

Waste Policy 2014

Department: Sustainability and Environment

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Web/Intranet Link:

Internal or External: Both

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Background

This Waste Policy aims to revise some of the rules and practices of the 2004 version of the waste policy and to anticipate and create new procedures to meet the needs of our changing municipality over the next ten years.

The Waste Policy was first created and adopted by Council in 2004 as part of the Waste Minimisation Strategy. At the time it formalised and documented the rules and practices that existed around the allocation of waste and recycling services and the requirements for waste management plans. It also developed some of the rules around changes in waste and recycling services. An example of this was policy direction around waste and recycling services in multi-unit dwellings which experienced significant changes with the implementation of the Waste Minimisation Strategy.

Legislative Context

The only codification of local government's primary responsibilities with respect to waste management in Victoria is contained in the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act (2008)*.

Section 24 functions of councils

The function of a Council under this Act is to seek to protect, improve and promote public health and wellbeing within the municipal district by-

- (g) ensuring that the municipal district is maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.

The broader waste management services offered by local government are undertaken under the 'broadly enabling' provisions of the *Local Government Act (1989)*. The most relevant clause is:

3E What are the functions of a council?

- (1) The functions of a Council include—
- (b) planning for and providing services and facilities for the local community;
- (c) providing and maintaining community infrastructure in the municipal district;
- (h) any other function relating to the peace, order and good government of the municipal district.

However, state government openly advertises the waste management services provided by local government. The Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure's website states:

"Councils provide a range of waste disposal and recycling services for their communities. While some services, such as the collection and disposal of general household garbage are common to all councils, many services vary, depending on the needs and priorities of the relevant communities."

Contact your council to find out about the particular waste disposal and recycling services provided in your area.”

Council Plan Context

Relevant Strategic Objectives are:

5. Environmental sustainability

In partnership with our community and stakeholders we will educate and promote environmental sustainability.

6. Organisational accountability

We will implement a transparent, engaging and accountable governance structure to deliver this Council Plan.

Governance

Council is elected to provide leadership for the good governance of the municipality, to represent and advocate for the community and to ensure decisions are made that meet the strategic objectives in a transparent, responsible and accountable manner.

Purpose / Rationale

The Policy Provides Guidance as to how waste and recycling services and resources are to be allocated and the requirements around the provision of waste and recycling services to different classifications of property.

Strategic Objectives

The Objectives Of This Policy Are To Ensure:

- That the allocation of waste and recycling services are provided in a consistent and reliable manner.
- Access to waste and recycling services is provided equitably to all residents.
- New residential and commercial developments are provided with appropriate and safe waste and recycling services.
- Transparency and accountability in Council decision making

Evidence

The need for the waste policy arises from the needs for

- ▶ Fairness in Resource Allocation
- ▶ Transparency of Decision Making
- ▶ Access and equity to Council services;
- ▶ Health and Safety in the Waste Industry
- ▶ Responsible Governance
- ▶ Public Health Outcomes

These needs are based on regulated objectives of the Local Government Act, Health Act and Health and Safety regulations. The foundations of these objectives are values that the regulators as representatives of our community believe should direct the governance and operation of our public institutions.

Definitions

N/A

Policy Structure

The structure of this policy identifies the waste and recycling services available and the requirements relating to these for each building type.

They are

- ▶ Residential - Houses
- ▶ Residential - Multi Unit Dwellings
- ▶ Commercial and Industrial Waste – Small Business
- ▶ Construction and Demolition Waste
- ▶ Non Rateable Properties

Policy Statement

All rateable properties are eligible for the following services outlined below and are included in the annual rates paid to Council unless otherwise specified.

Residential – Houses

All residential dwellings made up of rateable houses on a separate title will be provided with access to

- ▶ Fortnightly recycling collection services for co-mingled glass, plastic and metal containers, paper and cardboard recycling
 - Residents can choose between one 240 litre or one 120 litre recycling bin per residential dwelling.
 - Additional recycling bins are available for an annual fee. Maximum of 2 additional bins
- ▶ Weekly residual waste collection service.
 - Residents are provided with one 120 litre garbage bin per residential dwelling.
 - Additional garbage bins are available for an annual fee. Maximum of 2 additional bins.
- ▶ Fortnightly user pays green waste collection service.
 - Residents can choose between 240 litre and 120 litre green waste bins. Maximum of 2 bins per dwelling
- ▶ One annual at call Hard Waste Collection Service
 - At call Hard Waste Collections take place within the resident's private property.
 - Where there is limited space, residents are allowed to place hard waste on the nature strip, but must display a hard waste collection permit. Waste placed on the nature strip without a permit will be treated as dumped rubbish and may incur a penalty.
 - Volumes permitted are Hard Waste – 2 cubic metres and Green Waste – 4 cubic metres.

Council provided waste and recycling collection services will comply with Occupational Health and Safety guidelines for waste and recycling collectors.

Residential – Multi Unit Dwellings

Waste Services in Multi-Unit Dwellings.

Residential multi-unit dwellings with less than 10 units will be provided with access to:

- ▶ One 240 litre co-mingled recycling bin shared between each two units – fortnightly collection
- ▶ One 240 litre waste bin shared between each two units.- weekly collection

- ▶ One annual at call Hard Waste Collection Service per unit
- ▶ A user pays green waste service of either 120 litres or 240 litres.

Alternative bin sizes or combinations of bins may be substituted at Council's discretion where the site has inadequate collection space or where the standard bin allocation is a threat to the health and safety of the public or Council contractors.

Residential multi-unit dwellings with 10 or more units will be provided with access to

- ▶ A 1100 litre lightweight waste skip to be shared between approximately 10 units. – weekly collection
- ▶ A 660 litre lightweight recycling skip for co-mingled paper/cardboard and bottles/cans to be shared between approximately 10 units. – weekly collection
- ▶ One annual at call Hard Waste Collection Service per unit
- ▶ A user pays green waste service.

Where the units are not a multiple of 10 e.g. 34, 18, the number of skips provided will be rounded up or down to the nearest five. A block of 34 units will receive 3 of each type of skip and a block of 18 units will receive 2 of each type of skip.

Additional skips may be available for an annual fee, subject to Council approval.

Alternative bin sizes or combinations of bins may be substituted at Council's discretion where the site has inadequate collection space or where the standard bin allocation is a threat to the health and safety of the public or Council contractors.

Residential multi-unit dwellings with 12 or more units will be provided with an alternative hard waste service. They will have access to:

- ▶ A maximum of 12 Hard Waste collections per building per year. (One per month) Access to annual at call hard waste collections will not be provided to each unit where there are more than 11 units in the development.
- ▶ Developments with 12 or more units that wish to access the monthly hard and waste service must register their details with Council for approval. A suitable storage and collection point must be designated within the boundaries of the property in order to be eligible for the service.

Special Hard Waste Zones in areas with large numbers of multi unit dwellings may be provided with fortnightly services to assist residents where Council has identified a high level of dumped waste. The two identified zones are, Empire/Eldridge Sts in Footscray and Cross St in West Footscray. The boundaries of these zones are specified by Maribyrnong City Council and are subject to regular review.

Council provided waste and recycling collection services will comply with Occupational Health and Safety guidelines for waste and recycling collectors.

Entering Private Property

Waste and Recycling services in multi unit dwellings will be collected from kerbside as a first priority. In exceptional circumstances, where no safe kerbside collection area exists, Council may enter into an arrangement with the body corporate or other authorised legal entity to enter private property to collect waste and recycling under the following conditions.

- ▶ A waste management plan must be completed and approved showing the proposed storage and collection locations for waste and recycling containers.
- ▶ A risk management plan must be completed and approved by Council. Waste and Recycling services will not be provided at any specified location if it is deemed unsafe to do so.
- ▶ An indemnity to Council and to Council contractors must be made by the body corporate.
- ▶ Current public liability insurance certificates must be supplied by the body corporate or property manager. These must be a minimum of \$10 million.

Engaging Private Contractors – No Refund on Rates

Council's waste services are available to all developments that meet Council requirements for waste and recycling collections. Council strongly encourages developers to design appropriate, efficient and safe waste collection systems in multi-unit developments that meet requirements for Council based waste and recycling collections.

Due to Council's obligations under the *Local Government Act 1989* and the nature of municipal waste contracts, collections services for garbage and recycling are not provided on an optional "user-pays" basis. Council will therefore not provide a refund to residents where arrangements have been made to engage private contractors to collect household waste.

Private Contractors – Requirement for a Risk Assessment.

Developers or bodies corporate that engage a private contractor to collect household waste and recycling, must ensure that the waste collection system complies with Victorian Workcover Authority's **Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines for the Collection of Domestic and Commercial Non-Hazardous Waste and Recyclable Materials (2003)**. Council requires a risk assessment to be completed by a qualified

occupational health and safety specialist where residential waste and recycling is to be collected by private contractors.

Private Contractors – Inform Prospective Residents.

Council requires that developers who engage private contractors to collect waste prior to building occupancy should inform prospective buyers:

- ▶ That an external contractor has been engaged
- ▶ About details of additional costs that are involved
- ▶ That Council will not provide a refund where private contractors are engaged to collect waste and recycling

Additional costs relating to waste and recycling contractors must be provided in the S32 Vendors statement on sale of the property.

Design for Waste Minimisation in Multi-Unit Dwellings

1. Applicants for a planning permit for multi unit dwellings are required to prepare a waste management plan that addresses
 - ▶ The volume of waste to be generated specifying:
 1. Garbage
 2. Recycling
 3. Green Waste
 4. Hard Waste
 - ▶ How the waste (and reusable and recyclable materials) are to be stored and treated on site
 - ▶ How the residue is to be disposed of
 - ▶ How ongoing management of the waste and recycling will operate at the site.
2. The waste management plan should include a site plan showing
 - ▶ Waste storage, recycling and composting areas
 - ▶ Location of collection points
 - ▶ Collection access pathways and safe turning areas
3. Waste management plans for multi-unit dwellings of over 10 units should be completed by a qualified civil or environmental engineer with experience in waste management.
4. Where private contractors are proposed to be engaged to collect waste and recycling from multi-unit dwellings, a risk management plan is required to be completed by an Occupational Health and Safety specialist and included with the waste management plan. Waste and recycling collection services provided by private contractors must comply with Occupational Health and Safety guidelines for waste and recycling collectors.

High Rise Buildings. (4 or more storeys)

Based on the demand and future needs, Council will consider alternative methods for waste, recycling and hard waste collections in high rise buildings. This may include increased frequency of collections or the provision of alternative collection methods. Where practical, Council prefers to provide a Council service to all residential dwellings including multi unit dwellings.

Commercial and Industrial Waste – Small Business

- ▶ Council does not collect commercial quantities of waste and recycling. Businesses that produce more than 240 litres of waste per week are responsible for their own waste disposal. Commercial businesses are also responsible for arranging their own recycling collection services for commercial quantities of recycling of more than 240 Litres of recycling per week.
- ▶ Eligible commercial businesses are entitled to one 240 Litre waste bin collected weekly.
- ▶ Eligible commercial businesses are entitled to one 240 Litre co-mingled recycling service fortnightly. This is available on request.
- ▶ Businesses and commercial/industrial properties are not eligible for at call Hard Waste collections.
- ▶ Council may provide additional services such as cardboard collection and food waste services in designated areas such as shopping centres under specific conditions.
- ▶ Business may request up to two additional waste and two additional recycling bins. These will be subject to additional annual bin fees and are subject to the approval of Maribyrnong City Council.
- ▶ Council provided waste and recycling collection services will comply with Occupational Health and Safety guidelines for waste and recycling collectors.
- ▶ Waste and recycling collection services provided by private contractors must comply with Occupational Health and Safety guidelines for waste and recycling collectors.

Commercial and Industrial Properties – No Refund on Rates

Council's waste and recycling services are available to all commercial properties that meet Council requirements for waste and recycling collections. Due to Council's obligations under the *Local Government Act 1989* and the nature of municipal waste contracts, collections services for garbage and recycling are not provided on an optional "user-pays" basis. Council will therefore not provide a refund to businesses that do not use Council waste services.

Industrial Waste – Construction and Demolition

Applicants for a planning permit for demolition and/or development are required to prepare a site management plan that addresses

- ▶ The volume and type of waste to be generated by demolition and construction activities.
- ▶ How the construction and demolition waste (and reusable and recyclable materials) are to be stored and treated on site
- ▶ How the residue is to be disposed of

Applicants should refer to the local law for waste management on building sites.

Non-Rateable Properties

Non rateable properties that perform an education function such as schools and kindergartens are entitled to co-mingled recycling services for both paper and bottles and cans at no extra charge. A one off bin fee will be charged. A maximum of 10 bins can be requested by non profit educational institutions.

Non rateable properties are not entitled to a Council provided waste collection service.

Other non-rateable properties may be eligible for recycling services at no extra charge on request. A one off bin fee will be charged. This is subject to Council approval.

Sporting Clubs

Specific provisions relating to waste and recycling services apply to sporting clubs on non-rateable land owned by Council. Provision of waste and recycling services and the conditions relating to these will be detailed in the individual lease agreement between each sporting club and Council.

Maribyrnong Council will provide a limited amount of free recycling services to these sporting clubs. The number of buildings will be determined for each club based on the size of the club and a number of other factors. Additional recycling bins can be provided for an annual fee. Council will be changing each lease agreement to incorporate a specified number of recycling bin collections as each lease is renegotiated.

Rooming Houses.

Rooming houses that are one rateable property are eligible for one waste and recycling bin. Up to two additional bins for waste and recycling services are available for an annual fee.

Rooming houses in non-rateable properties or run by non-profit organisations may be eligible for recycling services at no extra charge on request. A one off bin fee will be charged. This is subject to Council approval.

Constraints / Exclusions

N/A

Policy Hierarchy Statement

Policy Type (See Protocols) : Operational Policy

Links To Other Policy Statements: Waste Minimisation Strategy

Where It Fits In Hierarchy And Why: Operational Policy – informs the development of the Waste Minimisation Strategy and Action Plan.

Which Policies Were Referred To During Development Of This Policy: N/A

Application

Criteria For Applying The Policy:

The policy is applied when Council staff are allocating waste and recycling services to our ratepayers and community.

Which Areas Of Council Will Be Covered By The Policy:

This policy relates to the municipal district of the City of Maribyrnong.

The main areas of Council who will be involved in applying or communicating this policy on a day to day basis are:

- ▶ City Operations
- ▶ Customer Service
- ▶ Sustainability and Environment
- ▶ Sustainable Development

Action Plan Development

The Waste Policy outlines how waste and recycling services are allocated.

This informs the Waste Minimisation Strategy and Action Plan. The previous Waste Minimisation Strategy and Action Plan have now expired and an updated Waste Minimisation Strategy and Action Plan for 2014-2023 are currently being developed and will be taken to Council for adoption in 2014.

Processes

Organisational Responsibility For Developing Systems And Implementing Processes:
City Operations

Policy Responsibility

Organisational Responsibility For Policy Accountability
Infrastructure and Engineering – Ian Butterworth Director

Evaluation And Review

Length Of Relevance: 4 Years
Organisational Responsibility For Review Of Policy (Infrastructure and Engineering
2018).
