

# Landfill Levy – FAQs for Tollbooth Operators

June 2022

## What is the Landfill Levy?

The Tasmanian Government landfill levy is a fee on waste that is sent to landfill, after 1 July 2022. The levy only applies to waste.

## Why is there a new landfill levy?

The Tasmanian Government landfill levy is to encourage people to reduce waste, and to re-use or recycle materials instead of sending things to landfill.

## What happens to the levy collected?

All the money collected goes straight back into resource recovery (like recycling businesses) and education about waste.

## What kind of businesses will the government support with the money it collects from the levy?

New facilities and infrastructure to recycle and reuse more things. For example, new factories to make plastic building materials out of recycled plastics; new furniture from timber offcuts; or compost out of organic waste (like food scraps).

## What will the landfill levy achieve?

- 130 new jobs in resource recovery in Tasmania (e.g. recycling businesses).
- Less waste that fills up landfills. It is difficult to find places to put new landfills, and new landfills cost a lot of money to establish.
- Less pollution from waste at the tip. For example, if we recycle batteries then they can't leak and pollute the landfill, or the land around it.

- The levy will support education and awareness campaigns about how we can all reduce waste and what we should recycle.

## Will people need to pay the levy on stuff that can be recycled?

Not if it is recycled. Before people come to the tip, they should sort out their recyclable materials. Then they can drop them off at the recycling area. At most transfer stations and landfill facilities, people will only need to pay for what they send to landfill.

If people have unwanted items that can be re-used and they send them to the right place (such as a tip shop or op-shop), then they won't pay a landfill levy on those items.

## Do businesses have to pay the levy?

Businesses that send their waste to landfill will pay increased fees either at the landfill gate or through council rates. However, if businesses recycle, re-use and reduce their waste, they will pay less at the gate.

## Will people just dump their rubbish in the bush, as a reaction to the levy?

This could happen, however the government has increased the fines and resourcing for managing littering, and can investigate and prosecute people who litter.

## Do people in other states have to pay the levy?

Yes. Most states have a waste levy, and some states have had a levy for decades.