

Date:	17/09/2025
Location:	Tamala Park



OMKSWG Minutes

Odour Management Key Stakeholder
Working Group (MRC)

Date of meeting:	Wednesday 17 September 2025
Location:	Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) Administration
	Tamala Park
Attendance:	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
	Environmental Supervisor (ES)
	Operations Coordinator (OC)
	Communications Specialist (CS)
	Environmental Officer (EO)
Apologies:	Data Assistance Officer (DA)
	Executive Manager Operations (EMO)
Minutes released:	23 October 2025
Reference:	GF-25-0000046

1. Previous meeting minutes

Review and approve/make necessary amendments to the minutes taken at the previous OMKSWG meeting:

Detail	Status
Previous meeting's minutes to be approved by all in attendance	Approved by all in attendance

2. Operational updates

MRC operational updates relating to odour management

2.1. Landfill operations

Detail	Status
Any changes to day-to-day landfill operations which are relevant to odour management (active working area, cells, levels, compacting, cover, etc.)	Ongoing/ Completed
Landfilling continues at RL51, but landfilling is now taking place further south. Daily cover of limestone at end of each day's operations. Additional cover being applied to areas which have reached their final height to aid rainwater runoff and aid landfill gas collection.	Ongoing
EcoSorb and zeolite continues to be used as appropriate and required. Additional applications of EcoSorb and zeolite being used in areas where odours considered likely to impact the community are present.	Ongoing
Landfill operations staff observe incredibly wet weather over this winter, which aligns with data from BOM (wettest winter in Perth metro area since 1996). However, conditions on the landfill surface have been significantly better than in previous years (especially winter 2024), helped by winter landfill measures employed in the autumn.	Complete
Mister unit now being used to mitigate odours in areas identified for mitigation by the Independent Odour Consultant. EcoSorb being used in the feed for the mister as appropriate.	Ongoing

2.2. Landfill infrastructure

Detail	Status
Any changes/updates in the installation or review of infrastructure on the landfill (new wells, pipelines, leachate evaporation, etc.)	Ongoing/ Completed
An assessment by the Independent Odour Consultant has suggested wider use of spray-on intermediate cover could deliver positive odour mitigation elsewhere on the landfill. Plans in place to apply more of this material in area where landfilling operations are due to finish in a month's time.	Ongoing
Areas suitable for additional applications of 'spray-on intermediate cover' are being identified.	Ongoing
Infiltration basin performing well in collecting rainfall which has fallen on the capped western portion of the landfill.	Ongoing
20,000sqm of HDPE rainfall barriers remain in place on the eastern portion of the landfill. As noted last month, these have performed well and diverted considerable amounts of rainwater away from the landfill. Discussions currently underway within operations about how these barriers will be used during summer (if at all) noting their dual purpose of diverting rainwater and suppressing landfill gas egress.	Ongoing

2.3. Other operations

Detail	Status
Any other operational updates not covered above which is relevant to odour management	Ongoing/ Completed
No other relevant updates.	

3. Odour management/environmental updates

Updates on the management and mitigation of odours at Tamala Park

3.1. Landfill gas/LFG power station

Detail	Status
Any updates/changes to the management of landfill gas and/or the LFG power station	Ongoing/ Completed
Landfill gas power station operator is working with independent consultancy on opportunities identified for	Ongoing

improving the landfill gas collection network in line with EPN item number 5.	
September meeting with LFG power station operator	Complete
Additional installations of landfill gas collection points under the temporary rainfall barrier are now complete. Theory that temporary rainfall barrier is restricting (smothering) landfill gas egress from the landfill surface, and concentrating landfill gas odours at the edges of the barrier has been confirmed by increased extraction at these points, through the new infrastructure. This addresses a odour source identified by the Independent Odour Consultant during the last on-site odour assessment.	Complete
LFG power station operator is now providing more granular data on LFG well extraction points, allowing MRC to assess the effectiveness recent works on the landfill to prevent rainfall ingress and lessen odour emissions.	Ongoing
MRC operations experimenting with an alternative installation method for horizontal 'sacrificial' landfill gas extraction pipelines. This involves laying a pipe as daily landfilling is taking place (among the day's waste). This avoids invasive and – potentially – odorous trenching which had been required previously. It could take 2-3 months before the effectiveness of this method becomes clear.	Ongoing
MRC, alongside the operator of the LFG power station have begun planning for installation of next round of permanent vertical gas wells in the central part of the landfill.	Ongoing

3.2. Leachate management

Detail	Status
Any updates/changes to the management of leachate	Ongoing/ Completed
Response from DWER to EPN item number 1 has authorised a 'staged approach' to recommencing leachate evaporation at Tamala Park, subject to conditions. This is essential to managing leachate and minimising the impact of leachate on landfill gas collection. MRC now looking at options for leachate evaporation on the working landfill, representing a return to <i>business as usual</i>	Ongoing

maintenance-level leachate evaporation, as was carried out at Tamala Park prior to February 2023. This will be inline with the leachate management plan developed in collaboration with DWER.	
Weekly monitoring of landfill batters to identify and prevent leachate 'seepage' (DWER EPN item 2) as part of day-to-day landfill operations. Excessive rainfall over the winter period has made this work challenging.	Ongoing
Pumps have been deployed on the surface of the temporary rainfall barriers to move rainwater (which the barriers are collecting) off the landfill. This prevents rainfall from seeping into the landfill surface and becoming leachate.	Ongoing
Reinjection of leachate into suitable areas of the landfill continues as part of the leachate management plan endorsed by the regulator (DWER)	Ongoing

3.3. Trials for odour management

Detail	Status
Notes on ongoing trials of new tech, methods, products etc.	Ongoing/ Completed
MRC is liaising with a specialist in thermal imaging which could identify 'hot spots' associated with landfill gas egress. This could aid odour management measures in future.	Ongoing

3.4. Reports, investigations and surveys

Detail	Status
Updates on internal or external reports, surveys and investigations	Ongoing/ Completed
Work towards real time monitoring of landfill gas has now passed the procurement phase and the investigations are expected to be complete by the end of September	Ongoing
Conclusions of the Independent Odour Consultant's recent report (late July) suggested that both the temporary rainfall barriers (TeRBs) and the spray-on intermediate cover on the landfill batters have been effective and that more of the same would be beneficial.	Complete
Plans are now underway to do so (see section 2.2)	

MRC has received a report prepared by a consultant on behalf of the landfill gas power station operator (EDL) which may identify further measures to control landfill gas egress from the open landfill area. The findings of this report are being actioned, along EDL.	Ongoing
MRC now looking at options for leachate evaporation on the working landfill, representing a return to <i>business as usual</i> maintenance-level leachate evaporation, as was carried out at Tamala Park prior to February 2023.	Ongoing
This will be inline with the leachate management plan developed in collaboration with DWER.	

3.5. Regulatory

Detail	Status
Updates on anything relating to regulators or external agencies which govern activities on site (such as DWER)	Ongoing/ Completed
Environmental Protection Notice (EPN) from regulator (DWER) received by MRC on 28 November 2024. This followed period of consultation between MRC and DWER. 11 items in total. All relevant items (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10) are now complete. Further discussions following MRC reports to DWER are ongoing and will likely continue.	Ongoing
MRC receiving monthly report from DWER detailing number of odour reports received by the regulator. This is a reciprocal arrangement.	Ongoing
Response from DWER to EPN item number 1 has authorised a 'staged approach' to recommencing leachate evaporation at Tamala Park, subject to conditions. See section 3.2	Ongoing
MRC met with DWER on 3 September, 9 September and will meet with the regulator a further time on 19 September. These meetings are to discuss current works approval applications which would allow MRC to manage leachate in	Ongoing

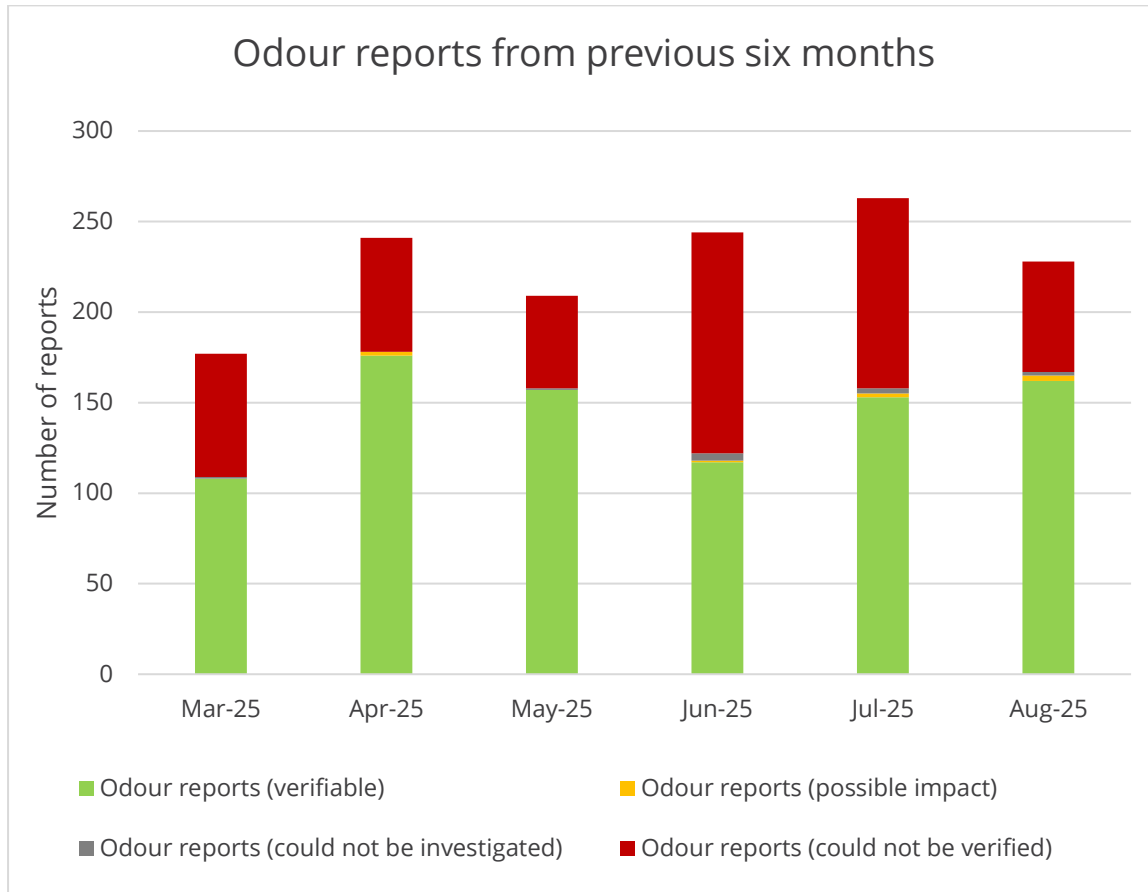
line with standard best practice in Western Australia and allow the landfill to be closed in alignment with the VIC Best Practice Environmental Management guidelines.	
MRC has held discussions in recent meetings regarding the level of public-facing communications which MRC has committed to on the subject of odour. MRC provided data regarding the number of updates and frequency at which this information was accessed by the general public through the MRC website. DWER welcomed this update and these initiatives.	Complete

4. Odour reports

4.1. Reports from the previous calendar month

The following is an overview of the information recorded by MRC in relation to odour reports received from the community for **August 2025**.

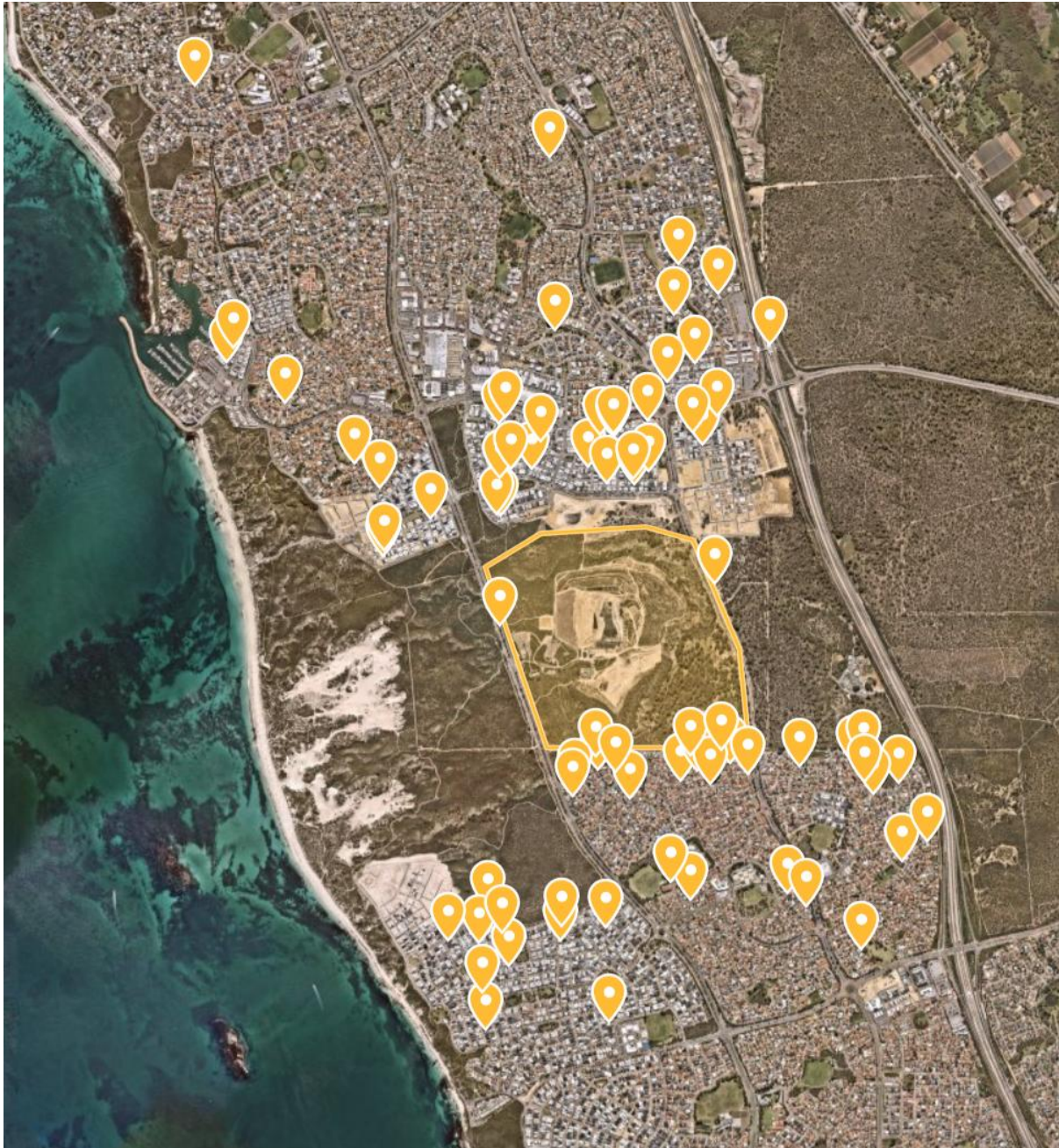
Reports	Number
Total number of reports received	228
<i>Of which</i> impact from Tamala Park could be verified by climatic data	162
<i>Of which</i> impact from Tamala Park was possible (but not verifiable) based on climatic data	3
<i>Of which</i> impact from Tamala Park could not be investigated due to lack of data provided in report	2
<i>Of which</i> impact could not be verified by climatic data	61
Number of reports from a residential address which had not previously reported to MRC	37



4.2. Location of odour report by suburb/area

Suburbs	Number
Clarkson	80
Mindarie	50
Kinross	68
Burns Beach	16
Currambine	9
Illuka	2
Quinns Rocks	1
Data not provided	2
Total number of complaints	228

Map of complaint locations overleaf.



4.3. Description of Odour experienced

When making an odour report through the MRC website, reporters are given the opportunity to describe the smell they experienced. An update of this information, received in the previous month, is outlined below:

Description of Smell	Number
Garbage / Rubbish (Natural gas, Rotten vegetables, garlic, sulphur)	135
Acidic/ Rancid (Sour, vinegar, off-milk)	8
Gas/ Chemical (Rotten Eggs, ammonia, fishy)	56
Burnt/ Smoky (Burnt rubber, exhaust fumes, grilled meat)	5
Sewerage (Faecal, manure, sewery)	7
Putrid (Dead animals, rotting meat)	16
Not described in complaint	0
Other/listed in comments	0
Hydrocarbon/ solvent (Rubbery, plastics, solvents)	0
Sweet (Fruity)	1
Total number of complaints	228

5. Correspondence

Detail	Status
Five pieces of correspondence (relating to odour management) were received from the public and external stakeholders for the month of September. Each received a reply from the CEO or Acting CEO.	Complete

6. MRC communications and community engagement

Communications updates including changes to website, media coverage, guides or procedures for staff, etc.	Ongoing/ Completed
A major update to the information on the odour management page of the MRC website is now complete. This content has been shared with DWER.	Complete

7. Other relevant updates/general discussion

Detail	Status
Anything else which does not fall neatly into one of the above categories	Ongoing/ Completed

The Communications Specialist noted a number of videos/social media posts by candidates for the upcoming local elections which mention Tamala Park and odour.	Complete
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8. Next meeting

The next OMKSWG meeting will be held in October 2025 at Mindarie Regional Council (MRC).