

Waste management draft to be ready by next month

Bahrain now generates 2.2 million tonnes of waste a year

● We have a huge amount of waste that is being generated and it is steadily increasing as the population grows, he warned.

TDT|Manama
Mohammed Zafran

The final draft for Bahrain's new waste management strategy will be finalised by next month, it was learnt.

The preparation of the new strategy for waste management is in its final stages and the draft plan, which has taken almost six months to prepare, will be finalised by next month, said Bob Doig, a waste management adviser to the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning.

Mr Doig also works with Estidama - a waste management centre which comes under the Works Ministry.

According to him, following the finalisation of the draft, six months will be required to fully implement the strategy.

"It takes six months to formulate the strategy and six months for it to be implemented. The draft is being



The Kingdom is one of the biggest per capita waste generators in the world.

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MR DOIG

prepared right now. We need to involve every stakeholder including the private sector, Ministry of Health and environment protection organisations. By next month we will have the final draft."

Speaking about the objectives of the

new strategy, he said, "We are looking at all types of waste and trying to look at ways of not just treating it but also to prevent it, reduce it and recycle. We are looking at where it comes from and where it goes," he said.

We have a huge amount of waste

899,000

tonnes of trash were collected in the first five months of 2018.

that is being generated and it is steadily increasing as the population grows, he warned.

Reducing the waste produced in the country is an important part of the project, he said.

"We certainly want to reduce the waste generated in the country. But this can take some time and we are setting realistic targets for it."

According to the latest statistics from the Ministry, 899,000 tonnes of trash were collected in the first five months of 2018.

The ministry said that Bahrain now produces 2.2 million tonnes waste a year, which means every resident/citizen generates two tonnes of waste annually.

According to statistics, Bahrain's household produces more waste than the country's commercial, industrial and green waste combined.

'Dream come true' for Bahraini start-up owner

● Sheikh Al Asfoor underlined in his statement that "providing opportunities to establish and nurture youth projects is a top priority for JWD's management, as it is a cornerstone of its investment vision".

TDT|Manama
Muhannad Mansour

After being sacked from his job as a customs clearance agent at a private company back in 2016, Abu Amin began washing cars outside his house, located in Marquban village in Sitra.

The man started from zero and earned the necessary amount to buy car-washing equipment and other materials, after manually washing cars for a couple of months.

Abu Amin didn't only provide a living for his three-member family, but also attracted ten unemployed Bahraini youth



Abu Amin (second from left) and Sheikh Al Asfoor during the meeting yesterday.

from Sitra to work with him and quickly strengthened his clients' list to include customers from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

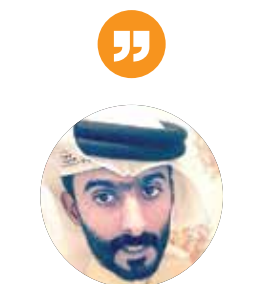
As the business rapidly expanded and the numbers of clients soared, Abu Amin told Tribune that washing cars outside his house wasn't practical anymore.

He pleaded for assistance from the concerned official departments, such as Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Ministry, JWD and the Sunni Endowments, to provide him with a land so he could rent with a reasonable price and officially establish a registered carwash.

JWD contacted Abu Amin on the same day his story was published on the third page of Sunday's edition of Tribune and a meeting was held yesterday with him.

Attending the meeting was JWD Chairman Sheikh Mohsen Al Asfoor, JWD Acting Director Ali Khamis and other JWD officials.

The directorate said in a



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ABU AMIN

statement released yesterday that "Sheikh Al Asfoor welcomed the man and praised his entrepreneurship efforts". Sheikh Al Asfoor also said Abu Amin is "an honourable model of the hardworking Bahraini youth".

The directorate is an administrative body that's in charge of mosques, maatams (religious and community centres) and other properties and assets endowed to these establishments. It handles the rent and revenue of such properties.

Sheikh Al Asfoor underlined in his statement that "providing opportunities to establish and nurture youth projects is a top priority for JWD's management, as it is a cornerstone of its investment vision".

He instructed the concerned departments in the directorate to assist Abu Amin by provid-

ing him with a list of the lands available and suitable for the establishment of his project, in accordance with the investment formulas and mechanisms followed by the directorate.

Good Initiative

Tribune spoke to Abu-Amin following the meeting to learn more about his next step. "This is a good initiative from the directorate's side. It reflects their concern about the Bahraini youth and their interest. I was told in the meeting that the directorate would list the lands under its supervision in Sitra and get back to me within few days, so I could choose which is suitable to establish my project. I hope this is the first step towards a bright future for me and colleagues," Abu Amin said.

Reconciliation agreement between dad, sons cancelled

TDT|Manama
Ali Tarif

The High Criminal Court has ordered the cancellation of the reconciliation agreement signed between a man and his sons, because they were below the legal age at the time of inking it.

The duo took their father to court for convincing them to sign the agreement, through which he deprived them some of their financial rights, according to court files.

The pair later found that they were fooled by their father and they filed a lawsuit to rescind the agreement.

"My clients were minors at the time they signed the reconciliation agreement. Their father initially presented the agreement in front of another court which ruled in his favour.

"But today the court reversed the initial ruling after noticing that they were minors when the agreement was signed," the plaintiffs' lawyer Ibtisam Al Sabagh said.

The court's ruling stated that the agreement must be deemed invalid because the plaintiffs weren't of legal age to give up their rights.

It also underlined that the father had exploited his sons to push them towards signing the agreement despite the fact he was aware of their age.