



BCRG

BROOKLYN COMMUNITY
REPRESENTATIVE GROUP

BCRG COMMUNITY FORUM 1/2026

MEETING 61

WEDNESDAY

25 March, 2026

6:00pm til 8:00pm

ONLINE via Zoom

Chair: Andrea Mason

Notetaker: Andrea Mason



MEETING PURPOSE

To provide an update on progress towards resolution of dust, noise and odour issues.

1	Welcome Meeting purpose and overview of agenda items Introductions
2	Rolling Actions Update and Discussion on old items <i>Andrea Mason</i>
3	Community Updates and Queries
4	Fresh Air Innovators Project <i>Prof Donna Green, Faculty of Science, University of New South Wales</i>
5	Council Updates <i>Jake Repacholi, Hobsons Bay Council</i> <i>Ivona Buljat, Sustainability Officer, Maribyrnong Council</i> <i>Matt O'Mara and Kristen Gilbert, Brimbank Council</i>
6	
7	
8	EPA Victoria Update a. compliance activity, b. Strategic initiatives and programs <i>Julia Gaitan, Regional Manager – West Metro</i>
9	Industry Updates CSF Proteins Update, <i>Donna Gray, Operations Manager</i> Brooklyn Recycling Group Update, <i>Lisa Field, Community Liaison Officer</i>
10	
11	Wrap up & Close

The intent of these meeting notes is to promote open communication between local business, local and state government, community and EPA Victoria (EPA). They are not to be used in a manner that compromises this objective.

Notes from this meeting will be posted on the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct website and will be available to the public. Meeting participants should advise Andrea Mason or Cath Botta if they would like their name removed from this public document.

eo.bcr@gmail.com | www.brooklynip.com.au | 0427 338 482

ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING

Action 2503_1: *There was a willingness to publicly recognise Geoff's work for the community in the future.*

Action 2503_2: *EPA and Councils to discuss the future timing and format of forums, and the role of a BCRG chair.*

ITEM 1.

WELCOME (Andrea Mason)

The final notes from the July 2025 meeting are available from the [Brooklynip website](#).

Andrea reminded everyone of the purpose of the forum – to foster collaboration between members of the community, industry, EPA Victoria, local and state government.

Everyone was invited to introduce themselves.

ITEM 2.

ROLLING ACTIONS (Andrea Mason)

Andrea Mason, Executive Officer, BCRG reminded everyone of the Rolling Actions list which records actions from each meeting and updates actions that have been addressed between forums. These are available on the [Brooklynip website](#) and are circulated with the enews.

There were no actions from July 2025 forum.

Outstanding long-term actions were discussed:

2024 1303_7: *Invite a representative from EPA's Environmental Public Health Branch to BCRG. **Completed at a previous meeting.***

2024 1906_1: *BCRG to invite EPA's Air and Odour Scientist back next year to provide an update on the analysis results from PM2.5 study of the inner west. **Completed 18 June 2024 by EPA's Dr Rosemary Federle.***

2023 1503_4: *BCRG to investigate inviting Breathe Melbourne to present to BCRG. **TBC 23/03/2026 EPA just sent email to Kate Lycett.***

2023 2106_1: *BCRG to invite DEECA back to BCRG for Victorian Air Quality Strategy updates. **EPA to chat to DEECA***

2024 1303_2: *BCRG to invite University of Melbourne researcher to report on the results of their study. **DEFERRED.***

ITEM 3.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

There were no community updates.

ITEM 4.

FRESH AIR INNOVATORS PROJECT (Prof Donna Green, Faculty of Science, University of New South Wales)

Donna provided an overview of the successful NSW project and the new project funded by a Victorian DEECA grant for the Air Quality Intervention Project in the Melbourne Inner West region, a research initiative focused on better understanding outdoor air quality in local communities.

Fresh Air Innovators (FAI) Program

As part of the Air Quality Improvement Program (AQIP), the Fresh Air Innovators program is rolling out into 20 classrooms across the AQIP area. This program combines hands-on air quality education with real monitoring data, giving students and teachers direct insight into the air they breathe. It was successfully run in 100 classrooms in NSW in 2025. A number of those classrooms will also be equipped with Clarity Node outdoor air quality monitors — the same monitors used in the NSW Clean Air Schools program — providing high-quality, continuous PM2.5 and PM10 measurements.

Community Clarity Node Monitors

Beyond the schools, it is expected to have up to approximately 10 additional Clarity Node monitors available for free, for placement across the broader AQIP community. These can be hosted on NGO, community group, council, or private land — as long as the site owner is interested and the location is suitable. Each hosted monitor will deliver a full year of PM2.5 and PM10 data, and all readings will be publicly available in real time via the open Clarity dashboard, so the whole community can benefit from and engage with the data. The monitors can be cable tied onto fences or poles so do not need to be screwed in.

There may be black carbon monitors available if anyone was interested.

If anyone in the community or a primary school is interested in hosting a monitor or getting more involved, please contact Professor Donna Green directly at:

donna.green@unsw.edu.au or +61 (0)417 455 920.

QUESTION: How does this project integrate with other projects such as Purple Air?

Prof Donna Green: UNSW uses Clarity Node monitors as they find the data more reliable than Purple Air.

COMMENT via email prior to the meeting from Carmen Largaiolli.

A multitude of data has already established that Brooklyn has (and continues to have) unacceptable odour, PM 2.5 & PM10 readings. For example, PM10 readings hovered between 59 and 121 (and everything in between) for 8 straight hours yesterday, excluding one hour between 1-2pm. PM2.5 readings are a growing concern with high readings during the day and middle of the night. Odour issues have also been ever present. My primary concern and focus have always been on the quality of policing/planning by State and local authorities which unfortunately continues to fail their respective mandates and Brooklyn community expectations.

Prof Green's project sounds interesting but at the end of the day I suspect this project may only address her vested interests (after 1 year of data collection) and not have anything to do with holding polluters to account. The Brooklyn community can't wait any longer for resolution to the ongoing pollution issues.

Prof Donna Green: Much of my work has been in NSW not Victoria but the primary focus of this project is to engage with schools and children to encourage understanding and innovation in this area. The extra monitors are available for some community members who are interested. It is hoped that the education component from this project will help to influence policy makers in the long term.

Jake Repacholi: This has many similarities to the Breathe Melbourne project.

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ITEM 5.

COUNCIL UPDATE (Jake Repacholi, Coordinator Public Health, Hobsons Bay City Council)

Jake provided and update on council activities.

Customer Records

- Jan – Mar 2026 14 Air quality and noise complaints
 - o 5 Chimney smoke
 - o 7 incinerator smoke
 - o 2 dust related
 - o Peak period tends to be May each year for air quality complaints
 - o 33 noise complaints – music noise remains a strong feature in complaints
 - o 17 construction site noise complaints
 - 8 issued infringement notices, the remainder were resolved via education and warnings
 - Council's Building Site Control team is continuing its work to reduce the number of noise complaints in this space.

After Hours capability and enforcement has increased and includes building site noise, litter, businesses operating outside permit hours and general noise. This work is getting good results.

Air Quality Improvement Precincts Grant

HBCC received \$384,000 funding to seal a number of carparks to reduce dust emissions including HC King Reserve, Loft Reserve and Langshaw Reserve.

BRG

Attended several meetings, a tree planting event last year and a cleanup day in February. Jake congratulated Brooklyn Recycling Group (BRG) on receiving the Greenstart Award.

ITEM 6.

COUNCIL UPDATE (Ivona Buljat, Sustainability Officer, Maribyrnong City Council)

Ivona provided updates the AQIP grant awarded to council and other initiatives.

Community - Led Air Quality Project

Only one application was successful through the AQIP grant process. This project is led by RMIT and in partnership with Maribyrnong City Council and Melbourne City Council. The resulting database should provide information about different areas of council and is expected to be shared with the community. There have been some hotspots identified and the community will be asked to suggest other hotspots via an interactive map available on the Maribyrnong City Council website soon.

QUESTION: Will the data be shared with businesses as well as community?

Ivona Buljat: It is planned to develop an open online platform with RMIT to share data with everyone.

QUESTION: Which other municipalities are part of the project that would be relevant to the Brimbank area?

Ivona Buljat: Initially it was Maribyrnong City Council, Melbourne City Council and Wyndham City Council that were part of the project. It now seems to only be Maribyrnong and Melbourne.

School Resources

In collaboration with schools on Williamstown Rd and Somerville Rd, MCC is developing resources for air quality improvement education.

Maribyrnong Truck Action Group

Collaborating with MTAG to develop advocacy and education tools.

Cr Elena Pereyra - Municipal Association of Victoria

Cr Pereyra is a representative on the Municipal Association Victoria. At the October [MAV](#) forum several issues were raised and passed for further action:

- Data centres – to develop a strategy to develop data centres in circular economy precincts
- State government to develop actions to improve air quality and environmental health in high traffic affected communities
- Advocating for improved water sensitive urban design infrastructure in local and state government road reserves

There is also the development of Citizen Assemblies being progressed to address local issues.

The Brochure outlining the MAV 2026 State Election Campaign is available. [Click here](#)

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ITEM 7.

COUNCIL UPDATE (Kristen Gilbert and Matt O'Mara, Brimbank City Council)

Kristen and Matt provided updates on the statutory planning and compliance activities being undertaken by Brimbank Council in the Brooklyn area. These include properties with new planning applications and updates on properties previously discussed at BCRG. The full presentation is available in [Attachment 1](#).

New planning permit applications

- 77 Old Geelong Road, Brooklyn (P83/2026) received in February 2026. Buildings and works for silos (grain container loading facility) within the existing site. Currently under assessment
- 11A McDonald Road, Brooklyn (P68/2026) received in February 2026. Buildings and works (earthworks). Planning permit issued on 4 March 2026
- 11A McDonald Road, Brooklyn (P588/2025) received in February 2026. Development and use of the land for a data centre. Currently under assessment
- 174 Old Geelong Road, Brooklyn (P354/2025) received in August 2025. Carry out works (fill) and construction of a fence. Currently under assessment

Applications mentioned at the last BCRG

- P266/2025 - 720 Old Geelong Road, Brooklyn. Construction of works to a depot in a Land Subject to Inundation Overlay and an Environmental Significance Overlay Schedule 6 – still under assessment
- P117/2024 - 730 Geelong Road, Brooklyn. Buildings and works for the construction of a vehicle store and associated workshop, earthworks, signage and fencing – planning permit issued on 31 July 2025
- P594/2023 - 454-460 Somerville Road, Brooklyn. Use and development of the land for shipping container storage, office, restricted retail premises and convenience restaurant in a Design And Development Overlay (DDO11), demolition and buildings and works within a Heritage Overlay, erection and display of signage, reduction to the standard car parking requirement, access alterations to a road in a Transport Zone 2 and a variation to the bicycle parking facilities – still under assessment

Enforcement and compliance Update

- 598 Geelong Road Brooklyn – follow up
 - o Development largely completed and operational, with some works still occurring
 - o Out of hours inspections were conducted, and a CCTV camera was installed. No breaches detected. CCTV has been removed due to completion.
 - o Earthworks begun for 11a McDonald Road, explains continued activity. Inspections conducted for compliance with the endorsed Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP)
 - o Patrols conducted 3-4 times a week in the area and surrounds for dust emissions, supplemented by the EPA 'Air Quality Forecasts'
- 28 Jones Road Brooklyn
 - o Shipping Container Storage facility
 - o Multiple inspections continuing without any sign of non-compliance
 - o Regular contact with operator regarding back-ups resulting from delays from shipping. Advice to stop delivery on high wind days
 - o Regular monitoring still occurring
- Other site inspections: Regular inspections of multiple sites along Bunting Road including but not limited to:
 - o 69 Bunting Road Brooklyn – Previous operator has vacated site. Currently compliant with permits but continuing to monitor.
 - o 125 Bunting Road Brooklyn – Compliant with planning permit approvals. Soil washing facility subject to EPA licence as opposed to Planning Permit. No dust has been observed emanating from the site. Stockpiles including heights appear compliant.
 - o 159 Bunting Road and 80-94 Jones Road Brooklyn – Working alongside EPA regulating compliance. Again no dust observed emanating from the site.
 - o 166 Jones Road Brooklyn – Compliant with no major traffic disruptions.
 - o 720 Old Geelong Road Brooklyn – Planning permit application currently being assessed, based on outcome another application with legal to bring into compliance.

QUESTION: Is there focus on the location of data centres?

Kristen Gilbert: Development of data centres is a priority of government. They tend to be located where they can access power to meet their high needs. In Brimbank they are in Brooklyn, Derrimut and Tullamarine on the edge of industrial areas. On inspection of the data centre in Brooklyn we found that they were using a closed circuit water system to reduce their water usage. The diesel generators at the CDC site have operated for 10 minutes in total to date.

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ITEM 8.

EPA VICTORIA UPDATE ON DUST, NOISE AND ODOUR PROGRAM (Julia Gaitan, Regional Manager – West Metro)

The full presentation is available in [Attachment 2](#).

Julia provided the regional overview of the 2024 2025 financial year for the area covering Wyndham, Melton, Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Moonee Valley and Melbourne municipalities.

Pollution Reports and Inspections (FY 2024_2025):

- Just under 6,000 Pollution Reports
- Inspection Data (FY 2024_2025):
 - o 799 Inspections
 - o 1268 Desktop Assessments
 - o 294 Notices issued
 - o 23 Infringements

Inspections and Desktop Assessments:

- Permission compliance assessments; Statewide programs and Local focus areas.
- Contaminated land notifications.
- 24/7 standby and respond to pollution events

Local focus areas:

- Air Quality & Odour
- Landfill Oversight
- Waste Fire Prevention

Engagement:

- Regular collaborations with our local councils
- Regular stakeholder meetings

West Metropolitan 2025-26 local priorities

- Air Pollution – Inner west odour
- Air pollution – Inner west air quality
- Construction & demolition /pollution & waste – logistics companies
- Office of land renewal
- Contaminated land notifications
- Animal hides project
- End of Life Tyres (EOLT)
- Food organics & garden organics (FOGO)
- Waterways of the West

QUESTION: Do the Waterways of the West include the Stony Creek Future Directions Plan?

Julia Gaitan: This project is waiting on funding from DEECA to EPA which will be available soon.

Gary Lidlaw: Stony Creek catchment is a part of Waterways of the West, a program led by Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA). The Stony Creek Future Directions Plan 2020 is managed by

Maribyrnong City Council and outlines a vision to transform the creek into a continuous, safe and accessible green corridor for community recreation and biodiversity.

Inner West Odour

Brooklyn

Data for 2025 2026 shows reports of odour well above the average. The EPA had a focus targeted inspection program in January as the spike in odour occurred. Learnings from this effort will be used to plan future inspections strategies.

Laverton North Since 1 Jan 2026:

- *Inspections: 45*
- *Compliance Advice: 46*
- *Notices: 18*

Our Actions 2025-2026:

- *July 2025 pre-planning for inner west odour proactive inspections.*
- *Dec 2025 Proactive inspections commenced.*
- *8 January 2026 EPA received double figure total odour reports.*

QUESTION: Has the data been compared in relation to weather events?

Julia Gaitan: Chrys Bydder our odour scientist plays a large part in how we approach odour inspections. Our inspections and tracing activity has been planned on weather predictions and takes the wind direction into consideration. We think the warmer weather has contributed to the spike over summer.

No of Days exceeding the daily Environment Reference Standard (ERS)

PM10 Daily exceedences Brooklyn and Footscray

The data presented showed some reduction in reports for 2025 2026 to date.

West Gate Tunnel

Publicly available data showing particulate and NO2 level showed there were no exceedences of the ERS from Sept 2025 until Feb 2026. The peaks that are shown in the PM2.5 are due to the January bushfires in Victoria.

Our Impact

Some of the main EPA news items included Cherry Creek waste discharge, odour enforcement, chemical blaze, Sunshine landfill and warehouse inspections.

QUESTION: With respect to the 18 odour notices, has EPA found the sources and is there a timeframe for when these problems will be fixed as the impacts to community can be drawn out?

Julia Gaitan: Some of the notices have already been revoked. Each have timeframes included for action. Notices of compliance may take several months depending on the action required e.g. if studies have to be undertaken. Some of the issues are weather related and unusual winds pushed the odour into residential areas.

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ITEM 9.

CSF PROTEINS UPDATE (Donna Gray, Operations Manager)

The full presentation is available in [Attachment 3.](#)

Donna introduced everyone to the CSF company who operates in Laverton North primarily as a rendering business for waste materials in the meat and fish industries. They employ over 80 people and over 60% of those are residents as well.

Donna gave an overview of the infrastructure and process controls particularly for odour collection and internal monitoring to reduce impact on the community. The company uses independent odour monitors to help understand the next opportunities for improvement. The company has and continues to invest in the odour controls such as biofilter media, roller door replacements, automated baffles and roof replacement.

Odour Monitoring

Odour monitoring consultants have been working hard to identify and monitor the three main types of odour - biofilter odour (an earthy undertone), meal load out (light kibble odour) and rendering (cooked product odour). They can assess the type of odour in the community and the source to provide feedback to the company.

Complaint Reporting

CSF Proteins encourages community to report odours directly to:

CSF Proteins
0439 027 573
Community@csfproteins.com.au

Note:

- date
- time
- location (address, or nearest landmark)
- wind direction if you can
- rain conditions, cloud coverage
- where possible any other environmental conditions



Donna also explained how CSF is working with the global citizen science [OdourRadar](#) platform.

You can take part in identifying and sharing nuisance smells that affect your quality of life. Each report you submit adds to a bigger picture that helps pinpoint sources of odour in real time. Complaints within 3 km of CSF Proteins are notified immediately. Community can also report via the EPA website.

QUESTION: Do you provide a report on all the complaints you receive?
Donna Gray: CSF is working to update the community engagement plan which will include regular updates to the community on odour monitoring and works to facilities.

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ITEM 10.
BROOKLYN RECYCLING GROUP UPDATE (Lisa Field, Community Liaison Officer)

The full presentation is available in [Attachment 4](#).

Lisa provided an overview of the latest on the Better Environment Plan. Christian Buxton and Brian O'Neill were also present.

BRG Presentation

Lisa Field (CLO) and Christian Buxton (EcoGypsum) provided comments and a presentation on behalf of the participant businesses—ResourceCo, EcoGypsum, Pelligra, Delta Recycling and City Circle Group. This represents a collaboration of businesses working together with the community and regulators in the Brooklyn Industrial Precinct under a Better Environment Plan.

Key highlights included:

- Installation of new air quality sensors across the businesses
- Conveyor covers and covered chutes
- Updates and improvements to sprinkler systems
- Use of radial stackers which can alter the height of the conveyors as required
- Increased shared data and communications across the businesses
- Tree planting initiatives
- Water truck activities
- Expanded street sweeping programs
- Reporting of illegal dumping
- Advocacy for improvements to Bunting Road
- Community engagement activities – three since last BCRG meeting
- A short video showcasing dust suppression strategies
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HZ8l97G-TRw>
- A Better Environment Plan Year 2 Brochure is available [here](#).

Keep in Touch

Lisa encouraged the community to keep in touch with the BRG project via the website, social media and by subscribing to the [newsletter](#).

The BRG website includes a detailed section on Resources – <https://brooklynrg.com.au/resources> covering brochures and guides, community newsletters and updates and stakeholder meeting minutes that further detail the updates on the Better Environment Plan.

ITEM 11.

MEETING CLOSE

Andrea thanked the presenters and everyone for attending and contributing to the discussion.

Geoff Mitchelmore

Andrea notified the group of Geoff's resignation from BCRG in August 2025. Geoff has been with BCRG from the beginning in 2008 and worked tirelessly for the improvement of community amenity and the environment for Brooklyn for over 25 years.

Andrea put forward a **Vote of Thanks** to Geoff for all his work.

Action 2503_1: There was a willingness to publicly recognise Geoff's work for the community in the future.



Image: Geoff Mitchelmore hard at work at a BCRG forum!

After the meeting: A note of thanks to Geoff from BRG.

Geoff has been a source of great wisdom and encouragement for the participants of Victoria's first Better Environment Plan (BEP).

He has had a life time passion for improving sustainability and amenity in Melbourne's west. His inspirational work in establishing the Friends of Kororoit Creek Association is testament to this.

Geoff was identified as a key person that we should engage when our four companies, operating in the Brooklyn industrial precinct, were talking to the EPA about the creation of the BEP. He understood the benefits of industry working alongside the regulator and the community to improve amenity and drive positive environmental outcomes and gave us great encouragement to proceed.

Geoff has been a constructive voice but has always spoken his mind. He has challenged our thinking and driven better outcomes under the BEP.

We are incredibly fortunate to have had Geoff's guidance and counsel along the way but particularly in relation to the future vegetation planting program that will be a feature of the BEP in Spring 2026.

Brooklyn Recycling Group BCRG Chair and meetings

Conversations around the role of the independent chair considered past surveys and interagency discussions. The last survey was presented in November 2024 – see [Attachment 5](#). On the basis of that survey, it was decided to trial online forums. Next meeting dates were also raised. It was noted that there were fewer community members present at this BCRG with some informal feedback stating that community generally does not prefer online forums.

Action 2503_2: EPA and Councils to discuss the future timing and format of forums, and the role of a BCRG chair.

Meeting closed 8:15 pm

Meeting Attendance Record – March 25, 2026

20 people attended online.

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Alexis Urteaga	CSF Proteins	Cr Rayan Hawli	Hobsons Bay CC
Andrea Mason	EO, BCRG	Mohammed Khan	ATP
Martin Brownlee	JBS	Richard J	Resident
Ivona Buljat	Maribyrnong CC	Gary Laidlaw	EPA Victoria
Christian Buxton	Eco Gypsum and BRG	Cr Lucy Nguyen	Brimbank City Council
Lisa Field	BRG	Matt O'Mara	Brimbank City Council
Julia Gaitan	EPA Victoria	Brian O'Neil	PRX and BRG
Kristen Gilbert	Brimbank City Council	Cr Elena Pereyra	Maribyrnong CC
Donna Gray	CSF Proteins	Jake Repacholi	Hobsons Bay CC
Donna Green	UNSW	Wayne Richards	CSF Proteins

Apologies

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Callan Riley	Maribyrnong CC	Bert Boere	BRAG

ATTACHMENT 1.
BRIMBANK CITY COUNCIL
STATUTORY PLANNING AND COMPLIANCE UPDATE
25 MARCH 2026



Statutory Planning and Compliance update

Kristen Gilbert – Brimbank City Council
Matt O'Mara – Brimbank City Council

25 March 2026

Acknowledgement Of Country



On behalf of Brimbank City Council, I would like to respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri and Bunurong People as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our municipality is situated.

We honour the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples who enrich our community, and we pay our respects to the Elders, past, present, and emerging, for their wisdom and guidance.



2

Statutory Planning update

New planning applications of note received

- 77 Old Geelong Road, Brooklyn (P83/2026) received in February 2026

*Buildings and works for silos (grain container loading facility) within the existing site
Currently under assessment*



Statutory Planning update

- 11A McDonald Road, Brooklyn (P68/2026) received in February 2026

Buildings and works (earthworks). Planning permit issued on 4 March 2026

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Statutory Planning update



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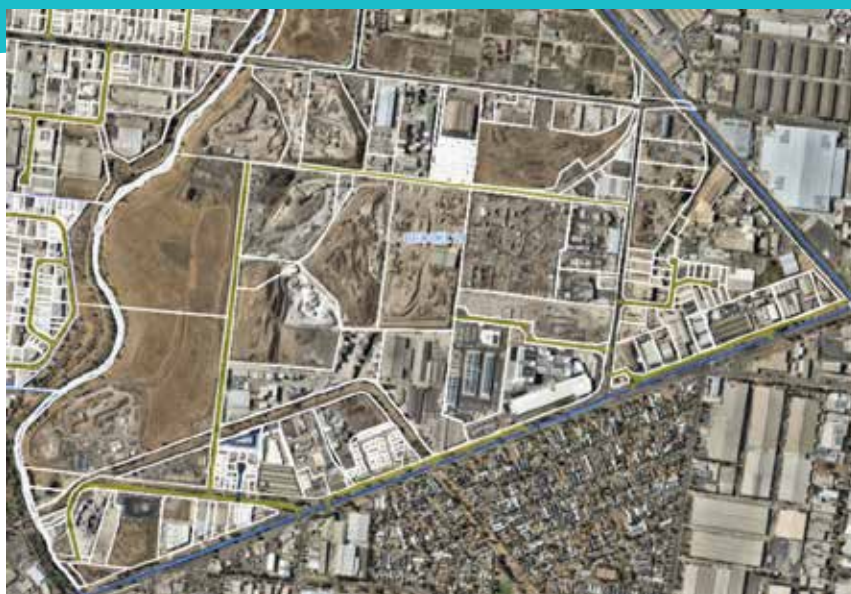
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Major Brooklyn Activity



7

598 A & B Geelong Road Brooklyn



8

Enforcement and compliance update



598 Geelong Road Brooklyn – follow up

- **Development largely completed and operational**, with some works still occurring
- Out of hours inspections were conducted, and a CCTV camera was installed. No breaches detected. CCTV has been removed due to completion.
- Earthworks begun for 11a McDonald Road, explains continued activity. Inspections conducted for compliance with the endorsed Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP)
- Patrols conducted 3-4 times a week in the area and surrounds for dust emissions, supplemented by the EPA 'Air Quality Forecasts'

9

28 Jones Road Brooklyn



10

Enforcement and compliance update



28 Jones Road Brooklyn

- *Shipping Container Storage facility*
 - *Multiple inspections continuing without any sign of non-compliance*
 - *Regular contact with operator regarding back-ups resulting from delays from shipping. Advice to stop delivery on high wind days*
 - *Regular monitoring still occurring*

11

Enforcement and compliance (cont'd)



Other site inspections

- *Regular inspections of multiple sites along Bunting Road including but not limited to:*
 - **69 Bunting Road Brooklyn** – Previous operator has vacated site. Currently compliant with permits but continuing to monitor.
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12

Questions

ATTACHMENT 2.
EPA VICTORIA
25 MARCH 2026
BROOKLYN COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE GROUP



Environment Protection Authority Victoria

Julia Gaitan, West Metro Regional Manager
25 March 2026

Brooklyn Community Representative Group



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EPA acknowledges Aboriginal people as the first peoples and Traditional Custodians of the land and water on which we live, work and depend. We pay respect to Aboriginal Elders past and present and recognise the continuing connection to, and aspirations for Country.

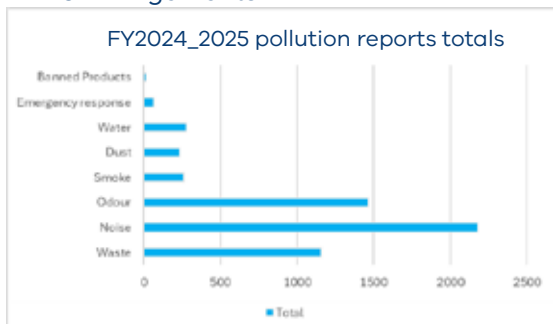
Regional Overview by numbers

Pollution Reports (FY 2024_2025):

- **Just under 6,000** Pollution Reports

Inspection Data (FY 2024_2025):

- **799** Inspections
- **1268** Desktop Assessments
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EPA VIC |



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Our activity/response FY2024_2025

Inspections and Desktop Assessments:

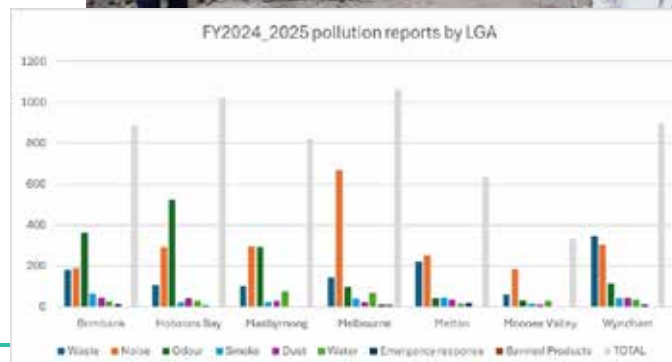
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- 24/7 standby and respond to pollution events

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- Landfill Oversight
- Waste Fire Prevention

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EPA VIC |

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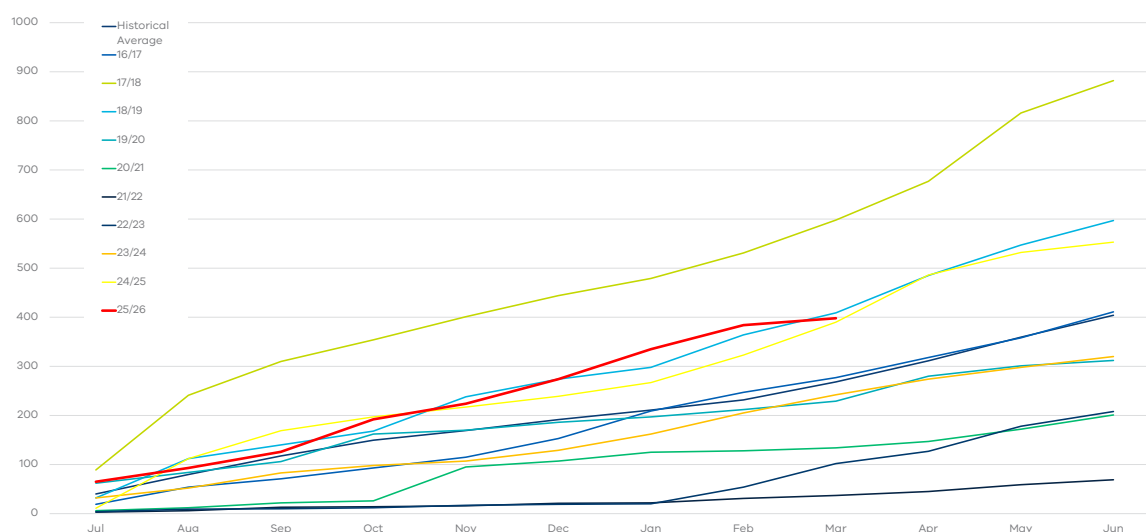
West Metropolitan 2025-26 local priorities

-  Air Pollution – Inner west odour
-  Air pollution – Inner west air quality
-  Construction & demolition /pollution & waste – logistics companies
-  Office of land renewal
-  Contaminated land notifications
-  Animal hides project
-  End of Life Tyres (EOLT)
-  Food organics & garden organics (FOGO)
-  Waterways of the West

Inner West Odour – Brooklyn catchment area

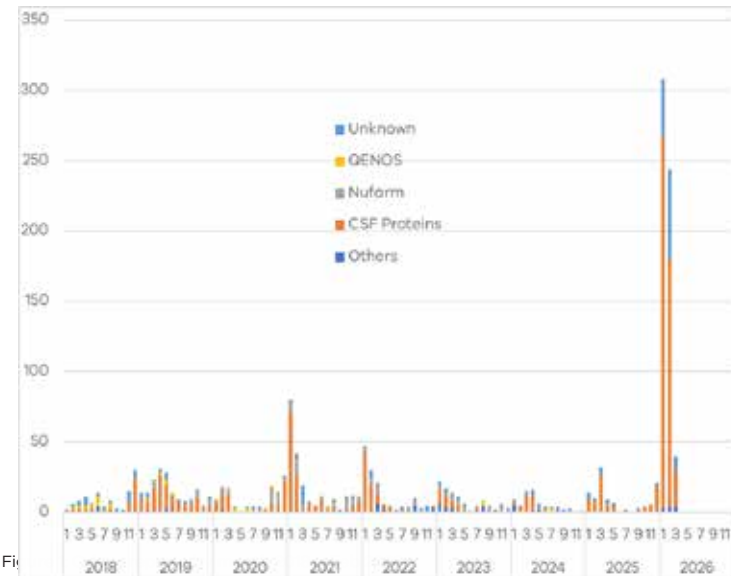
Impacting areas including Brooklyn and Yarraville

Cumulative monthly odour reports by financial year



Inner West Odour - Laverton North catchment area.

Impacting areas including Sunshine, Sunshine West, Footscray, Albion.



Since 1 Jan 2026:

Inspections: **45**

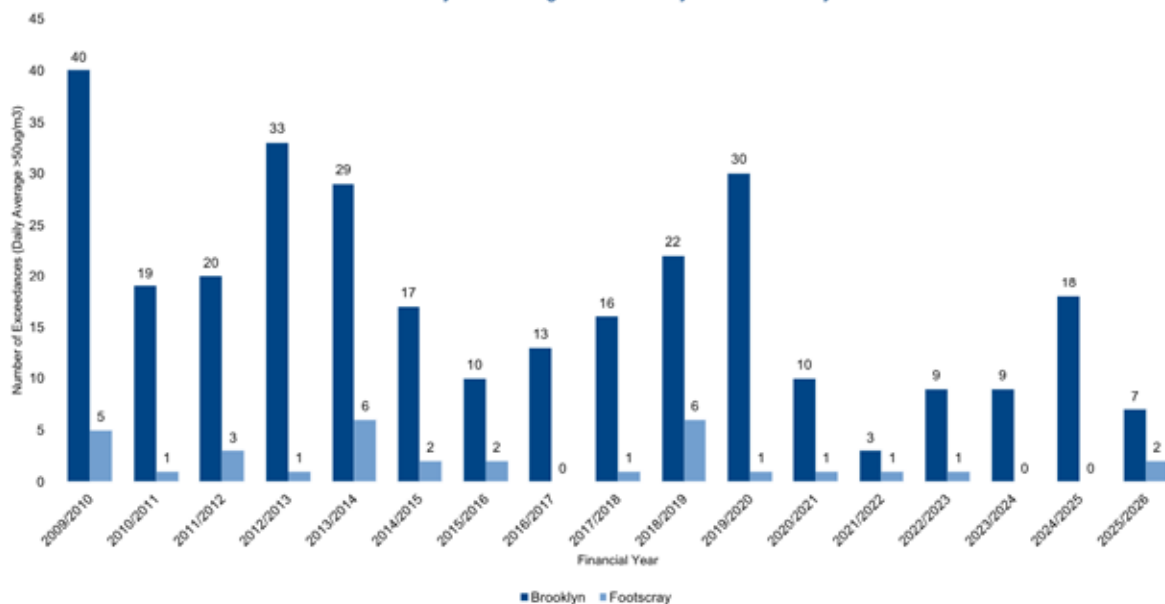
Compliance Advice: **46**

Notices: **18**

Our Actions 2025-2026:

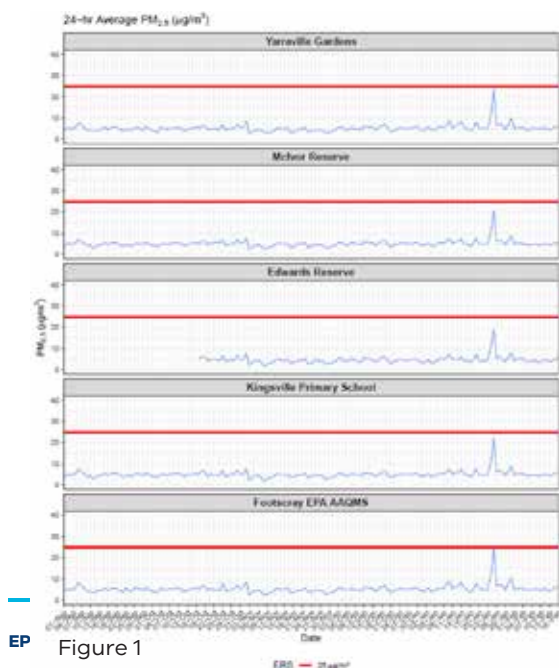
- July 2025 pre-planning for inner west odour proactive inspections.
- Dec 2025 Proactive inspections commenced.
- 8 January 2026 EPA received double figure total odour reports.

No. Days exceeding daily ERS at Brooklyn & Footscray
Number of days exceeding the PM10 daily standard each year



West Gate Tunnel Project

Dedicated EPA web page: [West Gate Tunnel project | epa.vic.gov.au](https://www.epa.vic.gov.au/west-gate-tunnel-project)



EP Figure 1

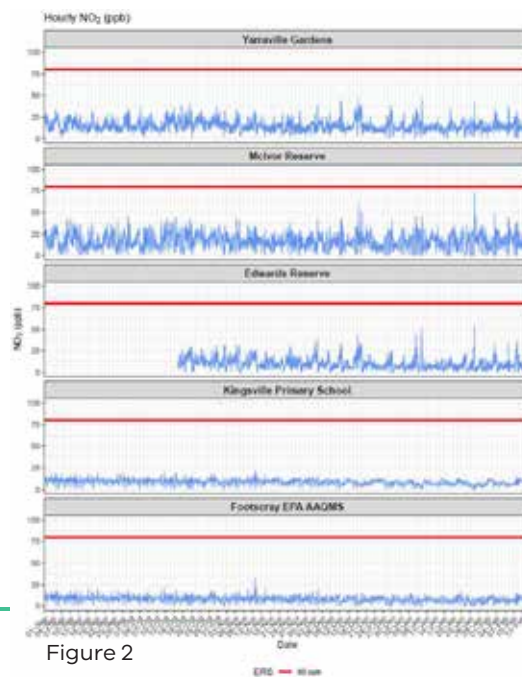


Figure 2

Our Impact:

Cherry Creek waste discharge leads to fine

Laverton North company Melbourne Marble Designs failed to properly manage its liquid waste allowing it to discharge into Cherry Creek and has been fined \$2,035 by EPA Victoria.

Published: Friday 6 March 2020 at 3:31 pm

A Laverton North company that failed to properly manage its liquid waste allowing it to discharge into Cherry Creek, has been fined \$2,035 by EPA Victoria.

Media Statement: Cherry Creek Court Case

Published: Tuesday 15 April 2020 at 10:46 am

MEDIA STATEMENT: EPA VICTORIA

An avoidable environmental pollution event that led to the death of tonnes of fish, the pollution of Cherry Creek and Lake and the loss of 1 community's use of the waterway for several weeks has ended with a \$120,000 fine in court.

An original fine of \$8,000 was successfully appealed by the Director's Public Prosecution in consultation with EPA Victoria as too low given the magnitude of the damage, inconvenience and cost incurred.

Clean-up complete after massive chemical blaze

After an operation lasting more than a year and costing millions of dollars, the site of Melbourne's biggest industrial fire in nearly a decade has now been cleaned up, EPA Victoria says.

Published: Wednesday 4 March 2020 at 10:00 am

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After an operation lasting more than a year and costing millions of dollars, the site of Melbourne's biggest industrial fire in nearly a decade has now been cleaned up, EPA Victoria says.

In July 2018 a blaze broke out at the ACE Group's chemical blending facility in Swanport Drive, Derrimut and burned for six hours before firefighters could bring it under control, using around 3 million litres of water and 60,000 litres of foam in the process.

Operators in Melbourne's west directed to fix the stink

EPA Victoria's inspection blitz in Melbourne's west has resulted in 10 companies being ordered to take immediate action to fix and strengthen odour controls or face serious enforcement action.

Published: Friday 6 March 2020 at 5:16 pm

EPA Victoria's inspection blitz in Melbourne's west has resulted in the regulator ordering 10 companies to take immediate action to fix and strengthen their odour controls or face serious enforcement action.

Companies in Laverton North, Broadlyne and Sunshine have been hit with strict notices. Authorized officers and scientists have inspected 51

West warehouses get snap EPA inspections

A snap program by a team of EPA West Metropolitan Regional officers inspecting warehouses and logistics facilities handling dangerous goods, has found there are still gaps in operators' knowledge about their environmental obligations.

Published: Thursday 22 October 2020 at 2:10 pm

A snap program by a team of EPA West Metropolitan Regional officers inspecting warehouses and logistics facilities handling dangerous goods, has found there are still gaps in operators' knowledge about their environmental obligations.

The snap inspection program started on Wednesday 22 October at the above named, Broadlyne and Laverton areas, aimed to help operators in efficient working.

High on the inspection agenda was determining not just how they managed storage of dangerous goods, but their procedures to make them safe in a spill at all.

*The second inspection date 2020 of the Environmental Protection Act 1984 of Victoria, including businesses, is also available.

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Waste tyre blitz in the west



Environment Protection Authority Victoria

Further action against Sunshine Landfill

The operator of Sunshine Landfill, Barro Group, has 10 days to demonstrate why its licence should not be suspended.

Today we issued a notice of intent to suspend the operating licence. This is on top of the prohibition notice we issued earlier this week.

You can read updates about Sunshine Landfill on our website.

Please continue to report pollution from the landfill.



Environment Protection Authority Victoria

1300 372 842
contact@epa.vic.gov.au

epa.vic.gov.au



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ATTACHMENT 3.
CSF PROTEINS
BROOKLYN COMMUNITY RESIDENTS GROUP
25 MARCH 2026



Brooklyn Community Residents Group
25 March 2026



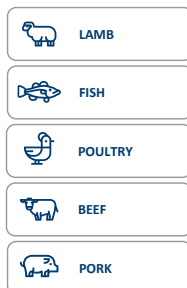
CSF Proteins



Rendering

1

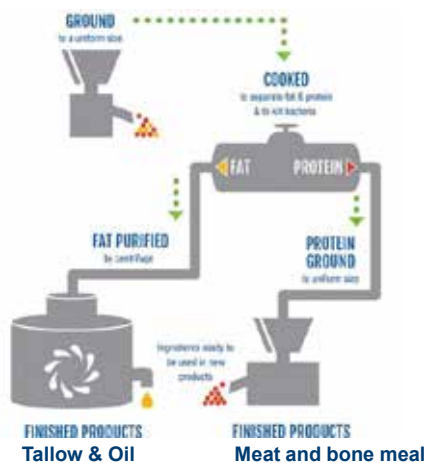
Raw Materials Intakes
(from abattoirs, poultry processors)



CSF Proteins provides an essential service diverting material that would otherwise go to landfill

2

Rendering Process
(cooking raw materials)



3

Rendered ingredients are used for



Odour control: Critical aspects to manage it

1

Raw Materials Management

- Material integrity
- Transport management
- Arrival and processing time



2

Infrastructure & process control

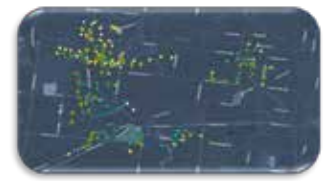
- Odour collection system
- Internal monitoring processes



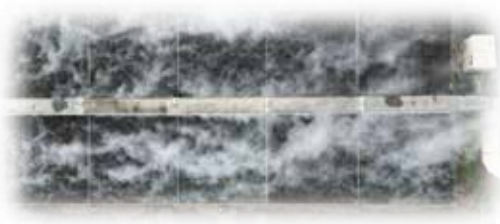
3

External Monitoring

- Regular monitoring of odour across community
- Type of smell, intensity of smell



Recent Capital - Odour controls



Biofilter media replacement



Roof replacement

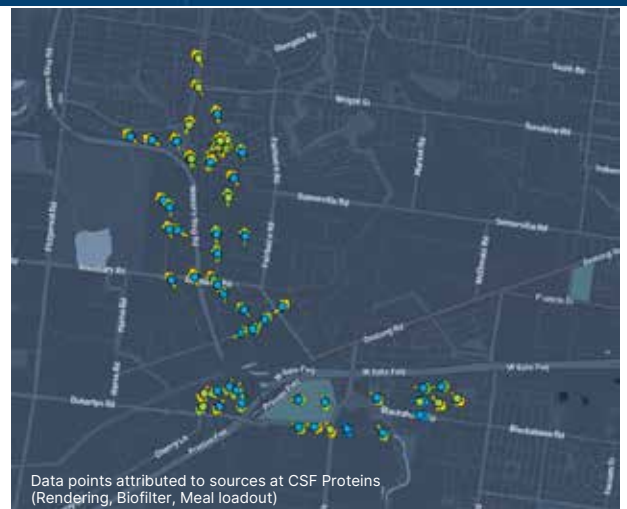


Rapid roller door replacement

Other

Airflow dynamics assessment and associated work
Installation of automated baffles within the Odour collection duct
Process improvements

Odour monitoring



Complaint reporting

CSF Proteins - directly

0439 027 573

Community@csfproteins.com.au

Note

- date
- time
- location (address, or nearest landmark)
- wind direction if you can
- rain conditions, cloud coverage
- where possible any other environmental conditions

You can also report odour complaints to Environment Protection Authority (EPA)



**OdourRadar is powered by you.
Join the movement for clean air today!**

You can take part in identifying and sharing nuisance smells that affect your quality of life. Each report you submit adds to a bigger picture that helps pinpoint sources of odour.



ATTACHMENT 4. BCRG PRESENTATION



A collaboration

Working together –
business, community,
regulators

In the Brooklyn
Industrial Precinct

Better Environment
Plan



Dust Monitoring expanded

A network of 20 dust
sensors – 13 new, 7
existing, measures every
15 mins, alerts to email,
boundary sensors to go to
both sites – once fully
operation, dust data will
be shared with
community.





Covers on conveyors

These are being installed - this one is on the timber plant at ResourceCo.



Covers on shutes

Installed on some shutes and more being fabricated for installation.





Tree Planting

Much more to follow in 2026 – but these trees went in in February at City Circle Group.

Preparing soil and planting sites has already occurred, i.e. at ResourceCo.



Water trucks, street sweepers, reporting illegal dumping

Advocating for improvements to the precinct





Community engagement

Events and communications.

If you wish to discuss anything, or want to know more, you choose when and where.

If we forget to provide specific technical info, then just give us a few days, we'll get that back to you.

Lisa Field

brooklynrecyclinggroup@outlook.com



Keep in touch

Lots of resources available on our website
www.brooklynrg.com.au

Subscribe to our newsletter – scan the QR code



we share updates on socials and some video content
 developed available on You Tube



ATTACHMENT 5.
**REVIEW OF THE BROOKLYN COMMUNITY
REPRESENTATIVE GROUP (BCRG)**
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 08, 2024

Review of the Brooklyn Community Representative Group (BCRG)

Friday, November 08, 2024

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Review Objectives and Process

Key Objectives:

- To review the history and development of BCRG and identify the key achievements and specific benefits of BCRG to date.
- To understand the community perspective on the key issues for a future focus and the potential models/options the future.

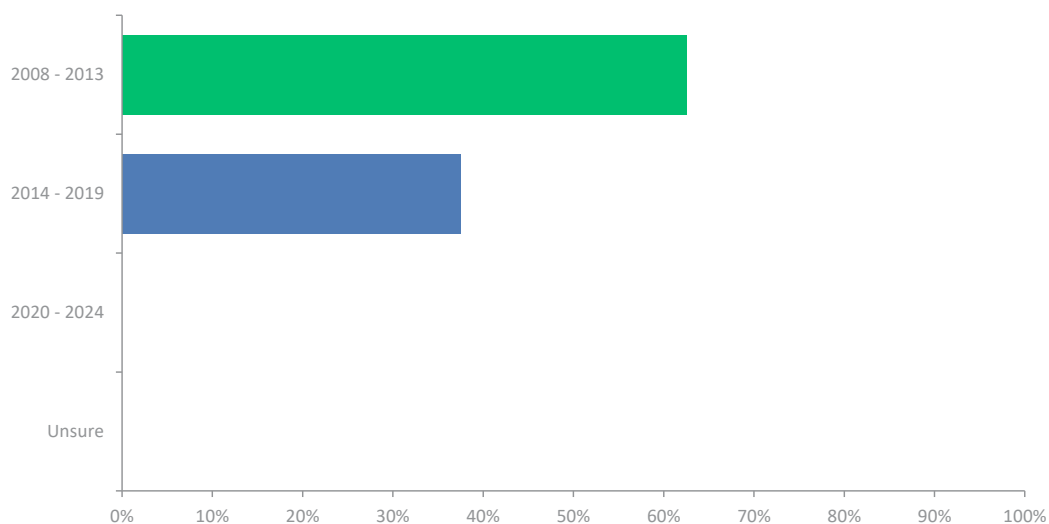
Review Process:

- Online survey sent to all BCRG members – 8 responses out of 233 email subscribers
- Key person interviews – Council Representatives (3) and key Community members (3)
- Discussion at the November BCRG meeting

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Q1: What year did you first attend a BCRG meeting?

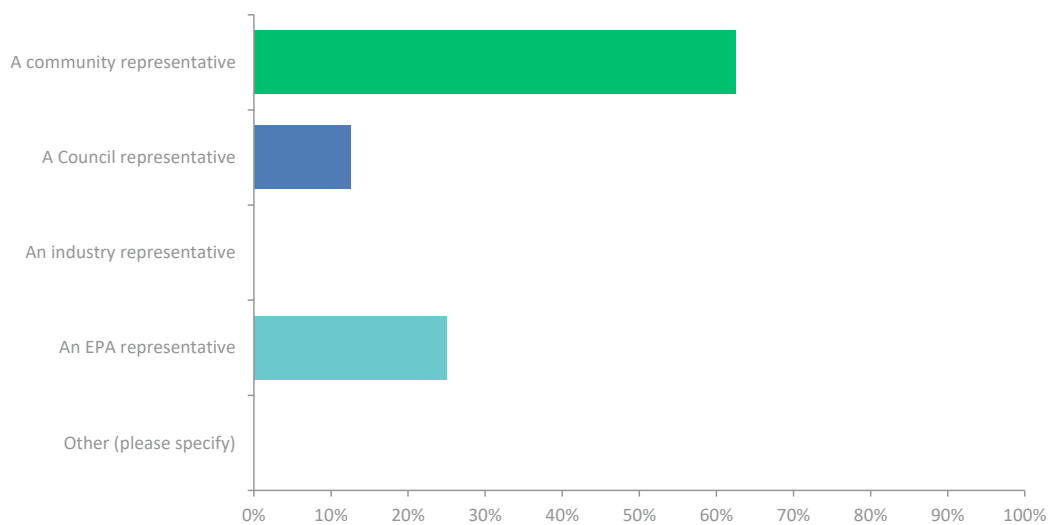
Answered: 8 Skipped: 0



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Q2: Which of these best describe you?

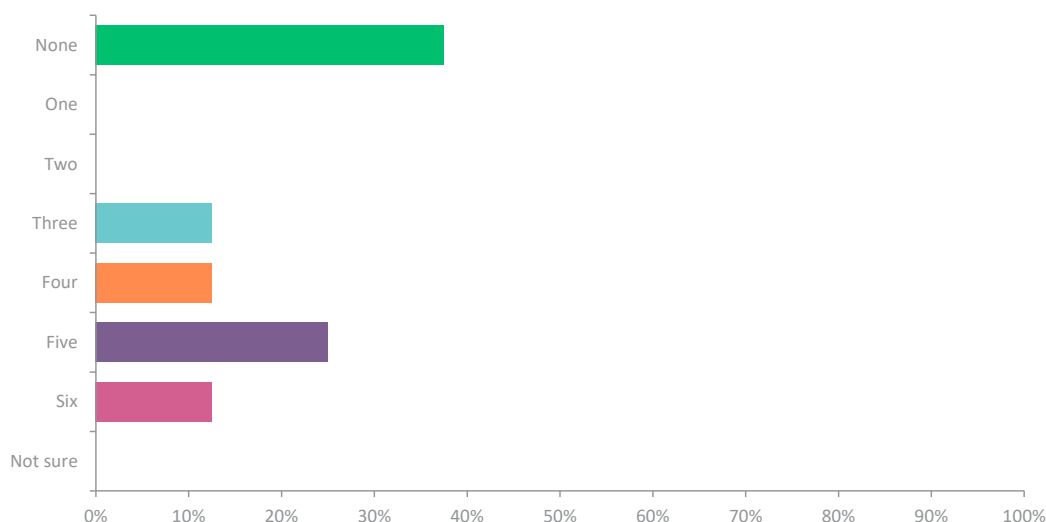
Answered: 8 Skipped: 0



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Q3: BCRG holds 3 meetings a year. How many BCRG meetings have you attended in the last 2 years?

Answered: 8 Skipped: 0



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Q7 In your opinion, what have been the key achievements, highlights or changes since BCRG started?

- Creating and maintaining relationships between agencies and community - A great channel for bringing stakeholders together.
- Nothing permanent
- More involvement of Councils is big plus
- The roads being repaired, massive compliance efforts for many of the duty holders.
- Lower pollution rates...but its a on going battle
- Definitely the odour have lessened in the last ten years (largely solved)- In early days constant composting odour issues were predominant.

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Q4 In your opinion, what is working well with BCRG?

- An opportunity to hear from other agencies
- Very little
- Presentations are generally very good
- Coordinated approach to solving problems in Brooklyn.
- Collaboration with community, industry and government agencies. Using drone technology as another tool to verify compliance.
- Communication - Giving a voice to the community.

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Q5 In your opinion, what is not working well with BCRG?

- Doesn't appear to be an effective mechanism for making change - seems that content and issues raised are constantly repeated without actions taken to effectively resolve matters.
- Getting Action and change- bureaucracy
- Inability to attract Brooklyn community to meeting - Are we getting fresh members from the community? Is industry presence high enough?
- Relationships between industry and community could improve.
- Wider community awareness of what we are doing.
- Outcomes... specifically re Australian Tallow
- Not enough time for Q and A
- Accountability of Authorities

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Q6 In your opinion, what suggestions for improvement should we consider?

- There are a number of other initiatives and forums that exist to address air quality - this may be more effective at creating change than the current BCRG
- A complete rehash- no real change has been achieved -Maybe a full refresh to see if the group is still relevant and needed.
- Emphasis on EPA Better Environment Plans and extend to capture all industry
- Is moving the meetings to an online forum feasible and could the meetings be chaired via a government agency roster system?
- We need to get out to the wider community to make them aware of what we are doing.....;
- More focus on pollution issues, more pressure on industry and EPA
- More time for Q and A in the meetings

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Q12 In thinking about the future, what key issues do you think require further attention and focus?

- Raising general awareness about air quality. Close analysis of impacts of West Gate Tunnel opening and understanding how this changes local conditions.
- Obvious delay tactics and buck passing between private business interests and various gov bodies and regulators has resulted in very little real change or improvements for the community. Dirt, industry noise pollution, air pollution, water poisoning, dangerous chemic stockpiles, trucks etc are still causing serious damage throughout our neighbourhoods.
- BEP and emphasis on Planning Permits to ensure all requirements are met
- Still odour and dust, sadly. Traffic, public transport
- On going monitoring and oversight of industry – particularly those industries north of Geelong Road – Focus needs to be on pollution issues and impact on community
- Accountability of the authorities to take action; and to protect residents

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Potential Options and Models for the future

Potential options and models	Specific benefits of BCRG
• Close out BCRG – focus on other initiatives and forums that exist to address air quality issues • A complete rehash and full refresh of BCRG to see if the group is still relevant and needed. • Develop a model around the EPA Better Environment Plans • Move to online Forum only with meetings chaired via a government agency roster system • Annual Meeting/Forum only	• Enabling updates from agencies • Communicating key information on odour, air quality and compliance and enforcement actions • Industry working directly with community • Enabling community to have a voice, to agitate for change, to advocate for action and reinforcing the expectation that if you cause a problem you need to fix it.