

# Waste Service Charge (WSC) Fact Sheet



## What is the new Waste Service Charge (WSC)?

The cost associated with waste management including bin collection, waste treatment and disposal was not previously identified on individual City of Mount Gambier rate notices as it was included within Council's 'General Rate Revenue'.

To highlight the cost of waste management, Council has adjusted its rating structure to remove the waste component from the General Rates and introduce it as a new separate fixed Waste Service Charge (WSC).

The WSC will be administered in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* and is not an additional cost to most ratepayers. Council has not raised overall rates and charges associated with the WSC.

## Rate notice example (based on 2021/2022 average residential property rates)

ENQUIRIES	RATING DETAILS	RATEABLE VALUE	AMOUNT
Rating or general enquiries: <b>Tel: 08 8721 2555</b>  Valuation enquiries: <b>Tel: 1300 653 345</b>  Regional Landscape Levy enquiries: <b>Tel: 08 8735 1177</b>	RESIDENTIAL	241,495 CV @ .00246165	\$594.47
	FIXED CHARGE		\$718.30
	Waste Service Charge		\$200
	REGIONAL LANDSCAPE LEVY RESIDENTIAL		\$80.10
Want to know what you get for your Rates? Visit <a href="http://www.lga.sa.gov.au/goto/rates">www.lga.sa.gov.au/goto/rates</a>			
TOTAL LIABILITY			\$1,392.87
AMOUNT NOW DUE			\$348.87

(minus \$200) \$518.30

WSC has no additional impact on the total

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
\$348.87	\$348.00	\$348.00	\$348.00
Due By 10/09/2021		Due By 11/03/2022	Due By 10/06/2022

BPAY this payment via Internet or phone banking.  
 BPAY View® - View and pay this bill using internet banking.  
 BPAY View Registration No.: 1397 33



Billers Code: 464263

Ref:

Phone & Internet Banking - BPAY Call  
 or building society to  
 pay your cheque,

City of  
 Mount Gambier

Payment Method  
 See over for details

## Why has Council implemented the WSC?

The introduction of a WSC is an environmental decision to make waste management costs visible and clear to ratepayers by highlighting the waste fee for each property on the rates notice.

Waste management is one of the largest costs to the community and Council wishes to encourage ratepayers to consider their personal environmental impact and the costs associated with waste management.

The WSC also brings the City of Mount Gambier in line with neighbouring council areas which already specify waste charges on rates notices.



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## How much is the WSC and how is it calculated?

The WSC is \$200.00 per year and is calculated based on the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 actual and budgeted waste collection, treatment and disposal costs per rateable assessment.

## Who will need to pay the WSC?

The WSC is charged on the basis of the service being available to a property. It excludes vacant land and primary production where there is no dwelling on the land.

## Will my rates go up as a result of the WSC?

No. The WSC is financed by reducing the General Rates - Fixed Charge by \$200.00. Therefore, the introduction of the WSC is cost neutral and there is no bottom-line impact on most ratepayer assessments.

However, in the 2021/2022 Annual Business Plan and Budget Council has determined that there will be an increase in the overall general rate revenue equivalent to 4.5% in accordance with the Long Term Financial Plan.

## How will Council encourage responsible personal waste management with the introduction of the WSC?

The separate WSC will establish the framework to allow for flexibility to provide future incentives for ratepayers who demonstrate good waste management.

Council will continue to work with the community to provide waste education and awareness programs to encourage waste reduction and recycling to divert rubbish from landfill.

## Where will the funds for the WSC go?

The WSC will be used to cover all waste associated costs.

In any year that the total WSC results in a surplus, funds will be accounted for in a specific 'waste' reserve as per the *Local Government Act 1999*, to be used on waste related services.

## When will Council implement the WSC?

The WSC will be highlighted on rates notices as 'Waste Service Charge' from 1 July 2021.

