



## **WASTE AUTHORITY**

### **Information for prospective Waste Authority members**

#### **The Waste Authority**

The Waste Authority (the Authority) is a new independent statutory authority established under the recently enacted *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* (the Act).

The Authority provides advice to the Minister for the Environment on strategic direction, policy and priorities for waste in Western Australian and oversees the development and implementation of policies, strategies and programs. The Authority is responsible for administering the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account.

The specific functions of the Authority, as outlined in Schedule 2 of the Act, are provided at Attachment 1.

The Authority may also establish committees to assist the Authority in carrying out its functions. At least one member of each committee established must be a member of the Authority.

#### **Composition of the Waste Authority**

The Authority comprises five members, including a Chairman and Deputy Chairman, who are appointed by the Governor. Members are to be persons who, in the opinion of the Minister, have skill, experience and knowledge in matters relating to sustainability, waste services, or waste avoidance and resource recovery or having an interest relevant to the functions of the Waste Authority. Members considered will also in the opinion of the Minister, be able to make a contribution to the functions of the Authority.

Members are appointed for a term not exceeding five years, but they may be reappointed for further consecutive terms. Members may resign before the expiry of their appointment, by notice in writing to the Minister.

The constitution and proceedings of the Authority are outlined in Schedule 1 of the Act.

## **Remuneration of Members**

Members (excluding the Chairman and Deputy Chairman) will receive an annual remuneration of \$13,700 before tax, and are entitled to claim all reasonable out of pocket travel and accommodation expenses incurred when on approved Authority business.

The Chairman will receive an annual remuneration of \$22,300 plus an allowance of \$5,000 per annum for the first 12 months. The Deputy Chairman will receive \$17,500 per annum plus an allowance of \$3,000 per annum for the first 12 months.

Remuneration for the Chairman and Deputy Chairman will be reviewed as soon as practicable following establishment of the Authority to take into consideration any changes in workload or other circumstances deemed necessary to warrant additional time allocations.

## **Meetings of the Waste Authority**

It is anticipated that the Authority will meet once per month throughout the year for scheduled half day meetings at Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) offices in Perth (Level 4, Atrium Building, 168 St Georges Terrace). Upon establishment, the Authority will determine the timing, including frequency and duration, of meetings. Meetings may also be held at other venues from time to time, to coincide with site visits of relevant facilities and/or meetings with key stakeholders.

Meeting papers (including agenda papers and briefing notes) are forwarded to members 1 week prior to the meeting for detailed reading.

In addition, special meetings of the Authority, for example, business planning sessions, may be convened from time to time on an as needs basis.

## **Relationship to the Department of Environment and Conservation**

While the Authority is independent of DEC, it works closely with the department through agreed procedures. DEC is headed by the Director General, Keiran McNamara, and provides the Authority, through a Service Agreement, with professional and technical support, particularly in relation to the development and implementation of policies, strategies and programs.

A Service Agreement between the Authority and Department is currently in preparation. The Authority may also seek professional advice from other staff within DEC under the Service Agreement.

## **Further Information**

The *Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007* can be found on the State Law Publisher website at:

[http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main\\_mrtile\\_2757\\_homepage.html](http://www.slp.wa.gov.au/legislation/statutes.nsf/main_mrtile_2757_homepage.html)

Further information relating to waste priorities for the State can be found at the State Government's Towards Zero Waste website at: [www.zerowastewa.com.au](http://www.zerowastewa.com.au)  
Prospective members are welcome to contact Mr Michael Kerr, Manager, Waste Management Branch in DEC, to discuss the Waste Authority and matters pertaining to its functions and the expectations of members. Michael can be contacted on telephone (08) 6467 5301 or email [michael.kerr@dec.wa.gov.au](mailto:michael.kerr@dec.wa.gov.au).

### **Response to the Advertisement for Expressions of Interest**

Please submit your expression of interest in writing directly to the Minister for the Environment's Chief of Staff (please refer to the address below).

You should detail your skill, experience and knowledge in matters relating to sustainability, waste services, or waste avoidance and resource recovery, or your particular function or vocational interest relevant to the functions of the Waste Authority.

Expressions of interest should clearly state if the expressed interest is in relation to the position of Chairman, Deputy Chairman or member or all positions.

Expressions of interest should be marked 'CONFIDENTIAL' and forwarded to:

The Chief of Staff  
Minister for the Environment; Climate Change  
Level 29, Allendale Square  
77 St Georges Terrace  
PERTH WA 6000

Applications close 5.00 pm, 27 February 2008.

## **Functions of the Waste Authority**

as outlined in Schedule 2 of the  
*Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Act 2007*

1. (a) advise and make recommendations to the Minister on matters relating to the Act; and  
(b) inquire into and advise the Minister or the CEO on any matter relating to the Act on which the Minister or CEO requests advice; and  
(c) advise and make recommendations to the CEO on the regulation of waste services; and  
(d) advise and make recommendations to the CEO with respect to subsidiary legislation under the Act.
2. To act as an advocate for the objectives of the Act.
3. To develop, promote and review the waste strategy and coordinate its implementation.
4. To monitor and assess the adequacy of, and report to the Minister on the operation of, the waste strategy, product stewardship plans and extended producer responsibility schemes.
5. To promote community awareness and understanding of resource efficiency, waste avoidance and resource recovery.
6. To support State and Commonwealth policies which will enhance progress towards zero waste.
7. To promote resource efficiency, waste avoidance and resource recovery.
8. To promote coordination between organisations seeking to prevent waste.
9. To liaise with local governments to ensure that the provisions of the Act are enforced in the districts of those local governments.
10. To cooperate with local governments to coordinate local efforts to prevent waste.
11. To receive representation on waste management issues from members of the public.
12. To promote market development for recovered resources and recycled materials.
13. To promote the development of locally owned resource recovery infrastructure.
14. To ensure that the appropriate investigations, audits and inspections in relation to the application of moneys from the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Fund are carried out.

15. To take appropriate measures to bring the provisions of the Act to the attention of the public.
16. To do such other acts and things as are conducive to the prevention and control of waste.
17. To perform such other functions as are conferred on it under the Act or are referred to it by the Minister.