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New Qld Waste Levy

In March 2018, the Queensland Government announced the introduction of a waste levy to underpin a new Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy. The waste levy which commenced on 1 July 2019 provides an important market signal to reduce waste generation and the amount of waste disposed to landfill.



No direct impact on households

The Queensland Government has stated that the waste levy will have no direct impact on households, including those with commercial waste collection. For most households, the Department of Environment and Science (the department) will provide payments to councils to offset the direct cost of the waste levy.

There are a small number of households with commercial waste collection arrangements that will not be covered by these payments to councils. This includes those serviced by private contractor arrangements (e.g. JJ Richards, Cleanaway, Veolia etc) and some premises that are considered 'mixed-use' properties with a combination of residential and commercial premises. To meet the Queensland Government's commitment for these remaining households, the proprietors of eligible residential premises may apply on behalf of their residents for a payment to offset the direct cost of the waste levy.

Useful links

- [The 39 out of 77 local government areas affected by the new arrangements.](#)
- [A review of levy rates.](#)
- [The waste levy website](#) has additional information for residents.
- This [Queensland Government Fact Sheet](#) may also be of use.

The **application portal will open in September** with further information.

Strata Scheme exemption applications

Normally the rate payer would have to apply for the exemption, but since the body corporate pays the commercial operator, the BC, or their agent, would apply for the exemption. For the paperwork they will require:

- Sufficient documents for ID purposes (eg Urban Utilities invoice)
- ABN
- Property type
- Invoice from commercial operator
- Possibly a document to prove the lot numbers (because of the estimated amount of waste; no one actually weighs collected waste at the moment).

Further complicating the figures, is the face that the reimbursement will not be exactly 1-for-1, as commercial operators often wrap up all charges in one line item. The body corporate would receive the monies and then be responsible for repaying the individual lot owners.

It's important to note, some lot owners may inadvertently pay the levy on their rates notice (if not classified residential) AND through the commercial operator.

The Department is outsourcing the exemption documents and will provide more information when **the portal opens in September.**

Template to alert your body corporate committees

Dear Committee,

On 1 July 2019, a new waste levy commenced affecting all households in Queensland, including yours.

The Queensland Government has stated that the waste levy will have no direct impact on households, including those with commercial waste collection. For most households, the Department of Environment and Science (the department) will provide payments to councils to offset the direct cost of the waste levy.

However, there are a small number of households with commercial waste collection

veolia etc) and some premises that are considered 'mixed-use' properties with a combination of residential and commercial premises. To meet the Queensland Government's commitment for these remaining households, the proprietors of eligible residential premises may apply on behalf of their residents for a payment to offset the direct cost of the waste levy.

The following links provide useful information regarding the affected regions and the specific levy rates.

- [The 39 out of 77 local government areas affected by the new arrangements.](#)
- [A review of levy rates.](#)
- [The waste levy website](#) has additional information for residents.
- This [Queensland Government Fact Sheet](#) may also be of use.

The **application portal will open in September** with further information.

We will be able to assist you in completing this exemption application, **however this falls out of scope / is in scope** of our contract with your body corporate. **[insert company name]** is committed to supporting you through the process, however we must receive your instructions of whether we are requested to act as your agent.

By law, unless you officially authorise and appoint us to act on your behalf in relation to this new waste levy, we are not able to do so.



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