

Extra Ordinary Meeting

Meeting Date: Thursday, 30 April, 2026

Location: Studio Room
Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre

Attachments (Under Separate Cover)

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4. Reports

CL26.93	Draft Delivery Program Operational Plan and Budget 2026-27- Public Exhibition	
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Draft

Fees and Charges Part 1

Delivery program operational
plan and budget
2026-27

CL26.93 - Attachment 1

Acknowledgement of Country

Walawaani (welcome),

Shoalhaven City Council recognises the First Peoples of the Shoalhaven and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Walawaani njindiwan (safe journey to you all)

This acknowledgment includes Dhurga language. We recognise and understand that there are many diverse languages spoken within the Shoalhaven.



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Fees and charges

Shoalhaven City Council's Fees and Charges Schedule sets the maximum price payable for any particular activity or service, determined on the basis of the pricing methodologies described below.

The complete schedule of Fees, Charges & Rentals adopted by Council is provided as Part 2.

The legislative basis for these fees can be found in Section 608 of the Local Government Act 1993 which provides that Council may charge and recover an approved fee for any service it provides, including the following:

- Supplying a service, product or commodity
- Giving information
- Providing a service in connection with the exercise of the council's regulatory functions – including receiving an application for approval, granting an approval, making an inspection and issuing a certificate allowing admission to any building or enclosure

All fees are quoted in "GST Inclusive" terms, as this is the relevant price to the customer. However, within the schedule, there are many fees that do not attract GST because they have either been specifically exempted by the GST legislation or they have been covered by a determination under Division 81, whereby the Australian government has deemed that the customer does not actually receive a taxable supply in consideration for the fee. The latter excludes many fees for regulatory services that are not provided within a competitive environment and other forms of information that are provided on a non-commercial basis.

Fees or Charges less than the maximum listed amount are approved by Council through a resolution or by designated Council Officers under delegated authority.



Waiver or reduction of fees

Section 610E of the Local Government Act 1993 allows Council to waive payment of, or reduce, a fee in a particular case if it is satisfied that the case fall within a category of hardship or other category that Council has determined a payment should be so waived or reduced.

Council has determined the following categories:

Hardship

Where there is evidence that the payment of the fee or charge will impose unreasonable financial hardship on the applicant given their particular circumstances.

Charity

Where the applicant is a registered charity and the fee is for a service that will enable to provision of charitable services to the community of the Shoalhaven local government area.

Not For Profit

Where the applicant is an organisation that holds “not for profit” status and the fee is for a service that will enable the achievement of their objectives and betterment for the community of the Shoalhaven local government area and where the payment of the standard fees or charges would cause financial hardship.

Commercial

Where the Council, or its contractor, operate a service and reduction of the fee is required to compete in the market.

Non-Provision of Service

Where the Council is unable to provide a service or venue that has been previously agreed upon and an appropriate discount, fee waiver or substitution is required as compensation.

The Council will directly, or through delegated authority, assess and make determinations on requests for waiver or reduction of fees in accordance with the adopted policies. The following policies were current at the time of publishing, these may be amended during the year and new policies may be added.

- POL 22/77 Fee Waivers and Subsidies Policy
- POL 22/182 Revenue – Debt Recovery and Hardship Policy
- POL 23/6 Refund of Development Application Fees and Other Fees for Charitable Organisations and Community Groups
- POL 24/148 Community Service Obligations – Water Supply, Wastewater, Effluent, Liquid Trade Waste Services and Section 64 Contributions
- POL 24/153 Payment Assistance Scheme – Water Accounts
- POL 22/16 Fee Waivers – Ranger Services Unit
- POL25/102 - Waste Fee Waiver and Subsidies Policy.

The applicable fee classifications where waivers or reductions may be applied are identified within the following document. Other fees may also be waived or reduced as new or amended policies and Council Resolutions are adopted during the year.



Draft Fees and Charges - Part 1 2026/27

Waste management *charges 2026-27*



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☰ Domestic waste management waste strategy principles

Council is committed to reducing waste to landfill by promoting waste avoidance, minimisation, reuse and resource recovery. To support this, Council provides a range of collection and disposal services supported by tailored pricing structure.

The responses include:

- Weekly domestic waste collection offering three landfill bin sizes (240L, 120L or 80L) to encourage waste reduction. Charges vary according to bin size.
- Fortnightly recycling collection in a 240L yellow-lidded bin for commingled recyclables. This service is included within the landfill bin collection charge.
- Increased recycling frequency to weekly for a six-week period during the Christmas and January holiday season to accommodate higher recycling volumes.
- All rateable residential properties located within a designated service area and containing a dwelling are required to pay the annual Domestic Waste Management (DWM) charge under Section 496(1) of the Local Government Act. GST does not apply to DWM services.
- Properties commencing a service part way through the year will be charged on a pro rata basis.
- The standard DWM service (annual charge \$563) provides:
 - One 120L landfill bin (collected weekly); and
 - One 240L recycling bin (collected fortnightly).
- Optional alternatives include:
 - Upsize to a 240L landfill bin for an annual charge of \$970; or
 - Downsize to an 80L landfill bin for an annual charge of \$428.

Council also offers a subsidised on-call collection service for garden organics and bulky waste, with user charges payable directly to Council.

Additional inclusions:

- Free access to the annual household chemical drop-off event.
- Two “no charge” Domestic Waste Vouchers and two “no charge” Green Waste Vouchers per year.
- Access to Recycling and Waste Depots for materials not suitable for kerbside collection.

Properties with dwellings located in proximity to the collection area may opt in to the service. In these cases, bins must be placed at an agreed collection point, and the standard DWM charge for the selected service applies.

Non-Rateable Properties Charge

Non rateable properties, including residential properties owned by the Commonwealth of Australia, located within the domestic waste collection area may elect to use the Domestic Waste Management Service with Council’s approval. The service conditions mirror those applied to standard domestic services. Charges are levied under Section 496(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 and apply on the same pro rata basis for services commencing part way through the year.

Domestic Waste Management Service (Multiple Services)

Properties with individual rateable assessments (e.g., company title) that require more than one landfill bin (80L, 120L or 240L) will be charged multiples of the applicable Domestic Waste Management (DWM) charge, based on the number and size of landfill bins selected. Properties may choose any combination of bin sizes.

Properties with multiple lots—such as bodies corporate or retirement villages—may choose to use privately provided bulk waste bins instead of individual waste and recycling bins. Where this option is taken, the property will not be charged the standard DWM service but will instead be charged the applicable vacant land waste management availability charge.

Properties entitled to multiple services may elect not to receive all their landfill or recycling bins; however, no credit is provided where fewer bins are taken than the entitlement.



Additional Recycling Service

To support increased recycling and encourage waste diversion, property owners may request an additional 240L recycling bin in addition to the standard service. The annual charge for each additional recycling service is **\$114**. This service is available to both domestic and eligible commercial users.

Special On Property Collection

A “wheel out / wheel in” Special on Property Collection service is available to assist elderly or medically vulnerable residents who are unable to present their bins for kerbside collection. The annual charges for this service are:

- **\$18 per bin service per annum** for residents who provide a valid medical certificate confirming the need for assistance; and
- **\$318 per bin service per annum** for residents who require the service but cannot provide medical certification.

Bin Change Over Process (All Collection Services)

An administration fee of **\$50** (including GST) per bin applies to all properties requesting an increase in landfill bin size during the year. This fee is payable in advance.

No fee applies where the landfill bin size is being reduced.

Commercial and Business Use of the Domestic Waste Management Service

Council does not provide a dedicated commercial waste and recycling service. However, due to the regional nature of the LGA, Council may approve the use of the Domestic Waste Management Service for properties of a commercial nature or those categorised as business for rating purposes, provided they are located within the collection area. This may also include non-rateable properties used for non-residential purposes and properties owned by the Commonwealth of Australia. Council may withdraw approval with three months’ notice if required.

Service conditions are the same as those applying to domestic services. Where a commercial property receives multiple 240L landfill services, **a tiered charging structure** applies to encourage uptake of private services where possible:

- **First 240L service (includes recycling)** – annual charge: **\$970**
- **Second 240L service (includes second recycling bin)** – additional **\$993**
- **Third and subsequent 240L services** – **\$1,255 per additional service**

Charges are applied annually. Services commencing part way through the year are billed on a pro rata basis.

Property owners are liable for all charges which are applied to the property and billed through the annual Rates Notice.

Commercial and Business Use of the Recycling Only Service

Commercial properties and properties categorised as business for rating purposes, located within the waste collection area, may elect to receive a **recycling only service**. This service provides a 240L yellow-lidded recycling bin collected fortnightly and does not include a landfill waste bin.

The annual charge for the first recycling only service is **\$173**. Services commencing part way through the year are charged on a pro rata basis.

Schools

Schools are considered commercial properties for the purpose of waste services and may access the Domestic Waste Management Service under the same conditions that apply to other commercial users. Schools may choose either the full domestic service (landfill and recycling) or the recycling only service.



Service Conditions (All Collection Services)

Service conditions apply to all collection services to:

- Protect the environment
- Maintain health and safety for collection and processing staff
- Promote waste minimisation and maximise recycling
- Reduce service issues associated with collection vehicles

A **\$100** penalty fee may be charged for repeat presentation of a contaminated recycling bin. Service conditions may be updated from time to time in accordance with Council's approved operational plans.

New Works Waste Management Availability Charge (Vacant Land)

A Waste Management Availability Charge of \$122 per annum is levied under Section 496(1) of the Local Government Act 1993. This charge applies to domestic properties that have any boundary adjoining a road where domestic waste management services are available and: do not contain a dwelling; or contain a dwelling located 100 metres or more from the road boundary, where the ratepayer elects not to receive a domestic waste management service.





No Charge Domestic Waste Vouchers and No Charge Green Waste Vouchers

Two Domestic Waste Vouchers and two Green Waste Vouchers are issued each year to owners of properties that receive a domestic waste management service.

Each voucher entitles the property owner to dispose of domestic waste at Council's Recycling and Waste Depots or to redeem the equivalent value through the Domestic Garden Organics or Bulky Waste on-call clean up service, subject to the following conditions:

- Waste must be domestic in origin and, where practical, separated into reusable, recyclable and recoverable materials.
- When redeemed for a clean up service, each voucher covers **up to 1m³**, equivalent to a **6ft x 4ft x 1.5ft (1.8m x 1.2m x 0.5m)** trailer load.
- At depots without a weighbridge, each voucher covers up to 1m³.
- At weighbridge equipped depots, each voucher covers loads up to 300kg.
- Vouchers are valid only during the annual voucher period, from 1 August to 31 July, and can be redeemed at any Council Recycling and Waste Depot within standard operating hours.

Vouchers are issued with the annual Rates Notice.

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Draft Fees and Charges - Part 1 2026/27

Domestic Garden Organics and Bulky Waste On-Call Clean-up Collection Service

An on-call cleanup collection service is available for the disposal of domestically sourced garden organics and bulky waste. Residents may use this service either by paying the applicable fee or by redeeming a valid voucher.

The service charges are:

- **Bulky waste:** \$129 per pickup (equivalent to **1m³**, or a **6ft x 4ft x 1.5ft / 1.8m x 1.2m x 0.5m** trailer load).
- **Garden organics:** \$59 per pickup (equivalent to **1m³**, or a **6ft x 4ft x 1.5ft** trailer load).
- One voucher is redeemable for each **1m³**, or part thereof, collected through this service.

☰ Waste disposal charges

Waste disposal charges are structured to encourage waste separation, minimise the volume of material sent to landfill, and reduce illegal dumping. Charges are applied under Section 502 of the Local Government Act 1993 and include the applicable NSW Government Waste Levy, where relevant, as required by Section 88 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

Council's Recycling and Waste Depots—located at West Nowra, Huskisson, Ulladulla, Bandalong, Berry, Callala, Kangaroo Valley, Kioloa, Lake Conjola and Sussex Inlet—provide the following services.

- Community Recycling Centres (CRCs), in partnership with the NSW EPA, offering no-charge disposal of problem household wastes such as paints, oils, batteries, smoke detectors and fluorescent globes.
- No-charge disposal for source separated household recyclables including paper, cardboard, glass, plastics, most scrap metals, whitegoods, textiles, cans, electronic waste, expanded polystyrene, fluorescent globes, gas cylinders, domestic quantities of motor oil, and car and household batteries.
- Reduced disposal fees for specific separated materials suitable for beneficial reuse (e.g., clean bricks, concrete, or clean fill at designated depots).
- Lower cost disposal for separated green waste.
- Charges for priority wastes, including mattresses, tyres, and refrigerant containing appliances, to recover handling and processing costs.
- Buy back centres at selected depots, offering reusable items at low cost.

Charging protocols vary by facility type:

West Nowra Landfill (Weighbridge Site)

- Dead animals are charged as commercial waste.
- Clean fill or VENM is charged at \$217 per tonne. Material may require certification please contact Council prior to disposal.
- Bonded asbestos (properly sealed in accordance with WHS and SafeWork NSW guidelines) is accepted at the mixed commercial waste rate; 24 hour notice is required.
- Weather or operational constraints may temporarily restrict asbestos disposal.

Ulladulla and Huskisson Weighbridge Transfer Sites

- Large quantities of clean fill or topsoil are accepted only by prior arrangement, subject to rehabilitation needs and capacity.
- Semi tippers or loads incompatible with transfer systems are not accepted.
- Small quantities of bonded asbestos may be accepted at the Ulladulla site only, provided the waste is properly sealed in accordance with WHS and SafeWork NSW guidelines and can be manually handled and placed into the designated asbestos transfer bin.

Non- Weighbridge Transfer Sites (Bandalong, Berry, Callala, Kangaroo Valley, Kioloa, Lake Conjola, Sussex Inlet)

- Charges are based on vehicle or trailer size.
- Partial loads ($\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ as determined by the gate attendant) are charged proportionally.
- Trailers with sides higher than 500mm are charged at the <4 tonne truck/trailer rate.
- Oversized loads that cannot be safely handled are not accepted.
- Standardised conversion factors apply:
 - Car boot (full): 60 kg
 - 6x4 trailer or ute (full): 300 kg

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