



**Waste Authority**

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **Population projections place pressure on Perth's waste infrastructure requirements**

Predictions of an increase in waste generation by Perth's growing population are contained in a new report: 'Assessment of Waste Disposal and Material Recovery Infrastructure for Perth' was released today by Authority Chairman Mr Barry Carbon.

Mr Carbon said the report, prepared by Cardno, has provided a useful framework to better understand the material recovery infrastructure requirements for Perth and will help guide the Authority in future decision making.

"This is the first report of its kind and has given us not only a snapshot of existing and planned infrastructure but predictions about waste generation and recycling across various sectors," he said.

"The report is very comprehensive and includes an analysis of future opportunities. Having this sort of information will assist us, together with our stakeholders, to properly plan for the future so that waste is managed sustainably in Western Australia."

The consultants investigated predicted trends in waste generation and recycling across Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), Commercial and Industrial (C&I) and Construction and Demolition (C&D)

MSW is predicted to increase 22% between now and 2019/20 though with the commissioning of proposed Resource Recovery Facilities in the metropolitan area, increased recycling will see a 17% reduction in the amount of waste to landfill.

The amount of C& I waste sent to landfill is predicted to increase by approximately 19% and C&D waste to landfill to decrease by 30% following an expected decline in construction activity after 2009.

"The Authority is currently in the process of developing a draft waste strategy for Western Australia which will be made available for public comment later this year," Mr Carbon said



## Waste Authority

“We’re committed to actively engaging our stakeholders across the State and we welcome comment on the infrastructure report prior to the release of the draft strategy. Their input will be invaluable in assisting us to refine the strategy.”

“The projections contained in the report are a wake up call for all of us. If we’re to create a sustainable future for generations to come, we must act now.”

“Our priority is to prevent waste ending up in landfills in the first place. Providing the necessary infrastructure to cope with the projected increases in the amount of waste is just one part of the overall solution. We’re in the business of behavior change so in addition to meeting infrastructure requirements, raising the community’s awareness of waste as a resource and providing incentives to avoid the creation of waste will underpin the strategy,” he said.

The report is available on the Authority’s website

[http://www.zerowastewa.com.au/documents/waste\\_disposal\\_recovery\\_infrastructure\\_for\\_perth2020.pdf](http://www.zerowastewa.com.au/documents/waste_disposal_recovery_infrastructure_for_perth2020.pdf)

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