

# Whangarei District Council Meeting

## Agenda

**Date:** Thursday, 24 August, 2017

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Location:** Council Chamber  
Forum North, Rust Avenue  
Whangarei

**Elected Members:** Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai  
(Chairperson)

Cr Stu Bell

Cr Crichton Christie

Cr Vince Cocurullo

Cr Tricia Cutforth

Cr Shelley Deeming

Cr Sue Glen

Cr Jayne Golightly

Cr Phil Halse

Cr Cherry Hermon

Cr Greg Innes

Cr Greg Martin

Cr Sharon Morgan

Cr Anna Murphy

For any queries regarding this meeting please contact  
the Whangarei District Council on (09) 430-4200.

1. **Declarations of Interest**
2. **Apologies**
3. **Decision Reports**
  - 3.1 Hearing of Submissions for the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 1
4. **Public Excluded Business**
5. **Closure of Meeting**

# Hearing of Submissions for the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

**Meeting:** Whangarei District Council  
**Date of meeting:** 24 August 2017  
**Reporting officer:** Andrew Carvell (Waste and Drainage Manager)

## 1 Purpose

The purpose of the meeting is to hear individuals and organisations present their views on the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan in person.

## 2 Recommendations

That the Council

- a) accepts late submissions to the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.
- b) hears the verbal submissions to the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

## 3 Background

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (Act), required territorial authorities to prepare waste management and minimisation plans (WMMPs) by 2012 and have these reviewed every six years. Requirements for WMMPs are set out in section 43 and 44 of the Act. One of these requirements is that Councils must publicly consult on the WMMP using a Special Consultative Process

## 4 Discussion

Council approved the draft WMMP for consultation on 29 June 2017 and agreed that:

- The plan be made available for public review between 1 July and 5 August 2017
- The submissions would be heard

To date, the consultation process has consisted of

- Advertising the consultation process in the Whangarei Leader and via social media;
- Making available the suite of documents on the website and at customer services and libraries;
- Making available downloadable and on-line the submission forms on the website with hard copies also available at customer services and libraries;
- Making available telephone submissions through the Contact Centre;
- Attending the Te Karearea hui on 19 July;

- Advertising and holding a “let’s talk rubbish” event on 27 July;

Feedback from the Te Karearea and “let’s talk rubbish” meetings, although not submissions, will be considered in the deliberations report. Feedback through social media and received through the early engagement for the Long Term Plan will also be considered in the report.

Submissions closed on 5 August 2017, however four late submissions were received. Including the late submission, a total of sixty-three submissions were received. Fourteen initially indicated that they wished to be heard.

It is recommended that Council accepts late submissions because they do not compromise the process. List below of late submissions received (individual names have been excluded here).

- Submitter 57: Does not wish to be heard.
- Submitter 61: Northland District Health Board - Has not indicated that they wish to be heard.
- Submitter 62: Has not indicated that they wish to be heard.
- Submitter 63: Has not indicated that they wish to be heard.

Additional information and feedback from the hearing will be considered in the deliberations report which will be provided to Councilors prior to the Council briefing planned for 30 August 2017.

#### **4.1 Policy and planning implications**

Council is obliged to meet the requirement of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and give people the opportunity to verbally express their views.

## **5 Significance and engagement**

### **5.1 Significance**

Review of the Waste Minimisation Plan is considered significant under councils Significance and Engagement Policy (POLICY0081) as it has the potential to:

- Have a major and long term impact on Solid Waste Services; and
- Have a major and long term impact on Councils level of service regarding Solid Waste Services.

### **5.2 Engagement**

The public engagement process being undertaken is considered consistent with section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

## **6 Attachments**

1. List of submitters wishing to be heard
2. Submissions of submitters wishing to be heard

*Note: The above information is current as of 17 August 2017 and is subject to change. Submitters may change their minds about wishing to be heard.*

Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan - submitters list wishing to be heard on 24 August  
2017

Sub #	First name	Last name	Organisation	Page #
3	Martin	Knoch	Northland Innovation Centre	1
6	Brian	Smith		2
14	Sandra	Murray	NZ product stewardship council	6
23	Jessica	Collins		10
34	Brian	Cox	Bioenergy Association	11
42	Viktoria	Blake		14
45	Zoe	Booty		16
46	April	Wilton	Northland Waste Limited	18
50	Nora	El-Shayeb		24
51	Ash	Hollwell		26
52	Penny	McConnell		27
55	Melissa	Arseneault		28
59	Margaret	Hicks		33
63	Jenny	Kirk		38

*Note: Cliff Colquhoun will speak on behalf of Melissa Arseneault*



**Jo Floyd**

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**From:** Martin Knoche <martin.knoche@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 6, 2017 6:32 PM  
**To:** Mail Room  
**Subject:** WDC waste minimization - your request for ideas

**Categories:** [SharePoint] You saved this message in 'Mailroom > Inwards Mail'

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

here is initial feedback on your [waste minimization request](#).

I am sitting an external adviser on NorthTec's sustainability committee. We visited Waste Management's RedVale Landfill last week. I suggest we apply similar methods of recovering methane and turning it into electricity or compressed landfill gas to be used by NDHB or other Northland businesses. Furthermore I think applying better reuse, recycling strategies underpinned by education and communication would also go along way.

Happy to provide more detail.

Kind regards,

Martin Knoche

CEO

Northland Innovation Centre (NIC)  
8 Marsden Bay Drive  
One Tree Point, Whangarei 0178

[www.n-ic.nz](http://www.n-ic.nz)

Tai Tokerau, the most sustainable region in the Southern Hemisphere by 2015

[Digital Northland Conference](#) - 28-29. August as part of Science Fair @Forum North

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Please consider the environment before printing this email. Thanks!









Original-envelope-id: 0OSZ011HAWN80130@st13p27im-asmt003.me.com  
Reporting-MTA: dns:st13p27im-asmt003.me.com (tcp-daemon)  
Arrival-date: Wed, 12 Jul 2017 20:52:22 +0000 (GMT)

Original-recipient: rfc822;philandflow@farmside.co.nz  
Final-recipient: rfc822;philandflow@farmside.co.nz  
Action: failed  
Status: 5.0.0 (Remote SMTP server has rejected address)  
Remote-MTA: dns:mx1.farmside.co.nz (TCP[17.162.190.112|31290|118.82.130.35|25]  
(mx1.farmside.co.nz)  
Diagnostic-code: smtp;550 No such user (philandflow)  
-ERR philandflow@farmside.co.nz Not Located

**From:** Brian Smith <briansmith27@me.com>  
**Subject:** Re Waste Minimisation  
**Date:** 13 July 2017 at 8:52:16 AM NZST  
**To:** "<philandflow@farmside.co.nz>" <philandflow@farmside.co.nz>

Greetings Phil

I am preparing a submission for waste minimisation plan 2018 and would appreciate if you could supply the following information

- 1 Waste Levy how much has the council received since 2012 and what projects were funded
- 2 What dividend has council received from the joint venture land fill company for the years 2012 to 2016
- 3 How much does council pay per ton including transport to dispose of sewage sludge from treatment plant to landfill
- 4 How much does council pay per annum for household waste collection and disposal
- 5 when was this contract last tendered
- 6 when will it be retendered

I thank you in advance this information will enable me to present a positive submission

Due to the fact that submissions close on 5th August i would appreciate an early answer

**MY KIND REGARDS**

**BRIAN SMITH**

**230 MARSDEN PT RD**

**RUAKAKA**



## New Zealand Product Stewardship Council

29/07/2017

RE: Draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan  
Whangarei District Council,  
WHANGAREI 0148  
mailroom@wdc.govt.nz

### Submission in response to the Whangarei District Council draft WMMP 2017

#### Who are we?

The New Zealand Product Stewardship Council (NZPSC) is an independent voice for effective product stewardship on behalf of the wider community. We support inclusive government, industry and community engagement around the investigation and implementation of product stewardship and related regulation, similar to successful international examples.

Our aim is to ensure to ensure programs are developed that benefit the whole of society through

- upholding the public interest by providing an independent voice to advise and work with government and industry on effective product waste strategies;
- maintaining a forum for the exchange of information and ideas to build capacity, trust and knowledge among local government, industry and community stakeholders;
- providing leadership on mandatory product stewardship in New Zealand by researching, designing, and prioritising regulatory product stewardship programs;
- encouraging and supporting industry on proposed product stewardship programs in New Zealand based on those that have been successful overseas; and
- building community awareness of the costs and environmental impacts of product waste and how to minimise these through purchasing decisions.

#### What is Product Stewardship?

Product Stewardship is the act of minimizing health, safety, environmental and social impacts, and maximizing economic benefits of a product and its packaging throughout all lifecycle stages. The producer of the product has the greatest ability to minimize adverse impacts, but other stakeholders, such as suppliers, retailers, and consumers, also play a role.

Product stewardship seeks to ensure that those who design, manufacture, sell, and use consumer products take responsibility for reducing negative impacts to the economy, environment, public health, and worker safety. These impacts can occur throughout the lifecycle of a product and its packaging, and are associated with energy and materials consumption; waste generation; toxic substances; greenhouse gases; and other air and water emissions.

In a product stewardship approach, manufacturers that design products and specify packaging have the greatest ability, and therefore greatest responsibility, to reduce these impacts by attempting to incorporate the full lifecycle costs into the cost of doing business. There are two related features of Product Stewardship policy:

- (1) shifting financial and management responsibility, with government oversight, upstream to the producer and away from the public sector; and
- (2) providing incentives to producers to incorporate environmental considerations into the design of their products and packaging.



Stewardship can be either voluntary or required by law (mandatory). In NZ, mandatory product stewardship can only be enacted if a product is made a priority product under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

Product Stewardship is the term used in the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and is intended to:

*encourage (and, in certain circumstances, require) the people and organisations involved in the life of a product to share responsibility for—*

- (a) *ensuring there is effective reduction, reuse, recycling, or recovery of the product; and*
- (b) *managing any environmental harm arising from the product when it becomes waste.*

#### Consultation: Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2017

The NZPSC is surprised that the WDC 2017 WMMP makes no mention of producer responsibility for waste, nor does it support the introduction of product stewardship.

Product stewardship has the ability to significantly reduce the costs and responsibility for waste currently borne by Whangarei District Council, and its ratepayers. It seems unusual that council would *not* wish the existing regulations within the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (s2) to be enacted to enable industry and producers to share these costs and responsibility.

In our experience, this may very well make Whangarei District Council the only council in NZ that does not include a section on producer responsibility, or a specific action to advocate for producer responsibility.

Examples from other councils include:

#### **Matamata-Piako; Thames-Coromandel; Hauraki Joint WMMP 2017 – 2023**

##### Discussion:

Advocating for product stewardship (producer responsibility) - waste streams such as E-waste, agricultural chemicals and their containers; and tyres require central government to activate product stewardship and other regulatory mechanisms in order to achieve better waste management outcomes. Councils are likely to have greater influence on achieving product stewardship by presenting a unified voice.

Medical waste- as home based healthcare is increased across the region, medical waste issues will increase. Working together provides the best opportunities to support Waikato District Health Board to establish a medical waste management scheme to support those utilising home healthcare.

##### Action:

Work with territorial and regional councils and other organisations to promote enhanced product stewardship schemes including accredited and priority product schemes under the WMA 2008

#### **Waipa District Council WMMP 2017-2023**

##### Discussion:

(a) Shared responsibility for waste / product stewardship

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 places the greatest responsibility for minimising and managing waste on to local councils. However, councils only control a small part of the waste stream and in order to achieve significant waste minimisation other parties need to share the responsibility. In particular:

- Manufacturers and distributors of products have the ability to control end-of-life waste at the design and manufacturing stages of the product life-cycle
- Organisations responsible for product or service provision need to plan for the associated waste requirements at end-of-life e.g. agricultural chemical companies collecting old chemicals for appropriate disposal
- Regional Council and Central Government have the ability to enforce regulations around appropriate storage and disposal of key materials e.g. tyres

- Central Government has the ability to implement regulatory mechanisms to control key waste streams at a national level e.g. product stewardship schemes for waste tyres, agricultural chemicals, e-waste; or other regulation such as bottle deposit schemes.

Council will have greater influence achieving shared waste responsibility, regulation or product stewardship by presenting a unified voice and working with other responsible organisations including Central Government, Regional Councils, Local Authority Shared Service (LASS), Regional Special Interest Groups (SIGs), industry groups, DHBs and the community.

Action:

Use Council influence to advocate for increased producer responsibility, including supporting a national debate around rural waste and agrichemicals; and a bottle deposit scheme.

**Hamilton City Council 2017-2023 (draft)**

Proposed action:

Collaborate with local government organisations, NGOs and other key stakeholders to undertake research and actions on various waste issues including (but not limited to) demanding central government regulation and product stewardship for key waste streams such as e-waste, tyres, plastic bags, packaging etc.

**Auckland Council WMMP 2012**

Discussion:

The purpose of this part is to encourage (and, in certain circumstances, require) the people and organisations involved in the life of a product to share responsibility for:

- ensuring there is effective reduction, reuse, recycling or recovery of the product; and
- managing any environmental harm arising from the product when it becomes waste.

Action:

Advocacy for Container Deposit Legislation subject to further discussion with industry, and development of product stewardship schemes for products such as electronic waste, tyres, batteries, nappies etc

The NZPSC recommendation:

The NZPSC strongly recommends that WDC

- Insert a section on the benefits of product stewardship, and
- Include an action to advocate for product stewardship and support other organisations who are also calling for product stewardship.

We recommend the following wording:

Suggested wording for a section on product stewardship:

**Shared responsibility for waste / product stewardship**

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 places the greatest responsibility for minimising and managing waste on to local councils. However, councils only control a small part of the waste stream and in order to achieve significant waste minimisation other parties, particularly the producers and retailers that put products into the market need to share the responsibility.

In particular:

- Manufacturers and distributors of products have the ability to control end-of-life waste at the design and manufacturing stages of the product life-cycle
- Organisations responsible for service provision need to plan for the associated waste requirements when establishing the service e.g. DHB's considering client waste needs when moving health services from being hospital based to home based

- Regional Council and Central Government have the ability to enforce regulations around appropriate storage and disposal of key materials e.g. tyres
- Central Government has the ability to implement regulatory mechanisms to control key waste streams at a national level e.g. product stewardship schemes for waste tyres, agricultural chemicals, e-waste; or other regulation such as container deposit schemes for packaging

Councils will have greater influence on achieving shared waste responsibility, regulation or product stewardship by presenting a unified voice and working with other responsible organisations including Central Government, Ministries, Regional Councils, Local Authority Shared Services (LASS), Regional Special Interest Groups (SIG's), industry groups, DHB's and the community. There are also benefits to working with national and local advocacy groups, such as the NZ Product Stewardship Council, Community Recycling Network, Zero Waste in New Zealand and Pare Kore who are working towards the implementation of effective product stewardship in New Zealand.

Suggested wording for an Action related to product stewardship:

Whangarei District Council intends to:

- Advocate for increased producer responsibility, including central government regulation for a container deposit scheme and product stewardship for key waste streams such as agricultural waste, tyres, plastic bags and packaging.
- Support other groups who advocate for product stewardship and a container deposit scheme

#### Opportunity to make oral presentation

The NZPSC would appreciate an opportunity to make an oral presentation in support of our submission. Our oral submission would enable us to provide greater explanation around product stewardship and the role of the New Zealand Product Stewardship Council, and to answer councillors questions related to the anticipated outcomes from central government regulation related to waste.

#### Contact information

##### **NZPSC**

Co-ordinator: [sandra.murray@nzpsc.nz](mailto:sandra.murray@nzpsc.nz)

Phone: 021-890 629

Web: [www.nzpsc.nz](http://www.nzpsc.nz)

**Jo Floyd**

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**From:** Jessica Collins <jessica.collins@xtra.co.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 3, 2017 10:04 AM  
**To:** Mail Room  
**Subject:** Submission-waste management and minimisation plan.

3.8.2017

Submission for the WDC waste management and minimisation plan 2017.

- It is imperative that Whangarei District Council makes zero waste a goal for Whangarei. This is a SMART goal that Regional and District councils around the country have already adopted. Anything less is a disservice to future generations.
- The 240 litre wheelie bins must not be adopted as they reduce the quality of the recycled goods, meaning more recyclable goods go to landfill. Our current curbside collection has some of the highest quality glass recycling in the country, we need to improve on this good work.
- WDC needs to introduce soft plastic recycling.
- WDC needs to introduce a commercial food waste collection to be composted or made into energy at the waste -water treatment plant.
- Green waste at all transfer stations immediately.
- Waste is a resource and we need to make sure we are maximising opportunities to sort and bundle recycling in Whangarei.
- We need to increase zero waste education funding to ensure commercial activities are able to access and understand best practice around waste.

Our discipline and dedication today will be recognised tomorrow. The triple bottom line, the long term costs of all waste to our society must have the utmost consideration in this new waste management plan.

**Te anga karaka, te anga koura, kei kitea te Marae.**

I would like to speak to my submission.

Jessica Collins

0274382181

jessica.collins@xtra.co.nz



1 August 2017

Draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan,  
Whangarei District Council,  
Private Bag 9023,  
WHANGAREI 0148  
Email to: [mailroom@wdc.govt.nz](mailto:mailroom@wdc.govt.nz)

## **Submission from the Bioenergy Association**

### **Consultation: Statement of Proposal for the Waste Management & Minimisation Plan**

The Bioenergy Association represents a significant portion of owners of biomass fueled heat plant, biomass fuel producers and suppliers, waste-to-energy consultants, researchers and equipment/appliance suppliers across New Zealand. It has members who have an interest in policies relating to the utilization of waste for the production of energy; reduction of emissions to air in communities from both residential and commercial/industrial scale heating applications, and from decomposition of waste; and wise use of our renewable natural biomass resources for the betterment of communities. Waste is considered to be a renewable biomass resource.

The Association has a Waste-to-Energy/Biogas Interest Group whose members manage the Association's specific technical matters relating to the waste-to-energy sector via anaerobic digestion processes, specifically with regard to standards and best practice. The Interest Group hosts workshops and dissemination of information on waste-to-energy applications.

#### **Overview**

The Bioenergy Association does not support the current draft document and would like to encourage Council to think wider and longer term about its waste strategy and Action Plan than what is currently proposed. The objectives set out in the current documents are very limited with regard to the collection and use of organic waste compared to what other communities are adopting.

The specific objectives with regard to recycling and use of waste should be more aspirational including having say an overall target of zero organic waste to landfill by 2040. International evidence shows that with such a target and a progressive Action Plan the members of the community will respond positively and assist implementation.

The success of the strategy to clean up the harbor is a good example of what can be achieved with a similar aspirational waste strategy.

Whangarei already has many of the elements required of a world class waste strategy:

- Already it is cost effectively producing electricity from sewage
- It controls the full waste stream including the landfill
- It has curbside separation
- It has a sound waste management team

The current documents refer to a strategy but in none of the documents is there an actual strategy. Essentially the Waste Management & Minimisation Plan is focused on detailed items with limited context of what is to be achieved, or any strategy to achieve stated goals. The current policy documents require a complete new rethink.

Councils throughout NZ are adopting policies of zero organic waste to landfill by 2040. That is an achievable goal and an easy one for Whangarei.

A policy of zero organic waste to landfill by 2040 can open up many recycling, waste to energy and manufacturing of other bio-based products from waste.

All this is achievable in Whangarei and will reduce the cost of waste management to ratepayers.

### **Considering waste as valuable and not just a cost**

Critical to having a progressive waste strategic is thinking of waste as valuable and not a problem. This requires a positive mindset with regard to waste as an opportunity. With current technology waste is able to be recycled or used as a feedstock for new products. In a world where resources are finite it is imperative that communities move to sustainability and the utilization of waste, rather than hiding it, should become a platform for the community economic and social wellbeing.

Utilisation of waste should also be considered within the District's economic growth strategy and action plan. Utilisation rather than disposal of waste can create employment and new business. Organic waste can be recycled into new products, processed into compost, or used as a feedstock for the production of energy. With the right policies and leadership from Council many of these applications are already economic or close to being economic.

Critical to the economics of utilizing waste is the at-source, or curbside, separation of waste into its primary components. If waste is kept clean then it is useable but if it is put into large bins, as is proposed, then the good clean waste has been contaminated and utilization is much more costly.

It is recommended that food waste be also separated at source, or curbside, so that it can be utilised as a feedstock for composting or energy. This is now being done in parts of Auckland and in many other cities internationally.

## **Waste-to-energy**

Producing electricity from sewage as Whangarei District Council already does is an example of how value can be extracted from waste. This waste-to-energy project is reported as having achieved a 4 year financial payback period and has proven to be a good investment. With the reduction in the need to purchase electricity for the operation of the waste water treatment facility the dollars saved are now available for fixing potholes and other community benefits.

In Sydney waste from restaurants, supermarkets and food processors is processed in a digester located in the middle of Sydney to produce electricity. This could be done in Whangarei in association with the sewage processing facility.

In Auckland unsold bread, supermarket food waste and food processing wastes is collected and being recycled into animal feed and the rest will be used to produce heat and electricity. This also could be done in Whangarei.

In Palmerston North the Council has been able to reduce waste water treatment plant operating costs by taking trade wastes from local dairy factories and meat processors.

In the Yarra Valley the food waste processing plant has been co-located next to the sewage works so that there are economies of scale and they now make enough electricity that it is dispatchable and sold at peak periods when electricity has highest cost.

The fertiliser that is produced from food waste can be sold at a high price because it is pathogen free.

The Bioenergy Association would be pleased to work with Council and other interested parties to assist Council develop a new waste strategy which provided greater benefits for the community than what is currently proposed.

Bioenergy Association would like to speak about this submission at the scheduled Council hearing.



Brian Cox  
Executive Officer

Mob 027 4771048  
[brian.cox@bioenergy.org.nz](mailto:brian.cox@bioenergy.org.nz)

**Jo Floyd**

**From:** cms@wdc.govt.nz  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2017 9:34 AM  
**To:** Mail Room  
**Subject:** Submission Form: Draft Waste Minimisation and Management plan 2018 - Vicktoria Blake - 2017-08-04

[Submitted by Anonymous User]

Do not reply to this email - This mailbox is not monitored. This is a copy of information submitted for your records.

### Please enter your details below

\* Full Name(s):

\* Postal Address:

\* Best Daytime Phone Number:

(If you do not have a daytime telephone number, please type N/A in the above box).

Mobile Number:

Email:

(If you provide an email address, a copy of the submitted form will be sent to you).

\* I am writing this submission:

Name of Organisation:

(Please provide an organisation name only if you are making this submission on behalf of that organisation).

\* Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?

### Please provide your feedback below:

You do not have to answer the following questions, but if you do, it will help us to gauge whether we have things right. Please add any specific comment you may have under each answer. If you wish to comment on any specific clause, please include the heading and page number.

1. Do you support the visions, goals and objectives (page 13 of the WMMP)

Comments

2. Do you agree with the proposed targets (page 14 of the WMMP)

Comments

3. Do you agree with the proposed infrastructure actions (page 19 of the WMMP)

Comments

I think that increasing the size of the general waste/recycling bin is contradictory to waste minimisation. Further to this, mixing glass with other recycling products will devalue the cardboard and glass considerable and will lead to more contamination. There does not seem to be any discussion on increasing the types of plastics recycled by WDC programmes either which is a significant concern.

4. Do you agree with the proposed education actions (page 19 of the WMMP)

Comments

The education activities are vague. There is not enough happening in the education space. While EcoSolutions provides some school education, mainstream residents do not have information readily available to them. For example, I have a keen interest in e-waste management and was not aware until very recently that this can be dropped to local transfer stations. Further to this end of life batteries can be dropped at EcoSolutions or in one of the buckets at various places throughout Whangarei. I did not know about this until I attended the waste meeting. The public do not know enough about the options and services available to them in order to make educated decisions on how to appropriately dispose of their waste.

5. Do you agree with the proposed policy actions (page 19 of the WMMP)

Comments

For the most part I agree with the policy actions, assuming they are enforced, but again feel they do not go deep enough. There needs to be significant work put into waste make up, and the information should be made available to those who are interested.

6. Do you agree with how we propose to fund the service (page 20 of the WMMP)

Comments

It is a concern that this will be always user pays funded, particularly with e-waste, as this is having an impact on how this product in particular is disposed of. Over the past three years I have personally witnessed CRT TVs being dumped with fly-tipped waste. If illegal dumping is a considerable concern for the council, then some investigation in to what the dumped waste is made up of, and some research into behaviours that may lead to these actions could be conducted. In addition, a charge for green waste that is capable of being composted and then sold on for a profit seems unfair on residents and again in conflict with the requirements of the council.

7. Please provide any other comments you may have on the WMMP

(please include the heading and page number that the comment relates to)

Comments

The only actions relating to promoting public health is around food waste. There is no mention of hazardous waste or ewaste. Recommendations from the Medical Officer of Health made on the 2012 WMMP have not been considered and there is no mention of any e-waste programmes (e-waste is barely mentioned at all) or of lobbying central government regarding product stewardship programmes. There is a concern that by receiving revenue from out of area waste it is in conflict with the the requirements of WDC as per waste minimisation (i.e. importing landfill for a fee is not reducing waste in our district). There is no mention of adding any further recycling products to further divert waste. There is no mention of any other waste reduction schemes or initiatives other than around food/kitchen/green waste, and while this is an area of significant importance, it is not the only area that could benefit from some management programmes. Zero Waste targets should be set. We should take significant action on waste reduction in our area, working specifically with C&I and C&D waste targets and programmes. We need to take this seriously and not just treat it as a tick box exercise. This council has the ability to follow Auckland Council's lead and make some significant changes to the way that waste is managed in our district. I empower you to make the necessary changes to our WMMP to protect our beautiful home for future generations.

Please check that the details you have provided are correct before you submit the form – once you click the [Submit Form] button the form cannot be changed.

If you have supplied a valid email address, a copy of this completed form will be emailed to you. Otherwise please print a copy of it for your own records before you close this window.

Submit Button - This button will become active when all mandatory fields are filled in (fields marked with \*) and you click once on the button.

All submissions are considered official information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act, and may be published and/or made available to elected members and the public.

**Jo Floyd**

**From:** cms@wdc.govt.nz  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2017 1:49 PM  
**To:** Mail Room  
**Subject:** Submission Form: Draft Waste Minimisation and Management plan 2018 - Zoe Booty - 2017-08-04

[Submitted by Anonymous User]

Do not reply to this email - This mailbox is not monitored. This is a copy of information submitted for your records.

### Please enter your details below

\* Full Name(s):

\* Postal Address:

\* Best Daytime Phone Number:

(If you do not have a daytime telephone number, please type N/A in the above box).

Mobile Number:

Email:

(If you provide an email address, a copy of the submitted form will be sent to you).

\* I am writing this submission:

Name of Organisation:

(Please provide an organisation name only if you are making this submission on behalf of that organisation).

\* Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?

### Please provide your feedback below:

You do not have to answer the following questions, but if you do, it will help us to gauge whether we have things right. Please add any specific comment you may have under each answer. If you wish to comment on any specific clause, please include the heading and page number.

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Comments

2. Do you agree with the proposed targets (page 14 of the WMMP)

Comments

3. Do you agree with the proposed infrastructure actions (page 19 of the WMMP)

Comments

4. Do you agree with the proposed education actions (page 19 of the WMMP)



## Comments

Yawn!

5. Do you agree with the proposed policy actions (page 19 of the WMMP)

No

## Comments

These policy actions just sound like a whole load of table talk with no accountability for change and progress in this area. Policy actions should be challenging and exciting. Please also, employ someone who can write these documents intended for public comment in plain English. I have post-graduate education and they read like gobbledegook. ..I have to read them over and over again t understand what it is trying to say. This does not encourage public engagement.

6. Do you agree with how we propose to fund the service (page 20 of the WMMP)

No

## Comments

Well, it does not really say much, and certainly nothing new. How about looking charges around the 'source' of litter, e.g. takeaway businesses. Analyse litter...Yes...individuals drop it...unless it is flying out of the back of rubbish trucks, or blowing out of overfilled rubbish bins.

7. Please provide any other comments you may have on the WMMP

(please include the heading and page number that the comment relates to)

## Comments

I fully support a policy of Zero Waste, and expect my council to do the same. We are well past the time of short term economic considerations only, and need to take the long term view, to consider the full impact on our children, our children's children, and their children.....

Zero waste is achievable, if we are fully committed as individuals and organisations. Key to this I the minimisation of waste at source, and powerful regulations to ensure all necessary packaging is re-usable and recyclable.

Whangarei can lead the nation in this area. Zero Waste is an inspiring vision...Let's think Big, Let's focus on HOW we can do this, rather than any barriers that stop us.

WDC, I would like my Rates contribution to be invested in:

Education re. Zero Waste.

Recycling systems for hard and soft plastic

Green waste

Paper and Cardboard.

Commercial food collection.

Supporting commercial enterprise to minimise packaging, or only use re-usable/recyclable materials.

For over 2 decades my family and I have been committed to the concept of 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle'. It is not a new concept, in fact it is mad that we have not 'nailed it' as a society yet! It is a philosophy made habit through our actions. We compost, take our own bags to shops, mainly shop at the Growers Market, and Binn Inn. We choose products that are not overly or unnecessarily packaged etc etc. We would like to do more!

I urge the WDC, those we entrust to lead and guide our community to be inspired by the goal of Zero Waste, and show commitment and creativity in ways we can achieve this. We can do it!

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*All submissions are considered official information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act, and may be published and/or made available to elected members and the public.*



04.08.2017

April Wilton  
P.O. Box 11116  
Whangarei  
Ph: 021706009  
Email: [april@northlandwaste.co.nz](mailto:april@northlandwaste.co.nz)

### **WMMP Submission Response – Northland Waste Limited (Company Response)**

We would like the opportunity to be heard at the verbal submissions on the 24<sup>th</sup> August hearings.

#### **About Us:**

Northland Waste Limited is a substantial, vertically integrated waste and recycling business formed in 2009 through a Joint Venture Partnership with Whangarei District Council. Northland Waste is Northlands biggest recycler processing over 25,000 tonnes of recycling annually.

We welcome the opportunity to submit under the WMMP, and hope council take the opportunity to gain an understanding from an industry prospective, the challenges and opportunities through this process. We have made extensive capitol investments in recycling technology including partnership in the Re:Sort facility with a commitment to diverting tonnes from landfill. We would like to clarify the misconception that we have a 'conflict of interest' to recycling being a partial landfill owner. The landfill is limited in both consent and airspace, we are therefore naturally incentivised to recycle where viable. In fact our investment in recycling has been a key parts of our gorowth stategy that has seen the Company grow from 60 staff to 300 in 5 years.

The growth of our company which is based in the heart of Whangarei, needs mentioning. Our head office employs 22 non-operational staff providing management expertise and technical advice to 6 branches across New Zealand. This has created high level sought after jobs for Whangarei economy, and is a little known success story mainly because our mantra is typically kiwi in that we 'just get on with it'. If compared to any other business in the district, we believe no other has grown as quickly, whilst staying local than Northland Waste.

Whangarei District is unique in that through the Joint Venture, owns the Puwera Landfill asset. As part owners of a sanitary, class A fully lined and engineered landfill site for the safe disposal of solid waste, WDC are the envy of others. This asset is becoming more and more sought after with many councils now having to spend excessive amounts on waste management to ensure residents have the 'safe disposal' of class A sanitary landfill.

We would like to ask councillors to please take the opportunity to ask questions on any issues discusses, and delve into the logic in our views so you can make balanced decisions when adopting a



document as important as keeping Whangarei clean, green and beautiful whilst remaining economically sustainable, as the Whangarei Waste Plan.

**1. Do you support the visions, goals and objectives (page 13 of the WMMP)**

In general, we agree with the goals outlined within the WMMP and would like to specifically address and provide comments to the following Visions for WDC consideration:

**1) To make it easier to recycle:**

Northland Waste provides a full suite of Recyclables where the council does not provide rates funded services, indicating a clear commitment to Northland to make it easier to recycle. We seek to ensure the Whangarei District has the infrastructure in place to provide a commercial recyclables market and will continue to invest in this area to support WDC waste minimisation initiatives. Through significant capital investment in Northlands largest recycling processing facility the Re:Sort and the purchase of the paper reclaim asset, we encourage diversion of waste from landfill. We are also the only company that has put private funds not reliant on ratepayer or taxpayer subsidies into these initiatives to provide the Whangarei District with an enhanced recyclable collection service. No other Northland company has invested in recyclables as extensively as Northland Waste and we will continue to do so to support councils waste minimisation initiatives and provide a full suite of collection services to our customers. We believe council should be aware of the current use that the private sector provides to meet their objectives, and the services that are already in place to meet these needs.

In summary Northland Waste supports this initiative, and will continue to support council and the residents of Whangarei through investment in Recycling infrastructure and creating job opportunities via economically sustainable recycling initiatives.

**2) Maximise community benefits – employment, multi – use facilities, cost effective service:**

We encourage this objective as a major employer in the Northland District employing over 300 people nationwide and having our 'head office' based in Whangarei. Where viable, we promote the creation of jobs by diverting as much of the waste stream from landfill to preserve landfill airspace. We would like council to apply caution when considering the notion of 'job creation' within the industry and particularly, the notion that enhanced recycling initiatives create employment. This is an inaccurate assumption as often, these initiatives are dependent on significant subsidies be that of Council in the form of rates, or the taxpayer. We do not see this as sustainable job creation and believe these initiatives to be instead jobs created solely by increasing the cost to the ratepayer to fund uneconomic activities.

We would like to reiterate that we support the creation of jobs where the market does not provide a solution, and council has decided through assessing carefully the costs to the ratepayer, and agreeing that these activities provide 'real benefits'.

We have seen instances in which the market has provided a service, and council then come in to 'compete' with the private sector using uneconomically sustainable recycling subsidies that ultimately, seek to replicate services that already exist at an increased cost to all involved. We would therefore like council to consider our experience in this matter, and treat any subsidies provided to recycling where economically unviable to be granted in a fair manner whilst first assessing whether this service is currently being adequately provided.

## **2. Do you agree with the proposed targets (page 14 of the WMMP)**

In general, we agree with the proposed targets but would like to provide guidance to WDC for consideration in two areas:

### **1) Objective 2 – To make it easier to recycle.**

We fully support this initiative and believe the private sector can add value to this as there is a number of areas in which we currently service, where no other provider has taken on the commitment. Currently, Northland Waste is committed to picking up the commercial co-mingled recycling within Whangarei commercial sector and have expanded this for businesses to include an option for Plastics 1-7, Glass, Tin/alloy/scrap steel Paper and Cardboard and mixed recyclables to ensure there is a dedicated service for this market. Northland Waste also has worm farms for sale through the office and had seen an increase in interest for these initiatives in the last 6 months.

As discussed in our letter dated to Councillors on the 20.07.2017, we are see potential for further investigation of options for the extended collections of Green Waste at the rural transfer stations and would like to begin this initiative immediately with council. We would also like to further investigate wood waste diversion through the Re:Sort as per the JV.

### **2) Objective 4 – To create a grant scheme to support new initiatives to reduce waste.**

Should council wish to subsidise further recycling initiatives through the form of a 'grants scheme' we would like to know more about the detail of this proposal.

We are cautious of this initiative and believe that prior to adopting this target, two clear 'screening processes' must be evaluated prior to any grant being awarded.

*1) Is anyone currently successfully undertaking this initiative that the grant may apply to with no rates funding?*

We have seen instances in which a replication of services has happened when funding had been applied to 'reduce waste' when in fact, this service was already being successfully provided by the private sector. This creates a duplication of services with no net benefit to waste reduction as customers simply move to the option that is heavily subsidised, at an increased cost to the ratepayer. We are unable to compete with any organisation receiving a subsidy to carry out work that we do economically sustainable and have already created a successful market for. We recommend that council adopt a test that is applied prior to any grant being received 'Is there already a service for this initiative provided to the market? To avoid a duplication of existing services, and ensure that the process is fair to those who have invested extensively out of their own pockets for recycling initiatives, are not thrown under the bus by a competitor operating on a subsidy from the government or council.

*2) Ensuring that any grants are contestable to all community groups, businesses and individuals.*

Where Council has chosen to subsidise uneconomic recycling in the form of a grant, this option must be contestable by all parties both businesses and community groups based on tangible outcomes. Northland Waste provide a great service and are always thinking of ways to enhance our current operations, and would like to think of this as an opportunity to further expand on existing infrastructure through contestable grants and not be unduly discriminated against being a business.

### **3. Do you agree with the proposed infrastructure actions (page 19 of the WMMP)**

We agree with the proposed infrastructure actions and would like council to consider further information on the following actions

#### **1) Support for User Pays Kerbside Waste Collection**

We strongly support user pays for the management of refuse at the Kerbside as user pays has been categorically proven to be the best method to minimise waste per household. In conjunction with a significant rate increase, there is categorical evidence that Rates funded systems decreases waste minimisation incentives as rates funding disadvantage households that recycle more, by not rewarding them relative to households that don't recycle. They pay the same rate regardless of the diversion rate, providing no incentive to the householder to reduce their waste, to reduce their overall costs. This lack of transparency would directly impact on recycling as the cost of service would not be paid directly by the waste generator, instead the householder would pay this charge in their rent as a flat fee. Without making the individual accountable for the waste they generate, rates funding would undermine the incentive to minimise waste in conjunction with enhanced recycling.

Overall, we would like to reiterate that we support user pays funding, and a change to rates funded refuse would be a significant step backwards for the residents of Whangarei and would result in a significant rate increase in conjunction with negative environmental outcomes.

#### **2) Support for new recycling collection targeting 240L Wheelie Bins for all recyclable materials.**

We believe that Council needs to ensure it maintains long term flexibility around its collection methodology. While the proposed methodology of increased capacity for 240 litre of recycling should increase diversion Council needs to keep its options open in terms of separate collection of glass.

Council needs to ensure it carefully balances often conflicting objectives of health and safety, job creation, waste diversion and recycling commodity prices. Future contracts that allows flexibility to change collection methodology at any point in time without contractual penalty should be adopted to allow Council to respond to changing market conditions for recycling commodities and / or health and safety.

#### **3) Complete detailed analysis of sorting of CI and / Or C&D waste prior to disposal of residual material.**

Northland Waste supports this initiative, but cautions that council take note of what is currently in place, and the challenges associated with finding markets for recyclable products. We support assessing the viability of this option, and would also like to outline over the past year we have been selling recycled wood through the Re:Sort shop. This has been a successful initiative. Not only are we diverting wood, we have established a local market for the recycled product. A portion of the proceeds from the shop go to charity. Wooden pallets are also separated and given away with many people turning these into furniture, which again is popular with customers.

An option worthy of further consideration is the bulk collection of wood waste. We had been in talks with the Solid Waste Engineer from WDC around making it easier for Re:Sort by building a segregated wood waste processing section, and we are keen to continue to explore this initiative

with council. If this is something that the JV are still interested in pursuing, we will look at the cost of plant, disposal and establishment.

#### **4) Do you agree with the proposed education actions?**

We support the education actions and have no further additions.

#### **5) Do you agree with the proposed policy actions?**

We support the proposed policy actions – **but please note earlier caution regarding required screening process for grants.**

#### **6) Do you agree with how we propose to fund the service?**

We fully support the initiative of user pays for Waste as this has proven to be the most effective method of waste minimisation. We note that council will continue to subsidise refuse collection at the rural transfer stations in the plan and question as to whether there would be a better way to reduce the waste at these sites receive by incentivising the customer to minimise waste by paying the actual cost of waste within these areas.

Currently, we are aware that a number of urban whangarei residents will 'drive' many km to the rural stations as these are known to be subsidised by council, with trailer size not being measured when disposing of waste. We have also heard of holiday makers from Auckland bringing a trailer up with them and disposing this at Uretiti as the WDC rural transfer station rates are 'half the rate of Auckland'. Whilst we understand WDC trying to ensure the rural centres are getting a service for Waste, we believe this is being undermined by urban and even out of district residents, essentially costing the ratepayer and making user pays ineffective as a method to achieve waste minimisation.

We provide council with a market tested assessment of Transfer Station Rates – North to South for Councils within the North Island to challenge the idea that waste is 'excessively expensive' within the district. We believe this was a lobbying campaign which failed as Whangarei residents were aware that they were not paying any excessive charges when compared to other areas, and were subsidising out of district residents waste who found whangarei 'cheaper'. As you can see from the below table – Whangarei rates are the cheapest out of all of the areas surveyed.

Council	General Refuse Trailers Price	Green waste Trailer	Bag – 65L	Recycling (plastics/paper/tin/alloy)
Far North District Council	\$61.5	\$33.00	\$3.00	Free
Whangarei District Council (Rural)	\$45.00	\$22.50	\$2.80	Free
Whangarei RE:Sort (WDC – NWL)	\$57.00	\$22.50	\$3.00	Free

Kaipara District Council (Dargaville Transfer station)	\$79.50	\$37.50	\$3.10	\$10.00 Per Cube
Auckland Council (Waitakare Community Run)	\$76.50	\$40.00	\$6.00	Free
Tauranga District Council	\$58.30	\$45.00	\$3.50	Free
Waikato District (xtreme zero waste – community run)	\$ 67.50	\$15.00	\$4.00	-
Rotorua District Council	\$60.00	\$60.00		Free
New Plymouth District Council	\$72.60	38.60	\$3.40	Free
Palmerston North District council	\$75.00	\$30.00	4.50	Free

\*Average trailer weight of 270kg and 1.5 cube.

We would encourage council to review the rural transfer stations subsidy as this is an extremely expensive to the ratepayer to currently undertake and disincentives waste minimisation within the district. There are a number of options here that work successfully in other areas which we are welcome to explain in detail through discussion. We would also like to mention that the resort waste charges are not 'cross subsidised' by WDC rates like the rural transfer stations, hence the difference between the gate charges.

Finally, we appreciate the opportunity to submit and look forward to the verbal submission hearings to further explore our submission points with Council.

Many Thanks



April Wilton

Northland Waste Limited

**Jo Floyd**

**From:** cms@wdc.govt.nz  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2017 5:37 PM  
**To:** Mail Room  
**Subject:** Submission Form: Draft Waste Minimisation and Management plan 2018 - Nora El-Shayeb - 2017-08-04

[Submitted by Anonymous User]

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### Please enter your details below

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\* Postal Address:

\* Best Daytime Phone Number:   
 (If you do not have a daytime telephone number, please type N/A in the above box).

Mobile Number:

Email:   
 (If you provide an email address, a copy of the submitted form will be sent to you).

\* I am writing this submission:

Name of Organisation:

(Please provide an organisation name only if you are making this submission on behalf of that organisation).

\* Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission?

### Please provide your feedback below:

You do not have to answer the following questions, but if you do, it will help us to gauge whether we have things right. Please add any specific comment you may have under each answer. If you wish to comment on any specific clause, please include the heading and page number.

1. Do you support the visions, goals and objectives (page 13 of the WMMP)

Comments

2. Do you agree with the proposed targets (page 14 of the WMMP)

Comments

3. Do you agree with the proposed infrastructure actions (page 19 of the WMMP)

Comments

4. Do you agree with the proposed education actions (page 19 of the WMMP)

Comments

5. Do you agree with the proposed policy actions (page 19 of the WMMP)

No

Comments

6. Do you agree with how we propose to fund the service (page 20 of the WMMP)

No

Comments

user pays fees only lead to illegal dumping of rubbish in nature

7. Please provide any other comments you may have on the WMMP

(please include the heading and page number that the comment relates to)

Comments

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**Jo Floyd**

---

**From:** ashley holwell <ash.holwell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 4, 2017 10:30 PM  
**To:** Mail Room  
**Subject:** Submission to Draft Minimisation Plan

Kia ora,

Please find my submission to the Draft Waste Minimisation Plan below.

-----

I call for the following things to be included in the Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Plan:

Zero Waste to be a target included as an aim for the district, with a clear achievement date and a pathway to developed to getting there. Auckland, our largest city and biggest neighbour, will be Zero Waste by 2040 because it aims to be one of the most liveable cities in the world. I want Whangārei to be liveable too.

Zero waste to be achieved in a timeframe that allows for the Puhipuhi landfill to be the last landfill Whangārei District Council ever has to construct. The Last Landfill Ever. Now that would be a story that could help make Whangārei the envy world.

Require our contractors to use processes and procedures which create high-quality, uncontaminated recyclable materials from our recycling bins. Currently in Whangārei we recycle some plastic number 1's, and most 2's. Other parts of the country recycle 1-7's, and have been doing so for many years. This is another way that Whangārei is missing out and I want our council to be more ambitious on our behalf - because the people they represent certainly are.

Keep our recycling bins as they are, or improve them to allow us to do more separation at home. We know that if we switch to bins that combine glass and paper or cardboard that much of those materials will not be recycled as they will be too mixed up. The factories that sort our recycling aren't very good at what they do - this is why China is now rejecting the world's contaminated recycling.

Look towards establishing a hand sorting facility for recycling. We know and it has been demonstrated throughout the country that hand sorting creates a higher quality recycling product, has more market value, and employs many more people. This is a solution that turns waste into an opportunity.

Develop a Resource Recovery Network that actively works to make it easy for domestic and commercial customers to turn waste into useful resources, rather than a burden on the land and the economy. This will work to shift Whangārei from a 'linear' economy to a 'circular' economy.

Work with all businesses and organisations who operate within the district on the development of a product stewardship programme which aims to match the responsibility of waste management and reduction with the waste producer, rather than the end consumer, as is the current norm. Who is responsible for making the waste is still responsible for it until it isn't waste.

Create a local definition of waste as a 'resource' as opposed to a 'burden,' and make decisions based on that definition.

Create a Waste Minimisation Plan that is aspirational, in line with best practice, and makes Whangārei liveable, sustainable, and a leader.

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Kind regards,  
 Ash Holwell



**Jo Floyd**

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**From:** penny mcconnell <pennymcconnell@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 5, 2017 10:36 AM  
**To:** Mail Room  
**Subject:** Submission for the WDC Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2017.

It is imperative that Whangarei District Council makes zero waste a goal for Whangarei. This is a SMART goal that Regional and District councils around the country have already adopted. Anything less is a disservice to future generations.

- The 240 litre wheelie bins must not be adopted as they reduce the quality of the recycled goods, meaning more recyclable goods go to landfill.
- Our current curbside collection has some of the highest quality glass recycling in the country, we need to improve on this good work. WDC needs to introduce soft plastic recycling.
- WDC needs to introduce a commercial food waste collection to be composted or made into energy at the waste -water treatment plant.
- Green waste at all transfer stations immediately. Waste is a resource and we need to make sure we are maximising opportunities to sort and bundle recycling in Whangarei.
- We need to increase zero waste education funding to ensure commercial activities are able to access and understand best practice around waste.

Our discipline and dedication today will be recognised tomorrow. The triple bottom line, the long term costs of all waste to our society must have the utmost consideration in this new waste management plan.

Yours faithfully,

Penelope McConnell

## Submission for Whangarei District Council Draft WMMP

Through my company Grassroots Limited I have worked in the resource recovery and waste minimisation industry for over twenty five years. In my capacity as Operations Manager for Reclaim Limited (2010 – 2014) I gained a very comprehensive overview of domestic and commercial recycling in the Whangarei District. Implementing any changes to improve resource recovery rates in the past was met with little enthusiasm and/or support. I am very optimistic that with the current elected councillors and staff that the Whangarei District Council will support the development and implementation of an innovative waste minimisation plan that will result in significant reductions in waste, new levels of recycling and resource efficiency.

There are a number of opportunities to reduce the amount of waste disposed to landfills. A 2008 survey of waste composition in municipal landfills showed that approximately three-quarters of the waste disposed of to landfills could have been potentially diverted by being recovered, reused or recycled. The amount of waste disposed of can also be reduced at other stages of a product's life cycle. This can include employing more efficient processes to extract raw materials, improving the efficiency of designs, and using materials more efficiently in the production process.

### **Vision, Goals, Objectives and Targets (4.2)**

The current vision is not inspirational, it does not provide the big picture of where the council wants to be in the long term.

#### **Change to:**

*Whangarei is a Zero Waste City where resources are valued by the community, enhancing the health of our environment, economy and people.*

Zero waste is an ethical, economical, efficient and visionary goal, to guide people in changing their lifestyles and practices to emulate sustainable natural cycles, where all discarded materials are designed to become resources for another use.

Zero waste means designing and managing products and processes to systematically avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials, to conserve and recover all resources, and not to burn or bury them.

Subscribing to Zero Waste does not mean instantly eliminating every last piece of waste whatever the cost. The concept of Zero Waste and the thinking behind it are revolutionising approaches to waste management.

Raglan is New Zealand's first Zero Waste community and is diverting more than 75% of the community's waste from landfill and has created many new businesses, employed more than 200 people and injected an estimated \$13.5 million into the community.

<http://greenribbonawards.org.nz/?q=raglan-zero-waste>

Auckland Council has an aspirational goal of zero waste by 2040. That means by recycling, composting food waste, re-using items and preventing waste in the first place, they will be on target to send as little as possible to landfill. This will save valuable raw resources and energy, and help them achieve their goal of making Auckland the world's most liveable city.

<http://www.makethemostofwaste.co.nz/about/>

#### **Implement goals, objectives, actions and budgets that include and support:**

- reduce reliance on landfill
- achieve operational efficiencies
- restrict organic waste
- investigate opportunities to process green waste within or close to existing transfer stations
- restrict waste paint (*waste paint is currently mixed with sand and disposed of to landfill when it can easily be recycled – see photo last page*) <http://www.enviropaints.co.nz/>
- develop infrastructure to maximise resource recovery
- maximise local economic development
- increase councils contribution to community education and initiatives targeting specific materials to be diverted from landfill
- implementation of policies that support the sorting, dismantled, baling and/or processing of recovered materials (especially kerbside) to support local jobs and grow the local economy (*currently all kerbside material and some material from ReSort transfer station is mixed, compacted, turning it into low valued material, shipped to Auckland, processed and exported as low grade product*)
- advocate for increased producer responsibility, including central government regulation for a container deposit scheme(CDS) and product stewardship for key waste streams such as agricultural waste, tyres, electronic waste, plastic bags and packaging (*the implementation of CDS would see an immediate increase of recovery rates for beverage containers from the current 25% to 80% with no extra cost to Council*)
- support other groups who advocate for product stewardship and a container deposit scheme (WDC is the only council in NZ that does not include a section on producer responsibility, or a specific action to advocate for producer responsibility)
- Council to lobby for increases to current waste levy from \$10 per tonne to \$50 per tonne (*this could result in Council receiving up to \$1 million per annum that could be used towards costs to improve and increase resource recovery rates and support community based education initiatives*)
- Review and change current process where WDC charges the public to drop off reusable and recyclable materials at the Re Sort Centre which then has to be handled by staff to pull out

such material. The public should be able to and encouraged to drop off all recyclable material (ie scrap metal/aluminium) and 2<sup>nd</sup> hand goods for resale in 2<sup>nd</sup> hand shop at NO COST.

### **Targets**

The proposed increase target of 10% could be achieved within 6 months with some simple changes. Setting low targets highlights the need for a different more progressive approach to waste minimisation in Whangarei. There are number of feasible and practical opportunities to reduce waste to landfill.

Achievable and more realistic targets would be:

- reduce domestic waste to landfill by 50% by 2023
- reduce commercial waste to landfill by 60% by 2023

### **Transfer Stations (ReSort & rural stations)**

The Whangarei District Council is in a unique position (owing 50% of the landfill and ReSort Centre) and 100% of rural transfer stations. Current contracts should be reviewed and changed in order to make important and necessary changes to enhance and improve current policies, processes and outcomes relating to how waste is managed and processed in Whangarei.

Community operated resource recovery facilities including Raglan and the Far North have resulted in significantly more materials being diverted to landfill than similar commercial operated facilities.

Auckland Council has just set up 5 community based facilities to reduce waste to landfill.

<http://www.makethemostofwaste.co.nz/recycling/community-recycling-centres/>

I recommend a 'Keep in the Loop' recycling tour of 3 or 4 facilities to see for yourselves what these organisation are achieving and why. (Happy to help organise!)

### **Kerbside Collection**

It is well documented nationally and internationally that 240 litre wheel bin systems that involve mixing of paper, glass and plastics results in poor quality recyclables and lower value due to the contamination of paper, glass and plastic and promotes poor recycling practises. Where user pays rubbish (ie council bags) accompanies a free 240 litre recycling wheelie bin, there is often an increase in people trying to avoid rubbish costs by putting rubbish in the 'free' 240 litre recycling wheelie bin.

Recycling crates have and are continue to be used effectively nationally and internationally. Some systems now offer a range of bins for food and green waste collections. Health and safety is not an issue if companies have good policies, and practices in place. The unusual high rate of documented incidents within Whangarei suggest that better health and safety systems need to

be put in place along with education and monitoring of staff. I would recommend that Council contact the Far North District Council for a report on their health & safety incidents, other Councils or the Department of Labour to properly assess the current issues.

Council is well aware of restrictions relating to the importation into China of all mixed, low grade plastic, a result of using 240 litre wheelie bins and poor recycling practices. Currently worldwide with the new restrictions in place recycling programmes are looking at ways of returning to systems that offer separation of material rather than mixing. Separating and processing plastics into the individual grades is best practice resulting in the increase value of these materials, more markets for materials, opportunities to support local manufacturers and processing plants and creating more local jobs.

When managing the public drop off facility at Re Sort we separated and baled clear and coloured PET, HDPE and #5 which resulted in an increase in profit for these materials. Currently the majority of plastic (with the exception of some HDPE) is mixed with the kerbside materials, compacted and sent to Auckland as a low grade mixed plastic where it is sorted.

The recent opening of New Zealand first commercial PET processing plant in Wellington provides an economic incentive to resume the collection, sorting and baling of PET bottles in Whangarei. Flight Plastics take PET bottles and containers recycled at kerbside and turn them into new food packaging.

<http://www.flightpackaging.co.nz/images/FlightRPETbrochureA4.pdf>

### **Soft Plastics Recycling**

Funded by Central Government and the packaging industry, launched early 2016, the soft plastic project takes all soft plastic bags including bread bags, frozen food bags, toilet paper packaging, confectionery and biscuit wrap, chip bags, pasta and rice bags, courier envelopes, shopping bags, sanitary hygiene packaging - basically anything made of plastic which can be scrunched into a ball. Whangarei should lobbying Central Government to provide soft plastic recycling for our district. Collection bins could be placed at transfer stations, The ReSort Centre and Council buildings

<http://www.recycling.kiwi.nz/soft-plastics>

### **Community Engagement**

Community engagement, support and involvement is vital to the success of any waste minimisation initiative. Council needs to review and look at new opportunities to improve. This should be done in consultation with community groups and organisations

I welcome the opportunity to meet with any Councillor or Council staff to discuss my submission and share my experience and knowledge. I will be overseas from the 7<sup>th</sup> August to the 13<sup>th</sup> October. In my absence if there is an opportunity to speak on my submission or provide

additional information I would ask that you contact Cliff Colquhoun mobile 0274 808 174 tel (09) 409 4912 who has offered to speak on my behalf

Regards

Melissa Arseneault

Grassroots Limited

Tel 434 0655

Mob 021 550 249

Email [grassroots63@clear.net.nz](mailto:grassroots63@clear.net.nz)



How paint is collected and process (mixed with sand) then disposed to landfill vs recycling into new paint <http://www.enviropaints.co.nz/>

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- 4 AUG 2017  
WHANGAREI  
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# Statement of Proposal on the Draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan 2018 (subject to the Special Consultative Procedure process) Feedback and Submission Form

Thank you for taking this opportunity to comment on the Statement of Proposal on the Draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan.

## Points to remember when making a submission

- Please print clearly. The form should be easy to read and be understood, and may need to be photocopied.
- We will respond in writing to every submission received. Please ensure that you provide appropriate contact details so that our response gets back to you.
- All submissions are considered public under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act, and may be published and made available to elected members and the public.
- Your submission will not be returned to you once it is lodged with Council. Please keep a copy for your reference.
- Prior to the closing date for submissions, there will be an opportunity for you to have your say, ask question etc in a "have your say day" which will be advertised in the Northern Advocate and Whangarei Leader.
- Hearings for Submissions will take place on **24 August 2017** in Council Chambers, Forum North.

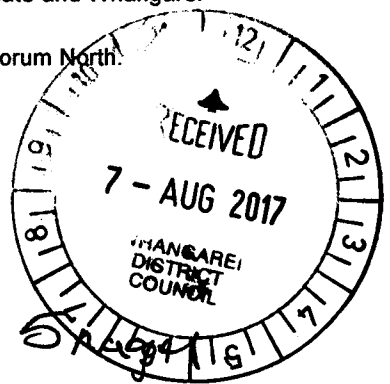
## How to get this form to us

Mail to: Draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan,

Whangarei District Council,  
Private Bag 9023,  
WHANGAREI 0148

Fax to: 09 438 7632

Email to: mailroom@wdc.govt.nz



Your feedback should reach us by 5.00pm on 5 August 2017.

## Please enter your details below

First name(s) MARGARET BARBARA

Last name HICKS

Postal address P.O. Box 224  
RUAKAKA 0151

Best daytime phone number (09) 432 7117 Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am writing this submission (✓ box)  as an individual  on behalf of an organisation

Name of organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to be heard in support of your submission? (✓ box)  Yes  No

*Continued on separate page*



# Waste Minimisation and Management Plan 2018

## Introduction

Unfortunately one of the adverse effects of a consumer society is the ever increasing generation of waste. At least 2 issues principally outside the control of the Whangarei District Council have led to such significant increases. They are as follows:

- 1) an increase in packaging especially plastic by the retail trade including supermarkets.
- 2) the impact of shoddy asian goods especially those from China that have a very limited life span as opposed to durability. This has resulted in the closure of a number of New Zealand manufacturers accompanied by loss of employment and skills.

If only these 2 issues could be addressed there would automatically be a noticeable reduction in waste.

## Local government waste minimisation

According to the WDC's consultation document July 2014 apparently 85% of Whangarei District residents are satisfied with the current waste management. Since when? Where is the proof? At the very least I have heard complaints re the cost of collection and more particularly of the exorbitant transfer station charges. No wonder DUMPING is an ongoing problem after all what do we pay rates for?

Northland including the Whangarei District is one of the lowest (if not the lowest!) socio-economic areas in the country so the high cost of waste disposal for residents could well be the primary reason for dumping and the resulting



additional cost to council to organise 'clean up' operations.

The problem is how to reconcile the need to reduce dumping with the need to reduce the amount of waste generated by the community.

As I see it reducing transfer station and waste collection fees need not necessarily increase the amount of waste to be collected if this is accompanied by the following:—

- a) better organised and increased recycling at no cost to residents.
- b) improved education both to the wider population as well as schools.

## RECYCLING.

Transfer stations could play a much more comprehensive role than at present by separating items that are still usable and putting them aside or showing for residents to purchase at a minimal fee. Why fill up LANDFILLS with items that can be re-used?

Charges for green waste disposal smacks of exploitation since this can be composted to produce potting mix, weed control etc and on sold.

## EDUCATION.

This needs to be expanded by encouraging composting of organic material including food wastes, none of which need be included in the organised street collection.

Schools could play a much larger role. Students should be encouraged not to litter not only within the confines of the school but within the wider community. ~~Repeating~~

at least one local college refuses to detail students to pick up rubbish in the school grounds and immediate vicinity. Merely organising the occasional beach 'clean up' is not sufficient. We all need to become more enter conscious and take our rubbish home.

### VISITOR GENERATED WASTE

In the Ruakaka Bream Bay area the principal culprits are:

- a) freedom campers & even worse still
- b) Asian crabbers

Council could solve the first problem by encouraging campers to use official campsites where rubbish bins are available & secondly by refusing to permit crabbers that pollute the beach and dual environment by

1. working with Primary Industries to ban the use of chicken carcases as an inappropriate fish bait.

2. organise beach patrols to insure crabbers clean up after their activities.

Ongoing contact is likely unless this particular problem is resolved.

### BUSINESS (Industrial and retail) Waste management

Encourage re-cycling wherever possible. There should not be a repeat of the situation at Northcote Lumber when council put a stop to the moratorium of waste wood for the community at Ruakaka on spurious grounds whilst allowing Northcote to put out waste wood on the footpath at Cove Road Waym.

More proactive monitoring of toxic activities in conjunction with the Northland Regional Council. Industrial subdivisions need more vigilant supervision as is clearly demonstrated at Lakeside, Ruakaka.

## WASTE WATER TREATMENT

all treatment plants need to be upgraded when necessary not left as at Ruakaka. Here at the very least the wetland upgrade is long overdue as usage has significantly increased - almost 3 times since the current resource consent was issued. In 2007 usage was approximately 3000 cubic meters per week now in 2017 some 10 years later, it is around 8400 cubic meters. Now come it is permissible to discharge inadequately treated waste water into the dunes at Ruakaka yet at Waipā with only half the population and therefore only half the sewage it was deemed necessary to upgrade the wetland there?

Waste management is a health issue and a very important part of the Whangarei District Council's functions. That the amount of waste to be collected & in some cases treated has been steadily increasing is a matter of concern. Obviously, ways to cut down the amount of rubbish consigned to landfill needs to be reduced.

Public AWARENESS surely is a key as is recycling wherever possible. However if council persists in putting up charges it will not gain the necessary co-operation from residents. Transfer station costs need to be re-assessed if dumping is not to increase.

Signed  
Margaret J. Nicks

4.8.17.

Submission to Whangarei District Council

From Jenny Kirk, 25 Weaver St, Whangarei 0112 ph 4337267 email [jennykirk273@gmail.com](mailto:jennykirk273@gmail.com)

Sorry for delay in reply. Would you please accept this late submission.

11 August 2017

### Waste Minimisation and Management

- **What about bags for refuse, but replace recycling crates with 240L bins. How would this affect you?**

I agree with continuing household rubbish collection on a weekly basis using council plastic rubbish bags for refuse.

Reason - having a weekly collection means households do not need to accumulate much in the way of smelly and deteriorating household rubbish – particularly food scraps and meat scraps

It is a simple, easy and effective way for households to manage their personal household rubbish – why make it complicated ?

Replacing the current 60-odd L recycling crates with 240L bins seems excessive. It raises many questions on their use.

These are very BIG wheelie bins – almost 4 times the size of the current recycling crates

How often would these 240L bins be collected ?

Would the size of these bins encourage people to include their weekly household rubbish in them – thus doing away with the weekly plastic bag collection ?

- **Your question : *What about bags for refuse, but replace recycling crates with 240L bins. How would this affect you?* This indicates that maybe you are thinking of replacing both the plastic refuse bags AND the recycling crates with the very big 240L bin.**

If this is the case, are you not just transferring a perceived problem about broken glass, safety issues and nasty rubbish in the recycling bins into another arena – the waste disposal station where people presumably will have to re-sort actual household rubbish from bottles and tins ?

The size of these bins will ENCOURAGE people to fill them up – rather than reduce their waste.

Another aspect you may not have considered is that the open recycling crates do deter a person from putting very nasty stuff into them – in most cases. Ditto the plastic bags – it's a bit obvious if you try to stuff an enormous old carpet or some insanitary product into them. There is a deterrent aspect to not being seen to be a nasty dirty neighbour with awful household habits. The current system provides that deterrent.

You do not give any information about the cost of replacing our current recycling crates with 240L wheelie bins so therefore questions arise :

Are you thinking of reducing roadside rubbish collections from once a week, to perhaps once a month ? or a fortnightly collection ?

If there is a replacement from weekly collection, don't you think it might be more difficult for people to remember the date for a fortnightly collection or even a monthly one ?

For those people genuinely trying to reduce their rubbish – I'm assuming they would be inclined to put out their 240L wheelie bin when it is full.

- (a) This might not coincide with the rubbish collection cycle
- (b) This will result in a extremely smelly bin when it is finally put out

The current system with recyclable crates and pre-purchased plastic rubbish bags works well in most situations. What is the benefit of changing it ? Is it the cost to the council, is it the cost to the ratepayer and resident, or is it of benefit to the waste management companies employed by the council to do the work?

**You ask : How can we solve the problem of high waste volumes during the peak holiday periods?**

The easiest answer is to provide more, and slightly bigger, litter bins at peak holiday places, and increase the collection of these ie maybe have to collect/dispose of the rubbish every day rather than every three days or whatever is the current situation.

**You ask - should we add green waste recycling at transfer station –**

The basic answer is : Yes. The amount of lawn clippings, leaf litter, prunings etc sometimes (particularly in rainy and humid weather) can overwhelm the average householder . Easy disposal at a transfer station would be helpful, and could also provide the basis for a council-operated composting plant which could become self-funding after the initial set-up process.

You also do not give any idea of costs of replacing this service.

I would like to know the current costs of the service, and the future projected costs, and I'd also like to know WHY you are thinking of changing a simple, easy to understand, system.

Will there be any hearings or explanatory meetings to discuss these issues ?

Please advise.

Thank You,  
Jenny Kirk



### RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

That the public be excluded from the following parts of proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

1.	The making available of information would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of persons who are the subject of the
2.	To enable the council (the committee) to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations. {(Section 7(2)(i)}.
3.	To protect the privacy of natural persons. {Section 7(2)(a)}.
4.	Publicity prior to successful prosecution of the individuals named would be contrary to the laws of natural justice and may constitute contempt of court.
5.	To protect information which is the subject to an obligation of confidence, the publication of such information would be likely to prejudice the supply of information from the same source and <b>it is</b> in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.
6.	In order to maintain legal professional privilege. {Section 2(g)}.
7.	To enable the council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations {Section 7(2)(i)}.

### Resolution to allow members of the public to remain

If the council/committee wishes members of the public to remain during discussion of confidential items the following additional recommendation will need to be passed:

#### **Move/Second**

permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of his/her/their knowledge of \_\_\_\_\_

This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because \_\_\_\_\_

*Note:*

*Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public.*