

Minutes

Refuse Disposal Facility Community Reference Group Portfolio Committee – Meeting 44

Date:	26 August 2021	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)</p> <p>Wyndham City Council Staff: Stephen Thorpe Director City Operations Simon Clay Manager Waste Management and Disposal Justin Rhodes Environmental Systems Officer Kaylene Johnson Coordinator Waste Collection Services</p> <p>Reference Group members: Karen Hucker Community representative Michelle Lee Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Group Julian Menegazzo Adjacent landowner representative Karthik Viswanathan Community representative</p>		
Apologies:	<p>Cr Heather Marcus Councillor (Iramoo Ward)</p> <p>Matthew Whelan Acting Operations Coordinator</p> <p>Lisa Field Resident group representative</p> <p>Hayley Scott Community representative</p> <p>Mason Asadi Environmental group representative</p> <p>Paul Von Harder Community representative</p>		

Program

Topic	Actions
<p>1. Welcome & Apologies Bruce welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>Kaylene Johnson recently joined Council as the Coordinator Waste Collection Services and will attend the CRG meetings as a guest.</p>	
<p>2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest No conflicts of interest were declared.</p>	
<p>3. Adoption of Previous Minutes The draft notes from the previous meeting held on the 24 June 2021 were accepted with no changes.</p> <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>	

Action Tracker for the June 2021 meeting provided below.

ACTIONS FROM JUNE 2021 MEETING		
Action Reference	Action Details	Status
M43-5.1	Stephen would bring textile waste issue to Council Environmental Group for discussion at the next meeting (October 2021)	Closed. Stephen has organised for this topic to be discussed at the next Climate Futures Committee Meeting
M43-5.2	Lisa would send Council some more information of planting stock available	Closed. Lisa emailed Simon
M43-7.1	Council to discuss and organise a presentation from Deakin University regarding the works at the Hub	Pending. Justin is looking into this
M43-7.2	Council to distribute Paper on the proposed Resource Recovery and Bailing Facility to the CRG.	Closed. Justin has distributed with meeting minutes
ACTIONS FROM MEETINGS PRIOR TO LAST MEETING		
M42-6.2:	Karen indicated that she will send Stephen an email once she has confirmed which Council completed the survey and Stephen could follow up with them.	Closed. Karen provided information directly to Stephen.
Action M40-2.1	Simon to investigate the opportunity to report on RDF emissions and energy generation in Council's State of the Environment report.	Closed. Discussed at June 2021 meeting.

Action M40-5.1	The topic of waste recovery research to be listed for further updates and discussion on a future agenda.	Closed. Stephen presented at June 2021 meeting.
M38-6.2	Simon to provide the CRG with details of other reclamation projects and possibility of sharing our results with industry	Closed. Simon discussed at June 2021 meeting.

4. RDF Membership and 2021 meeting schedule

Justin advised that Council received 13 Expressions of Interest (EOI), including Lisa and Karen. Four application have been shortlisted and interview are currently being scheduled.

Justin advised that Lisa and Karen would be extended for a year leaving two vacant positions to be filled through the EOI process

5. Members' Reports

Julian Menegazzo

Julian reported that, as the closest resident to the site, he was having some issues noise from the RDF, which he believes is generators operating on site. It is a low frequency noise that he can hear at night-time. Simon advised that the RDF is closed overnight and that a possible source is the generators converting gas to electricity at the LMS power station on site. The generators operate 24hrs a day 7 days a week. LMS do have an EPA operating licence for the facility that is probably like Council's licence to operate the RDF.

Karen indicated that her workplace had a similar issue and the problem was solved with some noise monitoring and attenuation barriers.

Justin indicated that Council has raised the issue with LMS. LMS are in the process of organising noise monitoring to determine if the generators are the source of the noise, if so, to what level and the potential controls if required (such as attenuation barriers).

Karen Hucker

Nothing to share

Karthik Viswanathan

Nothing to share

6. Industry Update

Michelle shared a link from the MWRRG website promoting the 'Bindance' film festival, delivering industry insights for councillors. Due to COVID restriction a number of online videos and presentations from industry experts was developed to share more about what happens to household wastes and recyclables.

The CRG watched a video on how recycled glass is formed into new glass bottles at Visy' glass reprocessing facility in Laverton.

<https://mwrrg.vic.gov.au/news/bindance-film-festival-delivers-industry-insights-for-councillors/>

7. Wyndham Waste Strategy and Waste Service Update

Simon provided an update on the Strategic Plan and primarily the planned waste recovery and bailing facility. Simon indicated that Council had gone to market for EOI on the facility equipment and design. Simon will take the EOI to Council at the end of November 2021.

Concept design for the waste recovery process and civil instruction to be completed by February 2022. The concept design will then move towards detailed design and finalised by mid-2022.

Council is having preliminary discussions around the proposed anerobic digestion component of the facility to understand how the methane generated can be linked into the existing LMS power station on site, or potential reused back within the site facility operations.

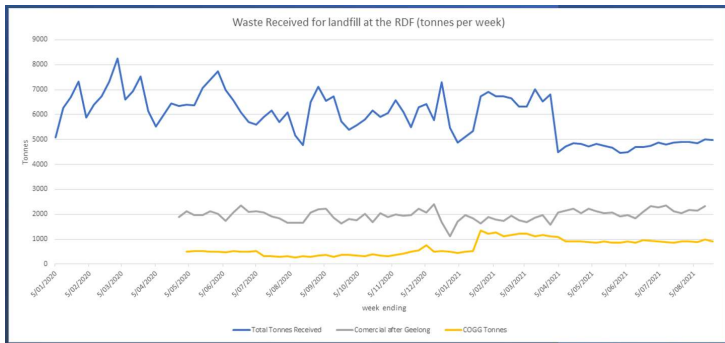
Stephen indicated that his Department is getting the new facility to the point that Council will commit to construction. He is still working with other Council's to secure the required waste tonnages required for the bailing facility operation to be feasible.

RDF Operations

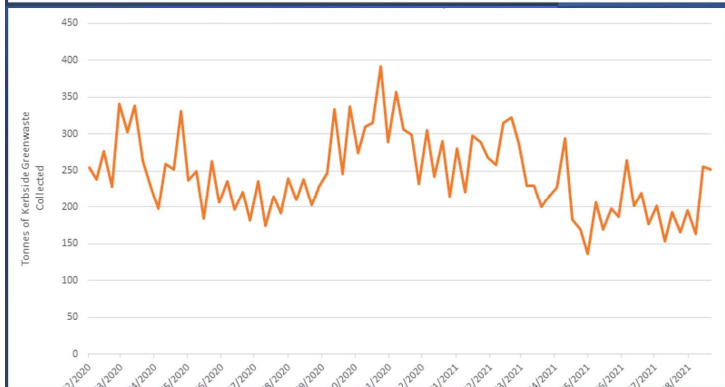
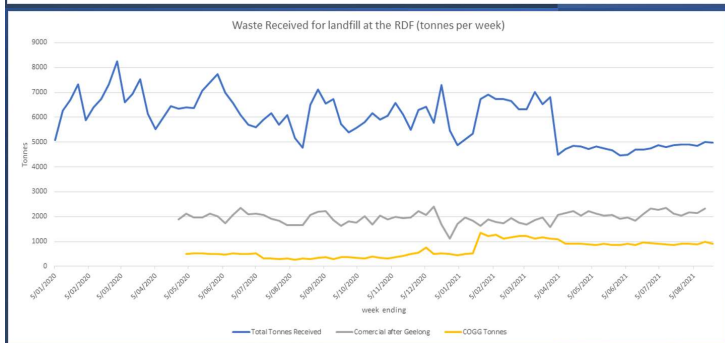
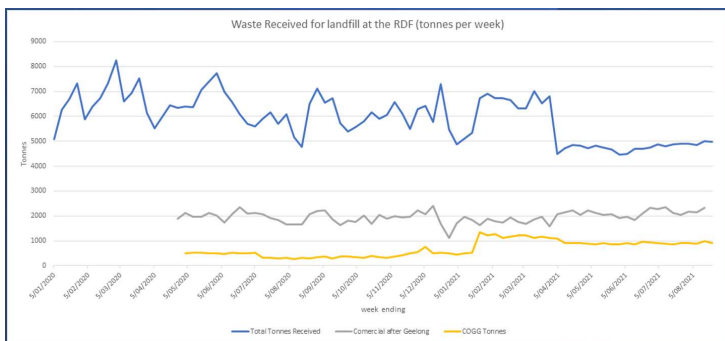
Simon provided update on some resource changes at the RDF due to the estimated 3 years of rehabilitation works that Council is undertaking. Peter Gordon has moved into a Project Management role for the rehabilitation works and Matthew Whelan has moved into the Operations Coordinator role. Simon is working offline for the next 6 months or so to work on the Bailing Facility and waste collections projects and Liza McColl is acting Manager for that period.

- Performance Dashboard - tonnage, landfill gas
Simon discussed tonnages and the graphs

Reduction on tonnes noted in Feb this year due to contract changes. The reduction in tonnages has allowed Site to throw some resources in to rehabilitation works



Transfer station patronage has reduced due to covid and lockdowns



Karen interested to know why the data indicates such a zig zag in the green waste numbers and was there a link between bin size and a reduction in waste.

Peter indicated that waste levels might be down as people are recycling more, composting, recycling soft plastics which reduce amount of waste going to landfill

Kaylene discussed broader industry changes – packaging volumes and types.

Karthik shared a couple of observations in the local community. Karthik noted that people are using green bins more (out in their gardens mowing) and lots of his friends are removing soft plastics also noting a habitual change. Stephen asked whether it was a result of more people working from home so more likely to do their own gardening rather than pay someone to do it. Karthik agreed and also discussed more use of compost bins.

Karthik also discussed hard waste. Simon indicated hard waste was collected by a contractor who sort and recycle with the rest going to landfill. Current recovery rate for hard waste is around 45%. Kaylene indicated that the reporting on recycling rate is not great at the moment. Kaylene has asked for more data and information from the contractor around this so she can evaluate.

Stephen indicated that Council looked at the hard waste collection last year. Council wants to facilitate recovery as residents become alarmed when they see how much was going to landfill. Stephen indicated Council may look at upgrading drop off points or the transfer station to increase recovery of hard waste. This is a work in progress.

- **Pollution Abatement Notices**

Council has been working on the existing five pollution abatement notices (PAN) issued from by the EPA. These PAN notices are the result of legacy issues of the site. Council is working closely with EPA and has agreed on plans and works required to address issued raised in PANs. All PANs are available on EPA website.

Justin indicated that from the last CRG meeting Council had completed addressing one of these PANs – leaving four outstanding PANs. Neither of the remaining four PANs would be closed out in the next week.

- **Complaints register**

The complaints register was distributed prior to the meeting. No comments regarding this. A discussion regarding noise was undertaken earlier in the Members Report

- **Cell 6 and Cell 7 Construction**

Cell 6 construction on track for practical completion in November 2021 and Council won't commence filling until early to mid-2022.

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

9. Meeting Close/Details of Next Meeting
21 October 2021 – online or at Civic Centre (tbc)
