

18. FUTURE REFUSE TIPPING FEE

RR 10012

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Corporate Plan Output: Solid Waste	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the current situation with respect to the 2000/2001 waste charges.

COMMERCIAL REFUSE

In 1997 as part of its 1997/98 budget process the Council decided to introduce a \$3/tonne waste minimisation fee for each of five years rising to \$15/tonne in 2001/02. This fee has been publicised clearly in the corporate Budget pink pages and Schedule of Charges and complies with Local Government Act No 4 Section 544 Allocation of Costs: “every Territorial Authority shall allocate the costs incurred in the implementation of a waste management plan in such a manner as the Territorial Authority considers will effectively and appropriately promote the objectives of the plan”. It funds the Council’s waste minimisation activities including kerbside recycling, Compost Plant, commercial waste reduction initiatives, three resource recovery centres and the Recovered Materials Foundation.

In addition the following other charges have been introduced:

- \$3/tonne for funding the aftercare of Stage 2C of Burwood Landfill starting in 1999/00 and continuing until Stage 2C is filled up and Burwood closes (anticipated mid 2002).
- \$2/tonne for Recovered Materials Foundation Revolving Loan Fund (\$1 in 1998/1999 and \$1 in 1999/2000) continuing indefinitely.

Charges/tonne for commercial waste past and future are tabulated below.

(Inclusive of GST)						
96/97	97/98	98/99	99/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002	Post 2002 when new regional landfill is operating
\$40.00	\$43.38	\$47.85	\$55.70	\$59.00	\$62.50	As yet unknown and to be fixed by new joint venture landfill company. Will be in excess of previous amount because of larger transport distances and higher standard of design for environmental and resource consent purposes

PRIVATE VEHICLES

It is too early to say what will need to be charged for private vehicles in 2000/2001 to create equity between domestic and commercial users. Charges for private vehicles will be calculated on the commercial rate multiplied by the average weights of private vehicles.

It is likely that the new fees to be introduced in July 1999 will have the effect of further increasing the current trend towards greater average weights of trailers and cars but this effect cannot be precisely quantified at this point in time.

It is proposed that when the preliminary budget work for the 2000/2001 draft budget is carried out in October , a report will be presented to the Committee with the preliminary charges based on the vehicle weight trends available at that time.

WASTE CHARGE ALLOCATION 1999/2000 YEAR

An updated table of the allocation of the \$55.70/tonne waste charge for 1999/2000 is attached for information.

PUBLIC RELATIONS INFORMATION

A copy of the information sheet currently available at the Service Centres and Refuse Stations is also attached. The sheet provides customers with an explanation of the current situation with respect to refuse tipping fees. A similar information sheet was prepared last year and went a long way towards assisting the public and commercial enterprise understand the reasons for increases and minimise negative comment.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.