

McROBIES GULLY WASTE MANAGEMENT CENTRE GOOD NEIGHBOUR AGREEMENT

10 March 2017



City of **HOBART**

McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre Good Neighbour Agreement

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Document History

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1 Principles

The Hobart City Council (the Council) has made a commitment to achieving zero waste to landfill by the year 2030 through the *City of Hobart Waste Management Strategy 2015–30* (the strategy). The strategy outlines over 90 actions, each targeting a reduction in waste to landfill, with specific actions pertaining to organics, litter, illegal dumping and education. The council acknowledges that there are ongoing impacts from the operation of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre, including associated traffic, noise and local pollution. The Council undertakes measures to minimise the impacts of operations on the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre and continues to be committed to reducing the local impacts.

This Good Neighbour Agreement outlines the City of Hobart's commitment to the community of South Hobart and acknowledges the unique historical location of McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre, near the world heritage listed Cascades Female Factory and the Hobart Rivulet. The City is committed to maintaining and improving those heritage values while operating a functional Waste Management Centre for community benefit, with regards to management and minimisation of those impacts.

2 Background

- The area covered by this Good Neighbour Agreement is South Hobart, more specifically the immediate neighbours of the waste management centre and the roads surrounding, which are used by residents and City waste vehicles. This includes Macquarie Street down to the Southern Outlet, Darcy Street and Cascade Road inclusive.
- The Good Neighbour Agreement is complemented by the City's commitment to reduce waste to landfill, especially organic waste as specifically outlined in the strategy.
- The Good Neighbour Agreement has been designed to foster open and transparent communication between the stakeholders associated with McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre.
- To this end, the City will establish a Good Neighbour Working Group made up of key stakeholder representatives and the public. It is expected the working group will meet three or four times per year, or as required. The City will appoint a chairperson to facilitate the meetings.
- The key spokespeople for the community will be the president of the South Hobart Progress Association or nominee, the manager of the Cascades Female Factory and a representative of the South Hobart Sustainability Community.
- All members of the community are invited to attend the Good Neighbour Working Group.
- Waste to the McRobies Gully landfill has steadily declined over the past decade to around 25 000 tonnes per annum. These reductions are mainly attributed to:
 - improved waste classification, data management and reporting

- increased recycling programs such as kerbside recycling, organic waste and inert waste
- increased competition and waste management centre and landfill availability within the region.
- The City is committed to further reducing waste to landfill through a number of strategic initiatives as outlined in the strategy. These include:
 - increasing the capacity of the Resource Recovery Centre to divert waste from landfill through technological improvements
 - increasing the diversion of food and garden organics from landfill
 - advocating to the state government for strategic change, such as a waste levy to drive the recycling industry in Tasmania.

3 Actions

3.1 Environmental Management and Pollution Prevention

The City of Hobart will ...

- ensure every reasonable measure is taken in order to mitigate any negative impacts that may occur as a result of the operation of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre site
- adhere to all regulations imposed by the regulator and report on aspects of the operation as required, including regulations around water testing and the management of litter, noise and odour
- strive for best practice waste management centre management techniques
- further promote current initiatives to reduce, reuse and recycle and thereby reduce the pressure on the waste management centre site
- maintain site tidiness and amenity ensuring a regular street cleaning program for McRobies Road and immediate surrounds as well as minimising visual pollution from site lighting
- undertake all reasonable measures to mitigate the effect of wind-blown litter

3.2 Traffic and Noise Management

The City of Hobart will ...

- avoid any unnecessary traffic movements in and out of the facility
- undertake all reasonable measures to reduce the total number of City vehicles servicing the McRobies Waste Management Centre by always utilising the City's trucks to full capacity, restricting the total number of daily runs, and delivering to alternative facilities where appropriate
- not obstruct local laneways and parking access which are used by residents and emergency vehicles
- engage in a noise reduction program and investigate, where possible, employment of noise dampening strategies (like soil mounds), so that the site helps shield sound

from the community

- review and improve traffic-control plans and signage in the locality of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre site and work with customers to reduce unsecured waste leaving vehicles on route to the centre
- implement the *Waste Management Strategy 2015–30*
- commit to establishing service levels for the maintenance of the roads surrounding the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre with the aim of minimising noise and other associated impacts
- continue to work with the community on any traffic related issues that result from the operation of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre.

3.3 Community Consultation and Access to Information

The City of Hobart will ...

- keep the community informed and engaged by promoting open communication and transparency in its management and operation of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre site
- make quarterly environmental testing reports for McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre available online
- meet with the representatives of the Good Neighbour Working Group to review implementation of this document and any other strategic issues
- invite the working group to tour the waste management centre once a year to encourage community engagement and accountability
- provide one point of contact for community members to raise any urgent concerns relating to the waste management centre site
- provide a response to any formally issued concerns/complaints within five working days
- provide regular updates of events and services through the City's website and Facebook page, (such as free entry weekends)
- provide assistance to the South Hobart Community (as with other parts of Hobart), to explore waste education and community engagement pilot projects such as food waste trials, waste assessments, demolition recycling trials, organics recycling, waste apps and similar projects
- provide annual reporting on efforts to reduce waste
- provide annual data on the vehicle movements to the landfill, transfer station, and composting areas
- provide relevant traffic data captured for the area.

3.4 The South Hobart Community's Commitment

The South Hobart Community through its representatives intends to and is willing to ...

- engage openly and actively with the City about any concerns or queries relevant to the operation of McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre site
- be proactive and willing to identify potential solutions to the issues raised and share

information with the City

- alert the City promptly to any serious issues or concerns they believe may be associated with the operation of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre
- make an active effort to reduce, reuse and recycle to reduce household waste and the resulting pressure on the waste management centre site
- support the *Waste Management Strategy 2015–30* implementation
- participate in an active feedback process to inform the City how well it is progressing against the commitments set out in this Good Neighbour Agreement
- communicate with the designated point of contact for the City on matters relating to this agreement. This person will be the nominated City officer to the Good Neighbour Working Group. At the time of writing this is the City's Manager Cleansing & Solid Waste. The officer has primary responsibility for representing council on the working group, for providing feedback into City programs and services and ensuring that new City initiatives are discussed at the working group
- meet with the relevant City representatives to review implementation of this document.

4 Next Steps

- The City of Hobart will provide all relevant staff a copy of this Good Neighbour Agreement, which will require Hobart City Council approval before coming into effect.
- The City of Hobart will meet with the Good Neighbour Working Group on site to explain current operations of the waste management centre.
- The City of Hobart will commit to reporting water quality statistics on its website.
- The City of Hobart will prepare a template report and set of minutes which will be regularly updated at each meeting of the working group. Meetings will occur at the waste management centre offices and in the local community.



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