

Kerbside Waste, Recycling and Green Organics Policy



COUNCIL POLICY

Reference Number	765982
Responsible Business Unit	Environment Business Unit
Responsible Officer	General Manager Infrastructure & Environment
Legislation	Environment Protection Act, Environment Protection Policy (Waste to Resources).
Relevant Delegations	Senior Environment Officer
Related Policies Management Guidelines Frameworks	Councils Kerbside Services Contract
Link to Strategic Plan	Objective 2.5 - Minimise the environmental impact of waste
Date Adopted	14 December 2015, item 279.2
Review Date	
Previous Revisions	29 June 2009 item 891.2.3 23 June 2008 item 508.3.4

POLICY STATEMENT

To provide Council waste, green organics and recycling services (waste services) in a controlled, effective and efficient manner.

OBJECTIVES

To define the level of service provision and entitlements for kerbside waste, recycling and green organics services and outline the requirements for both Council and the rate payer in providing these services.

- Outline waste service entitlements.
- Ensure bins are provided in a controlled manner.
- Provide services that encourage reduced waste to landfill and increased recycling and composting.

SCOPE

Kerbside Waste, Recycling, Green Organics services.

Street Litter Bin services.

3 cubic metre Front Lift Bins

PRINCIPLES

1.0 Application

The Kerbside Waste, Recycling & Green Organics Service policy will apply to all rateable properties within the designated kerbside waste and recycling collection area provided by Council.

2.0 Service Entitlements

2.1 Residential Kerbside Collection Service

Each rateable property within the designated kerbside waste and recycling collection area is

entitled to a;

140 litre weekly waste collection service

240 litre fortnightly recycling collection service

In addition to these services rateable properties within the designated township are also entitled to a;

240 litre fortnightly green organics collection service

2.2 Commercial and Industrial Kerbside Waste Collection Service

Each rateable property within the designated waste and recycling collection area is entitled to;

140 litre weekly waste collection service

240 litre fortnightly recycling collection service

Commercial and industrial properties are responsible for the appropriate disposal of waste material produced in excess of this amount.

Commercial and industrial properties are not entitled to a green organics service supplied by Council.

2.3 Council Owned Properties

Council owned properties that are classified as rateable land and where the tenant is required to pay the rates for this property shall, where the property meets the requirements for a kerbside collection service, be eligible for the same service as a residential property and charged the annual recycling service charge.

Council owned properties that meet the requirements for a kerbside collection service and where council is responsible for the provision of waste through a management agreement or other agreement, will be provided with one designated weekly waste collection and one fortnightly recycling service where the service is warranted and at the discretion of Council.

2.4 Schools

Schools will be issued with designated 240 litre recycling Mobile Garbage Bins based on the number of students at the school (maximum of 1 MGB per 100 students). The purpose for this is to encourage recycling and promote waste minimization. Other waste disposal arrangements will remain unchanged and will remain the responsibility of the school.

2.5 Exemptions

Please note the following exceptions will apply to the above, in line with land classifications as defined in Council's rating policy within Council's Annual Business Plan. Where an exemption applies there will be no service or associated recycling charge to these properties.

- Vacant Land
- Primary Production - where no dwelling exists.

2.6 Other

2.6.1 Premises Serviced by Front Lift Bins (FLB)

At Council's discretion some properties may be serviced by a communal FLB, if Council determines this to be the best service approach. Council is not obliged to provide an FLB service and in consultation with the property may remove this service and replace with another suitable service, such as a kerbside MGB collection, at any time. Where a recycling FLB service is provided residents will be required to pay the appropriate service fee. Premises serviced by FLBs are not entitled to a kerbside service.

2.6.2 Not-for-profit organisations & Charities

Not-for-profit organisations and charities are defined as community service organisations by section 161 of the Local Government Act 1999. The Policy applies this definition which states a community services organisation is a body that:

- a) Is incorporated on a not-for-profit basis for the benefit of the public;
- b) Provides community services without charge or for a charge that is below the cost to the body of providing the services and;
- c) Does not restrict its services to persons who are members of the body.

It further defines not-for-profit and gives examples of community services which includes the provision of:

- Emergency accommodation;
- Food or clothing for disadvantaged persons;
- Supported accommodation;
- Essential services or employment support for persons with mental health disabilities, or with intellectual or physical disabilities;
- Legal services for disadvantaged persons;
- Drug and alcohol rehabilitation services;
- Research into or community education about diseases or illnesses, or the provision of palliative care to persons who suffer from diseases or illnesses;

A not for profit organisation can apply for a rebate of up to 75% on their recycling service charge if they believe that they qualify for a rebate. Applications must be made in writing to Council for it to be addressed.

2.6.3 Large Commercial Shopping Centres

Where large commercial shopping centres have a number of small shops and MGB's are not deemed practical by Council the shopping Centre will be required to provide its own commercial service.

2.6.4 Case by Case exemption to policy

Council may, in particular circumstances and on a case by case basis, provide services outside the

scope of this Policy.

3 Annual Service Charge

In accordance with Section 155 of the Local Government Act 1999, Council may impose an annual service charge, on land within its area, to which it provides, or makes available, a prescribed service.

If a council provides more than one prescribed service of a particular kind in its area, a different service rate or annual service charge may be imposed in respect of each service.

Council will apply a service charge to all properties within the collection area where a service is provided.

Council imposes a differential annual service charge for;

- a. properties that receive a fortnightly recycling collection service, and
- b. township properties that receive fortnightly kerbside green waste collection in addition to the recycling collection service.

In addition rateable properties are charged a once off fee for a new waste service.

The kerbside waste collection service is funded from within existing rate revenue and is not subject to a separate annual charge.

4 Valuer General Land Use Assessment Implications - Inspections

It is noted that the annual recycling charge cannot be applied to vacant land or Primary production. However, due to the Valuer General's assessment of properties, subdivisions may occur, residential dwellings may be constructed and inhabited before the new land use is recognized by the Valuer General.

In these cases these residents require a waste and recycling service, but cannot be charged the recycling charge on their rates notice. Should this be brought to Council's attention, Council will:

- 1) appropriately alter the Local Government (rating) code to reflect the landuse to permit the application of the recycling service charge on the rates notice;
 - a. and notify the office of the Valuer General of the changes to enable them to update their records or;
- 2) separately invoice these residents for the provision of the service until such time as their land use is changed from vacant or primary production and the recycling charge can be placed on future rates notices.

5 New and Replacement MGBs

5.1 240 Litre Recycling and Green Organics MGBs

New Service 240 litre MGBs will be supplied by the contractor, upon request to Council.

Stolen MGBs will be replaced by the contractor upon reporting the theft to Council and

completing the appropriate stolen bin request form.

5.2 140 Litre Waste MGBs

New service 140 litre waste MGBs will be supplied by the contractor, upon request to Council and a once off charge for the new service will apply.

Stolen and Lost MGBs will be replaced by the contractor, upon reporting the theft to Council and completing the appropriate stolen bin request form.

5.3 Damaged MGBs

Damaged MGBs will be replaced or repaired by the contractor if it can be reasonably demonstrated that the damage was the fault of the contractor, taking into account that all MGBs have a limited life and their condition will progressively deteriorate with use.

All bin requests can be made by completing the appropriate application form, available on Council's website.

6 Bin Type & Use

Council will only collect suitable approved MGBs that have the Council logo embossed on the front, which is clearly visible, in addition;

- The 140 Litre waste MGB must have a blue lid
- The 240 Litre recycling MGB must have a yellow lid
- The 240 Litre green MGB must have a green lid

Unapproved additional bins will not be collected.

All bins should remain at the designated property upon a change of ownership or tenancy.

7 New and Additional Services

A written request will need to be made with Council for new or additional services using the application form, available from Council's website.

Should an application for additional services be approved, additional costs will be involved as identified in Council's Fees & Charges Schedule.

In Rural areas and for commercial properties only additional waste and recycling services apply (no green organics).

8 Accessibility

The kerbside service applies to only those properties which are within Council's defined

- o township collection areas – waste, recycling and green organics, or
- o rural collection areas – waste and recycling.

Services will not be extended to properties outside the defined collection areas.

9 Premises Exempt from Kerbside Service Provision

This policy applies to all rateable premises. Therefore those premises which are non-rateable in accordance with section 147 of the Local Government Act 1999 such as Council premises or land occupied or held by an emergency services organisation are exempt from this policy. However, where there is a justified need for kerbside waste and recycling services, Council will provide those services and will apply a service charge in accordance with section 155 of the Act.

Additionally, premises classified as being exempt from the kerbside collection service following Council's assessment, a written claim from not-for-profit and charitable organisations (community service organisations) or other relevant entity, by assessment of special needs, or similar reasoning, will not be required to pay the annual service charge and therefore will not receive a kerbside collection service.

Those affected properties will be required to utilize alternate waste and recycling disposal arrangements such as the use of Council's waste transfer station or a private contractor. Waste disposal, along with the need to ensure environmental and public health standards are maintained is the responsibility of the ratepayer.

10 Collection Times

The kerbside collection service is to operate between the hours of 6am and 5pm. All MGBs are to be placed on the kerbside or equivalent at the front of the property or at a point determined between the contractor and the ratepayer/resident by 6am on the day of the collection service or preferably on the night before the day of collection.

However it is preferable that the MGBs be placed out the night before the day of the scheduled collection. MGBs not placed out by 6am on the day of the collection may be classified as a non collection.

11 Refusal of Service

Where contamination is observed in either a green organics or a recycling MGB, the contractor may refuse to pick up the MGB in accordance with 11.1 of this policy.

Where prohibited materials (see below) are placed into the waste MGB, the MGB will be refused for collection by the contractor.

"Prohibited materials" include hot materials, oils, solvents, building materials or masonry, heavy materials or any other material classified as a listed waste under the Environment Protection Act 1993 or that is classified as a hazard to the collection vehicle or collection system or banned from landfill.

Where the MGB exceeds 50kg in weight, the MGB will be refused collection as it exceeds the maximum weight allowance for the robotic arms of the vehicle.

In all of the above cases the contractor will notify the householder of the problem by letter or by attaching a sticker to the MGB.

11.1 Minimum Contamination Requirements and Procedures

11.1.1 Gross Contamination - Visible at the Kerbside

The Contractor will not empty any Mobile Bin where it is evident upon visual inspection that it

contains Gross Contamination.

Gross contamination includes high levels of material that are not accepted in the bin. This may include for example bags of garbage visible at the top of a recycling or green organics bin.

The Contractor will notify the Customer of the problem either by way of letter being placed in the letterbox of the Premise or sticker attached to the Mobile Bin.

The Customer will be given the opportunity to rectify the problem within one (1) Working Day and contact the Customer Service Centre to request another Service. The Contractor will return to the Premise within one (1) Working Day of the Customer request for the Service being notified to the Contractor and provide the Service if the problem has been rectified.

11.1.2 Contamination - Visible at the Kerbside

If the Contractor finds contamination, not considered to be Gross Contamination, on visual inspection of a Mobile Bin, the Contractor may empty the Mobile Bin if deemed acceptable. The Contractor will notify the Customer of the problem and clarify the acceptable recyclable materials.

11.1.3 Contamination - Visible via Camera in Hopper

If the contractor becomes aware of contamination or Gross Contamination within a Mobile Bin in the process of emptying its contents into the Collection Vehicle, the Contractor will notify the Council and will provide the Customer with notification, specifying the problem and clarifying the acceptable recyclables.

11.1.4 Multiple Occurrences - Second Occurrence

On the second occurrence of contamination at a premises the Contractor will follow the procedure as outlined within 11.1.3.

11.1.5 Multiple Occurrences - Third Occurrence

On the third occurrence of contamination at a premises, or combination of incidents as specified within 11.1.1 to 11.1.4 the contractor will follow the procedure outline within 11.1.3 and in addition a letter will be issued to the premises by Council advising of the possible removal of services after any further incident.

11.1.6 Multiple Occurrences - Cessation of Service

The Council may request that the Contractor cease the collection service at the premises for a period of time. The Council will notify the Customer in writing after removal of the service.

12 Street Litter Bins

Council will only install street litter bins where there is a demonstrated need for a service, which will be determined at the sole discretion of Council. Any new street litter bin must be approved by Council's Environment Business Unit.

IMPLEMENTATION

The official copy will be held within Council's electronic records system. An electronic PDF version will be kept on the Rural City of Murray Bridge web site for public to view.

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis, or as required, and at the first meeting of a Council

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following a periodic election. Council may revise or review this policy at any time.

DEFINITIONS

MGB – Mobile Garbage Bin

Bin - 140 litre waste bin, 240 litre recycling bin or 240 litre green organics bin

Council – The Rural City of Murray Bridge

Property – Developed land with a property