

27 July 2010

File Ref. 92-03-02

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION PLAN REVIEW

1 PROPOSAL

To inform Council of the proposed process to review Council's Waste Management Plan 2005 in accordance with the requirements of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

2 SUMMARY

Council's Waste Management Plan was adopted in 2005 under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 and currently remains in force (attached as Appendix 1).

The Plan needs to be reviewed as a requirement of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 ('the Act'), which has introduced a number of new provisions for solid waste planning and management and imposes additional responsibilities on Local Government. A summary of the key provisions of the new Act is attached as Appendix 2.

A key requirement of the Act is that territorial authorities must review their waste management and minimisation plans no later than 1 July 2012. The Act also sets a levy on all waste disposed to landfills, some of which is then returned to local government to help fund initiatives that promote and achieve waste minimisation. The initiatives need to have been outlined in Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan to qualify for the funding. Reviewing the current Waste Management Plan to include specific minimisation initiatives will meet that requirement.

The review of the Waste Management Plan will also form part of the lead up work towards the development of the Long Term Plan 2012-22.

The purpose of this report is to advise Council on the proposed process to review the Waipa District Waste Management Plan in order to meet the requirements of the Act.

3 RECOMMENDATION

That

- a) *The report of the Senior Planner Sandra Des Forges dated 19th July 2010 be received;*
- b) *The Policy Committee endorse the proposed process, as outlined below, for reviewing the Waipa District Waste Management Plan 2005 as required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.*

ACTIONS	KEY DATES	STATUS
Establish project team	June 2010 - July 2010	Achieved
Form reference group	June 2010 - August 2010	Underway
Develop scoping document, project plan and communications plan	December 2009 - August 2010	Underway
Present process to Council	August 2010	Underway
Conduct waste assessment (3 months)	June – September 2010	Underway
Draft Waste Assessment, including identification of options	June – October 2010	Underway
Present outcome of waste assessment and confirm direction with Council, identify preferred options	September-November 2010	
Prepare draft WMMP	October 2010-February 2011	
Draft WMMP approved by Policy Committee for consultation	March 2011 (with draft Annual Plan)	
Consultation period	March/April 2011 (with draft Annual Plan)	
Council hearings of submissions	May	
Feedback reviewed and WMMP updated (if required)	May-June 2011	
WMMP presented to Policy Committee for approval to go through to Council for adoption	June 2011 (with amended draft Annual Plan)	
WMMP adopted by Council	June 2011	

4 LEGAL

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 came into effect on 25 September 2008 and represents Central Government's approach to managing and minimising waste. In terms of section 50 of the Waste Minimisation Act, Council's current Waste Management Plan will need to be reviewed and the final Waste

Management and Minimisation Plan completed by no later than 1 July 2012. The Plan is then to be reviewed six yearly.

5 COUNCIL POLICY

Council adopted a Waste Management Plan in 1997. This Plan was reviewed in 2005 and Council's current Waste Management Plan is attached as Appendix 1. Council's recently adopted Environment Strategy has a section on waste, which will need to be referred to in development of the new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan to ensure appropriate alignment is achieved.

6 BACKGROUND

Council adopted a Waste Management Plan in 1997. The Plan set out goals, policies and actions based on the circumstances prevalent at the time for management of waste in the District. This Plan was reviewed in 2005 as there had been significant changes in the District's management of solid waste, including the closure of its landfill in Cambridge and the opening of two privately owned/operated transfer stations.

While Council remains committed to waste reduction it has become apparent that some of the objectives in the 'Waste Management Plan 2005' (and in particular the elimination of waste to landfill by 2015) were unrealistic, and with the introduction of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 a revision of the Plan is now considered necessary.

The Act requires that Territorial Authorities conduct a waste assessment and adopt a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) for their district by 1 July 2012.

7 COMMENT

Planning for the review of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan began earlier this year. To date a staff project team has been established and a key stakeholder reference group is being formed. Input from key stakeholders/reference group will be sought throughout the project and Council will be regularly updated on progress. Key milestones for the review include the steps outlined in section 3 of this report.

8 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications arising from the review of Council's Waste Management Plan can be catered for within existing approved budgets. The new waste levy funding is available to help fund any proposed initiatives outlined in the New Waste Management and Minimisation Plan that are targeted at minimising waste within Waipa District.

9 PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNICATION

The review of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan will follow the Local Government Act 2002 special consultative procedure and also involve the following communication with stakeholders and the public:

- A staff project team has been established to guide the project planning and development
- An external reference group is being established with key stakeholders from the waste industry and other interested parties
- Possible options for addressing waste minimisation and management in Waipa will be considered at a workshop with Council's Policy Committee in September
- The Statement of Proposal, including a summary of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, will be advertised in the local papers.
- The Statement of Proposal will also be sent to the identified stakeholders.
- All submissions and correspondence will be acknowledged.
- Submitters will have the opportunity to be heard by Council's Policy Committee.
- The outcome(s) of the review will be sent to all submitters.
- The approved Waste Management and Minimisation Plan will be made available on the Council website www.waipadc.govt.nz and through either of Council's offices or libraries.

Sandra Des Forges
SENIOR PLANNER

Peer reviewed by Jennie McFarlane
MANAGER LEGAL AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

Approved by Gary Knighton
MANAGER STRATEGY

ROSS McNEIL, GROUP MANAGER PLANNING & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

APPENDIX 1

WAIPA DISTRICT WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2005

APPENDIX 2

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS OF WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT 2008

The purpose of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 is to:
encourage waste minimisation and a decrease in waste disposal in order to—
(a) protect the environment from harm; and
(b) provide environmental, social, economic, and cultural benefits.

The new Act:

- Requires territorial authorities to promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within their districts
- Requires territorial authorities to review their waste management and minimisation plans not later than 1 July 2012, and then at intervals of not more than 6 years after the last review
- Requires territorial authorities to undertake a waste assessment prior to developing the waste management and minimisation plans
- Puts a levy on all waste disposed of in landfills to generate funding to help local government, communities and businesses develop initiatives that promote and achieve waste minimisation
- Helps and, when necessary makes, producers, brand owners, importers, retailers, consumers and other parties take responsibility for the environmental effects from their products at end-of-life – from ‘cradle-to-grave’
- Allows for regulations to be made making it mandatory for territorial authorities and others (for example, landfill operators) to report on waste to improve information on waste minimisation
- Introduces a new Board to give independent advice to the Minister for the Environment on waste minimisation issues.

A full copy of the Act is available or can be read on www.mfe.govt.nz under its Waste page.