



**Environment Protection Authority
Lake Macquarie Lead Community Reference Group**

Minutes

28 September 2017, 5:00pm – 6:15pm

Chair: Greg Piper

Community Reference Group Attendees:

Nicole Gerrard (School), Emma Hale (Community), Tony Cade (Community), Lloyd Hill (Business), Cr Luke Cubis (LMCC)

Other Attendees:

Adam Gilligan (EPA), Alice Howe (LMCC), Craig Dalton (Health)

Secretary: Jackie Teal (EPA)

Apologies: Karen McCraw (Community), Cr Wendy Harrison (LMCC), Richard Bastow (Ferrier Hodgson)

Agenda Item 1 – Welcome

Greg Piper, Chair (GP) welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

Agenda Item 2 – Apologies

GP noted apologies from Karen McCraw, Cr Wendy Harrison and Richard Bastow.

Agenda Item 3 – Minutes from Previous Meeting

The Minutes from the previous meeting were adopted unanimously.

Agenda Item 4 – Update on the Summerhill waste arrangements

Adam Gilligan (AG) provided an update as detailed below:

- The process of ensuring the Summerhill facility was appropriately set up to receive the lead waste was complex and required significant oversight and advice from the NSW EPA. It also required changes to the Environment Protection Licence for Summerhill which took time.
- The EPA completed the necessary assessments and amendments to the site's Environment Protection Licence in August 2017.

- The facility must ensure that lead-contaminated soil poses no harm to human health or the local environment, including staff of the facility.
- Newcastle City Council is undertaking further work in relation to Work Health and Safety for Summerhill staff. This additional work by Council was not foreshadowed at the time of the EPA's announcement in August 2017.
- The EPA has received a small number of enquiries from residents in the area, however no formal registrations have yet been received.
- Covering the affected soil or dampening it until it can be transferred to a disposal facility will manage any risk.
- The EPA is aware that residents want a quick and convenient way to safely dispose of lead contaminated soil.
- The EPA appreciates residents patience regarding this matter.
- The EPA is aware that council is working to address its outstanding issues at Summerhill and that the community should be able to dispose of the affected material soon.

Agenda Item 5 – Update on the Government's considerations of the LEWG Report

Adam Gilligan (AG) provided an update as detailed below:

- The Government has yet to consider the recommendations of the LEWG.
- It is hoped that Cabinet will consider the matter shortly.
- Once the Government considers and announces its position, the CRG will be in a position to hold another community drop in event to inform the local community of the outcome.
- It is hoped that this can be organised during November, subject to a Government announcement in the next few weeks.

Agenda Item 6 – Committee wrap-up including reporting back to the community

The CRG discussed at length the logistics and timing of reporting back to the community regarding the achievements of the group. The date will be based around the Government's response to the LEWG recommendations. A tentative date of 28 November was suggested.

Agenda Item 7 – Outstanding Items

Outstanding Items were covered in other Agenda Items.

Agenda Item 8 – General Business

Government Response to Lead Expert Working Group (LEWG) Recommendations

The CRG expressed concern that the Government has not responded in a timely manner to the LEWG's recommendations. A motion was moved to ask the Member for Lake Macquarie and Chair of the LMLCRG, Greg Piper, to take their concerns directly to the Premier and Minister.

ACTION 1: GP TO WRITE TO THE PREMIER AND MINISTER ON BEHALF OF CRG

XRF

AG advised that the EPA's Hunter Region have purchased an XRF and EPA, LMCC and NCC staff have been trained in its use.

PFAS – Former Pasmaico Site

AG provided information on PFAS at the former Pasmaico Site. An email regarding this issue was sent to the CRG on 26 September.

Soil Testing

Craig Dalton advised that 50 residents had been identified for soil testing. The testing has started slowly with 17 residents agreeing and 10 completed.

Agenda Item 9 – Next Meeting Date and Agenda Items

Next Meeting: No date set – will wait for the outcome from Cabinet

Meeting Closed: 6.15pm

ACTION ITEMS

NO.	WHO	WHAT	WHEN
1	GP	Write to the Premier and Minister on behalf of the CRG re LEWG Recommendations	ASAP