



Anglicare Manager Environment Services John Freeth (right) with Remondis Commercial Manager Trent Kotz

SNAPSHOT

Zero Waste SA Industry Program

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Waste slashed as Anglicare cuts landfill

In just two months Anglicare SA has achieved a remarkable turnaround in the amount of waste it sends to landfill.

The amount of general waste diverted from landfill has been increased from about 20% to more than 70% in a program that has lessons for many large organisations with multiple sites.

Anglicare operates more than 30 facilities across Adelaide, including aged care homes, child care centres and emergency accommodation for the homeless.

“Over the years the different sites made arrangements with more than a dozen waste contractors and, apart from some small-scale recycling, everything ended up in landfill,” says John Freeth, Anglicare’s Manager of Environment Services. Diverting waste from landfill and improving recycling was seen as a priority.”

Anglicare joined Zero Waste SA’s Industry Program which provided advice and funding for a waste review and evaluation of contractors to find one that could support the environmental priorities.

Having a single waste contractor made it easier and cheaper to initiate a new multi-bin system at all sites. Bins were introduced for eight recycling streams – cardboard, organics, comingled, confidential paper, medical, white paper, needles and grease-trap waste.

“The new contractor, Remondis, did a fantastic job in training everyone in the use of the new system,” says Mr Freeth.

“Our staff fully embraced the changes and within two weeks there was no major contamination in any bins.”



Anglicare’s Manager of Environment Services John Freeth



Government of South Australia
Zero Waste SA



Anglicare Manager Environment Services John Freeth (centre) with members of the Remondis team, Danny Somerville (left), Rebecca Sarti and Trent Kotz

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Anglicare's environmental aspirations go beyond its own operations.

The organisation is now working on an Australia-first initiative to remove the one remaining major waste stream that still goes to landfill – incontinence pads. If successful, Anglicare believes it will help resolve a significant national waste problem.

Highlights of Anglicare's new recycling program for June 2010* include:

- ^ 71% of waste from major facilities diverted from landfill (up from 20%)
- ^ organics turned into compost – 2.24 tonnes
- ^ cardboard and paper recycled – 5.03 tonnes
- ^ comingled recycled or used as alternative fuel – 13.24 tonnes
- ^ greenhouse gas emissions reduced by 73 tonnes.

* The program had only been operational for six weeks at the time of reporting.

Anglicare SA

Established in 1860, Anglicare SA is a leading not-for-profit organisation that provides a range of support services for families, the elderly, homeless and unemployed. Anglicare has over 1300 staff at more than 30 major sites across Adelaide.

www.anglicare-sa.org.au

Zero Waste SA

A South Australian Government agency that advances improved waste management policies and the development of resource recovery and recycling. The Zero Waste SA Industry Program advises and supports companies to achieve sustainability goals in waste, water and energy.

www.zerowaste.sa.gov.au

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