

MEDIA STATEMENT



Wednesday, 31 October 2018

City commits to reducing plastics

An action plan to reduce the use of single-use plastics across City of Bunbury facilities was noted by Council on Tuesday evening.

The plan outlines ways in which the organisation can limit or eliminate plastics.

It includes the banning of plastic straws, single-use plastic bags, minimising the use of plastic bin liners and phasing out plastic merchandise which have already been actioned at City facilities.

City facilities include the South West Sports Centre (SWSC), Bunbury Wildlife Park, Bunbury Regional Art Gallery, Bunbury Public Library, Withers Community Library and Bunbury Museum and Heritage Centre.

The SWSC café has also begun to offer a discount to people who bring in a reusable coffee cup when purchasing hot beverages.

Event stallholder applicants have been scored extra points if they provide environmentally-friendly products while balloons have been banned from all City of Bunbury events and merchandising collateral.

Waste Services has introduced a broad range of initiatives to support a reduction in the organisation's usage of single-use plastics. This includes educating City officers about the three-bin system and applying it to the working environment.

The City of Bunbury Works Depot has collection boxes for staff to recycle soft plastics, coffee pods, cosmetic items, organics matter and common household recyclables.

In 2018/19 the City will supply reusable coffee cups to staff to prevent the use of disposable cups.

Mayor Gary Brennan said it was important for the organisation to lead by example when it came to sustainability and waste reduction.

"We need to practise what we preach and this action plan is the first step in ensuring the organisation is doing the right thing when it comes to the use of plastics," Mayor Brennan said.

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“I encourage the community to also consider their own actions so we can all phase out single-use plastics once and for all.”

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