

9. INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

9.2 WASTE MANAGEMENT

9.2.1 Waste Disposal Tipping Fee Designation and Waste Collection Charge Reduction

Background & Issues

This policy details the parameters and guidelines for waiving or reducing rubbish tipping fees or kerbside waste bin collection charges for eligible businesses and organisations undertaking activities or special events that benefit the broader community of the Shire of Manjimup.

The policy provides a framework for:

- supporting individuals, not-for-profit community groups and recognised charitable businesses who, through their core activities, provide a community benefit by either diverting waste from landfill or removing waste from the environment;
- assessing applications to waive or reduce rubbish tipping fees as a means of supporting recognised charitable, not-for-profit businesses and community organisations which provide other benefits to the broader community through their core activities, but in so doing generate waste as a by-product of their activity; and
- assessing applications for one-off waivers of tipping fees from not-for-profit organisers of community events approved by the Chief Executive Officer as a Council contribution to the event.

In any case where a waiver is being used for the disposal of private waste, unacceptable or illegal wastes, or excessive volumes of waste, the waiver shall be revoked.

Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to:

1. provide a clear framework for assessing applications from charitable businesses, community organisations, eligible community projects and litter collections (conducted by community groups or individuals) for assistance in reducing their costs of managing waste generated through activities that benefit the broader community of the Shire of Manjimup ; and
2. ensure that Council has a proper record of the amounts of waste received from the activities of these entities.

Area of Application

The Policy applies to the whole of the Shire of Manjimup. Within this area of application there are three categories of waiver or reduction of waste disposal tipping fees or collection charges:

1. permanent reductions or exemptions for ongoing, charitable, not-for-profit businesses diverting waste from landfill;
2. annual or permanent exemptions for activities that provide a benefit to the broader community of the Shire of Manjimup; and
3. one-off exemptions for community events occurring with approval of the Chief Executive Officer.

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Policy Measures

Policy measures apply to each category as follows:

1. Permanent exemptions for ongoing, charitable, not-for-profit businesses diverting waste from landfill.

A charitable, not-for-profit business diverting waste from landfill may apply for a reduction in the general waste bin collection service charge and an exemption from paying waste disposal tipping fees.

Such businesses (commonly called opportunity shops or 'op-shops') will be eligible for:

- (a) a reduction in kerbside waste bin collection fees of up to 50% if they utilise a Council service; and
- (b) a waiver of tipping fees of up to 100% if they deliver waste directly to the Manjimup Recycling & Refuse Centre or to a Shire of Manjimup transfer station.

The intent of this exemption is to support charitable, not-for-profit businesses that are, at the core of their business model, redirecting to new ownership items which would otherwise likely be disposed as waste to landfill.

Accordingly, the exemption will only apply to a volume and type of rubbish associated with the running of the business.

Where the Shire of Manjimup is required to assess the acceptability of the volume and type of waste being presented, the typical wastes similar organisations present and the average volume of waste presented in the preceding three months shall be considered for comparison.

2. Annual or permanent exemptions for an activity that provides a benefit to the broader community of the Shire of Manjimup.

Across the Shire of Manjimup a number of organisations and individuals collect litter and illegally dumped rubbish from public land including roadsides, parks, water-courses and beaches as ongoing or one-off activities. The organisers of these activities are eligible to apply for annual or ongoing exemption from paying tipping fees relating to the proper disposal of the waste materials they collect.

In determining whether or not a waiver shall be granted, consideration shall be made regarding the degree to which the organisers have endeavoured to maximise benefit to their community group or cause by putting in place reasonable measures to divert beverage containers eligible for refund under the WA Containers of Change container deposit scheme from disposal as waste, and their subsequent return to a refund point.

Managers of public land such as the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions (DBCA) and Main Roads WA (MRWA) or their agents are not eligible to apply for waivers to tipping fees relating to the disposal of rubbish collected through a bin system as a responsibility of the organisation (such as in roadside or campsite rubbish bins under their care, control or management).

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However, such agencies may apply for annual exemption or reduction in tipping fees relating to the disposal of litter or illegally dumped waste material which they have retrieved from lands they manage. Such exemption or reduction shall not apply to problematic wastes including but not limited to asbestos, construction and demolition (C & D) waste, car tyres, mattresses or white goods, and determination of any reduction or exemption shall be at the discretion of Council.

In the case of community groups and individuals, in order for waste disposal tipping fees to be waived, the individual or organisation must pre-register with the Shire of Manjimup and collect rubbish using bags provided or approved by the Shire.

Where waste is collected by an individual or organisation which did not pre-register but acted generally in the spirit of the policy, tipping fees may be waived, but the individual or organisation will be encouraged to pre-register in future.

3. One-off designation for community events approved by the Shire CEO.

Not-for-profit community events approved and authorised by the Shire of Manjimup Chief Executive Officer may be designated as eligible for the “zero” tipping fee for applicable wastes generated as a direct result of the event. Such an event will be required to manage their event waste according to the *Shire of Manjimup Low Waste Events* document to at least the “good” waste management practice standard. Such events may include those which generate a financial surplus in order to raise funds directly for a recognised community group or cause.

However, events which are organised or run on behalf of a community group by a promoter or promoting agency which receives a fee or makes separate gains from the event, are not eligible for a zero tipping fee designation without a resolution of Council, for which the event organiser or their agent shall provide a request for reimbursement of tipping fees in writing to the Shire’s Chief Executive Officer after the conclusion of the event and after all tipping fees have been paid.

Administration

Administration of this Policy is by the Manager Technical Services.

Adoption and Date Due for Revision

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