



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

14 June 2005

DSS2 KERBSIDE WASTE COLLECTION
FILE: G1-2 WJL

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the cost of an annual Shire wide large domestic items rubbish cleanup.



Council, at its meeting of 18th January 2005 resolved:

"That a report be brought forward on options for the clean up of large domestic rubbish items and Council include for consideration in the 2005/06 budget, the cost of a shire wide large domestic items rubbish cleanup."

In 2002, Council undertook a kerbside rubbish collection service in the villages of Frederickton, Smithtown, Gladstone, Hat Head and Kinchela.

This collection resulted in approximately 190 truckloads of material, weighing over 225 tonnes to be collected and disposed of at the Kempsey Waste Reveal and Disposal Facility, at a cost of almost \$50,000. (Collection and Disposal costs).

Current waste service

Council provides a weekly collection of domestic waste from 9960 premises within the Shire, fortnightly collection of domestic waste from a further 1350 premises. The remaining premises within the Shire receive no collection of domestic waste.

Council staff operate a landfill at Crescent Head Road, Kempsey, Transfer Stations at South West Rocks and Stuarts Point and provides a contractor operated Transfer Station at Bellbrook for customer delivered domestic waste.

Council also provides 8 contractor-serviced drop off centres for recyclable materials from domestic premises at an annual cost of \$63,000.

From time to time KSC has also provided a 'kerbside' collection of larger unwanted domestic items.

Fees and charges

The annual charge for waste covers the collection services.

Material delivered to the landfill attracts a fee as specified in the Schedule of Fees & Charges.

No charge is levied at the recyclable centres.

No additional charge is levied for the 'kerbside' collection.

There are ratepayers who do not receive, or pay for, a domestic collection but then pay for the correct disposal of their waste at a landfill or transfer station.

There are many residences that do not receive a 'kerbside' collection.

Limitations

The spread out nature of most areas of the Shire makes it uneconomic to provide a weekly collection of domestic waste to all residences.

Funding

In the KSC Budget of 2004/05, \$12,000 was allocated to the provision of community cleanups in the Shire. These funds have been expended on cleaning up 20 separate reports of rubbish build up and illegal dumping.

Proposed alternative to 'kerbside' collection

It has been suggested by some ratepayers and has been provided by some other Local Authorities, that a system of vouchers be provided to enable every resident to take the materials to a disposal point at no charge.

The main points of this type of proposal are:

- Every residence which currently receives a domestic collection, is to receive two vouchers per year – one for green materials and one for mixed materials
- Every residence which does not currently receive a domestic collection, is to receive four vouchers per year – two for green materials and two for mixed materials

System conditions

There are to be some conditions that would need to be applied to the system.

- The green material voucher is to be for this type of material only so that the materials can be included in the current green material recycling system;
- The material within the mixed load should be separated into components that can be incorporated into the current metal, green / timber and resalable item recycling system;
- The maximum weight that will be accepted for each load is to be 250 kg;
- Only one voucher will be accepted per load;
- The voucher cannot be redeemed or used for payment of any other KSC account;
- Vouchers will not be replaced if lost or misplaced;
- Any weight in excess of 250 kg may be charged at scheduled disposal fees;
- The voucher is to be redeemed at the time of disposal;
- Vouchers are not transferable; and
- Proof of eligibility may be required.

Distribution of vouchers

The vouchers would be distributed with future Rates Notices.

Some advice may have to be given to the Ratepayers to cover the conditions of the system.

Advantages to KSC

There are some advantages to KSC by the implementation of this alternate system:

- Provision of an available service for all ratepayers;
- The disposal of the material to the landfill and transfer stations will be spread over the year rather than during a short period;
- It will enable more of the materials to be separated into the recycling system, rather than just dumped in mixed loads on the tip face

Cost implications

The cost of implementation of the scheme is assessed as follows:

▪ Print vouchers	\$1 000
▪ Distribute vouchers	\$1 500
▪ Community information	<u>\$1 500</u>
▪ TOTAL	<u>\$4 000</u>

The likely foregone income for disposal is assessed as follows:

▪ Maximum amount that could be delivered	
1130 @ 500 kg	5 650 t
1000 @ 1000 kg	1 000 t
SUB TOTAL of weight	6 650 t
assume only 50% of max load	3 325 t
assume only 40% redemption	1 330 t
1330 t @ \$65.35 /tonne (at scheduled fees)	\$87 000

TOTAL **\$87 000**

The initial consideration of these figures indicates that the cost of provision of this service may be about \$75, 000 above current budgeted funds.

However, no allowance has been taken for the cost of management of the current scheme that required coordination of trucks, front-end loaders and workers.

This system of addressing additional waste services to the community reduces the manual handling issues associated with bulky waste pickups and also the risk of exposure to council staff of hazardous chemicals and wastes that may be put out for collection.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

▪ ***Environmental***

The provision of tipping vouchers will allow ratepayers to dispose of materials that are unable to be collected using the domestic collection service.

The option of residents to take their bulkier items at no disposal cost will assist in reducing the amount of illegal dumping of materials and also reduce the impact on the natural environment from cars and hazardous components that may be in the dumped materials.

▪ ***Social***

People are inclined to save material on their properties until the amount warrants removal.

It would be expected that the first year of the program would see the majority of vouchers redeemed, in an effort to "spruce up" properties. The perception of this program would be that Council are assisting residents to keep their local environments tidy, without incurring the risk of manual handling, OH&S issues and increased labour and plant costs.

- *Economic (Financial)*

To implement the voucher program will cost \$4000 direct costs for the establishment, printing and distribution of the vouchers and an indirect cost of a decrease in tipping income of \$87,000 for the first year. It would be expected that following the initial year, materials currently stored at properties would decrease and would reflect in the number of vouchers being used by the resident.

- *Policy or Statutory*

There are no implications from this report.

- *Director's Review*

Considering all of these matters, Council may like to consider a voucher system to be implemented on a two year trial basis. Additional funds will need to be provided in the 2005/2006 Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Council determination.

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DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES
K J Finnie