



Horsham Waste Strategy

Project Update 31 July 2017

Community Engagement

After the first meeting of the Steering Committee, community comment was sought on the range of issues that should be considered in the strategy. This was in addition to the list of issues already identified by the Steering Committee. Most responses were received via Council's and the Nati Noticeboard Facebook sites.

The summary of the issues raised in the engagement is as follows:

Issue	Number of times mentioned	Notes
Hard rubbish collection	4	Quarterly
	2	Twice yearly
	2	Unspecified
More recycling	7	Weekly always
	1	Weekly over Christmas period
	1	Laharum / Wartook
	1	Clear Lake area
Green waste bins	15	Some say this should be provided at no cost
Waste bins	1	Should be fortnightly
	1	Should NOT be fortnightly
Price of green waste disposal at transfer station	2	
	1	Re-open Natimuk facility
Recycling processing	2	Should be local capability
Thermal recovery furnace	1	
Plastic bag free municipality	1	
Rates	2	Assume that rates cover garbage as well
Cans and bottle recycling	4	Including lobbying government
Other	1	Sweden has run out of rubbish
	1	Concerns re Iluka waste at Kanagulk

In consideration of this feedback, the Steering Committee has identified the first set of priority issues which will be addressed in a series of discussion papers at the Committee's next meeting in mid-August, the initial priorities being:

- Green waste collection
- Hard waste collection
- Extension of garbage and recycling services to more rural areas
- A review of bin sizes and collection frequency
- Provision of services for people with limited abilities
- Services provided at transfer stations
- Design of Kenny Rd transfer station
- Managing commercial food waste

Paying for Waste Services

Horsham's waste services are not funded by general rates. A separate charge for garbage bins provides most of the revenue for the service, with the balance being payments made for materials disposed at transfer stations or Doon Landfill. In 2017-18, the charges for the garbage service increased by 1.4%, which is below CPI. In comparison, general Council rates increased by 2.0%.

Council operates the waste service as a separate financial entity. A broad goal of the waste strategy is that any changes to waste services would be met by changes in the income or costs of running the service.

One key area where costs can be reduced is by reducing the volumes of materials going to landfill. Not only are the costs of constructing and rehabilitating new landfills high, Council is also required to pay a levy for disposal of material to the landfill. In 2016-17 the levy amounted to in excess of \$700,000.

Council's current residential recycling collection service costs about \$280,000 per year to operate, with most of the service provided by an external contractor. Any revenue from the sale of recycled materials is kept by the contractor, and helps to offset the cost of running the service. The cost of providing this service is met from the garbage bin charges, with no separate charge applying for provision of recycling bins.

Free Metal Waste Drop Off

You can drop off metal waste FREE at Council's transfer station. Metal wastes must be separated from other waste materials.

Extra 240 Litre Recycling Bins - Free

If you regularly fill your recycling bin, you can get a second 240 litre recycling bin, at no charge. Simply contact Council on 5382 9777 to arrange delivery of a further bin.

Updated Recycling Guide on Council's Web Page

Unsure of what to place in your recycling bin, check the updated link on Council's web page at:

<http://hrcc.vic.gov.au/infrastructure/waste-management/what-to-recycle>

Save Money With Your Waste

If you don't need a regular 240 litre waste bin for your house, you can opt for a 120 litre bin, and save money. The 240 litre bin service costs \$360 per year, while the smaller bin service costs \$221 per year. Enquire at Council by phoning 5382 9777.