

NATIONAL WASTE EDUCATORS DIVISION

DIVISION MEETING

1-2p.m. AEST, Tuesday, 7 September 2021

Zoom teleconference

MINUTES

1. Welcome and apologies

Attendees: Claire Mahendradatta, Grace Barila, Gayle Sloan, Libby Eustance, Jacqueline Ong

Apologies: Christine Blanchard

Terms of engagement read.

2. Previous minutes and actions arising

- 27 July 2021: adopted as a true record

3. Issues for discussion

- Yellow bin harmonisation
 - Community often queries what can go into the bins; all dependent on MRFs.
 - SA and WA have strong campaigns; former has a comprehensive list of materials though some should not be included, e.g., pots and pans – feedback given to GISA to look at updating to align with what MRFs can accept.
 - WA and ACT – all MRFs came together to work on this list, which is a positive. In WA, there's also a process for when someone turns up with a material that can't be accepted; process determines what's in and what's out, where it's stored.
 - There is a sub-group that is looking at harmonisation; this group includes local government associations, state reps (e.g., NSW DPIE, SA GISA), WMRR. Group has met once; progressing a paper and looking to meet again at the end of next week. This work is part of the National Waste Action Plan.
 - Challenge lies with paper, glass, aluminium, plastics 1,2,5 – issues around interpreting all of that with packaging that's currently on the shelf. WMRR putting together some reference/rules around what these materials look like. WMRR Board has also requested we look at it from a reverse perspective.
 - Lots of small trials, e.g., Curby, separate sorting for coffee cups. Key would be national consistency; difficult to recycle materials should be source separated with their own collection streams and not go to the MRF.

4. State reports

- NSW: group met on 26 August; held a webinar on circular economy.
- VIC: group met in June; WMRR will follow up with chair on participation.
- QLD: group active and meeting regularly.
- WA: Waste & Recycle Conference tomorrow. Group met last week – active and lively group; heard from an educator from LG about what they're doing. A good forum for knowledge-sharing.
- SA: group meeting next week; Battery Stewardship Council providing direction on education and areas for batteries to go, followed by a chat on how members are going.
 - WMRR hosted a BSC webinar a few months ago – at the time, they hadn't turned their minds to communications, had indicated they'd only pay transporters not collectors. Attendees provided

WMRR NATIONAL OFFICE
57 ST JOHNS ROAD
GLEBE NSW 2037

(02) 8746 5000
INFO@WMRR.ASN.AU

WMRR.ASN.AU

feedback at the time; hopeful they've taken all of this on board. WMRR will also reach out for an update.

5. Other business

-

6. Next meeting date

19 October 2021