

Minutes

Refuse Disposal Facility Community Reference Group Portfolio Committee – Meeting 48

Date:	28 April 2022	Time:	4:30pm - 7:00pm
Location:	Online (Microsoft Teams)		
Chairperson:	Bruce Turner		
Attendees:	<p>Independent Chair Bruce Turner Phoenix Facilitation</p> <p>Wyndham City Councillors: Cr Peter Maynard Councillor (Iramoo Ward) Cr Heather Marcus Councillor (Iramoo Ward)</p> <p>Wyndham City Council Staff: Stephen Thorpe Director City Operations Simon Clay Manager Waste Management and Disposal Justin Rhodes Environmental Systems Officer</p> <p>Reference Group members: Lisa Field Resident group representative Julian Menegazzo Adjacent landowner representative Joe Ferlazzo Community representative Karen Hucker Community representative Paul Von Harder Community representative Karthik Viswanathan Community representative</p>		
Apologies:	<p>Hayley Scott Community representative Michelle Lee Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group Mason Asadi Environmental group representative Bianca Bragalenti Community representative</p>		

Program

Topic	Actions
1. Welcome & Apologies Bruce welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest No conflicts of interest were declared.	
3. Adoption of Previous Minutes The draft notes from the previous meeting held on the 28 April 2022 were accepted with no changes.	
<p>The Action Tracker was circulated prior to the meeting agenda. All 'pending' items have been listed for discussion under the relevant agenda items at today's meeting.</p> <p>Action Tracker for the April 2022 meeting provided below.</p>	

ACTIONS FROM FEBRUARY 2021 MEETING		
Action Reference	Action Details	Status
M47-4.1	Justin to review memberships and initiate refreshment as required	Pending
M47-5.1	Stephen will ask Council John Nemet to provide an update to the group on dumped rubbish data – particularly on mattresses and shopping trolleys	Pending.
M47-7.1	Justin to facilitate group member(s) that are interested in attending the webinars.	Closed. Paul and Mason attended webinars
ACTIONS FROM MEETINGS PRIOR TO LAST MEETING		
M45-8.1	Matthew to report to the CRG recycling initiatives at the RDF at the next meeting.	Pending. Council is planning to construct a trial sorting facility and will report to the group progress (last qtr 2022). Bill Cocoran may present data
M43-7.1	Council to discuss and organise a presentation from Deakin University regarding the works at the Hub	Pending. Stephen would follow up to see if he can find someone at Deakin who could present

4. RDF Membership and 2022 meeting schedule

Justin indicated that the date for next CRG meeting:

- 23 June 2022 - may be held at the Council office (COVID pending)

Action M48-4.1 Justin to circulate placeholders for future meetings in 2022

All attendees will require to be vaccinated and Justin will look into the option of having some members attend via Teams.

5. Members' Reports

Julian Menegazzo

Julian indicated that he was still being impacted by low frequency noise at night times. Council acknowledged Julian and will meet up with him in person to discuss further. Council is committed to help diagnose the source of the noise and work through issue.

Action M48-5.1 Council to meet with Julian and discuss further actions

Joe Ferlazzo

Joe noted that the high disposal prices at the landfill are trending on social media. People are using vouchers and then buying additional vouchers on Facebook. Joe suggested that unused vouchers could be redistributed to people that needed extra vouchers to help avoid dumping. Approximately 29,000 vouchers are not being used – so these are traded on Facebook. Stephen responded that Council is investigating ways to address this, which includes making vouchers available to all residents (not just rate payers), electronic vouchers and/or making vouchers interchangeable with additional booked collections (up to four). Joe commended these initiatives provided accessing them was not too complex.

Heather commented that these initiatives sounded very positive. Heather was still concerned around the lack of waste education and would like to see more – not just digital so that Council caters for older generations. Stephen indicated that it costs two to four times as much to pick up dumped rubbish. Paul agreed with Heather and was very positive around the initiatives Council was investigating.

Joe added the suggestion that residents could be educated to place the business card of the business that they've hired to remove waste, to help with identification if it were to be dumped.

Paul Von Harder

Paul had put together a synopsis of the Waste to Value webinars that he attended and has allowed these notes to be distributed to the CRG.

Council and the CRG thanked Paul for his contribution.

Karen Hucker

Karen commented that she found the Waste to Value seminars to be interesting but had been hopeful of getting more information around the costs of some of the initiatives.

Paul mentioned that some of the seminars were a little repetitive and noted that Venna Sahajwalla didn't attend the second seminar which may have diluted some of the information. Paul appreciated Council giving the opportunity to attend and noted that recycling is very complex process.

Lisa Field and Joe provided information on a number of local businesses/ activities of relevance to the group in the chat:

- <https://www.remoterepairs.com.au/> in Hoppers Crossing, repairs outdoor adventure equipment
- there is a guy in Sunshine recycling bulk loads of batteries for magnesium for gardens
- Apparently there is a stack of wooden pallets at the Greening the Pipeline project site
- ReLink for recycling sport equipment and repairs to high end adventure clothing

Karthik Viswanathan

Karthik asked if there is a place on the Council website that indicates what to do with materials we want to recycle. Stephen noted that using 'recycling guide' on Council's website was relatively easy to do, but acknowledged that it wasn't easy to find using Google and would take this up with Council's Communication Team.

Action M48-5.2 Stephen to seek support from Council's Comms Team to make Council's interactive waste guide easier to access, and to consider Karthik's suggestion regarding education on not bagging recyclables.

Karthik also provided a mock up of a flyer/ sitcker on not wrapping recyclables in plastic which he developed during the meeting as a suggestion for Council's comms team to consider

6. Industry Update

No update - Michelle unavailable to attend meeting.

7. Wyndham Waste Strategy and Waste Services Update

Resource recovery and baling facility

Simon had no further update on the Resource Recovery and Baling Facility. Council are still finalising the draft contract – it is quite complex and taking more time to finish than anticipated. Council has been progressing works with the associated anerobic digestion facility. Within approximately three months or so Council should be able to provide more detail around the energy provider for that facility.

Simon indicated that lots of work is being done 'behind the scenes' and will continue to provide more details in the coming months.

Stephen provided an update that the 16 Councils in southeast Melbourne, needed to provide the required tonnes for incineration, has not been realised. Council is hopeful that this means there maybe more opportunity for the baling facility. Paul was encouraged by baling facility rather than incineration.

Julian asked about the anaerobic digester and about the potential for it to generate microparticles in the air. Simon responded that recovery and digestion of the organic-rich fraction in the RDF waste stream has been part of the Strategic Plan since 2014, and was discussed on previous site tours. The anaerobic digester

removes the organics out of the waste stream and out of landfill and will operate within an enclosed facility to ensure airborne particles are not an issue.

8. RDF Operations

Performance Dashboard - tonnage, landfill gas

Simon provided information on the amounts of waste recorded coming into the site.

Simon also noted an increase in green waste coming into the site which Council believes to be reflective of the seasons.

Peter asked if the container deposit scheme was expected to result in lower tonnages of waste/recycling. Simon said this was expected and would result in lower costs of disposal.

Karen asked if Council does monitoring of the amount/type of waste per household? Simon indicated that Council receives monthly reporting from Cleanaway. He said it should be possible to work out what the average weight per bin is.

Complaints Register

Complaints register has been distributed prior to the meeting. No comments regarding this.

Pollution Abatement Notices

Overburden removal on Cell 4 was progressing well. It is estimated that approximately 150,000 m³ of waste has been removed to date. Council is required to move approximately 215,000m³ in total to complete these works.

Council was in the final process of awarding the Cell 4 (eastern side) capping contract. There are some delays with lining materials (sourced from overseas) which may mean the commencement date for works would be pushed back until early August 2022. It is estimated that this will take 4-6 months to complete.

Council will need to apply to the EPA to amend the completion dates on the Notices as these works are taking longer to complete.

Cell 6 and Cell 7 Construction

Cell 6 construction has been completed and Council is preparing documentation to provide to EPA for the Works Approval. Council won't commence filling Cell 6 until mid to late 2022.

Cell 7 design was underway however the site focus is on the rehabilitation projects for the immediate future.

Stephen provided a general update on waste collections across Wyndham. Stephen noted that our green waste collection contractor is struggling to make

collections on the designated day – this is result of a shortage of truck drivers. The driver shortage is also impacting other bin collections and this issue is not confined to Wyndham collections. Drivers are heading to other transport contractors that are paying more. The impact is very difficult to solve and not going to happen quickly. Council are letting the green waste not get collected in the first instance to ensure household waste is removed. Stephen has advised that the community contact the customer service team at Council if they are impacted.

9. **Meeting Close/Details of Next Meeting**

23 June 2022 – online or at Civic Centre (tbc)

Joe requested that the ‘nuts and bolts’ of the tip shop (Resale shed) be presented at the next meeting

Action M48-9.1 Joe to provide questions to Justin to guide a discussion on the Resale Shed

Council happy to support hybrid meetings.
