

Author name: G. Lavelle

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Your submission for this review:

Temora Shire Council is concerned at aspects of the Draft Report on the Review of Domestic Waste Management Charges, released by IPART in December 2021. In particular, the intention to propose a benchmark waste peg that reflect the changes in the costs of providing DWM services is opposed. The proposal is flawed on many levels and will achieve nothing except to place an additional administration burden on already stretched Council resources. The revenue concept applicable to DWM is insufficient to ensure reasonableness on the part of Councils. The DWM fund is ring-fenced to ensure that revenue raised is applied to the DWM function and no cross subsidisation applies. The nature of DWM provision is varied between jurisdictions, and the mix of services are markedly different. Similarly, the maturity of the DWM function is variable between Councils as some Councils have full service including extensive recycling options whilst others have taken a minimalist approach. As an example, an unintended consequence of this proposal could be the reluctance of Councils to expand into areas such as recycling, waste innovation, waste minimisation and treatment due to the complexity of gaining the necessary revenue. This would be a shameful result of bureaucratic imposition of requirements. The setting of waste charges and discussions around service mix should be determined in dialogue between the Council and its community, not through an artificially contrived and meaningless determination of reasonable costs