

## Media Release

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27 November 2023

### REMOTE SENSORS INNOVATE PUBLIC BIN MANAGEMENT

Public bins across the Cassowary Coast are now being remotely monitored thanks to the installation of bin sensors throughout the region.

The technology was commissioned to provide efficient and responsive servicing to Council's new public bin network which recently increased in capacity from 15,620 litres to 23,040 litres. The new network was designed to prevent environmental concerns including scavenging animals and overflow.

Remote sensors at each bin location will help Council manage the larger network by measuring waste levels, bin positions and temperatures across all public bins in the Cassowary Coast.

Chief Executive Officer Andrew Graffen explained how embracing technology is key to improving Council's service levels into the future.

"The data collected by the sensors will alert Council to bins that are reaching capacity and need servicing so we can prioritise those locations," said Mr Graffen.

"We'll also have insight into which locations are in most demand for public bins and identify those that are being misused."

Mr Graffen explained how the installation will help Council prepare for this year's festive season when the region will see a spike in visitors, but also domestic waste being illegally deposited in public bins.

"This technology will help us adjust our schedules to respond to increased demand throughout the public bin network," Mr Graffen said.

"But it's all too common that as soon as we empty a bin it's filled to the brim with one person's domestic waste.

"We're asking our community to help us by keeping an eye out for their local bin and contacting Council if they see someone illegally dumping. If you see it, report it."

A Telstra Innovation grant funded the pilot program for the remote bin monitoring, testing sensors on fifty bins across the region. The success of the pilot in demonstrating service level improvements led to Council's commitment to implement the system across its network of 96 bins.

To report concerns around a public bin, call Council on 1300 763 903 or email [enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au).

Reports for illegal dumping can be submitted via Council's website at <https://www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/illegal-dumping>.

Media contact 0417 721 754 | [comms@ccrc.qld.gov.au](mailto:comms@ccrc.qld.gov.au)

For further information contact Council at 1300 763 903 or email [enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au).

*Photo caption: Council's new bin enclosures are designed to deter scavenging animals and overflow, preventing safety and environmental concerns.*

