


		COMMUNITY REFERENCE GROUP MINUTES		
	Meeting	Environment Community Reference Group		
	Date	Wednesday 28 August 2019	Time	6 - 8pm
	Location	Lockyer Room, Ipswich Civic Centre		
List of Council Attendees (P = Present, A = Apology, NA = Not in attendance)				
P	Greg Chemello – Interim Administrator (Convenor)			
P	Charlie Dill – General Manager, Infrastructure and Environment (Facilitator)			
P	Kaye Cavanagh – Manager, Environment & Sustainability			
P	Samantha Smith – Coordinator (Sustainability), Environment & Sustainability Branch			
P	Nick Hughes – Acting Interim Administrator's Executive Officer, Office of the Administrator			
P	Community Engagement Team Member (Danni Jansen, Mel Rippon)			
Community Reference Group Attendees (P = Present, A = Apology, NA = Not in attendance)				
A	Sonia Brown	P	Luise Manning	
P	Ian Dainer	P	Joseph McLeod	
A	Billy Diehm	A	Robert Otjen	
P	Jim Dodrill	A	Stephen Phillips	
P	Amber Dupouy	P	James Prentice	
P	Angus Evans		Gaby Ricketts (withdrawn)	
P	Bob Hampson	P	Peter Surgeoner	
P	Esther James	A	Paul Sutton	
P	Pam Lenton	NA	David Trezise	
A	Alex Mair	P	Conny Turni	

1. CONVENOR'S WELCOME

Greg Chemello, Interim Administrator, welcomed the members to the meeting and delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.

Mr Chemello provided feedback to the members regarding the results of the Memorabilia Survey which was distributed to members on 14 August 2019. Mr Chemello noted that there were a variety of suggestions received from members across all community reference groups, however, Council is not in a position to make a determination about what to do with these items at the moment as there are ongoing investigations. Accordingly, in the meantime, the memorabilia items will be stored by Council until such time as a decision is able to be made about next steps, which is unlikely to be this calendar year.

Mr Chemello also noted that the goal is to keep the community reference groups working strategically. The aim is to have the groups drive this. Councillors will come back to a new culture and will also learn from the group. Mr Chemello also mentioned 2020 Election Candidates and noted that conflict of interest check-ins and declarations will occur at the beginning of reference group meetings (two members declared their association with election Candidates).

2. FACILITATOR'S INTRODUCTION & GROUP CHECK-IN

Charlie Dill – General Manager, Environment & Infrastructure Department checked-in with the group, and briefly covered content from the first meeting for first-time and returning members, including:

- Scope of Environment CRG
- Decision Making Structure for CRGs
- Meeting Principles and Practices
- Community representation *'If Ipswich was a group of 100 people'*

All members were then asked to answer the following check-in question: *What is one thing you have talked about in your networks since the last meeting, in respect to council or the community reference group?*



Responses included (in no particular order):

- Key priorities and strategic themes identified in first meeting; Sustainability, Waterway Health, Waste Management
- Funding for environment projects that involve community
- Protecting and improving waterway health
- Council's recent change to weed control support
- Sustainability around development
- Tree clearing and koala habitat
- Land clearing
- Waste to energy (against waste creation in EfW approaches, especially incineration methods)
- Waste management
- Waste and social license/community behaviour
- Waste activities/initiatives; smaller wheelie bins, banning plastic straws, doing better at refuse collection, not using polystyrene, recycling cans

To view full size image, see below at 6.

3. **ACTION ITEMS**

Charlie Dill – General Manager, Environment & Infrastructure Department provided an update on items raised in the first meeting including:

- Meeting agenda items (during meetings or via email to community engagement mailbox, and for Facilitator determination alongside strategic priorities)
- Confidentiality (Legal considerations and as detailed in the Terms of Reference)
- Increased meeting frequency (now every 2 months)
- Correspondence between meetings (emails via community engagement mailbox and more information to come about access to council's online community engagement platform due to launch in October)

Mr Dill introduced the three themes from the key priorities identified by CRG members in previous meeting (Sustainability, Waterway Health, Waste Management) and indicated strategies at varying levels of maturity, some due for review, members input will be sought to help inform where efforts are targeted. Group discussion included:

- Recognition that 'sustainability' is a relatively new and variously understood concept
- Waterways under State jurisdiction, council involved with landholders
- Suggestion that carbon neutrality (including climate change, community resilience) could be considered a separate theme

Kaye Cavanagh – Manager, Environment & Sustainability presented a summary of council's current strategies and plans associated with Waterway Health.

Samantha Smith – Coordinator (Sustainability), Environment and Sustainability Branch presented to the group about Council's Sustainability Strategy and Waste Management Plan (the Materials Recovery Plan), and provided information about Queensland State Government's changes to policy and legislation along with an overview of council's involvement in a sub-regional Waste Alliance project with four neighbouring Councils for an Expression of Interest seeking solutions from the market – national and international (early stages – assessing proposals now).

a. Sustainability

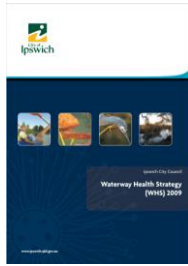


4 Pathways:

- 1 – The promotion of city wide sustainability through education, awareness and community involvement
- 2 – The protection of urban ecology and the natural environment
- 3 – Corporate sustainability
- 4 – Supporting sustainable industry

To view full document, click on image above.

b. Waterway Health



To view full documents, click on images above.

Vision:

Waterways are rehabilitated and protected, providing a high standard of water quality, habitat and fauna connectivity and recreational outcomes while at the same time reducing the impact of major storm and flood events.

Outcomes / achievements of current Strategy:

- Catchment condition assessment
- Fish Survey
- Platypus eDNA
- Stream Order Mapping
- Stormwater Quality Offsets
- Habitat Connections Program
- Fish Passage Projects
- Waterway Partnerships
- Catchment Corridor Plans
- Bremer River Fund / Bremer River Network

Current Strategy under review for the purpose of:

- Provide a clear picture of what Council is doing in terms of waterways
- Inform and give direction to activities which impact waterway health
- Provide realistic goals and targets for each corridor based on current condition and possible future transformations

c. Waste Management



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Group discussion included:

- Supporting a circular economy (refer to State Government Waste Management & Resource Recovery Strategy: https://www.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0028/103798/qld-waste-management-resource-recovery-strategy.pdf)
- Identification of significant disparity between ideal waste management hierarchy principles (waste avoidance/ minimisation at top) and reality of current situation, especially in terms of Ipswich landfill, EOI solutions aims to divert waste from landfill
- Supports utilising as many recovered and recycled materials as possible
- The State Gov landfill levy is not supposed to impact ratepayers. Council will receive a three year advanced payment to cover the cost of landfill levies for householders Solutions that include mixed and new technologies (including food and green waste, smaller operators)
- Feedback that Energy from Waste (EfW) to not include incineration, not viewed as transitional, creates waste, has a high carbon footprint, concerns in urban areas related to health issues, hinders circular economy, Europe moving away from incineration
- Possibility of developing an Ipswich Clean Air Strategy (e.g. that development can't impact air quality)
- Council must respond to all Development Applications
- Glass contamination in wheelie bins, landfill, council's glass recycling pilot program
- Group questioned how proactive community is in processing own waste

4. GROUP DISCUSSION – WASTE MANAGEMENT

Charlie Dill – General Manager, Environment & Infrastructure Department explored three lead questions with all members in group discussion:

1) How do you view council's role in waste management and resource recovery in creating a circular economy?

- Zero waste = Zero landfill
- Traditional waste methods don't support circular economy, need to fix today's problems otherwise will wind up in the ground
- Apply legislation:
 - o Temporary Local Planning Instrument (TLPI)
 - o Constrain / stop Ipswich land filling
- Lead by example in purchasing, product stewardship:
 - o Procurement specifications
 - o Ban plastic straws, non biodegradeable coffee pods
- Building policies:
 - o Reuse construction materials e.g. plastics into park benches
- Process ease:
 - o Recycling collection points numerous and widespread (make it easy for people to recycle)
- Educate:
 - o Recycling, age appropriate
 - o Host regular talks that example local government waste management success stories
 - o Sustainability apprenticeships
- Promote:
 - o Product remanufacture industries
- Incentives:
 - o For community to recycle
 - o Extend to construction waste (not just residential)



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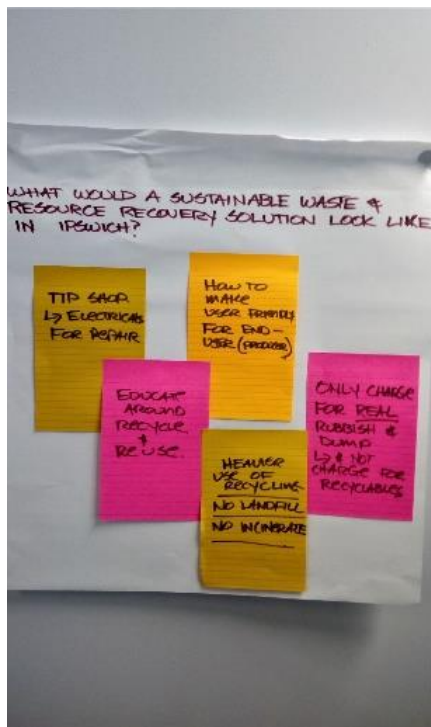
2) **How do you see community's role in waste management and resource recovery in creating a circular economy?**



- Community has ownership, buy-in and supports initiatives
- Leaders and advocates (varying degrees of awareness, knowledge, concern and participation in neighbourhoods)
- Shared responsibility (e.g. rubbish created in public areas taken home to dispose of)
- Meets ICC requirements (e.g. reduction/elimination of contamination)
- Recipients of a serious marketing campaign (awareness raising, motivational)
- Involved in fun and interesting ways
- Participation in e.g. Community Awareness days (e.g. like War on Waste activities, replace R for 'rubbish' with 'recycling')
- Learning about e.g. current Recycle 4 program and the four types of waste that go into yellow top recycle bins
- Participation easy and integrated with other day-to-day activities (e.g. recyclables drop-off points at shopping centres, central communal-use facilities by e.g. street/neighbourhood)
- Have options for participation, can choose to pay a little extra e.g. on rates (e.g. single material bins-no contamination, extra containers, staggered collections)

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3) **What would a sustainable waste and resource recovery solution look like in Ipswich?**



- User friendly for end-user / producer
- Education around recycle and re-use
- Solution for electronic waste
- Include 'repair' (e.g. Tip Shop, electricals)
- Only charged for 'real rubbish' at dump ie. not charged for recyclables
- Heavier use of recycling
- Fee structure revised
- No landfill
- Reject incineration

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5. CLOSE & CHECK-OUT

Charlie Dill – General Manager, Environment & Infrastructure Department asked members to answer the following check-out question: *What did you get out of tonight's meeting?*



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- Affirmation of community knowledge and buy-in
- Hope this is one of many, lots of work ahead
- Great to see and be in the company of like-minded members, even if we don't always agree
- Robust and respectful discussion, good to conduct discussion as one group, plenty of research to go away and do (group preference generally for one group discussion, instead of break into smaller groups)
- Everyone's contribution, good round table discussion
- Improvement on last meeting, great discussion
- A productive discussion, much more than last meeting
- Need to start looking at circular economy seriously
- It does come back on council because of its position
- Concerned to hear about the possibility of generational differences in awareness / attitudes to recycling
- Important to educate younger generations
- No recycling at Rosewood; a long way to go
- Grateful council is working with us, 'thank you to council for listening to our concerns'
- A broader overview of community
- Appreciate community comments

Meeting closed at 8:10pm. Date of next meeting 30 October 2019.

6. FULL SIZE IMAGES



3. HOW DO YOU VIEW COUNCIL'S ROLE IN WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY IN CREATING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY?

ZERO WASTE = NOTHING IN LANDFILL

COUNCIL NOT REGULAR TAKES FROM SUCCESSFUL MUNICIPALITIES

COUNCIL LEAD BY EXAMPLE IN ITS PURCHASING
 e.g. COFFER PADS
 → PRECONSUMED SPECS.

ICC PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP
 e.g. BAN PLASTIC STRAWS

IS INCLUSIVE BEST WAY TO CHANGE BEHAVIOUR?
 IF SO CAN IT EXTEND TO CONSTRUCTION WASTE (NOT JUST RESIDENTIAL)?

TRADITIONAL METHODS DON'T ADDRESS CIRCULAR ECONOMY
 → NEED TO FIX TOWN'S PROBLEMS IN THE FIRST PLACE
 → DEAL WITH UP IN GROUND

USE T.L.P.I.
 → CONSTRUCTION / STOP LAND FILLING

COUNCIL NEEDS TO ENSURE COLLECTION POINTS EASY - WHERE? - WHERE EASY FOR PEOPLE TO RECYCLE
 e.g. BINS, etc.

COUNCIL INCENTIVES FOR COMMUNITY TO RECYCLE
 → TO SHIFT CULTURE IN DEVELOPED COUNTRY

REMINERSED PRODUCTS (INSTEAD OF LANDFILL)
 → GAP IN INDUSTRY
 → COUNCIL PROMOTE INDUSTRY

BUILDING POLICIES MUST BE IN CONSIDERATION
 → PLASTIC INTO PARKS (SHOPS)

COUNCIL'S ROLE TO EDUCATE YOUNGER TO RECYCLE

ICC GIVE ATTENTION - SHIPS IN SUSTAINABILITY
 → STAKE (not for)

2. HOW DO YOU SEE COMMUNITY'S ROLE IN WASTE MANAGEMENT & THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY?

LET PEOPLE HAVE CHOICE
 → GIVE PEOPLE OPTION TO HAVE 4TH BIN & LET COMMUNITY DECIDE WHAT TO PUT IN (e.g. GLASS)
 → PAY A LITTLE EXTRA ON RATES

NEEDS TO BE EASY TO RECYCLE
 e.g. SHOPPING CENTRES

replace R "rubbish" with "recycling"
 → HAVE JES awareness days (Ain't waste or waste activities)

EXTRA Containers per street
 → MORE COMMUNAL use facilities

NEEDS TO BE SOLD AS FUN & INTERESTING
 → GET MORE TO NEED SERIOUS CAMPAIGN TO MOTIVATE PEOPLE

remove bins from public areas
 → IF YOU CARED IF YOU HAVE TO BRING IT HOME

Differences in community
 e.g. Urban concerned & less/not concerned
 → ENLIST LEADERS IN NEIGHBOURHOOD

Community needs to meet ICC requirements
 e.g. Containers → how
 → needs community to own & support

DROP OFF RECYCLE MATERIALS IN BIG BINS LOCATED @ SHOPPING CENTRES

TEACHING PEOPLE WHAT NEED TO GO IN CURRENT 4 BINS

Relationships ICC (welfare) community (waste)
 → needs to encourage buy in
 → need to sell the R for rubbish

SINGLE MATERIAL BINS
 (no contamination)
 e.g. 5 bins stagger collections to control costs

WHAT WOULD A SUSTAINABLE WASTE & RESOURCE RECOVERY SOLUTION LOOK LIKE IN IPSWICH?

TIP SACK
↳ ELECTRONICS
FOR REPAIR

HOW TO
MAKE
USER FRIENDLY
FOR END-
USER (PRODUCER)

EDUCATE
AROUND
RECYCLE
&
REUSE

HEAVIER
USE OF
RECYCLING
NO LANDFILL
NO INCINERATE

ONLY CHARGE
FOR REAL
RUBBISH &
DUMP
↳ NOT
CHARGE FOR
RECYCLABLES

WHAT DID YOU GET OUT OF
TONIGHT'S MEETING?

AFFIRMATION
COMMUNITY
BUY-IN
&
KNOWLEDGE

HOPE THIS
IS ONE OF
MANY.
↳ LOTS
OF WORK
AHEAD.

GREAT TO
SEE & BE IN
COMPANY OF
LIKE Minded
MEMBERS
↳ GLEN THOUGH
MIGHT NOT
AGREE.

IMPROVEMENT
ON LAST
MEETING.
GREAT
DISCUSSION

GRATEFUL
TO WORKING
WITH US

MUCH
MORE
PRODUCTIVE
THAN LAST
MEETING.

CONCERNED
TO HEAR
YOUNG
PEOPLE.
NOT AS
ENGAGED
IN RECYCLING

NEED TO
START
LOOKING
AT CIRCULAR
ECONOMY
SERIOUSLY

IT DOES
COME BACK
ON COUNCIL
BECAUSE OF
IT'S POSITION

APPRECIATE
COMMUNITY
COMMENTS

RESPECTFUL
DISCUSSION

IMPORTANT
TO EDUCATE
YOUNGER
GENERATIONS

NO RECYCLING
AT BORDOUCHE
IS A LONG
WAY TO GO

EVERYONE'S
CONTRIBUTION
GOOD ROUN
TABLE
DISCUSSION

GOOD TO
HEAR AS ONE
GROUP
PLenty OF
RESEARCH TO
GO RUN & DO

BROADER
OVERVIEW
OF
COMMUNITY