WAIPA DISTRICT COUNCIL STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

WAIPA WASTE STRATEGY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION PLAN

JULY 2017

0800 WAIPADC (924 723) www.waipadc.govt.nz
This Statement of Proposal is made for the purposes of Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 and relates to section 44 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008. It includes:

- background to the proposal
- a description of the proposal
- reasons for the proposal
- how to have your say.

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Our Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) is used to make sure we are managing waste in the right way. The plan sets our focus for the next six years and looks at what our money and people-power will be spent on.

It’s now time to review our WMMP and we want your help to set the direction for managing waste in Waipa.

But, there’s more. This time we have taken it a step further and are also creating an 18-year Waipa Waste Strategy. This strategy will guide our next three WMMPs and achieve our vision to build zero waste and sustainable communities.

The 2017-2023 WMMP aims to meet the first four goals in the 18-year Waipa Waste Strategy, and lay the foundations for the future of waste management in our district.

Rubbish and recycling is a shared responsibility and we want to know what you think. So share the load and help us tackle the issue of recycling, rubbish and resources in Waipa!

HAVE YOUR SAY
Feedback is open until 5pm, 3 August 2017.
More information is available at waipadc.govt.nz/haveyoursay
THE LOW-DOWN ON RUBBISH AND RECYCLING IN WAIPA

WASTE
When we say waste we mean anything that is no longer wanted or useful to us, and we have thrown out. A lot of waste you will be most familiar with is your household rubbish. More often than not we are throwing out things that could be used again in a better way, such as food waste to compost and items that could be recycled.

Based on national figures, we can estimate that each year the average household puts out:

- **195kg** of recycling
- **468kg** of rubbish

RECYCLING
Council provides a weekly kerbside recycling collection which is then transported to a materials recovery facility at Kopu on the outskirts of Thames. This service is paid for through a targeted rate, so only those who can receive the service pay for it.

Each household’s 195kg of recycling is made up of:

- **46%** glass bottles and jars - that’s around **528** bottles of beer per household every year.
- **37%** paper and cardboard - that’s around **360** newspapers per household every year.
- **17%** plastic and tins - that’s around **650** baked beans tins per household every year.

We’ve made leaps and bounds with our recycling efforts since we introduced kerbside recycling in 2012, but we can still do a lot more to reduce the amount of rubbish that goes to landfill.
RUBBISH
Rubbish collections in Waipa are not managed by Council, there are a number of private companies that each household can choose from.

Our rubbish is taken to privately owned refuse transfer stations in Cambridge and Te Awamutu, where it is bulked together, before being sent to a landfill in Hampton Downs. Waipa doesn’t have its own landfill site and currently sees no need to. This is due to the cost to create one with high environmental standards and because we have one nearby.

In 2015-2016 Waipa disposed of:

22,000 TONNES of general waste to landfill. That’s over 3,600 adult elephants!

59,000 TONNES of waste created by farms. That’s nearly 12,000 farm tractors!

It’s one of Council’s goals to reduce how much rubbish we send to landfill. Our next step is to look at ways to get better information from the private companies we work with, so we can plan for the future of rubbish in our district.

OTHER WASTE
We also need to consider some of the trickiest waste we have – hazardous waste. This kind of waste often requires treatment before it can be sent to landfill or disposed of safely. Hazardous waste can be medical, solvents, oils, content of septic tanks, timber preservatives, heavy metals and even garden or kitchen chemicals, bleaches and glues.

Waipa does not currently have permanent facilities to collect or dispose of hazardous waste. Instead we support various hazardous waste disposal programmes such as Agrecovery, to help farmers dispose of chemical waste.
WAIPA WASTE STRATEGY 2017–2035

OUR VISION: BUILDING ZERO WASTE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

The Waipa Waste Strategy is a new document that we’ve chosen to produce. The Strategy provides us with a longer-term view of waste management and minimisation activities over the next 18 years.

The aim is to change attitudes to waste in Waipa by:

• changing our view of waste as a problem, to waste as a resource so there is no ‘waste’ at all
• building our resource recovery capacity so that waste is reused and recycled back into our communities and local economy
• collecting, monitoring and using waste data to plan for the future.

This strategy will guide the next three waste management and minimisation plans. Each plan will build on the previous until we have all the processes in place to embrace a circular economy where resources naturally flow back into production and reuse.
WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION PLAN 2017-2023

The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan provides all the details of what we’re going to do for the next six years to achieve our Waste Strategy.

We know we can improve on our waste management and minimisation in Waipa. We’re throwing out an increasing amount of waste which ends up in landfill, when a good portion of it could be reused or recycled. We also know that compared to other councils around New Zealand, we’re in the middle of the pack for how much we recycle. All of New Zealand can do better with recycling, on average we recycle less than other OECD countries.

In order to change our situation, we need to do some background work first. We need to update our Solid Waste Bylaw to be consistent with our neighbouring districts so we don’t become the dumping ground for others’ waste. By developing a regionally consistent bylaw we are ensuring our bylaws are not weaker than our surrounding councils. We don’t want it to be easier or cheaper to dispose of waste in Waipa!

We also need to have better access to information about our rubbish and recycling so that we know what infrastructure we should invest in for the future. This means taking a closer look at what is going into our rubbish bags and looking at ways we can reduce this.

This information will help us to investigate options for how to manage our waste better in the future, promote the right initiatives and educate our community on how to manage their own rubbish and recycling better.

Our 2017-2023 WMMP aims to:

- **Reduce Rubbish and Increase Resource Recovery**
- **Collect Waste Information for Informed Decision Making**
- **Investigate Options for and Develop Effective Waste Services and Facilities**
- **Connect with Our Community by Developing Collaborative Partnerships**
WHAT WE DO NOW

• Provide kerbside recycling for both urban and rural communities.
• Provide around 450 rubbish bins at parks and public places across Waipa.
• Pick up illegally dumped rubbish and provide education about better ways to dispose of it. In just six months Council spent over 2000 hours picking up rubbish.
• Work with Waikato District, Hamilton City and Bay of Plenty Councils to deliver consistent education campaigns.
• Research and plan about how to best manage our rubbish.
• Provide dedicated waste minimisation programmes in schools. For example a four step programme that:
  1. looks inside the school rubbish bins (a waste audit)
  2. provides education to staff and students
  3. sets up waste minimisation bins if needed
  4. takes students on a tour of a resource recovery centre to learn what happens to their recycling and waste.
• Administer a $50,000 community fund for waste projects that allows the community to take ownership and implement their own ideas to reduce waste in Waipa. In the past we’ve:
  o worked with local marae to implement recycling initiatives
  o funded workshops on how to reduce the waste we create e.g. re-useable nappies, moving away from disposable coffee cups, how to use your leftover food and plastic-free living
  o provided schools with recycling and composting bins
  o sent local community groups to waste management workshops.
WHAT WE'RE PROPOSING

OVER THE NEXT SIX YEARS WE'RE PLANNING TO:

• look at other options to process our recycling within Waipa (like recycling processing sites), so we don’t have to rely on those outside Waipa and New Zealand to do it for us
• educate Waipa residents on how to reduce food waste so that food doesn’t end up in landfill
• investigate how to increase resource recovery in our communities. This could mean working with existing groups (e.g. second hand shops) or building a purpose built facility so we can on-sell, repair and recycle more products
• improve options for the disposal of household hazardous waste
• investigate options to support businesses to reduce rubbish and increase recycling
• promote the use of recycle friendly options to manufacturers and encourage them to take responsibility for their products at the end of its life
• introduce education programmes for farmers, businesses and the elderly to help manage their waste better
• advocate to introduce a nationwide refund on glass, plastic and aluminium bottles and cans.
HOW ARE WE PLANNING TO PAY FOR IT?

The cost of this plan is funded in several different ways.

WASTE MINIMISATION FUND

The bulk of our funding comes from the Ministry for the Environment’s national waste levy. Council receives a share of the funds based on our population. The majority of our activities are funded using the waste levy. It is estimated our Council’s total share of the funding will be $178,000 each year.

RATES

The rest of the funds are made up of general rates, New Zealand Transport Agency funding and targeted rates (which is a charge for those who receive a recycling service). Funding of any additional projects, such as a local resource recovery centre, would be consulted with the community.

HAVE YOUR SAY

WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT OUR PLAN TO MANAGE WASTE IN WAIPA.

Copies of the Statement of Proposal, draft Waipa Waste Strategy and Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and submission forms are available:

- online at the Council’s website: www.waipadc.govt.nz/haveyoursay
- at Council offices and libraries
- by phoning 0800 WAIPA DC (924 723) and requesting a copy.

SUBMISSIONS CAN BE MADE IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- **Online:**
  - www.waipadc.govt.nz/haveyoursay

- **Emailed to:**
  - submissions@waipadc.govt.nz
    - Subject heading should read: Waipa waste proposal

- **Delivered to:**
  - Waipa District Council, 101 Bank St, Te Awamutu
  - Waipa District Council, 23 Wilson St, Cambridge

- **Posted to:**
  - Waipa District Council
    - Attn: Waipa waste proposal
    - Private Bag 2402
    - Te Awamutu 3840

If you wish to present your comments in person, Council will hear verbal submissions on 5 September 2017.

All submissions need to be received by Waipa District Council by 5pm on 3 August 2017.