy in relation to the roles and responsibilities of Local, State and Federal Governments regarding waste education. The Policy Statement has been revised and updated to reflect contemporary roles and expectations of all levels of government as well as industry and community partnerships.

The *Waste Management Education Policy Statement* has been used successfully in WALGA and Local Government advocacy to increase resourcing and focus on waste education as a key element of effective waste management. The Policy Statement was reviewed and updated following feedback from a working group of waste education experts, convened through the Consistent Communications Collective.

The existing Advocacy position [7.9 Waste Management Education](#) is:

Local Government asserts that the different spheres of government have different roles and responsibilities in relation to waste education: Local Government's role is primarily concerned with 'behavioural change', whereas State and Federal Governments have a strategic role that focuses on 'attitudinal change'.

Discussion at the Officers Advisory Group meeting supported the inclusion of 'waste education' in the definition of 'waste services' under the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007. Other points raised included highlighting continued State Government resources and programs as essential to waste education, as well as identifying problematic materials in the waste stream and engaging with producers to identify alternative approaches.

Following this meeting, a draft Advocacy Position has been developed for discussion:

Waste education is an essential part of waste management, it provides the information and motivation necessary to empower the community to engage in waste avoidance, reuse and recovery and accurately use services provided.

Effective waste education requires:

- *Increased and ongoing State Government planning and funding mechanisms to support and enable the implementation of effective waste management systems by Local Government.*
- *Recognition of waste education in the definition of 'waste service' in the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007, in order to allow a charge for waste education/behaviour change as part of the waste service charge.*
- *Identification of problematic materials within the waste stream and ongoing advocacy for evidence based alternative approaches.*

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

MWAC discussed the draft Advocacy Position and requested that the position be strengthened to reflect that without effective waste education no effective services can be implemented. Feedback on the Policy Statement included:

- Separating out the role of Regional Councils, however noting that not all provide waste education, highlighting that the shared services approach can work well.
- Including that collaborations between Regional Councils and Local Governments, such as Recycle Right, are possible.
- Aim to provide consistent messaging.
- A strategic and long term approach is needed, which targets waste avoidance as well as recycling and other messaging.

MWAC also discussed the importance of identifying the good news stories regarding recycling and communicating where material is recycled.

5 Information Items

5.1 HHW Program Update

- In the 2022-23 financial year, the HHW Program expended \$1,768,825 and collected 491,467 kg of HHW.
- The HHW Program funded collections from 15 Permanent facilities across the state.
- No temporary collection days were held during the 2022-23 financial year.
- The main materials collected were gas cylinders (30%), household batteries (17%) and flammable liquids (10%).
- A new 5-year funding agreement with the Waste Authority commenced from 1 July 2023 with a total budget of \$10.2M.
- Due to a delay with the funding agreement finalisation, the contract with Cleanaway was extended for a period of eight months until 26 February 2024. This allows for the tender process and if a new contractor is awarded, allows them time to gear up.
- The tender for the HHW Program went to market on 19 July and closed 17 August 2023.

5.2 Policy Statement Review Update

- Policy Statement Reviews in progress:
 - Waste Management Data and Information Management – Recommended to be rescinded (to September State Council meeting).
 - Household Hazardous Waste – Consider at MWAC August meeting (following consideration, progress to December State Council meeting).

- Waste Management Education – Discussion at MWAC August meeting (following discussion and updates, consider at MWAC October meeting).
- Initial Review October OAG/MWAC:
 - Standards for Recycled Organics Applied to Land (consider revisions at December OAG/MWAC meetings).
- Initial Review October OAG/MWAC:
 - Waste Levy Policy Statement (consider revisions December OAG/MWAC meetings).
- The following Policy Statements will be reviewed in 2024:
 - Container Deposit Systems.
 - Extended Producer Responsibility.
- Waste Management Legislation.

5.3 Tyre Stewardship Australia OTR Report Released

- Tyre Stewardship Australia (TSA) has published its [report](#) into the use, recovery, and recycling of Australia’s off-the-road tyres, conveyors, and tracks (OTR rubber products).
- OTR rubber products are critical for the Australian economy. Up to 245,000 tonnes are used and become waste each year, with around 80% of this coming from the mining sector and 10% from agriculture.
- The vast majority of these tyres are buried on site, stockpiled, or sent to landfill. Used rubber products are a valuable resource, and finding a new life for them offers many environmental, social, and economic benefits, particularly in regional and remote Australia.
- The report, funded by the Australian Government’s National Product Stewardship Investment Fund and TSA, provides a pathway forward for Australia to realise the benefits of OTR tyre, conveyor and track resource recovery, particularly in regional, rural and remote areas.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The City of Greater Geraldton indicated it has provided a 1-month tyre amnesty which had been highly successful. The City will provide the data from this to WALGA who will raise it with Tyre Stewardship Australia, as a case study of the costs associated with tyre recycling and the community need for this type of service.

5.4 Packaging Reform Consultation

- The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) has commenced consultation with industry and government on the development of a [reformed regulatory scheme](#) for managing packaging in Australia.
- To drive the transition to a circular economy for packaging that takes a whole-of-supply-chain approach, the Department is proposing four regulatory scheme objectives to be underpinned by mandatory obligations:
 1. Ensure all packaging is designed for circularity.
 2. Increase the amount of reusable packaging.
 3. Ensure packaging is recovered.
 4. Increase the amount of recycled content in packaging.
- WALGA is working with the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), and other Local Government Associations, to provide input into the scheme design.
- Public consultation will be undertaken later in 2023 with Environment Ministers to consider the proposed new framework in 2024.

6 Reports

6.1 MWAC Groups

1. **Metropolitan Regional Council Working Group**
Delegates/Nominees: Mr Tim Youé, Working Group Chair
The next meeting of the Group is being planned.
2. **Consistent Communications Collective**
Delegates/Nominees: n/a
This Group met on Wednesday, 7 June where the recycling A-Z List was discussed.
3. **Industry Training Reference Group**
Delegates/Nominees: n/a
It is not intended for this Group to meet again. It will be removed from the MWAC Agenda.
4. **Household Hazardous Waste Advisory Group/Operators Meeting**
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.

6.2 External Committees & Working Groups

1. **DWER Waste Reform Advisory Group**
Representative: MWAC Chair, MWAC Executive Officer and CEO of RRG
This Group met on Wednesday, 23 August.
2. **DWER Regulatory Reference Group**
Representative: WALGA Executive Manager, Policy
This Group met on Thursday, 10 August.
3. **DWER FOGO Reference Group**
Representative: Senior Policy Advisor, RRG, EMRC, WMRC,
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting .
4. **DWER Single-use Plastic Working Group**
Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
5. **Australasian Recycling Label Working Group**
Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
6. **Hazard Coordinating Committee**
Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
7. **Across Agency Asbestos Group**
Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.

8. **Waste Authority Construction & Demolition (C&D) Working Group**
Representative: Senior Policy Advisor
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting.
9. **Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia**
Representative: Senior Policy Advisor
This Group meets on a monthly basis.
10. **Charitable Recycling Australia**
Representative: Senior Policy Advisor
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
11. **Keep Australia Beautiful Council**
Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
KABC met on Thursday, 17 August.
12. **Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Representation**
Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
13. **E-waste to Landfill Ban - Technical Advisory Group**
Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
14. **Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) Stakeholder Advisory Group**
Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
The Group met on Thursday, 27 July. Some of the issues raised included:
 - A national report will be released on behaviour change relating to CDS, some outcomes showed that engagement in the Scheme is lower in multi-unit dwellings due to limited storage space and access to refund points and that more options for CDS in public places was needed.
 - The heads of EPA have agreed to fund a cost benefit analysis to look at an increase refund amount.
 - Preference to phase out PVC.

7 Other General Business

7.1 Export Ban Paper and Cardboard Rules

The Executive Officer outlined that the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water had released an [Exposure Draft of the Recycling and Waste Reduction \(Export – Paper and Cardboard Rules 2023\)](#). The Draft includes specific percentage contamination rates, which need to be met, to export the materials.

MWAC expressed considerable concern about the Draft Rules, including:

- WA does not have the infrastructure to meet the percentage contamination rates included in the Draft Rules.
- It would take at least a year, if not more, to put in place the infrastructure to meet the contamination rates.
- It is like this additional processing would significantly increase the costs of recycling for WA.

- The issue being addressed by the Export Bans is the ethics of the supply chain and this can be done by having legitimate off take agreements with legitimate end users.
- Product Stewardship is essential to address the quality of the material which enters the kerbside recycling system, as well as pay for the costs associated with recycling. There was support for the packaging industry funding infrastructure solutions.

A Flying Agenda with the Submission will be circulated to MWAC for consideration.

The meeting closed at 3.51pm.

8 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council will be held online at 3:00pm on Wednesday, **18 October 2023**.



Flying Agenda: Discussion Paper: *Wired for Change: Regulation for small electrical products and solar photovoltaic system waste* Submission

By Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Environment

RECOMMENDATION

That the Discussion Paper: *Wired for Change: regulation for small electrical products and solar photovoltaic system waste* Submission be endorsed.

Executive Summary

- The current national Product Stewardship Scheme for electronic waste does not meet the needs of Local Government as it does not cover all electronic waste, or the costs associated with recycling. Local Government has also expressed concern regarding the equity of the geographic coverage of the Scheme.
- Following a review of the current Scheme, the Federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water is seeking feedback on a proposed new regulated product stewardship scheme for two categories of electrical waste: small electrical and electronic equipment and solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, outlined in a discussion paper.
- The proposed new scheme meets most Local Government requirements, with:
 - a guarantee that all costs associated with the recycling of this e-waste is covered for sites which are part of the Scheme
 - the majority of electronic waste currently being disposed of at Local Government sites being included, as well as an opportunity for additional products to be added over time
 - an equitable access requirement.
- The design of the proposed scheme has been informed by consultation with WALGA, other Local Government Associations, and key stakeholders. WALGA has emphasised the need for these elements of the Scheme, as well as targets that do not limit collection amounts and align with infrastructure and markets for products collected.

Attachment

The Submission is attached.

[Submission on the Review of the National TV and Computer Recycling Scheme.](#)

[Submission on Discussion Paper on Stewardship for consumer and other electrical and electronic products.](#)

[Issues Paper on Product Stewardship for Photovoltaic Systems.](#)

[Principles for Product Stewardship.](#)

Policy Implications

The Submission aligns with the WALGA [Extended Producer Responsibility Policy Statement](#) and Advocacy Position and references the recently adopted Landfill Bans Advocacy Position.

7.6 Extended Producer Responsibility

Local Government supports the concept of Extended Producer Responsibility, as a mechanism for ensuring manufacturers of products take responsibility (be that physical or financial) for the entire lifecycle impact of their products. By placing greater responsibility on producers, Extended Producer Responsibility can potentially improve valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms, as well as encourage greater investment in infrastructure, research and development.



Landfill Bans

Landfill bans are only supported in the presence of effective product stewardship schemes, or other funding mechanisms, for products which would be subject to the ban.

Background

In 2011, the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme (NTCRS) was launched and initially covered all costs associated with recycling products covered under the Scheme. At this time only about 10 per cent of electronic waste collected by Local Government was outside the NTCRS. Over time, Local Government has identified significant problems with the NTCRS, as it has ceased to cover all costs associated with recycling these materials and the scope of electronic waste being disposed of has broadened, with approximately 30 per cent of what is now collected now being outside the NTCRS.

In 2018, the now Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) commenced a review of the NTCRS. The Department has consulted with Local Government and other stakeholders in the lead up to the most recent phase in this review and is now seeking feedback on a new regulatory approach to product stewardship for two categories of electrical waste, small electrical and electronic equipment and solar photovoltaic (PV) systems outlined in [Wired for change: Regulation for small electrical products and solar photovoltaic system waste](#) (the Discussion Paper).

The purpose of the proposed Scheme is to:

- Ensure that Australia manages decommissioned solar PV systems in an environmentally sustainable manner.
- Provide Australian households and businesses with sustainable pathways to manage end-of-life small electrical and electronic equipment.
- Reduce solar PV system and small electrical and electronic waste.
- Create an effective national product stewardship framework which can be used to address additional product types, if required in the future.

The proposed regulatory approach aims to:

- reduce waste to landfill.
- increase the recovery of reusable materials.
- provide convenient access to e-stewardship services across Australia.
- support Australia's transition to a more circular economy.
- foster shared responsibility across the lifecycle of covered products.

The proposed scope of the new scheme is small electronic and electronic equipment found in homes and small business, weighing up to 20kg; it also includes all products covered under the current National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme (NTCRS). It is proposed the Scheme would cover small scale PV systems, even if installed prior to the Scheme commencement.

Following considerations of the feedback on the Discussion Paper, the Department will release a Policy Impact Assessment (PIA), providing a cost/benefit analysis of the various regulatory options.

Also important in the context of this Submission is the e-waste landfill ban which the Western Australian Government have [committed](#) to implement by 2024. WALGA has provided a [Submission](#) to the State Government on this, highlighting Local Governments significant concern regarding the misalignment in the timeframe for the landfill ban and an effective national product stewardship scheme for the materials covered by the Ban being in place.



Consultation

MWAC discussed the Discussion Paper at the June 2023 meeting and a webinar, with 60 Local Governments registered, was held on Thursday 6 July 2023. Local Governments are being encouraged to put in Submissions on the Discussion Paper. WALGA has also shared a draft of the Submission with other State and Territory Local Government Associations.

Comment

Local Governments key concerns with the NTCRS include that the Scheme does not cover all types of electronic waste or costs associated with the recycling products collected and that there is not equitable geographic access to recycling options under the Scheme.

WALGA's Submission notes that the new scheme as outlined in the Discussion Paper potentially addresses most of the issues that Local Government has raised with the NTCRS and includes the key components of a successful product stewardship scheme, notably:

- A guarantee that all costs associated with the recycling of e-waste and PV's is covered. This includes transport cost, which is particularly important for regional and remote Local Governments.
- A Scheme which covers the majority of electronic waste currently being disposed of at Local Government sites and includes a clear mechanism for additional products to be added over time.
- Enabling equitable access to the Scheme across Australia.
- Targets that do not limit collection amounts and align with infrastructure and markets for products collected.

Other Recommendations in the Submission include:

- A mechanism for annual feedback from stakeholders, including Local Government, to determine if types of electronic waste outside the Scheme are increasing, and should therefore be considered for inclusion.
- Ensuring the Department is resourced to take and act on the feedback regarding expansion of the Scheme.
- That e-cigarettes are included in an effective product stewardship program, such as the return unwanted medicines program, to ensure safe disposal and resource recovery.

Submission on the Discussion Paper *Wired for change: Regulation for small electrical products and solar photovoltaic system waste.*

July 2023

Acknowledgement

WALGA acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia, including Boorloo (Perth) on the land of the Whadjuk Noongar People where WALGA is located, and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present.

WALGA is committed to supporting the efforts of WA Local Governments to foster respectful partnerships and strengthen relationships with local Aboriginal communities.

Status of this Submission

This Submission has been prepared through the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) for the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA).

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) is the united voice of Local Government in Western Australia. The Association is an independent, membership-based organisation representing and supporting the work and interests of 139 Local Governments in Western Australia, comprising 1,215 Elected Members and approximately 22,600 Local Government employees, as well as over 2.5 million constituents of Local Governments in Western Australia.

Western Australian Local Governments vary greatly in:

- size, ranging from less than 1.5 to over 370,000 square kilometres,
- population, just over 100 to more than 224,000 people,
- the number of staff employed, from less than 10 to over 1000,
- in revenue received, which in 2019-20 ranged from just over \$2 million to just over \$226 million.

MWAC is a standing committee of WALGA and includes major Regional Councils (undertaking waste management) as well as a number of Local Government representatives. This makes MWAC a unique forum through which all the major Local Government waste management organisations cooperate.

Summary of Recommendations

1. To ensure that products can be added to the Scheme over time:
 - A mechanism is included in the regulations requiring annual feedback from the Scheme Administrator, liable parties, recyclers and Local Government to determine if types of electronic waste outside the Scheme are increasing and should, therefore, be considered for inclusion in the Scheme.
 - A clear mechanism/process for adding products to the Scheme is included in the regulations.
 - The Department is resourced to ensure that the annual feedback is sought and acted upon.
2. That e-cigarettes be included in an effective national Product Stewardship Program, such as the Return Unwanted Medicines Program, to ensure safe disposal and resource recovery.
3. Effective safeguard mechanisms be put in place to ensure the Scheme Coordinator and Network Operators must take and recycle all eligible material collected by sites at no cost to the sites.
4. That the Scheme Coordinator ensures that there is sufficient recycling infrastructure capacity and markets for material collected through the Scheme.
5. To ensure the Scheme has equitable coverage nationwide, State/Territory based Targets for recycling be established.

1 Introduction

WALGA welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) discussion paper, [Wired for change: Regulation for small electrical products and solar photovoltaic system waste](#) (the Discussion Paper).

The Discussion Paper has been informed by consultation with WALGA, other Local Government Associations, and key stakeholders. The Discussion Paper is the next step in the process, following formal consultation by the Department, in early 2022, which included a Discussion Paper on Stewardship for consumer and Other Electrical and Electronic Products. WALGA made a [Submission](#) on this Paper, developed an [Issue Paper](#) to inform the development of product stewardship for photovoltaics systems and also made a [Submission](#) on the 2018 review of the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme (NCRS). WALGA has also developed [Principles for Product Stewardship](#) which have been used in this Submission to ensure the proposed Scheme meets key outcomes. These Principles are:

1. Producers and importers should take responsibility for the end-of-life product impacts.
2. Product Stewardship Scheme should cover the entire cost of product recycling.
3. Leverage Existing Schemes and Collection Locations.
4. Make it easy, convenient and consistent for the community.
5. National coverage and equitable access for all.
6. Evidence based.
7. National Product Stewardship legislation should be used.
8. Timely action and industry cooperation.

9. Product Stewardship Schemes should be demand based and aim to recover the maximum amount of material possible, rather than being limited by targets.
10. Product Stewardship Schemes should focus on 'no cost' at end-of-life options for consumers or provide incentives for recovery.

Scheme Purpose and Design

The purpose of the proposed scheme is to:

- ensure that Australia manages decommissioned solar PV systems in an environmentally sustainable manner.
- provide Australian households and businesses with sustainable pathways to manage end-of-life small electrical and electronic equipment.
- reduce solar PV system and small electrical and electronic waste.
- create an effective national product stewardship framework which can be used to address additional product types, if required in the future.

The proposed regulation for the Scheme aims to:

- reduce waste to landfill.
- increase the recovery of reusable materials.
- provide convenient access to e-stewardship services across Australia.
- support Australia's transition to a more circular economy.
- foster shared responsibility across the lifecycle of covered products.

The proposed scheme would be managed by a single scheme administrator, appointed by government, and responsible for achieving scheme outcomes. Network operators would also be appointed by government and be responsible for managing collection, transport and recycling services within a certain geographic area. The Scheme would be funded by liable parties, organisations which import or produce products covered by the scheme. Liable parties would be required by regulation to join the scheme and pay fees to the Scheme administrator.

The proposed scope is small electronic and electronic equipment found in homes and small business, weighing up to 20kg; it includes all products covered under the current National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme (NTCRS). It is proposed the Scheme would cover small scale PV systems, even if installed prior to the Scheme commencement.

Following considerations of the feedback on the Discussion Paper, the Department will release a Policy Impact Assessment (PIA), providing a cost/benefit analysis of the various regulatory options.

Western Australian Landfill Ban

Also important in the context of this submission is the e-waste landfill ban which the Western Australian Government have [committed](#) to implement by 2024. WALGA has provided a [Submission](#) to the State Government on this, highlighting Local Governments significant concern regarding the misalignment in the timeframe for the landfill ban and an effective national product stewardship scheme for the materials covered by the Ban being in place. In July 2023, WALGA adopted a following position:

Landfill bans are only supported in the presence of effective product stewardship schemes, or other funding mechanisms, for products which would be subject to the ban.

This submission identifies provides comments on the proposed scheme structure and design, the scope of materials covered and the target identified.

2 Scheme Structure and key elements

The Discussion Paper identifies the proposed structure of the proposed scheme and the key elements. Table 1 outlines those elements and provides commentary on their suitability.

Scheme Structure	WALGA Comment
<i>Nationally legislated Scheme</i> – using the Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020 Act.	Support The national legislation provides a consistent framework for the Scheme and WALGA support a timely national approach for product stewardship.
<i>Focus on recycling</i> – but the Scheme also encourages reduction, repair, reuse and consumer education. This includes embedding these considerations in Scheme Targets.	Support Local Government immediate concern is ensuring the e-waste currently being disposed of can be recycled at no cost to the community. Longer term, it is vital for reduction, repair and reuse to be embedded. WALGA has commented on these issues in its Submissions to the Productivity Commission Right to Repair Issues Paper and Draft Report .
<i>Focus on small electronic and electrical equipment and PVs</i>	Support See Section 3 Product Scope.
<i>Framework for other products to be added</i> – the intent is that other products could be added to the Scheme as it progresses.	Support See Section 3 Product Scope for further information on this approach.
<i>Cover households and businesses (small)</i>	Support.
<i>Convenient access across Australia</i>	Support. See Section 4 Targets for further commentary.
<i>Cover legacy waste</i> – for electronic and electrical waste and small PV systems.	Support.
<i>One Scheme Administrator</i> – accountable for achieving the Scheme outcomes, including targets for e-waste recycling, amount of material recovered, minimum access and education or awareness.	Support WALGA identified one of the problems with the NTCRS was the multiple Scheme administrators.
<i>Multiple Network Operators</i> – x appointed by government and be responsible for managing collection, transport and recycling services within a certain geographic area	Support in principle Further discussion regarding how this would operate in practice and the safeguards required to ensure that competition between network operators ensure best community outcomes as well as value for money.

<p><i>Liabe Parties</i> – organisations which import or produce products covered by the scheme. Liable parties would be required by regulation to join the scheme and pay fees to the Scheme administrator. To be considered a liable party, there is a threshold of number of products imported or produced, so that very small operators or individual importing product would not be captured.</p>	<p>Support</p>
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Table 1: Scheme structure and design and WALGA comments

3 Product Scope

The proposed scope for the Scheme is outlined in Figure 1. The Discussion Paper (appendix B) includes further detailed listing of all products that are intended to be part of the Scheme. WALGA, with funding from the State Government, through the New Industries Fund, undertook 6 electronic waste temporary collection events across WA. Through program over 20 tonnes of electronic waste was recycled (39,216 items) and nearly 1,000 community members accessed e-waste recycling options. The scope of materials collected through these events has been used as a basis to assess whether the scope of the materials proposed to covered by the Scheme is likely to meet Local Government and community needs. The proposed scope of small electrical and electronic equipment covered, and the approach small and large scale PV systems, is likely to meet Local Government and community current needs.

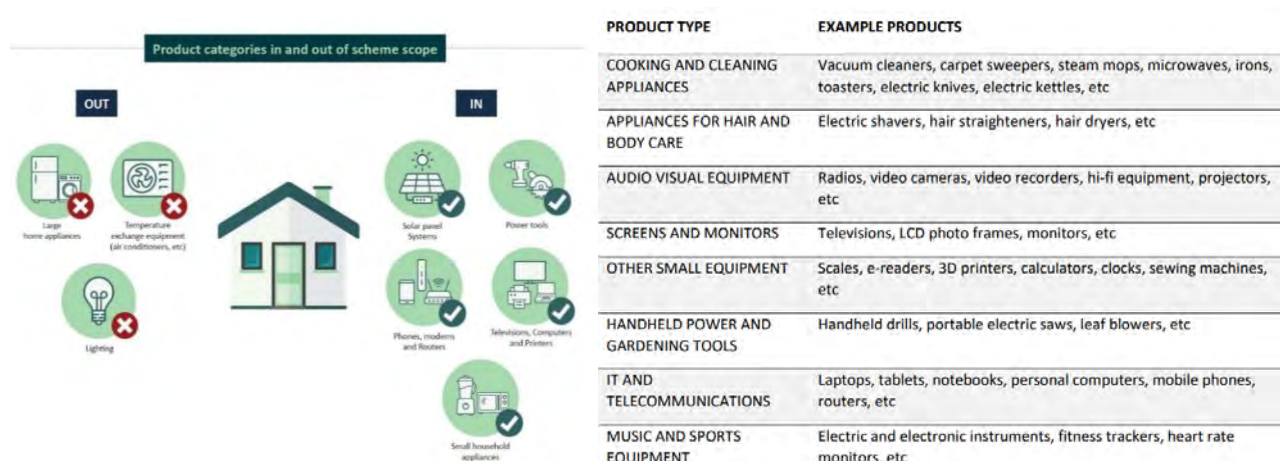


Figure 1: Proposed Scope for small electrical and electronic equipment.

PV Systems – Small Scale

It is proposed the Scheme cover small-scale PV systems, up to 100kW capacity, including solar panel, inverters, attached cabling, racking and potentially household energy storage batteries. It is also proposed the Scheme would cover ‘plug and play’ PV systems, for example those used for camping, automotive and marine systems where the installation and decommissioning is carried out by a consumer.

The ‘plug and play’ PV systems are those that are most likely to be disposed of a Local Government transfer stations/landfills.

PV Systems – Large Scale

It is proposed those systems considered large scale, over 100kW, such as solar farms, would require/allow different waste management approaches. The Discussion Paper identifies there are 1,650 large-scale PV systems currently. This submission does not focus on the large scale PV systems, as these are commercial undertakings which Local Government should not be responsible for disposal/recycling.

Additional electrical items to be included / addressed through Product Stewardship

The NTCRS was established with the aim of it being framework legislation with additional products being added over time. This did not occur, potentially because there was not a clear method of prioritising, reviewing or adding products or resourcing to undertake this process.

Recommendation: To ensure that products can be added to the Scheme over time:

- **A mechanism is included in the regulations requiring annual feedback from the Scheme Administrator, liable parties, recyclers and Local Government to determine if types of electronic waste outside the Scheme are increasing and should, therefore, be considered for inclusion in the Scheme.**
- **A clear mechanism/process for adding products to the Scheme is included in the regulations.**
- **The Department is resourced to ensure that the annual feedback is sought and acted upon.**

Feedback from Local Government has identified e-cigarettes as a significant risk for disposal and a waste stream currently with no clear end of life pathway. These products are electronic waste, as contain a battery as well as other material harmful to human health and the environment. The Government announcement regarding restricted sale is welcomed by Local Government but it does not negate the need to deal with the e-cigarettes currently in circulation and provide an easy and convenient recycling pathway for these products in the future. As the Return Unwanted Medicines (RUM) Program already exists, albeit participation is voluntary, it would provide a mechanism (through the 95% of chemists who participate in the Program) for these materials to be recovered for recycling.

Recommendation: That e-cigarettes be included in an effective national Product Stewardship Program, such as the Return Unwanted Medicines Program, to ensure safe disposal and resource recovery.

4 Targets

The focus of this Submission are the Targets for small electrical and electronic equipment, as these products are those most frequently disposed of through Local Government drop off or other facilities. Table 2 provides commentary on each of the overall targets, Table 3 provides specific commentary on the Access Targets. Local Governments main concern with setting Targets for the Scheme, as has been identified with the NTCRS, is that when the Targets were reached the Product Stewardship Arrangements delivering the Scheme ceased collecting material. There were mechanisms which were aimed at addressing this issue, allowing Arrangements to count additional tonnes toward the next years collection requirements, however in practice this did not address the issue.

Recommendation: Effective safeguard mechanisms be put in place to ensure the Scheme Coordinator and Network Operators must take and recycle all eligible material collected by sites at no cost to the sites.

Local Governments have raised the importance of ensuring that e-waste recycling capacity, and markets for end product, keep pace with the Targets. Therefore, the Scheme Coordinator needs to ensure coordinated national investment and development of required infrastructure and market.

Recommendation: That the Scheme Coordinator ensures that there is sufficient recycling infrastructure capacity and markets for material collected through the Scheme.

Target	WALGA comment
<p><i>How much e-waste must be recycled each year</i></p> <p>To calculate the Scheme target the Department would multiply the estimated amount of e-waste that has been generated (in kilograms) by a target percentage. The percentage target would increase annually as the scheme matures and industry has time to develop capacity. Over time the percentage target would be raised to meet the National Waste Policy Action Plan's target of 80% average recovery rate from all waste streams. The Scheme target is also intended to support investment certainty for new e-waste recycling capacity within Australia.</p>	<p>Conditional Support</p> <p>The NTCRS has a national recycling Target, as WALGA has previously identified the parameters used to design the Scheme have resulted in a situation where material is most likely to be collected in populated areas. A comparison of the amount of material collected by the four Arrangements, that provided jurisdictional data for the 2019/20 Financial Year, shows that only 4% of material came from Western Australia. Western Australia accounts for approximately 10% of Australians, therefore it is clear that although the Arrangements are meeting the national recycling target, the service provision nationally is not equitable. There is an urgent need for the recycling target to be applied on a state-by-state basis. In Western Australia, Arrangements have predominantly concentrated their efforts in the metropolitan area - with 86% of material collected in this region.</p> <p>Recommendation: To ensure the Scheme has equitable coverage nationwide, State/Territory based Targets for recycling be established.</p>
<p><i>The proportion of materials from recycled products that must be recovered for remanufacture.</i></p>	<p>Support</p> <p>This will assist in ensuring that maximum recovery is achieved, even though it may be a more expensive option. However, it should be noted that some products cannot be recovered – for example plastics from computers which contain persistent organic pollutants.</p>
<p><i>Accessible drop-off services available to the public.</i></p>	<p>Support</p> <p>Additional commentary is included in Table 3.</p>
<p><i>Maximising re-use of in-scope products where practical</i></p> <p>The Department proposes an obligation to promote re-use rather than a re-use target. This obligation would require the Scheme Administrator to facilitate specific collection</p>	<p>Support</p>

<p>mechanisms for re-use and repair at scheme collection sites, when requested by a repair and re-use organisation.</p> <p>The Scheme Administrator would report the types and numbers of products diverted for repair or re-use to the department annually.</p>	
<p><i>Educating and raising awareness about re-use and repair, how to keep in-scope products out</i></p> <p>It is proposed the Scheme Administrator would be required to annually provide to the Department a public awareness and education plan on e-waste reduction and sustainable e-product use.</p> <p>The plan should identify alignment with other consumer education activities such as those undertaken by local governments.</p> <p>The annual awareness and education plan would have the following goals.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve public awareness on how to maximise the useful life of in-scope products. 2. Improve public awareness of the sustainability of e-products sold by liable parties under the scheme. 3. Improve public awareness on how to minimise risks associated with improperly disposing, storing or using e-products. 	<p>Support</p> <p>Noting that public awareness of something does not necessarily lead to action. Although these are suitable initial targets for the Scheme over time measures that focus on more than just awareness will be required.</p>

Table 2: Scheme Targets and WALGA comments.

Target	WALGA comment
<p><i>Provide a prescribed level of access in all region</i> - minimum number, type and availability of collection services.</p>	<p>Support</p>
<p><i>Set appropriate standards for collection sites</i> – meet Work Health and Safety and environmental requirements.</p>	<p>Support</p>
<p><i>Self-nominated collection sites</i> - The Scheme would recognise self-nominated collection sites, provided they meet collection site requirements.</p> <p>For example, if a Local Government waste facility nominated as a collection site, the Scheme Administrator would have to arrange for free-of charge collection and recycling of in-scope material from that site.</p>	<p>Support</p> <p>This meets Local Governments requirement of ensuring that any material collected is recycled at no cost to the site.</p>

<p><i>Educating and advertising obligations</i> - the Scheme Administrator, either directly or through Network Operators, would be required to improve public awareness of collection and drop off opportunities.</p>	<p>Support</p> <p>One of the challenges with the access obligation for the NTCRS was initially there was no requirement to promote collection locations.</p>
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5 Conclusion

The Scheme outlined in the Discussion Paper potentially addresses the majority of issues that Local Government has raised with the NTCRS and considers key components of a successful Product Stewardship Scheme. This includes:

- The Scheme must **guarantee** that **all costs** associated with the recycling of e-waste and PV's is covered. This includes transport cost, which is particularly important for regional and remote Local Governments.
- The Scheme must **cover all electronic waste** and be designed to include additional products.
- **Enable equitable access** to the Scheme across Australia.
- **Targets** must be not limit collection amounts and need to align with infrastructure and market availability.

Other key issues highlighted in this Submission include ensuring that there is annual feedback from key stakeholders, such as Local Government, to identify if other types of electronic waste outside the Scheme are increasing and should therefore be considered for inclusion and that the Department has sufficient capacity to act on such information. The proposed Scheme does not include e-cigarettes, however it is vital that an effective program is put in place for these products, WALGA has suggested the Return Unwanted Medicines program as one option.



Household Hazardous Waste Policy Statement



Policy Statement

This policy statement has been developed to outline the roles and expectations of Government and industry in respect to the management of Household Hazardous Waste in Western Australia.

Background

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is a small but significant component of the waste stream which requires specialised strategies to manage responsibly. If not managed well, HHW has the potential to cause harm to human health and the environment. HHW is anything that is labelled toxic, flammable, corrosive, reactive, infectious or radioactive and can threaten personal health and safety if used improperly or disposed of improperly. HHW is distinguished by the characteristics of being likely to be found on residential premises and likely to find its way into the Local Government managed waste stream. Examples of hazardous products are cleaners, hydrocarbons, paint, solvents, swimming pool chemicals, pesticides and the packaging that these products come in.

Under the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*, Local Government is empowered to collect and manage Local Government waste, which includes waste from the Local Governments own activities and households. Local Government is committed to being a responsible link in the management chain for HHW.

The involvement of State Government, Federal Government and those manufacturers producing material which becomes HHW is essential to ensure a sustainable system for managing Household Hazardous Waste.

The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program was established in 2008 and is administered by WALGA. The objective of the program is to support Local Governments to safely collect and manage hazardous materials generated by households that present a significant risk to human health and the environment. The program supports permanent collection sites for Household Hazardous Waste, operated by Local Governments and Regional Councils, as well as ad hoc drop off days, allowing households to safely dispose of these materials. The Program works with, or seeks to establish, Product Stewardship Schemes to facilitate producer responsibility for the materials collected through the Program.

Roles and expectations

Local Government

- Resourcing and operating (or contracting operation) of drop-off points to accept Household Hazardous Waste, from the community.
- Complying with regulatory requirements specific to handling and storage of Household Hazardous Waste, including Environmental and Work Health and Safety considerations.
- Collecting and reporting on data on Household Hazardous Waste.
- Undertaking behaviour change activities to support safe Household Hazardous Waste collections and waste avoidance.

Collection contractors

- Undertaking collection, transport and reuse, recycling, recovery or disposal of HHW material from drop off points and temporary collection days.
- Identification of unknown materials, from all facilities.
- Reporting accurately on collection and processing amounts, recovery activities and end markets for collected materials.

State Government

- Funding Programs to ensure the safe collection, transport and reuse, recycling, recovery or disposal of HHW from Local Government or Regional Council drop off facilities, or temporary collection days.
- Developing, and resourcing, behaviour change campaigns and tools to assist Local Government with educating and engaging the community in safe Household Hazardous Waste collection and waste avoidance.
- Developing guidelines for Local Government and Regional Council on the appropriate procedures for handling and storage of Household Hazardous Waste.
- Supporting the development and implementation of Product Stewardship Schemes for Household Hazardous Waste.

Federal Government

- Supporting the development and implementation of Product Stewardship Schemes for Household Hazardous Waste.

Producers/Manufacturers of Household Hazardous Waste

- Work with Government to develop and implement Product Stewardship Schemes for Household Hazardous Waste.

MWAC Budget 2023/24

	Description	21/22	22/23	23/24	Notes
Income					
	Contributions - WALGA	209,500	200,000	184,335	
	Contributions - Regional Councils	209,500	200,000	184,335	
	Ewaste Grant	2,000	0	0	
	Bin Tagging Program	16,000	17,000	0	TBC mid financial year review
	Sundry		5,400	5,400	For undertaking Training activities
	Waste Summit		15,000	15,000	
	Administration Fees - HHW	143,250	146,100	150,000	
	Total Income	580,250	583,500	539,070	
Salaries					
	Salaries	364,203	374,218	343,371	
	Superannuation	36,420	37,422	37,771	
	Training - General Allowance	6,000	6,000	5,250	
	Workers Compensation Insurance	3,293	3,368	4,120	
	Total Salaries	409,916	421,008	390,512	
Overheads					
	Audit Fees	850	850	850	For HHW Program only
	Communication - Website Hosting	5,400	5,508	0	No hosting fee ongoing
	Stationery - Specific (non gen	100	100	0	
	Corp Support-Admin,Finance&HR	56,800	58,220	61,224	
	Overhead & Facilities Charges	64,800	66,096	62,392	
	Total Overheads	127,950	130,774	124,466	
Variables					
	Communications - Mobile Phones	480	480	305	
	Meeting Expenses - Perth	2,000	1,700	2,904	
	Waste Summit	0	12,500	10,000	
	Seminars & Conferences - Staff	1,385	2,500	3,600	
	Sundry Expenses	1,000	1,000	600	
	Taxis (Local and Travel)	1,125	500	1,050	
	Travel - Accom. and Transport	6,300	5,500	6,300	
	Travel Allowance-cents/klm Cla	0	1,500	1,200	
	Vehicle Hire/Pool Vehicle Use	5,000	3,500	1,500	
	Total Variables	17,290	29,180	27,459	
MWAC	Surplus\Deficit	25,094	2,538	(3,367)	

Organisation	Base Contribution	Percentage Contribution	2022/23 Regional Council Contribution	2023/24 Regional Council Contribution
MRC	\$5,000	49.5%	\$89,150	\$81,396
SMRC	\$5,000	13.6%	\$28,120	\$25,990
EMRC	\$5,000	26.6%	\$50,220	\$46,053
WMRC	\$5,000	3.4%	\$10,780	\$10,247
CoGG	\$5,000	2.8%	\$9,760	\$9,321
BHRC	\$5,000	4.2%	\$12,140	\$11,482
Sub Total	\$30,000	100%	\$200,000	\$184,335
WALGA		50%	\$200,000	\$184,335
Total		100%	\$400,000	\$368,670



Waste Education Policy Statement



Policy Statement

The Waste Education Policy Statement has been developed to identify the roles and expectations of Local, State and Federal Governments and the private sector regarding Waste Education for the community. Without this clarity, duplication of effort and mixed messages are likely to occur.

Background

Waste education is an essential part of waste management, as it provides information and motivation necessary to empower the community to engage in waste avoidance, reuse and recovery and accurately use services provided.

Strong community support and positive engagement with waste programs is essential to meet State Waste Strategy targets to reduce overall waste generation, maximise recovery of resources from waste and minimise waste to landfill.

Improved sorting and disposal behaviour by the community assists in reducing contamination across all waste streams and providing higher quality material to be recovered as resources.

While all levels of government have roles to play in waste education, there are many areas where they intersect. Local Government has greater responsibility for direct waste education to the communities it services, while State and Federal Government support and enable the implementation of effective waste management systems by Local Government, through strategic planning and funding mechanisms.

Roles and Expectations

WALGA

Through active collaboration with Local, State and Federal Government, and the wider waste industry, WALGA facilitates the development of consistent messaging to assist Local Governments in effective waste education and engagement.

WALGA's engagement with State and Federal Government on waste policy, along with other State and Territory Associations, informs consistency in messaging across jurisdictions.

Local Government

Local Government takes the primary role in waste education, as the first point of contact for waste queries from the community. Acting as both service provider and educator, Local Government's key commitments are to provide information on available waste services and engage with the community to encourage positive waste behaviours that contribute to State Waste Strategy targets.

Individual Local Governments, some in collaboration with Regional Councils*, have varying capacities to undertake waste education and engagement activities, dependent on availability of resources. The use of consistent messaging, relevant to Local Government waste management systems, is therefore key to ensuring effective communication to all community members.

In respect to Waste Education, Local Government:

- Informs the community about waste, recycling, reuse and resource recovery services available and relevant to their area
- Uses consistent waste education messaging tailored to their local area through the use of suitable data

- Takes a holistic approach to education throughout the waste 'life cycle' through providing clear information on collection and recovery processes
- Encourages active community participation in waste management through highlighting the individual impact of correct waste separation and contribution to overall environmental goals, including State waste Strategy targets

*Regional Council refers to an entity formed by two or more Local Governments for a specific purpose under the *Local Government Act 1995*, in this context to manage waste on behalf of its members.

State Government

State Government provides the strategic direction for waste management in Western Australia through the State Waste Strategy targets and Action Plan.

To facilitate achievement of the State Waste Strategy, State Government provides overarching communication and education strategies, implemented by Local Government, ensuring consistency of information to minimise community confusion.

In respect to Waste Education, State Government:

- Provides assistance, through funding for statewide and targeted education and communications programs
- Undertakes research to ensure programs are evidence based and fit for purpose
- Provides appropriate strategies to minimise waste impacts
- Creates Waste Education programs that can be used co-operatively between Local and State Governments
- Provides specific State and Local Government level waste data and recovery information to improve awareness of waste management activities and progress toward targets.

Federal Government

Federal Government provides national strategic direction and legislation on waste management, however its involvement in waste activities does not extend to policy regarding kerbside waste collection or direct waste education to the community.

In respect to Waste Education, Federal Government:

- Provides assistance, through funding for national and targeted education and communications programs
- Provides national influence on industry practices to contribute to waste avoidance
- Sets national priority and direction for product stewardship schemes
- Provides national waste data and recovery information to improve awareness of waste management activities and progress toward targets.

Partnerships and Support

Local Government partnerships with community groups, not for profit organisations, the waste industry and product stewardship organisations contribute to waste education throughout the community.

- Community Groups and Organisations

Community groups and organisations, including not for profit organisations, support waste education activities by delivering consistent messaging on the importance of positive waste behaviours in their engagement with the community.

Opportunities include delivering joint waste reduction and education programs and services, using resources from all partners to increase reach and value across the community.

- Waste Industry

The role of the waste industry is to provide clear and factual information on collection and processing activities and end markets for collected materials. This is key to maintaining public awareness and confidence in waste management activities.

- Product Stewardship Organisations

Product stewardship initiatives place responsibility on producers and manufacturers of products to drive environmentally beneficial outcomes through the product lifecycle, by designing out waste, using components and materials that are easier to recover and reuse and funding recovery activities.

Organisations managing product stewardship schemes provide financial and operational support for Local Governments to recycle specific materials through collection networks, while partnering with Governments and private industry to deliver clear information to the community on correct disposal, processing activities and end markets.

A key element of success in product stewardship schemes is community engagement. Consulting Local Government throughout the development and implementation process of product stewardship schemes is essential to ensure consistency of information and approach.



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting the Environment Right"

Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Minutes

3:00pm Wednesday, 18 October 2023

Online

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Attendance

Cr Giorgia Johnson (City of Bayswater)	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
Mayor Ruth Butterfield (Armadale)	WALGA State Council	
Cr Peter Abetz	City of Gosnells	
Cr Bob Hall	City of Greater Geraldton	
Mayor Karen Vernon (Victoria Park)	Mindarie Regional Council	
Cr Andrew Maurice (Mosman Park)	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Nick Edwards	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council	
Mr Michael Dufour	City of Greater Geraldton	
Mr Tim Youé	Resource Recovery Group	<i>OAG Chair</i>
Mr Stefan Frodsham	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Brett Jackson (Kalamunda)	Metropolitan Local Government	
Ms Yvette Plimbley (Vincent)	Metropolitan Local Government	
Ms Rebecca Brown	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Conor Macgill	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Candy Wong	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Nicole Matthews	WALGA	

Apologies

Cr Doug Thompson (Fremantle)	WALGA State Council	<i>Chair</i>
Ms Tazra Hawkins	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Cr Karen Chappel JP	WALGA President	<i>Observer</i>
Cr Tresslyn Smith	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council	
Ms Ruth March (Albany)	Non-Metropolitan Local Government	<i>OAG Deputy</i>
Cr Karen Wheatland (Melville)	Resource Recovery Group	

Acknowledgement of Country

WALGA acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia, including Boorloo (Perth) on the land of the Whadjuk Noongar People where WALGA is located, and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present. WALGA is committed to supporting the efforts of WA Local Governments to foster respectful partnerships and strengthen relationships with local Aboriginal communities.

1 Procedural Matters

1.1 MWAC Minutes tabled at WALGA State Council

A summary of the Minutes of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council meeting held Wednesday, 30 August 2023 will be noted at the next WA Local Government Association State Council meeting.

1.2 Confirmation of the Previous MWAC Minutes

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION

The Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council held on Wednesday, 30 August 2023 were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved Cr Abetz
Seconded Mayor Butterfield

CARRIED

1.3 Out of Session Flying Minute – Submission on Recycling and Waste Reduction Rules 2023 ***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council confirm the outcome of the out of session Flying Minute – draft Submission on the exposure draft of the *Recycling and Waste Reduction (Export – Waste Paper and Cardboard) Rules 2023 – 7 September 2023* as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved Cr Abetz
Seconded Mayor Butterfield

CARRIED

Background

The out of session Flying Minute of 7 September 2023 has been distributed to the Council for ratification, the outcome was as follows:

Endorse the Draft Submission on the exposure draft of the *Recycling and Waste Reduction (Export – Waste Paper and Cardboard) Rules 2023*.

For:

Cr Doug Thompson (Fremantle)	WALGA State Council
Cr Giorgia Johnson (City of Bayswater)	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council
Cr Peter Abetz	City of Gosnells
Cr Karen Wheatland (Melville)	Resource Recovery Group
Cr Andrew Maurice (Mosman Park)	Western Metropolitan Regional Council
Cr Les Price (Cue)	WALGA State Council
Cr Bob Hall	City of Greater Geraldton
Cr Karen Vernon (Victoria Park)	Mindarie Regional Council

Against, including no response:

Mayor Ruth Butterfield (Armadale)	WALGA State Council
Cr Tresslyn Smith	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council

2 Business Arising

No Business Arising Issues for consideration.

3 Decision Items

3.1 Waste Education Policy Statement Review***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council:

1. Rescind the existing WALGA *Waste Management Education Policy Statement 2008* and Advocacy Position 7.9 Waste Management Education; and
2. Endorse a revised WALGA Waste Education Policy Statement 2023 and Advocacy Position as follows:

Waste education is essential part of waste management that empowers the community to engage in waste avoidance, reuse and recovery, and to use services correctly.

Effective waste education requires:

- *Consistent communications by all stakeholders to ensure messages are clear and the community has confidence in the information provided.*
- *A strategic and long-term investment from the State Government, with funding mechanisms in place to support and enable collaboration between Local Governments and Regional Councils.*
- *Recognition of waste education in the definition of 'waste service' in the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007, in order to allow a charge for waste education as part of the waste service charge.*
- *Identification of priority problematic materials within the waste stream and ongoing advocacy for evidence based alternative approaches.*

Moved Mayor Butterfield
Seconded Mayor Vernon

CARRIED

In Brief

- The WALGA *Waste Management Education Policy Statement* was endorsed in 2008, prior to any significant State or Federal Government involvement or investment in waste education.
- The Policy Statement has been updated to incorporate feedback from MWAC to define the role of Regional Councils and highlighting the need for a long-term strategic approach to waste education.
- The Advocacy Position on Waste Education has been updated to reflect the essential nature of waste education in overall waste management.

Background

The WALGA [Waste Management Education Policy Statement](#) was endorsed in 2008, prior to any significant investment by the State or Federal Government in waste education. The Policy Statement was developed to inform WALGA and Local Government advocacy in relation to the roles and responsibilities of Local, State and Federal Governments regarding waste education. The Policy Statement has been revised and updated to reflect contemporary roles and expectations of all levels of government as well as industry and community partnerships.

The *Waste Management Education Policy Statement* has been used successfully in WALGA and Local Government advocacy to increase resourcing and focus on waste education as a key element of effective waste management. The Policy Statement was reviewed and updated following feedback from a working group of waste education experts, convened through the Consistent Communications Collective and following review by the Officers Advisory Group and Municipal Waste Advisory Council.

The existing Advocacy position [7.9 Waste Management Education](#) is:

Local Government asserts that the different spheres of government have different roles and responsibilities in relation to waste education: Local Government's role is primarily concerned with 'behavioural change', whereas State and Federal Governments have a strategic role that focuses on 'attitudinal change'.

It is proposed to replace the existing Advocacy Position with:

Waste education is essential part of waste management that empowers the community to engage in waste avoidance, reuse and recovery, and to use services correctly.

Effective waste education requires:

- *Consistent communications by all stakeholders to ensure messages are clear and the community has confidence in the information provided.*
- *A strategic and long term investment from the State Government, with funding mechanisms in place to support and enable collaboration between Local Governments and Regional Councils.*
- *Recognition of waste education in the definition of 'waste service' in the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007, in order to allow a charge for waste education as part of the waste service charge.*
- *Identification of priority problematic materials within the waste stream and ongoing advocacy for evidence based alternative approaches.*

Comment

Since the Policy Statement was first developed the awareness and importance of waste education, as an essential part of waste management, has significantly increase. The complexity of waste has

increased, and commensurately, so have the solutions being put in place and the behaviours requested from the community. With the increased expectations of the community for managing their own waste, without effective waste education, systems and infrastructure put in place will not be used effectively and waste avoidance will not be possible.

This review of the Policy Statement, and associated Advocacy Position, has focused on documenting the key role for Local Government and Regional Councils in educating the community, as well as identify other stakeholders.

MWAC discussed a draft Advocacy Position at its August meeting and requested that the position be strengthened to reflect that without effective waste education no effective services can be implemented. Feedback on the Policy Statement included:

- Separating out the role of Regional Councils, however noting that not all provide waste education, highlighting that the shared services approach can work well.
- Including that collaborations between Regional Councils and Local Governments, such as Recycle Right, are possible.
- Aim to provide consistent messaging.
- A strategic and long-term approach is needed, which targets waste avoidance as well as recycling and other messaging.

MWAC also discussed the importance of identifying the good news stories regarding recycling and communicating where material is recycled.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

This item was passed with minimal discussion.

3.2 Draft Submission E-waste Landfill Ban Regulations***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse the draft Submission on the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (e-waste) Regulations 2023*.

Moved Cr Abetz

Seconded Cr Maurice

CARRIED

In Brief

- The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation has released the consultation draft of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (e-waste) Regulations 2023 (draft Regulations) for public consultation.
- The draft Regulations have been developed to support the implementation of a statewide ban on e-waste disposal to landfill by 2024, with the aim of improving management and recycling of e-waste produced by households and businesses across the State.
- The draft Regulations outline the materials to be covered in the first stage of the ban from 1 July 2024, as well as the regulatory obligations for e-waste service providers, commercial e-waste generators and landfill operators.
- WALGA has developed a draft Submission on the regulations, requesting clarification on several areas and reiterating its position that comprehensive and effective product

stewardship schemes must be implemented for products subject to the e-waste landfill ban prior to the ban taking effect.

- Comments close on 22 November 2023. An extension has been requested to allow State Council to consider the Submission at their 6 December 2023 meeting.

Background

The Western Australian Government has committed to deliver a statewide ban on e-waste disposal to landfill by 2024, with the aim of improving management and recycling of e-waste produced by households and businesses across the State.

The draft Regulations include the following key focus areas:

- A Schedule of applicable e-waste items, ensuring sufficient detail for the scope of items included in the ban.
- Regulatory obligations that focus on responsible waste management for:
 - E-waste service providers (e.g. collection network, recyclers, waste management industry).
 - Commercial e-waste generators (where they are a ‘significant business’ with over 200 employees).
 - Landfill operators.
- Reporting and recordkeeping obligations.
- Defences under certain circumstances.
- Exceptions considered out of scope.
- Exemptions for extraordinary circumstances.

Comment

WALGA has developed a draft Submission on the draft Regulations, which reiterates its position that comprehensive and effective product stewardship schemes must be implemented for products subject to landfill bans prior to the ban taking effect. The ban in its current form will have significant financial implications for Local Governments and the communities they service.

This aligns with the Advocacy Position on landfill bans as follows:

Landfill bans are only supported in the presence of effective product stewardship schemes, or other funding mechanisms, for products which would be subject to the ban.

The draft Regulations outline the responsibilities of designated entities within the e-waste collection and recycling process, however in their current form require significant clarification on the roles and responsibilities of Local Governments collecting and managing e-waste in order to be effective and practicable.

Timeframe for Submission finalisation:

- 9 October: OAG consider draft Submission – COMPLETE, feedback incorporated
- 9 October: Draft Submission circulated to Local Government – COMPLETE
- 11 October: Consultation webinar with Local Government – COMPLETE (35 Local Governments registered)
- 16 October: Feedback from Local Government on draft Submission
- 17 October: Update draft Submission circulated to MWAC
- 18 October: MWAC consider draft Submission
- Submission included in State Council agenda for consideration by Zones.

WALGA has requested an extension to the deadline to allow State Council to consider the Submission at their 6 December 2023 meeting.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

WALGA met with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to gain clarity on concerns that have been raised in consultation with Local Government. The discussion focused on reporting and responsibilities, separation of waste and licensing. The Department confirmed that as currently written in the regulations, Local Governments collecting e-waste through transfer stations would be considered as e-waste providers. WALGA expressed that this would place additional reporting obligations on Local Governments that have existing mandatory reporting requirements under licensing and WARR Regulation 18c and proposed a more streamlined approach to reporting.

The focus of the ban is to regulate e-waste separated for recycling. E-waste that is unintentionally captured and mixed with putrescible or other general waste in kerbside collections, or verge skip bins, would be considered as 'incidental capture' and covered by the exceptions in Section 6 of the draft Regulations. The Department clarified that the wording 'landfill operators must separate regulated e-waste from mixed waste' in Section 14 is intended to apply to large quantities of commercial e-waste. For example, a truck arriving at a landfill with mixed waste containing predominantly regulated e-waste items that could be easily separated.

Local Governments that are not separating e-waste for recycling will not be expected to amend their licences to include e-waste. For landfill operators that are not licensed to collect and store e-waste, the requirement for licence amendments would be dependent on licence thresholds. Under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, the trigger for a licence is 500 tonnes of material per year. The Department advised that there would be direct communications to designated entities and licence holders until the end of 2023, however the responsibility to identify the need for licence amendments will be on the licence holder.

WALGA has made clear to the Department that supporting programs will be required around communicating the details of the ban as there is potential for significant increases in the amounts of both regulated and non-regulated e-waste received by Local Governments. Partnership approaches between WALGA and the Waste Authority were suggested to investigate establishing temporary drop-off days for the regions to support higher diversion, as well as a communication plan with input from the Consistent Communications Collective. WALGA will develop a number of scenarios that would apply to Local Governments affected by the draft Regulations and provide these to the Department.

During the meeting, a question was raised as to whether there would be an obligation for Local Governments to minimise e-waste going into kerbside collections. E-waste is already prohibited under the [Template Waste Local Law](#) developed by WALGA with funding from the Waste Authority, through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account. Local Governments that have adopted the Template Waste Local Law will have the prohibition on e-waste as a standard provision. Local Governments without a Waste Local Law may have a similar provision in their Health Local Law.

4 Discussion Items

4.1 E-cigarette/Vape Disposal Issues***

In Brief

- E-cigarette/vape disposal has become an increased issue for the community and Local Governments. With lack of disposal options, waste fires are reportedly becoming more frequent.
- WALGA has received funding to undertake a Vape Collection Study, which will inform advocacy.
- There is both an immediate problem of vape disposal, and the longer-term arrangements to ensure producer responsibility for these products.

For Discussion

What advocacy is needed, such as:

- Approaches to assist with immediate disposal issues.
- Long-term product stewardship program, such as through the Return Unwanted Medicines (RUM) Project.

Background

There has been an increase in individuals and schools seeking advice from Local Governments for e-cigarette/vape disposal options. Local Governments have also informed WALGA that waste fires caused from vapes/lithium batteries have become more frequent.

To better understand the issues around vapes, from source to end of life, WALGA has had discussions with WA Department of Health, the WA Department of Education and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW).

WALGA has also received funding from the Waste Authority to undertake a Vape Collection Study, working with a Local Government facility which is part of the HHW Program, to collect vapes so they can be analysed for content and recyclability. The data collected through this study will assist in advocacy.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Until there is a longer-term solution where the sale of e-cigarettes is effectively regulated there is an immediate need for a pathway to remove these materials from waste streams. Like other electrical and electronic (e-waste) items they should not be disposed of in any bin as they pose a serious fire risk.

Recent public correspondence from the Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia (WMRR) CEO noted a Federal Government estimate where 90% of used handheld batteries are going to landfill or disposed of incorrectly and that across the country “we are seeing more than one fire incident a week in either a truck or a facility that is battery related”.

A recent report on battery safety released by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) stated there is a lack of specific data on lithium-ion battery fires on a national basis, however it cited information provided by the WA Department of Fire and Emergency Services reporting a 400% increase in lithium-ion fires between 2018 and 2022.

Most waste contractors and Local Governments that run a fleet make it a practice to document instances where fires have occurred. Anecdotal feedback has highlighted batteries as a significant emerging issue related to fires as well as flares and hot ashes.

4.2 WA Reducing Illegal Dumping Strategy***

In Brief

- The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation has flagged its intent to develop a Reducing Illegal Dumping Strategy.
- Illegal dumping is an ongoing challenge for Local Government which has environmental, social and economic impacts.
- WALGA has an opportunity to develop priorities for inclusion in a strategy and directly engage with the Department to assist in informing the strategy development.

For Discussion

- Key elements of a Reducing Illegal Dumping Strategy?
- Preferred approach to inform the strategy development:
 - Reinvigorated Reducing Illegal Dumping (RID) Working Group
 - Consultation with Local Government on focus materials and areas
 - Develop Advocacy Position
 - Product Stewardship advocacy.

Background

In 2017 WALGA put in place the Reducing Illegal Dumping (RID) Working Group, which included officers from across the metropolitan and peri-urban areas and the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. The Group was formed following reports of illegal dumping of mattresses occurring across the metropolitan area.

The Group developed a model process for Local Government and requested the State Government develop a data sharing platform, an approach which has worked well in South Australia, to assist Local and State Government regulators to share information and track illegal dumping. Unfortunately, resourcing was limited so this did not occur. The Group ceased meeting once the model process was completed and it was clear the State Government did not have resourcing to further work on the issue.

The Department's renewed interest in a reducing illegal dumping strategy, provides an opportunity for the RID Working Group to be reinvigorated and assist in developing Local Government requirements for an illegal dumping strategy.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Currently there is a [Litter Prevention Strategy](#) and [State Waste Strategy](#) but neither of these address illegal dumping specifically. WALGA is proposing to reestablish the Reducing Illegal Dumping (RID) Working Group, with a broad membership of Local Government officers, to develop an advocacy position on illegal dumping. Common reasons for illegal dumping can be due to inconvenient, expensive disposal pathways or no readily available disposal option. It was suggested that advocacy should focus on the most problematic materials, including tyres and mattresses.

Feedback from the Group indicated that social housing and rentals could be illegal dumping hot spots. WALGA will seek further information from Local Governments relating to mattress dumping

in order to map the distribution of instances and gain insights to inform advocacy that may also help to address commercial operators who are perpetrating the behaviour.

The attachment included in the meeting agenda, developed by WALGA's first iteration of the RID Working Group, was created to assist Local Government in managing and enforcing illegal dumping.

4.3 Review of Policy Statement Recycled Organics Applied to Land

In Brief

- The [Standards for Recycled Organics Applied to Land Policy Statement 2007](#) was developed at a time when the main option for landfill diversion of organic material in Western Australia was through mixed waste Alternative Waste Treatment (AWT) facilities.
- The Policy Statement provides principles for the development of standards for recycled organics applied to land, however these principles are potentially broadly applicable to any recovered material applied to land.
- The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation is developing a Recovered Materials Framework to cover the application of waste derived material to land.
- The proposed approach is that the principles/approach in the Policy Statement be reviewed and used to develop an Advocacy Position on a Recovered Materials Framework. The Policy Statement would then be rescinded.

For Discussion

- What are the key elements of the Policy Statement that need to be included in the updated Advocacy Position?

Background

In 2007 when the Policy Statement was developed, Regional Councils had in place or were developing, Alternative Waste Treatment (AWT) infrastructure for mixed waste composting (output of 2-bin system or City of Stirling's 1-bin system). This direction was largely in response to State Government push to reduce waste to landfill and eliminate the development of new landfill sites in the Perth metropolitan area. At that time the State Government had not expressed a technology/system preference. AWTs were diverting substantial amounts of material from landfill to beneficial uses, however because of the mixed waste source there was a high degree of concern about potential contamination of land. The approach taken in the Policy Statement was to advocate for outcome based, fit for purpose, standards.

With the decision of Beech J in *Eclipse Resources Pty Ltd v The State of Western Australia* in 2016, any clean fill material applied to land (over 500 tonnes/year) could be considered landfilling. The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation has undertaken several consultations on the development of framework to facilitate the use of recovered materials (Waste Derived Materials Framework 2019-20).

Following these consultations the Department is progressing a Recovered Materials Framework. The development of an Advocacy Position on this will inform WALGA's input into the development of the final Framework.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Group discussed the need for consistency in products made from FOGO-derived feedstock as well as any products made with waste derived materials. For this to take place, there needs to be clear standards that take into consideration the specific requirements of different kinds of

applications. To ensure that these products are well received and trusted by end users there must be robust systems in place that can provide quality assurance and ongoing surveillance throughout the supply chain. Producers, Local Government and private operators, require clarity on approaches to interact with and access end markets, as well as investment certainty that can be achieved through long-term offtake agreements.

5 Information Items

5.1 Department of Finance – Mask Opportunity

- The Department of Finance contacted WALGA because it has a surplus of N95 and reusable facemasks and wanted to provide the opportunity to Local Government to have these masks (at no/minimal cost).
- The specifics of how to access the masks, and the minimum order, has been circulated to Local Government waste managers and through LGIS to safety coordinators.
- Positive feedback has been received from several Local Governments who are taking up the opportunity.

5.2 Asbestos National Strategic Plan – Submission

- WALGA has developed a short Submission on the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency (ASEA) [Draft Asbestos National Strategic Plan Phase Three](#) (draft ANSP).
- The ANSP was developed with the aim of eliminating asbestos related diseases in Australia by preventing exposure to asbestos fibres, through establishing a nationally consistent and coordinated approach to asbestos awareness, management and removal.
- The draft Phase Three plan sets out key priorities to guide improved asbestos management, alongside enablers and actions aligned to these priorities to meet performance targets.
- WALGA's Submission generally supports the priorities and actions identified within the draft ANSP, but recommends further clarification be provided on resourcing, responsibilities, performance measures and targets for the plan to be effectively implemented.

5.3 Household Hazardous Waste Program Update

- The Tender assessment has been completed for the Household Hazardous Waste Program, with Cleanaway being appointed the principal contractor and Perth Chemical Services contracted for unknown testing.

5.4 Consultation Update

- The State Waste Strategy Directions Paper closed on 11 July 2023, the Department is currently analysing Submissions. It is anticipated a draft State Waste Strategy will be released in early 2024 for a 12-week consultation period.
- State Waste Infrastructure Plan is expected before the end of the calendar year.
- Federal Packaging Product Stewardship Scheme, consultation anticipated December 2023-February 2024.

5.5 Policy Statement Review Process Update

- Policy Statement Reviews in progress:
 - Household Hazardous Waste – Considered at MWAC August meeting. Will be progressed to the December State Council meeting.
 - Waste Management Education – On the agenda for OAG/MWAC October meetings.
 - Standards for Recycled Organics Applied to Land – Discuss at October OAG/MWAC, revisions at December OAG/MWAC meetings.
- Initial Review December OAG/MWAC:
 - Waste Levy Policy Statement (consider revisions December OAG/MWAC meetings).
- Policy Statement Reviews complete:
 - Waste Management Data and Information Management – Recommendation to rescind endorsed at September State Council meeting.
- The following Policy Statements will be reviewed in 2024, Container Deposit Systems, Extended Producer Responsibility and Waste Management Legislation.

5.6 WARR Levy Review Communication

- WALGA met with the Chair of the Waste Authority and DWER Director, Circular Economy on 15 August 2023 and requested an update which could be provided to Local Government on the review of the Levy. The following information was provided and has been circulated in WasteNews:

Earlier this year, the WA Government published the findings of a Review of the WARR Levy. The consultation summary report and supporting consultant report can be accessed on the [Department of Water and Environmental Regulation \(DWER\) Website](#).

The Review found that there was a case to apply the WARR Levy to at least some locations outside the metropolitan area, and recommended further work. To ensure that this analysis is rigorous and transparent, DWER is preparing a consultation regulatory impact statement (CRIS) on options to expand the area where the WARR levy applies. This CRIS will examine the benefits, costs and financial impacts of expanding the area. This process allows public scrutiny of the underlying analysis and strengthens the analysis by securing additional information about costs and benefits from respondents, which are factored into a final government decision.

Some respondents to the Review of the WARR Levy argued that a statewide levy could be effective in addressing levy avoidance and evasion and could have environmental benefits in regional areas. Therefore it is essential that the review consider this option to ensure transparency and rigor. However, analysis is still being undertaken and the Government does not have any preferred option at this stage. WALGA and several Local Governments have advised DWER of their opposition to changes to the WARR Levy boundary. Maintaining the current levy boundary is still under consideration.

The Government intends to publish the CRIS in late 2023. It will be open for comment for at least twelve weeks. DWER will notify Local Governments when the CRIS is published. After the CRIS is undertaken, the submissions will be used to formulate a final position for government, incorporating both information and views from

respondents. DWER will publish a summary of the consultation and Cabinet will make a final decision based on the results of the consultation.

5.7 Officers Advisory Group/Municipal Waste Advisory Council Vacancies

- Mr Amani Kowero has resigned from the City of Wanneroo and Mr Kevin Ketterer has resigned from the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. This has created two casual vacancies on the OAG which will be advertised in the coming weeks.

6 Reports

6.1 MWAC Groups

1. Metropolitan Regional Council Working Group

Delegates/Nominees: Mr Tim Youé, Working Group Chair, Mr Stefan Frodsham, Deputy Chair

This Group met on Thursday, 5 October to discuss the outcomes of the WALGA Governance Review, MWAC Partnership Agreement and Regional Council collaboration opportunities.

2. Consistent Communications Collective

Delegates/Nominees: n/a

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.

3. Industry Training Reference Group

Delegates/Nominees: n/a

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting.

4. Household Hazardous Waste Advisory Group/Operators Meeting

This Group met on Wednesday, 27 September and discussed the outcome of the HHW Program Tender, operational changes regarding how batteries will be stored and collected in future and HHW Training.

6.2 External Committees & Working Groups

1. DWER Waste Reform Advisory Group

Representative: MWAC Chair, MWAC Executive Officer and CEO of RRG

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.

2. DWER Regulatory Reference Group

Representative: WALGA Executive Manager, Policy

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.

3. DWER FOGO Reference Group

Representative: Senior Policy Advisor, RRG, EMRC, WMRC

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.

4. DWER Single-use Plastic Working Group

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.

- 5. Australian Packaging Covenant Local Government Working Group**
 Representative: Senior Policy Advisor
 This Group met on Wednesday, 11 October to discuss various packaging reforms and an appeal regarding the ARL classification.
- 6. Hazard Coordinating Committee**
 Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
 This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
- 7. Across Agency Asbestos Group**
 Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
 This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
- 8. Waste Authority Construction & Demolition (C&D) Working Group**
 Representative: Senior Policy Advisor
 This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
- 9. Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association of Australia**
 Representative: Senior Policy Advisor
 This Group meets on a monthly basis.
- 10. Charitable Recycling Australia**
 Representative: Senior Policy Advisor
 The Group is scheduled to meet in November.
- 11. Keep Australia Beautiful Council**
 Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
 KABC is scheduled to meet on Thursday, 19 October.
- 12. Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Representation**
 Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
 WALGA is representing ALGA on the Government Officers Group for the Australian Packaging Covenant. This Group is meeting on a monthly basis to provide input and direction into the development of the new regulatory framework for packaging.

 WALGA also represents ALGA on the E-stewardship Reform Working Group.
- 13. E-waste to Landfill Ban - Technical Advisory Group**
 Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
 This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.
- 14. Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) Stakeholder Advisory Group**
 Representative: MWAC Executive Officer
 This Group has not met since the previous MWAC meeting.

7 Other General Business

The meeting closed at 3.55pm.

8 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council will be held in person at 3:00pm on Wednesday, 13 December 2023.



Flying Agenda: Submission on the Exposure Draft of the Recycling and Waste Reduction (Export - Paper and Cardboard) Rules 2023

By Rebecca Brown, Manager Waste and Environment

RECOMMENDATION

That the Submission on the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)'s Exposure Draft of the Recycling and Waste Reduction (Export - Paper and Cardboard) Rules 2023 be endorsed.

Executive Summary

- Western Australia currently relies heavily on export of paper and cardboard for recycling due to the lack of processing infrastructure within the State.
- The draft Rules provide conditions for export including being recyclers being licenced, providing export declarations and meeting strict contamination limits.
- Material Recovery Facility (MRF) operators have expressed concern over meeting the new requirements with their existing infrastructure and resources.
- If paper and cardboard, which represent just over 50% of the material in the kerbside bin, cannot be exported, or requires significantly more processing prior to export, the impact on the cost of kerbside recycling will be significant.
- On the basis of these risks and the lack of processing infrastructure in the State, WALGA strongly recommends an exemption be granted for WA exports of paper and cardboard a minimum of six months before the bans come into effect and will continue advocating for effective product stewardship for the materials covered by the Export Bans.

Attachment

Draft WALGA submission to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)'s [Exposure Draft of the Recycling and Waste Reduction \(Export – Paper and Cardboard\) Rules 2023](#).

Background

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water has released the Exposure Draft of the Recycling and Waste Reduction (Export – Paper and Cardboard) Rules 2023. These Rules will complete the Government's commitment to implement Export Bans on glass, plastic, tyres and paper and cardboard.

In Western Australia export is the primary way recycling has been undertaken, with the most [recent data](#) (2020/21) showing the vast majority of paper and cardboard is exported. In 2020/21, data from the Material Recovery Facilities showed that of what was collected through kerbside recycling, 54% was paper and cardboard (13% Old News Print, 22% mixed paper/cardboard and 19% cardboard and paper packaging).

As was identified in the Export Ban Regulation Impact Statement, there is limited processing and manufacturing in WA; until this changes export remains a key market for material collected. In 2021, \$30 million in State and Federal Government funding was announced towards a 100,000 tonne waste paper and cardboard facility, which has not yet been constructed.

The Rules provide conditions for the export licences for paper and cardboard and set the conditions that the holder of an export licence must meet to export the material. This includes being licenced and providing the Minister with an export declaration for each consignment and contamination rates.



Comment

WALGA's Submission was informed by feedback from Material Recovery Facility (MRF) operators and industry groups. MRF operators have indicated the timeframe for introduction of the ban is not adequate to consider infrastructure upgrades or amendments which would assist in meeting the new targets, or to establish safeguards for potential stockpiling of material in the absence of viable processing options.

WA is heavily dependent on export markets to recycle paper and cardboard. The Draft Rules provide for a certain level of contamination, but the additional requirements of the Draft Rules such as licenses for export mean a higher degree of control, and increased regulatory requirements, for material exported.

Feedback from MRFs indicates that paper and cardboard exported from Western Australia is at present subject to strict industry regulation, with requirements set in place by destination markets enforced through regular inspection of loads for export. MRF operators consider that the level of regulation in the current export market is at an appropriate level of maturity to meet quality requirements, and further regulation would be an unnecessary strain on resources.

If paper and cardboard, which represent over 50% of the material in the kerbside bin, cannot be exported, or require significantly more processing prior to export, the impact on the cost of kerbside recycling will be significant.

For the Export Ban to be successful, the necessary conditions include:

- Effective product stewardship needs to be in place to:
 - Reduce the amount of unnecessary paper and cardboard produced
 - Ensure producers contribute to the costs associated with recycling their products at end of life.
- An exemption be granted to export material from Western Australia until processing infrastructure is in place, with the exemption in place six months before the implementation of the ban
- Processing infrastructure in place in Western Australia to ensure that the material collected through kerbside recycling can meet the contamination levels required by the Rules.
- Contingency planning conditions be established to allow the Minister to grant timely exemptions in the event of recycling infrastructure failure due to natural disaster, fire, or financial instability.

Submission on the Exposure Draft of the Recycling and Waste Reduction (Export – Paper and Cardboard) Rules 2023

September 2023

Status of this Submission

This Submission has been prepared through the Municipal Waste Advisory Council (MWAC) for the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA).

WALGA is an independent, member-based, not for profit organisation representing and supporting the WA Local Government sector. WALGA's membership includes all 139 Local Governments in the State. MWAC is a standing committee of WALGA, with delegated authority to represent the Association in all matters relating to solid waste management. MWAC's membership includes the major Regional Councils (waste management) as well as a number of Local Government representatives. This makes MWAC a unique forum through which all the major Western Australian Local Government waste management organisations cooperate.

Acknowledgement of Country

WALGA acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia, including Boorloo (Perth) on the land of the Whadjuk Noongar People where WALGA is located, and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present.

WALGA is committed to supporting the efforts of WA Local Governments to foster respectful partnerships and strengthen relationships with local Aboriginal communities.

Recommendations

- 1. That effective product stewardship be in place for all material subject to the Export Ban, to reduce the amount of unnecessary paper and cardboard produced, generate markets for recycled material and ensure producers contribute to the costs associated with recycling their products at end of life.**
- 2. That the Federal Government examine the current export market requirements for paper and cardboard and determine if there is a need for further regulation.**
- 3. That to provide certainty to the market, an Export Ban exemption for Paper and Cardboard from Western Australia be granted at least 6 months prior to the proposed 1 July 2024 start date for the Rules.**
- 4. That contingency planning conditions be established to allow the Minister to grant timely exemptions in the event of recycling infrastructure failure due to natural disaster, fire, or financial instability.**

Background

WALGA welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Department of Climate Change, the Environment, Energy and Water (DCCEEW)'s [Exposure Draft of the Recycling and Waste Reduction \(Export – Paper and Cardboard\) Rules 2023](#).

These Rules will complete the Government's commitment to implement Export Bans on glass, plastic, tyres and paper and cardboard. WALGA has previously made [Submissions](#) on the:

- Export Ban Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS)
- Plastic Export Ban Discussion paper
- Plastic Export Ban Rules
- Tyre Export Ban Rules.

In Western Australia most recyclable material has historically been exported. The most [recent data](#) (2020-21) shows that the vast majority of paper and cardboard is exported and 2020-21 data from the Material Recovery Facilities shows that 54% of collected kerbside recyclable material was paper and cardboard (13% old news print, 22% mixed paper/cardboard and 19% cardboard and paper packaging).

As was identified in the Export Ban Regulation Impact Statement, there is limited processing and manufacturing in WA; until this changes export remains a key market for collected material. Funding interventions, in particular the \$174 million [announced](#) in February 2021, was intended to address part of the processing issue. This announcement included \$30 million in State and Federal Government funding towards a 100,000 tonne waste paper and cardboard facility, which has not yet been constructed. At the time of announcement, the media statement indicated "the plant is expected to be operational before the export ban on mixed paper comes into effect".

WALGA considers that effective product stewardship schemes are required to ensure producers take responsibility for the products they generate, physically or financially at end of product life. WALGA has advocated for many years to ensure an effective Scheme is in place for packaging. Currently, the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) is consulting with industry and government on the development of a reformed regulatory scheme for managing packaging in Australia. To drive the transition to a circular economy for packaging that takes a whole-of-supply-chain approach, the Department is proposing four regulatory scheme objectives to be underpinned by mandatory obligations:

- Ensure all packaging is designed for circularity.
- Increase the amount of reusable packaging.
- Ensure packaging is recovered.
- Increase the amount of recycled content in packaging.

WALGA is working with the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), and other Local Government Associations, to provide input into the scheme design. However, Environment Ministers won't consider a proposed new framework until 2024, and a Scheme is unlikely to be in place until well after the Export Bans have commenced.

Recommendation: That effective product stewardship be in place for all material subject to the Export Ban, to reduce the amount of unnecessary paper and cardboard produced, generate markets for recycled material and ensure producers contribute to the costs associated with recycling their products at end of life.

The Rules provide conditions for the export licences for paper and cardboard and set the conditions that the holder of an export licence must meet to export the material. This includes being licenced and providing the Minister with an export declaration for each consignment. The Rules propose that exported cardboard and paper contain:

- 5% maximum contamination rate at the implementation of the ban in 2024
- 3% contamination rate from 2026.

This Submission covers the impact the proposed Rules will have on paper and cardboard recycling in Western Australia, including capacity of MRFs to meet requirements, market constraints and effects and the need for contingency requirements in the event of infrastructure failure.

Material Recovery Facility Capacity

WALGA has sought information on current contamination rates for exported paper and cardboard from Material Recovery Facilities (MRF), with most facilities expressing concern regarding their ability to consistently meet the proposed contamination rate with their existing infrastructure.

Feedback identified that a range of factors affect the contamination rate, including continuous variation in feedstock, resourcing requirements on sorting lines and seasonal impacts, such as wet fibre affecting the accuracy of optical sorters.

Impacts from China Sword in 2018 and other international restrictions have reshaped the export market since the bans were first announced. Feedback from MRFs indicates that paper and cardboard exported from Western Australia is at present subject to strict industry regulation, with requirements set in place by destination markets enforced through regular inspection of loads for export. MRF operators consider that the level of regulation in the current export market is at an appropriate level of maturity to meet quality requirements, and further regulation would be an unnecessary strain on resources.

Recommendation: That the Federal Government examine the current export market requirements and determine if there is a need for further regulation.

Following the introduction of export bans on plastic, MRF operators reported delays of up to six months for an exemption to be granted, leading to stockpiling of material. A similar situation with paper and cardboard would significantly increase the risk to operators stockpiling material on site and degradation of the quality of the product. It is therefore essential that any ban be underpinned by sufficient resourcing in the Federal Department to quickly process any exemption.

MRF operators have indicated the timeframe for introduction of the ban is not adequate to consider infrastructure upgrades or amendments which would assist in meeting the new targets, or to establish safeguards for potential stockpiling of material in the absence of viable processing options.

On the basis of these risks and the lack of processing infrastructure in the state, WALGA strongly recommends an exemption be granted for WA exports of paper and cardboard, a minimum of six months before the bans come into effect.

Recommendation: That to provide certainty to the market, an Export Ban exemption for Paper and Cardboard from Western Australia be granted at least 6 months prior to the proposed 1 July 2024 start date for the Rules.

WALGA will continue to work with industry and Local Governments to minimise contamination in the kerbside recycling stream through education and behaviour change initiatives such as the Bin Tagging and Household Hazardous Waste programs funded by the State Government.

Markets in WA

WA's main market for recycling materials has historically been export. Export Bans have led to increasing costs for recycling. For example, mixed plastic previously had a \$50/tonne export value but is now being transported from WA to South Australia at a cost of approximately \$100/tonne to be sorted – a \$150/tonne impact. Without product stewardship in place, costs will continue to rise.

If paper and cardboard, which represent over 50% of the material in the kerbside bin, cannot be exported, or require significantly more processing prior to export, the impact on the cost of kerbside recycling will be significant. Figure 1 shows the projected impact of the Export Bans on gate fees. This was developed by WALGA in 2021 and has been relatively accurate when compared against current pricing.

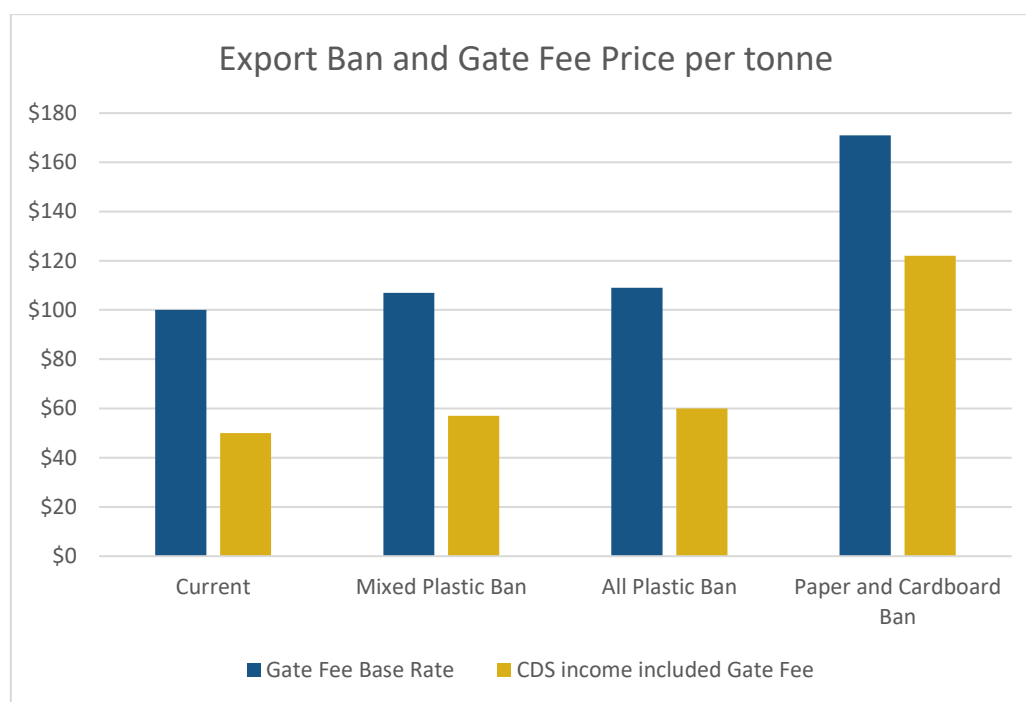


Figure 1: 2021 Projected impact of Export Bans on gate fee for material recovery facility

Contingency Planning

To ensure that material can be recycled, even following emergency events, there is a need for effective contingency planning. For example, should a plant be impacted by natural disaster, including fire, or financial instability which leads to it ceasing operations. Until markets mature, there will be increased risk to emerging companies and developing markets.

WALGA strongly recommends that the Rules provide the Minister with the ability to grant exemptions to the export rules in certain circumstances. For example, if the choice is between export (to a legitimate destination/process) and landfill, that the option of export be allowed. Otherwise, an unintended consequence of the export ban may be that paper and cardboard are landfilled.

Recommendation: That contingency planning conditions be established to allow the Minister to grant timely exemptions in the event of recycling infrastructure failure due to natural disaster, fire, or financial instability.

Conclusion

WA is heavily dependent on export markets to recycle paper and cardboard. The Draft Rules provide for a certain level of contamination, but the additional requirements of the Draft Rules such as licenses for export mean a higher degree of control, and increased regulatory requirements, for material exported. WA does not have any processing infrastructure specifically for paper and cardboard (such as a polishing plant or pulping facility) and is very unlikely to have one in place prior to the export ban requirements.

For the Export Ban to be successful, the necessary conditions include:

- Effective product stewardship needs to be in place to:
 - Reduce the amount of unnecessary paper and cardboard produced
 - Ensure producers contribute to the costs associated with recycling their products at end of life.
- An exemption be granted to export material from Western Australia until processing infrastructure is in place, with the exemption in place six months before the implementation of the ban
- Processing infrastructure in place in Western Australia to ensure that the material collected through kerbside recycling can meet the contamination levels required by the Rules.
- Contingency planning conditions be established to allow the Minister to grant timely exemptions in the event of recycling infrastructure failure due to natural disaster, fire, or financial instability.



Waste Education Policy Statement





Policy Statement

The Waste Education Policy Statement has been developed to identify the roles and expectations of Local, State and Federal Governments and the private sector regarding Waste Education for the community. Without this clarity, duplication of effort and mixed messages are likely to occur.

Background

Waste education is an essential part of waste management, as it provides information and motivation necessary to empower the community to engage in waste avoidance, reuse and recovery and accurately use services provided.

Strong community support and positive engagement with waste programs is essential to meet State Waste Strategy targets to reduce overall waste generation, maximise recovery of resources from waste and minimise waste to landfill.

Improved sorting and disposal behaviour by the community assists in reducing contamination across all waste streams and providing higher quality material to be recovered as resources.

While all levels of government have roles to play in waste education, there are many areas where they intersect. Local Government has greater responsibility for direct waste education to the communities it services, while State and Federal Government support and enable the implementation of effective waste management systems by Local Government, through strategic planning and funding mechanisms.

Roles and Expectations

WALGA

Through active collaboration with Local, State and Federal Government, and the wider waste industry, WALGA facilitates the development of consistent messaging to assist Local Governments in effective waste education and engagement.

WALGA's engagement with State and Federal Government on waste policy, along with other State and Territory Associations, informs consistency in messaging across jurisdictions.

Local Government

Local Government takes the primary role in waste education, as the first point of contact for waste queries from the community. Acting as both service provider and educator, Local Government's key commitments are to provide information on available waste services and engage with the community to encourage positive waste behaviours that contribute to State Waste Strategy targets.

Individual Local Governments, some in collaboration with Regional Councils, have varying capacities to undertake waste education and engagement activities, dependent on availability of resources. The use of consistent messaging, relevant to Local Government waste management systems, is therefore key to ensuring effective communication to all community members.

Local Government:

- Informs the community about waste, recycling, reuse and resource recovery services available and relevant to their area
- Uses consistent and data informed waste education messaging tailored to their local area

- Takes a holistic approach to education throughout the waste 'lifecycle' through providing clear information on collection and recovery processes
- Encourages active community participation in waste management through highlighting the individual impact of correct waste separation and contribution to overall environmental goals, including State waste Strategy targets

Regional Councils

Regional Council refers to an entity formed by two or more Local Governments for a specific purpose under the *Local Government Act 1995*, in this context to manage waste on behalf of its members.

Regional Councils' role in waste education supports their member Local Governments through:

- Providing waste education resources, including staff support, for events and programs
- Raising awareness of collection and processing activities through facilitating site tours and providing clear and timely information for reporting and communication purposes
- Coordinating and delivering joint waste education and engagement programs and services across Local Governments to increase value while providing consistent messaging.

State Government

State Government provides the strategic direction for waste management in Western Australia through the State Waste Strategy targets and Action Plan.

To facilitate achievement of the State Waste Strategy, State Government provides overarching communication and education strategies, implemented by Local Government, ensuring consistency of information to minimise community confusion.

In respect to Waste Education, State Government:

- Provides assistance, through funding for statewide and targeted education and communications programs
- Undertakes research to ensure programs are evidence based and fit for purpose
- Provides appropriate strategies to minimise waste impacts
- Creates Waste Education programs that can be used co-operatively between Local and State Governments
- Provides specific State and Local Government level waste data and recovery information to improve awareness of waste management activities and progress toward targets.

Federal Government

Federal Government provides national strategic direction and legislation on waste management, however its involvement in waste activities does not extend to policy regarding kerbside waste collection or direct waste education to the community.

In respect to Waste Education, Federal Government:

- Provides assistance, through funding for national and targeted education and communications programs
- Provides national influence on industry practices to contribute to waste avoidance

-
- Sets national priority and direction for product stewardship schemes
 - Provides national waste data and recovery information to improve awareness of waste management activities and progress toward targets.

Partnerships and Support

Local Government partnerships with community groups, not for profit organisations, the waste industry and product stewardship organisations contribute to waste education throughout the community.

Community Groups and Organisations

Community groups and organisations, including not for profit organisations, support waste education activities by delivering consistent messaging on the importance of positive waste behaviours in their engagement with the community.

Opportunities include delivering joint waste reduction and education programs and services, using resources from all partners to increase reach and value across the community.

Waste Industry


The role of the waste industry is to provide clear and factual information on collection and processing activities and end markets for collected materials. This is key to maintaining public awareness and confidence in waste management activities.

Product Stewardship Organisations

Product stewardship initiatives place responsibility on producers and manufacturers of products to drive environmentally beneficial outcomes through the product lifecycle, by designing out waste, using components and materials that are easier to recover and reuse and funding recovery activities.

Organisations managing product stewardship schemes provide financial and operational support for Local Governments to recycle specific materials through collection networks, while partnering with Governments and private industry to deliver clear information to the community on correct disposal, processing activities and end markets.

A key element of success in product stewardship schemes is community engagement. Consulting Local Government throughout the development and implementation process of product stewardship schemes is essential to ensure consistency of information and approach.



Submission on the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (E-waste) Regulations 2023 Consultation Draft

October 2023

About WALGA

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) is the united voice of Local Government in Western Australia. The Association is an independent, membership-based organisation representing and supporting the work and interests of 139 Local Governments in Western Australia, comprising 1,215 Elected Members and approximately 22,600 Local Government employees, as well as over 2.5 million constituents of Local Governments in Western Australia.

Western Australian Local Governments vary greatly in:

- size, ranging from less than 1.5 to over 370,000 square kilometres,
- population, just over 100 to more than 224, 000 people,
- the number of staff employed, from less than 10 to over 1000,
- in revenue received, which in 2019-20 ranged from just over \$2 million to just over \$226 million.

Acknowledgement of Country

WALGA acknowledges the continuing connection of Aboriginal people to Country, culture and community. We embrace the vast Aboriginal cultural diversity throughout Western Australia, including Boorloo (Perth) on the land of the Whadjuk Noongar People where WALGA is located, and we acknowledge and pay respect to Elders past and present.

WALGA is committed to supporting the efforts of WA Local Governments to foster respectful partnerships and strengthen relationships with local Aboriginal communities.

Introduction

The Association appreciates the opportunity to comment on the [Consultation Draft of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery \(E-Waste\) Regulations 2023](#) (the Draft Regulations).

The Western Australian Government has committed to deliver a statewide ban on e-waste disposal to landfill by 2024, with the aim of improving management and recycling of e-waste produced by households and businesses across the State.

WALGA acknowledges the objectives of the ban and its alignment to global, national and local environmental and recovery targets, in particular the [Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030](#). However, as stated in previous [submissions](#), the implementation of an e-waste to landfill ban by 2024, in its proposed form, will have significant financial implications for Local Governments, and the communities they service.

WALGA's Advocacy Position on landfill bans is clear - *Landfill bans are only supported in the presence of effective product stewardship schemes, or other funding mechanisms, for products which would be subject to the ban.*

WALGA reiterates its position that comprehensive and effective product stewardship must be implemented for products subject to the e-waste landfill ban prior to the ban taking effect.

WALGA acknowledges the provision of grant funding to assist in increasing the capacity of recyclers in WA to accept increasing amounts of e-waste and to assist with collection and reuse. However, this does not address the key concern of Local Government regarding ongoing funding to cover all costs associated with e-waste recycling.

While the Draft Regulations outline the responsibilities of designated entities within the e-waste collection and recycling process, **significant clarification of the roles and responsibilities of Local Governments collecting and managing e-waste in order to be effective and practicable is required.**

Definitions and responsibilities

The Draft Regulations outline responsibilities for designated entities under the ban, which have been classified into three categories:

- An e-waste service provider: a person who conducts a business or undertaking that involves or includes the collection or receipt of regulated e-waste for storage, management, aggregation, treatment, processing, sorting, recycling, transfer or disposal.
- A landfill operator: a person who occupies premises which constitute or include a landfill site.
- A significant business: an entity involved in business, industry, trade or commerce that, together with any related entity (if the entity is a body corporate), in relation to any financial year —
 - (a) has 200 or more employees at the beginning of the financial year; or
 - (b) created, during the immediately preceding financial year, 5 or more tonnes of regulated e-waste.

WALGA understands a number of WA Local Governments will fit into all three categories, as transfer stations collecting e-waste for recycling, or Local Governments undertaking collections of separated e-waste through verge collection, will be considered an e-waste service provider. **Clarification is required on whether they will be subject to all requirements under each category and how these responsibilities intersect.**

In order to relieve administrative burden on Local Governments which fit into two or more categories of 'designated entity', it is recommended to investigate **streamlining of reporting requirements**. Local Government already has mandatory reporting requirements for waste and recycling data, including e-waste, under Regulation 18C of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Regulations 2008 (WARR Regulations).

The ability of Local Governments to establish e-waste collections for recycling is dependent on the licence condition of the site under the Environmental Protection Act, which may require licence application or amendment to the Department for Local Governments which are not currently aggregating e-waste for recycling.

In particular, the collection and storage of lithium-ion batteries as part of an e-waste collection presents a high fire risk to Local Government sites and may require significant upgrades to on-site systems to meet safety requirements. **Clarification is required on whether the Regulations would supersede licence conditions to allow landfill and transfer station facilities to aggregate e-waste for recycling, or if the responsibility**

would fall on Local Governments to resource and undertake licence application or amendment to meet the requirements.

The definition of 'landfill site' in the Draft Regulations is as follows:

landfill site means premises —

- which are used for the purpose of receiving waste; and
- in respect of which the occupier is required to hold a licence within the meaning of the EP Act, whether or not such a licence is in force.

Clarification is required on whether the above description of landfill site applies to those landfills which are registered rather than licenced, including the 109 landfills managed under the Remote Essential and Municipal Services (REMS) program.

Prohibition of disposal to landfill and operator requirements

The wording around prohibition of e-waste to landfill, in Section 14, requires further clarification in relation to the responsibility of landfill operators.

Throughout the consultation process on the landfill ban to date, it has been made clear that unintentionally captured regulated e-waste, for example which has been placed in a kerbside bin, is not subject to the regulations. This is confirmed in Section 6 – Exceptions.

Section 14 refers to 'regulated e-waste received by a landfill operator which is mixed with other waste' and specifies the landfill operator 'must separate the regulated e-waste from other waste'. **Clarification is required on what constitutes 'regulated e-waste which is mixed with other waste' if this is not intended to refer to e-waste incidentally captured through the kerbside system.**

Defences to a breach under Section 14 are as follows:

- *It is a defence to a charge for an offence under subregulation (2) to prove that the landfill operator —*
 - (a) *took reasonable steps to avoid the commission of the offence; or*
 - (b) *did not know, and could not reasonably have known, that regulated e-waste was mixed with other waste.*

Further information will be required to ensure that the “reasonable steps” identified in the regulation are clearly defined, otherwise it is likely that this will generate significant administrative burden for landfill sites, for example if requiring a signed declaration from each individual depositing waste. This is further complicated for small regional landfills which may not be staffed.

Regional considerations

Consultation with regional Local Governments has shown costs to establish and maintain e-waste recycling activities are significantly higher for regional areas due to required transport distances and limited economies of scale. Consumers, Local Governments and retailers operating in regional and remote areas of WA are subject to higher than average costs of living and operation, which places added pressure on meeting any additional costs outside of scheme operations.

Several regional Local Governments have expressed concern over their ability to resource additional requirements in the management and recording of e-waste, particularly in areas

with unstaffed landfills where monitoring of the loads will require significant resourcing changes.

WALGA notes the draft regulations provide for exemptions in extraordinary circumstances where compliance with the regulations may not be feasible, such as geographical remoteness affecting the availability of facilities or resources.

As a number of regional Local Governments are not currently collecting e-waste for recycling due to feasibility, clarification is required on what would be considered eligible for an exemption under the criteria.

WALGA recommends a set of guidelines be developed similar to the [Waste Levy Exemption guidelines](#), to provide guidance on the circumstances an exemption may be granted and assist responsible entities in completing applications.

In all circumstances where an exemption is applied for, **ensuring the appropriate level of resourcing within the Department to assess and grant the exemption in a timely manner** is essential, to mitigate the risks of stockpiling regulated e-waste or potentially breaching further sections of the regulations.

WALGA recommends a staged approach to the ban be implemented across metropolitan and regional WA, in order to adequately assess feasibility for regional areas to initiate e-waste collections and process potential exemptions as required.

Schedule 1 - Regulated e-waste

Schedule 1 of the Draft Regulations sets out the materials to be covered by the initial stage of the ban.

Feedback from Local Governments highlighted that the implementation of an e-waste to landfill ban will require the development of a comprehensive communications and education campaign to ensure effective community participation and minimise administrative and resourcing burden on Local Governments. Local Government feedback shows community confusion currently exists around the definition of e-waste, and Local Governments are primarily the point of contact for residents with queries on disposal options.

A key concern of Local Governments is that unclear definitions of e-waste and lack of awareness around which materials are subject to the ban will lead to community members bringing unregulated e-waste to drop off sites expecting it to be recycled. E-waste not covered by a product stewardship scheme (known as 'by-catch') currently costs Local Governments \$650 per tonne to recycle, along with increased transport, resourcing and administrative costs.

Existing e-waste recycling messaging needs to be further developed and expanded to clarify which items are accepted under product stewardship schemes such as the NTCRS, as well as how the ban will affect disposal options for different items.

Table 1 provides commentary on several of the materials.

Table 1: Materials Subject to the Ban

Material	Commentary
TVs and Computers	<p>As stated in WALGA's submission on the e-waste to landfill ban consultation, while it is acknowledged that there are Product Stewardship Schemes in place for some of the products subject to the ban, such as the National TV and Computer Recycling Scheme (NTCRS) and Flurocycle, a new National Product Stewardship Scheme, anticipated to cover a wider scope of e-waste, is not scheduled for introduction until mid-2025, with on ground implementation timeframes still to be determined.</p> <p>Local Governments are currently and will continue to incur significant costs for e-waste recycling, as the Product Stewardship Schemes in place cover only a percentage of the total cost of recycling. This is a significant barrier for Local Governments in establishing and maintaining e-waste collections for their communities, particularly in regional WA.</p> <p>A 2021 survey of 29 Local Governments offering e-waste collection services to the community showed that each Local Government provides staffing, infrastructure and sites which contribute to the in-kind costs of recycling e-waste. The amount of financial in-kind costs varied from \$1,000 - \$150,000 per year per Local Government, for both in and out-of-scope NTCRS products. WALGA understands that recycling of NTCRS material is a direct cost of \$350 per tonne to Local Government, and e-waste not included in the NTCRS \$650 per tonne.</p>
Fluorescent lights	<p>Flurocycle, the voluntary national product stewardship scheme, does not provide any funding for recycling of fluorescent lighting. 22,403kg of fluorescent lighting materials were collected through the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program in 2021-22 and cost \$70,568 to recycle, excluding transport. This material comprised 5 per cent of the overall material collected through the HHW Program.</p>
Batteries	<p>The inclusion of batteries as a blanket category in the regulations requires further review, as there are a range of battery types not covered by an existing product stewardship scheme or large-scale recycling programs.</p> <p>The national battery product stewardship scheme BCycle accepts household batteries of all sizes, button batteries, rechargeable batteries up to 5kg, and batteries that can be easily removed from devices such as power tools and cameras.</p> <p>Mobile phone and portable device batteries are covered under Mobile Muster and the NTCRS scheme, while lead acid batteries are accepted for recycling through a range of retailers.</p>

	<p>There are currently no product stewardship schemes or viable recycling options available for larger batteries such as those used to power electric vehicles, e-scooters and bikes, or residential energy storage.</p> <p>WALGA recommends a staged approach to batteries being included in the ban, with the first phase including those covered by the BCycle scheme and automotive batteries with an existing recycling option and end market, and including batteries not currently covered by any scheme in future phases of the ban.</p>
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E-Cigarettes / Vapes

Disposal Information for Local Government



WA Regulations for Vape Sale and Possession

In Western Australia, there has been an upsurge in the use of e-cigarettes (vapes). The relevant legislation governing the sale and use of vapes includes:

- *Tobacco Products Control Act 2006*: which prohibits the supply of vapes
- *Medicines and Poisons Act 2014*: which prohibits the supply or possession of vapes containing nicotine.

Consequently, the only legal circumstance for supply of a vape containing nicotine is if prescribed by a doctor, as an aid for smoking cessation. Department of Health are the main regulating agency in WA for vape sale/possession enforcement.

Further context on the vape issue from a State legislative and community health perspective can be found in the [Cancer Council WA Joint Statement](#).

Federal Government Intervention

The Federal Government, in consultation with the Therapeutic Goods Administration, [announced in May 2023](#) they will be looking to create stronger regulation and enforcement of all e-cigarettes. This will include new controls on their importation, contents and packaging. This is in response to the gaps in current legislation which has enabled importers and sellers of vapes to leverage loopholes to sell illegal products, spread misinformation on vape legality and contents, and generate a situation where enforcement is extremely difficult.

Vapes as Waste

As the popularity of vapes has grown, so has the need for a disposal pathway. Given the legally tenuous nature of vape supply and possession, there aren't clear pathways, or responsible organisations, for safe disposal. Vapes should not be disposed of in any kerbside bin, Battery or electronic waste collections and cannot be disposed of through the Household Hazardous Waste Program.

Why are vapes a disposal problem?

- Vapes contain materials regulated as Dangerous Goods and Hazardous Chemicals
- Vapes likely contain Nicotine which is a regulated Scheduled Poison
- They contain batteries which are a fire risk
- They potentially contain various poisons/harmful chemicals.

Vape Disposal

Perth Chemicals Specialists (PCS), a WALGA Preferred Supplier, have been identified as holding the required licences to accept and dismantle vapes. PCS hold a Dangerous Goods licence (for the batteries) and can accept Schedule 7 poison controlled substance – Nicotine. PCS are only able to accept aggregated collections of vapes (such as from schools, Local Governments or other organisations) at a cost.

Please contact Reece Russell, General Manager Perth Chemical Specialists for a quote: technical@perthchemical.com.au, 0477 741 177.

Advice for Individuals

- People should be strongly discouraged from taking vapes apart for several reasons:
 - **Battery hazard:** Vapes often contain a high-powered lithium battery, which is likely to have a high level of charge remaining, even if the vape is empty. If the vape is dismantled, the battery can spark which would potentially cause the battery to catch on fire. Another hazard is that if the battery is removed, and placed in battery recycling points, unless the terminals are taped, due to the high levels of remaining charge, it will present a high fire risk.
 - **Nicotine hazard:** Vapes may contain nicotine, regardless of its labelling. Nicotine is either a Schedule 4 – Prescription only Medicine, or a Schedule 7 – Dangerous Poison. Taking apart vapes could cause a nicotine poisoning risk.
- Unfortunately, from an individual's perspective, WALGA has not been able to find a suitable solution for vape disposal.

Department of Health Advice to Schools

Department of Education (DoE) advised that they have provided general advice to schools regarding vape disposal, the advice includes:

- to use caution when handling the devices as they can combust and cause burns
- storing in a cool place (for battery safety)
- contact a suitable waste disposal company who are capable of disposing of lithium batteries and liquid nicotine
- not to place vapes in the general waste bins
- It is the responsibility of the individual school to find a suitable waste contractor
- The Department of Education continues to engage with key stakeholders, including WALGA, in seeking options for schools for the disposal of vapes.



Model Process Illegal Dumping

April 2019

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Acknowledgement

The Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) would like to acknowledge the contribution made by numerous parties to the development of the Model Process, including:

City of Bayswater

City of Fremantle

City of Stirling

City of Swan

City of Wanneroo

Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER)

1.0 Background Information

The Model Process is designed to facilitate a consistent Local Government response to illegally dumped material. The Model Process provides an overview of the legislative framework and roles and responsibilities. The Model Process also outlines the options available to Local Government when responding to reports of illegally dumped material on private property, or land managed by a state/federal agency.

The benefits of adopting a consistent approach for Local Government include:

- Improved customer service
- Improved internal and external communication
- Increased resource recovery
- Increased understanding of the cost of managing / responding to illegal dumping
- Implementation of consistent behaviour change approaches
- Ability to identify trends in illegal dumping and develop business cases for action.

To address illegal dumping, a range of different approaches are needed. This includes infrastructure to facilitate the disposal of materials, community engagement, incentives to encourage good behaviour and enforcement of the law. The Model Process does not address all of these issues.

NOTE: This document has been prepared by WALGA to assist Local Governments in Western Australia. WALGA does not warrant or represent that the information is exhaustive or complete. WALGA will not be liable for any loss or damage suffered or incurred by any person arising from the use or reliance on the information contained in this document. Local Governments may wish to obtain their own legal advice on matters raised in this document.

2.0 Supporting Documents

The approaches suggested in the Model Process focus predominantly on how Local Governments can effectively respond to illegally dumped material on public and privately owned or managed land. A number of supporting documents are available, including:

The DWER [Interim Compliance and Enforcement Policy \(2017\)](#) provides guidance on DWER's compliance and enforcement functions. In addressing illegal dumping under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*, the interim Policy reaffirms the use of the approach outlined in the former Department of Environment Regulation [Enforcement and Prosecution Policy \(2013\)](#).

The DWER [Reporting Pollution to Land – Including Waste and Litter](#) provides guidance on the appropriate entity to contact when reporting various types of pollution incidents. Serious illegal dumping incidents should be reported to DWER's 24 hour Pollution Watch hotline - 1300 784 782.

The [Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030](#) sets the strategic direction for waste management in Western Australia. The Strategy contains objectives, targets, and strategy descriptions that relate to avoidance, recovery and protection of the environment. This includes a target of towards zero illegal dumping.

Local Government Waste Plans are a requirement of the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*. DWER is developing a template that will facilitate the alignment of Local Government activities to the achievement of Waste Strategy targets.

The WALGA [Template Waste Local Law](#) provides Local Government with the ability to issue modified penalties for material left on the verge. An associated [Guidance Note](#) explains the rationale used to develop the Template Local Law, and assist Local Governments in applying it to their local situation.

WALGA's [Better Practice Optical Surveillance Devices \(aka CCTV\)](#) focuses on the use of Optical Surveillance Devices and the specific legal and practical issues relevant to their use as a means of combating littering and illegal dumping. The Guideline also includes case studies and opportunities available to Local Government to work with the State Government on the issue of illegal dumping.

The WALGA [Background Paper on Illegal Dumping of Shopping Trolleys](#) identifies a number of approaches that can be taken to respond to illegally dumped shopping trolleys, including engagement with retailers and various compliance options.

3.0 Overview of the Legislative Framework

Litter Act 1979 - Littering

The *Litter Act 1979* provides Local Governments with the ability to issue infringements, or to prosecute persons who deposit, or caused to be deposited, litter onto any land or into any waters in certain circumstances.

Environmental Protection Act 1986 - Illegal dumping of waste

The *Environmental Protection Act 1986* creates an offence of discharging or abandoning, or causing to be discharged or abandoned, solid or liquid waste. Local Governments, with the consent of the CEO of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, can prosecute this offence. Limited Local Government action has been taken under the EP Act.

Table 1 compares the key elements of the Acts and identifies considerations of the circumstances in which they can be used. Local Government seeking further assistance or guidance in relation to use of the *Litter Act 1979* or the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* can contact the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

Table 1: Comparison of the Litter Act and EP Act.

Factor	Litter Act 1979	Environmental Protection Act 1986
When to use?	Generally, the Litter Act is used for less serious offences. As long as the material deposited contrary to section 23 satisfies the definition of 'litter', the Local Government can take action under that Act. An example of where a Local Government may choose to issue an infringement or prosecute under the Litter Act rather than the EP Act is in the case of non-hazardous waste weighing less than one tonne.	Generally, the EP Act is used for more serious offences. As long as the material deposited contrary to section 49A satisfies the definition of 'waste', the Local Government, with the consent of the DWER CEO, can prosecute. An example of where a Local Government may choose to prosecute under the EP Act rather than the Litter Act is in the case of hazardous materials or materials weighing greater than a tonne.
Who can use?	Authorised officers under section 26(1) (being members of the Council or employees of the Local Government in whose Local Government area the offence occurred) can issue infringements.	Authorised officers have various powers under the EP Act. Local Government employees must apply to the Director General of the DWER to be appointed as authorised officers under section 87.
Process for prosecution	Gather, record and store evidence ensuring chain of custody in accordance with contemporary investigative practice.	Gather, record and store evidence ensuring chain of custody in accordance with contemporary investigative practice. The CEO of a Local Government must obtain the consent of the CEO of the DWER to commence a prosecution under section 49A of the EP Act.
Penalties	Littering - \$200 individual, \$500 for corporations. Littering creating public risk - \$500 individual, \$2000 for corporations.	Prosecution Section 49A provides that the unauthorised discharging or abandonment of waste is an offence.

	<p>Prosecution Various penalties for specific offences, up to \$5,000.</p>	<p>Maximum penalty \$62,500 for individuals, \$125,000 for corporations.</p> <p>Modified penalty notices to be issued for the offence of dumping waste.</p> <p>Remediation costs can be imposed by the court for those instances where a Local Government has managed illegally dumped material on its land.</p>
Funds from penalties	<p>If Local Government issues the infringement or undertakes the prosecution, any monies recovered in the form of fines are returned to the Local Government.</p>	<p>If Local Government undertakes the prosecution, any moneys recovered in the form of fines are returned to the Local Government. If the DWER undertakes the prosecution the funds go to consolidated revenue.</p>
Other considerations	<p>If infringements are issued, they must be supported by sufficient evidence to prove each element of the offence. This is to ensure if the infringement is contested, the Local Government can defend the matter in court.</p>	
Resources	<p><i>Litter Regulations 1981</i> Schedule 1 includes a list of types of litter that can create public risk.</p> <p>Schedule 2 includes the format of a Litter Infringement Notice.</p>	<p>DWER can offer Local Governments assistance to undertake prosecutions, such as advising on evidence requirements or, if necessary, undertaking the prosecution.</p>

Planning and Development Act 2005

The *Planning and Development Act 2005* (P&D Act) can be used to address non-conforming land uses such as illegal landfills. The storage or dumping of items on private land without a development approval may constitute an offence under s.214 of the P&D Act.

Where the Local Government believes that a contravention of s.214 has occurred, discretion exists to issue a direction (s.124 (3)) to *inter alia*, remove, pull down, take up, or alter the development'. In determining whether or not to issue a direction, the Local Government should be cognisant of the practical difficulties that could arise, the period of time elapsed since the offence occurred, and whether or not a direction is a suitable response. It is advisable to seek legal advice on these matters. A direction should only be given to a landowner who undertook the unlawful development or to any other person who undertook the same. A direction should not be given to a landowner who acquired ownership after unlawful development was undertaken and who did not themselves undertake the unlawful development.

Waste Local Law

The [WALGA Template Waste Local Law](#) provides Local Government with the ability to issue modified penalties for material left on the verge:

2.10 Verge collections

- (1) *Where the local government has advertised a verge waste collection (such as a green waste, or a bulk waste, verge collection) a person, unless with and in accordance with the approval of the local government or an authorised person—*
 - (a) *must deposit waste only during the period of time, and in accordance with other terms and conditions, as advertised by the local government in relation to that verge waste collection; and*
 - (b) *must otherwise comply with those terms and conditions.*
- (2) *Where waste has been deposited on a verge for a verge waste collection, a person must not remove any of that waste for a commercial purpose but may remove it for any other purpose.*

- (3) Except where waste is lawfully removed from a verge under this clause, a person must not disassemble or tamper with any waste deposited on a verge for a verge waste collection so as to increase the risk of harm to any person.
- (4) Clause 2.10(2) does not apply to the local government or a person engaged or contracted by the local government in relation to the verge waste collection.

Other Local Laws

Local Government Property Local Laws and Public Places Local Laws may provide Local Governments with enforcement powers in respect to materials dumped on Local Government property and in public places. For example, the City of Swan [Consolidated Local Laws 2005](#) contains specific provisions on rubbish on building sites. This Local Law requires bins to have covers, and for building sites and any adjoining verge or public place to be kept free of rubbish or offensive matter at all times.

4.0 Roles and Responsibilities

In responding to illegal dumping, roles and responsibilities must be clearly identified and communicated. This applies for interactions on a range of issues between Local Government and external parties (reporting party, state/federal agencies, private land owners), and internal business units of a Local Government. The Model Process outlined in Figure 1 has been developed as a tool that can assist Local Governments in formalising roles and responsibilities for the completion of distinct activities. It also provides an avenue through which to formalise the approach a Local Government will use to address illegal dumping at private property and State/Federal Government property (Section 4.1). An expanded Model Process is provided in Appendix 1.

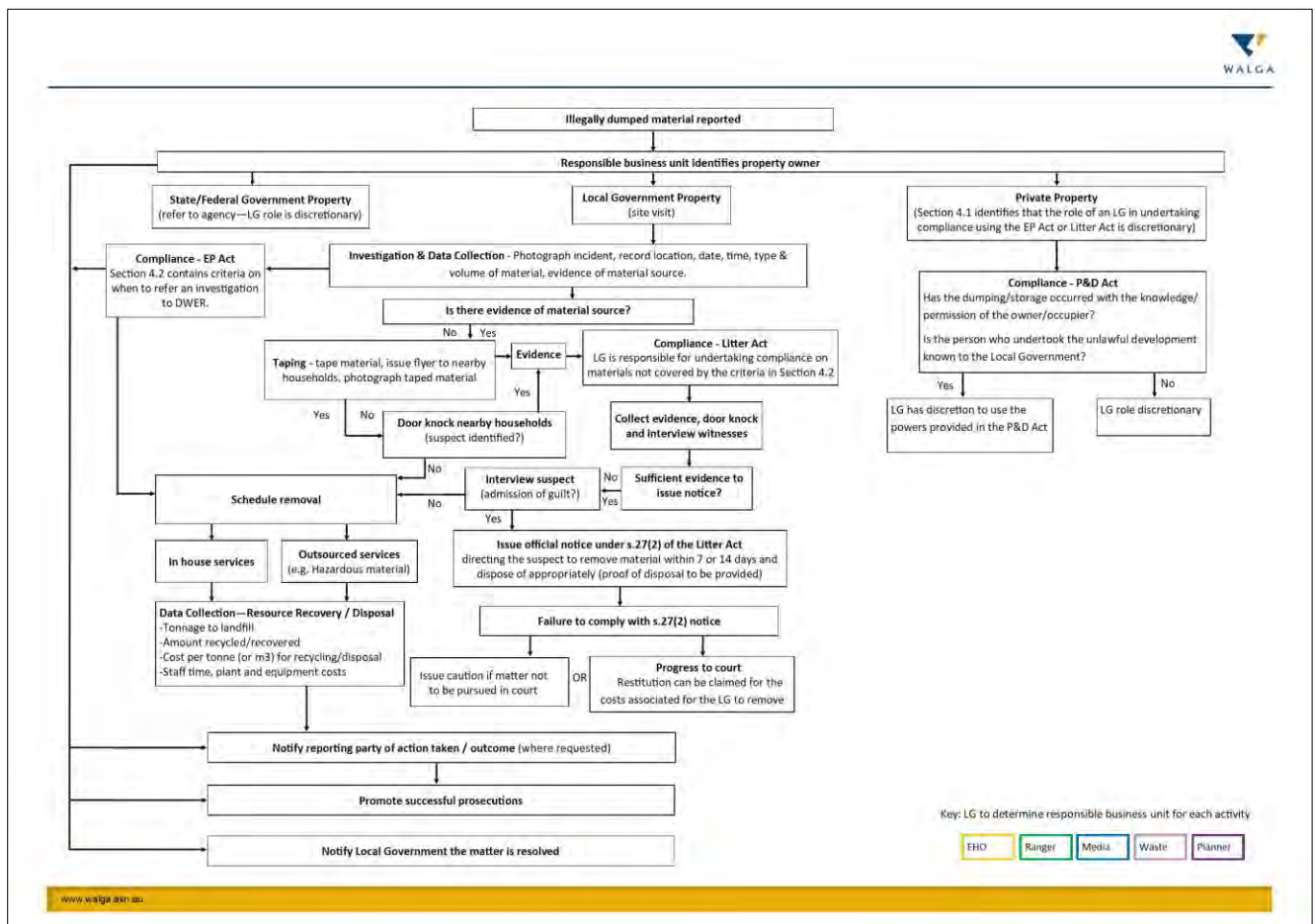


Figure 1: Model process for illegal dumping.

4.1 Property ownership

The action that a Local Government takes to address illegally dumped material is primarily dependent on who owns or manages the property.

State/Federal Government Property

Material that is illegally dumped on property owned or managed by a state/federal agency is the responsibility of the relevant agency. As such, the approach taken to compliance, data collection, community engagement and removal is at the discretion of the affected agency.

A Local Government may, at its discretion, offer assistance to the affected agency with responsibility for responding to the illegal dumping. For example, a Local Government may enter into an arrangement with a state agency to investigate an illegal dumping incident / issue an infringement and request that a suspect removes illegally dumped material. In this instance, the agency would retain responsibility for the removal of remaining material. Alternatively, a Local Government may enter into an agreement with a state agency (e.g. Housing) to remove illegally dumped material on a fee for service basis.

Local Government Property

Material that is illegally dumped on land owned or managed by Local Government is the responsibility of the Local Government. In this instance, it is suggested that a combination of approaches is adopted, where compliance, data collection and community engagement occurs.

In situations where the suspect that illegally dumped material cannot be found, or refuses to remove and dispose of the material in a lawful manner, a Local Government is responsible for the physical management and/or removal of this material.

The management of hazardous material on Local Government managed land must be expedited. Hazardous materials are defined those likely to have an adverse impact on human health and/or the environment. The legislative frameworks established by the *Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004* and the *Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984* provide definitions for *dangerous goods* and *hazardous substances*. Common examples of hazardous materials that are likely to have an adverse impact on human health and/or the environment include chemicals, fuel, oil and asbestos.

Private Property

Material that is illegally dumped on privately owned or managed land is the responsibility of the owner. A Local Government may, at its discretion, offer assistance to a private land owner in responding to illegal dumping, by entering into an arrangement to investigate an illegal dumping incident and request that a suspect removes illegally dumped material. In this instance, the private land owner would retain responsibility for the removal of any remaining material.

There are options available to issue a direction under the *Planning and Development Act 2005* for unlawful development. Refer to *Section 3.0 Overview of the Legislative Framework* to ascertain the type of situations where it would be appropriate to use such an approach.

4.2 Compliance

A Local Government must make a decision on the approach that will be taken to compliance. The Local Government has the opportunity to undertake these activities themselves or to partner with the DWER.

Partner with DWER

Local Governments can partner with the DWER to undertake various activities in responding to illegal dumping, including:

- Training: to assist Local Governments to enforce the *Litter Act 1979* and the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*
- Assistance on prosecutions: DWER is able to provide advice to Local Governments to ensure that the required evidence has been gathered, stored and recorded in accordance with the rules of evidence
- Equipment: DWER can partner with the Local Government to use Optical Surveillance Devices (OSD) to identify those responsible for littering or illegally dumping.

As a first step, DWER can loan OSDs, check surveillance imagery, undertake the prosecutions (under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*) and publicise any successful prosecutions. As the partnership develops Local Government can assist by reviewing imagery captured by OSD and providing statements on the timing, nature and location of littering or dumping offences.

This partnership approach would require that a Local Government:

- Suggests littering or illegal dumping 'hot spots' for OSD installations
- Commits to at least a weekly drive by of the site(s)
- Takes photos and notifies DWER if littering and or illegal dumping occurs at the site.

As identified in Section 3, different legislative tools can be used to address litter and illegal dumping. The DWER has dedicated resources available to investigate serious illegal dumping incidents.

Thresholds for referring a matter to the DWER include:

- Whether the material illegally disposed of appears to be commercial
- The quantity of material illegally disposed of
- How hazardous the material is (to human health or the environment).

4.3 Data Collection

There is a need for data to be collected on material which is illegally dumped. The data collected should include the amount of material reported, location, date, time, type and volume of material, any evidence of material source and photographic evidence. The collection of this information for all instances of illegal dumping will assist in determining current levels of illegal dumping in a Local Government area and the success of interventions the Local Government undertakes, such as compliance, community engagement and removal of the material.

This information can also be used to determine the cost of illegal dumping to the community. Dependent on the type of enforcement action taken, there is a possibility that the costs associated with investigation and removal of material (plant, equipment, staff time) could potentially be recouped.

4.4 Community Engagement

Complaint received and entered into customer service system

Illegal dumping can be reported through a variety of internal and external channels. Reporting mechanisms can be designed to ensure information is collected in a consistent manner that informs the future activity of multiple business units. Information can be received online (web / social media / app), by phone or reported by internal Local Government staff. For example, residents in the City of Joondalup can report illegal dumping [online](#).

A best practice approach to customer service is to contact the reporting party initially to confirm details. However, resourcing constraints may limit the level of engagement that occurs. How incidents are allocated to various teams within a Local Government differs. The process used in some Local Governments is to self-allocate responsibility– dependent on severity or the availability of evidence. Another approach is for one person / team to use a consistent screening approach to allocate responsibility.

Taping process

The process used in the City of Wanneroo has been incorporated into the Model Process suggested in Figure 1. Illegally dumped material is taped as a means of notifying nearby residents that an investigation is underway. Material is left material on the verge and re-checked within one week.

Material is taped even if evidence identifying a suspect exists, as it encourages the removal of illegally dumped material.

Refer to Figure 2-4 for examples of the materials used to notify residents that illegal dumping has occurred.



Figure 2: Example of material used to notify residents (City of Wanneroo).



Every year, an average of 225 tonnes of rubbish is illegally dumped in the City of Stirling.
That's equal to...

A truck full of rubbish every day



More than 2,000 fridges



More than 2,500 couches



More than 8,000 mattresses



Costing ratepayers money and putting our environment and health at risk.

Get rid of your rubbish for free with the City of Stirling

Many items that can be recycled can be taken to the Recycling Centre Balcatta for free, including:

- Aluminium and steel cans
- Household furniture in good condition (acceptance is decided by the tip shop)
- Landscaping and garden items
- Jars, containers and bottles
- Scrap metals and white goods (does not include fridges and freezers).

Hazardous Waste can be taken to the Recycling Centre Balcatta, including:

- Electronics and mobile phones
- Household and car batteries
- Motor oil, coolants and filters

- Household chemicals
- Paints and solvents (dry and empty tins also accepted).

On-Demand Collection Services

People who live in Stirling can access these collections once every year:

- 1 x electronic waste (a total of six items)
- 1 x skip bin (3m³)
- 1 x mattress/base (six pieces– does not include bed frames and headboards)
- 1 x white goods (four items – fridge/freezer doors must be removed).

Book on the City's website
www.stirling.wa.gov.au/waste

Tip Passes

Each ratepayer receives tip passes for:

- Household bulk junk up to one tonne (includes two mattresses and two fridges)
- Clean green garden waste up to one tonne
- Clean sand, bricks and concrete up to one tonne.

With services available for people who live in the City of Stirling, there is no excuse for illegal dumping.

With increased cameras and patrolling, those who are caught will be issued with a fine.

If you see it, report it by calling
(08) 9205 8555.

Figure 3: Example of material used to notify residents of other disposal options (City of Stirling).



Figure 4: Example of signage used when taping illegally dumped materials (City of Wanneroo).

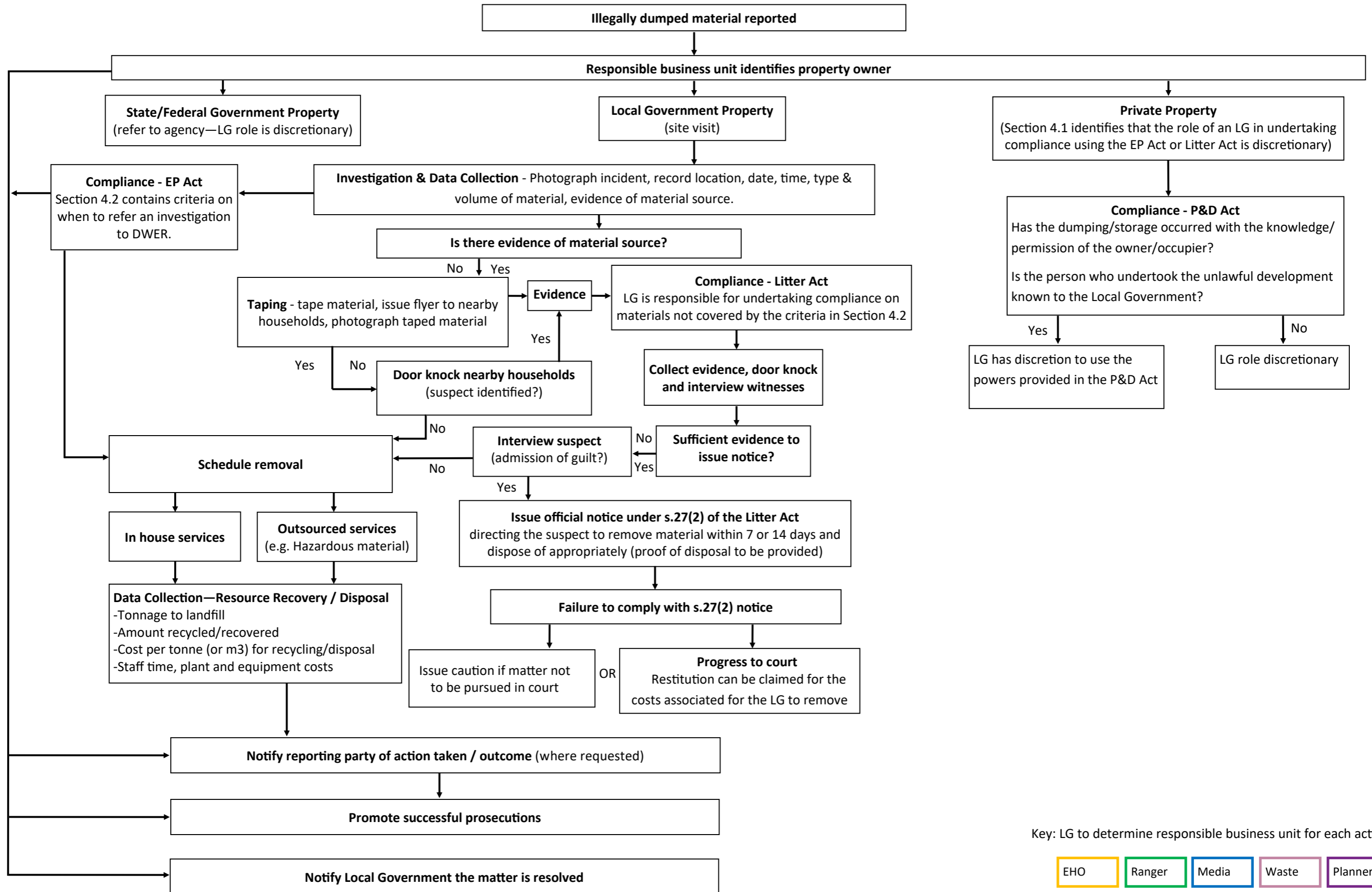
Promotion of successful prosecutions

The promotion of successful prosecutions is an important community engagement activity that complements and supports compliance. For compliance activity to effectively deter illegal dumping, the community needs to be understood that action will be taken if material is illegally dumped. Local Governments can promote successful prosecutions through a number of channels, including websites, social media and community newsletters.

4.5 Removal of Material

Management of any material that is not removed after undertaking community engagement remains the responsibility of the owner or manager of the land. For Local Government, this comes at a substantial cost. There is an opportunity to lower these costs by undertaking resource recovery, where appropriate. It is important that Local Governments undertake an assessment of the viability of resource recovery activities.

Where resource recovery is found to be viable, the WALGA Preferred Supplier Panels for [Waste Collection Goods and Services](#), and [Hazardous & Emergency Event Services](#) can be used to assist Local Governments in the procurement of resource recovery services. The contractors on these Panels can provide a range of resource recovery services, including e-waste recycling, mattress recycling, and disposal of hazardous material. To arrange for a quote, use the [eQuotes](#) system.



Key: LG to determine responsible business unit for each activity



**TRAINING GROUP ALLIANCE (TAG)
SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES
MARCH TO SEPTEMBER 2023**

Training Alliance Group – About us

At Training Alliance Group (TAG) we work with individuals, employers, and communities to deliver tailored training and employment services across all industry sectors.

Working across two Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) and our Employment Services division, TAG is a leader in providing quality education that leads to meaningful employment. We support individuals to achieve their employment and education goals through experiential and classroom-based learning. Training Alliance Group's (TAG) RTO's - ABV (RTOID: 52592) and MTACS (RTOID: 52053) to provide training primarily in Civil Construction for youth and disadvantaged cohort to meet its objectives and outcomes.

Training activity at Tamala Park in collaboration with Mindarie Regional Council

Delivering nationally recognised qualifications with skills to operate roller, excavator, skid steer, front end loader, construction white card, working at heights and working in confined spaces.

- RII30820 Certificate III in Civil Construction Plant Operations
- RII30920 Certificate III in Civil Construction (General)

All courses are delivered under The Department of Training and Workforce Development under the Participation – Work Readiness program. This program is available to people who need training to enter the workforce. Most of these participants are referred from Employment service providers such as Status, Workskill Australia, Artwork Australia. Department of Education, Department of Justice and Aboriginal corporations are some of the others from whom we get trainees. Training participants include but not limited to Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, culturally and linguistically diverse and youth at risk.

Student / Job seeker Trainee numbers from Mar 2023 to Sept 2023

LRA Local Regional Authorities	No. Students from LRA suburbs
City of Joondalup	24
City of Stirling	27
City of Wanneroo	51
Town of Victoria park	1
City of Perth	1
City of Vincent	0
Town of Cambridge	0

Other activities of Training Alliance Group supporting communities across WA:

Trainees at Tamala Park gathered together for R U OK? Day.



Training Alliance Group supports Job seeker training in Civil Construction around WA including remote towns where access to training is very limited. Recently completed training at Derby, Moora and currently running courses in Bunbury, Narrogin & Northam.

Trainees from Bunbury gathered together for R U OK? Day



Trainees from Narrogin gathered together for R U OK? Day



Trainees from Moora prior to their graduation



SUMMARY OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

List of resolutions for the financial year 2023/2024 plus any outstanding resolutions from previous years			
OCM /SCM Date	Item #	Resolution	Status
21/09/2023	8.1	That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 13 July 2023 be confirmed as a true record of the proceedings.	Completed
	9.1	Receive the Financial Statements set out in Appendix No. 1 and 2 for the months ended 31 July 2023 and 31 August 2023.	For Information
	9.2	Note the list of payments made under delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer, for the months ended 31 July 2023 and 31 August 2023.	For Information
	9.3	That the Council	
		1. Endorses the changes to Council Policies as contained in Appendix 6 and 7 of this report.	
		2. Endorses the delegations made to the Chief Executive Officer as detailed in Attachment 2 of this report.	
		Amendment:	
		1. Add the following words at the end of point number 1. 'Subject to a further review of CP23 Conducting electronic meetings and attendance by electronic means'.	
		2. Add the following words at the end of point number 2. 'Subject to a further review of delegation 1.2. Substantive Motion as Amended	
		1. Endorses the changes to Council Policies as contained in Appendix 6 and 7 of this report, subject to a further review of CP23 'Conducting electronic meetings and attendance by electronic means'	Completed
		2. Endorses the delegations made to the Chief Executive Officer as detailed in Attachment 2 of this report, subject to a further review of delegation 1.2.	Completed
	10	That the Members Information Bulletin Issue No. 78 be received.	For Information
	11	That Council	
		1. REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to undertake a review of the MRC's current band classificaito, addressing the justification for a proposed reclassification from a band 3 to a band 2 Regional Council.	Completed
		2. REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Department of Local Government to seek clarification on the procedural steps necessary to request a band reclassification	Completed
		3. REQUESTS that the Chief Executive Officer presents a report on this subject to Council on 30 November 2023.	Completed
14.1	That Council		
	1. Authorise the Mindarie Regional Council's constituent municipalities, being the Cities of Joondalup, Perth, Stirling, Vincent and Wanneroo and the Towns of Cambridge and Victoria Park, to be exempt from the provision of clause 4.A1 of the Constitution Agreement subject to the MRC no longer accepting constituent municipalities' kerbside waste at the Tamala Park Waste Management Facility.	For Information	
	2. Note that the date at which the exemption discussed in 1, above, will be determined by the MRC at a later date.	FOR ACTION	
	3. Request the MRC CEO to provide 12 months' written notice to constituent municipalities of the estimated date that the Tamala Park Waste Management Facility expects to no longer accept the constituent municipalities' kerbside waste.	FOR ACTION	
14.2	That Council		
	1. Notes that the appraisal of Scott Cairns, Chief Executive Officer, has been undertaken for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.	For Information	
	2. Endorses the findings of the MRC CEO Performance Review Report 2022/23 as per Confidential Attachment 1.	For Information	
	3. Reviews the CEO's Total Remuneration Package for 2023/24 and endorses the adjustment to the CEO's total reward package as specified in Confidential Attachment 1.	For Information	
	4. Approves the 2023/24 CEO Key Performance Indicators as specified in Confidential Attachment 1.	Completed	
13.7.2023	10.1	That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 01 June 2023 be confirmed as a true record of the proceedings.	For Information
		Moved Cr Cvitan, seconded Cr May	
		RESOLVED	
		That the recommendation be adopted	
		(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 11/0)	
		That the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 22 June 2023 be confirmed as a true record of the proceedings.	
		Moved Cr Hatton, seconded Cr Cvitan	
		RESOLVED	
		That the recommendation be adopted	
		(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 11/0)	
	11.1	Receive the Financial Statements set out in Appendix No. 1 and 2 for the months ended 31 May 2023 and 30 June 2023.	For Information
		Moved Cr Ferrante, seconded Cr Hatton	
		RESOLVED	
		That the recommendation be adopted	
		(CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 11/0)	

11.2	Note the list of payments made under delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer, for the months ended 31 May 2023 and 30 June 2023. Moved Cr Thornton, seconded Cr Cutler RESOLVED That the recommendation be adopted (CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 11/0)	For Information
11.3	APPROVE the co-funding of a Scoping Study with Tamala Park Regional Council that explores options, opportunities, risks, costs and impediments for potential greater collaboration and/or resource sharing between the two entities. Moved Cr Thornton, seconded Cr Gobbert RESOLVED That the recommendation be adopted (CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 11/0)	Completed
11.4	1. That the Draft 2023/24 Annual Budget be adopted including the following: 1.1 Statement of Comprehensive Income That the Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature/Type in the Draft 2023/24 Annual Budget be adopted. 1.2 Statement of Financial Position That the Statement of Financial Position in the Draft 2023/24 Annual Budget be adopted. 1.3 Statement of Cash Flow That the Statement of Cash Flow in the Draft 2023/24 Annual Budget be adopted. 1.4 Notes to and Forming part of the Annual Budget 2023/24 That the Notes to and Forming Part of the Draft 2023/24 Annual Budget be adopted. 1.5 Reserves That the Reserve accounts in the Draft 2023/24 Annual Budget be adopted. 1.6 Capital works program 2023/24 That the Capital Works Program in the Draft 2023/24 Annual Budget be adopted. 1.7 Operating budget by Department That the Budget by Department in the Draft 2023/24 Annual Budget be adopted. 1.8 Schedule of Fees and Charges 2023/24 That the Schedule of Fees and Charges in the draft 2023/24 Annual Budget be adopted. 2. That interest earned on cash funds associated with cash backed reserves be credited to the respective reserves 3. Financial Reporting and Materiality As per Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Section 34 (5) each financial year, a Local Government is to adopt a percentage or value, calculated in accordance with the AAS (Australian Accounting Standards), to be used in financial statements for reporting material variances. For the purpose of materiality in financial reports for the 2023/24 financial year, variances shall be those greater than \$50,000. Moved Cr May, seconded Cr Ferrante RESOLVED That the recommendation be adopted (CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 11/0)	Completed
12	That the Members Information Bulletin Issue No. 77 be received. Moved Cr Ferrante, seconded Cr Cvitan RESOLVED That the recommendation be adopted (CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 11/0)	For Information
13	REQUESTS the Mindarie Regional Council's CEO prepare a report for Mindarie Regional Council's next Ordinary Meeting considering: 1. the disposal of the Neerabup RRF facility; and 2. options for holding the proceeds of the disposal such as a growth fund to offset the future costs associated with closing the Tamala Park Landfill and ongoing site management costs SUBSTANTIVE MOTION: That Council: REQUESTS the Mindarie Regional Council's CEO prepare a report for Mindarie Regional Council's next Ordinary Meeting considering: 1. the disposal of the Neerabup RRF facility; and 2. options for holding the proceeds of the disposal such as a growth fund to offset the future costs associated with closing the Tamala Park Landfill and ongoing site management costs LOST 5/6 <i>For: Cvitan, Gobbert, Hill, May and Miles</i> <i>Against: Crs Castle, Cuter, Ferrante, Hatton, Thornton and Vernon</i>	For Information

01.06.2023	14.1	<p>SUBSTANTIVE MOTION AS AMENDED</p> <p>1. Nominates Tenderer B as the first preferred tenderer for the Waste to Energy Tender.</p> <p>2. Nominates Tenderer A as the second preferred tenderer for the Waste to Energy Tender.</p> <p>3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to commence commercial discussions with the preferred tenderers identified in 1 and 2 above with the intention of agreeing the terms of a Draft Waste Supply Agreement between the MRC and a waste to energy service provider.</p> <p>4. Authorises the CEO to negotiate with the MRC's member council CEOs on the terms of a Participants Agreement to support the MRC's ability to meet its obligations under the Waste Supply Agreement.</p> <p>5. Seeks a further report when the Waste Supply Agreement and Participant's Agreement are ready for Council's consideration.</p> <p>Put separately :</p> <p>1. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to advise the Member Council CEOs in writing that they and/or the individual MRC Councillors are permitted to disclose the contents of Confidential Report 14.1 to their own Member Councils should they wish to do so in regard to any issues arising therefrom, provided that they do so as a confidential report to a meeting of their Council held in closed confidential session."</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>FOR ACTION</p> <p>FOR ACTION</p> <p>Completed</p>
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