



**Minutes**

**North East Waste Quarterly Meeting at Council Committee room, Ballina**

**4<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, 9.30 -1.00pm**

**Attendee Tara Martel, Jeanie Mckillop, Kim Potter, Linda Tohver, Richard Roper, Carla Dzendolet, Christine Pitman, Lucy Wilson, Lloyd Issacson,**

**Apologies: Kevin Trustrum, David Timms, Sean Mackenzie, Ken Wilson, Danielle Hanigan.**

Agenda Item	Points for Discussion	ACTIONS
<p><b>9.35</b></p> <p><b>Wrap of NEW Projects</b></p> <p><b>18-19</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of project outcomes for the past year _ see attachment</li> </ul> <p>Project Coordinators provided an overview of the outcomes for the projects over the last FY.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion of projects for the following year and new grants</li> </ul> <p>New Grants for next year include Litter, Illegal Dumping, Love Food Communities, Community Recycling Centres and the Better Waste Recycling Fund. Continuation of grants include FOGO in Muds, Clean up Country, and Food Donation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional approach to asbestos management – a look at what the projects are costing NEW and Council and a consideration of what to do in 19-20.</li> </ul> <p>We are currently running the Asbestos Testing program and Some Councils continue to offer Household Asbestos Disposal Kit (HADs).</p> <p>Currently Council costs for the Asbestos testing program varies. Only a small number of tests are undertaken by some Councils resulting of a cost of under \$2,000 per year for council to provide the service. Ballina has the most tests pa and costs are approx. 5K to run the program. Some Councils charge for the test, others subsidise and NEW covers the cost of the kit and pays for a contractor to organise and follow up on the testing.( about 15K- 20 k per year)</p> <p>There are several different models/ approaches to charging for HADs kits and if the cost covers disposal. CVC and RVC do not cover disposal costs. Charges vary from \$80 per kit to \$20. For one Council it is cost neutral for others up to 7K per year.</p> <p>If Councils didn't want to continue the following options could be considered include providing residents with an information pack ( at Counter or online) about how to safely dispose of asbestos, what equip was needed, quantities, costs etc.</p>	<p>Jeanie to apply for a Food Donation Grant in August</p> <p>All Councils at the meeting wished to continue using the Asbestos Testing Kits under the current arrangement as they felt the costs were minimal and that the program was a good service for their residents.</p> <p>Most Councils wished to continue using the HADS kit also, but Jeanie/Jo to check with Tweed on the kits they currently have on site and are not using</p>

<p><b>10.15</b> <b>Budget</b> <b>2019-20</b></p>	<p>Tabling of 2018-19 budget</p> <p>Operational funds were acquitted with 12,000 K reverting to the reserve. \$350,000 is the current budget balance, all of which will be carried forward as it is unspent grant funding that will be acquitted in the next year.</p>	<p>Richard and Jeanie are still finalising the 18-19 Budget. It will be emailed to Councils for approval</p>
<p><b>10.15</b> <b>Council</b> <b>Updates</b></p>	<p>Council highlighted key achievements of the year</p> <p><b>CVC</b></p> <p>The Baryigul Transfer station Upgrade is underway, with 25K of funding from the EPA through NEW. New signage has been developed and Council has been working with the LALC to establish personnel to man the station during certain hours as an unprecedented level of waste has been coming from across the region.</p> <p>A new Cell for the South Grafton Landfill is almost completed adding an additional 4-5 years of landfill space. The previous cell was filled much more quickly than anticipated due to construction work on the Pacific Highway and the Grafton Goal.</p> <p>M&amp;I Organics was the successful tenderer to manage the Transfer Stations across the Valley.</p> <p>The Draft Waste Strategy was completed in house and is now available for comment.</p> <p>Council also have employed a new waste and water education officer.</p> <p><b>RVC</b></p> <p>They have rolled out business FOGO; community “Pop Up” garden at the library; there’s also a seed library at the library; keep it coming round (using the compost from Lismore); will donate produce to local soup kitchens where possible; construction at Bora Ridge closed landfill on the final cap about to start; tip shop upgrade at Nammoona complete; Capping plan for Nammoona approved; stickers going on the yellow bins to replace the former ones. 200% income from resource recovery (mostly through the CRC, and the skips, Front End Resource Recovery Centre (FERRC)), joint arrangement with Byron and Ballina.</p> <p><b>Tweed</b></p> <p>In the last 6 months, Rod has been working on zero waste strategy. Issue is contamination in recycling bin (approx. 6%), however green bins are contaminated. Contamination program in place – and now they have a person (Sean) who works 3 days a week doing bin monitoring. Masterplan – consultant sits in 3 days a week as to how to utilise and replan the site. New staff premises with showers etc. New cell is still being planned, and new tip shop being negotiated within Council. Rehab on the landfill, new plantings. Contract will be up in 2020 with SOLO. Asbestos gun is working well. Preparing for the increase in fees. Tunnel compost system has been approved – SOILCO – it will be 2 years before operational.</p> <p><b>Byron</b></p> <p>Towards Zero Waste strategy is progressing but has not gone to waste water committee, nor to Council yet, however</p>	

	<p>it will be going up to Council in the next few months. Arcadis was the consultant.</p> <p>At the Resource Recovery Centre the MAFF composting system is complete and operational. A new public drop off area (L-bin system) operational. Future work includes working on the marketing of the compost and the rehabilitation of the landfill.</p> <p>Kerbside servicing – Council has introduced mandatory rural servicing (coupled with home composting campaign); introduced FOGO to Federal Village and will potentially look at a rural audit.</p> <p>For Lift the Lid audits Council have employed a 5 days a week officer for commercial audits (temporary position through NORTEC), but need to do more communication.</p> <p>Litter and illegal dumping – finalised the plan with great success with Butt Free Byron campaign; over 100 enviro poles; 20% decrease in actual litter; 78% reduction in the number of cigarette butts in Byron littered. Illegal Dumping Program is now complete – 27% reduction in illegal dumping – main learning would be to focus just on one suburb.</p> <p>Plastic Free Byron Make the switch signed up 55 businesses signed up so far and have eliminated 200,000 pieces of plastic during the campaign.</p> <p>Council received a Stronger Communities Grant to install drinking fountains – they have 5 available and have installed 3 so far in Bangalow, Johnson St and Brunswick Heads.</p> <p><b>Ballina</b></p> <p>Reduce single use campaign was well supported by Ballina Council. They have new staff including a operations coordinator at the landfill, and Lloyd Issacson is the new Resource Recovery Manager with waste now a stand alone unit. Recycling has been going to Polytrade at Chinderah under new arrangements. In the last 12 months Council have focussed on transfer station up-grades with 2 new tip well units, and new signage; cameras are also installed there.</p> <p>New Stickers going on the bins, a large undertaking to redo, to improve separation and lower contamination. Residents will also get a fridge magnet and other information. There will be preliminary audits in controlled areas pre and post stickers to determine differences in behaviour. They will also try to establish what works with media coverage across the Shire; and how lift the lid tags and letters re contamination influence behaviours. Public place bin enclosures (eg. Lake Ainsworth, LH and River Street) are been upgraded.</p>	
<p><b>11.15</b></p> <p><b>General Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Meeting of Councils in Lismore – update by Rod/Danielle ( not present).</li> </ul> <p>Regional waste and energy update _ Mike Perkins from RVC spoke about the work they were doing with the Dept of Premier and Cabinet and the EPA to look at the broader region of Midwaste and NEW for solutions to regional disposal. Special Activation Precincts are been established around NSW re energy. Since May meeting, all Councils agreed in principle to look at developing a regional strategy. State government has agreed to fund that piece of work, and quotation going out to do a scoping paper/stocktake of existing landfill and waste to landfill capacities – and are</p>	<p>To keep up to date with this work as it progresses.</p>

	<p>there local and regional solutions, and recommendations for future. This is hoped to inform the SAP process. A working group will be developed, and updates will continue to be provided by Mike as required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RENEW Merimbula – Wes Knight wont be attending as he will be on leave, but has been appointed as the Chair of RENEW.</li><li>• Reminder of Behavioural Insight Training August - \$50 per head – training budget</li></ul>	<p>NEW to pay for training registration.</p>
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