

Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council

Sustainability Team

Program Plan 2024/2025

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



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1 Introduction

This Sustainability Team Program Plan comprises the Urban Sustainability and Waste Education Teams program and service offerings for the 2024/2025 financial year.

1.1 Strategic Context

The Sustainability Team comprises of Urban Sustainability, Waste Education, Environmental Compliance and Communications.



Figure 1: Sustainability Team organisational structure 2023.

The Sustainability Team works to deliver the objectives within the EMRC's Sustainability Strategy. The Strategy is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) and the EMRC's Revised 10 Year Strategic Plan 2017-2027 objectives. These objectives are embedded in the annual EMRC Corporate Business Plan, with associated delivery costs included in the annual budget. Alignment of these strategic documents with the SDG's enables the EMRC and its member Councils to collaboratively progress regional sustainability against a globally recognised framework.

Additionally, the Waste Education Services Team is guided by the objectives of the WA Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Strategy 2030. The Strategy's vision is that *'Western Australia will become a sustainable, low-waste, circular economy in which human health and the environment are protected from the impacts of waste'*. The State's Strategy directly aligns with the Waste Education Services team and the EMRC's Sustainability Strategy vision to deliver circularity initiatives via education for the Region and broader community outcomes.

1.1.1 EMRC Sustainability Strategy

- ⇒ Our Sustainability Vision
 - ↪ Promoting sustainable waste management and a transition to a circular economy.
- ⇒ Objectives
 - ↪ Demonstrate circular economy leadership.
 - ↪ Respond to a climate emergency.

- ↪ Reduce our environmental impact.
- ↪ Create value in the community.

1.2 Reporting

The Sustainability Team report program progress via the EMRC Corporate Business Plan quarterly reports and quarterly Sustainability Team activity report to the EMRC Council.

2 Funding Summary

To achieve sustainability outcomes and alignment with the EMRC Strategic Review, the Sustainability Strategy, and the Revised Strategic Plan 2017-2027, programs and projects are grouped in a way to allow flexibility for participation and ensure ongoing value for each Council, while acknowledging the varying needs of each of the member Councils.

Where possible, the EMRC aims to tailor services to the individual needs of member Councils, either through an ongoing program or as a fee for service project. A bespoke package can be negotiated and costed accordingly.

Table 1: EMRC Sustainability Team Fee for Service Funding Summary.

Program	Town of Bassendean (\$)	City of Bayswater (\$)	Shire of Mundaring (\$)	City of Swan (\$)
ACER Program – Data Management	\$4,200	X	\$4,200	X
ACER Program – Climate, Energy and Emission Actions	\$6,300	X	\$6,300	X
Water Sensitive Futures - Data Management	\$4,200	X	\$4,200	X
Water Sensitive Futures - Water Sensitive Actions	\$7,560	X	\$7,560	\$7,560
Water Sensitive Futures - Waterwise Council Accreditation	\$7,360.50	X	\$7,360.50	\$7,360.50
SDG Annual Review	\$4,200	\$4,200	\$4,200	X
Social Advancement – Avon Descent Festivals	\$2,320.50	\$4,672.50	X	\$8,127
2024/2025 Total Proposed Member Council Contributions	\$36,141	\$8,872.50	\$33,820.50	\$23,047.50

⇒ Supplementary programs offered to Member Councils

- ↪ Circular and Economic Development
- ↪ Waste Education support for Local Government*
- ↪ Waste Education services for Community*

* Note - Waste Education services are funded by the Waste Education Levy which currently equates to 5% of the landfill gate fee at the Red Hill Waste Management Facility.

2.1 Withdrawal from any of the Urban Programs

Under the EMRC’s current Establishment Agreement notice of withdrawal by a member council clause 9.6 states:

“A participant may, at any time between 1 July and 31 December in any year, give to the EMRC notice of its intention to withdraw from any of the Continuing Programs and Services. The withdrawal of the participant under clause 9.6 shall take effect from the end of the financial year following the giving of the notice of withdrawal under clause 9.6. For example, if notice of withdrawal was given on 1 July 2020, it will not take effect until 30 June 2021.”

If a member Council wishes to withdraw from any of the Sustainability programs outlined within this program, formal notice of withdrawal is required to be provided for each individual program (in this case, by 31 December 2023 to take effect from 1 July 2024).

3 2024/2025 Programs and Projects

3.1 Achieving Carbon Emission Reduction (ACER) Program

The ACER program is a long-standing initiative that has been ongoing since 2019 and has continued to evolve to meet the needs of member Councils. The ACER program is governed by a carbon management framework that includes a cyclical process to monitor, review and improve.

- ACER Program – Data Management
 - ⇒ Verify energy and emissions data, and complete Quarterly Performance Reviews.
 - ⇒ Annual Energy Emissions Data Analysis Report and Snapshot.
 - ⇒ Data management platform support as required.
- ACER Program – Climate, Energy and Emissions Actions
 - ⇒ Technical support to progress strategies, plans and actions to meet emissions reduction and Net Zero targets.
 - ⇒ Provision and maintenance of Home Energy Audit Kits.
 - ⇒ Support Cities Power Partnership participation.
 - ⇒ Review of other related plans and strategies as required – e.g. Urban Forest, Urban Heat Island, Climate Change Adaptation.
 - ⇒ Identify grant and funding opportunities.
 - ⇒ Research and development
 - ⇒ Advocacy and submissions for energy efficiency and emissions related issues.

3.2 Water Sensitive Futures

The Water Sensitive Futures program provides a detailed assessment of water consumption and assistance with Water Corporation Waterwise Council reporting with the aim to identify development opportunities that align with the Water Sensitive Cities Index framework. Through this program a consistent cycle of review and reporting supports the identification of any potential issues at facilities leading to a reduction in water wastage and costs.

- Water Data Management
 - ⇒ Verify Water data, complete Quarterly Performance Review of corporate potable water.



- ⇒ Annual Water Data Analysis Report and Snapshots.
- ⇒ Data management platform support as required.
- Water Sensitive Actions
 - ⇒ Provide technical support to progress strategies, plans and actions to meet water conservation goals.
 - ⇒ Facilitate quarterly water team meetings including action review, fault identification and other waterwise issues.
- Waterwise Council Action Plan (WCAP) Accreditation
 - ⇒ Annual reporting to Water Corporation for re-endorsement for Waterwise Council accreditation.
 - ⇒ Annually collect and collate data from Water Corporation, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and other sources as required to be able to complete Waterwise Council reporting.



3.3 Sustainable Development Goals Annual Review

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are an internationally recognised set of 17 targets that provide a globally unified approach to ensuring a sustainable future. Under each goal is a set of specified targets that have been identified as key attributers of sustainable development.

The SDG Annual Report card reporting provides an in-depth investigation into member Councils progress and opportunities in relation to these international standards.

- Assistance with the collection and collations of organisational wide information.
- Annual SDG Benchmark Progress Report and Snapshot.
- Provide technical support to progress strategies, plans and actions to meet SDG goals.
- Ongoing research and development into the SDGs and their importance to the region.

3.4 Circular and Economic Development

- Support community, industry and government in Circular Economy principles and actions, including identifying barriers and promoting opportunities for Circular Economy practices.
- Research and provide support for emerging and innovative technologies and future opportunities.
- Advocacy for infrastructure development, growth, and funding, including regional initiatives.



3.5 Social Advancement

- Apply a regional approach to sourcing funding and promoting social wellbeing e.g. Avon Descent Festivals
- Identify regional social priorities including opportunities for development, such as supporting disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.
- Supporting regional social sustainability initiatives and regional opportunities for community, industry, and government.





3.6 Waste Education Support for Local Governments

The Waste Education Services team view waste as a resource, the management as a collective responsibility, and embrace Circular Economy thinking. These principles drive Waste Education programs, which provide residents with the tools and knowledge to be a GREAT Sort. Waste Education is vital for behaviour change and improving waste management and actions towards circularity in the region.

- 2030 State Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery (WARR) Strategy Implementation support.
- Assistance with reviewing Waste Plans.
- Regional Waste Education Steering Group – Facilitate quarterly member Council’s representative meeting to share waste management to share waste management challenges and find solutions as a Region.
- Regional advocacy – e.g. Waste Management Community Reference Group (WMCRG), Recycle Right member, Consistent Communications Collective and Waste Educator Networking Group (WENG).
- Local Government Waste and Recycling Guides – ongoing content support.
- Bin Tagging – Behavior change education program to assist households with correct bin use.
- WA Plastic Ban – Education support for businesses, community groups and organisations.
- Source Separation Collection and Support – From schools and public places for batteries, light globes and mobile phones.
- Resource Recovery Event Support – Planning, implementation, administration and personnel support, includes social media content development and community engagement.
- Delivery on a fee-for-service basis for other requested waste related initiatives.

3.7 Waste Education Services for Community

The Team provides a range of education programs and resources to support behaviour change in the community.

- Waste Management Facility (WMF) Tours – Red Hill WMF and the Resource Recovery Group Canning Vale, tailored for schools and community groups.
- Community Courses and Workshops – Focusing on providing participants with practical ways to avoid, reduce and separate waste e.g. Clothes Swap and sustainability workshops.
- The Education Loan Boxes – contain learning activities and resources aligned with STEM curriculum e.g. party kit, early learning books, DIY Waste Audit kit, ‘Plastic not so Fantastic’ loan box and Clothes Swap equipment and resources.
- Schools Support – improve waste management through audits, incursions, activities and education also supporting Department of Education (DoE) and Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) objectives e.g. FOGO in Schools.

3.8 FOGO

The EMRC FOGO Strategy combines the objectives of the Waste Strategy 2030. The EMRC has substantial experience in FOGO roll outs and can provide support from initial planning to execution and beyond.

- Communication Plan – thoroughly researched via consultation and direct experience with FOGO implementation.



- FOGO Implementation Support:
 - ⇒ A range of community engagement activities to support bin system changes.
 - ⇒ Procurement assistance for kitchen caddies and compostable liners and their distribution
 - ⇒ The Waste Education Services Team relocation to the Council for agreed time to assist with their FOGO rollout allowing ease of communication. Includes answering resident enquiries and community engagement activities.
 - ⇒ Post FOGO rollout bin tagging program.
- FOGO Step by Step Guide – a practical how-to-guide outlining planning and implementation of a FOGO system. The EMRC can tailor the guide to suit individual Councils.

4 Fee for Service

If member Councils are interested in any additional activities or services outside the above scope of work, a fee-for-service may be provided. Below is the list consulting fees for 2023/2024. Please note that the fees and charges may be subject to a price rise in 2024/2025.

Table 2: EMRC 2023/2024 Fees and Charges

MEMBER COUNCILS - TOWN OF BASSENDEAN, CITY OF BAYSWATER, SHIRE OF MUNDARING, CITY OF SWAN (INC GST)	
Senior Executive	\$146.00/hour
Manager	\$128.80/hour
Co-ordinator	\$111.40/hour
Officer	\$79.00/hour

Please contact EMRC's Sustainability Team if you have any questions.