



22 June 2023

MEDIA STATEMENT

BANKSIA ROAD ORGANICS PROCESSING FACILITY

Bunbury Harvey Regional Council (“BHRC”) has recently approved funding for the deployment of additional processing capability in support of fast-tracking the transformation of stockpiled pasteurised and matured FOGO product into Saleable Compost at the Banksia Road Organics Processing Facility.

At no stage has or does BHRC intend for any FOGO material to be sent to Landfill without undergoing the necessary processing toward maximising the compost/recycling recovery rates.

One key current challenge facing the Banksia Road Organics Processing Facility is high levels of contamination received from kerbside FOGO collection. BHRC is actively working with all participating Councils to address the levels of contamination in the kerbside FOGO collection bins, and urges residents to work with their Councils to ensure the FOGO kerbside collection bins are utilized for the correct products, not as an additional red or yellow lid collection service. The BHRC CEO Peter Keane said contamination rates heavily impact processing efficiency and effectiveness and reduces overall recovery rates of the final product.

The Banksia Road Organics Processing Facility currently receives Kerbside collected FOGO from seven South-West WA Councils including City of Bunbury, Shire of Dardanup, Shire of Augusta-Margaret River and Shire of Harvey. The Banksia Road Organics Processing Facility is operated under DWER approved licence conditions. As at 1st July 2023, all seven Councils operate under a gate fee arrangement with BHRC for all FOGO collection services delivered to the site. BHRC, and its two member councils City of Bunbury and Shire of Harvey, are committed to supporting all seven South-West WA councils FOGO kerbside collection into the foreseeable future with the FOGO processing capability, at cost effective and commercially viable gate fees.

BHRC has recently secured federal funding of \$6.14M toward the delivery of Stage 1 of a contemporary FOGO processing facility at the Stanley Road Waste Management Facility. BHRC is seeking further support from the State Government toward the delivery of Stage 2, which will then allow BHRC to transition all operations from Banksia Rd to Stanley Rd.

Media enquiries to Peter Keane at admin@bhrc.wa.gov.au