

Relevant Information for Council

FILE: S096187 **DATE:** 14 February 2020

TO: Lord Mayor and Councillors

FROM: Bill Carter, Chief Financial Officer

THROUGH: Monica Barone, Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Information Relevant To Item 6.2 – 2019/20 Quarter 2 Review - Delivery Program 2017-2021

For Noting

This memo is for the information of the Lord Mayor and Councillors.

Purpose

At the 10 February 2020 meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, further information was sought on a range of matters:

1. A breakdown/comparison of the trees planted since the last report or over the last 12 months

This information on the tree planting program will be provided in a CEO Update .

2. Additional information on the City's source-separated recycling rates, and why they are low compared to targets (referencing p.134 within Attachment C)

Source-separated recycling is separating materials by type at the point of disposal so they can be recycled. The source-separated recycling rate doesn't include any recycling that occurs through mechanical sorting of garbage (the red-lid bin) at the processing facility.

The total amount of residential waste collected was 63,903 tonnages (as of June 2019). Of the total waste collected, 17,822 tonnes (or 28 per cent) was source separated through kerbside commingled recycling (12,577 tonnes), garden organics (2449 tonnes), bulky household items (1,250 tonnes), whitegoods (733 tonnes), mattresses (695 tonnes) and e-waste and hazardous waste from drop-off events (118 tonnes).

The City plans to achieve its separated target of 35 per cent by 2021 through the existing, and new recycling services and programs.

The City also notes that the introduction of the NSW Container Deposit Scheme has seen a reduction in the total tonnes of recycling collected in the yellow bin (700 tonnes), and this may impact the progress towards achieving the target. However we also know that up to 20 per cent of what still goes in the red bin is recyclable through the yellow bin recycling service, and the City has commenced engagement programs and trials with residents to improve use of our existing services. We have also commenced testing new services such as food waste separation.

3. Additional information requested on how the City is tracking on recycling within its organisational waste performance. Waste avoidance vs recycling (referencing p.164 within Attachment C)

Waste and recycling improvements for the City's property portfolio are focused on introducing food waste collections where appropriate and optimising the recycling services available.

A portfolio wide waste audit undertaken in mid-2019 estimated that the introduction of food scrap collection could lift the resource recovery rates at these buildings to an average of 51 per cent. Food scrap collection has since been implemented in a number of City buildings and facilities, while a broader roll out is still underway.

The recent introduction of recycling services at aquatic centres has seen an increase of 10 per cent resource recovery in the first month of servicing (from 22 per cent up to 32 per cent in November 2019).

Additional efforts to improve recycling at the City's highest waste generating buildings remains a focus. Initiative actions include:

- (a) Ongoing engagement with cleaners, property managers, staff and tenants to optimise available recycling services;
- (b) Training for users where waste source separation systems are being implemented.
- (c) Upgraded and standardised signage appropriate to the building type.

The City's operational target is to recycle 70 per cent of our portfolio's waste streams by June 2021, and the above initiatives are expected to help lift the current performance of our portfolio to 50 per cent.

4. Additional information on the City's organisational water performance (chart 6), and strategies the City has in place to meet its target (referencing p.151 within Attachment C)

The strategy is to implement a series of projects across the City's buildings, facilities and open space portfolio, that are estimated to collectively achieve the target. The following is a list of projects that have been used to calculate the estimated water savings outlined in the Chart:

(a) Major Properties Efficiency Project (MPEP):

Focussed on improving water efficiency across our top 14 water using buildings (including commercial buildings, aquatic centres, community centres and depots). Example projects include: water efficient fixture upgrades, repair of leaks, facility management improvements, depot truck wash improvements, tenancy water allocation and a 'user pays" approach, along with upgrades to rainwater tanks and cooling towers.

(b) Water Recycling in Parks

(c) Sydney Park stormwater reuse scheme upgrade project

(d) New recycled water standpipe installed at Green Square

(e) Gunyama Park recycled water irrigation

(f) Groundwater Utilisation

(g) Increase use of groundwater for park irrigation, including re-instating Erskineville bore.

(h) Aquatics Recycled Water

(i) Rainwater use in Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre (pool top-up and toilet flushing).

(j) Metering Project Outcomes

(k) Installation of smart metering in key City parks and properties.

5. The Love Food Sydney pilot, when will this be reviewed, and will the program continue?

The Love Food Sydney food waste avoidance pilot, funded by an EPA grant, will launch this month and conclude in June 2021.

An evaluation of the outcomes of the pilot program, and recommendations on possible next stages, will be undertaken after the pilot concludes.

6. Provide a schedule of capital works that are under/(over) budget.

A summary of the significant capital works variances were included within the body of report, while the key variances were detailed within Attachment B, Capital Expenditure Financial Results, along with commentary on the status of every project over \$5M.

Memo from Bill Carter, Chief Financial Officer

Approved

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. M. Barone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MONICA BARONE

Chief Executive Officer