

3.7. REFUSE SPECIAL CHARGE 2021-2022

REPORT AUTHOR Tara Killeen, Chief Financial Officer

MANAGER Mark Stoermer, Chief Executive Officer

DEPARTMENT Finance and Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council make and levy a special charge (to be known as the Special Refuse Charge) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, for the purpose of contributing to the costs of operation and maintenance of the Cow Bay, Daintree, Killaloe and Newell Transfer Stations and the cost charged to Council for use of the Ayton Transfer Station, as follows:

1. The overall plan for the special charge is as follows:

a) The Service, Facility or Activity for which the plan is made:

The special refuse charge is to be applied to a number of rateable parcels of land, with improvements, which are located outside Council's kerbside waste and (if applicable) recyclables collection service area or are inaccessible for the provision of the collection service. Properties holding Permits to Occupy on the South Arm and the Heads of Daintree River are excluded from this special refuse charge.

The occupiers of levied properties will be eligible to dispose of 1 x 240L wheelie bin of permitted general waste, or equivalent, per unit levied per week at Council's Transfer Stations.

The occupiers of the subject land will have special access to the following Transfer Stations for disposal of waste:

- i. Cow Bay Transfer Station
- ii. Daintree Transfer Station
- iii. Killaloe Transfer Station
- iv. Ayton Transfer Station

b) The rateable land to which the plan applies is:

- i. All land with improvements that does not receive the Council kerbside waste and/or recyclables collection service, where the occupier has been provided with an identification card to use the Daintree and Killaloe Transfer Stations; and
- ii. All land with improvements north of the Daintree River that does not receive the Council kerbside waste and/or recyclables collection service, where the occupier has been provided with an identification card to use the Cow Bay and Ayton Transfer Stations, excluding properties holding Permits to Occupy on the South Arm and the Heads of Daintree River.

c) **Estimated Cost of carrying out the Overall Plan is:**

The estimated cost to Council of operating all current Transfer Stations over the 2021/22 financial year is \$787,000 and the estimated revenue from gate fees and recyclable materials for the same period is \$431,650, resulting in an anticipated net operating loss of \$355,350. In addition, Council is charged a fee by Cook Shire Council for use of Ayton Transfer Station. The special refuse charge is to be levied to contribute to the cost of operation and maintenance of the Transfer Stations and the cost charged to Council for use of the Ayton Transfer Station and will raise approximately \$80,130.

d) **Estimated Time for carrying out the Overall Plan is 1 year ending on 30 June 2022.**

The occupiers of the land to which the special charge applies will have special access to the abovementioned Transfer Stations for the purpose of disposal of waste.

2. a) For the 2021/22 financial year a special charge of \$208.14 per unit specified in the schedule below will be levied against each rateable assessment defined in clause 1(b), based on the improvements on the property as defined in the schedule below:

b) Ratepayers may apply for an additional unit and each additional unit approved will attract the standard special refuse unit charge.

Type of Improvement		Minimum Unit
1.	Hotels	10
2.	Cafes/Restaurants	5
3.	Take Away Food Outlets	2
4.	General store/shop	2
5.	School/kindergarten/childcare facility	1
6.	Residential dwelling, including Caretaker residence	1
7.	Caravan Park/camping Ground i. for every 5 sites or part thereof 1	
8.	Motel/Resort Accommodation i. for each unit with facilities to enable the preparation and/or cooking of food. (Examples of these facilities, which are not necessarily exhaustive, would be a combination of two or more of a sink, hotplates, microwave oven, oven etc.) ii. without facilities to enable the preparation and/or cooking of food - for every three units or part thereof	1 1
9.	Holiday Cabins i. for every three cabins or part thereof	1
10.	Industrial/Commercial Premises (includes professional offices and industrial/commercial premises not otherwise specified in this schedule) each shop office	1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires a Council resolution to levy the special charge and identify the land and the overall plan for the supply of service.

BACKGROUND

A Special Refuse Charge is to be made and levied to contribute to the cost of the operation and maintenance of Transfer Stations. The owners of the land identified will have special access to the disposal facilities on the basis that they are located outside the current Council collected kerbside service area.

All property owners/occupiers that are to be levied will be provided with written notification from Council advising them of the continuation of the special charge and the special access that will be granted to them at the Transfer Stations.

An identification card is issued to the property owners/occupiers on an annual basis for presentation at the Transfer Stations for the purposes of identifying themselves to the facility operators for the disposal of their solid waste in reference to the special charge applied.

PROPOSAL

To levy a special charge on the land identified in the recommendation for the purpose of contributing to the costs of operation and maintenance of the Cow Bay, Daintree, Killaloe, Newell and Ayton Transfer Stations.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

It is estimated that the special charge will contribute approximately \$80,130 (on an annual basis) towards the cost of operation and maintenance of the Transfer Stations. This contribution partially offsets the net loss \$355,350 (on an annual basis) for the operation and maintenance of the facilities.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil