

## REVISED WASTE MANAGEMENT FROM 1 MARCH 2023

The Commonwealth Government, through the Service Delivery Arrangement with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (WA) is working closely with the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands to manage waste types that can and cannot be disposed of in the Territory.

A decision was made at the Shire Council's Ordinary meeting in November 2022 that commercial, industrial and non-putrescible household waste will no longer be accepted at Shire transfer stations from 1 March 2023. This includes the following waste types:

Tyres, Whitegoods, Electrical items, Metal or steel, Mattresses, Batteries, Commercial waste, Solar panels, Paint, Vehicles, Demolition and construction waste, light globes and print cartridges.

This temporary measure will ensure the Shire can determine a set of fees and charges that will accurately reflect the cost to process and dispose of these waste types offshore. Fees and charges are expected to be implemented by 1 July 2023.

Improved waste management ownership, including Shire and Community initiatives are essential to ensure the Shire's waste management systems and programs are financially self-sustaining.

Appropriate waste management is fundamental to the liveability of Cocos (Keeling) Islands and ensuring your Shire can continue to meet the strategic values, vision and direction of the Commonwealth and Community.

The illegal dumping of waste is an offence under the *Environmental Protection Act 1986(WA)(CKI)*. Upon conviction, the offence carries a maximum penalty of \$125,000 for a company and \$62,500 for an individual.

Anyone who witnesses or has information regarding illegal dumping may call the Pollution Watch Hotline on 1300 784 782 or email <u>pollutionwatch@dwer.wa.gov.au</u>

Services provided in the Indian Ocean Territories by the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation are fully funded by the Australian Government