

MEMORANDUM

DATE: 23 June 2017

TO: Waste Steering Committee

FROM: John Martin, Director Technical Services

SUBJECT: Committee Meeting 1 – Background Information

Numbered as per the agenda items.

4a. Council's Broad Objectives

Council's broad objectives for this Strategy are to:

1. Conduct a review of the current waste services, including:
 - a. To clearly define the waste services currently provided to the community
 - b. To consider the community's preferences for delivery of additional or changed waste services
 - c. To consider the equity of access in the provision of waste services
 - d. To review and continually improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the services provided.
2. Align Council's waste services with government policies
3. Identify opportunities for collaboration with relevant agencies, the regional waste group, Councils in our waste region, and the private waste industry to improve resource recovery and waste management planning and outcomes.
4. Develop a long-term direction for management of Council's landfill operations.

4b. Project Outline

The key stages of the project are outlined below.

Meeting No (approx)	Project Stage
1-2	Awareness / education – to inform the community about some current issues and limitations of Horsham's waste and recycling performance, so that we can aim to address these.
1-2	Option development – Steering Committee and public input will be sought to develop the range of issues and options that should be considered in preparing the strategy.
3-4	Option evaluation – an assessment of the merit of options – by the Committee.

5	Development of draft recommendations .
	Presentation of proposals to the community for public comment .
6	Consideration of public comment in preparing final recommendations for consideration by Council.

The meeting number in the table above is an approximation of when each stage is expected to be considered at a Steering Committee meeting. Depending on how the strategy unfolds this may change.

The Steering Committee will have the opportunity to develop and refine the project process. Background information will be sent to Steering Committee members before each meeting.

A key element of the Steering Committee's role will be guidance on the engagement process to help include the community in this process. This may involve different methods at different stages of the project.

A more detailed draft project plan, incorporating the likely engagement process, will be presented at the second meeting

4c. Terms of Reference

Refer separate document

5a. Council's Current Waste Services

Customer based services:

- Kerbside garbage and recyclables collection
- Kenny Rd transfer station
 - Green waste
 - Hard waste
- Rural transfer stations
- Commercial waste
- Asbestos / hazardous waste
- Public events
- Other services
 - Public place litter bins
 - Drum muster
 - Detox Your Home
 - Garage Sale Trail
 - Product stewardship

Internal services:

- Kerbside collection
- Recyclables collection contract
- Management of recoverable materials
- Transfer station operations
- Dooen landfill

- Closed landfills
- Litter collection
- Street sweeping
- Ancillary functions
 - New bin delivery
 - Clean-up of dumped rubbish
 - Public education
 - Data collection

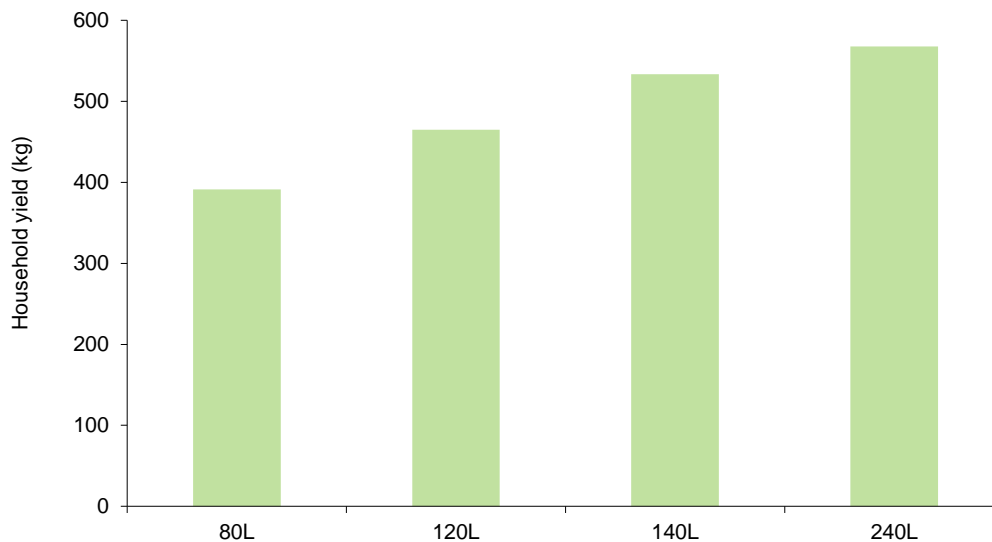
5b. Current Issues

A selection of some current issues that Council is aware of:

- Low level of diversions (see below)
- Size of bins (see below)
- Community interest in green waste bins
- Problem of dealing with green waste stream
- Dooen Landfill – current cell is over-filled, construction of new cell is lagging
- Dooen Landfill – opportunity for lower class of standards to apply if waste volume reduced
- Imminent E-waste ban
- Product stewardship schemes
- Transfer station operation contract

Background information relevant to the diversions and bin sizes is as follows:

- Horsham ranks 78th lowest out of 79 municipalities in Victoria for kerbside collection diversion rates, with just 16% of collected material diverted from landfill, well below the State average of 49%. [Source “Victorian Local Government Annual Survey 2012-13”, Sustainability Victoria]
- This trend has continued, with the recently released 2014-15 data showing Horsham still ranked 78th, with 17% of material diverted, compared to a State average of 44%.
- Horsham is one of only 4 Victorian councils which has retained 240 L garbage bins (as the predominant bin size). (Based on SV LGAS 2014-15)
- Sustainability Victoria, in its annual reviews of Local Government waste management, has identified a clear relationship between bin size and the amount of garbage generated per household, as per the graph below:



5c. Financial Aspects

The 2017-18 Council budget shows the following:

Budget 17-18			
	Expenditure	Income	Grand Total
Capital			
Transfer Stations & Landfills	1,825,000	-500,000	1,325,000
Capital Total	1,825,000	-500,000	1,325,000
Service Delivery			
Garbage Services	1,386,975	-2,894,472	-1,507,497
Recycling	288,450		288,450
Transfer Stations & Landfills	3,163,880	-2,312,800	851,080
Service Delivery Total	4,839,305	-5,207,272	-367,967

This is a high level overview of the business. In summary:

- Council operates the business as a financially separate, un-subsidised business.
- The total expenditure is just short of \$5 million per year.
- A further amount of \$1.8 m is budgetted for expenditure on major capital projects including – a new cell at Dooen Landfill, a major upgrade to Kenny Rd transfer station.
- The main sources of income to the waste business are:
 - Charges for bins (240L = \$360, 120L = \$221), totalling about \$2.8 M
 - Dooen landfill income, about \$2.0 M
 - Kenny Rd transfer station fees, about \$0.2 M
- Garbage rates have risen only 1.4% in 2017-18 compared to a general Council rate rise of 2.0%.

7. Engagement – Stakeholders (Preliminary)

- Aged people
- Businesses / Industry
- Carers
- Community Groups
- Council staff
- Councillors
- Energy Groups
- Environmental Groups
- Environmental Health Officer
- EPA
- Event operators
- Farmers
- Hospitals
- Inactive aged people
- Landfill lessors
- Large families
- Neighbouring councils
- Op shops
- People in small towns
- People who can't lift heavy bins
- People who don't have trailers
- People with disabilities
- Peri-urban residents
- Private waste operators
- Ratepayers / residents
- Ratepayers who don't currently get a service
- Reception staff / frontline staff / waste staff
- Recreational venues / clubs
- Recycling contractor
- Retail businesses
- Rural residents
- School students
- Service clubs / Apex / Lions (paper drive)
- Sustainability Victoria
- Teenagers
- Tenants
- Tourism operators
- Tourists
- Regional Waste Group (Grampians Central West Waste and Resource Recovery Group)
- WMSA (Wimmera Mallee Sustainability Alliance)
- Youth

7e. Update from this meeting

Suggested information for media releases:

- Information about the status of the municipalities current recycling performance.
- List of the issues identified by the Committee.
- Seek the public to identify further issues -> so that these can be brought to the next committee meeting for consideration.

John Martin

Director Technical Services