



INNER WEST COUNCIL

Ordinary Council Meeting 14 May 2019: *Public exhibition of drafts*

Attachment 3: Harmonisation of Fees and Charges

Sporting Ground Fees & Charges

Council currently has different fees and charges for the hire of sporting grounds in the former Ashfield, Leichhardt and Marrickville Council areas. In summary, the following applies:

Former Council	Summary of Fees & Charges
Ashfield	Seasonal charge + hourly weekday training charge Different rates for Saturdays & Sundays
Leichhardt	Higher charges for Leichhardt #1, turf wickets Seasonal charges based on hours - 40 through to 201+ hours Charges capped (per ground per season)
Marrickville	Seasonal weekend hire (games) + hourly weekday training charge Higher charges for Henson, Arlington, turf wickets Additional lighting charges

The sporting grounds are subsidised by Council. The expenditure on sporting grounds is over \$1.6 million per annum on turf maintenance, linemarking and seasonal change over. This does not include the additional costs associated with Leichhardt #1, Henson Park, Arlington Recreation Reserve, turf wickets, on-costs, maintenance of park buildings and facilities, capital expenditure and depreciation. The income from sporting grounds is currently \$515,000.

It is proposed to harmonise the fees and charges across the Inner West to ensure equity. It is proposed that there is no net change in overall income (other than CPI). To ensure fairness for individual clubs who may face increased fees, it is proposed to phase the changes in fees and charges over four years.

The proposals are detailed in the fees and charges. In summary, it is proposed to have harmonised sporting grounds seasonal rates for: training with lights; training without lights; games with lights; and games without lights. Corporate rates will be twice the seasonal rates and casual rates will be 1.5 times the seasonal rates.

It is proposed that there are specific rates for Leichhardt #1, Henson Park, synthetic turf sporting grounds and turf wickets. This reflects the higher costs in depreciation and maintaining these grounds.

At the moment, there are large variances in the amount that different sporting clubs pay for sporting grounds, ranging from \$9.91 per hour for a ground to \$42.61 per hour for a ground. This large variation is mainly attributable to the cap which was in place at former Leichhardt. Previously, at former Leichhardt, the maximum a club paid per ground per season was \$8,800. In harmonising the fees and charges, it is proposed to remove this cap.

These proposed changes were presented to the relevant sporting clubs at the Sports Forum on the 12 November 2018.



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Domestic Waste Management Charge (DWMC) - proposed changes for 2019/2020

As Councillors are aware IWC has three separate charges for domestic waste due to the differences in services across each area. Harmonisation is well underway to enable all services to come together under a common Charge.

DWMC for 2019/2020 includes:

- Increase – CPI and wages – all service areas
- Increase – Compliance with allowed DWM services (no longer funding litter bins) – all areas
- Increase – Adjustments for processing costs (tendered prices) south service area
- Increase and draw from Reserve – Garden Organics as core service – west service area
- Estimated service savings from service review – south service area
- Draw from Reserve – implement the no bin replacement fee from 1 July as resolved by Council (October 2018) – 6-12 month review to assess impact – across all service areas
- Distribution of core resource recovery administration/management costs - all service areas

West Service Area Garden Organics Service proposed as core service to all properties

Current Service

- Optional service taken up by 32% of ratepayers
- Current Charge is \$91 per bin for those who opt in e.g. one bin is \$91, three bins is \$273

Proposed – harmonised across IWC as a core kerbside containerised service

- Garden Organics included as core service – fortnightly collection
- Charge to be included in standard rate for all properties (additional bins will be free)
- Service to be rolled out from 1 July 2019
- Increases to DWMC introduced to west service area (Ashfield) ratepayers over 3 years (\$36/year) with additional costs drawn from DWM Reserve over the first 2 years
- No options are available in the current rates structure for a separate rate for multi-unit dwellings that may not take advantage of the Garden Organics service immediately

Outcomes

- Diversion from landfill – approx. 750 tonnes p.a. (\$50K savings in disposal costs)
- Common service across IWC for multi-unit dwellings and single dwellings
- Allows Council to expand FOO and other organics services to **all** properties across the IWC as soon as possible

Proposed DWMC 2019/2020

LFL Standard Charge	FY19 Adopted charge	FY20 Proposed charge	\$ YOY Movement	% YOY Movement
Ashfield	387.00	423.00	36.00	9.3%
Leichhardt	526.00	544.00	18.00	3.4%
Marrickville	578.50	578.50	0	0%



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Proposed Compliance and Enforcement Levy

At its meeting of the 27 November 2018, Council considered a report on a proposed Compliance & Enforcement. At that meeting, Council resolved:

THAT the matter be deferred pending advice from staff on how the cost burden can be redistributed away from owner occupiers.

Residents who seek and obtain a development approval typically achieve a capital gain from the renovation or new construction. That benefit is achieved through using Council resources provided by ratepayers. The proposal is that those gaining a capital benefit make a contribution to those costs currently subsidised by other ratepayers.

In line with other Councils it is proposed a simple levy process be adopted. Canada Bay Council charges a flat rate of 0.15% and Canterbury-Bankstown Council 0.25% (under \$100,000 exempt). A mid-point is 0.2% and this is proposed with development works under \$100,000 in value exempt from the proposed Levy. For developments above \$5 million an increased levy of 0.25 % is recommended. Such an approach would redistribute the cost burden away from owner-occupiers. Imposing any greater levy on development above \$5 million is considered to provide an unreasonable cost impost on those developments, be inconsistent with (greater than) all other similar levies in operation.

It is anticipated that in any given year, approximately \$700,000 in net revenue would be achieved.

Recommendation:

THAT a proposed Compliance & Enforcement Levy of 0.2% of the estimated cost of works of a development application over \$100,000 and 0.25% of the estimated cost of works of a development application over \$5,000,000 be placed on public exhibition.