



# Media Release

27 September 2019

## **From rubbish bin to dinner plate: turning bin lids into craypots**

This Christmas, your festive crayfish meal may be caught in a craypot made from recycled rubbish bin lids, thanks to an innovative collaboration between the City of Cockburn and local business Green Machines Lab (GML).

Bin lids removed during the City of Cockburn's third bin rollout are being provided free to Bibra Lake start-up GML which has received a \$138,190 Waste Authority Community and Industry Engagement (CIE) grant to establish a pilot plastics recycling facility.

GML is processing up to 6,000 of the City's recyclable bin lids into plastic granules which are then sold to a local plastics manufacturer to be cleaned and transformed into cray pots for the recreational fishing market.

City of Cockburn Waste Manager Lyall Davieson said it was a fantastic step forward in the development of a circular economy in WA, allowing the City to recycle and reuse waste products locally.

"It supports targets in the State Government's Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy 2030 to develop local solutions and markets for recycling," Mr Davieson said.

"As part of its commitment to helping kick start WA's circular economy, the City of Cockburn provided GML with a \$3,661 Sustainability grant in 2018.

"The company that previously recycled the bin lids would send them overseas for processing, so it is great news that the City has partnered with a local company to allow us to reprocess here.

"The bin lids come from the third bin rollout and the upgrade of our dark green lids to red. This helps to ensure consistency of bin colours across the country, so it's a win-win for everyone."



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GML Managing Director Shady Novaihed said reprocessing waste plastic produced about five per cent of the carbon dioxide needed to make new virgin material.

“The whole community is now becoming more aware that plastic waste is a significant environmental issue,” Mr Novaihed said.

“The recent bans on imports of plastic waste into most Asian nations highlights the fact that we need to move fast.

“We are happy to be working with the City of Cockburn on these exciting and important pilot projects and are grateful for their support.”

GML has been awarded a second Waste Authority CIE grant of \$141,661 to establish a pilot plastic waste sorting facility at Henderson Waste Recovery Park, allowing the City to recycle more of the plastic received at the site.

The City has also received CIE grants of \$27,000 to purchase a cardboard compaction unit, allowing free domestic cardboard drop-offs for recycling, and \$18,257 to pilot a commercial food waste project.

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