Date:	16 November 2026
Location:	Tamala Park

MINDARIE REGIONAL COUNCIL

OMKSWG Minutes

Odour Management Key Stakeholder Working Group (MRC)

mrc.wa.gov.au

Date of meeting:	Monday 16 November 2026
Location:	Mindarie Regional Council (MRC) Administration
	Tamala Park Waste Management Facility
Attendance:	Operations Manager (OM)
	Environmental Supervisor (ES)
	Operations Supervisor (OS)
	Environmental Officer (EO)
	Communications Specialist (CS)
Apologies:	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
	Executive Manager Corporate Services (EMCS)
Minutes released:	18 November 2026
Reference:	D-26-0010926

1. Previous meeting minutes

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

Detail	Status
Minutes from the previous meeting approved and released on 3 November 2026.	Complete

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
Operations continue across the central portion of the landfill, moving southwards as work continues to bring the central area up to final (capping) profile height. Daily cover of limestone at end of each day's operations.	Ongoing
EcoSorb and zeolite continue to be used as appropriate and required.	Ongoing
The mister unit remains in place on the landfill and is being used – as required – as part of odour management to cover daily landfill operations.	Ongoing
Preparations for the Christmas period are well underway. Stocks of odour management materials (neutralisers and suppressants) and daily cover are good and any works to upgrade LFG or leachate collection infrastructure have been scheduled to complete ahead of the Christmas period.	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
Horizontal landfill gas collection wells continue to be installed as waste is deposited on the landfill, reducing the need for trenching and exposing old waste.	Ongoing

2.3. Other operations

Detail	Status
Any other operational updates not covered above which are relevant to odour management	Ongoing/ Completed
Nil	

3. Odour management/environmental updates

Updates on the management and mitigation of odours at Tamala Park

3.1. Landfill gas (LFG) and LFG power station

Detail	Status
Any updates/changes to the management of landfill gas and/or the LFG power station	Ongoing/ Completed
The October meeting with the operator of the LFG power station took place 21 October. The November meeting will take place later this month.	Ongoing
LFG power station operator is continuing to provide more granular data on LFG well extraction points.	Ongoing

3.2. Leachate management

Detail	Status
Any updates/changes to the management of leachate which is important to improve landfill gas (LFG) extraction	Ongoing/ Completed
Following approval of the application by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER), construction of the leachate storage 'tank farm' – which will sit to the south of the active landfill – is now complete.	Complete

The tank farm is designed to act as a holding area for leachate but does not contribute to its permanent removal or reduction.	
Reinjection of leachate within the landfill continues as an operational measure, with suitable areas identified on an ongoing basis. Reinjection redistributes leachate within the landfill rather than removing it; longer-term leachate management is being addressed through the leachate quantification and removal work required under the Environmental Protection Notice (EPN).	Ongoing
As part of the requirements of the EPN issued in August 2026, MRC is required to 'provide an updated plan to quantify leachate volumes and levels across the premises'. This plan was submitted to DWER on 21 August 2026, within the timeframe specified under the Environmental Protection Notice. DWER provided a preliminary response on 27 October 2026. This response does not approve the plan. MRC continues to engage with DWER on the plan.	Ongoing
As part of the requirements of the EPN issued in August 2026, MRC is required to 'prepare a Leachate Removal Plan to remove leachate from the premises.' The plan was submitted on 14 September 2026, within the timeframe specified under the Environmental Protection Notice. DWER provided a preliminary response on 27 October 2026. This response does not approve the plan. MRC continues to engage with DWER on the plan.	Ongoing

3.3. Trials for odour management

Detail	Status
Notes on ongoing trials of new tech, methods, products etc.	Ongoing/ Completed
Nil.	

3.4. Reports, investigations and surveys

Detail	Status
Updates on internal or external reports, surveys and investigations	Ongoing/ Completed
MRC is undertaking periodic surveys of the landfill to confirm estimates/projections relating to landfilling, compaction rates, sequence plans and usage of cover. Outputs of surveys are used to inform void space modelling, which – in turn – will guide landfill closure projections.	Ongoing
Preparations for an investigation to better understand waste decomposition and moisture levels within the landfill mass by taking 'core samples', are continuing. Moisture levels within the landfill affect landfill gas movement and extraction and are relevant to odour management. Preparations are also progressing for leachate pumping tests, with the results to be independently studied by MRC's consultancy team. The tests will assess leachate levels and movement within the landfill to inform leachate management and closure planning. Outputs from these investigations will inform future landfill closure planning, capping design and associated regulatory submissions.	Ongoing

3.5. Regulatory

Detail	Status
Updates on anything relating to regulators or external agencies which govern activities on site (such as DWER)	Ongoing/ Completed
MRC receives a monthly report from DWER detailing the number of odour reports received by the regulator. This is a reciprocal arrangement.	Ongoing
On 3 August 2026, DWER refused works approval application W3096/2025/1 for the proposed southern piggyback cell and leachate management area.	Ongoing

The piggyback liner would have allowed MRC to bring the landfill up to the final profile for closure, as part of the works required to complete the final closure landform. The leachate management area would have allowed MRC to manage the amount of liquid within the landfill through evaporation, which is a commonly used method for managing leachate volumes. MRC is assessing the operational, environmental and strategic implications of the decision, including potential impacts on landfill closure sequencing, leachate management and ongoing waste disposal services to the seven member local governments. MRC lodged an appeal against the refusal of that application on 24 August 2026.	
DWER issued an Environmental Protection Notice (August 2026) on 3 August 2026. The EPN sets out requirements on MRC which DWER has summarised as follows: 1. Provide an updated plan to quantify leachate volumes and levels across the premises 2. Prepare a Leachate Removal Plan to remove leachate from the premises 3. Provide an updated Landfill Capping and Closure Plan for the premises 4. Implement specified measures to improve the Landfill Gas Extraction System 5. Prepare a report that documents a Surface Water Management Strategy for the premises 6. Provide a geotechnical landfill stability assessment and report compliant with industry standards. MRC lodged an appeal of certain aspects of the EPN on 24 August 2026. Work against the items in the EPN is ongoing, simultaneously.	Ongoing

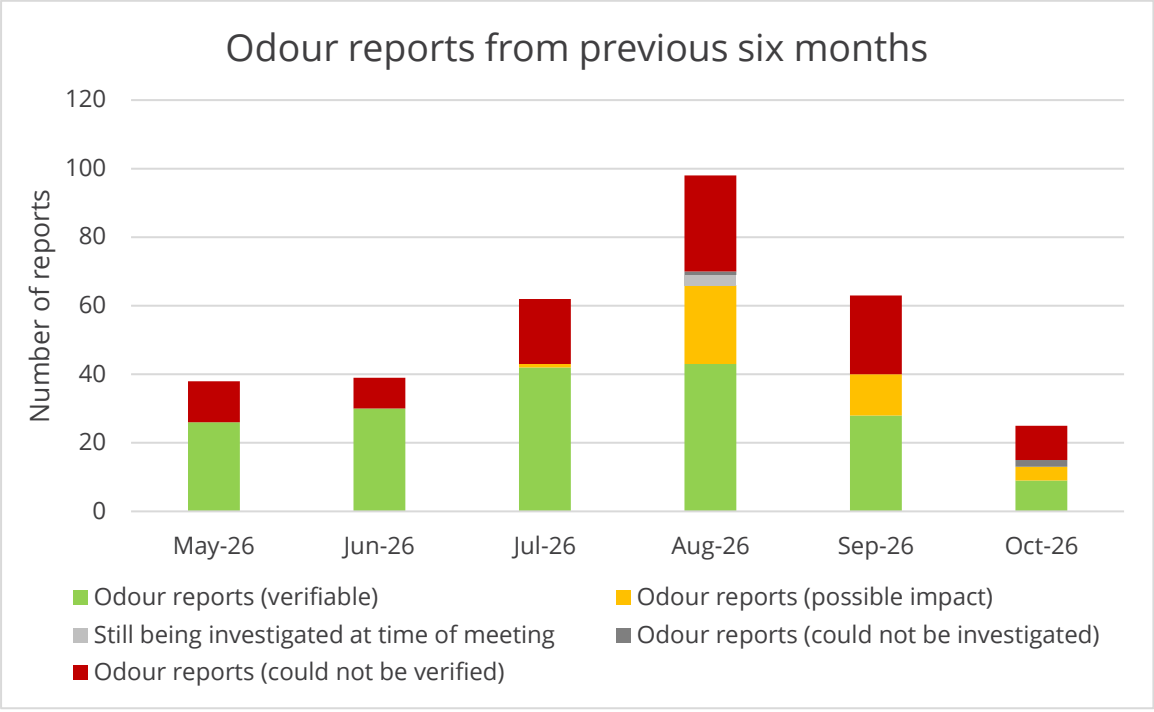
4. Odour reports

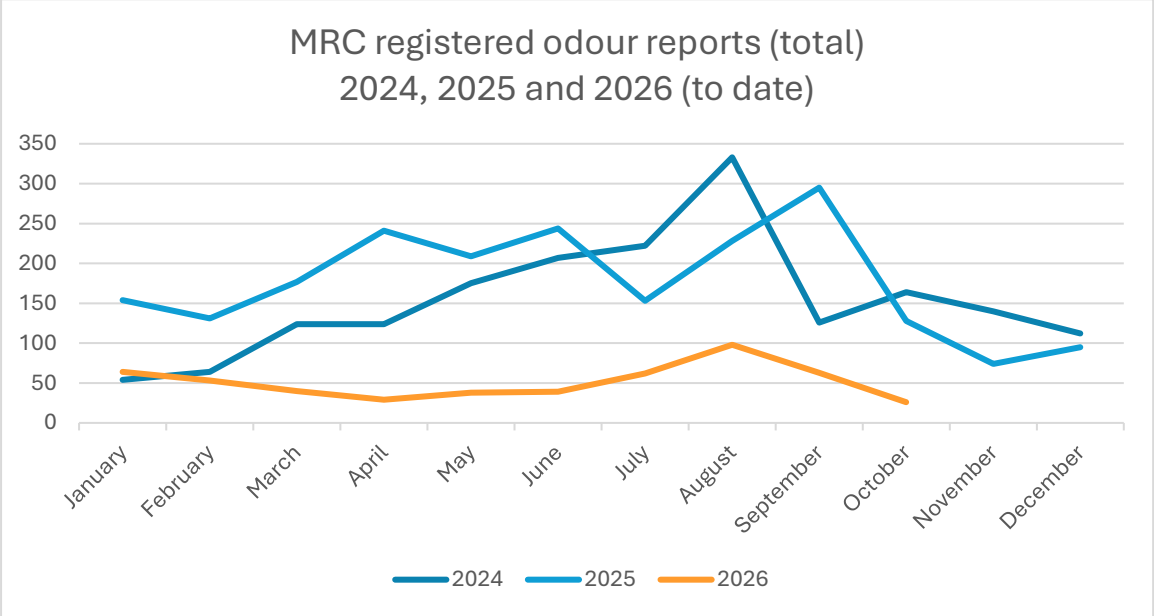
4.1. Reports from the previous calendar month

An overview of odour reports received from the community for **October 2026**.

Reports	Number
Total number of reports received	**25**
Of which impact from Tamala Park could be verified by climatic data	**9**
Of which impact from Tamala Park was possible (but not verifiable) based on climatic data	**4**
Of which impact from Tamala Park could not be investigated due to lack of data provided in report	**2**
Of which impact could not be verified by climatic data	**10**
Number of reports from a residential address which had not previously reported to MRC	**0**
Unique reporters (number of *households* which reported an odour impact)	**14**

Note: *The sub-categories above reflect MRC's assessment of reports against the available climatic data and information provided. Reports assessed as 'could not be verified' are not intended to suggest that no odour was experienced.*





4.2. Location of odour report by suburb/area

Suburbs	Number
Burns Beach	0
Clarkson	9
Mindarie	13
Kinross	3
Location not provided	0
Total number of reports	**25**

Map of reports locations overleaf.

Figure 1 October 2026 Community Odour Reporting



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.

Information from **October 2026** is outlined below:

Description of Smell	Number
Garbage/Rubbish (Natural gas, rotten vegetables, garlic, sulphur)	13
Acidic/Rancid (Sour, vinegar, off-milk)	2
Gas/Chemical (Rotten eggs, ammonia, fishy)	8
Burnt/Smoky (Burnt rubber, exhaust fumes, grilled meat)	0
Sewerage (Faecal, manure, sewery)	0
Putrid (Dead animals, rotting meat)	0
Not described in report	2
Other/listed in comments	0
Hydrocarbon/solvent (Rubbery, plastics, solvents)	0
Sweet (Fruity)	0
Total number of reports	**25**

5. Correspondence

Detail	Status
DWER's preliminary response of 27 October 2026 is noted in section 3.2	Noted

6. MRC communications and/or community engagement

Detail	Status
Communications updates including changes to website, media coverage, guides or procedures for staff, etc.	Ongoing/ Completed
Nil.	N/A

7. Other relevant updates/general discussion

Detail	Status
Anything else which does not fall neatly into one of the above categories	Ongoing/ Completed
Attendees noted that the total number of odour reports for October (25) was the lowest since May 2023. Attendees noted that odour management measures undertaken to date,	Nil.

including supplementary cover, additional landfill gas capture infrastructure and management of rainfall during winter, are considered likely to have contributed to the reduction in reports.	

8. Next meeting

The next OMKSWG meeting will be held in December 2026 at Mindarie Regional Council (MRC).