



## **Plastic Straws Working Group**

### **Meeting 1**

### **Communiqué**

The inaugural meeting of the Plastic Straws Working Group was held on Wednesday 24 February 2021.

#### **Attendees:**

Mike Rowe (Chair)	Director General, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER)
Tony Ryan	Physician, Australian Medical Association (WA) Inc
Esme Bowen	Chair, Carers Advisory Council WA
Christine Allen	Chief Executive Officer, Council on the Ageing WA
Bronwynn Comerford	Sector Support Manager, Department of Communities
Leticia Grant	Senior Advocate, Developmental Disability WA
Sophie Keay (proxy)	Project Officer – Building the Talent Pool, National Disability Services
Brendan Cullinan	Executive Director, People with Disabilities (WA) Inc
David Stout	Director, Policy, National Retail Association
Bradley Woods	Chief Executive Officer, Australian Hotels Association WA
Melissa Benson (proxy)	Business Support Pharmacist, Pharmacy Guild of Australia
Rebecca Prince-Ruiz	Executive Director, Plastic Free Foundation
Lesley Nelson	Chief Executive Officer, South West Aboriginal Medical Service
Katinka Day	No Plastics in Nature Policy Manager, WWF Australia

#### **Apologies**

Janet Wagland	General Manager Community, Brightwater
Julie Waylen	State Manager – Western Australia, National Disability Services
Matthew Tweedie	Director, Pharmacy Guild of Australia

#### **DWER Support**

Sarah McEvoy	Executive Director Strategic Policy
Daniel Nevin	Director Strategic Policy
Peter Musk	Manager Programs
Joanne O'Connor	Senior Environmental Officer
Sonja Mennen	Senior Policy Officer

#### **Invited guests**

Sarah Dunstan	Principal Consultant, Strategic Initiatives and Liaison, Public Sector Commission
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In November 2020, the McGowan Government launched [\*Western Australia's Plan for Plastics\*](#). One of the key actions of the plan is the establishment of the Plastic Straws Working Group to provide perspectives for access needs across the disability, aged, and health sectors to inform actions to phase out single-use plastic straws.

### **Meeting summary**

At the inaugural meeting:

- The Chair welcomed members and discussed the context and purpose of the working group.
- The Terms of Reference were endorsed.
- A presentation of the principles of good governance for public sector working groups was provided. These principles will be reflected in the working group's Code of Conduct.
- The working group received a presentation on [\*Western Australia's Plan for Plastics\*](#). This included discussion of how the plan will be implemented and the role of the Plastic Straws Working Group.
- Members were asked to liaise with their networks to collate information on the impacts of phasing out single-use plastic straws on their organisation/sector. Responses will be discussed at the second working group meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for 30 March 2021.

### **Secretariat**

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