

Part A: Strategy

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP, the Plan) has been prepared under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (the Act). The purpose of the plan is to provide for:

- Objectives and policies for achieving effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the Kawerau District
- Methods for achieving effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within District, including:-
 - (a) Collection, recovery, recycling, treatment, and disposal services to meet its current and future needs; and
 - (b) Any facilities provided, or to be provided, and
 - (c) Any activities, including any educational or public awareness activities to be provided
- How implementing the plan is to be funded
- The framework for making any grants or advances of money for waste management and minimisation activities.

Under the Act, the Plan is required to:

- Consider (in descending order of importance) the following methods of waste management and minimisation:
 - Reduction
 - Reuse
 - Recycling
 - Recovery
 - Treatment
 - Disposal
- Ensure that waste does not cause a nuisance
- Have regard to the New Zealand Waste Strategy, or any other government policy on waste management and minimisation
- Have regard to the waste assessment undertaken in accordance with the Act
- Use the special consultative procedure set out in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 and notifies the most recent assessment with the statement of proposal.

1.2 Scope

This Plan sets out how Council will continue to reduce the volumes of solid waste from the Kawerau District that goes to landfill. The Waste Assessment conducted before writing this Plan is included as Appendix A.

The Act defines waste as “material that has no further use and is disposed of or discarded”. Waste minimisation is described as reducing waste, and increasing the reuse, recycling, and recovery of waste and diverted material. ‘Diverted material’ is anything that is no longer required for its original purpose, but still has value through reuse or recycling.

The Ministry for the Environment guidance document on preparing WMMPs states that: “Councils need to determine the scope of their Plans in terms of which wastes and diverted materials are to be considered”. It goes on to suggest that liquid or gaseous wastes which are directly managed by the Council, or are disposed of to landfill, should be seriously considered for inclusion in a WMMP. This Plan does not include liquid and gaseous wastes, except where these are considered to have implications for solid waste management.

Council does not have direct involvement in the management of all solid waste, but has a responsibility to at least consider all such waste in this Plan.

1.3 Status

This Plan was adopted by Council in September 2012. It is the result of a review of the Kawerau District Council Waste Management Plan 2005 and was prepared after and with regard to a waste assessment.

1.4 Review

The Plan will be reviewed no later than June 2018. The review will be preceded by a waste assessment.

2. Vision, goals, objectives and targets

2.1 Vision

Council adopted the vision of working towards zero waste to landfill in 1999 and in 2002, set a target to reduce the amount of waste in the District going to landfill by 70 percent.

The target was achieved in 2010 and further major reductions are unlikely without significant additional cost. Council still retains the vision however, and over the period of this Plan, will investigate and implement new initiatives to achieve further reductions.

2.2 Goals, objectives and targets

The fundamental purpose of Council providing solid waste services is to minimise the potential for harm to human health and the environment.

Council's goal for the activity is to reduce the volume of waste going to landfill, primarily by increasing the amount of material diverted into the recycling and green waste collections. It aims to achieve this by:

- Increasing information provision and community education
- Encouraging businesses to recycle more of their waste.

Council will also keep abreast of new developments and investigate the use of new technology which may reduce the volume of waste from the District going to landfill.

2.3 Council's role

Council plays a key role in waste management and minimisation in the District by directly providing or contracting the following infrastructure and services:

- Residual waste collection from residential properties
- Green waste collection from residential properties
- Recyclables collection from residential and business properties
- The District waste transfer station
- Composting of green waste
- Cartage of residual waste to landfill
- Litter removal from public places
- Removal of hazardous waste
- Removal of fly tipping waste
- Public information and education
- Monitoring and reporting on performance against waste minimisation targets
- Data analysis as a basis to develop future initiatives

Council does not control the waste streams generated by the major industries in the District, but is aware of its responsibility to plan for all waste generated in the District.

Other non-Council controlled waste in the District is predominantly disposed of through Council's transfer station. Council has sufficient data to identify the areas that should be prioritised, and to outline the role Council can play in reducing levels of non-domestic waste.

3. Policies, plans and legislation

This section discusses the national, regional and local strategies, policies and plans that have an impact on the WMMP, as outlined below:

3.1 The New Zealand Waste Strategy

The revised New Zealand Waste Strategy was published in October 2010. It replaces the New Zealand Waste Strategy 2002. The current waste strategy has moved away from the overarching objective of 'Zero Waste' and does not include specific targets for waste minimisation. This presents a more flexible framework for waste management and enables development of locally appropriate targets and solutions. The strategy contains two goals:

Goal 1: Reducing the harmful effects of waste

When planning waste management and minimisation activities, local government should assess the risk of harm to the environment and human health from waste to identify and take action on those wastes of greatest concern.

Goal 2: Improving the efficiency of resource use

When planning waste management and minimisation activities, local government should improve the efficiency of resource use to reduce the impact on the environment and human health and capitalise on potential economic benefits.

3.2 Bay of Plenty Regional Waste Management Plan

In 2004 the Bay of Plenty Regional Council developed a Regional Waste Strategy in partnership with all the district and city councils of the region. The vision of the plan is 'Zero Waste and a sustainable Bay of Plenty'.

To achieve the vision, the plan contains targets and actions for the regional council and identifies responsibilities of the other participating councils under five headings:

1. Waste minimisation
2. Hazardous substances
3. Hazardous waste
4. Contaminated sites
5. General.

Council's responsibilities under headings 1, 3 and 5 are incorporated into this Plan.

3.3 Kawerau District Council Long Term Plan 2012-2022

Council adopted a new long term plan containing a new set of Council community outcomes in June 2012.

The long term plan contains a statement of intended service provision and funding impact statement for the Solid Waste group of activities. Solid waste comprises refuse, recyclables and green waste collection and disposal.

The Solid Waste activity contributes mainly to the following Council community outcomes:

- Council aims to prevent harm and nuisance and protect people's health and safety in the District with regulation, monitoring and action.
- Council infrastructure and services are effective, efficient and sustainable.
- Council sustainably manages the use, development and protection of Kawerau's urban and natural environment through its stewardship, planning and consents.

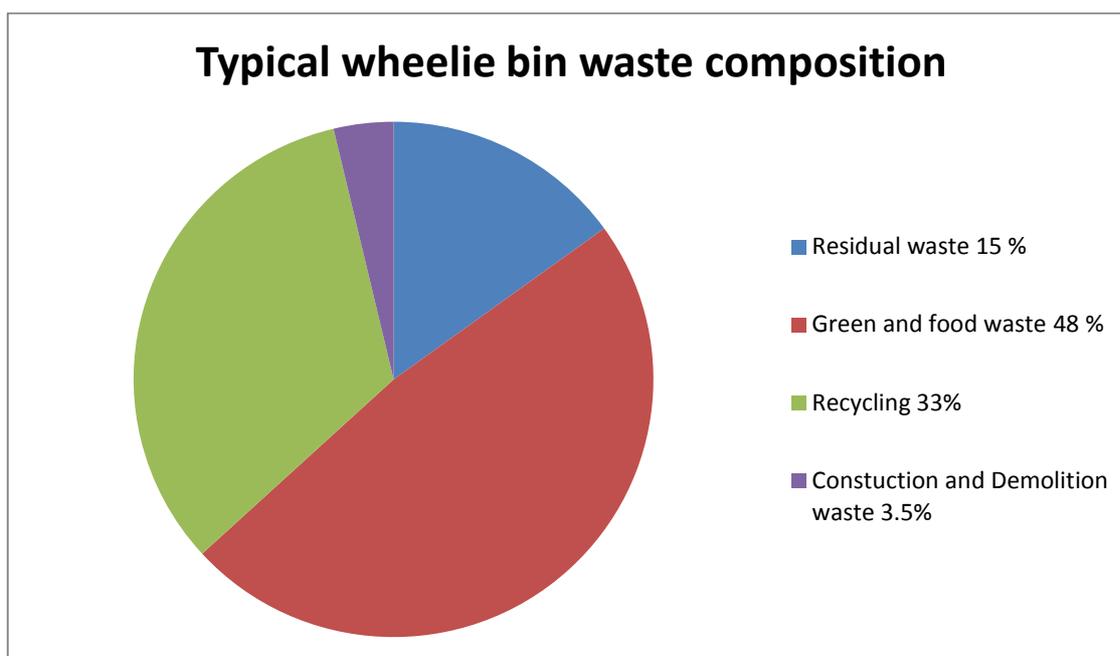
4. The waste problem

Approximately 2,700 tonnes of rubbish from the Kawerau District is disposed of each year to a privately owned landfill near Paeroa. One thousand tonnes of this rubbish is collected in Council's weekly residual waste collection from residential properties.

Of the rubbish collected by Council, only around 15 percent is residual waste. The remainder is comprised of approximately 33 percent recyclable material and 48 percent green and food waste. Visual inspection of the remaining waste taken to the transfer station indicates that this rubbish also includes a reasonable amount is material which could be recycled or composted.

If we removed recyclable and compostable material from residual waste before it is taken to the transfer station, Kawerau could recycle and compost more, reduce the amount of rubbish we send to landfill, reduce our environmental impact and reduce overall costs.

A continuation of the historical trends of consumerism, inbuilt obsolescence and society's 'throw away' attitude would mean that the District would probably produce even more waste in future. Increased education and incentives are required to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.



4.1 Infrastructure and services

Council currently provides the following services:

Service	Provision	Service Provider
Residual waste collection, usually from 60L wheelie bins	Weekly to approximately 2710 residential properties.	Waste Management Ltd under contract to Council
Recyclables collection - Glass bottles/jars, plastic grades 1 & 2, aluminium/tin/steel cans, paper, and cardboard from 60L recycling crates	Weekly to approximately 2910 properties (residential and commercial)	Council
Green waste collection from 240L wheelie bins	Fortnightly to approximately 2900 residential customers	Waste Management Ltd under contract to Council
Transfer station	Refuse and recycling drop-off facility	Council
Waste transfer	Cartage of residual waste from Kawerau to Tirohia Landfill	Hubbard Contracting under contract to Council
Landfilling (Tirohia Landfill)	Landfilling of residual waste	H G Leach
Fly tipping	Removal from public areas	Various providers on behalf of Council
Litter removal from 60L litter bins in public places	From litter bins and MGBs in public spaces	Various providers on behalf of Council
Hazardous waste transfer	Waste accepted at transfer station and transported to suitable disposal facilities outside District	Council

There is a uniform annual charge for each rateable unit of \$164.11 (2012/13) for collection of residual waste. A 120L bin can be provided at an additional annual cost of \$61.

The green waste collection and recycled collection is funded from general rates. Zero Waste initiatives are funded from the waste levy from government and general rates. Lost or damaged wheelie bins and recycling crates are replaced at a one-off charge of \$10 each (2012/13).

In addition to the collections provided by the Council, private collections can be arranged with one of companies operating in the District.

More detailed information on waste facilities and services, and a more detailed analysis of waste composition and data, is contained in the completed Waste Assessment in Appendix A.

4.2 Issues

Council considers that the key issues for the Kawerau District are:

- How to achieve further waste reductions in a way that is affordable to the Community
- Encouraging people to recycle more and more people including businesses, to recycle, so as to reduce the volume of recyclables going into residual waste streams
- Reducing the amount of putrescible material going to landfill. (This is an issue because it has negative environmental impacts.)
- Finding a viable reuse option for composted green waste
- Discouraging fly-tipping.

5. Key Proposals

5.1 Key waste streams

Residual Waste

Residual waste is delivered to the transfer station predominantly by one of the following methods:

- Council wheelie bin collection
- Contractors servicing businesses
- Individuals with trucks, trailers and cars

Each deliverer is encouraged to separate recyclable material and this material is then put into one of the recycling streams.

Non-recyclable material (residual waste) is loaded onto trucks which transfer several times a week to the sanitary landfill in the Hauraki Plains area.

Recyclable Material

Council provides a weekly collection service from both residential and business premises of paper, cardboard, plastics, glass and cans. The material is collected in a co-mingled form and then trucked to Tauranga where it is sorted and then forwarded to various facilities for reuse.

Any of the same materials retrieved at the transfer station are added to the above waste stream. Currently approximately 60 tonnes of this material is sent to Tauranga per month.

Steel recovered at the transfer station is sold to the local industrial traders for scrap value.

Green Waste

Green waste from the bi-weekly wheelie bin collection is composted at the wastewater treatment plant.

Tree trunks and large branches in the green waste are often cut up for firewood and sold or given away to residents.

Council makes the remaining green waste into compost. A cost neutral reuse option for the composted material will be found over the life of the plan.

Concrete

Concrete recovered from construction sites and other waste streams is stored and then crushed. The crushed material is used in the reconstruction of roads and other Council activities and small amounts are sold to businesses or individuals. The crushing costs are covered by the proceeds of these sales.

Resale

Some items that are recovered from the waste stream are reusable in their existing form and are resold as they are.

5.2 Options for the future

Paper, Cardboard, Plastics, Cans

Technology is always advancing and hopefully in the near future alternative reuse options for the current recycled material may eventuate. Council has had discussions with industries in the area about alternative use options and during the course of the plan it is hoped that these will eventuate.

If industry's plans do not eventuate, there is potential for Council to increase the level of processing of recycled material in Kawerau.

Glass

If the reuse options for paper and plastics are developed then it is likely that Council will undertake a separate glass collection and send the glass to a specialist glass reuse centre as was done previously

Putrescible Material

Council will encourage residents to include putrescible material in the green waste collection as it has been proven that the existing composting method can manage putrescibles without negative impacts.

6. Funding

6.1 Implementation funding

The collection and disposal initiatives Council proposes to take under this plan will be funded from the sources discussed below:

- General rates. (Approximately \$600,000 per year.)
- Uniform annual charges on residential properties. (\$164.55 per wheelie bin, which provides approximately \$400,000 per year.)
- Transfer station fees. (Approximately \$430,000 per year.)
- Waste levy. (Approximately \$30,000 per year.)

6.2 Waste minimisation levy expenditure

The waste minimisation levy of approximately \$30,000 per year is used to fund small initiatives that help reduce the volume of waste going to landfill.

These initiatives include such activities as:

- Advertising/publicity to the community
- Subsidy on compost bins
- Subsidy on cloth nappies
- Seed funding for waste reduction initiatives
- Waste stream analysis
- Waste audits for businesses

7. Monitoring and reporting

The volumes and weights of waste collected and disposed of by Council are recorded either on a daily, weekly or monthly basis depending on the type of waste. Each month the information is analysed to determine trends and compared against targets.

Council's higher level targets for waste reduction are included in the long term plan. Performance against these targets is reported to Council on a quarterly basis.

The reports to Council are publicly available and the monthly analysis can also be made available on request. Council's performance against targets is audited by Audit New Zealand each year for accuracy and provability.