



WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES POLICY

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RESPONSIBLE PERSON	MANAGER HEALTH AND COMPLIANCE
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BACKGROUND

Council provides various waste collection, management and disposal services to the community as part of its functions to:

- (a) Provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community;
- (b) Progressively transition to a circular economy;
- (c) Represent and promote the interests of the community; and
- (d) Provide for the peace, order and good government of the municipal area.

A clear and concise policy is necessary to discharge those functions in relation to waste services.

PURPOSE

Sorell Council provides a garbage, recycling, greenwaste and hard waste service for all residential and nominated commercial premises. Waste is also collected from public litter bins located in parks, streets and reserves. This policy has been developed to provide guidance and consistency for the management of Council's waste collection service.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all waste collection services (and ancillary services) provided by Council to residential properties (including unit developments) and commercial properties and waste services in public places.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Acts	<i>Local Government Act 1993 Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 Waste and Resources Recovery Act 2022.</i>
Regulations	<i>Environmental Management and Pollution Control (Waste Management) Regulations 2020 Waste and Resource Recovery Regulations 2022.</i>
By-Law	<i>Environmental Health By-law 1 of 2023</i>

DEFINITIONS

MGB	Mobile Garbage Bin (for either garbage, recycling or greenwaste/FOGO).
80/140/240/360L	The capacity of MGB's in litres.
Collection area	Means the area where garbage, recycling, greenwaste and FOGO are collected from. In the case of garbage and recycling this the entire municipal area. For greenwaste and FOGO, all residences situated on land zoned General Residential, Low-Density Residential, Village or Rural Living 'A' described in the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Sorell 2022.
FOGO	Food organics and garden organics.
Greenwaste	Vegetation including tree limbs, plants or grass.
Hard waste	Items of rubbish but not including hazardous items or controlled waste or any item/s that are >1.5m in length, more than 2m ³ and can be safely lifted by 2 people.
On-property collection	Means a collection from a multi-unit development that requires Council's waste management contractor to enter the property to collect waste from each unit or from a communal area.
Waste Services	Includes waste management services for garbage, recycling, greenwaste, FOGO and hard waste.

POLICY STATEMENT

PART 1 - Waste Services

1.1 Bin Ownership

MGB's remain the property of Sorell Council and must be returned to Council if no longer required.

1.2 Standard Waste Services - Residential Property

Properties with a residence will receive Council's standard garbage and recycling service per tenement. The standard service provides an allocation of one 80L MGB for garbage and one 140L MGB for recycling. Residences in the FOGO collection area will receive a 240L MGB.

Council may upon request and at its discretion, provide a larger MGB garbage (140L or 240L) or 240L for recycling. Additional charges will apply for a larger MGB.

1.3 Kerbside Collections

MGB's will be collected from the kerbside on a weekly basis for garbage and fortnightly for recycling and FOGO. Greenwaste monthly collection will change to FOGO effective from 1 July 2026. Council will consult with the community before changing to a weekly FOGO and fortnightly garbage collection.

1.4 Shared Service for Unit Developments

Residents of multiple dwelling unit properties comprising three or more units may receive shared waste services.

Shared services may apply where the kerbside space for placing the MGB's for collection is insufficient or deemed unsuitable to put a large quantity of MGB's. This will be determined in accordance with Council's *Waste Services Guidelines for New Multiple Dwelling Unit Developments*, which form **Appendix A** to this policy (**Guidelines**). New multiple dwelling unit developments must address the requirements of the Guidelines as part of the regulatory approvals process.

Shared services provided by Council will be one MGB for garbage, one for recycling and one for FOGO, to be shared by a minimum of three units. Bins are to be stored in a secure bin enclosure area at the front or within the property. The number of MGB's per development will depend on the total number of units.

The size of MGB's for shared services will ordinarily be 240L. However depending on the overall established capacity, 140L MGB's may also be issued in special circumstances.

Garbage bins will be collected weekly, and recycling and FOGO fortnightly.

If insufficient suitable area for bins exists, Council may require the body corporate for the unit development to either apply for an 'on property collection' or engage its own waste management contractor and Council will not charge a waste management rate. Bulk greenwaste and hard waste collection will not be collected in these circumstances.

If on property collections are requested the owner/s will be required to sign an indemnity protecting Council and our contractor from any claims of the collection vehicle causing damage to their driveway or internal roads.

1.5 Waste Services for new residential properties

A waste service charge will be applied to all new residential properties in the collection area when the premises is occupied or from the date the certificate of occupancy or completion is issued.

Please note it is the responsibility of the property owner to complete the kerbside bin application form and ensure this is submitted to Council prior to the delivery of the new MGB's.

1.6 Standard Waste Services - Commercial Properties

Council will provide waste services to commercial properties. However, if the property owner provides evidence that they have their own commercial collection service, the waste management rate may be remitted.

Commercial properties may be supplied with either an 80L, 140L or 240L MGB for garbage, a 140L, 240L or 360L MGB for recycling and a 240L for FOGO.

A suitable secure storage area for the MGB's must also be provided.

1.7 Bulk Green and Hard waste

A quarterly bulk Greenwaste and bi-annual hardwaste kerbside collection will be conducted for up to 2m³ until July 2027, conditional on a suitable contractor being available to undertake this service.

Booking greenwaste and hard waste services must be by either the Council website or a phone call to the Council Office during business hours. A person making a booking must ensure that they obtain a booking reference and book by no later than 12 noon on the Friday prior to the scheduled collection. Bulk greenwaste or hard waste will not be collected without evidence of a booking reference.

Greenwaste and hard waste must not be put out for collection more than one week prior to the scheduled collection week for that area. Council may direct a resident to remove hard waste or greenwaste put out too early from the nature strip, failure to comply with a request may result in the waste being removed at the property owner's expense.

Green and hardwaste will not be collected if the volume exceeds 2m³, is too heavy for two people to lift into a rear loading garbage compactor, is longer than 1.5m and contains materials of a type and dimension that Council has determined are not eligible for collection.

1.8 Recycling Centres

Recycling centres are provided in Sorell and Dodges Ferry for domestic residents (not business) and collect the same material as the kerbside recycling collection service.

Council will consult the community regarding the closure of the Dodges Ferry Recycling centre which will coincide with the re-development of the Dodges Ferry school.

Dunalley Township residents receive a 240L recycling bin for the same waste management charge as a 140L MGB. The Dunalley recycling centre burnt down in the 2013 Dunalley bushfire, larger MGB's were provided in lieu of re-construction.

Council will work with the Network Operator of the Tasmanian Container Refund Scheme (CRS) to integrate the recycling centres with the CRS refund points.

1.9 Street bins

Public bins are provided in townships, parks and reserves for patrons of these areas and are not designed for dumping of large bags of rubbish or materials that should be taken to the Mornington Park Transfer Station.

1.10 Transfer Station

Sorell Council does not have a waste transfer station within the municipal area, residents may use the Mornington Park Waste Transfer Station at a subsidised rate.

Council will work with Southern Waste Solutions to examine the feasibility of establishing a new waste transfer station within the municipal area.

PART 2 - Fees and Charges

2.1 Residential Properties

Waste services charges will be levied as part of the rates payable for a property.

For all new and existing residential properties within the collection area, including multiple dwelling unit developments, Waste Services charges will be separately identified on the rates notice for the property.

Details of waste charges are included in the annual rates resolution.

Residential or commercial properties not in the FOGO collection area may choose to 'opt-in' providing that the property is close to the collection area and can be easily serviced.

2.2 Commercial Properties

Waste service charges apply to Commercial Properties where Council provides a waste service to the property unless the premises has their own commercial waste collection service.

2.3 Lost or Damaged MGBs

Where an MGB is lost or damaged, Councils' contractor will replace the MGB. The waste contractor will provide a replacement MGB unless the loss or damaged resulted from neglect or misuse on the part of the property owner or resident. In this case the replacement charges will be incurred by the property owner and/or ratepayer.

PART 3 - Service Cancellation

3.1 Residential Properties

Residential property owners within the collection area who choose not to utilise Council's waste services are still required to pay a waste services charge as part of their rates.

Council will remove the bins from any property not using Council's waste services.

3.2 Commercial Properties

Owners of commercial properties may choose to discontinue the utilisation of Council's waste services at any time. MGB's will be removed from the property once Council has been notified in the appropriate form.

Council reserves the right to review the approved bin use at a commercial property from time to time, and to take any necessary action to remove MGB's if the criteria for waste services to the property are not being met.

PART 4 - Service Upgrades and Additions

4.1 Garbage

Standard residential MGB's for garbage may be upgraded from a 140L to a 240L MGB for an additional charge with the approval of the property owner. Upgrade applications may be made to Council in the approved form.

Where an MGB is upgraded to 240L, the waste service charges will increase. An additional bin may be provided when the resident can demonstrate that a 140L or 240L collection is not sufficient for their garbage collection for an additional charge.

4.2 Recycling

The standard residential recycling bin is 140L. Residents may upgrade to a 240L or 360L recycling bin for an additional charge.

An additional bin may be provided when the resident can demonstrate that a 140L or 240L collection is not sufficient for their recycling collection for an additional charge.

4.3 FOGO

The standard residential FOGO bin is a 240L MGB, residents may request an additional 240L bin if necessary for an additional charge.

Council reserves the right to review the approved MGB use at any property from time to time, and to take any necessary action to remove MGB's if the criteria for waste services to the property are not being met.

PART 5 - Miscellaneous

5.1 Driver to collect

A "driver to collect" service may be available for residents who are unable to place their wheelie bins at the kerbside due to age, illness or a disability. Residents wishing to utilise this service must supply a valid medical certificate with any application. There is no additional charge for this service.

Where such a request is made by a resident of a multiple dwelling unit development, special arrangements will be made to store and collect waste on a case-by-case basis.

Council may remove the service if the relevant criteria are no longer being met or circumstances change.

5.2 Service Access and Other Conditions

For new properties and subdivisions to have a waste service, all new road construction must ensure that continuous forward movement for a waste collection vehicle is available.

For new subdivisions, a smooth even nature strip located adjacent to the kerbside with a minimum 1 metre in width must be included for the placement of bins. If there is no scope for a nature-strip, the footpath must be designed and constructed to accommodate the placement of bins as well as meeting the minimum accessible footpath width (1.8 metre).

Council at its discretion may allow large unit development with insufficient area for waste collection. However, the residents may be required to arrange their own waste collection services or determine if Council can provide an on-property collection.

5.3 Green and Organic Waste

Council currently offers a monthly kerbside Greenwaste collection. On 1 July 2026 a fortnightly FOGO MGB collection service will commence for residential areas.

5.4 Copping Waste Management Centre

Council is a part owner of the land fill which is operated by a joint authority (Southern Waste Solutions).

The site is not able to be accessed by residents and waste must be taken to a transfer station.

5.5 Public Litter Bins

Council encourages residents and visitors to practice correct and responsible disposal habits of litter within the community. To support and promote these habits, Council provides 80, 140, 240 and 660L public litter bins.

Council will continue to review and progressively install both public garbage and recycling bins in high traffic areas.

Appendix A

Sorell Council Waste Management Services Guidelines for New Multiple Dwelling Unit Developments