



Waste Authority

MEDIA STATEMENT

Ashburton cans crushed for cash

A mountain of aluminium cans previously destined for landfill is now a cash flow opportunity for the Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation thanks to a mobile crusher/baler.

The baler is one of the many improvements being made at the Shire's landfill sites which are detailed in a report released today by the Waste Authority Chairman, Mr Barry Carbon.

Mr Carbon said the baler was purchased with a grant from the Authority's Strategic Waste Initiatives Scheme (SWIS) and has been a huge success in preventing packaging waste going to landfill.

"Before the baler was purchased there was a a mountain of cans rivalling Mount Nameless," he said.

"Though there were some initial start-up problems, the baler is now in regular use turning cans into cash for the corporation. Paper and cardboard are also being baled."

"A training program has been set up and members of the corporation are now employed operating the baler. It's really showing the wider community that waste can be a valuable resource."



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The crushed bales of cans are back-loaded to either Port Hedland or Perth. The initiative forms part of the Pilbara Regional Council's new waste management plan aimed at avoiding waste and maximising resource recovery in the region.

SWIS grants are drawn from the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account which receives its monies from the levy on waste disposed to landfill.

The report is available on the Authority's website www.zerowastewa.com.au

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