

Square Surcharges

October 2026 changes

On 31 March 2026, the Reserve Bank of Australia announced that it is in the public interest to remove surcharging for eftpos, Mastercard and Visa from 1 October 2026. These changes will allow the designated card networks to ban surcharging for credit, debit and prepaid card payments on their networks.

Businesses will still incur costs when accepting card payments after surcharging is removed. Those costs can be reflected in a business's overall pricing, rather than charged as a separate surcharge.

What does this mean for VIEW Clubs and Square Readers?

Square will continue to charge the VIEW Club a 1.6% fee per transaction. From 1 October 2026 VIEW Clubs will not be able to pass this charge onto the person making the payment by card.

Does that mean the VIEW Club has to absorb the cost?

For payments that the VIEW Club is collecting on behalf of National Office or The Smith Family (merchandise sales, joining fees etc.) the club will unfortunately need to absorb the 1.6% increase.

This means that when setting prices for ticketed events, raffles or trading tables you will need to consider the expected 1.6%. It is important to remember that while the price can be increased to absorb card processing fees, this increase should be passed on to all customers. This means no additional charge for card payments.

What do I need to do?

If your VIEW Club currently uses a square reader, you should:

1. Communicate to all committee members and square reader users that you will no longer be able to pass on the surcharge from 1 October 2026.
2. Review any signage or price lists that your club has previously prepared to ensure there is no mention of passing on the surcharge.
3. Ensure all VIEW members are aware of these changes

If your club uses the automatic surcharge feature don't worry – Square will disable automatic surcharging from 1 October 2026.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can get in touch with our VIEW Square Reader Liaison Evelyn Berg (evelynmberg9@gmail.com) or your Zone or National Councillor.