



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Call to stop illegal dumping

June 8, 2018
COOKTOWN

Cook Shire Council is encouraging people to use unmanned recycling skips and trailers correctly, with concerns ongoing illegal dumping will result in skips being removed.

The recycling skip at the Racecourse Road intersection in Cooktown was constantly being used as a general rubbish bin, Cook Shire Chief Executive Officer Linda Cardew said. "It is the few who are eliminating the great efforts of many in the community who are recycling," Ms Cardew said. "Unfortunately, when the bin is contaminated with general rubbish the whole skip has to be dumped as landfill."

Illegal dumping of rubbish including fish frames and nappies in the skip had been an ongoing problem, she said, as well as dumping of larger items including whitegoods (which are free to dispose of at Shire transfer stations) next to the skip. "We hope people will change their behaviour and utilise the transfer station, which is open five days a week, for their general rubbish so those who are keen recyclers can continue to use the Racecourse skip bin." Those caught illegally dumping could face fines of more than \$50,000.

For more information on recycling and waste facilities and services in Cook Shire, visit Council's website at www.cook.qld.gov.au/services/waste-management or contact Council's waste team via email at mail@cook.qld.gov.au or phone on 4069 5444.

~ end ~