

Submitted to Review of the waste levy
Submitted on 2020-07-15 17:01:06

Introduction

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6 Do your views officially represent those of an organisation?

No, these are my personal views

If yes, please specify the name of your organisation.:

7 Which of the following best describes the group or person you represent?

Government body

If other, please specify.:

8 Are there specific parts of your submission that you want to keep confidential?

No

If yes, please outline which specific parts of your submission must be kept confidential and explain why:

Objective of the waste levy

1 Are there any beneficial outcomes that can be achieved by a levy beyond those identified in the objectives of Waste Strategy 2030?

In the current climate it is important that the levy is used to invest in local opportunities for resource recovery.

This will lead to other beneficial outcomes including reduced carbon emissions from the transportation of recyclable materials overseas to be processed, and creation of more job opportunities for West Australians.

How the levy can help achieve the objectives of Waste Strategy 2030

1 Are there any other strengths or weaknesses of a waste levy as an instrument for achieving the objectives of Waste Strategy 2030?

There would need to be more evidence around how the funds from the levy are being utilised to achieve the objectives.

Rate of the levy

1 How has the waste levy benefitted or affected your waste business or operations?

The levy has a direct impact on the waste service charges paid by ratepayers.

Local governments are impacted when having to deal with illegally dumped rubbish.

2 Can you advise of any recycling and waste diversion opportunities that would become viable if the waste levy was increased or applied in a different way? What rate of levy could be required to make these viable?

3 Please provide information on potential impacts which may result from increasing the waste levy.

Increases in illegally dumped rubbish - which can present environmental and health related issues.

4 If you knew when the waste levy was going to be varied, how would it affect your decisions about managing waste or related investments?

It would enable better planning and budgeting for waste management services.

Setting future levy rates

1 How might the Government best balance the need for responsiveness to emerging knowledge about best practice waste management with the benefits of providing the confidence about future waste levy rates?

By providing a 5 year rolling schedule it will enable Local Government to better plan and budget for the changes.

Geographical area of the levy

1 Are there opportunities for the recovery of regional waste that would be made more viable by a regional waste levy?

2 Where are these opportunities most likely to be viable?

3 What rate of waste levy could be required to make them viable?

4 Under specific circumstances, it is possible that an expanded waste levy area could make evasion less financially attractive. How does the

cost of transporting waste over long distances compare with the cost of the levy?

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5 What other advantages or disadvantages could arise from a regional waste levy?

Waste management options to be levied

1 Waste Strategy 2030 proposes that by 2020, only residual waste will be used for energy recovery. How will this requirement affect your waste management operations?

2 Would a waste levy on energy recovery have a different effect on your operations?

3 Are there any other waste management options where applying a levy could help achieve the objective of Waste Strategy 2030?

Other improvements to the waste levy

1 What other changes to the design or implementation of the waste levy could help make it more effective or efficient in achieving the targets of Waste Strategy 2030?

The proportion of levy funds currently allocated to the WARR Account should be reviewed , with a greater proportion of the funds being allocated to programs and strategic waste management activities that address critical waste management issues and assist Local Government to implement effective and sustainable, long-term initiatives.