

FOGO REFERENCE GROUP MEETING OUTCOMES STATEMENT – MEETING 9 – 14 JULY 2021

The ninth meeting of the FOGO Reference Group was held on 14 July 2021.

FOGO Rollout Plan 2020-21 and 2021-22

The Group was advised that the report against the FOGO Rollout Plan 2020-21 commitments and the FOGO Rollout Plan 2021-22 were received by the Waste Authority at its 1 July meeting. The Waste Authority recognises the contribution of the FOGO Reference Group in producing these documents and will publish them on its website.

Australian Organics Recycling Industry Capacity Assessment

Mr Peter Olah, National Executive Officer, Australian Organics Recycling Association (AORA) presented a report *Australian Organics Recycling Industry Capacity Assessment: 2020-21*. The report was the result of a partnership between the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment and Green Industries South Australia (GISA) and AORA.

The report is an important input to the FOGO Reference Group discussions about FOGO processing capacity. The report is available at:

www.environment.gov.au/protection/waste/publications/australian-organics-recycling-industry-capacity-assessment-2020-21

FOGO Market Development Strategy

The Group discussed the Market Development Strategy for FOGO Derived Products prepared by GHD Pty Ltd. The Group agreed to develop recommendations for the Waste Authority on priority projects for the 2021-22 financial year arising from the Market Development Strategy.

Fight Food Waste CRC - In-home food waste report WA

The Group was provided with a report entitled *In-home Food Waste Report WA* prepared for the Fight Food Waste Cooperative Research Centre (Fight Food Waste CRC) with support from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. The report researched food waste generated in WA households.

The report identifies findings about householders' food waste behaviours. The findings will inform new messages which will be incorporated into the *Be a GREAT Sort* behaviour change campaign. A summary of the findings will be published later in 2021.

BHRC Community Education Project

The Group was provided with a copy of the *Sustainable Waste Survey* report which was commissioned by the Bunbury Harvey Regional Council (BHRC) to seek views on awareness, use and benefits of BHRC's 360° Organics compost.

The findings inform options for BHRC to encourage the use of 360° Organics compost and will also inform messaging used in the *Be a GREAT Sort* behaviour change campaign.

Impacts and benefits of kerbside collection systems

The Group discussed a project commissioned by the Waste Authority to report on the impacts and benefits of different kerbside systems representative of Perth and Peel local governments. The report, expected to be completed in August 2021, will help to provide a better understanding of the range of impacts and benefits of FOGO services with reference to the Waste Strategy.

Step by Step Guide

The Group discussed and provided comments on the FOGO Step by Step Guide produced by MRA Consulting Group. The Guide will assist with the planning, implementation and monitoring of better practice FOGO services.

The Group agreed to provide final comments prior to the document being released later this year.

Composting Guidelines

DWER provided the Group with an update on the release of the *Guideline: Better practice composting*. The Guideline will be released subject to approvals.

DWER is developing a plan to support industry with the implementation of the Guidelines.

Composting Facilities

DWER provided the Group with an updated register of FOGO licensed facilities to inform discussions about current and potential processing capacity.

FOGO Projections

The Group was provided with updated estimates of FOGO projections including estimated FOGO commencement dates (by local government); FOGO processing capacity (current and potential) and; FOGO outputs.

The projections are done for the whole of Perth and Peel. The Group discussed the possibility of presenting the processing capacity by region (with a focus on Perth and Peel) to help inform discussions about processing and infrastructure.

Australian Bioplastics Association

The Group was provided with a copy of the presentation given by the President of the Australasian Bioplastics Association to AORA members in August 2020 and discussed its relevance to the work of the Group and the FOGO Rollout Plan commitments.

Food Waste for Healthy Soils Fund

The Group discussed potential Federal Government funding for organic waste recycling infrastructure under the Food Waste for Healthy Soils Fund.

The Group noted that DWER would work with the Australian Government to determine further details about the process, timing and opportunities for securing funds for WA.