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21/03/2023

Dear Customer

We understand that nearly every business and person in the UK is under inflationary pressures and is having to deal with the cost associated. Energy prices remain at record levels at a time when the Government support schemes are about to come to and end with no suggestion at the time of writing that there is any intention to extend such support. We are also conscious of the demand for increased wages to coincide with the minimum living wage which is set to increase also from April 2023, this has a knock-on effect across all pay levels.

However, the biggest cost pressure on our business is due to the inflation RPI rate remaining above 10%. All the avenues for dealing with our waste that can not be recycled or reused are subject to contracts that are governed by RPI increases as at February data. As such we are already aware that these suppliers will increase their gate fees in line with this inflation percentage. It is also the case that HMRC have increased their landfill tax levy for any waste that can't be turned to energy or recycled this year to £102.10 per ton which compounds the matter further. There is a similar impact from our wider supply chain in terms of parts maintenance, supplies etc, however where possible we are trying to mitigate and rationalise internally where we can.

We remain committed to supplying all of our customers with a high level of service and in order to do so, in addition to absorbing some of the cost increases mentioned above ourselves, we are also making a significant investment into our fleet of vehicles, to ensure that we are using the best and most efficient equipment available in the marketplace, and also to our I.T infrastructure and software equipment, to ensure we are using the most up to date technology available within our industry.

Reviewing our pricing is something we try to avoid where possible, unfortunately we do at this point have little alternative but to do so. Rest assured though that we have done our best to absolute minimise the impact on your business.

**Effective from 1st April 2023 your lift price per container will increase by only;
£2.85 per m3 or part thereof**

Finally, we thank you for your continued custom, loyalty and support in such difficult economical times for all businesses. We really appreciate it as we always have done and we are determined to continue to deliver value coupled with our high consistent standard of service.

Yours faithfully

**Customer Services Manager
ASH Waste Services**