



The major issues encountered through the trial included:

- Low bin presentation rates.
- High contamination rates.
- Development of a successful composting system.
- The COVID-19 pandemic.
- Recruitment difficulties.
- Increasing costs.
- Lack of specialist knowledge.

Originally, the intention was to slowly increase the number of households being serviced by the program. However, because of these challenges, the trial has not been expanded. The average bin presentation rate over the trial period has been 58%. Hence, on average of the 500 bins in the trial, only 290 were presented to the kerb for collection.

Including contamination, an average of 11kg per bin per dwelling per week has been collected. This equates to approximately 170 tonne of organic material being collected per annum and diverted away from landfill at a cost of \$185,000. By way of comparison, the total tonnage of material placed in the landfill per annum is approximately 49,000 tonnes. This figure is anticipated to increase to 68,000 tonnes by 2030. Based on a kerbside waste audit carried out by Bowman and Associates in 2019 of 200 dwellings within the City, FOGO was estimated to comprise of approximately 18% of the total waste stream.

The contamination rate measures the percentage of material that cannot be composted and must be removed prior to composting being undertaken. The contamination rate has steadily increased from 20 percent to a current average of 50 percent. This figure is much higher than the average 3-5% contamination rates

City of Greater Geraldton

Extract from Ordinary Meeting of Council Minutes . 31 May 2022

The processing of the collected organic material has also proved challenging. Sampling of the first batch was conducted in June 2020. Regular testing since this time has been undertaken and to date the produced compost has not met Australian

restrictions to evaluate if it can have a positive impact on the contamination rates. The program continuation will also allow an increased period of time for the City to determine if the compost specialist will consistently produce a quality end product for sale.

**Leadership:**

**INTEGRATED PLANNING LINKS:**

<b>Strategic Direction: Economy</b>	<b>Aspiration: A healthy thriving and resilient economy that provides opportunities for all whilst protecting the environment and enhancing our social and cultural fabric.</b>
Outcome 2.4	A desirableme 2.4



**COUNCIL DECISION**

**MOVED CR KEEMINK, SECONDED CR COLLIVER**

**That Council by Simple Majority pursuant to Section 5.20 of the Local Government Act 1995 RESOLVES to:**

- 1. APPROVE the continuation of the Food Organic and Garden Organic (FOGO) kerbside collection trial involving 500 households for the 2022-2023 period to enable contamination reduction efforts and information gathering to continue; and**
- 2. MAKE provisions in the FY2022-23 Annual Budget of an amount of \$185,000 for the trial continuation.**

**CARRIED 9/3**

Time: 5:36 PM

Not Voted: 0

No Votes: 3

Yes Votes: 9

<b>Name</b>	<b>Vote</b>
<b>Mayor Van Styn</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Cr. Clune</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Cr. Colliver</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Cr. Cooper</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Cr. Critch</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Cr. Hall</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Cr. Keemink</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Cr. Librizzi</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Cr. Parker</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Cr. Reymond</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Cr. Tanti</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Cr. Thomas</b>	<b>YES</b>