

## MEDIA RELEASE

## Ticket Collection and Headstone Waste Deliveries

In order to better assist the community with segregating their waste prior to the disposal at both the Waste Management Centre and Headstone, an authorised waste management officer will be available to assist with placing your waste into the correct chute or receptacle. If you are unsure where to place a particular item or how it should be presented, please ask one of the staff and they will be able to assist.

The side gate at the Waste Management Centre will be locked and where possible larger loads directed through the drive-in and staff can assist with unloading.

We continue to find items delivered to Headstone for burning that should be delivered to the Waste Management Centre for correct handling and disposal. One recent example was delivery of a load of aerosol cans to Headstone. Not only is this extremely harmful to the environment, it is also very dangerous for the staff and public.

NIRC will now ensure that loads delivered to Headstone will be inspected prior to dumping. If there is waste identified that can be processed through the Waste Management Centre, the customer will be asked to take it to the centre for processing. The community are also advised that the fee for an unsorted load has increased to \$200 and can be enforced.

Essentially, if we can squash it, package it or it can blow away then it shouldn't be taken to Headstone. We ask for the community's assistance in helping to reduce the impact that burning waste has on the Marine Park and the surrounding environment.

Waste streams such as general waste, cardboard, cans, e-waste, soft plastics, batteries and aerosols must all be taken to the Waste Management Centre. For an easy guide please refer to the Waste Management Sorting Guide that is also published in this week's paper.

Council have also engaged a local contractor to construct a cage for burning waste to reduce the likelihood of unburnt waste being blown directly into the sea. The materials for this project have been ordered and the delivery of the cage is subject to the availability of shipping to the island.

Plans are also being drafted to shut Headstone to the public this financial year. This means that all waste streams will be delivered to the Waste Management Centre. This will allow for further segregation of the larger waste items and will also provide an opportunity for the public to take and reuse items that are currently taken straight to Headstone.

NIRC has been closely monitoring waste volumes produced throughout the year. The total volume of waste exported and diverted from Headstone last financial year is shown in the table below.

Year To Date	Tonnes
Residual Waste	312.3
Asbestos	117.4
Waste Oils	74
PET Plastics	10.5
Aluminium Cans	5.87
Steel Cans	8
Ewaste	14.74
Chemicals	8.6
Cardboard	12.17
	563.58

With the adoption of the 2021/22 Operational Plan, it is also important to advise the community that the cost for delivery of waste to the centre has increased. This increase is necessary to support the cost of the waste management operation, with all of NIRC's business units working towards a self-funding model. The updated pricing schedule is available at Council's fees and charges webpage. As an example, the cost for disposal of a non-commercial box or bag of non-recyclable waste up to 120 litres has increased to \$4. The existing ticket denominations will remain valid for delivery of waste.

NIRC thanks for the community for their participation in managing the island's waste responsibly and looks forward to working with them in the near future to improve our waste management practices and service.

PJ Wilson

**TEAM LEADER WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT** 

7 July 2021