

Author name: Name suppressed

Date of submission: Monday, 21 February 2022

Your submission for this review:

although I agree with IPART looking into the activities and setting robust rules around the management and accounting for domestic waste, I do not support the pegging of costs for our waste services. The application of revenue from domestic waste charges can only be spent on waste services (providing IPART clamp down on excessive apportionment of overheads and other 'add on's') and through community support of strategies and policies for diverse waste services, communities should be left to choose if they want more or less services and at what cost (eg. 10 individual bulk waste collections or a free tip pass, both have significant variations in cost but if the community supports one over the other then their Domestic waste charges will vary significantly). By IPART applying a 'cap' or restriction, this is effectively telling communities what waste services they can or cannot have, irrespective of their democratic process. The big issue is when councils count the domestic waste revenue as part of their consolidated income and artificially inflate their 'normal' overheads or support costs towards domestic waste charges. This is a serious and widespread problem, especially in larger or more affluent Councils.