



SOUTHERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL COUNCIL

Meeting Summary

The information contained in this newsletter relates to matters discussed at the SMRC Regional Council Meetings during March and April 2016. The Meeting Summary may be circulated or tabled to elected members and officers of the member local governments of the SMRC. To request further information on articles in this Meeting Summary please email smrc@smrc.com.au or phone 9329-2700.

Chair, Cr Cameron Schuster	Melville
Deputy Chair, Cr Doug Thompson.....	Fremantle
Cr Kevin Allen	Cockburn
Cr Michael McPhail	East Fremantle
Cr Wendy Cooper.....	Kwinana

tonnes of recyclable material from landfill into useful products, representing an overall diversion rate of over 70%. This exceeds the State Government’s 2015 landfill diversion target of 50% and 2020 target of 65%.

- On average, less than two odour complaints per month were received between March 2012 to March 2016. Of these odour complaints, none were verified by DER as emanating from the RRRC.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 28 APRIL 2016

MRF SALE UPDATE

The public tender closed on 1 March 2016 and the tender evaluation panel consisting of the SMRC CEO and 4 of the RRRC’s Participant Executive Officers are currently assessing the submissions with a view to report their preferred tenderer to the Regional council.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT NOTICE

The SMRC was charged on the 20th of March 2014, relating to an emission of an odour on 22 March 2012 that was held to be unreasonable.

On the 5th of April 2016, the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council (‘SMRC’) was found guilty of breaching section 49(5)(a) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA) and fined \$50,000.

The SMRC takes its commitment to community wellbeing very seriously and is currently reviewing the decision.

From 2006 until March 2012, the SMRC expended approximately \$10 million on odour emission reduction equipment and expert odour consultancy services to improve odour management systems and from March 2012 have expended a further \$3 million on the design and installation of humidifiers as odour reduction equipment at the Waste Composting Facility.

A number of developments since March 2012 demonstrate the SMRC’s dedication to continuous improvement. The organisation remains committed to delivering sustainable waste management solutions on behalf of the communities of its member councils.

The SMRC are committed to continuous improvement. Achievements since March 2012 include:

- Significant upgrades in excess of \$3 million to the odour management system at the Waste Composting Facility at the Regional Resource Recovery Centre (‘RRRC’).
- Approval was received from the Department of Environment Regulation (‘DER’) to amend the license for operations at the Waste Composting Facility.
- From 1 April 2015 the facility was able to operate to its maximum capacity of 109,200 tonnes per year, representing a 14.9% increase.
- Each year recycling operations at the RRRC divert 95,000

MEETINGS HELD SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

Apr 7.....	Community Advisory Group
Apr 13.....	Agenda Briefing
Apr 28.....	Ordinary Council Meeting

DER LICENCE ASSESSMENT 2014-2015

The Waste Composting Facility and Green Waste Facility is subject to an Environmental Protection (EP) Act Licence #L7799/2001/8.

Each year by 28 November, as a condition of the EP Act License, the SMRC is required to submit an Annual Environmental Report and an Annual Compliance Assessment to the Department of Environment Regulation (DER).

DER subsequently conduct an assessment to determine SMRC’s compliance with the EP Act Licence.

DER has confirmed the SMRC to be in compliance with all of the conditions of its EP Act Licence for the period 2014-2015.

TENDER T2016-01 PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR ODOUR ASSESSMENT

The Council awarded the tender to the Odour Unit for a one year term with extension options for a further two years.

The assessments include:

- Bio-filter performance testing;
- Field based ambient odour intensity assessments;
- General consulting and other testing, advice, measurement, design, investigation as required.

The assessments meet the DER License conditions and our commitment in odour management.



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CONFERENCE RWM 2016 UK

The Council resolved that the CEO, SMRC executive staff and its Regional Councillors attend the Resource Efficiency and Waste Management Solutions (RWM) in Birmingham UK on 13-15 September 2016. Relevant industry field trips will also be part of the travel.

The RWM is the only event of its kind covering all aspects of the waste hierarchy. In partnership with the Chartered Institute of Waste Management (CIWM) it spans each element of the industry and is shaped around the demands of this rapidly growing sector.

In 2015 the event attracted 13,000 visitors, 700 exhibitors and included 70 seminars across a range of industry sectors which in 2016 will include:

- Recycling and reprocessing
- Energy from Waste
- Handling & Logistics
- Machinery & Equipment
- Professional Services

The event is considered the premier event of its kind in Europe and unlike any in Australia, will afford SMRC elected members and executive officers along with member council executive officers from the Regional Executive Group an opportunity to expand and enhance their knowledge across a number of key issues relevant to the future direction of the SMRC and their own councils. Subject matter will be highly relevant to the decision making and implementation process of the Regional Strategic Waste Management Plan.

DRAFT STRATEGIC PLANS

The SMRC has prepared three draft Strategic Plans, currently seeking comment from Participant Councils and the Community Advisory Group.

The Plans are:

Strategic Waste Management Plan,
Strategic Community Plan 2015-2025 and
Corporate Business Plan 2015-2019.

CORPORATE POLICY REVIEW

The following existing policies were reviewed and adopted:

- a. Leave Management No. 3.1
- b. Employee Personal Property No. 3.2
- c. Occupational Safety and Health No. 3.4
- d. Employee Appointments No. 3.5

CLASS ACTION AGAINST S&P CDO

The SMRC filed a class action claim against Standard and Poors (Credit Agency) for its AA rating of its Lehman Brothers CDO investment in 2007. The Court recently approved the terms of a Settlement Distribution Scheme to group members of the class action to award payment. The Council approved the Chairman and CEO to sign the agreement to enable it to receive funds under the scheme.

DRAFT 2016/16 ANNUAL BUDGET

The SMRC has prepared a Draft 2016/17 Budget Parameters Report for participant's consideration. The Budget represents a \$29 million operational budget and a \$1.5 million capital expenditure program.

The following proposed budget parameters are:

Member's total cost towards Regional Council activities is an overall Average increase of 1.6% (\$4 p/household).

- Materials Recovery Facility Gate Fee – No increase
- Green Waste Gate Fee – No increase
- Waste Composting Facility Gate Fee increase 2.8%
- RRRR Total Loan repayments – decrease of \$110K.

The Draft Budget Report has been sent to Member Council's CEOs for comment before the final budget is proposed for adoption in June 2016.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Savings in the RRRR operational expenditure areas for power, insurance and plant maintenance, has resulted in a \$500 budget surplus as at 31 March 2016. It is projected that this surplus will continue to 30 June 2016.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CONTRACT

The SMRC recently invited quotations from energy suppliers on the WALGA procurement panel. The SMRC resolved to award Alinta Energy a two-year contract for electricity supply and it expects to save approx. \$175,000 on current power expenditure over the 2-year term.