

Metropolitan Local Government Waste Forum Meeting Minutes



Date: Thursday 9 August 2018
Time: 6.00pm
Location: **Marriott Hotel**
 Corner Exhibition & Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Item	Description
1.	<p>Welcome to Forum – Cr Dot Haynes (Forum Chair)</p> <p>Cr Colleen Gates (Chair of the MWRRG Board) welcomed new Board members in attendance.</p> <p>Existing members: Cr Sam Alessi (City of Whittlesea, SPAG Chair), Cr Collin Ross (Cardinia Shire Council), Tom Melican (City of Banyule). New board members: Margaret Donnan (reappointed), Theresa Glab, John Watson, Evy Papadopoulos (Apology).</p> <p>(Refer to MWRRG website: https://mwrrg.vic.gov.au/about-us/meet-the-board)</p>
2.	<p>Minutes of last meeting</p> <p>Moved: Cr Bill Bennet (City of Whitehorse), Seconded: Cr Dick Gross (City of Port Phillip)</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 May 2018 were adopted. Carried.</p>
3.	<p>MWRRG update – Rob Millard (CEO MWRRG)</p> <p>Rob’s presentation highlighted MWRRG’s support for recycling industry challenges, including contingency planning for recycling, organics and landfill, legal advice and supporting negotiation of new transparent waste contracts and engagement. Collective tender working groups will commence soon. He outlined how MWRRG will work with government, industry and councils to develop a business case for a Centre of Excellence for Resource Recovery in the Western metropolitan region, and is currently delivering a pilot commercial and industrial (C&I) waste partnership project. MWRRG is also finalising a guide to assist councils considering introduction of FOGO. Litter and illegal dumping is a continuing focus with the hosting a joint CLEAN and LEON event earlier in the day, and the impending release of report into illegal dumping in metropolitan Melbourne.</p> <p>Rob reminded attendees that Sustainability Victoria’s grants program to support installation of e-waste collection and storage infrastructure closes 14 Sept. An e-waste education campaign is currently underway.</p> <p>A regional business case on advanced waste processing will be released at end of August. Key findings show that FOGO is important, but will not meet targets alone. Modelled scenarios showed energy recovery will be required to achieve the targets. A South East cluster business case is under development, with discussions in progress with Inner and Western councils. Future conversations are planned with the northern councils. A market sounding will occur later this year on AWRRT procurement process and other future procurements including landfill and kerbside recycling. The Metropolitan Waste and Resource Recovery Implementation Plan will be reviewed in 2019.</p> <p>Refer to presentation on MWRRG website</p>
4.	<p>Matt Genever (Director Resource Recovery, Sustainability Victoria (SV)) highlighted the Recycling Industry Strategic Plan. \$16m has been provided to SV for market development, industry capacity building and education. The Resource Recovery Infrastructure Fund will build network capacity, and a state-wide recycling campaign will focus on contamination reduction.</p>



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5.	<p>Ian Campbell-Fraser (Director, Economics, Governance & Waste, Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP)) discussed how a circular economy policy will be developed under the Recycling Industry Strategic Plan, and will examine better source separation.</p> <p>The Victorian Government has committed to a plastic bag ban, to be legislated by end of 2019. The timeline is influenced by the proposed new <i>Environment Protection Act 2018</i> (EP Act). The EP Act reform agenda includes a fundamental legislative shift towards a general duty of environmental protection. Ian suggested a future presentation to the forum on the impact of the reforms. A review of the 2009 National Waste Policy is now underway, and DELWP are leading on behalf of the Victorian environment portfolio.</p>
6.	<p>Long term visions for waste and resource recovery</p> <p>Anthony Carbines, MP State Member for Ivanhoe, Parliamentary Secretary for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, Parliamentary Secretary for Water, was not able to attend and sent his apologies.</p>
7.	<p>Long term visions for waste and resource recovery - Huong Truong (MLC, Member for Western Metro Region, Waste Portfolio spokesperson for the Victorian Greens Party)</p> <p>Huong discussed the Greens vision for transforming the economy into a circular economy. She believes that the public are ready for change (re. recycling, container deposit legislation (CDL), closing the loop), and is supportive of the new risk based approach of the EP Act. Huong discussed the Greens bringing forward legislation on CDL which was voted down by Labour and Liberal parties, and the VAGO report on the landfill levy. Huong is concerned about lost opportunities, and says money is available for investment.</p> <p>Huong said waste to energy currently lacks a strategic plan, and instead would like to rethink, reuse and close the loop. She expressed support for organic recycling, bin standardisation, contracts standardisation, CDL, and highlighted the importance of industry involvement and innovation, requiring a stable operating environment. The Greens are working on a policy, and looking at the entire waste profile. They will soon launch a policy package on plastic pollution.</p> <p>Forum members asked questions about how landfill sites can transform into centres of innovation, whether government will provide leadership on the use of recycled products and why major parties are not supportive of CDL and how the Greens refute this. Huong said that state and local government regulation needs to be reliable, and markets need to be developed. That local government can lead the way on sustainable purchasing, but need people in state government willing to make changes. Huong said Labour agrees with CDL concept, but is not ready, while the Liberals argued a technicality on whether the Bill was admissible. The Greens will be announcing plans for the landfill and waste sector in coming weeks. Huong encouraged Forum members to get in touch if they have any questions, and reiterated her support for local government.</p>
8.	<p>TARG update, Misty Johannsen (TARG Chair) provided an update of the last TARG meeting (see June TARG meeting minutes).</p>
9.	<p>SPAG update - Cr Sam Alessi (SPAG Chair) provided an update of the last SPAG meeting (see June SPAG meeting minutes). Sam highlighted the upcoming joint SPAG/TARG budget bid workshop on 27 September. An e-waste paper highlighting issues was developed after the last Forum and circulated.</p> <p><u>MOTION:</u> To accept e-waste paper and move forward with suggestions.</p> <p>Moved: Cr Jim Child (Yarra Ranges Council), Seconded: Cr Bob Turner (Melton City Council). Carried.</p>
10.	<p>Forum Operating Guidelines Review. SPAG Chair, Cr Sam Alessi presented the revised operating guidelines. The guidelines highlight that the Forum is a statutory body established under EP Act. Legislated functions include: Nominate four members for MWRRG Board; Advise MWRRG Board on matters and issues affecting the role of councils in waste management and resource recovery; Act as conduit for consultation between MWRRG and councils.</p> <p>Discussion revolved around a three year review cycle for the guideline, the Forum's role in advocacy, Forum tours and a suggested change to the new media guidelines.</p>

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	<p>MOTION: To accept the revised Forum Operating Guidelines with amendments.</p> <p>Moved: Cr Dick Gross (City of Port Phillip), Seconded: Cr John Mortimer (City of Knox)</p> <p>The revised Operating Guidelines were adopted. Carried.</p>
11.	<p>Next Steps & Other business - Cr Dot Haynes (Forum Chair)</p> <p>The use of single use plastics at the meeting location was raised.</p> <p>Upcoming events were presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Paddock to Plate” Forum Tour 9:00am-5:00pm, Thurs 11 October 2018, bus departs & returns to MWRRG office • November Forum meeting, 5:30-8:00pm, Thurs 15 November 2018, Marriott Hotel
12.	<p>Close and Networking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting closed at 8.05pm
Attendees	
Councillors:	Tom Melican, Peter Castaldo (Banyule City Council), Michael Heffernan (Bayside City Council), Bruce Lancashire (Brimbank City Council), Collin Ross (Cardinia Shire Council), Lina Messina (Darebin City Council), Colin Hampton, (Frankston City Council), Colleen Gates (Hobsons Bay City Council), John Mortimore (Knox City Council), Dot Haynes (Manningham City Council), Simon Crawford (Maribyrnong City Council), Mike Symon (Maroondah City Council), Bob Turner (Melton City Council), Brian Little (Monash City Council), Hugh Fraser (Mornington Peninsula Shire Council), John Dumaresq (Nillumbik Shire Council), Dick Gross (Port Phillip City Council), Bill Bennett (Whitehorse City Council), Sam Alessi (Whittlesea City Council), Peter Maynard (Wyndham City Council), Jackie Fristacky (Yarra City Council), Jim Child (Yarra Ranges Shire Council)
Council officers:	Russell Darling (Banyule City Council), Steven White (Bayside City Council), Robert Keenan (Brimbank City Council), Misty Johannsen (Cardinia Shire Council), Michael Jansen (Casey City Council), Sue Phillips (Darebin City Council), Bruce Howden (Frankston City Council), Phil Robertson (Greater Dandenong City Council), James Roscoe (Glen Eira City Council), Kaylene Johnson (Hobsons Bay City Council), Sean Sciberras (Hume City Council), Daniel Freer (Kingston City Council), Matthew Hanrahan (Knox City Council), Drago Lijovic (Manningham City Council), Grace Girardi (Maribyrnong City Council), Marianne DiGiallonardo, Damian Thorp, Tony Rocca (Maroondah City Council), Melanie Oke (Melbourne City Council), Donna Schembri (Melton City Council), Rowan Miller (Monash City Council), Daniel Hinson (Mornington Peninsula Shire Council), Noel Kiernan (Stonnington City Council), Helen Kerley (Whitehorse City Council), Brad Byrne (Whittlesea City Council), Graham Brew (Yarra Ranges Shire Council)
MWRRG staff:	Rob Millard, Josephine Regel, Paul Clapham, Slavka Scott, Eleanor Crofts, Stan Vermeeren, Nina Thomas, Zandy Powell, Katherine Lyttle, Michelle Lee, Christine Dirks, Dee Stanton
Others:	Margaret Donnan, Theresa Glab, John Watson (MWRRG Board Directors), Ian Campbell-Fraser, Angela Hoefnagels, Sandra Talty (DELWP), Matt Genever (Sustainability Victoria), Claire Dunn, Emlyn Breese (MAV)
Apologies:	Evy Papadopoulos (MWRRG Board Director), Phillip Healey (Boroondara City Council), Amanda Stapledon (Casey City Council), Matthew Kirwan (Greater Dandenong City Council), Angela Altair (Hobsons Bay City Council), Jack Medcraft (Hume City Council), Cathy Oke (Melbourne City Council), Judy Hindle (Stonnington City Council), Sam Ortisi (Maribyrnong City Council), Simon Hill (Monash City Council), Dino De Melis (Moonee Valley City Council), Ian Smith (Stonnington City Council), Ian Barnes (Whitehorse City Council)