

**West's Road RDF & Waste Management
Community Reference Group
AOC
23rd Meeting
Accepted Notes
27 April 2017
Conference Rooms A & B**

Present:

Cr Peter Maynard	- Councillor (Iramoo Ward), Wyndham City Council
Cr Walter Villagonzalo	- Councillor (Chaffey Ward), Wyndham City Council
Karen Hucker	- Community representative
Jacqui Scott	- Community representative
Kimi Pellosis	- Community representative
Peter Haddow	- Community representative
Lindsay Swinden	- Community representative
Julian Menegazzo	- Adjoining landowner representative
John Faranda	- Ratepayer/business representative (Werribee South Ratepayers Association)
Harry Van Moorst	- Environment group representative (WREC)
Michelle Lee	- Planner, Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group (MWRRG)
Stephen Thorpe	- Director City Operations, Wyndham City Council
Simon Clay	- Manager Refuse Disposal Facility, Wyndham City Council
Liza McColl	- Business Analyst Refuse Disposal Facility, Wyndham City Council
Bruce Turner	- Independent Chair

Visitors:

nil

Apologies/ absent:

Cr Tony Hooper	- Councillor (Harrison Ward), Wyndham City Council
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The meeting commenced at 4.30 pm. No conflicts of interest were declared

1. Welcome and Introductions

Bruce welcomed members to the meeting.

2. Notes and actions from the previous meeting

The notes from the 21st meeting held on 15 December 2016 and the notes from the 22nd meeting held on the 16 February 2017, circulated prior to the meeting, were accepted.

The review of outstanding actions from the previous meetings was deferred due to the full agenda and visiting speakers. Significant progress has been made on the completion of actions and many items on this agenda addressed actions. The following table was updated after the meeting:

Action M14-2.2	<i>Finalised notes of the previous meeting, including the notes of the CRG workshop conducted by Michelle, to be published on Council's website.</i>	Completed. Current location of minutes to be changed as part of the website
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		review. Refer item 9.
Action M15-2.1	Update the CRG page on the WCC web site.	Commenced. Refer item 9.
Action M15-3.1	WCC to send a letter to each member of the CRG confirming their term and expiry date.	Completed. Refer item 2.
Action M15-3.2	Simon to check with WCC Communications Team about getting a call for expressions of interest for new nominations in Council's January-February newsletter.	Expression of Interest process commenced. Refer item 2.
Action M17-3.1	Simon to resolve this (membership) prior to the next meeting	Completed.
Action M17-6.1	Simon to look at including Connie Menegazzo in the survey team and to plot historical complaints and survey results compared to time of delivery and other operating and atmospheric conditions at the landfill	Yet to be completed.
Action M17-7.1	Provide data on recycling from the transfer station	Commenced. Liza to complete training on Council's finance software to produce regular reports as part of the Performance Dashboard.
Action M18-6.1	Calculate the CO2 equivalent of the landfill gas using the carbon tax methodology	Completed. Circulated 26 April 2017
Action M18-6.2	Circulate the auditor's report on the phytocap trial when it becomes available	Report not yet available.
Action M18-6.3	Simon to provide a status update on where things stand with landscaping plans (i.e. consolidate/ review what CRG has seen and where things are at now)	Completed. Refer Item 3a. Draft landscape plans circulated 23 April 2017
Action M19-5.1	Circulate a copy of the Wyndham Vale Buffer Study and ESO to the CRG members	Buffer Study circulated. ESO not yet available for public circulation
Action M19-7.2	Simon to provide gas and groundwater monitoring data as part of regular meeting agenda, and to look at creation of a secure site for viewing of monitoring results between meetings.	Completed. See agenda item 7c.
Action M20-5.1	Simon to ask Elio for a status update and a timeframe for expected outcomes related to strategic land use planning	Progressing internally. No update on timeframe available.
Action M20-7.1	Simon to give priority to installing noise attenuation barriers at the active tip face.	No action taken to date
Action M20-7.2	Simon to investigate whether local air quality monitoring would be of benefit	Completed. Refer Hot Spot Update.
Action M20-7.3	Simon to brief CFA	Completed
Action M20-7.4	Simon to contact EPA to discuss the BTQ Bulla fire	Completed
Action M20-7.5	Simon to schedule a meeting in 3-4 weeks' time for any interested and available CRG members to further discuss the hot spot.	Completed. Meeting held on 21 November 2016. Meeting notes available on website.
Action M20-7.6	Simon to circulate tabulated groundwater data	Completed. Circulated 24 April 2017
Action M21-4.1	Simon to provide regular updates on the progress with extinguishing the hot spot.	Completed. Standing item. Hot spot update circulated 11 April 2017.

		Refer agenda item 3c.
Action M21-5.1	<i>Michelle to provide a report on MWRRG's 'residual procurement' initiative to February 2017 meeting.</i>	Completed. Refer agenda item 5.
Action M21-8.1	<i>Simon to circulate a copy of the PAN.</i>	Completed. Circulated 18 April 2017.
Action M21-10.1	<i>Simon to setup file sharing for the CRG.</i>	Completed. Council's new file share system called Objective Connect to be used. All members are now registered users of Objective Connect.
Action M22-4.1	<i>Simon to organise for temperature probes to be reintroduced into the hotspot area as soon as possible.</i>	Completed. Refer agenda item 3c.

3. RDF Update (Part 1)

a. Landscaping Plan

Simon informed the group that it had not been possible to implement the endorsed landscape plans for the perimeter buffer planting because the land form on the endorsed plans was not the same as the actual land form.

Council engaged Papworth Davies Landscape architects to prepare a new Landscape Plan for the perimeter buffer of the RDF. A copy of the revised Draft Landscape Plan and Precedent Vegetation Images were distributed to the CRG members on 23 April 2013.

Rob Davies from Papworth Davies provided the following overview of the Plan:

- An aerial survey using a drone was undertaken to ensure that the plans reflect existing conditions.
- The topography around the perimeter of the RDF is not uniform. There are a mix of flat areas, low lying areas and embankments. The amount of space available for planting varies around the perimeter of the site – varying from 20m in some areas to 1-2 metres in the north eastern corner (Plans L209s and L209b).
- There are significant existing trees in some locations. All living trees and shrubs will be retained.
- A layering of new trees and shrubs is proposed in available land within the existing vegetation to baffle long and short views into the site.
- No tall trees are proposed under powerlines.
- Intense shrub planting along West's Road to limit views of the RDF from the freeway.
- The key to success will be maintenance, watering and weed management
- No calculations have been done about how much water will be required for landscaping. Harry noted that the landscaping might be a reason to proceed with the connection to recycled water.
- Plants chosen are native, local, methane tolerant (in some cases), available, fast growing and suitable in form and height to meet the buffering objective. No indigenous plants were proposed. CRG members showed interest in exploring the use of native plants. The Werribee Blue Box was noted as a potential species that could be used and substituted for some of the proposed Eucalypts.
- It is proposed to use semi-established tree stock of approximately 1m high.
- Planting will be undertaken on embankments where the grade is suitable.

- The plans include a schedule with quantities of plants, planting specifications and typical sections through typical conditions. There should be adequate detail to proceed with implementation.

There was a question about whether the endorsed landscape plan required a minimum or specific size of landscape buffer to be maintained. There is no requirement for any specific size of landscape buffer.

Julian questioned whether there was enough land for landscaping and whether there was any intention to purchase additional land or whether the width of the landscaping could be extended further into the site. Council advised that there were no plans for purchase of additional land for landscaping and that the plans did not look to make additional land within the RDF site available for landscaping at this time. It was questioned whether the railway reserve land on the northern boundary could be used for landscaping. Stephen advised that Vic Track often only provides short term leases for railway land for landscaping purposes that make it an unviable financial investment. Simon noted that Vic Track has already been problematic to deal with in relation to the illegal dumping that is occurring in this area, and has not provided Council with access to this land to clean it up on its behalf.

Julian noted that it did not appear possible to maintain a fire track around the site. Julian also noted that the majority of the planting on the eastern boundary is within a road reserve and questioned the long term implications of having planting within a road reserve.

Karen questioned how the landscape plan fits into the overall master plan for the post-closure rehabilitation of the whole site, options for which were discussed by the CRG some time ago. Simon explained that the landscape plan only relates to the perimeter buffer landscaping and did not consider the relationship or implications on the long-term rehabilitation of the site. This was not part of the consultant's brief. Some members of the CRG were concerned about the impact of the creation of a dense vegetative border around a future 'park' (if that option endorsed by the CRG is pursued by Council).

All members of the CRG were very interested in the current status of the rehabilitation plan and the relationship between landscape plans and the rehabilitation plans. It was noted that the CRG had provided input into the preparation of the Rehabilitation Plan but had not been advised as to whether a final plan had been endorsed by Council. Simon noted his concerns about the Rehabilitation Plan and the proposed use of trees on the phytocapping of the cells. Harry noted that the CRG had raised the same concern. He also suggested that Werribee Blue Box be considered for the perimeter planting.

The cost of the proposed planting of the perimeter buffer was questioned. Simon advised that a detailed costing had not been prepared but there is a total of \$600K in the budget over the next four years to incrementally implement the landscape plan.

Action M23-3.1 Council to revisit the minutes of the CRG's original discussion of the Rehabilitation Master Plan and clarify the current status of the Master Plan - to be included on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Action M23-3.2: Council to investigate the status of the Road Reserve along the NE corner of the site.

Action M23- 3.3: Council to look at broadening the space for perimeter planting where possible.

Action M23-3.4: Council to explore the potential use of the rail reserve land on the northern boundary for landscaping purposes.

Action M23-3.5: Council to look at the opportunity to use locally indigenous species, for educational purposes, eg at the entrance to the RDF.

b. EPA Works Approval Application

The EPA 20b Conference was held on the 14 March 2017 and was attended by about 40 people. The Conference Chair's report with recommendations has been released. The EPA has provided Council with a further Section 22 notice which Council must respond to before the EPA will proceed with their assessment. The Notice largely mirrored the recommendations of the conference chair. Simon gave an overview of the section 22 notice.

Council has decided to remove the proposed piggy back cells from the current application. This changes the application to apply to a 25 year timeframe (rather than 30 years in the original).

Simon also noted that in response to a submission from Lend Lease, the developer of the Harpley Estate, Council is also considering additional landscaping along Bulban Road and to giving priority to the rehabilitation of Cell 4A by bringing it forward a year, and to progressive rehabilitation of Cell 5A. Consideration is also being given to the feasibility of improved litter fencing, with a combination of semi-permanent boundary fencing and moveable netting at the tip face.

Harry noted that EPA is often slow to post a copy of Council's response to the S22 notice on their website and it would be good if Council could provide the CRG with a copy of their response directly.

Action M23-3.6: Simon to distribute a copy of the S22 notice and the Conference Chair Report to the CRG members.

Action M23-3.7: Simon to distribute a copy of Council's response to the EPA S22 notice to the CRG members.

c. "Hot Spot" Temperature Probe results

A written update on the "Hot Spot" and the temperature probe results was provided to all CRG members on 11 April 2017 (copy provided as an attachment). The temperature of the "hot spot" had decreased and the "hot spot" area had reduced. The drilling of further injection wells and injection of liquid into the cells due was delayed until May because of the recent heavy rains. Simon said he expected that one or two more rounds of injections will eliminate the "hot spot".

4. CRG membership renewal

Liza noted that Karen Hucker (community representative) and John Faranda (ratepayer and business group representative) will end their membership term in June 2017. There is also currently a vacant community representative position.

Liza reported that the expression of interest process to refresh these three vacancies had commenced. The opportunity was advertised in the local paper and in social media. Letters were sent directly to ratepayer and business groups and also to approximately 40 people who applied for the Council's Environment and Sustainability Portfolio Group.

Applications close on 10 May 2017. Applications must be submitted online through the Council's website. Outgoing members can reapply for a new three year term. The selection panel will be Simon, Bruce and a Councillor. There may be the need for interviews. The selection panel's recommendations

will need to be endorsed by Council. The aim is to have the process completed by the June 2017 CRG meeting and to have both outgoing and incoming members at the meeting.

Karen Hucker noted that the online form needed to be completed in one go as it was not possible to save a semi-completed online form to be able to complete it at various times. Kimi highlighted the potential to involve the 40 applicants to the portfolio committees in the CRG in some way. John noted that the Werribee South Ratepayers Association may not have a committee meeting prior to the 10th May and may need additional time to respond.

In terms of the membership renewal dates for existing positions/members, it was agreed that the Environment Group Representative (Harry Van Moorst) would be refreshed in June 2018 and the adjoining landowner representative (Julian Menegazzo) would be refreshed in June 2019. In terms of the renewal dates for the existing community representatives, who all appear to have commenced on the CRG at some point in 2015, it was agreed that a first on-first off approach would be used to identify two members to conclude in 2018 and two to conclude in 2019.

Action M23-4.1: Liza to review minutes of past meetings to determine exactly when the community members started on the CRG to determine the membership renewal order. Liza to send out letters to all members to confirm their membership renewal dates.

Action M23-4.2: Liza to follow up with Council's communication team about whether the EOI online form can be changed to allow it to be saved and completed in stages.

5. Strategic waste management and resource recovery

Michelle Lee from MWRRG gave a broad overview of the collaborative 'residual procurement' initiative that MWRRG is pursuing with a number of Councils (refer presentation notes attached). The initiative is a recommendation of the *Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan*. The State Government has allocated \$600K to the initiative which aims to facilitate the establishment of new infrastructure that can recover resources from residual municipal waste through the retendering of the MWRRG's landfill service contract in 2018.

The MWRRG is currently recruiting a person to manage this project. The project is at the pre-procurement stage. A key component of this stage is community engagement. Michelle advised that this is likely to involve conversations with the community about what is 'waste to energy'.

Harry noted the need for the project to consider the environmental impact of the proposed waste to energy infrastructure, and for EPA to be an important part of the project. He also asked what community engagement was planned to ascertain community expectations, wants etc.

The high level of nappies going to landfill was noted generally, and as a particular concern for Wyndham with the amount of young families.

Action M23-5.1: The Residual Procurement Initiative to be made a standing item on the Agenda and the Manager of the Residual Procurement Project to be invited to a future CRG meeting.

6. Strategic planning context

No update available.

7. RDF Update (Part 2)

a. Audit Report

A copy of the Audit Report was provided to CRG members, via sharefile on 24 April 2017.

Simon provided a summary of the Audit Report that had been submitted by Council to EPA as a legislative requirement of the licence. The audit covers the period from September 2014 to July 2016. The Report identifies high, medium and low risk items. Simon highlighted that the report identifies the following high risk items:

- Cell rehabilitation
- Updated the Landfill Gas Management Plan and Risk Assessment
- Updated Environmental Monitoring Plan
- Update Leachate Management Plan

Harry noted that the Audit Report was a very long and detailed document and that he only had time to scan it. No other CRG members had read the audit report. Harry requested that the Audit Report be presented for discussion in more detail at a future meeting. Stephen noted that this would require of Simon considerable time to prepare and suggested that the discussion be focused on key legacy issues.

Harry noted his concerns about the auditor's acknowledgement of the off-site migration of landfill gas across the northern boundary being contrary to the BPEM (Best Practice Environmental Management guidelines for landfill). Simon responded to say that is somewhat expected given the historical construction of the cell, as approved by EPA at the time, did not require a liner. EPA is talking to Council about this matter.

Action M23-7.1: The Audit Report to be listed on the agenda for the June meeting, providing CRG members with more time to read the report. CRG members are welcome to suggest questions/ issues of particular interest for discussion.

Action M23-7.2: Simon to provide a report on work underway to address/ respond to the Audit Report findings.

b. Environmental Monitoring Plan

A copy of the Environmental Monitoring Plan was provided to CRG members, via sharefile on 24 April 2017.

An Environmental Monitoring Plan is a legislative requirement. The Plan has been revised to include the changes requested by the Environmental Auditor in February 2017 (refer Audit Report in previous agenda item). The key changes to the environmental monitoring program at the RDF:

- Inclusion of some new analytes in the sampling of leachate. Leachate levels are monitored monthly and Leachate sampling is performed annually
- Inclusion of new analytes in the ground water testing, but only if these analytes are found in the leachate. Groundwater is tested on a quarterly basis (standing water level and sampling).
- Quarterly surface water sampling, when creeks are flowing or sufficient water is ponding.
- Inclusion of new landfill gas bores into the monitoring regime – quarterly for all bores and monthly for BPEM exceedance bores.

John asked about where the groundwater from the RDF discharges and whether it was possible to check that groundwater contamination doesn't get as far as Werribee South. Harry advised that work

undertaken as part of the 'Toxic Dump' campaign many years ago (against a proposal by CSR for a prescribed waste containment facility on the site) suggested that creeks used to run through the site and link to RAMSAR Wetlands. Harry suggested that off-site and down-stream testing should be undertaken. It was noted that Southern Rural Water testing of water in the Werribee South Market Gardens area only tests for a limited range of analytes (mainly for salinity). Simon advised that all reports that he had read suggest that there is no connection between the groundwater from the RDF and flows to the RAMSAR Wetlands; ie they involve separate aquifers. Simon highlighted that p125 of the Audit report states that independent testing of the groundwater quality and flows are well below adopted criteria, which would suggest that it is unlikely that there are off-site impacts.

Action M23-7.3: CRG members who are interested in this groundwater issue to review the detail of the audit – if questions/ issues remain, these can be discussed at the next meeting.

c. Performance dashboard

The following graphs (copies attached) were handed out in the meeting:

- Waste Received by Month 2015/16 & 2016/17
- Landfill Gas Capture Volumes
- RDF CO₂ Emissions using the carbon tax methodology (also provided to CRG members via email on 26 April)

The key observations and discussions were:

- The amount of incoming tonnage has consistently increased each month compared to last year.
- There was a question about why the 'waste received' graph starts at '0' in July and each month thereafter. Simon explained that the graph was cumulative starting at '0' each financial year.
- The amount of gas being flared is increasing. This is mainly due to the increased gas flow from the new wells on Cell 4B and the need for LMS to install a new generator on the site. The installation of the additional generator has been delayed due to the need to resolve a contractual issue. The contract is 15 years old and needs to be renegotiated in current day terms. LMS pay for the gas capture infrastructure and have not been willing to invest in new capital until the matter is resolved. These should hopefully be resolved by the end of May.
- The CO₂ emissions have decreased significantly from 2015 to 2016. This is mainly due to the change in the methodology used and better data collection and not from any changes to the operation of the system. The new carbon tax methodology requires metering of actual gas used for electricity and gas flared. This suggests that previous calculation, based on assumptions, may have been overestimated. Simon was advised against trying to use the new tax methodology to recalculate previous years emissions. This CO₂ emissions data will be updated and provided to the CRG annually.

Simon reported the following three odour non compliances:

- 9 March 2017 - reported by RDF staff. Source identified as the excavation of waste to fix a damaged riser, combined with a strong northerly wind.
- 10 March 2017 - reported by adjoining landowner (Connie). Source – as above.
- 11 March 2017 - reported by adjoining landowner (Connie). Source due to leachate pumping and strong northerly wind. Leachate pumping was necessary because the levels exceeded 300ml. There was a question about where leachate is taken when trucked off site. Simon advised that the company who collects the leachate takes it to their plant in Dandenong.

Simon noted that all odour non-compliances were traceable to specific issues and that management measures were able to mitigate the causes.

Karen noted that the RDF staff should take environmental factors such as wind velocity/direction into account before deciding to do works with potential odour impacts, in accordance with a risk hierarchy model.

Action M23-7.4: Simon to include a label on the 'Waste Received by Month' graph to show that the amounts are cumulative and include a label on the 'Landfill Gas Capture Volumes' to show that the gas is measured in standard cubic metres.

d. EPA Compliance Summary (landfill gas, daily odour, leachate)

The re-profiling of Cell 4A is well progressed. Council's Engineers are currently considering design approach for the re-profiling of the areas adjacent to the RDF road. The road may need to be re-constructed in a new location to provide the land needed to achieve the necessary gradient on the batter.

e. Alternative daily cover - tarpaulin

A Tender process has been completed and a contract awarded for the supply of a tarpaulin style daily cover system. The use of the tarpaulin system is expected to decrease the amount of daily cover soil use by 60 per cent. Council must now apply to EPA for approval to use a tarpaulin daily cover system. EPA has historically provided approval for a twelve month trial.

f. 2017/18 capital works program

Simon advised that the draft budget will soon go to the Council for approval for public exhibition and community consultation. The draft budget includes the following capital works projects at the RDF:

- purchase replacement dozer and compactor for the tip face
- purchase of a dozer, excavator and dump truck to enable other site works to be undertaken in a timely manner (e.g. application of intermediate capping, progressive rehabilitation)
- litter barrier upgrade
- construction of Cell 5A
- connection of leachate ponds to sewer for flexible management of leachate
- landscaping

The CRG members endorsed the proposed list of projects by consensus. Stephen advised that Council's proposed capital works program would be released for public comment. CRG members are free to submit individual comments as part of this process if they wish.

Action M23-7.5: Simon to ensure that the CRG's support for the proposed capital works projects to be formally conveyed to Council, as part of the community input into the draft budget.

8. Members report

a. Noise

Julian reported that he could hear noise from the RDF on the 25th and 26th April at approximately 2:30am.

Simon advised that he has discussed the best noise attenuation methods with EPA. EPA recommended the use of shipping containers close to the active tip face. Julian suggested the use of hay bales and offered Simon about 100 hay bales from his property at no cost.

Action M23- 8.1: Simon to continue to investigate noise attenuation measures on site and consider Julian's offer of hay bales.

b. Historical redirection of waterway on RDF site

Julian raised concerns about the potential re-direction of a waterway that went through the RDF site at the recent EPA 20b conference and in a recent email to Council. Julian would like to know if/when this water way was diverted and the potential impact this may have on flooding. Simon explained that Council would respond to this as part of the EPA Works Approval and, after investigating this matter, had also responded directly to Julian via email. Simon confirmed that there is no visible waterway through the site and that the redirection of any waterway would probably have happened at the time that the land was quarried.

Action M23.8.2: Simon to circulate a copy of his email response to Julian about the waterway diversion to all members of the CRG.

9. Communications

Item not discussed in order to finish meeting on time. Item deferred to next meeting.

10. Other business

Item not discussed in order to finish meeting on time.

11. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 4.30 to 7pm on Thursday 29 June 2017.

The meeting closed at 7:00 pm



WYNDHAM RDF CRG

Municipal Residual Treatment Project

Michelle Lee Principal Planner 27 April 17

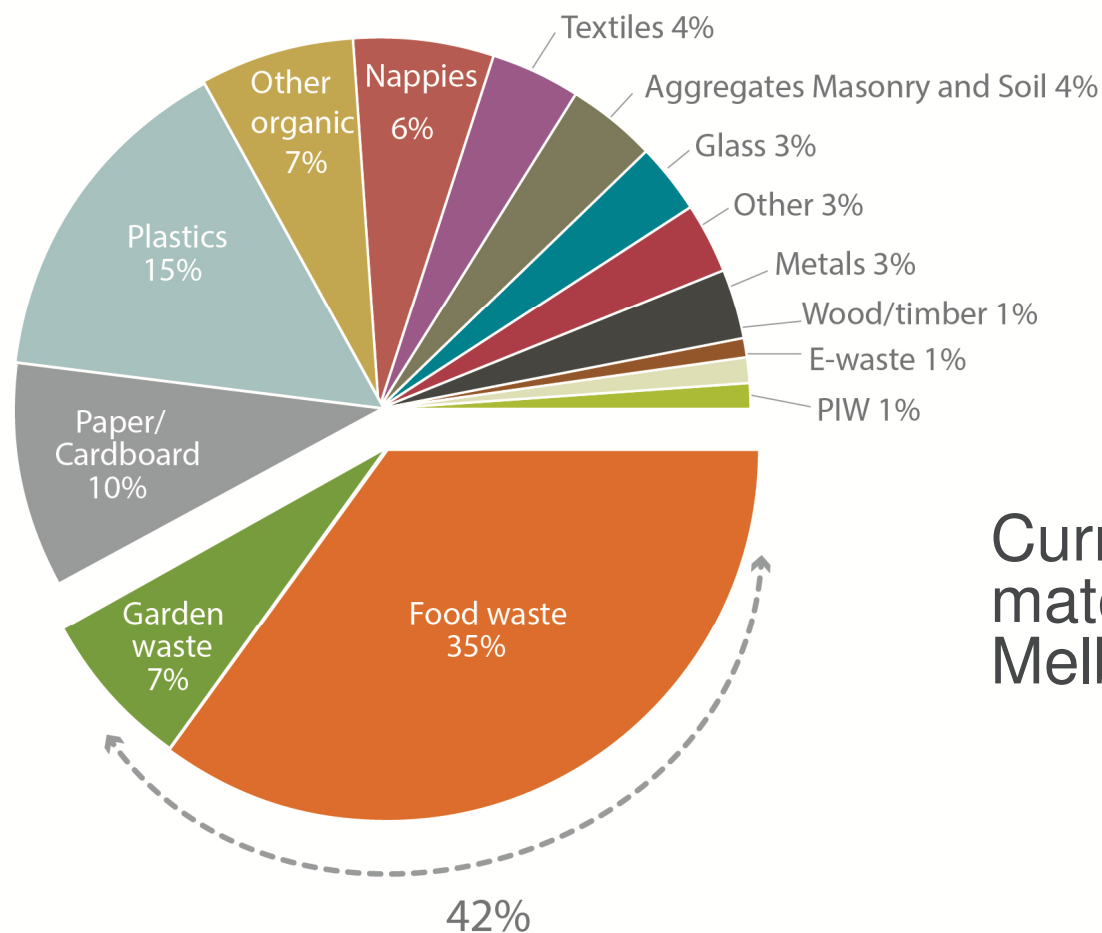


Metropolitan Implementation Plan

- Action 1: is to facilitate and establishment of new infrastructure that can recover resources from residual municipal waste through the re-tendering of MWRRG's landfill services contract
- Action 2 is to create opportunities for aggregating priority commercial waste material streams and other place based recovery solutions
- Action 3 is to support local government to progressively increase recovery of materials from municipal waste streams



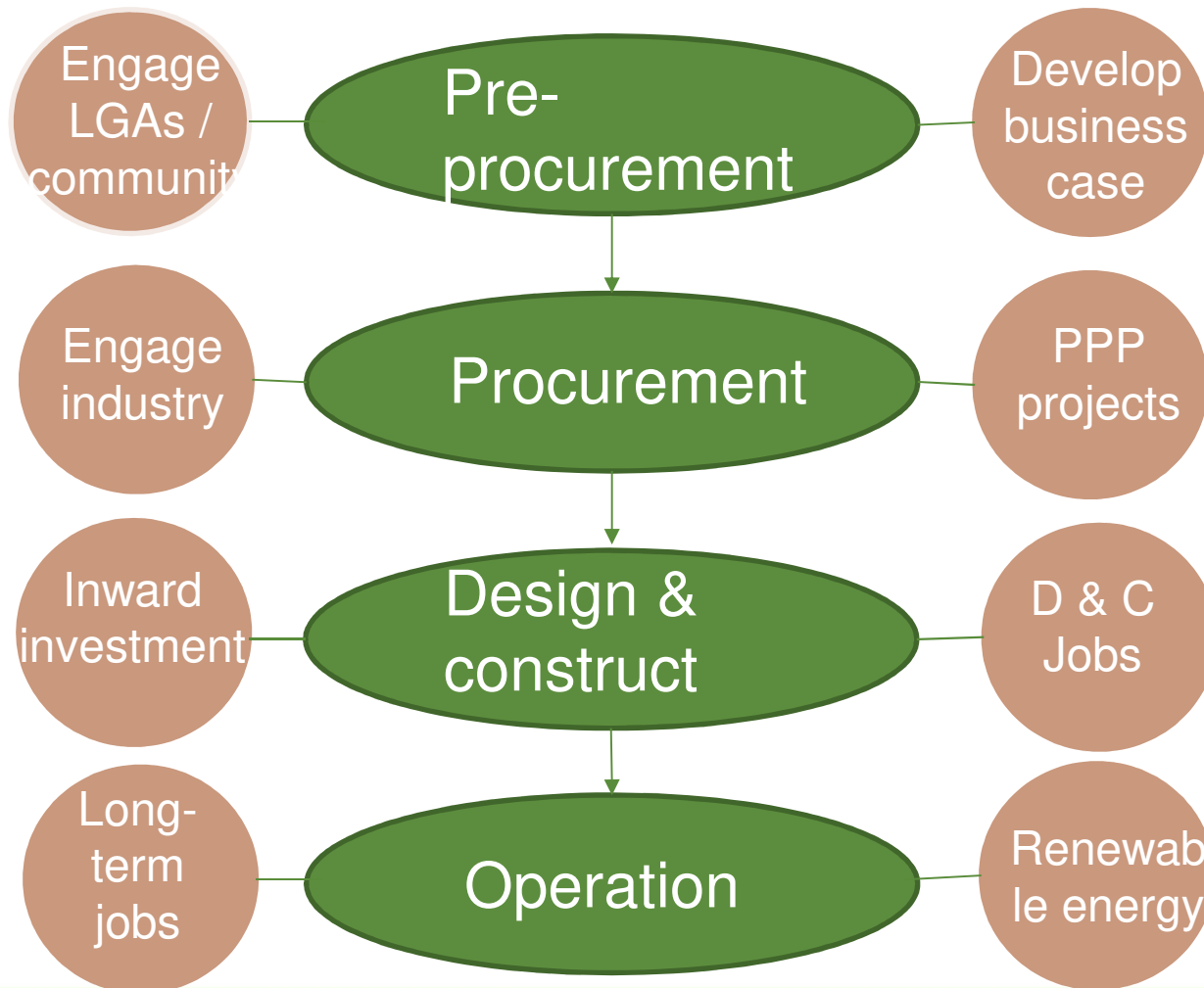
Where are the opportunities



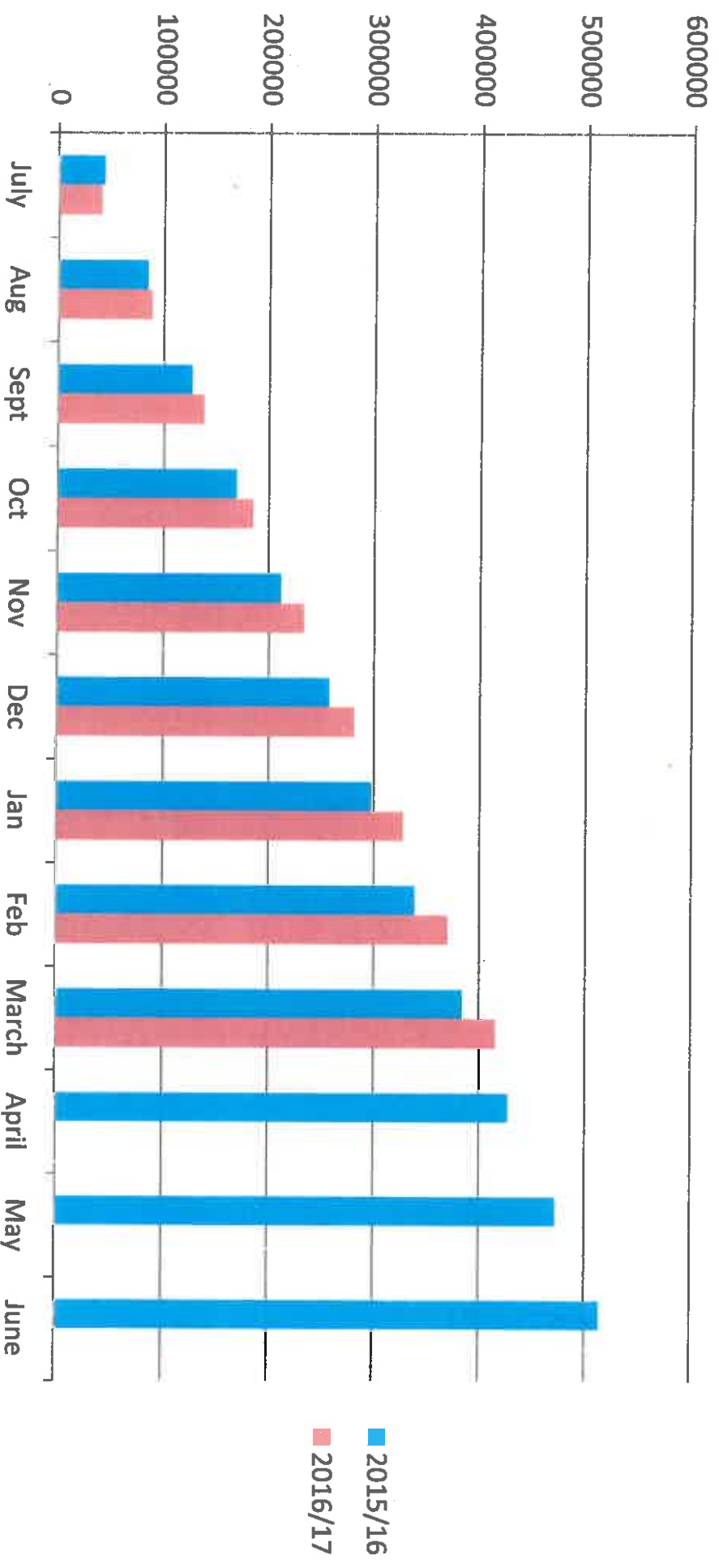
Current composition of material entering Melbourne's landfills.



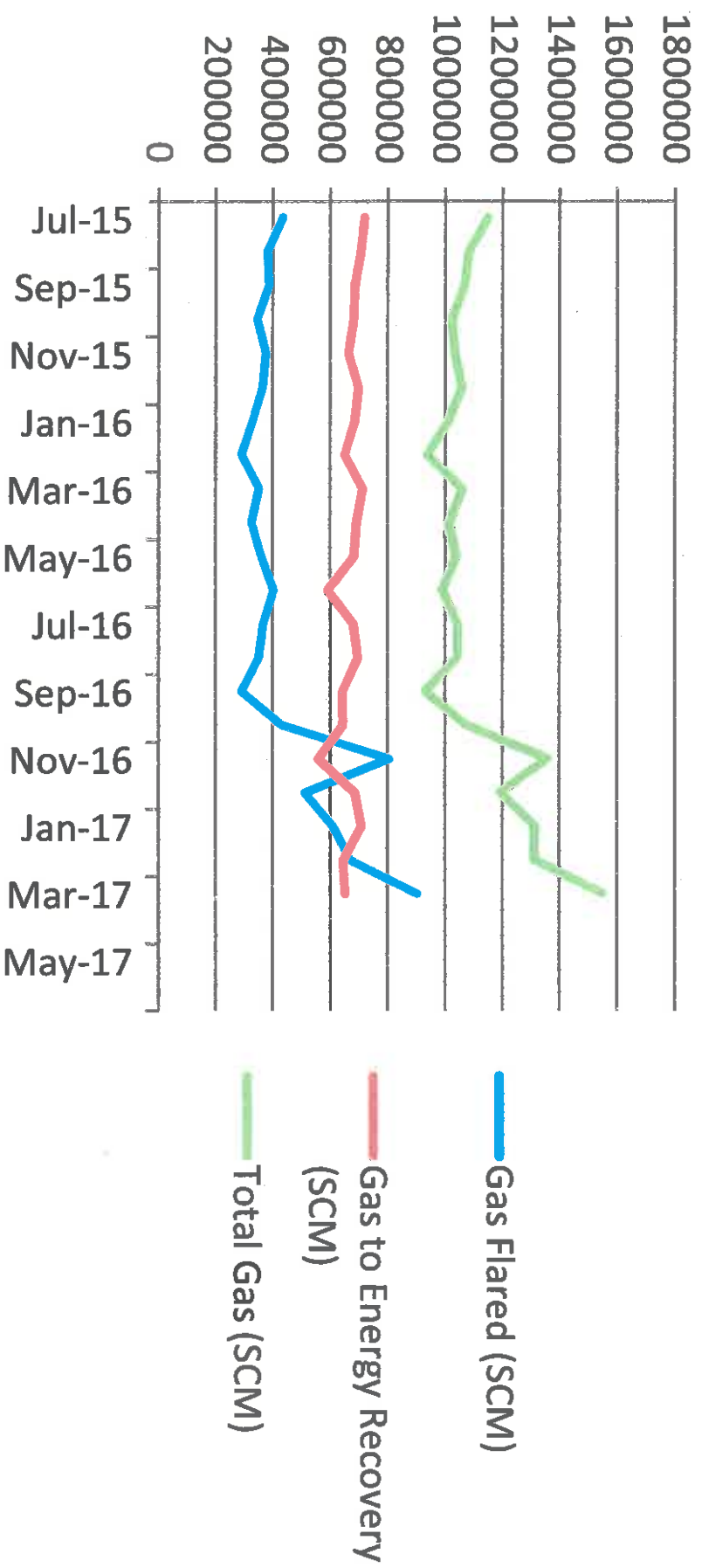
Municipal residual treatment project (Waste to Energy Opportunities)



Waste Received by Month 2015/16 & 2016/17



Landfill Gas Capture Volumes



**West's Road Refuse Disposal Facility and Waste Management
Community Reference Group**

Meeting 18

23 June 2016

Action Item M18-6.1

Calculate the CO₂ equivalent of the landfill gas using the carbon tax methodology

