4.3 STATE WASTE STRATEGY

Ward: (All Wards) (Fleet & Waste)

Disclosure of Interest: Nil

Authorised Officer: (Executive Manager Operations)

KEY ISSUES

- The State Government, through the Waste Authority, has completed a review of the State’s Waste Strategy.

- The Strategy has a Vision that Western Australia will become a sustainable, low-waste, circular economy in which human health and the environment are protected from the impacts of waste.

- The Strategy includes eight headline strategies relating to a consistent three bin collection system; local government waste plans; government procurement practices that encourage greater use of recycled products; provision of funding to promote the recovery of more value and resources from waste; review of the waste levy; consistent messaging on waste avoidance, resource recovery and waste disposal; review data collection and recording systems; and undertaking a strategic review of waste infrastructure to guide future infrastructure development.

- It is important that the City’s strategic direction in waste management is aligned with the State direction. The State government has indicated that funding will be available to local authorities to implement the requirements of the State Waste Strategy.

It is recommended that the Council endorse the Waste Authority’s “Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030” and the associated Action Plan.

BACKGROUND

The State Government, through the Waste Authority, has completed a review of the State’s Waste Strategy 2012. The review took place in 2017 and 2018 and has recently been finalised.

The Strategy has a number of targets, high level strategies and activities needed to achieve the required outcomes. An associated Action Plan has also been developed that identifies specific actions, timelines, lead responsibilities and collaborations that will be progressed to achieve the objectives of the Strategy.

The State Government has indicated that funding will be made available to local authorities to progress the required actions.
DETAILS

The Waste Authority’s recently released “Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030” provides a strategic framework for managing the State’s waste. The Strategy has a Vision that “Western Australia will become a sustainable, low-waste, circular economy in which human health and the environment are protected from the impacts of waste”.

The Strategy sets targets in terms of avoidance of waste generation, recovery of value and resources from waste, and protection of the environment by managing waste responsibly. The 2025 targets include a 10% reduction in waste generation per capita and an increase in material recovery to 70%.

There are eight headline strategies as follows:

- A consistent three bin kerbside collection system, which includes separation of food organics and garden organics from other waste categories, to be provided by all local governments in the Perth and Peel region by 2025 and supported by State Government through the application of financial mechanisms.

- Implement local government waste plans, which align local government waste planning processes with the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030.

- Implement sustainable government procurement practices that encourage greater use of recycled products and support local market development.

- Provide funding to promote the recovery of more value and resources from waste with an emphasis on focus materials.

- Review the scope and application of the waste levy to ensure it meets the objectives of Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 and establish a schedule of future waste levy rates with the initial schedule providing a minimum five year horizon.

- Develop state-wide communications to support consistent messaging on waste avoidance, resource recovery and appropriate waste disposal behaviours.

- Review and update data collection and reporting systems to allow waste generation, recovery and disposal performance to be assessed in a timely manner.

- Undertake a strategic review of Western Australia’s waste infrastructure (including landfills) by 2020 to guide future infrastructure development.

An Action Plan has also been developed to support the Strategy. The Action Plan identifies specific actions, timelines, lead responsibilities and collaborations that will be progressed to achieve the objectives of the Strategy. It is intended that the Action Plan will be reviewed annually.

Any specific actions that are undertaken by the City in support of the State Waste Strategy that have resource and budget implications will be reported to Council through the City’s annual Business Planning and Budget process.

The State Waste Strategy provides a clear direction for waste management in Western Australia and it is recommended that Council endorse the Waste Authority’s “Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030” and the associated Action Plan.
CONSULTATION
The Waste Authority undertook considerable consultation as part of the review of the Waste Strategy.

ATTACHMENTS
Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS
This Strategy provides a clear strategic direction on waste management at a State level which is in accordance with the City’s Strategic Community Plan in terms of protection of the natural environment and provision of appropriate infrastructure.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS
Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act and associated Regulations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
The State Government has indicated that funding will be made available to local authorities to support of achieving the objectives of the Waste Strategy. Any specific actions that are undertaken by the City in support of the State Waste Strategy that have financial implications will be reported to Council through the City’s annual Business Planning and Budget process.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS
Simple majority

RECOMMENDATION
That the Council resolve to:


2) Advise the Waste Authority accordingly.
Ordinary Meeting of Council
13 March 2019

Cr Haynes left the Chamber at 8.20pm.

**MOTION** that the Council resolve to:

1) Endorse the overall objective and intent of the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030.

2) Not accept that “Energy recovery is preferable to landfill disposal…” (page 29)

3) Inform the Waste Authority accordingly.

4) Record the reasons for changing the staff recommendation as

   1. The statement that “Energy recovery is preferable to landfill disposal” is inconsistent with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) ‘Environmental Factor Guideline - Air Quality’ document recently updated 7 March 2019 which post-dates the ‘Waste Strategy’ document.

   2. It is inconsistent with comments made by EPA Chair Mr Tom Hatton on 7 March 2019 when he said “more needs to be done to limit global warming”.

   3. It is inconsistent with World Economic Forum findings that air pollution was found to be the largest current environmental threat to our public health.

   4. That well documented and accepted effect of methane gas release from landfill sites will effectively be annulled due to the implementation of a FOGO bin system and other initiatives included in the same ‘Waste Strategy’ - thus removing the principle argument for incineration of municipal waste.

   5. That incineration of municipal waste is considered to be the most expensive way to make energy and ratepayers will ultimately pay for that process to occur via rates and taxes.

(Cr Kiely – Cr Scanlan)

Cr Haynes entered the Chamber at 8.26pm.

Cr Zannino left the Chamber at 8.26pm.

Cr Zannino entered the Chamber at 8.29pm.

C Johnson left the Chamber at 8.32pm.

Cr Johnson entered the Chamber at 8.34pm.

**FORESHADOWED MOTION**

In the event of the motion being defeated Cr Kovalevs foreshadowed that he would move the staff recommendation.
Ordinary Meeting of Council  
13 March 2019

Cr McNamara left the Chamber at 8.41pm.

Cr McNamara entered the Chamber at 8.47pm.

**MOTION WAS PUT TO THE VOTE AND LOST (3/8)**

For: Crs Johnson, Kiely and Scanlan

Against: Crs Elliott, Haynes, Henderson, Jones, Kovalevs, Lucas, McNamara and Zannino

**MOTION** that the Council resolve to adopt the staff recommendation.

(Cr Kovalevs – Cr Elliott)

**RESOLVED (10/1) TO:**


2) Advise the Waste Authority accordingly.

For: Crs Elliott, Haynes, Henderson, Johnson, Jones, Kovalevs, Lucas, McNamara, Scanlan and Zannino

Against: Cr Kiely