



INFORMATION BULLETIN

**Issue No. 37
November 2017**



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RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY UPDATE REPORT	
File No:	WST/13-07
Attachment/s:	Nil
Date:	24 October 2017
Prepared by:	Director Corporate Services

This report presents a summary of activities that have taken place in the reporting period covering 1 September 2017 to 24 October 2017.

OPERATIONAL MATTERS

On the evening of Monday, 21 August, an unplanned power outage occurred at the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) due to a cable damage fault on the Western Power network.

As a result, the RRF was not able to process for a period of 24 hours, with all vehicles being diverted to Tamala Park. A generator was mobilised to supply power for limited essential auxiliary services including odour control.

In September the Department of Water and Environment Regulation (DWER) conducted a prescribed premises inspection. The RRF operational controls and environmental performance yielded no areas of concern, with the RRF awaiting further feedback from DWER in late October 2017.

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Waste Delivery

Waste Delivery Summary for Reporting Period

MONTH	SCHEDULED TONNES	DELIVERED TONNES	DIFFERENCE TONNES
August 2017	9,200	10,608	1,408
September 2017	8,400	9,851	1,451

For the 9th Contract Year, for the period to 30 September, the RRF was 3,441 tonnes ahead of schedule as a result of additional throughput at the plant.

The RRF is operating as anticipated in the Resource Recovery Facility Agreement (RRFA), with average availability of 105% over the past 12 months.

On a monthly basis, Additional Tonnes (those tonnes greater than the monthly scheduled tonnes) only incur the Variable Operating Cost charge, but not the Capital Cost or Fixed Operating Cost charges.

Unavailable Tonnes (those tonnes less than the monthly scheduled tonnes) are not paid for unless:

- Within the Contract Year there is a positive balance of Additional Tonnes, these Additional Tonnes can be off-set against the Unavailable Tonnes. In this case, the off-set Additional Tonnes incur the full gate fee cost less the Variable Operating Cost (which has already been paid on the Additional Tonnes); or

- If the RRF Availability for a month is less than 92% of the monthly Scheduled Tonnes and there are no accumulated Additional Tonnes remaining to be off-set, then the MRC is required to pay the Capital Cost on all Unavailable Tonnes up to 92% of the monthly Scheduled Tonnes.

At the end of the Contract Year, if 100,000 tonnes of waste have been delivered to the RRF then the above “overs and unders” system should balance out.

The exception to the above is the tonnes not processed during the composter replacement.

The MRC entered into a standstill deed with BioVision which deals with the operations of the plant during this period. The tonnes scheduled for processing but not processed during the shutdown have been recorded as Accrued Tonnes. The MRC has already paid the capital cost component of the RRF Gate Fee in relation to these tonnes and so the Accrued Tonnes will be processed for the MRC at the end of the RRFA contract with the MRC only have to pay the fixed and variable components of the RRF Gate Fee.

Waste Diversion

Waste Diversion for the past six months (April 2017 to September 2017) was 53% with a Waste Diversion Target of 51.3%.

Community Complaints

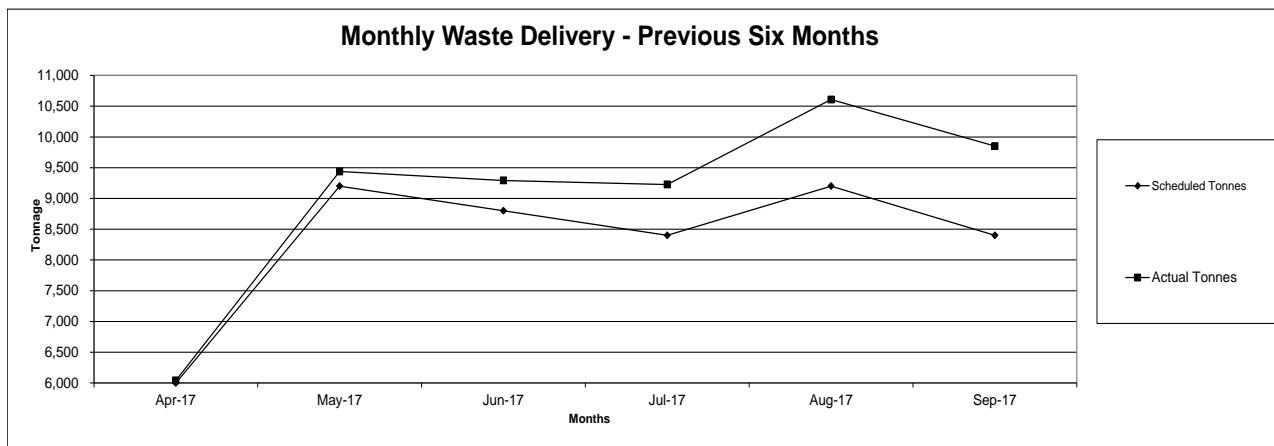
BioVision last met with its community stakeholder group on 30 November 2015 and no serious issues were raised. BioVision is continuing engagement with the selected key stakeholders, in particular the Banksia Grove development and the Wanneroo Golf Course.

COMMUNITY COMPLAINTS SUMMARY FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD

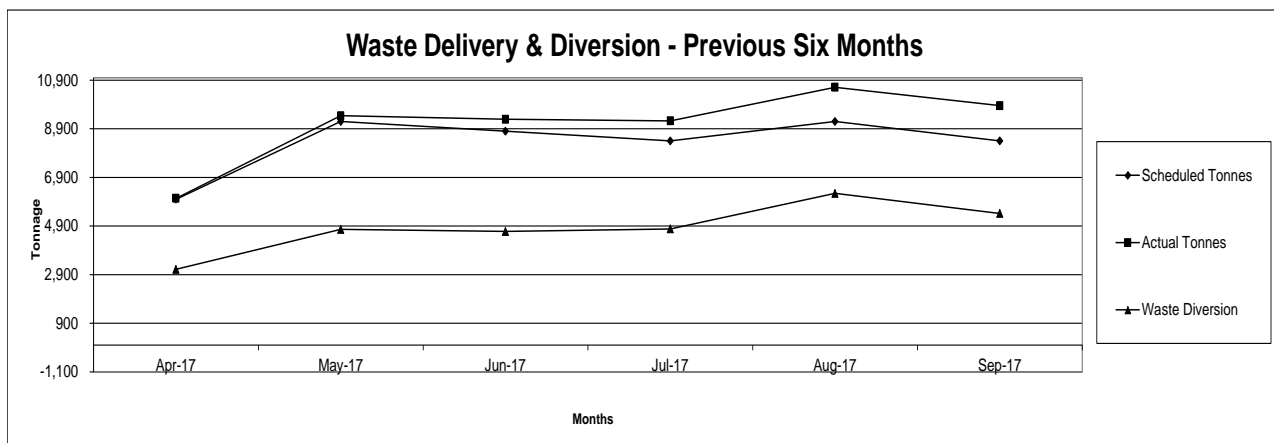
Date	Complaint	From	Outcome
19 Sep	Odour Complaint	Nullagine Drive, Banksia Grove (resident)	Multiple industrial odours detected in vicinity, RRF operating odour was not detected.

The graphs below provide data up to **30 September 2017**.

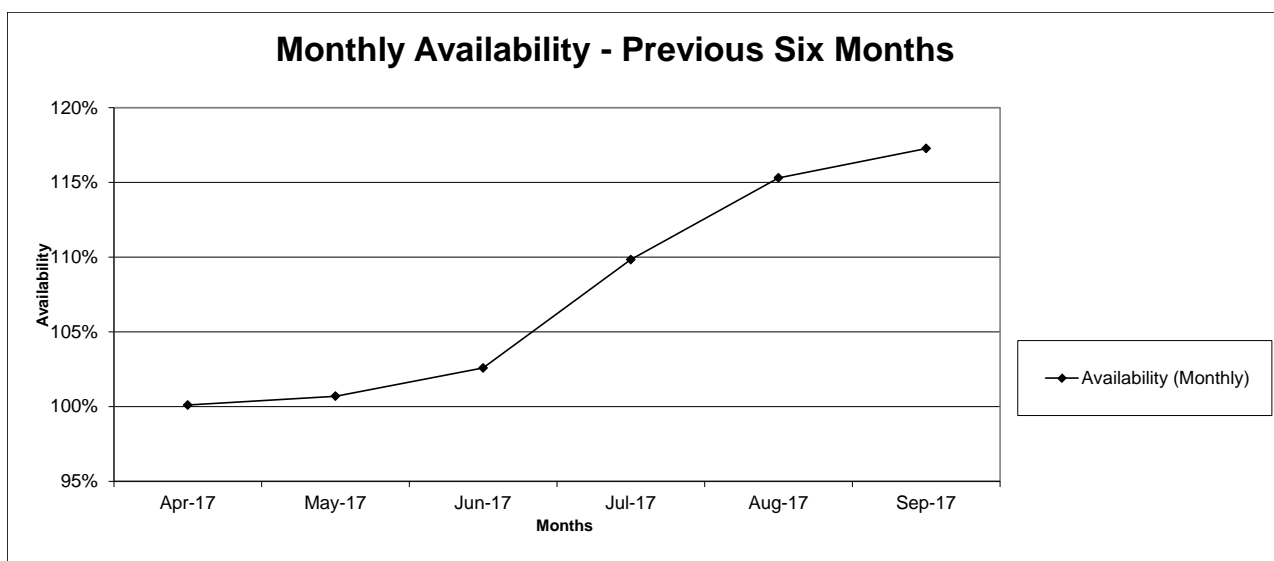
Graph No. 1 – Monthly Waste Delivery – Previous Six Months

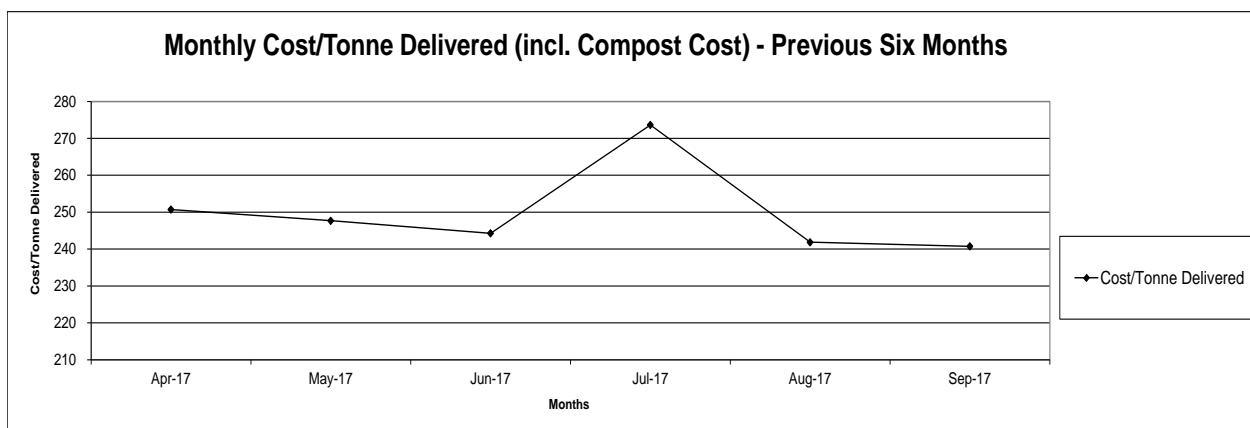
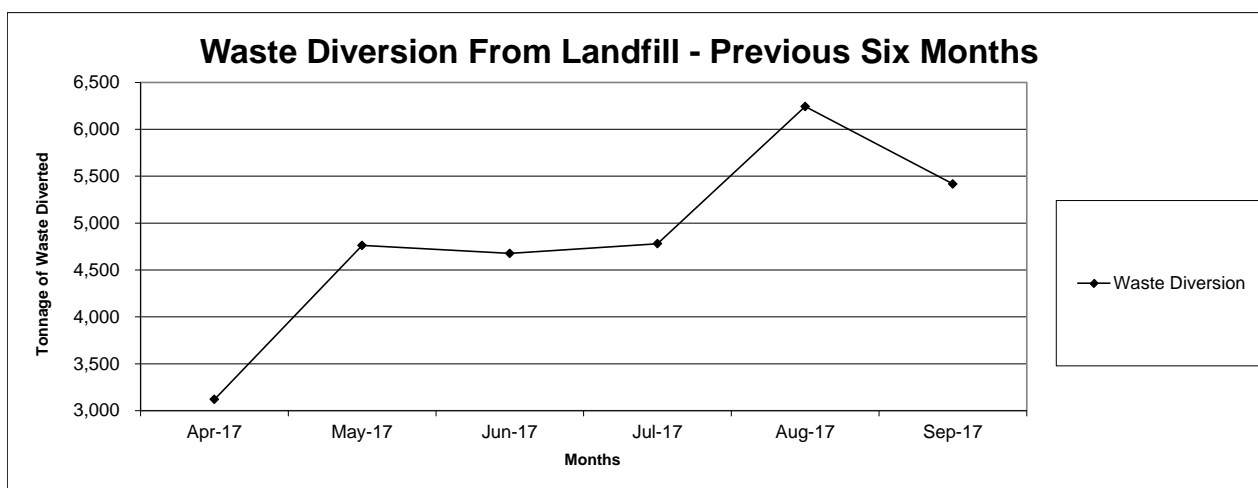


Graph No. 2 – Waste Delivery & Diversion – Previous Six Months



Graph No. 3 – Monthly Availability – Previous Six Months



Graph No. 4 – Monthly Cost/tonne Delivered (incl. Compost Cost) – Previous Six Months**Graph No. 5 – Waste Diversion from Landfill – Previous Six Months**

Performance Indicators

KPI's as per the RRFA are as follows:

Table No. 1 – KPI Summary (to 30 September 2017)

KPI	Target	Previous 6 Months	Aug	Sep
Availability*	95%	108.7%	115%	117%
Environmental Standard - Number of Breaches	0	0	0	0
Waste Diversion	51.3%	53.0%	58.8%	55.0%
Quality of Compost - Number of Breaches**	0	0	0	0
Quantity of Recyclable Packaging ***	1.2%	1.1%	23.99%	0.94%
Health and Safety - Number of LTI's	0	0	0	0
Community Acceptance - Number of Complaints ****	0	0	0	0
Project Culture - PAG Chairperson Score	100	100	100	100

* The Target Availability during the Initial Operating Period is to achieve an Availability of greater than 95% over a six-month period.

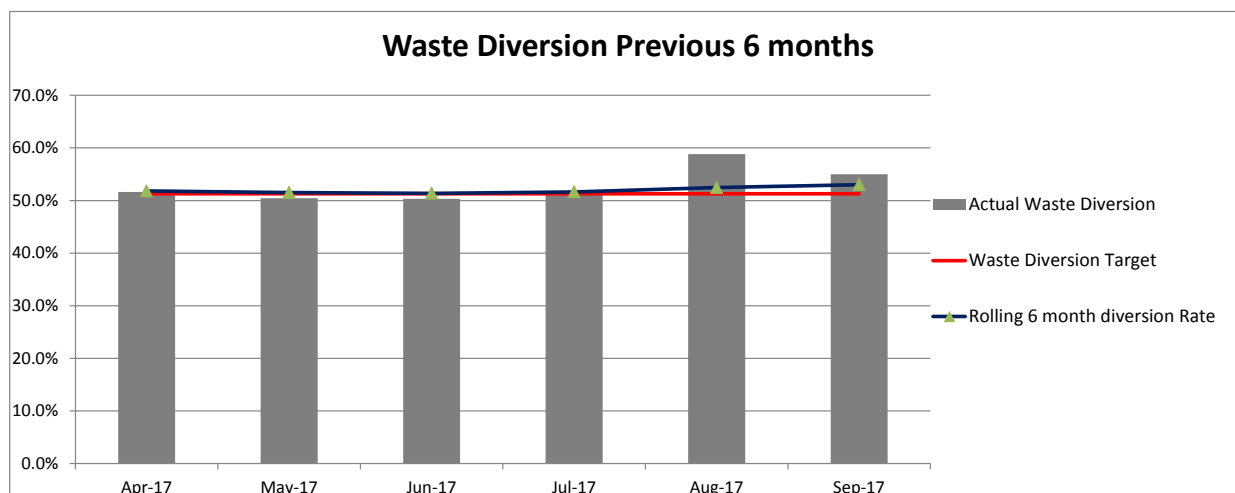
** The compost standard within the RRFA was amended by the revisions to the RRFA approved by Council at its meeting of 6 December 2012 and signed under common seal in May 2013.

*** Financial impacts of the KPI were removed by the revisions to the RRFA approved by Council at its meeting of 6 December 2012 and signed under common seal in May 2013. Ferrous diversion has recommenced.

**** Numerous complaints relating to a single event are treated as a single complaint. Biofilter odour is not registered as a complaint as this is seen as a normal operating odour condition.

Waste Diversion

The average waste diversion for the past six months (April 2017 to September 2017) has been 53.0%.



Project Advisory Group (PAG) as at 24 October 2017

MRC Representatives:

Cr Dot Newton JP
 Brian Callander (CEO)
 Gunther Hoppe
 Cr Samantha Jenkinson (Deputy)

BioVision Representatives:

Craig Barker
 Emmanuel Vivant
 Nial Stock
 Alan Turner (Alternate)

Chairperson:

Ian Watkins

The PAG last met on 11 October 2017.

Items dealt with by the group included:

- Scheduled one week shutdown of the facility from 13 November for maintenance
- The possibility of an amendment to the Deed of Guarantee to address member council exposure
- BioVision Monthly Report/Update
- Compost stockpiling

Copies of the meeting minutes are distributed to the Strategic Working Group members and all MRC Councillors following the meetings.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Operational Expenditure

The Project Operational Summary below sets out the 2017/18 facility operating budget against which operational costs are tracked throughout the year. The variance over budget is as a result of the additional tonnes put through the facility during the year.

Project Operational Costs Summary for 2017/18 Financial Year – for the period ended 30 September 2017

Mindarie Regional Council OPERATING STATEMENT For the month ended 30 September 2017					
Description	Adopted Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	\$ Remaining Bal of Budget	% Balance
Resource Recovery Facility					
Operating Expenditure					
Employee Costs					
Salaries	-	-	-	-	
Allowances	-	-	-	-	
Workers Compensation Premium	-	-	-	-	
Consultants and Contract Labour					
Consultancy	15,000	-	-	15,000	100.00%
Contract Labour External	-	-	-	-	
	15,000	-	-	15,000	100.00%
Office Expenses					
Cleaning of Buildings					
General cleaning	8,000	1,998	1,440	6,560	82.01%
Window cleaning	3,500	873	1,105	2,395	68.44%
	11,500	2,871	2,544	8,956	77.88%
Information System Expenses					
Computer System Maintenance					
ICT contractors costs	2,000	-	-	2,000	100.00%
Newcastle Weighing Services-Gen Maintenance	6,000	1,500	2,606	3,394	56.56%
Vertical Telecom P/L-Maint of Microwave Ant	6,000	1,500	1,281	4,719	78.65%
	14,000	3,000	3,887	10,113	72.23%
Building Maintenance					
Building Maintenance					
Airconditioning Maintenance	3,000	750	129	2,871	95.70%
Community Education Centre	2,000	525	525	1,475	73.77%
Weighbridge and Calibration	7,500	-	-	7,500	100.00%
Building Security					
Security - Monitoring	-	-	173	(173)	
Security - Alarm maintenance	-	-	-	-	
Security - call out	-	-	-	-	
	12,500	1,275	826	11,674	93.39%
RRF Operation Expenses					
Fencing and Gate Maintenance					
Fencing and Gate Maintenance	9,000	9,000	10,057	(1,057)	(11.74%)
Repair of Boom Gate	-	-	-	-	
Road Maintenance	5,000	-	-	5,000	100.00%
Bores and Pipework					
Bore maint/calibration/electronics	4,500	3,100	3,091	1,409	31.30%
Groundwater sampling	2,500	-	-	2,500	100.00%
Bacteria sampling	1,000	-	-	1,000	100.00%
Vermin control	500	-	-	500	100.00%
Spills/leaks/incident management	500	-	-	500	100.00%
Vehicle Wash Facility Operations	-	-	-	-	
Landscaping and Gardens	6,000	1,543	2,305	3,885	61.59%
Compost Disposal	489,000	122,250	111,200	377,800	77.26%
Contractor's Fees	26,325,000	6,844,500	7,387,251	18,937,749	71.94%
RRF Maintenance Funding	250,000	-	-	250,000	100.00%
	27,093,000	6,980,393	7,513,904	19,579,096	72.27%
Utilities					
Electricity	10,500	2,625	8,400	2,100	20.00%
Rates	108,000	27,000	25,927	82,073	75.99%
	118,500	29,625	34,327	84,173	71.03%
Insurance					
Municipal Property Insurance	3,500	873	795	2,705	77.28%
Public Liability Insurance	5,650	1,411	1,194	4,456	78.87%
	9,150	2,284	1,989	7,161	78.26%
Cost of Borrowings					
Interest on Loans					
Loan 10A	62,976	16,549	16,549	46,427	73.72%
Loan 10B	-	-	-	-	
Loan 10C	-	-	-	-	
Loan 11	471	471	471	-	0.00%
Loan Expenses	-	-	-	-	
	63,447	17,020	17,020	46,427	73.17%
Amortisations					
Amortisation Pre-operating Costs	104,700	26,175	26,175	78,525	75.00%
Amortisation Costs	386,648	96,660	96,660	289,988	75.00%
	491,348	122,835	122,835	368,513	75.00%
Depreciation					
Depreciation on Building	23,604	5,901	6,281	17,323	73.39%
Depreciation on Infrastructure	27,600	6,900	6,674	20,926	75.82%
	51,204	12,801	12,955	38,249	74.70%
Total Operating Expenditure	27,879,649	7,172,104	7,710,287	20,148,436	72.27%
Net Total	(27,879,649)	(7,172,104)	(7,710,287)	(20,148,436)	72.27%

COMMUNICATIONS AND EDUCATION REPORT	
File No:	WST/178-02
Attachment(s):	Nil
Date:	24 October 2017
Responsible Officer:	Education Manager

Communication and Education Report – July/August 2017

The Mindarie Regional Council's (MRC) Education Team's focus is on Winning Back Waste through community engagement within the region. The main objectives are to:

- act as an advocate for change at all levels,
- improve community awareness and understanding of waste issues,
- encourage a reduce, reuse, recycle and dispose wisely ethos and behaviours associated with this,
- encourage engagement on many levels to have waste dealt with as high on the waste hierarchy as is practicable,
- promote infrastructure solutions as integral to the aim of diverting waste from landfill.

This is largely done through the provision of:

- the Earth Carer community outreach program ,
- facility tours,
- visits to schools and community groups to deliver workshops and talks,
- displays within the community (including shopping centres, libraries, fairs and events),
- messaging through a broad range of communications and advertising channels, and
- special projects/programs to facilitate greater community participation in recycling and waste disposal initiatives.

The Team works closely with:

- the Member Councils through the region's Waste Education Strategic Steering Group (WESSG) to support the councils by assisting them in delivering their waste messages and in providing programs to enable improved recycling and waste disposal outcomes to the community, and,
- the State and National Waste Educator Groups (WMAA-WA WEWG / WENG and NWED) which include representatives from the other Regional Councils, Local Governments, WALGA, Waste Wise Schools, KABWA, Waste Authority and a variety of other members (government/community/business) interested in waste issues.



The MRC recognises that waste has a value as a resource and is committed to managing waste in line with the waste hierarchy and diverting waste from landfill.

This report will look to summarise the education activity for the months of July and August 2017.

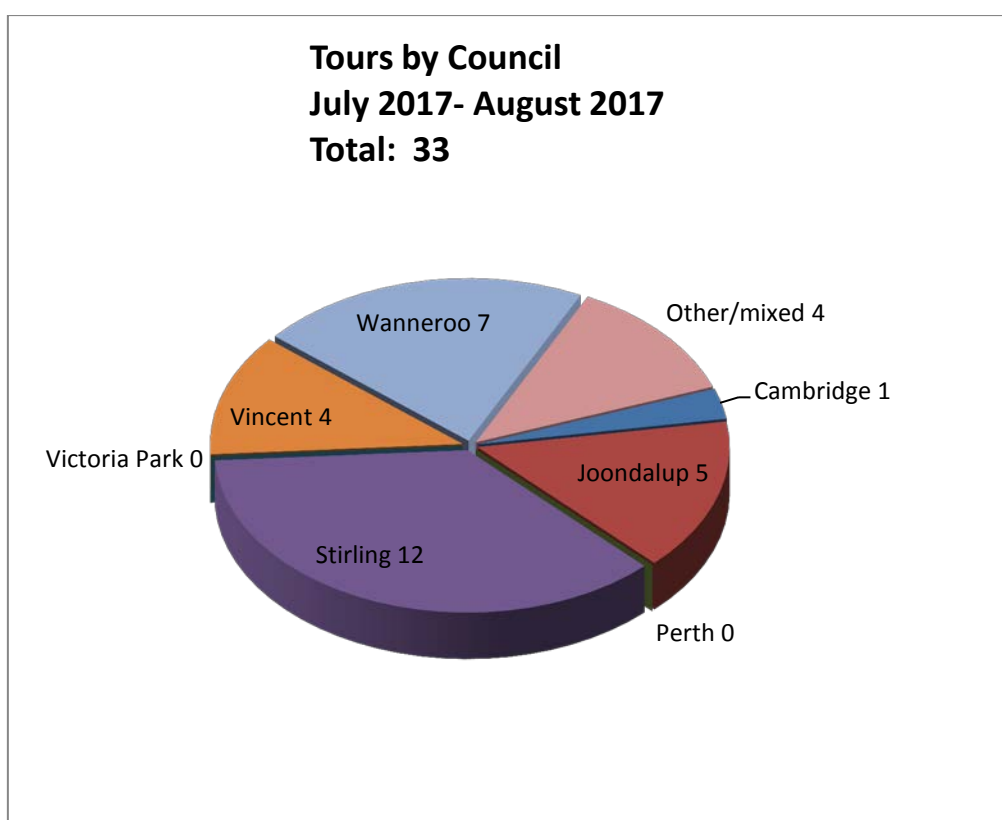
Community Engagement

Tours

The tours of the MRC facilities (Tamala Park and Resource Recovery Facility) are run on request Monday to Saturday and are popular with people of all age groups and from all walks of life. The duration of each tour ranges from one to three hours depending on the requirement of the group attending.

During the July-August period **33 tours** took place with **807 people** viewing the facilities and learning about how we deal with waste.

Of the tours 25 in this reporting period took in Tamala Park with 5 visiting the RRF and a further 4 took in both sites.



TOURS BY GROUP	
	Number
Business	1
Community	5
Schools	25
Out of School	0
Tertiary	2
TOTAL	33

Schools that visited the facilities during this period included: Bold Park PS, Mindarie Senior College, Dryandra Primary School, Quinns Rocks Primary School, Kinross College, John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School, Kyilla Primary School, St James School, Glendale Primary School, St Stephens School, Churchlands Senior High School, Seven Oaks Senior College, Highgate Primary School, Holy Cross College, Our Lady of Good Counsel Primary School.



The feedback given about these tours continues to report a high level of participant satisfaction with them being described as very informative. The tours don't just point out operational aspects of the sites but discuss the 'story of waste', engaging people in how the Waste Hierarchy works and discuss behaviours that create the best outcomes. People are continually amazed at how a 'trip to the tip' can be such an eye opener and be very enjoyable.

Roaming Recycler Waste Education Display

This time of year is relatively quiet one for community events. The MRC took part in 4 events held over 5 days. These events were:

- Two ECU open days at the Joondalup and Mount Lawley campuses
- Science Fair at Convention Centre (two days)
- Sustainability Expo at Mindarie College

At each of these a display was set up focussing on the theme of the event.

Visits, Talks and Workshops

Talks and visits to schools and community groups remains a focus of the MRC education team. The topics of these talks and visits vary according to the group but the sessions mainly focus on three main areas:

- Organics – composting and worm farming
- The bin system – what goes in what bin
- Waste Hierarchy – reduce, reuse, recycle and dispose wisely.

The duration of the sessions range from an hour through to a full day and, in the case of schools, may be for single classes or for the whole school.

VISITS/TALKS	
	Number
Cambridge	0
Joondalup	8
Perth	3
Stirling	18
Victoria Park	0
Vincent	2
Wanneroo	11
Other	1
TOTAL	43

TYPES OF TALKS	
	Number
Battery assembly	1
Composting, worms & gardens	21
Nude Your Food	0
Waste & recycling	20
Waste Audit	2
TOTAL	43

Schools

The MRC provides a number of services to enhance a school's curriculum, these include: tours talks, workshops and activities can be tailored to meet the individual requirements of the school.

The MRC Education Team have continued to developing a closer working relationship with Waste Wise Schools with the purpose of delivering a broader and more consistent waste education program into schools throughout the region.

In 2017 the MRC is delivering the **Waste Wise Schools** program into MRC schools and advise how schools can become waste wise schools and access funds to assist with development of waste related projects. Through this partnership the Region's schools are being offered a superior waste education program with ongoing local support.

MRC are also assisting the City of Stirling to promote their 3 bin system by targeting schools within the city and presenting talks/workshops to students, teachers and parents

on 'what goes into what bin?' Students are all given take home material describing the 3 bin system in an effort to spread the message.

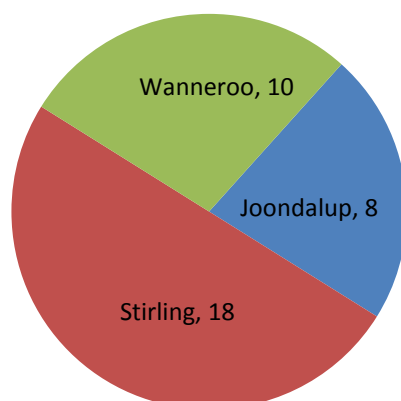


Please sort your waste correctly and help us to achieve our target of 65% waste diversion from landfill by 2020.

Visits to Child Care centres have increased in the last year with the Centres looking to enhance the environmental and sustainability education programs they do with the children.

These visits aim to not only foster an interest in waste for the youngsters but also to connect with educators and to a different parent group.

Visits To Schools and Day Care Centres by Council (July - August 2017)



Name of schools visited: East Wanneroo Primary School, Newborough Primary School, Our Lady's Assumption, Osborne Primary School, St John's School, Balcatta Primary School, Coolbinia Primary School, Woodlands Primary School, St Mary's Anglican Girls' School, Banksia Montessori School and Hale School.

Earth Carers

August saw the next group of Earth Carers commence the training course.. This course proved very popular having to close registration early with over 40 registrations and an eventual 34 participants.

Interested people in the course who missed out have been carried forward to the 2018 courses whilst others applied for the WMRC course which will be held later in the year.



The Earth Carers are seen as long term valued people interested in waste and spreading a 'Waste Less' message. Since 2008 over 400 people have completed the MRC Earth Carer training courses and of them 345 are still active, a good retention rate. Two training courses are held each year, one in March and the other in August.

On completion of the course the MRC Earth Carers continue to meet and engage with the community. A number of Earth Carers link in with Community Garden groups, Transition Towns and other groups of like minded people. These provide very fertile grounds for information exchange and promoting waste wise messages.

The MRC maintains contact after the course, with Earth Carers assisting at events on an MRC stall, in schools, and through on going workshops we offer. Earth Carers are very important ambassadors for a responsible waste message as they have credibility with friends and neighbours we could not hope to maintain.

July is the month of Plastic Free July. Many Earth Carers take up the challenge and try to reduce the amount of plastic they use. MRC broadly advertises this month to the community encouraging participation.



Workshops and displays were held throughout the community to discuss the problem with plastics and to show practical ways which plastics could be reduced or replaced.



Some MRC Earth Carers are involved in producing **Boomerang Bags**. They regularly attended the Education Centre at Tamala Park and using material from the shop at Recycling produced bags to distribute into the community.

The idea behind these bags is to reduce the use of single use plastic shopping bags.





Every second year, of which 2017 is one, an **Advanced Earth Carers** course is to enable keen Earth Carers to refresh their knowledge and to upskill themselves on the world of waste. This year 24 Earth Carers enrolled. The Advanced course requiring the participants to complete a waste related project, this to encourage them to be actively involved in promoting waste reduction messages.



Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Dispose Wisely

There are many items that the MRC and the Member Councils no longer want residents to put in any of the verge collection bins (green, yellow or red). A number of programs have been set up in the Region to help dispose of these items effectively.

In July CoW promoted to their residents a Whitegoods disposal weekend at Tamala Park. Although residents can dispose of these items, for free, at Tamala Park at anytime these sort of events prompt people into action. Not only was there a large quantity of whitegoods disposed of that weekend but residents became aware of other services available at the Tamala Park site.

Asbestos, free drop off to residents (no commercials) commenced every weekend, changing from the last Sunday of the month. This to provide a more accessible service to the public.



Tamala Park is now collecting **Polystyrene** and sending it off for recycling. The amount of this product collected at both the Recycling Centre and Transfer Station has exceeded expectations. with over 10.5 tonnes being dropped off by the end of June (that is a LOT of polystyrene).

Tamala Park and Balcatta have both joined the Paintback program, where both private and commercial customers can dispose of up to 100 litres of **paint** at a time. This is a new industry funded initiative with in the past only householders being able to dispose of 20 litres at a time under the Waste Authority funded Household Hazardous Waste program.



E-waste continues to be targeted as a highly recyclable waste stream and one which residents have shown a willingness to dispose of in ways other than in the bin or verge collection if given convenient alternatives.

E-waste is collected for free on a permanent basis at the recycling centres of Tamala Park and Balcatta.

Battery Program

Batteries from school and community bins continued to be collected in large numbers. Importantly most of these batteries previously would have gone into the household green top wheelie-bin then to the RRF and the chemicals contained within ultimately into the compost. However large quantities of batteries are bought and disposed of and although the MRC is collecting and recycling tonnes of batteries it is only the tip of the iceberg.

The battery program is particularly important to MRC operations in that batteries have shown themselves to be the cause of many of the landfill fires at Tamala Park and they are still a significant problem at the RRF – providing a source of metals contamination.

The schools battery program continues to grow. The schools find it is a good way to engage students in a meaningful recycling program. From an MRC point of view it offers collection sites throughout the community and unlike the public battery collection bins the school ones are generally free of contamination.

The MRC has 86 schools in the program.

Suburb	Number
Joondalup	36
Wanneroo	33
Perth	1
Cambridge	7
Vic Park	3
Vincent	6

A battery assembly was held at Mullaloo Heights PS to launch battery recycling into the school.

Term 3 2017 School league table shows the top 30 schools to be:

MRC School Battery Program Total Batteries collected by Schools (kgs), Term 1, 2 & 3, 2017					
Rank	Place	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Total
1	Sorrento Primary School	138	81	79	298
2	Carramar Primary School	32	110	27	169
3	East Butler Primary School	32	69	63	164
4	Hillarys Primary School	77	68	16	161
5	Kinross Primary School	64	68	26	158
6	Mullaloo Beach Primary School	42	37	72	151
7	Greenwood Primary School	51	35	24	110
8	Mercy College	40	13	48	101
9	Duncraig Primary School	36	46	17	99
10	Marmion Primary School	25	32	42	99
11	Halidon Primary School	41	32	18	91
12	St Marks Anglican Community School	32	7	28	67
13	Pearsall Primary School	20	16	29	65
14	Padbury Catholic Primary School	14	11	27	52
15	Glengarry Primary School	12	12	25	49
16	Lake Joondalup Baptist College	22	11	15	48
17	Edgewater Primary School	27	10	10	47
18	North Woodvale Primary School2	19	14	14	47
19	Peter Moyes Anglican Community College	7	3	34	44
20	Mount Hawthorn Primary School	19	10	13	42
21	Quinns Rocks Primary School	9	20	12	41
22	Al-Hidayah Islamic School	16	7	15	38
23	Irene McCormack Catholic College		36	2	38
24	Poynter Primary School	13	19	5	37
25	Wanneroo Primary School	0.5	34	1	35.5
26	Quinns Baptist College	10	11	13	34
27	School of Special Educational Needs Disability (SSEND)	15	8	10	33
28	Craigie Heights Primary School	10	17	5	32
29	Landsdale Primary School	17	8	7	32
30	St Anthony's School	14	8	7	29

City of Stirling operates its own schools battery program and their figures are not included here.

To further assist residents to dispose of problematic products:

Cfls/fluoros

Are collected at a variety of stations in the Towns of Cambridge and Victoria Park and the Cities of Joondalup, Perth, Vincent and Wanneroo

Mobile phones and Ink cartridges

Are collected at a variety of stations in the Towns of Cambridge and Victoria Park and the City of Wanneroo. The City of Joondalup are installing new recycling stations, including these items, in the next financial year.

No Glass in Green top bin

The campaign to divert glass from the green top bin to reduce glass contamination in the organic soil conditioner produce at the RRF continued through these months with messaging on the CoW waste trucks and outdoor advertising on bus backs and bus shelters commencing.

Twenty buses out of the Joondalup bus station carried the No Glass message.



Twenty bus shelters on major arterial roads throughout the Region had No Glass posters installed. These remained in place for a two week period after which they were relocated to a different set of bus shelters, increasing the exposure.

These shelters coupled with the bus backs presented high visibility into the community of this campaign.





WESSG

The Waste Education Strategic Steering Group (WESSG) meets at the end of each month. These meetings continue to be an important forum for exchanging ideas and keeping everyone updated on happenings associated with waste within the Member Councils. The Group has been invaluable in providing networking opportunity for its participants. People aren't confined to council boundaries so being aware of what is happening elsewhere is important in delivering messages to the community.

The importance of **Regional messaging** remains on the agenda as does the Group's role in dealing with regional waste issues. Many events and activities within the Region occur regularly with WESSG playing an important role in streamlining communications, messaging and coordination between both the MRC and the Member Councils and the Member Councils themselves. This is to share the load and get best value for the Region, including looking at ways to improve waste diversion figures for the Region.

Event planning, Compost in May, Plastic Free July, Garage Sale Trail, e-waste and HHW events, public place recycling initiatives and clothes drop off days have all been discussed at the meetings. Current issues of common interest have been multi-unit developments, illegal dumping and public place recycling.

The MRC has long had an education focus on the waste hierarchy, particularly the higher levels of reduce, reuse and recycle, encouraging people to think first before they dispose to ensure they put their waste in the best place for it to be efficiently dealt with.



The MRC is currently developing a new campaign to highlight the importance of the **waste hierarchy** and use it to explain to residents why they are seeing all these changes to the way waste is being dealt with by their councils. This use of the waste hierarchy is also being seen as a way to successfully socialise the use of waste infrastructure and possible Energy from Waste (EfW) solutions as a future option.

Taking the old waste hierarchy, explaining that the lower levels are the least preferred levels of waste management and the higher levels most preferred.



Our efforts should be focused on the top levels, minimising the waste coming through to the lower levels, to landfill (dispose) in particular.



It is anticipated that this new Regional education campaign will be launched early in the next financial year (2017/2018).

Waste Educators

The MRC education team participates in the State Waste Educators Working Groups (WEWG/WENG) which include representatives from the other Regional Councils, Local Governments, WALGA, Waste Wise Schools, KABWA, Waste Authority and a variety of other members (government/community/business) interested in waste issues.

This group meets monthly to share ideas, programs and resources. It is WMAA-WA most active working groups.

Every year the group has promoted into their communities events like Compost in May, Garage Sale Trail, Plastic Free July and Recycling Week. The group has a site at the Perth Royal Show to promote 'waste less' messages and is involved in projects like e-waste recycling, HHW and battery/fluoro recycling programs.

The group for 2016 looked at developing resources and a campaign to target nappies and their correct disposal, many of which are disposed of incorrectly in the recycling bin. The campaign also focused on reducing the number of disposable nappies which totals millions each year in Australia. The MRC played a significant role in identifying nappies as an issue of concern across the metro area and encouraged all the other regional councils to band together to trial a joint campaign, something which is not done often enough.

This year the group has been looking at 'Illegal Dumping' and 'Food waste'.



