



Agenda Legatus Group Waste Management Advisory Committee

Friday 26 August 2022 1.30pm

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1. **Welcome** Simon Millcock
2. **Apologies**
3. **Conflict of Interest**
4. **Membership, Chair & Terms of Reference**

Reports for Decision

From: Simon Millcock Chief Executive Officer

Recommendation: That _____ is appointed as Chair of the Legatus Group Waste Management Advisory Committee.

Background:

Following approval by the Legatus Group the following have been appointed to the Legatus Group Waste Management Advisory Committee (WMAC) for 2 years:

- Mayor Mark Wasley (Adelaide Plains)
- Stephen Rufus (CEO Peterborough)
- Andre Kompler (Yorke Peninsula)
- Ivan Nolte (Copper Coast)
- Tom Jones (Adelaide Plains)
- Lynette Seccafien (Adelaide Plains)
- Barossa to be confirmed

The Legatus Group WMAC Terms of Reference include:

The primary function of the Legatus Group WMAC is to provide advice and support to the Legatus Group in progressing and monitoring the 2021-2026 Legatus Group Waste and Resources Recovery Strategy (WRRS) and Action Plan. This will include:

- Overseeing the role of the Legatus Group implementation of the WRRS and Action Plan
- Assess and prioritise regional projects as necessary
- Coordinate and support submissions for funding both for the Legatus Group and member Councils
- Encourage greater cross-Council and stakeholder liaison and collaboration
- Raise and discuss waste issues of common interest or concern and develop appropriate courses of action for recommendation to the Legatus Group
- Facilitate greater awareness and understanding across member councils of the WRRS and Action Plan
- Monitor project reporting and requirements of any project funding agreements
- Undertake actions or tasks as directed by the Legatus Board

The **Chair** shall be appointed by and from within the committee.

Executive Support to the committee will be provided by the Legatus Group CEO. (Note for 22/23 Financial Year this will include support from Dr Paul Chapman Project Manager)

This committee will operate in an advisory capacity only, under direction from the Legatus Board.

Traditionally the Advisory Committees appoint the Legatus Group Board Member or a CEO as their Chair.

5. Minutes of previous meeting

Nil

6. Matters Arising

Nil

7. Reports for discussion and recommendations

7.1 Legatus Group 2022/2023 Business Plan

Report for Noting.

From: Simon Millcock Chief Executive Officer

Recommendation: That the committee notes the report.

Background

The Legatus Group Strategic Plan Goal Three is to support development and infrastructure that contributes to sustainable communities. Strategy 4 is to establish regional waste management regimes that reduces the volumes of hard waste going to landfill and minimises costs to councils and their communities.

The Legatus Group 2022/2023 Business Plan includes progressing actions from the Legatus Group Waste Resource and Recovery Strategy (WRRS) and Action Plan. The budget has a small allocation of \$10,000 towards actions from the WRRS including progress of Compost Trials and \$3,000 towards a Regional Waste Forum.

The WRRS was approved by the Legatus Group at their 11 March 2022 meeting and it can be found at: <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/waste/> In 2021 the Legatus Group delivered on behalf of the SA Regional Organisation of Councils the Waste Management Infrastructure for South Australian Regional Local Government Report and the Regional SA Waste and Resource Recovery Background Report.

Included in these reports are recommendations for:

1. The establishment by the Legatus Group of a committee and to confirm key activities.
2. Investigate the potential to establishing Regional Materials Recovery Facility in South Australia.

The Legatus Group formed a reference group re a trial Compost Project initially identified at Peterborough. Plus, it has taken the lead in partnership with other Regional LGAs to investigate the potential to establish Regional Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in SA.

Due to gaining funding through the LGA re a joint arrangement for Community Wastewater Managamnet the Legatus Group have engaged Dr Paul Chapman on a part time contract until June 2023. This includes a small allocation of his time towards Waste Management using some of the Legatus Group reserves. As such Paul is a resource to help support the progress of the Legatus Group Waste Management Action Plan.

7.2 KESAB

Report for Discussion and Decision.

From: Simon Millcock Chief Executive Officer

For discussion on date, format and topic.

Background

The Legatus Group contracted KESAB to assist with the Waste Management Forum held on 27 and 28 May in Watervale and to deliver an online webinar which was postponed awaiting the formation of the Legatus Group WMAC.

There has been interest from a number of member councils who had people register for the initial date as they are seeking to identify what they could be doing in their communities through partnerships with KESAB and others.

This fits with the WRRS which includes the delivery of community education.

Wendy Bevan Chief Executive Officer KESAB Environmental Solutions will attend the meeting to outline the proposed webinar for feedback from the Committee.

7.3 Stock take of Legatus Group Councils

Report for Decision.

From: Simon Millcock Chief Executive Officer

Recommendation: That the Legatus Group Project Manager develops a report summarising the status of member councils on their Regional Waste Management Plans, diversion targets, current contracts and collaborations.

Background

The South Australian Government released the South Australian Waste Strategy 2020-25, showing that Regional Waste Management Plans are to be in place for all SA regional local government areas and/or regional city clusters by 2023. The Plans are required to set regionally appropriate and progressive waste diversion targets. The 20-Year State Infrastructure Strategy identifies opportunities for development in regional areas, including in investment in: • equipment and facilities for waste compaction and bulk hauling to reduce costs of transporting waste to end markets; • expanding or developing commercial composting organics from MSW and industries such as vineyards, orchards and other agriculture; and • developing high-value organics products.

The Legatus Group WRRS includes a series of sub-regional targets. At initiative 3 it also sets out increasing regional collaboration to achieve financial and service improvements. This is to focus on:

- Joint procurement of transfer station materials processing and transport
- Joint procurement of kerbside collection and associated services
- Delivering community education
- Explore ways to manage collaboration

The WRRS outlines the average kerbside landfill diversion for regional SA is 37.7 per cent compared to an average of 50.5 per cent for metropolitan councils. The Legatus Group WRRS target is to divert 51 per cent of materials from landfill and this will be achieved through changes by councils to kerbside systems and increased recovery of organics.

Each council's landfill diversion target considers their starting point and the minimum improvement they can achieve. They can contribute to sub-regional and a whole of region target, calculated using a weighted average based on population. Meeting these targets will depend on introducing food organics and garden organics (FOGO) and transitioning to fortnightly collection of general waste.

There is the need for the WMAC to gain a better understanding of the current status of member councils re their Waste Management Action Plans and landfill diversion targets and then being able to monitor the regions progress. Rawtec would have gained some of this information when developing the WRRS in 2021 but this may need to be further updated.

7.4 Compost Trials

Report for Decision

From: Simon Millcock Chief Executive Officer

Recommendation: That the committee supports a further call for expressions of interest from member councils in developing other compost facilities in the Legatus Group region.

Background

CEO Stephen Rufus will provide an update on the Pilot Organics Processing Plant at Peterborough.

In 2021 the SA Regional Organisation of Councils released a report developed by the Legatus Group <https://legatus.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Final-RWM-Infrastructure-Report-for-SAROC-2-March-2021.pdf> This report was a waste management infrastructure plan for regional SA which examined the viability of recycling the five largest waste streams. It found that organic material recovery and reuse might be viable and further research was commissioned to understand the science of composting and the logistics of organising regional supply chains from local Council and regional sources down to use by local agriculture.

The Legatus Group sought interest from member councils and the District Council of Peterborough expressed interest in pursuing the option of creating a small scale composting facility at their

wastewater treatment plant. Contact was made with other neighbouring councils and other potential interested parties. Subsequent planning led to an application to Green Industry SA's Recycling Infrastructure Grants.

7.5 Regional SA Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)

Report for Decision

From: Simon Millcock Chief Executive Officer

Recommendation: That the committee recommends an approach to the Regional Local Government Association Executive Officers to gain their support before the Legatus Group progresses with further investigations into Regional SA Materials Recovery Facilities.

Background

A key finding from the 2021 SAROC Waste Infrastructure report developed through a cost model indicated that some investments in new regional infrastructure will reduce costs. All investments will require the aggregation of waste from several Councils and use of joint processing facilities.

The major element of new infrastructure is the prospect of developing regional MRFs. These would be major, prominent investments. However, the model has shown that regional MRFs are not cost effective, despite the high costs of managing comingled recycling waste. But the analysis at the time was incomplete and fails to capture all the benefits. Further work is required to determine if the plant would be viable undertaking particular tasks in specific locations.

Establishing regional MRFs might also have other benefits in providing incentives for and pressures on regional Councils to separate comingled recycling. That is the first and major step in diverting these mixed materials from landfill and into the Circular Economy, so investing in MRFs is likely to increase the amount of material managed by Councils and not simply thrown away.

Paul Chapman at the Regional Waste Forum in May 2022 outlined the complexity re MRFs including:

1. Without a regional MRF materials must go to Adelaide, none can go to landfill
2. Expensive
 - Long distances in many cases
 - Large volumes
 - No compaction
3. Building regional MRFs may be tempting but
 - MRFs are urban focused because of scale economies
 - Large scale needed to separate materials at low cost
 - Achieved partly via specialist equipment but also by spreading overheads across more tonnes
4. And scale and function are related
 - Big MRFs separate most and only some goes to landfill
 - But smaller MRFs
 - Use different equipment – more labour intensive

- Separate less material – more goes to landfill because it is not cost effective to separate
 - So regional MRFs might mean lower Council costs but also more going to landfill
- 5. Micro-MRFs
 - Only some mechanized separation
 - Most by hand
 - With a baling facility to compact separated materials
 - We are yet to do any detailed costing but what we do know suggests that micro-MRFs might have some net B
 - And micro-MRFs which might just be a shed and a sorting table
- 6. Some locations are better than others
 - Regional MRFs need optimized locations
 - Minimum efficient scale will determine how many in regional SA
 - Modelling must be undertaken to ensure they are in the right places
 - If not, if some Councils make go-it-alone decisions, that can impose costs on everyone, even that Council itself
 - The lowest overall cost will come from closest collaboration

7.6 MoU with Lions Club

Report for Decision

From: Simon Millcock Chief Executive Officer

Recommendation: That the committee recommends that the Legatus Group investigate developing an MoU with the Gilbert Valley Lions Club and other Community Waste Management Groups.

Background

The Legatus Group WRRS includes Developing regional partnerships and supporting community initiatives by building partnerships across the region with industry groups, businesses and communities will help develop a local circular economy and help achieve our goals.

The Legatus Group has a memorandum of understanding with the University of Adelaide and the University of SA and relationships with the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board and Regional Development Australia (RDA) Yorke Mid North and RDA Barossa Light Gawler Adelaide Plains and RDA Far North.

It includes considering how we can support new opportunities with these organisations, industry and our community based on their merits, scale, local context and how it aligns with this strategy.

The Legatus Group CEO has been in discussions with Pat Williams the MD 201 Environment Coordinator from Lions based in the Clare Valley and also Tony Thiele Fathers Farm based at Nuriootpa. Both have presented at the State and Regional LGA Waste Forums on the programs they are delivering to reduce waste to landfill and to increase reuse and recycling. Pat will be attending the meeting.

Discussions have included a possible MoU between Lions and Legatus, of which Pat has had nothing but a positive response from other Lions leaders on this matter in their South Australian District. This includes the ability to network with a group such as Legatus is and has always been encouraged so that they can extend our reach to Serve the Community. Pat is supporting the Lions to promote their image as being more and more linked to the Environment.

Lions have an Environment Portfolio and pat is the inaugural MD201 Lions Australia Environment Coordinator. This is a 3 year appointment, and he has just started the third year. Locally I send out a newsletter to 57 Lions Clubs advising those lions on how they can become involved in an Environmental project. Collecting old Reding Glasses, hearing Aids, planting seedlings at the local park, and working with their local council on Clean Up Australia Day.

Lions have recently we have partnered with Ecycle Solutions in an Australia wide Household Battery Collection Scheme. Pat advised this has been accepted with great enthusiasm and they are now trying to do something similar with Terracycle by placing their collection cartons in various businesses to collect Blister packs. Lions are a Not For Profit organisation and to make this scheme work they would need help with financing a scheme like this. He believes that local business should not pay for this, it should be the Manufacturers and or Suppliers.

Pat Williams and Tony Thiele have been discussing opportunities to collaborate including a machine that will recycle plastic bottle tops and convert those tops into egg cups and USB sticks. Simply about what mould you pour the melted plastic into. Easily carried by two people, so easy to transport to various schools and Lions clubs to demonstrate just how they can complete the Circular Economy before their very eyes. He is dealing with Precious Plastics Melbourne who collaborate with Zephyr Bros to produce these small portable machines.

The development of an MoU could provide many benefits to all organisations in their efforts to partner and support each other whilst providing some direction on what this partnership could look like.

8. Other Business

9. Close and next meeting.