

Official Rubbish Bags

Official Council rubbish bags will increase to \$4.10 each from Council Service Centres and solid waste facilities from 1 July 2026. (Note that supermarket prices for official bags may vary slightly from this figure.)

We'd like to take the opportunity to remind you that this charge isn't just for the manufacturing and supply costs of the bag itself, but includes the Council's rubbish collection and disposal costs as well. The adjacent picture shows how the costs are broken down.

Incorporating these costs with the bag charge makes the bags 'user pays' and is meant to encourage waste diversion – reducing the amount of rubbish that goes to the landfill.

The current user pays charge allows the increase in the targeted kerbside collection rate (for properties that are provided both rubbish and recycling collections) to be limited to \$125.00 per year starting 1 July 2026.

All of the bag related rubbish disposal and collection contract costs are recovered through bag sales.

The \$125.00 annual rate for kerbside collection pays for the Council recycling collection service and the operational and administration costs associated with the collection contracts.

Rubbish disposal charges are now \$420.90/tonne as landfill charges and transportation costs have increased substantially. The Government waste levy has increased to \$70.00/tonne (plus GST).



- GST
- Bag manufacturer, delivery, handing
- Collection contract and portion of Council administration
- Disposal costs include landfill levy of \$70/tonne (plus GST)

If the collection and disposal costs were not included in the bag charge, the rate would have to be increased to around \$176.25 per annum. Every property would be charged the same amount in the rates whether or not the property is rated for a rubbish bin and regardless of how many bags of rubbish residents put out each collection day.

We are happy to answer any questions residents have about our rubbish bag prices or other aspects of the recycling/rubbish collection.

NOTE: Official rubbish bags are sold at Council Service Centres, Southbrook resource recovery park, Oxford transfer station and at most supermarkets in the District.

Find out more at waimakariri.govt.nz, or contact Customer Services on 0800 965 468.