



MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL
"Getting the Environment Right"

Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Minutes

4.00pm Wednesday
25 August 2021
WALGA
Online

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ATTENDANCE

Cr Doug Thompson (Fremantle)	Southern Metropolitan Regional Council	<i>Chair</i>
Mayor Logan Howlett (Cockburn)	WALGA State Council	
Mayor Ruth Butterfield (Armadale)	WALGA State Council	
Cr Giorgia Johnson (Bayswater)	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	
Cr Bob Hall	City of Greater Geraldton	
Cr Karen Vernon (Victoria Park)	Mindarie Regional Council	
Cr Tresslyn Smith (Bunbury)	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council	
Mr Tony Battersby	Bunbury Harvey Regional Council	
Ms Jessica Felix	City of Greater Geraldton	
Mr Stefan Frodsham	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Chris Hoskisson (Joondalup)	Metropolitan Local Government	
Ms Ruth March (Albany)	Non-Metropolitan Local Government	
Ms Rebecca Brown	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Candy Wong	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Tazra Hawkins	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Gráinne Whelan	Municipal Waste Advisory Council	
Ms Nicole Matthews	WA Local Government Association	
Brian Robartson	City of Greater Geraldton	<i>Observer</i>
Mr Marcus Geisler	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	<i>Observer</i>

APOLOGIES

Ms Narelle Cant	WA Local Government Association	
Mayor Tracey Roberts	WALGA President	
Mr John McNally	Rivers Regional Council	
Mr Gunther Hoppe	Mindarie Regional Council	
Mr Tim Youé	Southern Metropolitan Regional Council	<i>OAG Chair</i>
Cr Stephanie Stroud (Subiaco)	Western Metropolitan Regional Council	
Mr Douglas Bruce	Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council	

1 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

1.1 MWAC Minutes tabled at WALGA State Council

A summary of the Minutes of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council meeting held Wednesday, 30 June will be noted at the next WA Local Government Association State Council meeting.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1 Confirmation of the Previous MWAC Minutes

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/MAYOR BUTTERFIELD)

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council held on Wednesday, 30 June 2021 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

2.2 Business Arising from the Previous MWAC Minutes

A	Issue	August 2018 MWAC Item 3.4 Community and Industry Engagement Grant - Feedback		
	Action	That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse: 1. Providing feedback to the Waste Authority on the CIE Projects 2. Undertaking the following Projects as staffing capacity allows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reuse Shop Awards ○ Non-Metropolitan Waste Summit ○ Container Deposit Scheme – events 		
	Timeframe		Status	Remove item, actions either complete or not a priority for 2021/22.
B	Issue	October 2020 MWAC Item 4.1 Strategic Planning for Non-Metropolitan Waste Management		
	Action	Correspondence be sent to the Waste Authority highlighting the need to fast track non-metropolitan waste planning – across all waste streams.		
	Timeframe		Status	Will be completed as part of work on Infrastructure WA Strategy.
C	Issue	June 2021 MWAC Item 3.2 Draft Advocacy Strategy for Effective Product Stewardships		
	Action	That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse the Draft Advocacy Strategy for Effective Product Stewardship.		
	Timeframe		Status	Commenced – see item 4.1
D	Issue	June 2021 MWAC Item 5.8 FOGO in MUDS		
	Action	1. Executive Officer will follow up to determine if information on the <i>Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007</i> can be provided to DAPs so the members understand the regulatory requirements regarding Local Government waste collection. 2. The Chair requested that the Executive Officer provide information on how the amount/type of education a Local Government undertakes can impact on their contamination rate.		
	Timeframe		Status	1. Examples are requested from Members regarding this issue. 2. To be completed

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

At the previous meeting, the issue was raised that Development Assessment Panels may not fully understand the regulatory requirements of Local Government in relation to waste management. WALGA would like to follow up with the Department of Planning and is seeking examples where specific decisions were made that impacted Local Government service provision. Please email any examples to the Executive Officer.

3 DECISION ITEMS

3.1 Draft Submission Right to Repair***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/ MAYOR BUTTERFIELD) That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse the Draft Submission on Right to Repair.

In Brief

- In December 2020, WALGA undertook an online survey of Local Government seeking feedback on the potential for Right to Repair legislation that could extend the life of products and reduce waste going to landfill. The February Submission was informed by the survey and input from MWAC.
- In June 2021 the Productivity Commission released a Draft Report seeking additional input for the final report which will be submitted to the Australian Government by 29 October 2021.
- The Draft MWAC Submission builds on the February Submission and identifies the benefits that right to repair requirements could have for Local Government and the community.

Background

The Productivity Commission has issued a [Draft Report](#) on the Right to Repair. The Commission has been asked to assess the costs and benefits of a right to repair in Australia and the impact that regulatory or policy changes could have on market offerings for repair services and replacement products. In undertaking the inquiry, the Commission will examine:

- Whether there are regulatory or manufacturer-imposed barriers to accessing repair services, including the role of embedded software, intellectual property and commercially sensitive knowledge in limiting access to repairs, as well as trade-offs with more competitive markets and innovation
- The impacts of waste (especially e-waste generated from the disposal of consumer electronics and household goods) on the environment and community, and the current arrangements for the disposal and management of e-waste. This will include the examination of the effect of premature and planned product obsolescence on the growth of e-waste.

Comment

Some of the matters included in the Draft Report are outside the scope of Local Government expertise and experience, therefore not every section of the Draft Report has been commented on. In providing comment on the Draft Report, the Draft Submission focuses on ensuring that effective Right to Repair legislation has the potential to benefit Local Government and the community by:

- Ensuring the community has access to repairers and the parts needed for repairs
- Reducing the cost of repair – currently it is frequently cheaper to buy a new product than to have it repaired
- Reducing built in or planned obsolescence for electronic products and any associated accessories – one example given was games consoles, when a new console is released the games from the previous model do not fit into the new model
- Ensuring effective product stewardship is in place, so that that producers are taking financial or physical responsibility for their products at end of life
- Ensuring the warranty issues are well addressed in any changes.

Responses to the Draft Report were due 13 July 2021. The draft Submission was attached (p. 1).

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The E-waste Drop-off Events organised by WALGA have yielded useful data relating to the costs of collecting and recycling e-waste. This information has been included in the Submission as it highlights that there is a significant opportunity to improve how products are manufactured which would reduce costs at end of life. A member of the Group requested further insight as to how a lack of capacity to repair products currently impacts items such as agricultural machinery which are fairly common Local Government assets in regional areas. Manufacturers have stringent processes for the repair of their products so for example, the owner of a tractor of a particular brand could only seek repairs from the manufacturer of that brand. If the owner were to seek repairs from a third party, they could void their warranty and risk their product not getting repaired at all. Diagnostic tools are often required to access computerised components and determine problems. These tools are typically centralized in metropolitan areas which inhibits local options for repair.

3.2 Draft Submission Noise Guidelines***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYORHOWLETT/MAYOR BUTTERFIELD)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council endorse the Draft Submission on the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation Guideline Assessment of environmental noise emissions.

In Brief

- In June 2016, WALGA made a Submission on the Department's *Draft Guideline on Environmental Noise for prescribed premises*. In that Submission issues identified included:
 - The use of separation distances as a trigger for a full-scale noise assessment
 - Noise from construction activities was not addressed
 - Existing and prospective facilities will be subject to significant and costly requirements to assess noise.
- On 16 June 2021, the Department released its *Draft Guideline: Assessment of environmental noise emissions* for public consultation for a 12-week period. The Draft Guideline is a more extensive version of the previously released Guideline.

Background

The [Draft Guideline](#) set out the Department's information requirements for the analysis of noise emission impact for prescribed premises, and will apply to all applications for a works approval or licence (including amendments) under Part V of the Environmental Protection Act (EP Act) with an identified noise emission component. The Draft Guideline also provides technical information for environmental impact assessment of proposals under Part IV of the EP Act and consideration of noise emissions from premises that are not prescribed premises. The Department held two public information sessions on 2 and 4 August 2021.

Comment

A short Draft Submission on the Draft Guideline has been developed. Some of the issues identified include:

- In the Draft Guideline it is unclear whether proponents will be required to apply this Guideline in circumstances where noise emissions have already been assessed and approved under Part IV of the EP Act.
- Vibrational impacts are also listed in the Draft Guideline as a factor influencing the impact of noise emissions. The Noise Regulations do not address vibration and therefore, it is difficult for applicants to determine how to assess, monitor and address vibrational impacts.
- The screening tool in the Draft Guideline (Appendix A) does not provide sufficient clarity to identify when low level noise emission/s do not require a detailed assessment because the Draft Guideline states that "where screening analysis indicates noise emissions are likely to be low level, the Department may still request additional information or a detailed analysis in the following cases:
 - Past experience of the department regulating similar premises;
 - Known changes of receptor proximity in future; or
 - Insufficient supporting information provided to the department."

- The Draft Guideline predominately relies on screening distances to determine if detailed noise analysis is required. It makes very little reference to other factors that influence the risk of noise emissions. This has the potential to significantly increase the regulatory burden on facilities where noise is only a minor (and managed) risk.

Further Clarification is required on several points in the Draft Guideline including the definition of a ‘competent person’ to undertake noise assessments and how the Guideline will be applied to existing premises. Submissions are due 10 September 2021. The draft Submission was attached (p. 7).

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

One of the main concerns is the high likelihood that these guidelines will be applied retrospectively and represent an increased level of rigour which could potentially result in significant costs for existing licensed premises. There is also a lack of clarity as to the circumstances under which a facility would be required to observe the proposed guidelines. A special requirement for a ‘competent person’ to undertake assessments has also been indicated, however the guidelines neglect to define the role and qualifications of a competent person.

3.3 Local Government Support for Plastics Bans***

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/ MAYOR BUTTERFIELD)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council:

- 1. Write to the Environment Minister supporting the Single-use Plastics Ban**
- 2. Encourage Local Governments to write to the Environment Minister supporting the Ban.**
- 3. MWAC request State Council to place this item on the agenda for the next round of Zone Meetings.**

In Brief

- The State Government have committed to banning a number of single-use plastic items. Local Government has been consistently supportive of this approach as state-wide regulation is a more consistent and streamlined way to regulate these products.
- Consultation has occurred regarding the bans, with some concerns raised by the packaging industry about the timeline and approach.
- Local Government has an opportunity to support the implementation of the bans, which will assist in reducing the use of single-use plastic items, transitioning to reusable or compostable alternatives and reduce potential contamination issues for recycling and FOGO systems.

Background

At the June MWAC meeting strong support was indicated for the Plastics Bans and the scope of materials covered. Since that meeting the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) have undertaken a series of consultation sessions across WA to gather feedback from Local Government and other impacted stakeholders. The presentation from these sessions is attached and shows the range of items to be banned and the proposed alternatives.

Comment

The approach that DWER has taken is to recommend that no single-use plastics are used (including compostable plastic), where there is a workable alternative. There are some instances where there is not currently an alternative product, so compostable plastic is allowed in some instances.

Currently compostable plastic packaging is not accepted through the FOGO collections provided by Local Governments because there is a large range of plastic packaging in the market and it is not possible to differentiate between compostable and non-compostable plastics in relation to contamination. When the bans are in place, the only options on the market will be compostable, which presents an opportunity to potentially allow these products through a FOGO system. Compostable plastic packaging is a contaminant in the recycling stream.

The packaging industry is very resistant to changes to packaging. There is an opportunity for Local Government to show support for the bans and outline the various benefits of the bans from the community and service provision perspective. The DWER presentation outlining the scope of the proposed ban and the alternative products was attached (p. 10).

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Regulations have been scheduled to begin by the end of 2021 with a grace period of 6 months for retailers to use up existing stock and transition to alternatives. The Chair suggested that the Group add a third recommendation for 'MWAC to request State Council to place this item on the agenda for the next round of Zone Meetings'. MWAC can provide the option of presentations at the Zone Meetings, subject to the availability of DWER.

A member of the Group requested clarification on thick plastic bags in relation to the ban. There is an Australian Standard for compostable materials, however there is no universal definition for the following terms:

- **Degradable** – describes petroleum-based plastics that break down into smaller fragments of plastic.
- **Biodegradable** – frequently used to describe petroleum-based and petroleum/plant-based plastics which contain additives that enable the plastic to be broken down into smaller fragments by bacteria or other living organisms.
- **Compostable** – when used appropriately, describes plant-based plastics that can be readily broken down through home or industrial systems.

The Department have included all these plastics as they do not break down when they end up in the environment, behaving the same as a standard plastic bag. From a waste perspective, the main issue with biodegradable and compostable plastics is that plant-based products are difficult to distinguish from petroleum-based products, and both of these plastics are considered a contaminant in the recycling stream. The bans are targeted at retailers so Local Governments will still be able to provide products such as dog waste bags for their communities to use in public areas.

4 DISCUSSION ITEMS

4.1 Product Stewardship – key considerations for success***

In Brief

- WALGA, working with the other State and Territory Local Government Associations, and ALGA, are developing a nationally consistent position for Product Stewardship.
- There are a plethora of new Product Stewardship Schemes being developed, with Federal Government funding, and there is a risk that each Scheme will seek to engage with Local Government independently and how these Schemes are structured will not meet the outcome of producers taking responsibly (financial/physical) for their product at end of life.

For Discussion

- Key components of successful Product Stewardship Schemes.

Background

The Federal Government has [funded](#) the development/enhancement of 20 Product Stewardship Schemes covering (silage wrap, child car seats, mattresses and bedding, uniforms and workwear, non-packaging agricultural plastics, cosmetic packaging, plastic oil containers, plastic packaging, cups, absorbent hygiene products, coffee capsules, PVC polyester textiles, mobile phones, plant pots, compostable packaging, sports equipment, sports footwear, tyres, furniture and batteries). The Federal Government has also funded the [Product Stewardship Centre of Excellence](#). The Schemes being developed, and those already in existence, need to be consistent in how they approach Local

Government, cover the full costs associated with recycling products and make it easy and convenient for the community to use.

There are considerable learnings from the Schemes that have been developed and implemented, and this information can be synthesised to provide a template approach for new Schemes and to improve existing Schemes.

A draft outline of the key components for successful Product Stewardship Schemes has been developed.

Comment

Currently there is a proliferation of schemes that are at risk of undergoing the same development processes as existing schemes, and potentially resulting in their delivery of suboptimal outcomes. MWAC has Policy Statements on Extended Producer Responsibility and Container Deposit Systems, however there is now the opportunity to develop an overarching document that specifically addresses what is needed to establish, support and maintain successful Product Stewardship Schemes. Based on information collected about schemes over the last 15 years, a draft outline has been prepared taking into consideration what is needed for effective Product Stewardship. Once this document is developed and endorsed by MWAC, there is further opportunity to engage with other Local Government Associations and progress these key considerations at a national level. The draft outline was attached (p. 47).

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

As the aim is for a national approach, some of the considerations in the document are not Western Australian specific. This document will be updated with feedback provided by other Local Government Association stakeholders. The City of Geraldton is currently charged \$400.00 per tonne to dispose of e-waste through the NTCRS; this amount is slightly less in metropolitan areas. The original intent of the NTCRS was for no cost to be incurred by Local Government. The Executive Officer will circulate an updated version of the document for comment, then an out of session Flying Minute.

4.2 Infrastructure Western Australia

In Brief

- Infrastructure WA has launched the [*Draft State Infrastructure Strategy Foundations for a Stronger Tomorrow*](#)
- WALGA is developing a Submission on the Strategy and MWAC has an opportunity to provide feedback into the Submission.

For Discussion

- Feedback on the Report

Background

WALGA is developing an overall response to the range of issues raised in the Draft Strategy and MWAC has the opportunity to feed into that Submission. The absence of infrastructure planning for waste management has been identified on a number of occasions as having a significant negative impact on the sector. The Draft Strategy includes a section on waste and identifies it as one of the key infrastructure sectors.

Comment

Some members of the Officers Advisory Group attended a recent Infrastructure WA event. It was noted that there was acknowledgement of the need for waste planning and support for the development of waste infrastructure as detailed in the *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030*. An outline of the issues was attached (p. 50).

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

There is an opportunity here to highlight the inequities between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas in terms of infrastructure. Feedback from Local Government has indicated the need to consolidate a strategy for waste infrastructure so that there is a reasonable distribution of infrastructure and to prevent similar facilities from being established in the same area. Regional Council assets are strategically located and the opportunity to involve State Government in coordinating these assets was raised. Infrastructure WA will be holding a breakfast session on Thursday, 9 September. MWAC has received three invitations and will be represented by the Chair of MWAC, Chair of OAG and Executive Officer.

5 INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 Total Fire Ban

- Information provided to EMRC by the DFES Regulation and Compliance Branch indicated:
 - *Just to clarify, “rubbish collection or disposal services” has now been included within the essential service definition within the regulations. This change now allows for “rubbish collection or disposal services” to carry out off-road activity during a HVMB, provided these works are part of urgent works in relation to the provision or restoration of an essential service.*
 - *Based on the above, an exemption issued under the Bush Fires Act will no longer be required to carry out off-road activity during a HVMB. Provided all conditions are complied with, notification is made, and the works are urgent works for the provision or restoration of the essential service the activity can continue when a HVMB is declared by the Local Government.*
 - *Therefore we will no longer require an Exemption to operate during Total Fire Bans and Harvest and Movement Bans, however, we will still need to follow the notification process.*
- WALGA will request this information be provided by DFES to all Local Governments.

5.2 Solar Panel Recycling

- An MWAC Councillor has identified a news item by Mr Allan Jones in relation to Solar Panel Recycling. The item raises concerns about what recycling options are available for Solar Panels.
- Photovoltaic Cells are included in the Federal Environment Minister Priority list for the development of Product Stewardship, with a Scheme to be agreed by mid-2022 and implemented by 2023.
- This is one of many potential waste management issues which would benefit from an effective Product Stewardship Scheme.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

Currently there is no option to fully recycle solar panels in Western Australia. It was noted that Total Green Recycling are able to recycle only some solar panel components. As this is an increasing problem, the Federal Minister has prioritised the establishment of a product stewardship scheme by mid-2022. The Executive Officer will investigate what other forums would be suitable to raise this issue.

5.3 ERA Draft Report Effects of the container deposit scheme on beverages in WA

- The Economic Regulatory Authority (ERA) has released a [Draft Report](#) on the impacts of the CDS on the price of beverage containers, following the introduction of the Scheme. This work was anticipated and is similar to that undertaken in other States and Territories.
- The Draft Report highlights that based on the first 6 months of data, the average retail price increases due to the Scheme are:
 - For non-alcoholic beverages, 10.5 cents per container in metropolitan markets.
 - For alcoholic beverages, 7.6 cents per container in metropolitan markets.

- Overall, regional retail prices also increased by amounts similar to those in Perth, though due to the smaller data set the results were more variable.
- Overall the Draft Report identifies that the “average price increases are all below the cost of administering and operating the Scheme. Both the cost of running the scheme and the average price increases are very similar to those seen in other states with container deposit schemes”
- Submissions can be made on this Draft Report by 23 August 2021, however at this stage it is proposed that MWAC will not make a Submission.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Executive Officer will provide an out of session update on the latest recovery rates from refund points and kerbside. The Scheme Coordinator WARRRL has released their new Containers for Change marketing campaign. The campaign can be viewed [here](#).

5.4 OAG and MWAC Meeting Dates 2022 and 2023

2022	
OAG	MWAC
7 February	23 February
11 April	27 April
13 June	29 June
8 August	24 August
10 October	26 October
28 November	7 December

2023	
OAG	MWAC
6 February	22 February
3 April	19 April
12 June	28 June
14 August	30 August
9 October	18 October
27 November	6 December

5.5 Waste Local Law – Bin Lid Colours

- The City of Albany is pursuing a Determination under their Waste Local Law to clearly identify the bin lid colours which are required in the City. The Waste Local Law does not currently include this level of information.
- For Local Governments who do not own their kerbside bins, this could be a pathway to ensure that bin lids are changed.

5.6 WasteSorted Grants

- The Waste Authority has released the WasteSorted Grants, due 13 September.
- WALGA held a session for Local Governments on Tuesday, 3 August to identify potentially collaborative grant projects. The projects included:
 - Public place/event bins and bin toppers
 - FOGO contamination reduction and communication
 - Waste education materials – particularly for CALD communities (building on existing work)
 - Cloth nappy subsidies/libraries.
- WALGA will facilitate additional workshops for Local Governments interested in these projects to determine the levels of interest, lead organisations and process for submitting grants.
- WALGA will be seeking to put in a Submission on an update to the Waste Local Law Template.

5.7 Waste Fires – Survey

- A survey was distributed to all Local Governments and WALGA Preferred Suppliers seeking information on the frequency, source and costs associated with fires in kerbside, vergeside and drop-off services.
- There was 56 respondents, and all questions relate to the past 12 months (as some sites had more than one fire – some percentages add up to more than 100%).
 - 29% had fires in kerbside collection services (64% had fires in waste collection, 50% in recycling collections and 7% in GO collections)
 - 8% had fires at their verge collection services.
 - 39% had fires at drop off locations (transfer stations, landfills etc.)
 - The main source of fires, through all collection methods was:
 - 30% was caused by lithium batteries
 - 28% unknown sources
 - 20% other (mainly hot coals and other battery types)
 - 7% for each of the following materials: gas cylinders, aerosols & flammable liquids
 - Estimated cost of fires in waste for all respondents was ~\$300,000

5.8 Nangs

- A Metropolitan Local Government has raised the issue of inappropriate disposal of small nitrous oxide canisters (full and empty) commonly known as ‘nangs’. The legitimate use for these canisters is for catering purposes (generally used in whipped cream). The question was asked regarding what regulation the State Government was progressing to address this issue.
- The Mental Health Commission (MHC) is taking action in this area, following an increased level of hospital presentations of people seriously impacted from excessive nitrous oxide consumption. The MHC has a working group developing a suite of regulatory and education options which will be presented to the Minister (Minister Stephen Dawson) for consideration.
- The Therapeutic Goods Administration have also just issued a [Draft determination](#) regarding the labelling and sale of these items. It would put these canisters in the same regulatory category as spray paint.

5.9 Community Sharps Program

- WALGA received Expressions of Interest from 22 Local Governments for new, or upgrading existing, community sharps containers. This totalled 240 containers.

6 REPORTS

6.1 Working Groups/Committee Reports

**Please note this section has been updated as of August 2021 to reflect the complete list of working groups, both internal and external that MWAC participates in.*

MWAC Groups

- 1. Metropolitan Regional Council Working Group**
Delegates/Nominees: Mr Tim Youé, Working Group Chair
This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting.
- 2. Reducing Illegal Dumping Working Group**
Delegates/Nominees: N/A

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting. However, was used to gather information about illegal dumping of mattresses.

3. Vergeside Collection Working Group

Delegates/Nominees: N/A

This Group has not met since the previous MWAC Meeting. However feedback provided by the Group has been incorporated into the DWER Better Practice Guideline for Verge Collection and Drop Off. It is anticipated that this group will cease once that guidance is published.

4. Consistent Communications Collective

Delegates/Nominees: N/A

This Group will meet on **Wednesday, 25 August**.

5. Industry Training Reference Group

Delegates/Nominees: N/A

This Group met on **Tuesday, 27 July** to provide feedback on the development of the Waste Management Certificate III. It is anticipated that this group will cease once the Certificate III is complete (November 2021).

6. Household Hazardous Waste Advisory Group / Operators Meeting

The HHW Advisory Group meets on an as needs basis. The HHW Operators Group meets twice a year. The last meeting was in **June 2021**.

External Committees and Working Groups

7. DWER Waste Reform Advisory Group

Representative: MWAC Chair, MWAC Executive Officer and CEO of SMRC

The Group met on **Wednesday, 11 August**. An update will be provided at the meeting on the key points of discussion.

8. DWER FOGO Reference Group

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer, SMRC, EMRC and WMRC.

This Group met on **Wednesday, 14 July**. Following this meeting MWAC staff are working on updating the *FOGO Step-by-Step Implementation Guideline*.

9. DWER Single Use Plastic Working Group

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer

This Group met on **Tuesday, 13 July** to discuss the work of the Plastic Straw Working Group and the transition to the Single-use Plastic Working Group.

10. WARRRL Local Government Reference Group

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer

This Group met for the first time on **Wednesday, 11 August** to discuss ways to increase container recovery from Local Government related activities – e.g. at events.

11. Australasian Packaging Label Marketing and Communications Working Group

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer

This Group meets on a quarterly basis to provide input into the marketing consideration regarding the Packaging Label.

12. Hazard Coordinating Committee

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer

This Group meet on **Wednesday, 21 July** and discussed a range of waste management related hazards, including lithium batteries.

13. Across Agency Asbestos Group

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer

This Group has not met recently.

14. Main Roads Waste Forum

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer

This Group met on **Wednesday, 4 August**. The discussion at the Group highlighted the ongoing use of the recycled C&D material by MainRoads and opportunities for Local Government to use the material.

15. Waste Management and Resource Recovery Association

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer, CEO of SMRC

This Group meets monthly.

16. Charitable Recyclers Australia

Representative: MWAC Executive Officer

This Group met on every quarter.

7 OTHER GENERAL BUSINESS

MUNICIPAL WASTE ADVISORY COUNCIL MOTION (MAYOR HOWLETT/MAYOR BUTTERFIELD)

That the Municipal Waste Advisory Council undertake a workshop with the Goldfields Esperance Country Zone at their earliest convenience to identify ways that MWAC can further represent and assist the Zone.

Discussion at the Municipal Waste Advisory Council

The Goldfields Esperance Country Zone have raised that they consider MWAC is not actively supporting non-metropolitan Local Governments. MWAC proposes to undertake a workshop with these Local Governments at their earliest convenience to identify ways to further assist the Zone. The Chair and Executive Officer will represent the Group. The invitation to attend will be extended to other members of MWAC.

The meeting **closed 4:39pm**.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Municipal Waste Advisory Council will be held online at **4:00pm on Wednesday, 13 October 2021**.