



# WASTE SERVICES POLICY

## DOCUMENT CONTROL

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### REVISION HISTORY *(Completed by Governance Officer)*

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## 1. PURPOSE

East Gippsland Shire Council (EGSC) is responsible for the effective and efficient delivery of various waste collection and disposal services within the municipality.

East Gippsland Shire Council aims to ensure that waste services are delivered in an equitable effective and fair manner. This document sets out objectives and actions to ensure that EGSC's legislative and strategic requirements are maintained.

East Gippsland Shire Council's vision is *"To develop a standardised, cost effective, safe, sustainable and environmentally friendly waste collection and disposal strategy to maintain a clean, tidy and healthy region"*.

Due to legislative amendments, the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) requires siting, design, construction and on-going management of landfills to comply with more stringent controls. Along with more detailed monitoring to ensure that the site will not impact on the local community and the surrounding environment. Some of the identified changes which have occurred regarding waste management include:-

Operational;

- More stringent landfill operation, design and construction criteria;
- More stringent landfill capping and post closure management;
- The transfer of landfill operations from contractor to in-house management;

Environmental;

- Introduction of new best practice guidelines for unlicensed landfills;
- Increased community awareness and concern with environmental impact;
- Increased monitoring and compliance reporting requirements;

Economic;

- Increase in costs for post closure monitoring and maintenance;
- Not having an equitable user pays system;

## 2. POLICY STATEMENT

In delivering waste collection and disposal services EGSC will;

- Be fair, equitable and consistent during assessment of requests and application of decisions.
- Provide confidence to our community by having a clear framework for decision making and by providing consistent services on a regular basis.
- Promote the benefits for our environment and communities through sustainable and best-practice waste disposal services.
- Ensure the safety of our communities through the responsible operation and on site activities for waste collection and disposal.

Recipients of an EGSC waste collection service (including but not limited to kerbside bins, 30 meter bins or trailers) will be charged an annual fee as published in the Annual EGSC Budget document.

### 3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE

These management positions are responsible for implementation and compliance monitoring of the policy in their work areas:

<b>Party / Parties:</b>	<b>Roles and responsibilities:</b>
Directors	To ensure all Managers are aware of their responsibilities and comply with the Policy and supporting procedure document.
Manager Waste and Assets	Senior decision making role, and oversight of the awareness of and adherence to this Policy and relevant supporting Procedures by all staff.
Waste Management Coordinator	Day to day decision making and adherence to the policy, review and updating of the policy and procedure documents.

### 4. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all employees, contractors and community members throughout the East Gippsland municipality using or receiving a council waste service.

### 5. REFERENCES / ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- Best Practice Environmental Management (BPEM) Guidelines 2010;
- Getting Full Value: Victorian Waste and Resource Recovery Policy;
- Gippsland Regional Waste Management Plan;
- National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme;
- National Waste Policy 2009 ( <http://www.scew.gov.au/node/849/> )

#### Relevant legislation:

- *Clean Energy Act 2011 (Cth)*;
- *East Gippsland Shire Council General Local Law 2011*
- *Environment Protection Act 1970*
- *Local Government Act 1989*

#### Internal documents:

The East Gippsland Shire Council Plan 2013 -2017 lists the following objectives;

To provide waste services, including kerbside general waste, green and recycling collections, and landfill site management in a way that supports a reduction of waste going to landfill.

To operate and rehabilitate Council's current and legacy landfills, and manage the East Gippsland Waste and Recycling centre in ways that promote positive waste behaviour in the community and minimise environmental impacts.

Council has the following internal documents which guide the provision of waste management services:

- Waste Services Procedure
- Community Engagement Policy

- Community Engagement Guidelines
- East Gippsland Shire Council General Local Law 2011

## 6. PRIVACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATION

All personal information collected by East Gippsland Shire Council in connection with waste management will be handled in accordance with all applicable privacy legislation and will be used only for the purpose of investigating the relevant issue.

The Waste Services Policy has been assessed as compliant with the obligations and objectives of the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

## 7. DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

<b>Term:</b>	<b>Meaning:</b>
<b>EGSC</b>	East Gippsland Shire Council
<b>Landfill</b>	Landfills are EPA licensed areas where solid and non hazardous waste from municipal and/or industrial sources is deposited to land.
<b>Legacy Landfill</b>	Legacy landfills are non-operational, closed landfills (but not necessarily remediated / capped)
<b>Unlicensed Landfill</b>	Landfills that are operational but do not receive sufficient tonnages to require licensing by EPA.

## 8. SUPPORTING PROCEDURES / GUIDELINES

- Waste Services Procedure

*Hardcopies of this document are considered uncontrolled please refer to the EGSC HIVE intranet site or ECM for the latest version*

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