

**YARRA CITY COUNCIL
DRAFT WASTE
SERVICE CHARGE**



9. Draft Waste Service Charge Policy

Background

In June 2016, Council's adopted Long Term Financial Strategy reflected the intention to introduce a waste and environmental service charge in 2017-18.

As part of the 2017-18 Budget consultation with Councillors in February 2017, Council resolved to prepare the draft 2017-18 Budget on the basis of separate waste & environmental service charges being introduced. As part of the resolution, Officers were requested to develop a draft policy defining what services are included in each proposed service charge and that consultation on this draft policy occur in conjunction with the draft 2017-18 Budget.

In March 2017, Council sought further advice in relation to the waste service charge and the environmental charge. The advice supported a waste service charge however advised Council against introducing an environmental charge as proposed.

Officers have therefore prepared the draft 2017-18 Budget based on the introduction of a waste service charge only, removing the environmental service elements.

Council is proposing to introduce this separate waste service charge in 2017-18. The waste charge is being introduced to fully recover the cost for Council to deliver this service and is permitted within the Local Government Act and the Fair Go Rates System. It is proposed to introduce this charge in 2017-18 as this is a non-revaluation year. This will mean it will be much clearer for rate payers to determine the dollar change year on year on their rate notices. It will also ensure it will not be as big a percentage increase for some ratepayers who may experience large general rate increases in a revaluation year.

The charge will bring Yarra City Council in line with 73 other Victorian Councils who currently have a separate waste service charge.

It is proposed that rebates on the proposed waste service charge will apply for pensioners and health care card holders.

Proposed Waste Service Charge components

It is proposed that the waste service charge is based on full recovery of the cost to deliver the landfill waste, recycling, and green and hard waste services to the community.

Proposed Waste Service Charges

It is proposed that the introduction of a separate waste service charge in 2017-18 for the following bin size services will be:

- (i) 80 litre bin service (residential) - \$165.00 per annum
- (ii) 120 litre bin service (residential) - \$247.50 per annum
- (iii) 240 litre bin service (residential) - \$800 per annum
- (iv) 80 litre bin service (commercial) - \$165.00 per annum + GST if applicable
- (v) 120 litre bin service (commercial) - \$247.50 per annum + GST if applicable
- (vi) 240 litre bin service (commercial) - \$800 per annum + GST if applicable

Proposed Waste Service Charge Rebates

It is also proposed that a 50% rebate/waiver of the waste service charge for pensioners and health care card holders relevant to their bin size service is applied (for the first year only), and is reviewed annually as part of the Budget process.