

Statement of Proposal

Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (WMMP) and, Waste Assessment

Introduction

The Council's 2012 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) was developed following completion of a Waste Assessment in 2012 which evaluated current quantities and composition of waste and diverted materials in the district, existing services, future demand for services and practicable options for addressing the various waste and diverted materials streams. The Waste Assessment has been reviewed and updated to reflect the changes that have occurred locally, regionally and nationally since that time and also to meet the requirements of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

Under the WMA, Council is required to review and adopt changes to the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) every 6 years from 2012. Therefore, the first review is to be completed by 1 July 2018. The Plan must contain a summary of Council's waste management and minimisation objectives policies, methods and funding to achieve effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the district. The Plan must also include a commitment to waste minimisation through consideration of the waste hierarchy and must have regard to the New Zealand Waste Strategy and the most recent Waste Assessment undertaken by Council. In addition Council must ensure that nuisance is not caused by the collection, transport and disposal of waste.

The purpose of the WMMP is to provide the basis on which future policies, service provision and facilities will be provided to manage the district's waste, and to minimise the quantities requiring disposal while making the best use of Council's resources and fostering sustainability.

The Waste Assessment

This Waste Assessment has identified that almost 18,000 tonnes of waste was generated in the district in 2016. 83% of this waste was landfilled with the remainder diverted via kerbside recycling and recycling stations. The Waste Assessment has identified a range issues and opportunities to be addressed, including:

- While there is some information available about the quantity and composition of waste generated in the Horowhenua District the data is incomplete.
- There is a by-law in place that provides for collection of data and requires private sector household waste collection to help fund recycling collection. However it is not currently operating as expected with Council covering most of the cost of recycling services.
- Illegal dumping of waste is an ongoing issue.
- The Council operated transfer stations in Foxton and Shannon that are costly to operate on a per resident and per tonne basis.
- Commercial and construction waste makes up a large proportion of material disposed of to landfill from the Horowhenua District, with limited information available regarding diversion activity focussed on these waste streams.
- The current kerbside collection service for recyclable materials poses health and safety risks (broken glass, manual handling) and limited capacity.

The Vision

The overall vision of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan is *“to deliver community benefits and reduce waste [or work towards zero waste]. Businesses and households in Horowhenua will be provided with efficient and effective waste minimisation and management services that recognise waste as a resource.”*

Action Plan

A series of waste minimisation and management targets are proposed:

- To reduce disposal of waste to landfill from Horowhenua District to below 500 kg per person.
- To recycle at least 40% of waste collected at the roadside from households.
- To recover or recycle at least 50% of the waste taken to transfer stations in the Horowhenua District.
- Over 85% of residents are satisfied with kerbside recycling, refuse and transfer station services.
- Over 75% of residents are satisfied with Council litter and illegal dumping services.

To address the issues identified and meet the key targets, Council proposes a range of actions. The actions reflect the need to balance policy, provision of services including infrastructure and community engagement. In all cases the focus is on enabling the Horowhenua community to manage their waste according to the waste hierarchy, preferring waste avoidance, reduction and recycling over recovery and disposal of residual material. Actions relate to both continuing and enhancing existing activities and starting new activities and initiatives. The Action Plan is dynamic and needs to be responsive to changes in demand, resources and external circumstances. Making such changes and adjustments is anticipated as an integral part of this WMMP.

The Action Plan includes actions focusing on waste minimisation and management infrastructure, information and education for the community and getting the right policy framework in place.

The action plan as set out in the following pages has been developed to enable the Horowhenua District Council and Horowhenua community to work towards achieving the Vision - Goals - Objectives set out in the Waste Minimisation and Management Plan. The Action Plan provides a detailed plan of action for years one and two with long term actions mentioned but not detailed. Where actions have operational or financial implications they need to be confirmed in the Councils core planning documents - the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan.

The Waste Assessment recommended the following options be included in an action plan for the Horowhenua District Council Waste Minimisation and Management Plan.

Infrastructure actions

- Progress procurement for a new refuse collection contract as a continuation of the existing service (user pays refuse bags) with a strong focus on managing health and safety and managing market share.
- Progress procurement for a new recycling collection contract focussed on reducing health and safety risks, producing high quality recyclable materials and increasing the capture of recyclable materials from households. Consider local and out of district sorting of co-mingled paper, plastics and cans.
- Progress procurement for a new transfer station operations contract (Foxton and Shannon) focussed on maintaining an acceptable level of service and maximising recovery of materials including recyclable materials, organic waste and reusable items.
- Complete detailed analysis of organic waste collection options including the status quo (private sector services), a food and garden waste collection and food waste only collection.
- Complete detailed analysis¹ of optimising services for bulky household waste including the role of transfer stations, potential for a voucher system and potential bulky waste collections.
- Complete detailed analysis of sorting of C&I and/or C&D waste prior to disposal of residual material. Include examination of linkages with sorting of kerbside recyclable materials and bulky waste collections.
- Council to confirm a medium term strategy for Levin Landfill that provides for full funding of historic and current development, operations, closure and appropriate management after closure.

¹ Consider cost of service, diversion of materials, fairness/equity, safety and protection of the environment (illegal dumping).

- Work with producers and importers to improve the management of hazardous waste, including providing options in the District for specific waste streams like e-waste.

Education actions

- Continue to update and maintain information on the Council website regarding waste and recycling collection and drop off services in the Horowhenua District.
- Provide clear information and education to promote the effective use of private sector (for example farm plastics, soft plastics recycling, Paintwise) and Council operated recycling services.
- Disseminate information to all residents (including holiday makers/temporary residents) including national programmes like Love Food Hate Waste.
- Maintaining school education programme, support environmental education activities for schools, homes and businesses.
- Provide information to the community about the negative impact of illegal dumping and alternatives available to the community (kerbside collection, commercial skip bins and transfer stations).

Policy Actions

- Develop criteria for making grants available from Council's allocation of Waste Levy funds. Provisionally criteria will be based on contribution to the Vision, Goals and Objectives for waste minimisation and management with consideration of co-funding. Applications for funding should also be assessed for their ability to deliver the promised benefits i.e. due diligence on organisation capability, governance and accountability. Consideration also needs to be given to ensuring that funding supports new or expanded activities rather than supporting the status quo.
- Review and amend the existing Solid Waste Bylaw (2014). This will focus on licensing, provision of recycling and consider limiting receptacle size². With a small number of collection providers operating in the District Council is in a position to develop pragmatic but effective approach. This will require consultation with the collection providers prior to formally notifying any proposed changes. The target implementation for the updated bylaw is December 2018.
- Continue to report on progress against the targets in the WMMP in Annual Reports.
- Collaborate with local government organisations, non-government organisations (NGO) and other key stakeholders to progress national activity on waste minimisation and management policy.
- Continue to actively address illegal dumping activity including where possible identifying perpetrators and if required undertaking clean-up activity.

² The bylaw could limit size of new containers (120-140 L is common for Council provided collections or where limits have been introduced elsewhere). For existing containers collection frequency could be limited to provide similar weekly capacity e.g. fortnightly collection of 240L wheelie bin.

Indicative costs

The evaluation of options included a high level estimate of costs for various actions. Appropriately staged option investigation, procurement and policy design can be accommodated within Council's existing budget for waste services. New contracts, new services and capital investment will all have an impact on costs. Indicative cost impacts are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1 Cost impact of proposed actions (potential actions in *italics*)

Year	Contracts/Services	Policy and Investigations
2017/18	No change from current	New contracts procurement
2018/19	New refuse, recycling and transfer station contract (estimate approx. 30% or 0.25M increase per annum).	Bylaw amendment Grant funding scheme development.
2019/20	No change from 2018/19	Investigate organic waste options
2020/21	No change from 2019/20	Investigate bulky, commercial and construction waste options
2021/22	No change from 2020/21	<i>LTP proposals for organic, bulky, commercial and/or construction waste recovery.</i>
2022/23	No change from 2021/22	<i>Potential procurement for organic and bulky waste recovery service</i>
2023/24	No change from 2022/23 <i>Potential new organic and/or bulky waste service (est 0.75 - 1.0M increase)</i>	<i>Potential procurement for commercial and construction waste recovery service.</i>

Why we are consulting

Your input is required to provide direction for the solid waste sector

To determine how we handle our waste in the future, Horowhenua District Council would like to identify community priorities.

Your views on the types of services we provide, our solid waste infrastructure, and their uses will inform Horowhenua District Council's direction for solid waste services and how this activity is funded.

This consultation is in accordance with sections 44 and 50(3) of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, which requires Horowhenua District Council to use the special consultative procedure in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 when preparing, amending, or revoking plans.

Have your say

Anyone can make a submission on this Statement of Proposal. Submissions should clearly show the submitter's name, address, contact phone number and whether the submitter wishes to be heard by Council in support of their submission. Hearings will be held in early 2018. A submission form is attached to this document, or you can obtain one from all Council Service and Community Centres, as well as the Council's website www.horowhenua.govt.nz

Submissions are invited and must be received by Council no later than **5pm Tuesday 10 April 2018**

Submissions can be:

Delivered to:

Horowhenua District Council Offices,
126 Oxford Street, Levin

Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō
Bath Street, Levin

Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom
Main Street, Foxton

Posted to:

Horowhenua District Council
Submission – Waste Plan
Private Bag 4002
HOROWHENUA 5540

Online:

www.horowhenua.govt.nz

Email:

WMMP@Horowhenua.govt.nz