

WRIQ Free and Fair Market Policy

In some jurisdictions, local government have proposed laws which allow for commercial waste charges to be aggregated or mandated on local businesses by local government. This establishes an unavoidable payment to be made by businesses to the Council for their waste service which has the effect of (1) reducing customisation of services to suit customer needs and (2) making current private waste collection services uneconomical as businesses that prefer to engage the private waste contractor still need to pay the Council base charge.

A 'One size fits all' approach to waste collection restricts innovation in the marketplace. Further, many businesses have unique waste collection needs which a Council blanket base charge would adversely affect, resulting in more tonnes to landfill.

WRIQ POSITION

1. A competitive market allows waste contractors and Councils to tailor their services to the needs of individual businesses.
2. Local Governments should not attempt to seek exclusive control or aggregate commercial waste collection services in a manner which reduces market choice or competition.
3. State legislation should be clarified and amended as required so that Councils can provide commercial waste services but they do not have a pricing advantage which businesses cannot avoid.
4. All providers of waste collection services, whether they be Council or private waste companies, should be confident that they are operating in a business environment where there is a level playing field for all competitors.