

**SHOROC INCORPORATED
EXTRAORDINARY BOARD MEETING**

**26 March, 2009
Mosman Council Chambers
5.30pm**

MINUTES

Board Members Present

Cr Jean Hay AM	Mayor of Manly
Cr Anne Connon	Deputy Mayor of Mosman
Cr Michael Regan	Mayor of Warringah
Cr David James	Mayor of Pittwater
Henry Wong	General Manager Manly
Viv May	General Manager Mosman
Rik Hart	General Manager Warringah
Mark Ferguson	General Manager Pittwater

In attendance

Leta Webb	Executive Director SHOROC
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Guest Speaker

Mr Peter Stephenson, Operations, Kimbriki Manager

Apologies

Cr Dominic Lopez OAM	Mayor of Mosman
Mr Aaron Hudson	Manager Kimbriki

Item 1 Welcome and Apologies

Cr Regan, as Chair, welcomed everyone and noted apologies from Cr Dominic Lopez OAM, Mayor of Mosman and Mr Aaron Hudson, Manager Kimbriki who was absent due to the arrival of a baby son.

Item 2 Minutes of the Board meeting 18 February, 2009.

The Board Resolved:

To bring the Minutes of the Board Meeting held 18th February forward to the next board meeting on 20 May 2009.

Item 3.1 Kimbriki and e-waste- a Presentation by Peter Stephenson Operations Manager, Kimbriki

A detailed presentation was given covering :

- **Current Practices and Emerging Opportunities for Kimbriki**

Industry is awaiting direction from the NSW Government and The Environment Protection & Heritage Council with regard to whether e-waste recycling issues justify government intervention.

- **Public Policy Objectives**

Because of the complexity of various items requiring disposal much of the e-waste in NSW is sent to landfill. There is a need for concerted action to collect and systematically process equipment effectively and efficiently. Typically in the past e-waste has been sold to countries with a very high repair capability and high raw material demand, resulting in high accumulations of "residue" in poor countries without strong environmental laws.

E-Waste generally is estimated to be accumulating at more than 3 times the rate of any other municipal waste stream.

Australia only recycles 4% of e-waste compared to eg Japan at approximately 80%. Japan has e-waste recycling legislation.

The primary reason to keep e-waste out of landfill is the release of hazardous toxins into the soil and groundwater as the material breaks down. The primary e-waste toxins are lead, cadmium, mercury and chromium Total. However testing at Kimbriki has shown there is no leaching at this time.

- **Kimbriki Environmental Compliance**

Kimbriki tests yearly for a full spectrum of contaminants and hazardous substances. A report is submitted to the Dept Environment and Climate Change.

Kimbriki is tested for substances that are present in e-waste eg cadmium, mercury, chromium and lead. Results indicate little to no contaminants.

- **e-waste Survey**

Kimbriki undertook a 44 day survey of waste. Below are the results of a survey of e-waste extrapolated over the full year.

Computer Monitors	3,754	17%
Computer Hard Drive/Toner	2,351	11%
Printers	2,038	9%
Televisions	3,762	17%
Other – fax machines, stereos, photocopiers	9,752	46%

Based on the trial, the direct cost to Kimbriki to recycle e-waste would be \$231,534 per annum.

Infrastructure costs to Kimbriki (purchase of containers for storage and new area) \$15,000 per annum

TOTAL Cost \$246,534 per annum

The Board Resolved:
To thank Peter Stephenson for his informative presentation.

Peter Stephenson then left the meeting.

Item 3.2 Proposal for e-waste Ban

At the Kimbriki Joint Services Committee meeting on 30 November, 2008 it was resolved *that SHOROC councils be requested to review the success of the recent E Waste recycling initiatives and give consideration to developing joint initiatives for E waste recycling utilising Kimbriki and other commercial partnerships, along with opportunities for funding of these programs.*

Following a meeting of Waste Managers from member Councils, a report was prepared for the GMAC meeting of 4 February, 2009. At that meeting, the General Managers supported the principle that manufacturers and producers of computers should be responsible for waste disposal and that Councils should support programs that operated consistent with that principle.

GMAC resolved:

That this matter be further explored with the view to Councils participating in an annual regional collection in conjunction with Kimbriki Environmental Enterprises (KEE.) Such a collection should be in conjunction with manufacturers or producers of computers, who should meet the majority of the costs of such a collection.

A further report from SHOROC on this matter was included on the agenda of the SHOROC Board meeting on 18 February, 2009 and on the agenda of the Kimbriki Joint Services Committee meeting on 19 February, 2009.

The Kimbriki Joint Services Committee resolved as follows:

That:

1. *The Manager, Kimbriki be requested to report to the May meeting in relation to the implementation of a ban on e-waste at Kimbriki landfill and kerbside collections in the SHOROC region by 1 January 2010.*
2. *SHOROC Mayors issue a letterbox drop to all residents advising of the detrimental environmental legacy resulting from landfilling of electronic waste and the proposed bans.*
3. *SHOROC Mayors be requested to urgently demand the State and Federal Ministers for the Environment to introduce extended producer responsibility laws for e-waste and the Local Government Association be requested to ask all Australian Councils to support the decision.*

The General Manager of Mosman has suggested that an urgent meeting of SHOROC be convened so that the Manager, Kimbriki can present to the Board on this matter. In this way the matter will take a higher level of importance and Board members will know the scope of the problem and the issues involved and have an opportunity to discuss the campaign as proposed by the Kimbriki Joint Services Committee.

At the GMAC meeting on 4 March, 2008, the General Managers resolved that the waste managers meet to provide an overview of the issue and to identify consequences if Councils decide to act in accordance with the resolution of the Kimbriki Joint Services Committee and proposals for a way forward.

A meeting was held on 9 March, 2009. The CEO designate from Kimbriki and a waste strategist, Paul Howlett also attended the meeting.

Following the meeting, Paul Howlett produced the attached paper that synthesises matters discussed at the meeting.

The paper:

- provides background to the management of e-waste in NSW;
- defines the scope of the potential bans – proposing two bans;
- outlines how the bans should be implemented covering matters such as notice, enforcement, that residents be provided with information on alternative options for disposal, likely collateral impacts including additional matters that will need to be undertaken by Councils.
- Discusses “strategic issues” associated with the proposed bans.

The paper proposes that a narrow definition of what constitutes e-waste be applied (e-waste to include computers, computer peripherals and TV sets) so that there can be clear targeting of manufacturers.

The paper points out that “Councils introducing their own schemes are fundamentally undermining the rationale of the economic justification for a mandatory EPR scheme”.

The meeting discussed the need for a long lead up time for public relations and also discussed that there may be a need to engage highly skilled consultants to undertake this as well as appropriate lobbying of governments and negotiation of manufacturers and liaison

with other local government bodies. An indicative cost of about \$30,000 was considered necessary – although actual likely costs for such a campaign have not been investigated.

Some practical implementation issues were also considered if Councils decide to go ahead with the campaign. This includes getting information into waste calendars (noting that it is already too late for Pittwater Council); the need to have drop off notices as well as information in rates notices to get both residents and owners; the need to have a strategy for how to back out of the campaign if necessary.

The recommendations below apply should SHOROC decide to support the proposed bans:

1. That the SHOROC Board support in principle a ban on e-waste at Kimbriki landfill and a ban on e-waste from kerbside collections in the SHOROC region by 1 January 2010.
2. That the bans apply only to computers, computer peripherals and televisions.
3. That, in conjunction with bans on e-waste, that SHOROC support the conduct of a public relations and lobbying campaign to promote the introduction of a legislated and/ or voluntary extended producer responsibility schemes for the disposal of e-waste.
4. That member Councils be asked to consider their individual positions on the proposed bans and campaign and that their positions be considered at the May meeting of SHOROC Board.
5. That, should the ban and campaign proceed, that Councils also resolve to not introduce their own e-waste scheme in 2010 so as not to undermine the rationale of the economic justification for a mandatory EPR scheme.
6. That a working group be set up of waste managers and community relations managers to devise details of an implementation strategy for bans (including an exit strategy), to provide an estimate of costs, including the cost of engaging a public relations / lobbying consultancy firm.
7. That SHOROC Mayors be requested to urgently demand that the State and Federal Ministers for the Environment introduce extended producer responsibility laws for e-waste and that the Local Government Association be requested to ask all Australian Councils to support the demand.

The Board resolved:

1. *That the SHOROC Board support, in principle, a ban on e-waste at Kimbriki landfill and a ban on e-waste from kerbside collections in the SHOROC region by 1 January, 2010.*
2. *That the bans apply only to computers, computer peripherals and televisions.*
3. *That, in conjunction with bans on e-waste that SHOROC support the conduct of a public relations and lobbying campaign to promote the introduction of a legislated producer responsibility scheme for the disposal of e-waste.*
4. *That member Councils be asked to consider their individual positions on the proposed bans and campaign and that their positions be considered at the May meeting of the SHOROC Board.*
5. *That the campaign be funded by an increase to the waste levy charged by each*

*Council of \$1 per rate **assessment.***

- 6. That, should the ban and campaign proceed, that Councils also resolve to not introduce their own e-waste scheme in 2010 so as not to undermine the rational of the economic justification for a mandatory EPR scheme.*
- 7. That a working group be set up of waste managers and community relations managers to devise details of an implementation strategy for bans (including an exit strategy) and to provide an estimate of costs, including the cost of engaging a public relations/ lobbying consultancy firm.*
- 8. That SHOROC Mayors be requested to urgently demand that the State and Federal Ministers for the Environment introduce extended producer responsibility laws for e-waste and that the Australian Local Government Association be requested to ask all Australian Councils to support the demand.*
- 9. That each Council be asked to forward a resolution to the ALGA conference in support of extended producer responsibility legislation and in support of Council bans on the collection of e-waste.*
- 10. That the proposed strategy for the campaign and the selection of consultants to coordinate the campaign be approved by the SHOROC Board.*

Item 4 General Business

No items were discussed.

Meeting closed

Attachment: Report: e-waste at SHOROC