

# What the Queensland Government Waste Levy means for residents

## What is the Queensland Government Waste Levy?

In 2019, the Queensland Government introduced a Waste Levy on waste sent to landfill in Queensland.

This Waste Levy is required to be paid by Ipswich City Council (council) on your behalf when disposing of the waste from your red lid bin or the non-recyclable material you dispose of at our Resource Recovery Centres.

As materials in your yellow and green bin are recycled, the Queensland Government Waste Levy does not apply to the contents of these bins. The Waste Levy increases each year to reduce the amount of waste being sent to landfill.

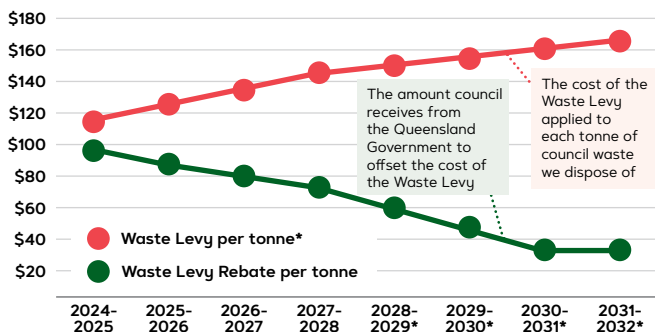
## What has changed?

When the Queensland Government introduced the Waste Levy in 2019, they committed it would have no direct impact on households. To achieve this, councils received annual payments to offset the direct costs of the Waste Levy.

Up until the 2023–2024 financial year, council received sufficient rebate to cover the Waste Levy. The rebate has been reducing since then and this financial year, it only covers 70 per cent of the Waste Levy. Which means Ipswich ratepayers will now be impacted by the cost of the Queensland Government Waste Levy.

This is not just the case for Ipswich residents, but for most councils across Queensland.

### Waste Levy vs Waste Levy Rebate



\*The Waste Levy increases by \$10 per tonne, each year, until it reaches \$145 per tonne on 1 July 2027. All levy rates will then increase each year in line with the indexation rate published on the Queensland Government website for the financial year.

## **What does this mean for me?**

The Queensland Government Waste Levy means it now costs more for council to deliver waste services across Ipswich.

You will see an increase in the cost for these services on your rates notice, known as the Waste Management Utility Charge.

The Waste Management Utility Charge has increased from an annual cost of \$464 to \$513 – an extra \$49.

While this also covers services such as waste collections, Resource Recovery Centres, public place bins, waste transport and processing, the Queensland Government Waste Levy is the single biggest component of this price increase.

Unfortunately, the Waste Levy will continue to increase each year, and the rebate provided to councils to offset these costs will continue to decrease.

## **What is council doing to reduce these costs?**

Council has been actively working to reduce waste through our on-demand kerbside collection program, which diverts more than 60 per cent of material from landfill, as well as the introduction of green bins across Ipswich.

With funding from the Queensland Government, council is introducing green bins, known as a garden organics or GO bins, to all households in Ipswich.

These GO bins are expected to divert around 15,000 tonnes of green waste from landfill this year alone – saving ratepayers around \$1 million in Waste Levy.

With the increasing Queensland Government Waste Levy, it is now cheaper for council to deliver a three-bin service than the standard two-bin service moving forward. In fact, it's around \$10 cheaper per household in 2025-2026 – plus a great outcome for our environment as we reduce our waste.

## **What if I don't want a GO bin?**

Council is providing all households with a free GO bin, supported by funding from the Queensland Government, but it is up to you whether you use it or not.

Households with an existing opt-in GO bin will no longer pay \$80 per annum, as this is now included in the standard three-bin service.

Council asks you to put green waste, such as grass clippings, branches, leaves, weeds and dead flowers, in your GO bin. Any waste placed in your red bin is sent to landfill and therefore incurs the Queensland Government Waste Levy.

To learn more about how your GO bin is saving you money and our environment, visit council's website for more information.

**All waste we divert from landfill saves us all money and is better for the environment in which we live.**