



City of **HOBART**

McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre
Annual Environmental Review 2025/2026

September 2026

Executive Summary

The McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre (WMC) continues to play a critical role in the City of Hobart's waste management system, providing landfill, resource recovery and recycling services for municipal, commercial and construction waste streams. At McRobies, we often say that we work for the platypus. It is a simple reminder that while we manage waste for our community, we also have a responsibility to protect the waterways, wildlife and natural environment that surround us. During the 2025/26 reporting period, the City remained committed to responsible environmental management, regulatory compliance and continuous improvement across all aspects of the facility's operation. This report outlines the work undertaken throughout the year to ensure that McRobies Gully continues to provide essential services while protecting the environmental values that make this place special for future generations.

Throughout the reporting period, environmental management activities focused on the ongoing operation and monitoring of landfill infrastructure, including leachate management systems, landfill gas collection infrastructure, stormwater controls and environmental monitoring programs. Routine monitoring of groundwater, surface water and leachate continued in accordance with the requirements of Permit Part B – No. 9322 and Environmental Protection Notice No. 715/1.

A number of strategic initiatives progressed during the year, including continued implementation of the City's Waste Management Strategy, advancement of landfill closure planning activities and ongoing review of environmental management documentation and compliance systems. The City also continued engagement with neighbouring residents and stakeholders through the Good Neighbour Agreement and other community communication channels.

Key environmental priorities during the reporting period included:

- Maintaining compliance with environmental approvals and licence conditions.
- Management and monitoring of leachate collection and storage infrastructure.
- Ongoing groundwater, surface water and PFAS monitoring.
- Preparation for future landfill closure and rehabilitation activities.

Environmental performance data collected during the reporting period is presented throughout this review and in the accompanying Annual Environmental Monitoring Report prepared by GHD.

Environmental monitoring generally indicated stable conditions compared with the preceding reporting period. No consistent deterioration in Hobart Rivulet water quality attributable to the landfill stormwater discharge was identified.

Seepage identified within the leachate pond system prompted a condition assessment, and the City continues to work with GHD to determine any further monitoring, maintenance or infrastructure actions required.

The City remains committed to transparent environmental reporting, responsible waste management and the protection of environmental values surrounding the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre.

1.1 Statement by Manager City Resilience

A statement by the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer or equivalent acknowledging the contents of the Annual Environmental Review.

As the Manager City Resilience, I have reviewed the contents of this Annual Environmental Review for the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre for the 2025/26 reporting period.

This report has been prepared in conjunction with the McRobies Gully Landfill Annual Environmental Monitoring Report prepared by GHD and provides a summary of environmental performance, compliance activities, environmental monitoring outcomes and operational improvements undertaken during the reporting period.

The City of Hobart remains committed to operating the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre in a manner that protects human health and the environment while continuing to provide essential waste management services for the municipality and the broader region.

During the reporting period, the City continued to implement environmental monitoring programs, maintain key environmental infrastructure and progress a range of projects aimed at improving environmental performance and supporting the long-term management and future closure of the landfill.

The City also continued to engage openly with regulators, neighbouring residents and the wider community through established consultation processes and public reporting mechanisms.

This Annual Environmental Review reflects the City's commitment to regulatory compliance, environmental stewardship, transparency and continuous improvement in the management of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre.

Name: Christopher Kuchinke

Position: Manager City Resilience

Signature



Date: 21/09/2026

1.2 Complaints and Environmental Nuisance

Subject to the Personal Information Protection Act 2004, a list of all complaints received from the public during the reporting period relating to actual or potential environmental harm or environmental nuisance caused by the activity, and a description of actions taken as a result of those complaints.

The City of Hobart maintains a complaints management process to record, investigate and respond to community concerns relating to the operation of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre. Complaints are reviewed by operational staff and, where appropriate, corrective actions and operational improvements are implemented.

During the 2025/26 reporting period, a total of 31 complaints relating to the operation of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre were recorded. Odour complaints represented approximately 80% of all complaints received and remained the most common issue raised by neighbouring residents. Other complaints related to noise, compost quality, access to services, recycling infrastructure and general operational matters.

Table 1. Summary of Complaints Received During the Reporting Period

Complaint Type	Number of Complaints
Odour	25
Noise	1
Compost quality and compost access	2
Facility operations and customer service	3
Total	31

Most odour complaints were received from residents in South Hobart and members of the Good Neighbour Agreement. Complaints were investigated through site inspections, review of operational activities, organics receipt records, compost management practices and prevailing meteorological conditions. Several reports were received during periods of low wind speed and stable atmospheric conditions, which may have influenced odour movement within the surrounding valley.

A series of odour complaints received during March and April 2026 described a sulphur or 'rotten egg' type odour. Investigations undertaken by Council officers determined that maintenance works at a nearby brewery wastewater treatment facility were likely responsible for at least some of these odour events. Findings were communicated to neighbouring residents and discussed with the EPA.

One noise complaint was received regarding green waste shredding activities at the facility and was investigated by Council officers. Additional complaints related to compost quality, compost collection

arrangements, cardboard recycling availability and customer service matters associated with facility operations. These matters were reviewed and responded to individually, with operational and communication improvements implemented where appropriate.

Complaints Management Improvements

During the reporting period, the City commenced implementation of an improved complaints management process. A new online environmental complaint form was developed to provide residents with a simpler and more accessible method of reporting environmental concerns.

The new process will enable complaint information to be automatically captured within the compliance management system, improving record keeping, investigation tracking, trend analysis and reporting. This enhancement will assist Council in identifying recurring issues, correlating complaints with operational and environmental data and responding more effectively to community concerns.

At the time of this Annual Environmental Review, this online reporting form was awaiting internal review before being made available to the community.

1.3 Environment-Related Procedural or Process Changes

Details of Environment-Related Procedural or Process Changes Implemented During the Reporting Period

Throughout the 2025/26 reporting period, the City of Hobart implemented a number of environmental management and operational improvements at the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre. These changes were undertaken to improve environmental performance, strengthen compliance systems and support the long-term management of the facility.

Table 2. Summary of Changes Implemented During the Reporting Period

Change Implemented	Objective
Development of a new online environmental complaint reporting process and centralised complaints tracking system	Improve accessibility for residents and strengthen complaint recording, investigation and reporting.
Continued implementation of Riskonnect environmental compliance management system	Improve management, tracking and review of environmental obligations, actions and compliance activities.
Strengthening of litter-management controls through additional litter fencing and increased patrols	Reduce off-site litter migration and environmental nuisance.
Full implementation of the revised EPA-approved Environmental Monitoring Program	Consolidate monitoring requirements and improve groundwater, surface-water and stormwater assessment through the revised monitoring network including two additional surface-water monitoring locations and two additional groundwater bores. One blocked bore was also decommissioned.
Introduction of a weekly environmental visual-inspection checklist	Standardise the routine inspection of conditions affecting the leachate system, drainage controls, landfill gas infrastructure, capping and batters, access and site security.
Introduction of quarterly survey monitoring using six permanent landfill monitoring points	Monitor vertical and horizontal movement of the landfill and support assessment of settlement and long-term landform stability.

Transition from landfill gas electricity generation to flare-only operation	Maintain landfill gas capture and treatment under the revised system configuration.
Desludging of the leachate pond and installation of a new surface aerator	Restore hydraulic capacity and improve oxygenation and treatment performance within the leachate-management system.
Continued development and improvement of the Environmental Management System	Strengthen environmental governance, document control, compliance tracking and continuous improvement.
Progression of the five-year review and update of the Environmental Management Plan	Update the EMP to reflect current regulatory requirements, site operations, monitoring arrangements and environmental controls.

1.4 Waste Produced and Treatment Methods

A summary of the amounts (tonnes or litres) of both solid and liquid wastes produced and treatment methods implemented during the reporting period. Initiatives or programs planned to avoid, minimise, re-use, or recycle such wastes over the next reporting period should be detailed.

During the 2025/26 reporting period, the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre received and managed municipal, commercial, industrial and construction and demolition waste streams through a combination of resource recovery, composting, beneficial reuse and landfill disposal activities. Waste quantities are recorded through the facility weighbridge system and reported in accordance with relevant regulatory requirements.

Table 3. Summary of Amounts of Solid Waste Received During the Reporting Period

Processing Route	Tonnes
Recycling, Recovery and Reuse	6,604
Composting	4,601
Landfill Disposal	14,853
Clean Fill and Beneficial Reuse Materials	25,786
Total	51,844

Waste streams managed at the facility are described below.

Landfill Disposal: A total of 14,853 tonnes of waste was disposed of to landfill during FY2025/26, compared with 17,097 tonnes during FY2024/25. Landfilled materials primarily consisted of municipal waste, council bin waste, transfer station residual waste, commercial and industrial waste, mattresses, asbestos and other approved wastes accepted in accordance with the facility's operating approvals.

Organic Waste Composting: Materials processed included green waste, council green waste, commercial food waste, animal waste and compostable waste collected from Salamanca Market. Organic waste composting continues to provide an alternative to landfill disposal while supporting resource recovery outcomes across the municipality.

Recycling, Recovery and Reuse: Recovered materials included concrete, steel, timber, cardboard, e-waste, paint, oil, batteries, gas bottles and reusable items recovered through the Tip Shop. These activities support the recovery of valuable resources and reduce the volume of material requiring landfill disposal.

Clean Fill and Beneficial Reuse Materials: A total of 25,786 tonnes of clean fill and beneficial reuse materials were received during FY2025/26, compared with 61,345 tonnes during FY2024/25. This category included external and internal clean fill, rehabilitation materials and approved contaminated soils.

Liquid Waste: No liquid waste was accepted for disposal at the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre during the reporting period. Leachate generated within the landfill footprint is collected and managed through the site's leachate management system.

Leachate is directed to the onsite leachate pond system, comprising three interconnected ponds. The pond system provides temporary storage and enables settlement of suspended solids, while aeration is used to assist in reducing the organic and microbial load of the leachate. Following storage and management within the pond system, leachate is discharged to the sewer network in accordance with relevant approvals, where it is transferred to TasWater's wastewater treatment system for treatment prior to final disposal.

Waste Minimisation, Resource Recovery and Future Initiatives

The City continued to implement waste minimisation and resource recovery initiatives throughout the reporting period, including operation of the Tip Shop, recycling and recovery of construction and demolition materials, organics composting and the beneficial reuse of suitable materials. These activities support implementation of the Hobart Waste Management Strategy 2025 and the City's objective of reducing waste sent to landfill.

During the next reporting period, the City will continue to progress waste avoidance, reuse and recycling initiatives, optimise resource recovery activities, maintain organics processing operations and support the transition toward planned landfill closure and long-term site rehabilitation.

The City also continued to support regional collaboration through active participation in the quarterly TasWaste South Waste Officers Network meetings, ReThink Waste initiatives and the Tasmanian Waste Educators Network (TWEN), while facilitating the Tasmanian Government's ongoing coordination of the Textile Working Group. These partnerships help coordinate waste avoidance, resource recovery, circular economy and community education outcomes across Tasmania.

1.5 Environmental Incidents and Non-Compliance

Details of all non-trivial environmental incidents and/or incidents of non-compliance with permit or Environment Protection Notice conditions that occurred during the reporting period, and any mitigative or preventative actions that have resulted from such incidents.

During the 2025/26 reporting period, one non-trivial environmental incident was recorded at the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre. No incidents of non-compliance with Permit Part B Environmental No. 9322 or Environment Protection Notice No. 715/1 were identified during the reporting period.

Table 4. Environmental Incidents and Non-Compliance Events

Date	Incident	Action Taken
6 May 2026	Low-severity compost heating/fire event within the organics processing area.	The affected material was isolated and extinguished using a water cart. The incident was investigated, corrective actions were implemented and the EPA was notified. An incident investigation report was completed and existing management controls were reviewed.

On 6 May 2026, smoke was observed emanating from a compost windrow within the organics processing area. The heating event was associated with heat generated during the decomposition of organic material. The incident was identified early and managed immediately by site personnel. The affected material was isolated and extinguished using a water cart. No injuries, damage to infrastructure or off-site impacts were reported. EPA Tasmania was notified by email on 8 May 2026 and subsequently advised that the incident appeared to have been managed appropriately.

The incident was investigated following the event and existing operational controls were reviewed. Findings from the investigation have been used to support the ongoing management of composting activities and continuous improvement of organics processing operations.

No reportable environmental spills, unauthorised discharges or confirmed breaches of environmental approval conditions were recorded during the reporting period.

1.6 Environmental Monitoring and Record Keeping

A summary of the monitoring data and record keeping required by these conditions. This information should be presented in graphical form where possible, including comparison with the results of at least the preceding reporting period. Special causes and system changes that have impacted on the parameters monitored must be noted. Explanation of significant deviations between actual results and any predictions made in previous reports must be provided.

Environmental monitoring at the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre was undertaken during FY2025/26 in accordance with Environment Protection Notice No. 715/1, Permit Part B Environmental No. 9322 and the EPA-approved Environmental Monitoring Program. The monitoring program provides information on the performance of the landfill's environmental controls and the condition of the surrounding receiving environment.

Environmental monitoring records, including field observations, laboratory analytical results, quality assurance and quality control information, inspection records, photographs and consultant reports, are retained by the City. Detailed monitoring results, trend analysis and interpretation are provided in the McRobies Gully Landfill Annual Environmental Monitoring Report FY2025/26 prepared by GHD.

1.6.1 Monitoring Program Overview

Table 5. Summary of Monitoring Program

Monitoring area	Purpose	FY2025/26 monitoring
Groundwater	Assess groundwater quality and identify potential influences associated with landfill activities	Quarterly monitoring, including the annual analytical suite in June 2026
Surface water	Assess receiving-water quality upstream and downstream of the facility	Quarterly monitoring, including the annual analytical suite in June 2026
Stormwater	Assess stormwater quality and potential site influences	Monitoring when sufficient flow was available, using available stormwater monitoring locations
Leachate	Characterise leachate quality and support assessment of the leachate management system	Quarterly monitoring, including the annual analytical suite in June 2026
Landfill gas	Assess landfill gas generation, collection and potential migration	Operational monitoring and a separate landfill gas investigation

Landfill capping	Assess the condition and performance of capped landfill areas	Quarterly visual inspections and survey-based monitoring
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1.6.2 Groundwater Monitoring

Groundwater monitoring was undertaken quarterly during FY2025/26 at background bore 2007/1, downgradient bore 1996/3 and the new bores 2025/1 and 2025/2. Bore 2007/2, which had been obstructed since 2021, was decommissioned during the reporting period.

Groundwater quality was generally consistent with FY2024/25, with most parameters showing no significant trend. The principal exceedances of the adopted screening criteria related to metals, including at background bore 2007/1, indicating that natural geology contributes to groundwater chemistry across the site. Interpretation of results from 1996/3 is limited by accumulated silt, which may affect concentrations of sediment-associated metals and nutrients. GHD recommended redevelopment of the bore to improve the representativeness of future samples.

The principal groundwater anomaly was an elevated PFAS result at bore 2025/2 in June 2026. Its source was not established, and the distribution of PFAS across groundwater and upstream and downstream surface-water locations did not demonstrate a clear relationship with the leachate pond. Subsequent monitoring in September 2026 found that PFAS had returned to historical levels below the laboratory limit of reporting. The June result was therefore not sustained. September monitoring occurred after the reporting period and is referenced only to support interpretation of the June anomaly.

Table 6. Summary of Groundwater Monitoring

Monitoring location	Principal FY2025/26 observation	Comparison and interpretation
2007/1, background	Increasing manganese and total Kjeldahl nitrogen trends. Some metals exceeded adopted screening criteria.	Elevated metals were also reported at the background location in FY2024/25. This indicates that natural geology contributes to groundwater chemistry.
1996/3, downgradient	Increasing nitrate and manganese trends.	Results may be influenced by accumulated silt. GHD recommended redevelopment of the bore to improve sample representativeness.
2025/1, new bore	No significant anomaly or sustained trend identified during the initial monitoring period.	No equivalent FY2024/25 dataset is available. Further monitoring is required to establish a reliable trend.
2025/2, new bore	An elevated PFAS result was recorded in June 2026.	The result was not reproduced in September 2026 when PFAS returned below the laboratory limit of reporting. The source was not established and the result does not indicate a sustained trend.
Overall groundwater network	Most parameters showed no significant trend and no widespread deterioration was identified.	Groundwater quality was generally consistent with FY2024/25.

1.6.3 Surface Water Monitoring

Surface-water monitoring was undertaken quarterly at the Hobart Rivulet locations HRU, HRU2, HRD and HRD2, and at McRobies Creek when flowing water was present. HRU2 and HRD2 were monitored for the first full reporting period under the revised EPA-approved monitoring program, improving the comparison of water quality upstream and downstream of the landfill stormwater discharge.

Water quality in the Hobart Rivulet was generally similar upstream and downstream. Nutrient concentrations remained below the adopted annual default guideline values, and metal concentrations did not show a consistent increase downstream of the landfill stormwater discharge. The available results did not identify a consistent deterioration in Hobart Rivulet water quality attributable to the landfill discharge.

The main anomaly was elevated PFAS at upstream and downstream Hobart Rivulet locations in June 2026. The distribution of PFAS did not show a clear increase downstream of the landfill discharge, and the source was not established. Follow-up monitoring undertaken in September 2026 found PFAS below the laboratory limit of reporting at most surface-water locations, while a low PFOS concentration remained detectable at HRD. September monitoring occurred after the reporting period and is referenced only to support interpretation of the June anomaly. Ongoing PFAS monitoring will assist in assessing whether landfill stormwater contributes to the intermittent PFAS detections observed in receiving waters.

Table 7. Summary of Surface Water Monitoring

Monitoring location	Principal FY2025/26 observation	Comparison and interpretation
HRU, upstream	Nutrients remained below the adopted annual guideline values. Metals varied between events. Elevated PFAS was reported in June 2026.	Water quality was generally consistent with FY2024/25. The June PFAS result was part of an anomalous pattern affecting upstream and downstream locations.
HRU2, additional upstream location	No sustained deterioration was identified. Elevated PFAS was reported in June 2026.	No equivalent full-year FY2024/25 dataset was available. PFAS returned below the laboratory limit of reporting during post-reporting-period monitoring.
HRD, downstream	Nutrient and metal concentrations were generally comparable with upstream results. Elevated PFAS was reported in June 2026.	No consistent increase downstream of the landfill stormwater discharge was identified compared with HRU. A low PFOS concentration remained detectable at HRD during the September 2026 follow-up monitoring event.
HRD2, additional downstream location	Results were generally consistent with the other Hobart Rivulet locations. Elevated PFAS was reported in June 2026.	No equivalent full-year FY2024/25 dataset was available. Results did not show a consistent deterioration relative to upstream locations.
MC, McRobies Creek	Sampling was limited by intermittent flow. Iron showed an increasing trend in the available dataset.	Results are influenced by flow availability and wet-weather conditions.

Hobart Rivulet overall	Nutrients remained below annual guideline values, and metals were similar upstream and downstream.	No consistent deterioration attributable to the landfill stormwater discharge was identified.
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1.6.4 Stormwater Monitoring

Stormwater monitoring was undertaken during FY2025/26 when sufficient flow was available. The nominated SW manhole was not always accessible or contained insufficient flow, so supplementary samples were collected at the Gross Pollutant Trap, SW_GPT, and at the stormwater outfall to the Hobart Rivulet, SW_R. In June 2026, SW_GPT was sampled on 4 June following high rainfall, and SW_R was sampled on 9 June. The different locations and intermittent flow limit direct comparison between monitoring events and with FY2024/25.

Stormwater contained elevated nutrients, metals, E. coli and PFAS during some monitoring events. PFAS reported at SW_R in June 2026 formed part of the anomalous results also observed at upstream and downstream Hobart Rivulet locations, and the source was not established. Trend analysis identified decreasing arsenic, zinc, mercury and iron concentrations, with no increasing trends identified for contaminants of potential concern in stormwater. The available results did not establish a direct or consistent chemical relationship between stormwater and the leachate pond. Follow-up monitoring in September 2026 detected low PFAS concentrations in stormwater. Continued monitoring and further assessment will assist in evaluating potential onsite PFAS sources and the significance of intermittent detections.

Table 8. Summary of Stormwater Monitoring

Monitoring aspect	Principal FY2025/26 observation	Comparison and interpretation
SW, nominated monitoring location	Monitoring was limited by insufficient flow and difficulty accessing the manhole during the June event.	Direct comparison with FY2024/25 is limited by intermittent flow and changes in the available sampling location.
SW_GPT, Gross Pollutant Trap	Used as a supplementary monitoring location in June 2026 following high rainfall.	The new location improves the ability to assess stormwater closer to where water leaves the site, but does not yet have a sufficient historical dataset for trend comparison.
SW_R, Hobart Rivulet outfall	Elevated PFAS was reported in June 2026.	The result formed part of the anomalous PFAS pattern observed upstream and downstream in the Hobart Rivulet. The source was not established.
Water-quality trends	Arsenic, zinc, mercury and iron showed decreasing trends. No contaminants of potential concern showed an increasing stormwater trend.	This does not indicate a general deterioration in stormwater quality compared with the available historical dataset.
Overall stormwater assessment	Elevated parameters were detected during some events, particularly under wet-weather conditions.	The available data did not establish a direct or consistent chemical relationship between stormwater and the leachate pond. Continued monitoring at the available locations is required.

1.6.5 Leachate Monitoring

Leachate quality at the leachate pond, LP, was monitored quarterly during FY2025/26. As expected for landfill leachate, nutrients and metals were present at higher concentrations than in groundwater and surface water, with exceedances of adopted screening criteria. Trend analysis identified increasing aluminium, total oxidised nitrogen, nitrite and nitrate, while total nitrogen, total Kjeldahl nitrogen and ammonia showed decreasing trends. GHD interpreted the nitrogen results as potentially reflecting progressive oxidation of ammonia to nitrate and nitrite.

PFAS continued to be detected in the leachate pond, consistent with previous monitoring. However, the PFAS concentration measured at LP in June 2026 was substantially lower than the anomalous concentration reported at bore 2025/2, and the available results did not establish a direct relationship between the leachate pond and the elevated PFAS results elsewhere in the monitoring network. Localised seepage observed near the pond during wet conditions prompted a separate pond investigation and targeted groundwater monitoring in August 2026. The investigation did not confirm the source of the seepage and recommended continued groundwater monitoring and inspection of the primary pond following dewatering.

Table 9. Summary of Leachate Monitoring

Monitoring aspect	Principal FY2025/26 observation	Comparison and interpretation
Nutrients	Total oxidised nitrogen, nitrate and nitrite showed increasing trends, while total nitrogen, total Kjeldahl nitrogen and ammonia showed decreasing trends.	Elevated nutrients are characteristic of the leachate pond and were also reported in previous periods. The change in nitrogen species may reflect progressive oxidation of ammonia.
Metals	Aluminium showed an increasing trend. Manganese, chromium and cadmium showed decreasing trends, while other metals generally showed no trend.	Metal concentrations remained characteristic of leachate. Unlike FY2024/25, when increasing iron trends were reported at LP, iron showed no trend in the current analysis.
PFAS	PFAS was detected at LP, including during December 2025 and June 2026 monitoring.	PFAS had also been detected in the pond during previous reporting periods. The June 2026 LP concentration was substantially lower than the anomalous result at bore 2025/2 and did not establish LP as its source.
Relationship with surrounding waters	Leachate contained higher concentrations of several nutrients and metals than groundwater and surface water.	Comparable concentrations were not consistently observed in adjacent groundwater or the Hobart Rivulet, and the available chemistry did not demonstrate direct mixing.
Pond investigation	Localised seepage was observed near the leachate pond during wet conditions.	A separate investigation and targeted groundwater sampling were undertaken after the reporting period. Continued monitoring and inspection following pond dewatering were recommended.

1.6.6 Landfill Gas Monitoring

The landfill gas extraction system was operated and maintained by LMS Energy throughout FY2025/26. The site transitioned from renewable electricity generation to flare-only operation during the reporting period, with extracted landfill gas continuing to be captured and treated through the flare.

The LMS annual summaries reported 3,325,417 m³ of landfill biogas treated and 28,911 tonnes CO₂-e abated in FY2024/25, compared with 2,267,210 m³ and 19,121 tonnes CO₂-e in FY2025/26. Average methane concentration decreased slightly from 46.1% to 44.4%. The lower reported FY2025/26 figures should be considered in the context of the operational and reporting change, as the FY2024/25 summary combines gas treated through the renewable energy facility and flare, while the FY2025/26 summary presents flare-operation data following the transition.

A separate landfill gas field investigation undertaken during FY2025/26 did not identify exceedances of the nominated methane assessment criteria at the monitored surfaces, penetrations, accessible buildings or subsurface services. Overall, landfill gas continued to be actively captured and managed following the transition to flare-only operation.

Table 10. Summary of Landfill Gas Monitoring

Monitoring measure	FY2024/25	FY2025/26	Comparison and interpretation
Reported biogas volume	3,325,417 m ³	2,267,210 m ³	Approximately 32% lower. Direct comparison is affected by the change in operational configuration and reporting basis.
Greenhouse gas abatement	28,911 t CO ₂ -e	19,121 t CO ₂ -e	Approximately 34% lower, consistent with the lower reported gas volume.
Average methane concentration	46.1%	44.4%	A decrease of 1.7 percentage points.
System operation	Predominantly renewable electricity generation	Transition to flare-only operation	Extracted landfill gas continued to be captured and treated after removal of the gas-to-energy engine.

1.6.7 Landfill Capping Monitoring

Quarterly inspections of accessible capped areas were undertaken during FY2025/26. The landfill cap was generally found to have uniform vegetation and soil cover and to be in reasonable condition, with no evidence of widespread deterioration or capping failure. Minor desiccation cracking and localised sediment accumulation were observed during dry conditions in December 2025 and March 2026.

The main variation occurred following heavy rainfall in June 2026, when saturated surface conditions, ponding and localised seepage were observed near the landfill toe, including areas adjacent to the leachate pond and toward McRobies Creek. These observations did not establish

widespread failure of the landfill cap but required continued inspection under wet-weather conditions and further assessment of the seepage areas

Table 11. Summary of Landfill Capping Monitoring

Inspection	Principal observation	Comparison and interpretation
September 2025	Vegetation and soil cover were generally uniform and in reasonable condition. No seepage or cap deterioration was observed.	Conditions were wet following recent spring rainfall, with no significant cap-performance issues identified.
December 2025	The cap remained in reasonable condition. Minor desiccation cracking was observed under dry conditions.	Cracking was localised and did not indicate widespread cap deterioration.
March 2026	Minor sediment accumulation was observed in drains, together with residual surface cracking on landform surfaces and around concrete drains.	Dry summer conditions contributed to cracking, which may increase rainfall infiltration if not maintained. Vegetation and landform cover remained generally consistent with the December inspection.
June 2026	Surface soils were saturated following heavy rainfall. Ponding and localised seepage were observed near the landfill toe, including areas adjacent to the leachate pond and toward McRobies Creek.	This was the principal variation from earlier inspections. Continued wet-weather inspection and further assessment of the seepage areas were recommended.
Overall cap condition	No widespread deterioration or obvious capping failure was identified during the quarterly inspections.	Existing capped areas remained generally stable, with localised drainage, cracking and seepage matters requiring ongoing inspection and maintenance.

The inspection findings and interpretations in the table reflect the quarterly landfill-capping monitoring documented in the FY2025/26 annual monitoring report.

Separately, an area of geofabric within the organics processing area was identified as requiring replacement following green-waste shredding activities. The affected area has been mapped, and replacement works are planned for summer.

The indicative repair area, outlined in purple in the figure below, shows the section of geofabric identified for replacement.



Figure 1. Indicative geofabric repair area within the organics processing area

1.7 Identification of Breaches and Variations

Identification of breaches of limits specified in these conditions and significant variations from predicted results contained in any relevant DPEMP or EMP, an explanation of why each identified breach of specified limits or variation from predictions occurred and details of the actions taken in response to each identified breach of limits or variance from predictions.

No breaches of numerical limits specified in Permit Part B Environmental No. 9322 or Environment Protection Notice No. 715/1 were identified during FY2025/26.

The environmental criteria applied in the Annual Environmental Monitoring Report are screening and assessment criteria used to support interpretation of monitoring results. Exceedance of an assessment criterion does not, by itself, constitute a breach of a limit specified in the environmental conditions. Relevant exceedances, anomalous results, monitoring limitations and follow-up actions are summarised in Section 1.6.

No specific quantitative predictions in the relevant DPEMP or Environmental Management Plan were identified against which the monitoring variations could be directly assessed. Monitoring results were therefore assessed using historical data, background and upstream conditions, adopted environmental assessment criteria and the site conceptual model. Two findings represented significant variations from historical monitoring results or normally observed site conditions.

Elevated PFAS concentrations were recorded at groundwater bore 2025/2 and at upstream and downstream Hobart Rivulet locations during the June 2026 monitoring event. The results were substantially higher than previous monitoring results, but their distribution did not establish a clear relationship with the leachate pond or landfill stormwater discharge. Follow-up monitoring undertaken in September 2026 did not reproduce the elevated groundwater result at 2025/2, although low PFAS concentrations remained detectable at selected leachate, stormwater and surface-water locations. GHD considered the anomalously high June results likely to have been affected by sampling, handling or analytical error, although the precise cause was not established. Continued monitoring and further assessment were recommended.

Localised seepage, saturated surface conditions and ponding were also observed near the landfill toe following heavy rainfall in June 2026, including areas adjacent to the leachate pond and toward McRobies Creek. The observations did not confirm widespread capping failure or an unauthorised discharge. A separate leachate pond investigation was undertaken, including targeted groundwater monitoring in August 2026. Continued groundwater monitoring, wet-weather inspections and further assessment of the leachate pond were recommended.

Neither finding was confirmed as a breach of a specified environmental limit. Both remain subject to ongoing monitoring and assessment.

1.8 Issues Requiring Attention

A list of any issues, not discussed elsewhere in the report, that must be addressed to improve compliance with these conditions, and the actions that are proposed to address any such issues.

In addition to the monitoring findings described in Sections 1.6 and 1.7, further work is required to determine the appropriate long-term management response for the leachate pond infrastructure. Following the February 2026 desludging works, seepage was observed within the pond system, and the City engaged GHD to undertake an initial condition assessment and review available groundwater monitoring data.

The initial assessment did not identify a material change in groundwater quality attributable to the observed seepage at the downgradient monitoring locations. The assessment nevertheless recommended further investigation to confirm the condition and remaining service life of the pond infrastructure.

The City is continuing to work with GHD to complete the next stage of the assessment. This work will include further monitoring and inspection of the pond system and will inform any maintenance, repair or longer-term infrastructure improvements required.

1.9 Fulfilment of Environmental Commitments

A summary of fulfilment of environmental commitments made for the reporting period. This summary must include indication of results of the actions implemented and explanation of any failures to achieve such commitments.

During FY2025/26, the City progressed environmental commitments made in response to matters raised by EPA and through the previous annual review process. The actions implemented and their outcomes are summarised below.

Table 12. Summary of Fulfilment of Environmental Commitments

Environmental commitment	Action implemented and result	Status
Implement the EPA-approved Environmental Monitoring Program	The consolidated monitoring program approved by EPA in June 2025 was implemented. Four quarterly monitoring events were completed during FY2025/26, including the annual analytical suite in June 2026.	Completed
Strengthen litter management	Litter-management practices were strengthened and additional litter fencing was installed. Inspection and litter-management records continued to be maintained.	Completed
Update the Fire Management Plan	A site-specific Fire Management Plan was prepared during 2026. The Plan was completed and submitted to the Director on 15 July 2026.	Completed
Complete the five-year review of the Environmental Management Plan	The review was completed and the updated Environmental Management Plan, Revision 7, was approved and submitted to EPA on 31 August 2026.	Completed
Desludge the leachate pond and install a surface aerator	The pond was desludged between 16 and 20 February 2026, removing 147.32 tonnes of accumulated material. A surface aerator was installed on 26 February 2026.	Completed
Update vegetation-management documentation	The Vegetation Removal Management Plan was updated in February 2026, confirming that no vegetation removal had occurred or was proposed and that the vegetation identified in the original plan remained intact. The updated plan was provided to EPA.	Completed

1.10 Community Consultation and Communication

A summary of any community consultation and communication undertaken during the reporting period.

The City of Hobart continued to engage with neighbouring residents, regulators and other stakeholders regarding the operation of the McRobies Gully Waste Management Centre during the 2025/26 reporting period. Community engagement activities focused on providing operational updates, responding to community concerns, investigating environmental complaints and maintaining communication with members of the Good Neighbour Committee, which is chaired by the City's CEO.

Table 13. Summary of Community Communication During the Reporting Period

Activity	Purpose
Good Neighbour Committee communications and meetings	Two Good Neighbour Committee meetings were held during FY2025/26, on 30 July 2025 and 18 February 2026. The meetings supported ongoing communication with neighbouring residents and community representatives regarding landfill operations, environmental monitoring, complaints, litter management and future site planning.
Response to environmental complaints and enquiries	Investigation and communication regarding odour, noise and other operational concerns raised by residents.
Communication with EPA Tasmania	Notification of environmental incidents and discussion of environmental management matters where required.
Public availability of annual environmental reporting	Provision of environmental monitoring and Annual Environmental Review information through public reporting processes.
Stakeholder communication regarding landfill operations and future planning	Ongoing communication regarding landfill management, environmental improvements and future site planning.

The City continued engagement with members of the Good Neighbour Committee and maintained established communication channels with neighbouring residents. These interactions supported the exchange of information regarding operational activities, environmental monitoring and

environmental management initiatives at the facility. The Good Neighbour Committee remains an important mechanism for maintaining communication between the facility and the surrounding community.

Environmental complaints received during the reporting period were acknowledged, investigated and responded to by Council officers. Communication with affected residents formed an important component of complaint investigation and resolution processes, particularly in relation to odour reports received from the South Hobart area. Information regarding investigations and findings was provided to residents where appropriate

The City also continued communication with EPA Tasmania regarding environmental management activities and notified EPA Tasmania of a low-severity compost heating incident that occurred during the reporting period. Communication with regulators forms part of the City's commitment to transparency and proactive environmental management.