



Waitaki District Council

Waste Minimisation & Management Plan 2024-30

www.waitaki.govt.nz



Once upon a time, we dumped rubbish right next to the coast...

Now, we're paying the price. The sea is eating into the old Hampden dump and two places on Beach Road where rubbish was just thrown off the cliff. We've got to move that junk before it ends up in the ocean.

What does that tell us?

We've got to do better, and we've got to think to our future.

And that's what this new plan is about.



Visit www.projectreclaim.nz for more info
on management of our historic waste sites

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Foreword from the CE

We live in one of the most beautiful parts of one of the most spectacular countries. Residents have told us they love the environment of our district and visitors from around the world are drawn to what our environment has to offer. However, as a country we are generating more waste and too much of this is going in to “landfill” or holes in the ground.

The way we think about “waste” needs to change. We need to create less waste and the waste we do create, we need to reuse instead of throwing it away. And we need to take steps towards a “circular economy” where nothing goes to waste and all resources are reused. This means change for everyone, including what we do with waste in our homes and businesses and how we manage waste as a community and across our beautiful district.

This plan has the Council’s community outcomes (its aims and ambitions for our district) at its foundation – to value our environment, to have strong communities, to have quality services and to be a prosperous district – ultimately, to empower our people and place to thrive. And in order to do that we need to act now, together as a community, to look after our resources for future generations and minimise how much waste we are creating.

All councils are required under the law, to develop and implement a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. The plan will guide what we do with waste over the next six years. We have changed the name of our plan to Waste Minimisation and Management Plan. We have placed “Minimisation” ahead of ‘Management’, because we believe we need to minimise how much waste we create in our district before we have to manage it.

We consulted on our draft Plan during February 2024. We heard there was a lot of support for more education and more initiatives to reduce waste. Many people also want us to provide ways to recycle more construction and demolition waste, as well as reuse organic waste such as food scraps and garden waste. In general, the feedback we received during the consultation, supported our plan and the proposals within it to help minimise waste and recycle more. Our plan sets out how we can all work together and be provided with more waste solutions that make sense for our district and different communities.

The Government released a new Waste Strategy, Te rautaki para, in 2023 and this, together with extreme weather events, coastal landfill remediation, population growth and increased community awareness, means that waste will be one of our big issues and greatest challenges in years to come. Given those challenges this plan is quite different from our previous one. It has been created to give us flexibility and options to be responsive to the needs and wants of our community as we move to a Waste Free Waitaki future.

There are four main action areas we all need to focus on. We want to step up as a council and community and have greater leadership and collaboration on waste

solutions. We all need to engage with these challenges with council raising awareness through education. We need to consider what infrastructure and collections will be needed to provide the right level of service and meet our waste minimisation and recycling ambitions. We will also need a good monitoring system to ensure we are doing all of this well, we are delivering on our ambitions and identifying when we need new solutions.

This is a plan is for our community and our council.

Alex Parmley

**Chief Executive
Waitaki District Council**



Introduction

A new plan for our community

2023 saw the review of our Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018 - 2024 (WMMP). The review process requires a waste assessment to be undertaken to determine if a new plan is needed, which we undertook as a region-wide assessment.

The Otago Region Waste Assessment looked at the current waste situation in Otago, the future demand for waste services and identified gaps and key issues that needed to be addressed. It also concluded that Waitaki District Council needed to revoke the WMMP 2018 – 24 and create a new one.

This new WMMP will guide the waste work we do over the next six years and has also taken a longer-term lens to determining the areas where we will focus our efforts now to ensure we are protecting resources and the environment for the future.

The structure of our WMMP

Our WMMP is in three parts.

Section 1 - Where are we now: This part explains the changing world of waste, what our current waste picture is and what the key issues we are facing are, as well as what we anticipate our future demands for waste minimisation and management to be.

Section 2 - Where do we want to go: This part presents a new vision for waste minimisation and management for our community, as well as our goals and objectives to meet that vision.

Section 3 - How are we going to get there: This contains the Action Plan, which sets out specific strategies and initiatives for achieving the vision of the WMMP, and considerations for what we may need to do as the national waste environment evolves. It also shows how the strategies and initiatives will be funded, and how we will monitor progress against these to meet our vision.

1.0 Where are we now?

1.1 The changing world of waste

1.1.1 What is waste and why is it a problem?

Most of the materials we use or create end up in landfill once we are finished with them. Every year New Zealanders generate 17 million tonnes of waste, and we send 13 million tonnes to landfill.

The way we manage that waste is behind many other developed countries. In 2021 an estimated 700 kilograms of waste per person was sent to landfills, making us one of the highest generators of waste per person in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

When we don't manage waste creation or disposal as well as we could, it costs us and our environment and it can have impacts on public health, as well as leave challenges for future generations.

We can do better.

We can take measures to ensure less waste is created and more of what is created is minimised or diverted from landfill. We can consider the environmental impact of our waste management and minimisation solutions and waste disposal. And we can ensure public health is protected through our waste solutions. Last but not least we can do better together with our government and community partners.

The Waste Minimisation Act defines waste as *“anything that is disposed of or discarded”* and waste minimisation as *“the reduction of waste and the reuse, recycling, and recovery of waste and diverted material”*. Diverted material is described as anything that is *“no longer required for its original purpose and, but for commercial or other waste minimisation activities, would be disposed of or discarded”*.

Our WMMP covers all solid waste – anything disposed of to landfill – in the district, and all waste management and minimisation solutions.

There are areas where Council will have direct involvement in management and minimisation of waste and areas where the private sector and community can have direct involvement.

This WMMP considers all of these areas and what role Council will take, whether it be to provide solutions, or to facilitate or support solutions, or to acknowledge a solution is needed.



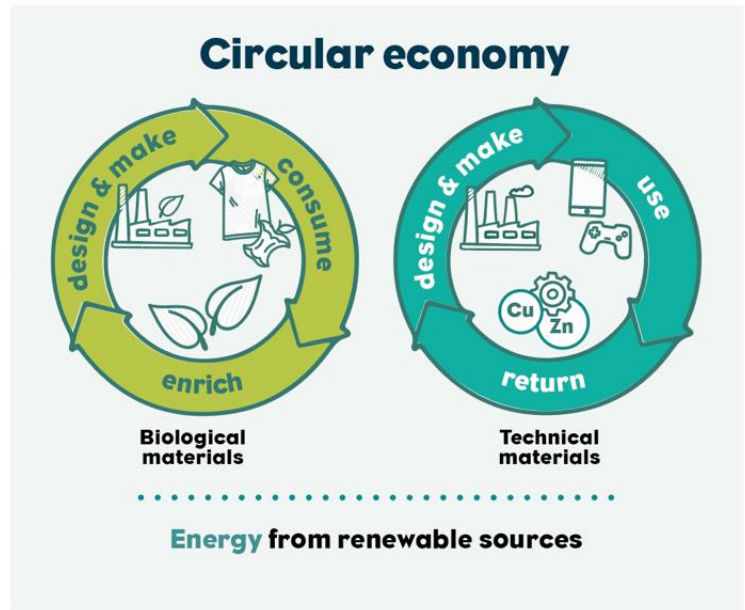
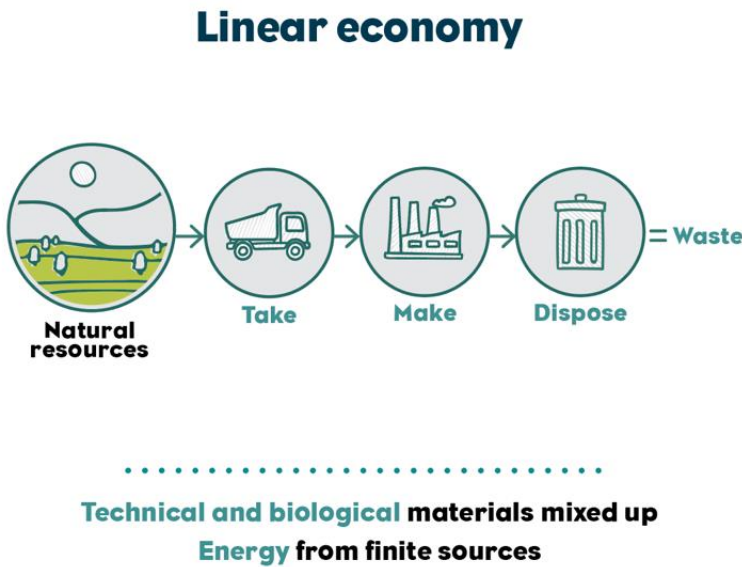
1.1.2 A new waste strategy

In March of 2023, the Ministry for the Environment (MfE), released a new waste strategy for our country – Te rautaki para (TRP) - that gave us a new high-level strategic direction to head in together.

TRP has the following vision:

“By 2050, Aotearoa New Zealand is a low-emissions, low-waste society, built upon a circular economy.

We cherish our inseparable connection with the natural environment and look after the planet’s finite resources with care and responsibility”



TRP’s vision is supported by six guiding principles:

- 1) Take responsibility for how we make, use, manage and dispose of things.
- 2) Apply the waste hierarchy preferences to how we manage materials.
- 3) Protect and regenerate the natural environment and its systems.
- 4) Deliver equitable and inclusive outcomes.
- 5) Ensure our systems for using, managing and disposing of materials are financially sustainable.
- 6) Think across systems, places and generations.

At the time of writing this WMMP there are several proposed changes to how we, as a country and a community, are expected to manage and minimise waste to meet the vision of TRP. Some parts of the national waste strategy, Te rautaki para, are already happening:

- There are bans on plastic products – plastic supermarket bags, plastic produce bags, plastic straws and tableware
- The waste disposal levy¹ has gone up and applies to more landfills than previously
- The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and Litter Act 1979 are under review.
- New Zealand's first Emissions Reduction Plan has been done and part 2 is being developed and looks at food and garden waste which creates greenhouse gas emissions in landfills.
- A number of product stewardship schemes² are being developed for things like tyres, farm plastics and chemicals, e-waste and soft plastics.
- Standardisation of recycling collected at kerbside by Councils starts in 2024.
- Minimum standards for how much is diverted from kerbside collections are proposed from 2024.
- Council-controlled urban household recycling and food scraps collections may be required from 1 January 2027 for any councils that don't currently have them.

With the adoption of TRP, and further proposed changes, we need to consider how we approach waste solutions and resource recovery. We also need to consider how we can do this more efficiently and effectively with our regional and community partners.



1.2 The purpose of our WMMP

1.2.1 Why do we need a WMMP?

The Council has a statutory role in managing waste; we are required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) to promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within Waitaki. We also have obligations under the Health Act 1956 to ensure that our waste management systems protect public health.

The WMA also requires councils to adopt a WMMP and, under section 50 of the Act, review it every six years to assess if it is fit for purpose or needs to be revoked and rewritten.

Waitaki's last WMMP was adopted in 2018 and was reviewed as part of the Otago Region Waste Assessment.

The Otago Region Waste Assessment was provided to the Medical Officer of Health for review in accordance with section 51 of the WMA.

The Medical Officer of Health provided the following recommendations and comment:

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that all Territorial Authorities:

1. *continuously review reprocessing collection and infrastructure of plastics/other recyclables as technology and economics allow. This includes ongoing audits to inform current practice.*
2. *engage more closely with private operators to obtain better information on waste quantities generated.*
3. *review potential opportunities for the use of biosolids on an ongoing basis.*
4. *communicate and engage with their communities (including iwi) on any changes to existing services, waste streams and recycling kerbside collections. This includes the ongoing review and development of waste education and minimisation programmes that engage with businesses and schools.*
5. *review workforce planning in relation to delivering waste management programmes.*
6. *work towards standardisation of waste management practices across Otago. This will help realise economies of scale that may be possible — particularly in relation to recyclables.*

Summary comment - The WMMP will need to show a clear direction/change in practice that demonstrates a more efficient use of resources and waste diversion.

Our WMMP 2018 – 24 had a vision of:

“People in Waitaki choose to minimise and divert their waste to the greatest extent possible”

Most of the actions in the WMMP 2018 – 24 have been completed with a small number of actions carried forward to be completed under this WMMP.

The draft WMMP 2024 - 30 sets the strategic framework and priorities for minimising and managing waste in Waitaki. The actions in the final WMMP 2024 - 30 will be carried forward into our long term and annual plans to ensure we have the resources to deliver its goals and objectives.

1.2.2 What informs our WMMP?

Our WMMP is a plan for our community. It must meet legislated requirements, but it also needs to be right for us.

Our WMMP must meet requirements set out in the Waste Minimisation Act, including to:

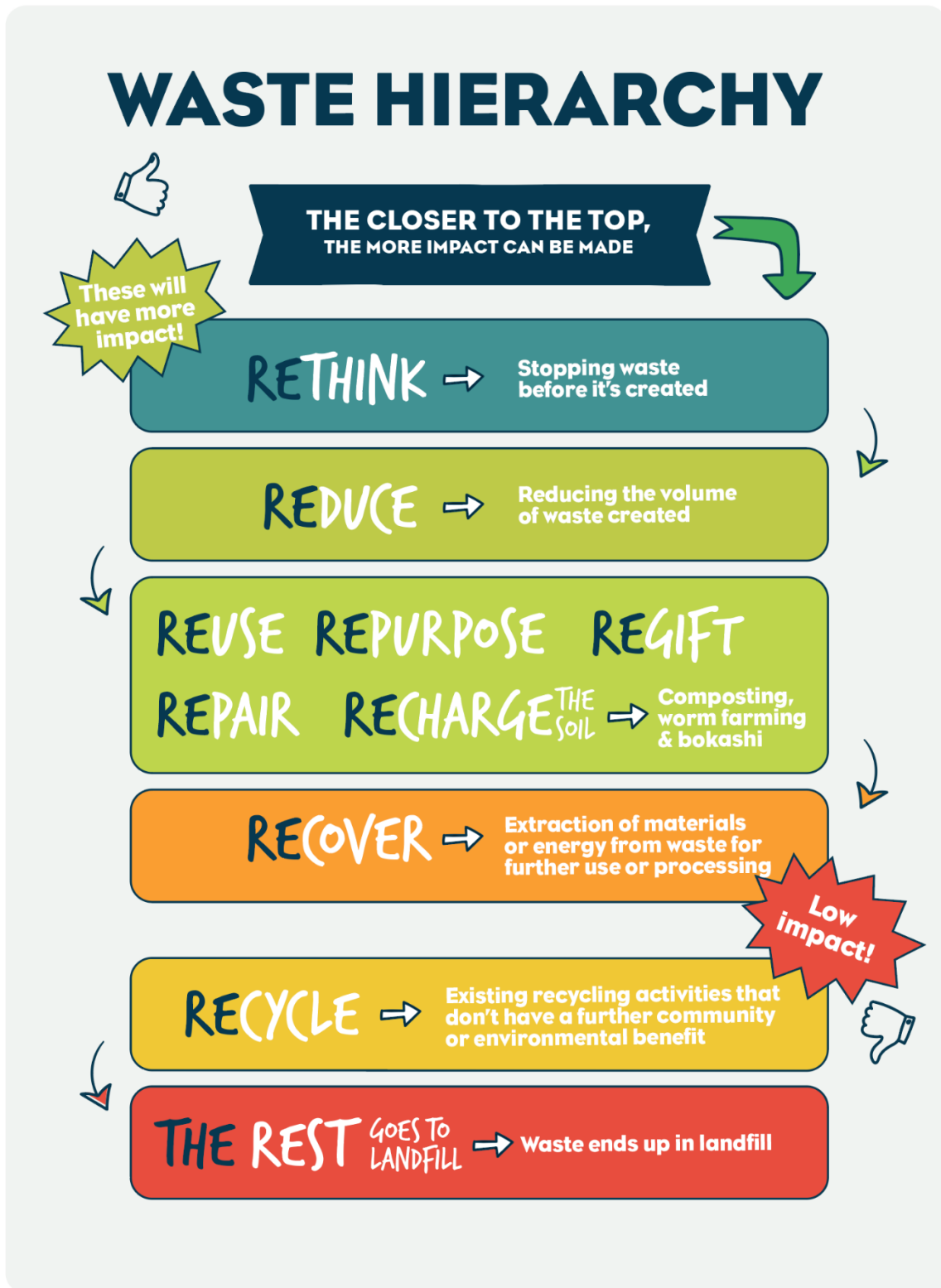
- Consider the 'Waste Hierarchy' (see figure 1).
- Ensure waste does not create a nuisance.
- Have regard to Te rautaki para /Waste Strategy and other key government policies, which emphasise a circular economy for waste.
- Consider the outcomes of the Otago Regional Waste Assessment.
- Consider the feedback from the Medical Officer of Health.
- Follow the Special Consultative Procedure set out in the Local Government Act (2002).



1.2.3 The waste hierarchy

The waste hierarchy shows that reducing, reusing, recycling and recovering waste is preferable to disposal.

Figure 1: The Waste Hierarchy



1.2.4 Other relevant strategies and plans

Our WMMP must align with, or support, other national and local legislation, strategies and plans. These include:

- Local Government Act 2002
- Resource Management Act 1991
- New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (under the Climate Change Response Act 2002)
- Litter Act 1979
- Health Act 1956
- Climate Change Response Act 2002
- Emissions Reduction Plan
- International agreements
- Waitaki District Council's strategic framework and community outcomes
- Waitaki District Council's Long Term and Annual Plans

1.3 Waitaki's current waste situation

1.3.1 Our District

The Waitaki district has 24,300 residents and covers 7,148 km². Oamaru is the district administrative centre. Waitaki district is split between the Canterbury and Otago region, with most of its population (90.1%) living in the Otago region.

The industries that contribute most to the district's economic growth are Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing and Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste services. The Construction and Retail sectors are also large contributors.³

Within the Otago region, Waitaki has a lower-than-average population density, and average GDP growth and household income.

1.3.2 Current waste service provision and infrastructure

The waste-related services provided to our community currently can be grouped into the following categories:

- management of historic waste sites
- collection and processing of dry recyclable materials
- collection and processing of organic waste
- collection and disposal of waste and litter
- drop-off facilities for waste, recycling and organic materials
- resource recovery for divertible materials
- education and engagement on waste management, minimisation and diversion
- contestable funding for community and private sector waste minimisation and diversion initiatives

³ Infometrics site - [ecoprofile.infometrics.co.nz/Waitaki District/Infographics/Overview](https://ecoprofile.infometrics.co.nz/Waitaki-District/Infographics/Overview)

These services are provided in the following ways:

<p>Management of historic waste sites</p>	<p>Council monitors and manages 14 closed landfill sites</p>
<p>Collection and processing of dry recyclable materials</p>	<p>Waste Management provides a recycling service for businesses</p> <p>Waste Co. provides a household kerbside service for households and businesses</p> <p>Awamoa Bins and Skips provides a household kerbside service for households and businesses</p> <p>Waitaki Resource Recovery Park provides processing facilities for recyclables</p>
<p>Collection and processing of organic waste</p>	<p>Awamoa Bins and Skips provides a green waste pick up service</p> <p>Waste Management provides a green waste pick up or drop off service</p> <p>Waitaki Resource Recovery Park provides green waste drop off and processing</p>
<p>Collection and disposal of waste and litter</p>	<p>Council provides public place litter bins</p> <p>Council provides collection and removal of litter and illegally dumped rubbish from council-controlled public places</p> <p>Council provides monitoring and enforcement of the Litter Act 1979</p> <p>Waste Management provides a household kerbside collection service and skips for households and businesses</p> <p>Waste Co provides a household kerbside collection service and skips for households and businesses</p> <p>Awamoa Bins and Skips provides a household kerbside collection service and skips for households and businesses</p>
<p>Drop-off facilities for waste, recycling and organic materials</p>	<p>Waste Management provides transfer station facilities for rubbish and green waste drop-off</p>

	<p>Waitaki Resource Recovery Park provides drop off for a wide range of recyclable materials, green waste and rubbish</p> <p>Council provides four rural transfer stations for drop-off of rubbish, recycling and green waste and three rural recycling hubs for drop off of standard recyclable materials</p>
<p>Resource recovery for divertible materials</p>	<p>Waitaki Resource Recovery Park Ōamaru offers drop off of a range of recyclable materials including, e-waste, polystyrene, batteries etc, as well as a reuse store for second hand items</p> <p>Hampden Community Energy provide a reuse store and construction and demolition diversion services</p> <p>Waihemo Wastebusters offers drop off of a range of recyclable materials including, e-waste, polystyrene, batteries etc, as well as a reuse store for second hand items</p>
<p>Education and engagement on waste management, minimisation and diversion</p>	<p>Council provides waste minimisation information and education</p> <p>Resource Recovery Network provide waste minimisation and education</p>
<p>Contestable funding for community and private sector waste minimisation and diversion initiatives</p>	<p>Council provides the annual Waitaki Waste Minimisation Fund with a contestable amount of \$30,000 per annum and maximum of \$5,000 per successful application to be awarded. Council also provides the Waste Minimisation Education small projects Fund for education centres to be able to access \$200 towards a waste minimisation or diversion project.</p>



1.3.3 How much waste is there?

Last year, the Waitaki district sent 9,433 tonnes of waste to landfill – an average of 396 kilograms per person. 2,460 tonnes of waste was diverted from landfill, through kerbside recycling collections or by being dropped off to a resource recovery or recycling site.

1.3.4 What happens with our waste?

Waste in Waitaki is either collected from households and businesses by private service providers and taken to a refuse transfer station (RTS), or taken directly to an RTS by households and industry. The waste then gets consolidated at the RTS's and taken out of district for disposal, with the majority of the waste going to a landfill in Southland and some to a landfill in Canterbury.

Because Council doesn't provide any kerbside services in Waitaki, and we don't have a bylaw to require reporting or auditing, we have a lack of data to inform an in-depth and across the board picture of waste disposal in Waitaki. Also contributing to this is where disposal happens elsewhere, such as farm waste disposal or at class 2 – 5 landfills⁴.

We do know, however, that there is high diversion potential for much of our district's waste.

⁴ Class 2 – 5 landfills are sites that only accept construction and demolition waste (2), or inert material from construction and demolition, or earthworks sites (3&4), or only virgin excavated natural material (5).

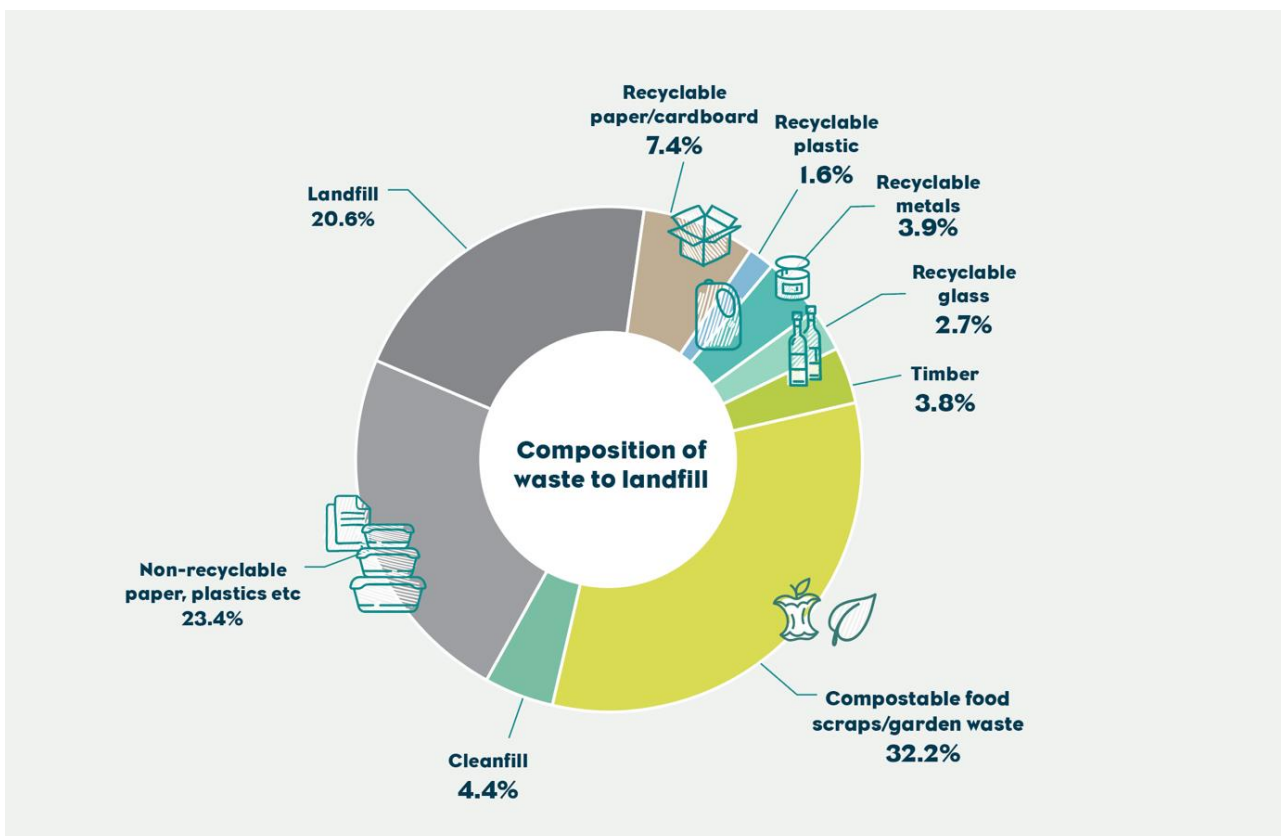
1.3.5 Composition of waste to landfill

We know that approximately one third of what we dispose of at the Oamaru RTS is organic waste, mostly composed of food scraps and garden waste. Organic waste in landfill is problematic as it produces greenhouse gases when it breaks down, and it is a missed opportunity to create a beneficial product to feed back into our soils.

Approximately 15% is also highly recyclable material that could have been captured either in a kerbside recycling collection or by being dropped off to one of our community resource recovery sites or transfer stations.

Construction waste - such as timber, cleanfill and concrete/rubble - makes up just over 8% of what goes to Oamaru RTS and is another waste stream with high reuse potential that we aren't realising with our current waste management and minimisation behaviour.

Figure 2 - Indicative waste to landfill composition in Waitaki, based on Solid Waste Analysis Protocol (SWAP) at Oamaru RTS, 2022 (excluding hazardous waste)



Using the data that Council has, and information from audits at Oamaru RTS, and other similar sized districts, we can make reasonable assumptions about the source of our waste generation.

Two thirds of the food scraps disposed of to landfill from the Waitaki district are likely from households and captured in kerbside rubbish collections. A large proportion of garden waste disposed of to landfill also likely comes from households. Comparative data shows that households that use 240L wheelie bins for waste are more likely to put garden/green waste into their waste wheelie bin. Recyclable glass, plastic, tin and cardboard that ends up in landfill is likely to be from both businesses and households.

The Otago Region Waste Assessment looked at waste generation by source across the region, based on data from 2020. Table 1 shows this below.

Table 1

Otago region primary compositions of waste to Class 1 landfills - - 2020	Construction & demolition	Industrial/ commercial/ institutional	Landscaping	Residential
Paper	2.6%	18.2%	0.3%	8.4%
Plastics	2.6%	24.6%	0.7%	7.7%
Organic	1.0%	15.0%	80.2%	12.4%
Ferrous metals	2.2%	2.9%	0.0%	11.2%
Non-ferrous metals	0.1%	0.6%	0.0%	0.8%
Glass	0.4%	2.5%	0.0%	2.1%
Textiles	2.3%	7.8%	0.2%	17.0%
Sanitary paper	0.0%	4.3%	0.0%	0.7%
Rubble & concrete	35.4%	6.0%	17.3%	2.9%
Timber	51.7%	14.5%	1.3%	35.7%
Rubber	1.0%	2.1%	0.0%	0.6%
Potentially hazardous	0.7%	1.6%	0.0%	0.4%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

1.3.6 Material diverted from landfill

Although we are disposing of approximately 9500 tonnes of material to landfill annually, we are diverting a reasonable proportion as well.

Recycling is either collected from kerbsides or dropped off to a resource recovery site. All recycling is processed by the Waitaki Resource Recovery Trust (WRRT) who operate the Waitaki Resource Recovery Park (WRRP) – a social enterprise that consolidates, bulks and transports all our recyclable material to reprocessing end-markets.

On-site WRRP also offers a range of other recycling options from soft plastics through to batteries and building materials.

However, we can divert significantly more, and if we are to become a low waste, low emissions society by 2050 and transition to a circular economy, we need to plan for realising that diversion potential and keeping resources in use for now and the future.

1.3.7 Diversion potential

The table below shows what proportion of all waste sources disposed of to Oamaru RTS was potentially divertible, based on a SWAP done in April 2022, existing diversion mechanisms or simple organic processing.

Table 2

Material type disposed of to Oamaru RTS April 2022 from all sources	%
Paper - recyclable	5.1
Paper - cardboard	2.3
Plastic - recyclable	1.6
Ferrous metals	3.3
Non-ferrous metals	0.6
Glass - recyclable	2.7
Textiles - clothing	1.8
Rubble - cleanfill	0.7
Timber - reusable	0.8
Organics - food scraps	20.7
Organics - green waste	10.2
Organic - other	2.3

Rubble - new plasterboard	0.4
Timber – unpainted, untreated	3.0
TOTAL DIVERTIBLE	55.5%

Table 3 shows the diversion potential of what was collected through kerbside services and disposed of to the Oamaru RTS.

Table 3

Material type disposed of to Oamaru RTS April 2022 from kerbside collections	%
Recyclable paper	8.9
Recyclable plastic	2.8
Steel cans	0.9
Aluminium cans	0.4
Glass bottles/jars	4.5
Food scraps	35.1
Garden waste	17.0
TOTAL DIVERTIBLE	69.7%

With proposed new minimum diversion performance standards anticipated for city and district councils to meet for all household kerbside waste collected, we can see that we can move towards meeting them with 69.7 percent of what is currently sent to landfill through kerbside collections being divertible.

The proposed minimum diversion performance standards for all household kerbside collections are:

- 30% diverted by 2026
- 40% diverted by 2028
- 50% diverted by 2030

1.3.8 Future demand for waste solutions

Both overall population growth and economic activity are expected to impact future demand for waste management and minimisation solutions. For the purposes of forecasting future demand, it has been assumed that kerbside-collected rubbish, recyclables and green waste will grow in line with population growth, and industrial, commercial, institutional, construction and demolition waste and dropped off materials will increase in line with assumed GDP growth, at 2% per annum.

The below high population projection from Infometrics has been used:

Figure 3: Infometrics population growth projection for Waitaki

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Low growth	24,149	24,171	24,195	24,221	24,249	24,279	24,309
Medium growth	24,256	24,387	24,520	24,656	24,797	24,942	25,087
High growth	24,364	24,603	24,845	25,092	25,344	25,603	25,864

1.3.9 Performance of our WMMP 2018 -24

Most of the actions identified to meet key issues in the WMMP 2018 – 24 were completed, with only two action groupings not being realised due to the changing national waste landscape – these were actions around public place litter bins and reviewing our Solid Waste Bylaw.

Public place litter bins were having varying degrees of success around the country, and some Councils were opting to remove theirs – we kept a watching brief on this. Also, a container return scheme was proposed, but has since been put on hold.

The review of our Solid Waste bylaw was deferred due to proposed new legislative changes and the review of the Litter Act 1979 and Waste Minimisation Act 2008. This action has been carried forward.

Palmerston Landfill closure plan has been carried forward into the WMMP 2024 - 30 as this action will fall into the timeframe of this WMMP, once the landfill remediation actions from our WMMP 2018 – 24 have been completed.

Most of the targets set in the last WMMP were met with the only exception being a reduction in numbers of illegal dumping incidents. Instead, improvements were made to the collection of data and processing of illegal dumping and littering incidents that were reported.



1.3.10 Current key issues for Waitaki

While the vision of our last WMMP worked in the context in which it was written, the challenges ahead and new national waste strategic direction means we need a new vision for our community, and new goals and objectives to meet that vision.

The Otago Region Waste Assessment analysed potential future demand for waste services, current gaps and key issues. The following key issues were identified for Otago:

Infrastructure

- The region has relatively low access to waste infrastructure, particularly material reprocessing.
- The performance of the Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) in the region currently is an issue both in terms of material quality (Frankton and Dunedin) and capacity.
- Planned landfill provision in the coastal area could be more efficient.
- Class 2-5 landfill provision in the region is variable.

Data and monitoring

- As is found in other areas, there is a significant data gap relating to private waste collections, Class 2-5 landfills, and farm waste management practices.

Services

- Council service levels in some districts are lower – particularly Waitaki and, to a lesser extent, Clutha districts.
- Variability in service provision generally reduces the opportunities for collaboration (regionally or nationally) on activities such as education, awareness raising, and behaviour change.
- Contamination in household kerbside recycling collections is high.

Specific materials

- A number of waste materials could be managed more in accordance with the waste hierarchy; particularly biosolids/sludges, C&D waste, non-household recyclables, agricultural wastes, glass, organic waste generally, and textiles.
- Many of the key issues described above relate to waste streams that originate in the commercial, industrial, institutional and construction sectors, which are very difficult for councils to influence alone.

Leadership and Collaboration

- Relatively less resources and budget spent (by councils or other agencies) on waste prevention, reduction, and reuse activities; compared to lower levels of the waste hierarchy such as recycling and reprocessing.
- Contract timeframes across the region are variable, reducing the ability to collaborate and partner on procurement and service provision.
- There is no formal mechanism to jointly fund and collaborate on regional or sub-regional waste-related projects.

- The entire sector is currently struggling to recruit staff, and the operational sector is also experiencing significant delays with new vehicles and driver shortages.
- TAs will need to contribute to planning for disaster waste management.
- There is variability in strategic direction for waste across the region, particularly in relation to the council's role in providing waste management and minimisation services.

The regional key issues were then analysed from a Waitaki-specific perspective, to be able to create actions that will meet our community's need for future waste management and minimisation solutions.

Key issues for the Waitaki	
Regulation	Our Solid Waste Bylaw has expired.
Infrastructure	Palmerston Landfill closure plan needs to be developed.
	Waitaki has no landfills, only a small scale MRF, some community diversion facilities and either no, or low access to, reprocessing infrastructure.
	Proposed new mandated requirements will impact on current council-owned infrastructure and community diversion services that are financially supported by Council.
Data and monitoring	There is a lack of data on waste streams in Waitaki due to no council-controlled services, no bylaw enabling collection of data, and little information available on rural waste streams.
	Proposed diversion performance standards for urban household kerbside services will need to be met.
Services	Waitaki has no council-controlled kerbside services.
	Access to services for our rural population under new legislative requirements will need to be determined.
	Services and benefits currently provided to the community by WRRT may be impacted by mandated kerbside services.
	Green waste service provision, particularly in rural areas, will need to be addressed.
Specific materials	Diversion potential of some material streams is not being realised.

	<p>There are limited options for organic waste collection and processing.</p> <p>Lack of options for resource recovery, reuse and repair has resulted in higher than desired levels of divertible material going to landfill.</p>
Leadership and collaboration	<p>Our waste strategic direction is not reflective of TRP and previous WMMP actions have been aimed at the lower levels of the waste hierarchy.</p>
	<p>There is no formal mechanism for waste collaboration in Otago.</p>
	<p>We are not well placed for regional disaster waste planning, continued collaborative project work or consistency across Otago region service provision sector and the regional resource recovery network.</p>

Addressing these key issues is the focus of the Action Plan in Part 3 of this WMMP.



2.0 Where do we want to go?

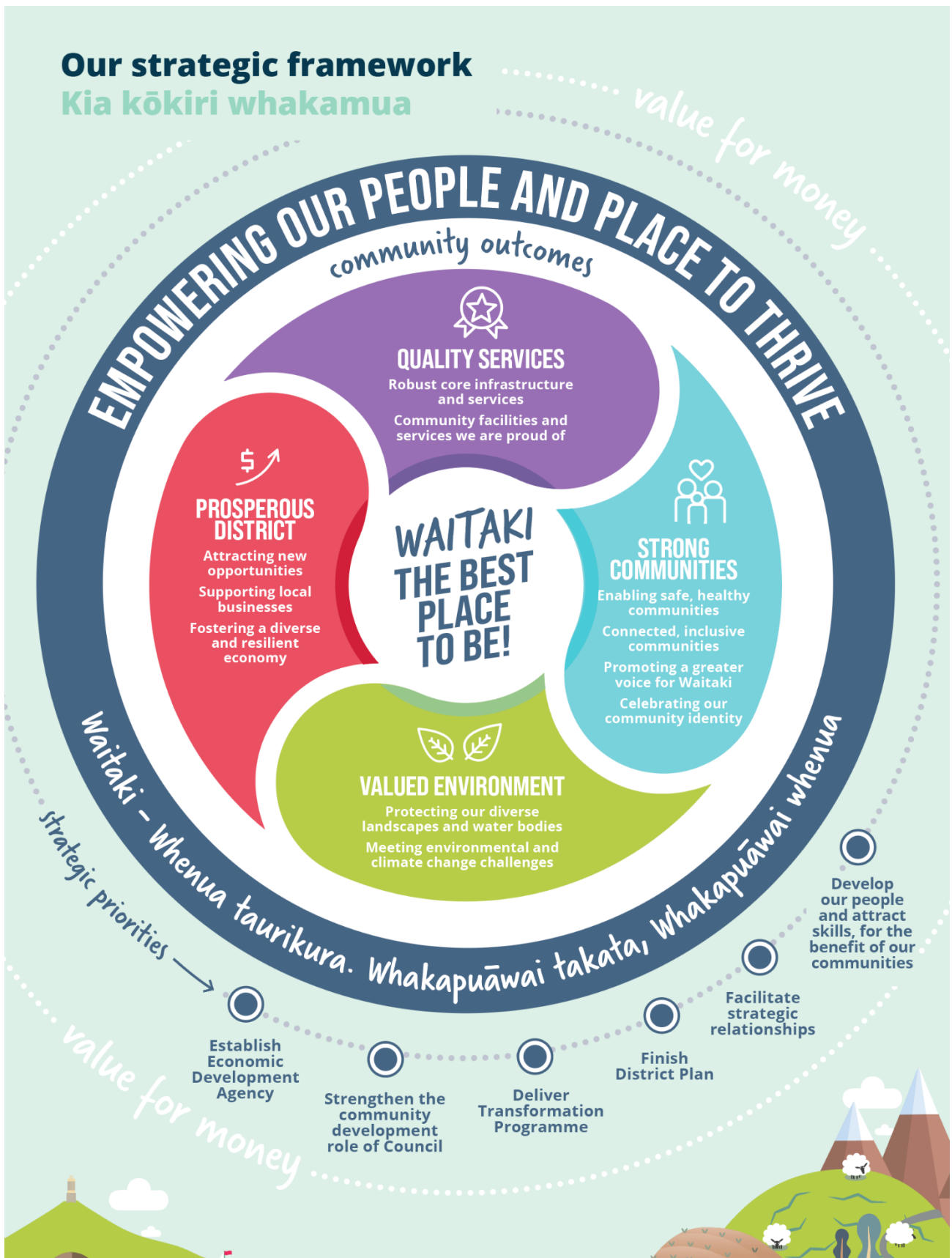
2.1 Our vision for the future

This WMMP's strategic direction took into account all national legislative alignment requirements as well as the Otago Region Waste Assessment and Medical Officer of Health recommendations and considered the waste hierarchy.

To ensure that the strategic direction also reflects where we want to go as a council and community, our vision, goals, and objectives have strong alignment to Council's strategic framework and community outcomes.



2.1.1 Waitaki District Council's strategic framework and community outcomes





A new vision for our community

Our Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (WMMP) covers all solid waste – anything going to landfill in the district, and all waste minimisation and management solutions.

There are areas where Council can be involved and areas where businesses, households and community can. The WMMP considers these areas and what role Council will take.

Our proposed new vision for Waitaki is:

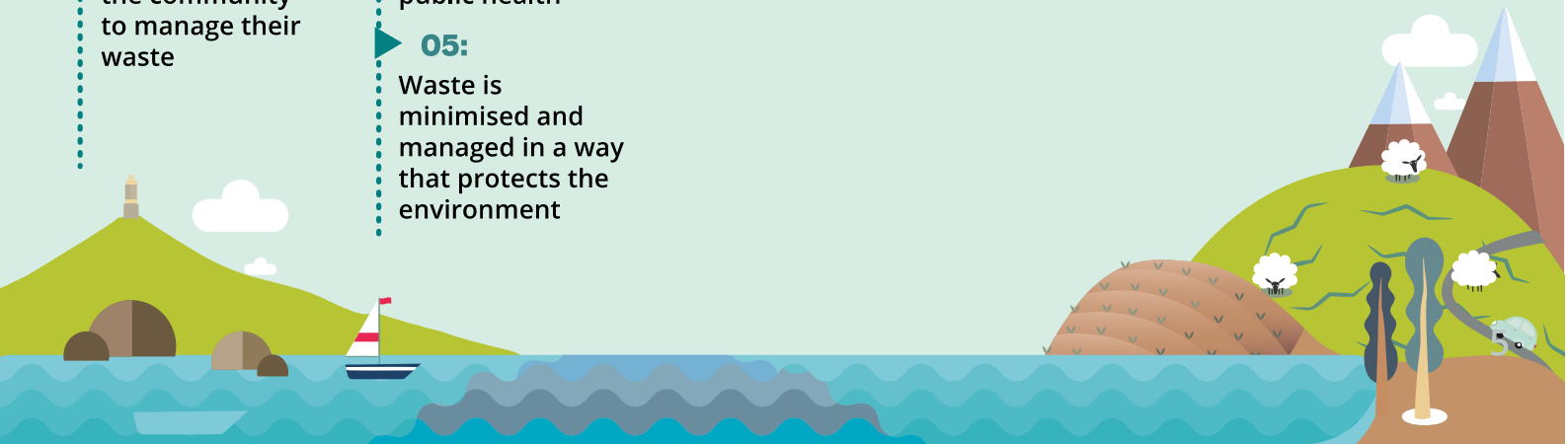
“Waste Free Waitaki: where our resources are valued, our environment protected, and our people thrive”

Our vision will be realised through achieving a set of supporting goals and objectives:

our goals are to be a community that...

Goals & objectives

GOAL 1	GOAL 2	GOAL 3	GOAL 4	GOAL 5
...knows about our journey	...supports people through waste minimisation and management	...values resources, both now and for the future	...is open to new ways to rethink and reduce waste	...works together to deliver resource recovery
OBJECTIVES	OBJECTIVES	OBJECTIVES	OBJECTIVES	OBJECTIVES
<p>▶ 01: Good education and communication so the community knows about a low-waste, low-emissions future</p> <p>▶ 02: There are opportunities for the community to manage their waste</p>	<p>▶ 03: Accessible, reliable and sustainable waste and resource recovery services and facilities</p> <p>▶ 04: Waste is minimised and managed in a way that protects public health</p> <p>▶ 05: Waste is minimised and managed in a way that protects the environment</p>	<p>▶ 06: Iwi, industry, businesses, residents and council working to keep resources in circulation</p>	<p>▶ 07: Explore opportunities for innovative waste solutions</p>	<p>▶ 08: Central government, councils, private waste sector, businesses, mana whenua and community work together on resource recovery and waste solutions</p>



2.1.3 Targets

Targets have been created to meet the objectives of our goals and vision.

The Otago Region Waste Assessment proposed regional options to:

- meet future demand
- address key issues
- align with TRP
- protect public health
- achieve and promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation
- meet legislative requirements
- align with national and local legislation and plans

Local actions were then developed against the relevant regional options. Targets have been developed that will ensure we meet the objectives of our WMMP goals, and our actions are designed to make sure we meet the targets, and therefore, ultimately the vision of this WMMP.

The targets have been formulated to ensure we increase our leadership in waste solutions for our community, engage more with our community, government, private sector and education partners, see an increase in waste minimisation and diversion opportunities for our community, see a decrease in negative waste impacts and prepare us better for a future of transitioning to a circular economy and dealing with weather and other significant events, and are legally compliant with any new legislative requirements for waste management.

The Action Plan in section 3 shows how each action contributes to one or multiple of the targets below.

Objectives		Targets	
1	Effective education and communication create a community that is knowledgeable about a low-waste, low-emissions future	T1	At least two community workshops and two Enviroschools hui delivered annually on relevant topics for our community/schools
		T2	Waste to landfill baseline is established in year 1, then decreases by 5% year on year
		T3	Our Waste Free Waitaki Ambassador programme is launched by 2026 and participation grows by 5% annually
2	There are collaborative opportunities for the community to be engaged in managing their waste	T4	At least two funding rounds are provided annually to support community and education sector waste minimisation and diversion initiatives
		T5	A minimum of one initiative that focusses on waste reduction, reuse or recovery/recycling is supported annually

3	Waste and resource recovery services and facilities are accessible, reliable, and sustainable	T6	95% residents in urban populations have access to recycling and waste kerbside services by January 2027
		T7	95% of rural residents have either kerbside recycling and waste services or equivalent recycling and waste drop-off facilities within 25km of their properties by January 2027
		T8	95% of residents have access to resource recovery facilities or platforms that provide reduce, reuse or repurpose or repair options for divertible materials
4	Waste is managed and minimised in a way that protects public health	T9	Ongoing full compliance with legislative requirements and consent conditions for all waste and recycling services and facilities.
		T10	Solid Waste Bylaw is implemented by Dec 2025
		T11	Disaster waste planning is incorporated into council's business continuity plans within the term of this plan
		T12	Waste infrastructure is identified in asset management plans as "critical" within the term of this plan
		T13	Baseline data for illegal dumping and littering is collected by 2025, and then a reduction in the number of incidents annually by 5%
5	Waste is managed and minimised in a way that protects the environment	T14	A framework for data collection, monitoring and evaluation is established by January 2027
		T15	Any council-controlled contracts implemented require the contractor to provide/enable data collection on all waste streams collected
		T16	A system for monitoring and compliance of any council-controlled services established by 2027, if applicable
		T17	A Solid Waste Analysis Protocol (SWAP) undertaken triennially.
		T18	100% of waste levy received is spent during the term of this WMMP
6	Iwi, industry, businesses, residents, and council are actively engaged in keeping resources in circulation	T19	At least two engagements, events or meetings annually that connect iwi, industry, businesses or residents to collaborate on resource recovery and promoting a circular economy
7	Opportunities for innovative waste solutions are explored	T20	At least two emergent opportunities, researched, facilitated or supported during the term of this plan
8		T21	At least one industry network event attended annually

Central government, councils, private waste sector, businesses, mana whenua, and our community collaborate on resource recovery and waste challenges and solutions

- T22 At least two resource recovery network meetings held annually
- T23 At least two mana whenua engagements undertaken annually
- T24 At least one business sector engagement undertaken annually



3.0 How will we get there?

The Action Plan sets out how we, Waitaki District Council, intend to work towards the vision, goals, and objectives of this WMMP, and address the key issues and future demand. It sets out clear and practical initiatives that we will implement, facilitate or support - either on our own or jointly.

The Action Plan is intended to be a 'living' component of the WMMP that can be regularly updated with progress against actions and the evolving situation. Under the WMA, WMMPs can be updated without triggering the need for a formal review, as long as the changes are not significant and do not alter the strategic direction and intent of WMMP.

Further research maybe required to work out the costs and feasibility of some actions. This may change how, when, or if they are implemented. Completing other actions may depend on things like changing contractual arrangements with providers, or setting up new contracts and may impact the implementation, timing, and cost of actions.

3.1 Council's intended role

Council intends to implement some solutions directly and support or facilitate actions that may be delivered by our community partners. Due to the evolving national waste context that this WMMP has been written in, the Action Plan also includes several actions to consider, that Council may wish to uptake as needed.



3.2 Summary of options for addressing key issues and meeting future demand

The Otago Region Waste Assessment grouped the key issues into the categories of infrastructure, data and monitoring, services, specific materials and leadership and collaboration.

This WMMP has grouped the solutions into categories where we could best direct our focus to achieve the vision of this WMMP and align with TRP:

Leadership and collaboration - we can show more leadership and increase collaboration with both community, private and regional partners, to achieve the best waste management and minimisation solutions for our community.

Engagement and Education - engaging with our community and increasing targeted education to ensure we have a community that is knowledgeable about our journey toward a low waste, low emissions future is key to the success of our Action Plan.

Collections and Infrastructure - with proposed legislative changes we will need to determine what the best kerbside services for our community are, and what infrastructure is needed to ensure we can meet proposed diversion performance standards and that our community has access to reliable and sustainable waste and resource recovery facilities.

Regulation and Monitoring - we will need to ensure we have a regulation and monitoring framework to evaluate performance of services and facilities, and data that allows us to be responsive to any emergent issues.

Category	Option from Otago Region Waste Assessment	Key issues/future demand addressed
Leadership and collaboration	Work closely with mana whenua, community groups, and the private sector to progress opportunities for increased waste reduction and diversion	Leadership and collaboration – engaging more with private sector and community partners will enable efficiencies and collaborative waste solutions to meet future demand to be realised.
	Continue to develop collaborative projects and work towards increasingly formal collaborative arrangements	Leadership and collaboration - engaging more with council and industry partners will enable efficiencies and collaborative waste solutions to meet future demand to be realised.

	Initiate wider engagement with industry, community, and other agencies	Leadership and collaboration – participating in action groups and forums will ensure a strong local/regional voice in national waste planning and strengthen relationships for better collaboration and efficiencies.
	Support regional and national initiatives and organisations campaigning for better waste management and minimisation such as WasteMINZ sector groups and the TAO Waste Manifesto	Specific materials – participating in action groups and forums will enable us to identify opportunities for better management and minimisation.
	Support national sector organisations in lobbying for better vocational training and to encourage new recruits to the sector	Future demand, services – ensuring a strong local and regional voice in the evolving national waste landscape will place us well to meet future demand and provide for future service requirements.
	Advocate to central government for extended producer responsibility etc	Specific materials – more responsibility taken by manufacturers means less solutions required at council/community level for difficult materials.
	Seek external funding where appropriate to enhance development and other opportunities	Future demand - population and economic growth may require waste infrastructure investment to meet future demand which may require external funding to reduce ratepayer impact.
	Support/introduce virtual marketplaces	Specific materials – virtual platforms enable better access to reuse markets for divertible material
Education and Engagement	Identify opportunities for consistent, targeted, direct engagement that can be delivered where there is low participation in recycling and/or organic waste services, and/or high contamination	Services – targeted education will reduce contamination and increase participation in council-controlled services, and help us be responsive to illegal dumping and littering

	Work closely with mana whenua, community groups, social enterprise, non-government organisations, schools and ECEs etc to develop and enable locally led waste minimisation engagement and education, and support existing initiatives	<p>Leadership and collaboration – collaborating with and supporting our community partners to deliver education will give a greater reach for Waste Free Waitaki messaging.</p> <p>Specific materials – Collaborating with our community partners, we can support initiatives that target materials not collected at kerbside.</p>
Collections and infrastructure	Council- controlled urban household kerbside collection services introduced that meet mandated requirement	Services – meeting proposed mandated requirements will lessen service variability across the country.
	Council- controlled services considered over and above mandated urban household kerbside services	Services – a kerbside service that includes waste and rural townships would give consistency to service provision over the district, improve diversion and reduce contamination.
	Collection, storing, bulking and/or processing of C&D (Construction & Demolition) waste	<p>Infrastructure – improved infrastructure for construction and demolition waste would see more of this waste stream able to be diverted.</p> <p>Specific materials – as above</p>
	Processing for organic wastes	<p>Infrastructure – improved infrastructure for organic waste would see more of this waste stream diverted, and regional collaboration or local infrastructure could see emissions reductions benefits.</p> <p>Specific materials – as above.</p>
	Processing for difficult materials e.g. soft plastics	Specific materials – supporting more accessible, infrastructure for difficult material streams would enable more diversion.
	Take a regional approach to waste disposal options	Infrastructure – a regional approach to disposal facilities would enable a lower carbon footprint.

	Develop a closure plan for Palmerston Landfill	N/A – outstanding action from WMMP 2018 - 24
	Provide or facilitate council and/or community network sites to have sufficient capacity	Infrastructure, specific materials, future demand, services – having capacity to process and divert more waste streams from landfill will address lack of infrastructure, help realise diversion potential of difficult material, meet future demand and enable better service provision.
	Provide for reuse stores, repair sites, community workshops, demonstrations and courses at key network sites	Specific materials – A Resource Recovery Network that enables more diversion and minimisation activity will see a wider range of materials diverted and more behaviour change.
	Standardised signs and branding, material acceptance and quality standards, customer service	Specific materials – standardised and branded sites will encourage more diversion and minimisation.
Regulation and monitoring	Adopt consistent solid waste bylaws and implement provisions	Data and monitoring – having legislative tools to enable data collection and service consistency will enable better evaluation and achieve more diversion.
	Increase monitoring to provide data on participation and set out rates for all services, and monitor both food scraps and recycling collection for contamination, by locality.	Data and monitoring – increased analysis of service participation, type and cause of contamination, location-specific issues etc will enable a more efficient and effective service
	Increase monitoring to provide more information on commercial and industrial waste streams	Data and monitoring – better information on non-kerbside waste streams will enable analysis and scoping of minimisation and diversion opportunities

3.3 Action Plan

As stated earlier, the key issues were grouped into the categories of infrastructure, data and monitoring, services, specific materials and leadership and collaboration.

We have grouped the solutions into:

- Leadership and Collaboration
- Education and Engagement
- Collections and Infrastructure
- Regulation and Monitoring

Leadership and Collaboration

Option	Action	New or existing	Implementation timeframe	Cost (if known)	Funding	Contribution to Targets
Work closely with mana whenua, community groups, and the private sector to progress opportunities for increased waste reduction and diversion	We will continue to provide the Waitaki Waste Minimisation contestable Fund to support local community-led initiatives and projects	Existing	On-going	\$30,000 per annum	Waste levy	T4, T5, T18
	We will make available a small projects fund for all schools and Early Childhood Education centres in Waitaki	New	2024, then annually	\$10,000 per annum	Waste levy	T4, T5, T18
	We will maintain a discretionary fund to consider applications for community or private sector projects or initiatives that provide waste minimisation or diversion benefits or address a key waste stream or waste infrastructure need, for our community. This fund will also serve any regional project contributions	New	2024, then annually	\$50,000 per annum	Waste levy	T5, T18, T19, T20, T23, T24
Continue to develop collaborative projects and work towards increasingly formal collaborative arrangements	We will support the establishment of formal structures for local and regional waste collaboration, and join formal waste collaborations where appropriate	New	2024	Minimal (staff time)	Waste levy	T11, T18, T19, T20, T21, T22, T23, T24

Initiate wider engagement with industry, community, and other agencies	We will participate in relevant local and regional waste action groups	New	2024	Minimal (staff time)	Waste levy	T11, T18, T19, T20, T21, T22, T23, T24
	We will support regional projects or initiatives that provide waste management and minimisation benefits for our community, where applicable	New	2024	Minimal (staff time)	Waste levy	T4, T5, T11, T18, T19, T20, T21, T22, T23, T24
	We will participate in national initiatives to support better waste management and minimisation, such as WasteMINZ sector groups and the TAO Waste Manifesto	New	2024	Minimal (staff time)	Waste levy	T11, T18, T19, T20, T21
	We will support a regional waste coordinator role that undertakes engagement, project scoping and development on behalf of the Otago councils	New	2024, then on-going	\$12,000 per annum	Waste Levy	T18, T19, T20, T21, T22, T23, T24
Support regional and national projects improving waste management planning in disaster situations and support national sector organisations in lobbying for better vocational training and to encourage new recruits to the sector	We will participate in, and support, local, regional and national disaster waste planning and initiatives	New	2024	Minimal (staff time)	Waste Levy	T11, T12, T18
	We will support or facilitate better vocational pathways into the waste sector	New	2025	\$10,000 per annum	Waste Levy	T1, T3, T18, T19, T20, T21, T22, T23, T24
Support/introduce virtual marketplaces	We will create an online directory of diversion options and markets for our community.	New	2024	\$5000	Waste Levy	T2, T8, T18
	We will support regional virtual platforms for reuse of divertible material, such as construction and demolition waste	New	2025	\$5000	Waste Levy	T2, T8, T18

Seek external funding where appropriate to enhance development and other opportunities	We will seek external funding where applicable to support better waste management and minimisation solutions for our community	New	As needed	Minimal (staff time)	General rates	T5, T6, T7, T8
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Education and Engagement

Option	Action	New or existing action	Implementation Timeframe	Cost (if known)	Funding	Contribution to Targets
Identify opportunities for consistent, targeted, direct engagement that can be delivered where there is low participation in recycling and/or organic waste services, and/or high contamination	We will create and deliver education to target relevant or problem areas such as low participation in any council-controlled services or high or hazardous contamination, based on data collection and analysis	New	2027	\$5000 per annum	Waste Levy	T1, T3, T5, T9, T14, T16, T17, T18
	We will deliver education on illegal dumping and littering, and collaborate with community and regional partners where applicable	Existing	2024	\$2000 per annum	Waste Levy	T5, T13, T14, T18, T19, T20, T21, T22, T23, T24
	We will develop internal systems to better capture data on illegal dumping and littering	New	2024	\$5000	Waste Levy	T13, T18
	We will develop collateral and mechanisms for addressing illegal dumping or littering hotspots	New	2025	\$2000	Waste Levy	T5, T13, T14, T18, T19, T20, T21, T22, T23, T24
Work closely with mana whenua, community groups, social enterprise, non-	We will continue to support the Enviroschools programme in-house, by providing a council-employed facilitator	Existing	On-going	\$80,000 per annum	Waste Levy	T1, T18

government organisations, schools and ECEs etc to develop and enable locally-led waste minimisation engagement and education, and support existing initiatives	We will continue to develop our Waste Free Waitaki branding and develop a Waste Free Waitaki Ambassador programme	New	2026	\$2000 per annum	Waste Levy	T3, T18
	We will deliver educational workshops on content that is of interest to our community and participate in relevant events	Existing	On-going	\$10,000 per annum	Waste levy	T1, T3, T18, T19, T20, T21, T22, T23, T24
	We will facilitate waste minimisation opportunities for our community, for example subsidized bokashi buckets	Existing	On-going	\$5000 per annum	Waste Levy	T1, T18
	We will support and facilitate local education and engagement initiatives where community, mana whenua, social enterprise or non-government organisations are well-placed to deliver them	New	2024	\$10,000 per annum	Waste Levy	T1, T2, T3, T4, T18, T19, T20, T22, T23, T24
	We will collaborate with local and regional government partners on education and engagement opportunities with the community sector	New	2024	Minimal (staff time)	Waste Levy/General Rates	T5, T18, T19, T20, T21, T22, T23, T24

Collections and Infrastructure

Option	Action	New or existing action	Implementation Timeframe	Cost (if known)	Funding	Contribution to Targets
Council- controlled urban household kerbside collection services introduced that meet mandated requirement	We will consider implementing a council-controlled urban household kerbside service for dry recycling	New	2024	TBD	Targeted rates MFE Waste Minimisation Fund	T2, T6
	We will consider implementing a council-controlled urban household kerbside service for food scraps	New	2024	TBD	Targeted rates MFE Waste Minimisation Fund	T2, T6

Council- controlled services considered over and above mandated urban household kerbside services	We will consider council-controlled rural household recycling kerbside services	New	2024	TBD	Targeted rates MFE Waste Minimisation Fund	T7
	We will consider council-controlled rubbish kerbside services for both urban and rural households	New	2024	TBD	Targeted rates MFE Waste Minimisation Fund	T2, T6, T7
	We will consider council-controlled kerbside services for our commercial sector	New	2024	TBD	User charges	T6, T7
	We will consider council-controlled food scraps and green waste kerbside services for both urban and rural communities	New	2024	TBD	Targeted rates MFE Waste Minimisation Fund	T2, T6, T7
	We will consider alternative user-pays green waste service provision for our communities	New	2024	TBD	User charges	T2, T6, T7
Collection, storing, bulking and/or processing of C&D (Construction & Demolition) waste	We will consider improved logistics and infrastructure for the collection, storage, bulking and/or processing for waste streams that have high diversion potential such as the construction and demolition stream	New	As required	TBD	Waste Levy Waste Minimisation Fund Private sector funding	T2, T6, T7, T8, T18
	We will consider contributing to regional projects for improvement of logistics and infrastructure for waste streams that have high diversion potential, where appropriate	New	As required	TBD	Waste Levy Waste Minimisation Fund Private sector funding	T2, T4, T8, T18
Processing for organic wastes	We will consider logistics and infrastructure processing options for organic waste when kerbside services and both food scraps and green waste service provision has been determined	New	As required	TBD	Waste Levy Waste Minimisation Fund Private sector funding	T2, T8, T9, T18

Processing for hazardous/difficult materials	We will consider supporting local or regional projects or initiatives that provide processing opportunities for waste streams not required to be collected at kerbside	New	As required	TBD	Waste Levy Waste Minimisation Fund Private sector funding	T2, T8, T18
	Medical and hazardous waste will be left to the private sector; however, Council will consider supporting or facilitating collections if applicable	New	As required	TBD	Waste Levy Waste Minimisation Fund Private sector funding	Objective 4, T18
Take a regional approach to waste disposal options	Once kerbside rubbish collection service provision is determined, where Council has influence, low carbon and financial impact will be taken into consideration in determining disposal options	New	As required	Minimal (staff time)	General rates	Objective 5
Develop a closure plan for Palmerston Landfill	Develop a plan, in conversation with the community, over what the Palmerston Landfill site becomes once no longer an active landfill	Existing	2024	TBD	General rates/Project Reclaim	N/A – carried over action
Provide or facilitate council and/or community network sites to have sufficient capacity	Once kerbside collection services are determined, we will consider logistics and infrastructure improvements to Waitaki Resource Recovery Park, as needed	New	As required	TBD	Waste Levy Waste Minimisation Fund Private sector funding	T2, T8, T18, T22
	Once kerbside collection services are determined, we will consider logistics and infrastructure improvements to community resource recovery network sites, as needed	New	As required	TBD	Waste Levy Waste Minimisation Fund Private sector funding	T2, T3, T4, T5, T8, T18, T22
	Once kerbside collection services are determined, we will consider the role of rural transfer stations and rural recycling hubs	New	As required	TBD	Waste Levy Waste Minimisation Fund	T8, T18

					Private sector funding	
Provide for reuse stores, repair sites, community workshops, demonstrations and courses at key network sites	We will consider supporting or facilitating improvements to existing resource recovery network sites or establishment of new sites for community-led waste minimisation activities	New	As required	TBD	Waste Levy Waste Minimisation Fund Private sector funding	T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T8, T18, T22
Standardised signs and branding, material acceptance and quality standards, customer service	We will facilitate standardised Waste Free Waitaki Resource Recovery Network signage and education material at network sites	New	2024	\$10,000	Waste Levy	T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T8, T18, T22
	We will work with our Resource Recovery Network to improve site logistics and operational standardisation for easier customer use and to drive more behaviour change.	New	2025	\$20,000	Waste Levy	T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T8, T18, T22
Other	We will provide rural transfer stations for recycling, recovery, waste disposal and green waste at Kurow, Otematata, Omarama and Hampden, subject to a review to be determined by any kerbside collection service introduction.	Existing	On-going	Approx \$400,000 per annum	User pays – 20 - 60% General rates	T2, T7, T8
	We will provide rural recycling hubs at Papakaio, Enfield and Herbert, subject to a review to be determined by any kerbside collection service introduction.	Existing	On-going	Approx. \$45,000 per annum	General rates	T2, T7, T8
	We will provide Waitaki Resource Recovery Trust with operational funding.	Existing	On-going	\$320,000 per annum	General rates	T2, T7, T8, T9
	We will review public place waste and recycling bin provision and servicing.	Existing	On-going	Approx. \$105,000 per annum	General rates	T13

Regulation and Monitoring

Option	Action	New or existing action	Implementation Timeframe	Cost (if known)	Funding	Contribution to Targets
Adopt consistent solid waste bylaws and implement provisions	Draft a new bylaw that will enable better data collection and auditing for household and commercial waste streams, and provisions for collection types that encourage better waste diversion behaviour as needed.	Existing	2025	\$5000	General rates	T2, T9, T10, T14, T15, T16, T17, T18
	Undertake Special Consultative Procedure on draft bylaw in accordance with LGA requirements	As above	As above	As above	General rates	T10, T18
	Adopt bylaw and implement provisions	As above	As above	TBD	General rates	T2, T9, T10, T14, T15, T16, T17, T18
Increase monitoring to provide data on participation and set out rates for all services and monitor both food scraps and recycling collection for contamination, by locality. Increase monitoring to provide more information on commercial and industrial waste streams	We will develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for any new implemented services that allow for a range of data collection and auditing, from both household and commercial collections.	New	2026	\$5000	General rates Waste Levy	T14, T15, T16, T17, T18
	We will evaluate data to drive improvements in problem areas, such as lower participation and high/hazardous contamination	New	2027	Minimal (staff time)	General rates	T1, T2, T5, T9, T14, T15, T16, T17, T18
	We will monitor data to ensure we meet proposed diversion standards	New	2027	Minimal (staff time)	General rates	T1, T2, T5, T9, T14, T15, T16, T17
	We will monitor data to evaluate potential initiatives or projects to address difficult material streams	New	2027	Minimal (staff time)	Waste Levy General rates	T1, T2, T3, T5, T9, T14, T15, T16, T17, T18
	We will monitor data to drive education and engagement initiatives and collateral.	New	2025	Minimal (staff time)	Wase levy General rates	T1, T2, T5, T9, T14, T15,

						T16, T17, T18
	We will undertake audits at relevant sites triennially.	New	2025	\$10,000 per SWAP	Waste Levy General rates	T17, T18
	Closed landfill monitoring	Existing	Ongoing	\$50,000 per annum	General rates	T9

3.3.1 Funding the plan

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) (s43) requires Council to include information about how actions in this WMMP will be funded, as well as information about any grants made and expenditure of waste levy funds.

There are a range of options available to councils to fund WMMP actions. These include:

- Uniform Annual General Charge (UAGC) – a fixed charge paid by all ratepayers
- User charges – includes user-pays collections and transfer station gate fees
- Targeted rates – a charge for those properties that get the Council service
- Waste disposal levy – Government gives 50% of its \$50 per tonne waste disposal levy to local authorities on a per capita basis. This money must be used for waste minimisation activities
- Waste Minimisation Fund – most of the remaining 50% of the waste disposal levy goes to projects picked by the Ministry for the Environment
- Sale of recovered materials – this can offset the cost of some actions
- Private sector funding – Businesses may choose to fund certain waste minimisation activities

Budgets for the Action Plan will be developed in our Annual Plan and Long Term Plan.

3.3.2 Territorial Authority Waste levy funding

Council receive, based on population, a share of the waste disposal levy funds collected by the Ministry for the Environment. It is estimated that at the rate of \$60 (from 1 July 2024) per tonne, our council's total share of waste levy funding will be approximately \$440k per annum.

The WMA requires that all waste levy funding received by Councils must be "spent on matters to promote waste minimisation and in accordance with their WMMP".

Waste levy funds can be spent on ongoing waste minimisation services, new services, or an expansion of existing services. The funding can be used on education and communication, services, policy research and reporting, to provide grants, to support contract costs, or as infrastructure capital.

We intend to use our waste levy funds for a range of waste minimisation activities and services as set out in the Action Plan.

In addition, we may make an application for contestable waste levy funds from the Waste Minimisation Fund, either separately, with other Councils, or with another party. The Waste Minimisation Fund provides additional waste levy funds for waste minimisation activities.

3.4 Monitoring evaluating and reporting progress

3.4.1 Monitoring and Reporting

The Solid Waste team will meet quarterly to review progress against the targets of the WMMP and progress will be reported to the Governance Team quarterly through Council Activity updates.

Annual reviews of progress against targets will be undertaken by the Solid Waste team for the purposes of budget setting and Annual Plan inputs.

Review of progress against targets and waste management and minimisation activities will also be reviewed through the Long Term Plan process. The Long Term Plan process will also include any new project scoping that has arisen as a result of any of the considerations included in this Action Plan being taken up.



Supporting information

A.1.0 Glossary of Terms

C&D Waste	Waste generated from the construction or demolition of a building including the preparation and/or clearance of the property or site. This excludes materials such as clay, soil and rock when those materials are associated with infrastructure such as road construction and maintenance, but includes building-related infrastructure.
Cleanfill	A cleanfill (properly referred to as a Class 4 landfill) is any disposal facility that accepts only cleanfill material. This is defined as material that, when buried, will have no adverse environmental effect on people or the environment.
Disposal	final deposit of waste into or onto land, or incineration
Diverted Material	Anything that is no longer required for its original purpose and, but for commercial or other waste minimisation activities, would be disposed of or discarded.
Domestic Waste	Waste from domestic activity in households.
ETS	Emissions Trading Scheme
Food waste	Any food scraps – from preparing meals, leftovers, scraps, tea bags, coffee grounds
Green waste	Waste largely from the garden – hedge clippings, tree/bush prunings, lawn clippings
Hazardous waste	Waste that can cause harm or damage, to people or the environment, like strong chemicals. Shouldn't go in to landfills.
ICI	Industrial, Commercial, Institutional
Landfill	Tip or dump. A disposal facility as defined in S.7 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, excluding incineration. Includes, by definition in the WMA, only those facilities that accept 'household waste'. Properly referred to as a Class 1 landfill
LGA	Local Government Act 2002
LTP	Long Term Plan
Managed Fill	A disposal site requiring a resource consent to accept well-defined types of non-household waste, e.g. low-level contaminated soils or industrial by-products, such as sewage by-products. Properly referred to as a Class 3 landfill.
MfE	Ministry for the Environment

MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
Putrescible, garden, greenwaste	Plant based material and other bio-degradable material that can be recovered through composting, digestion or other similar processes.
Recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) extraction of materials or energy from waste or diverted material for further use or processing; and b) includes making waste or diverted material into compost
Recycling	The reprocessing of waste or diverted material to produce new materials
Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) lessening waste generation, including by using products more efficiently or by redesigning products; and b) in relation to a product, lessening waste generation in relation to the product
Reuse	The further use of waste or diverted material in its existing form for the original purpose of the materials or products that constitute the waste or diverted material, or for a similar purpose
RRP	Resource Recovery Park
RTS	Refuse Transfer Station
Rubbish	Waste, that currently has little other management options other than disposal to landfill
Service Delivery Review	As defined by s17A of the LGA 2002. Councils are required to review the cost-effectiveness of current arrangements for meeting the needs of communities within its district or region for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions. A review under subsection (1) must consider options for the governance, funding, and delivery of infrastructure, services, and regulatory functions.
TA	Territorial Authority (a city or district council)
TRP	Te rautaki para – New Zealand Waste Strategy
Transfer Station	Where waste can be sorted for recycling or reprocessing, or is dumped and put in to larger trucks for transport to landfill
Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) means subjecting waste to any physical, biological, or chemical process to change its volume or character so that it may be disposed of with no or reduced adverse effect on the environment; but b) does not include dilution of waste
WA	Waste Assessment as defined by s51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008. A Waste Assessment must be completed whenever a WMMP is reviewed
Waste	Means, according to the WMA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Anything disposed of or discarded, and

- b) Includes a type of waste that is defined by its composition or source (for example, organic waste, electronic waste, or construction and demolition waste); and
- c) To avoid doubt, includes any component or element of diverted material, if the component or element is disposed or discarded.

Waste Assessment	A document summarising the current situation of waste management in a locality, with facts and figures, and required under the Waste Minimisation Act.
Waste Hierarchy	A list of waste management options with decreasing priority – usually shown as ‘reduce, reuse, recycle, reprocess, treat, dispose’
WMA	Waste Minimisation Act (2008)
WMMP	A Waste Management and Minimisation Plan as defined by s43 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008
WWTP	Wastewater treatment plant
Zero Waste	A philosophy for waste management, focusing on Council/community partnerships, local economic development, and viewing waste as a resource. Can also be a target (but not in this case).

A.2.0 How the targets are formulated

The targets have been designed to ensure that if we meet them, we will be taking a stronger leadership stance on waste solutions and aligning with our new national strategic direction and the vision and goals of Te rautaki para, as well as placing ourselves better for things like disaster waste planning. They have also been designed to ensure we are regularly looking at where we can achieve efficiencies through collaboration and that we are engaging more with our community and private sector partners to be able to capitalise on any emergent opportunities, as well as increasing our waste minimisation and diversion education services.

They have also taken into consideration the proposed legislative changes around kerbside collections and what systems and legislative tools needed to realise the diversion potential of waste that doesn't need to end up in landfill.

They have also been designed to ensure we protect our environment and public health.

A.3.0 Waste Assessment

The Otago Region Waste Assessment can be found on Council's website.

A.4.0 What we have considered

In preparing this WMMP we have taken into account a wide range of considerations including the following:

- information on the waste we generate and manage in our district
- projections of how our population and economy might change over time
- the waste hierarchy
- public health protection
- Tangata Whenua worldview on waste
- the potential costs and benefits of different options to manage our waste

The detail of the above information is contained in the Waste Assessment (and other supporting documentation).

We have also taken into account a large number of plans, policies and legislation and their requirements. These include the following:

- the Waste Minimisation Act (WMA) 2008
- the Local Government Act (LGA) 2002
- the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996
- the Resource Management Act (RMA) 1991
- the Health Act 1956
- the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Climate Change (Emission Trading) Amendment Act 2008
- Te rautaki para/Waste Strategy (TRP)
- Waste Assessments and Waste Management and Minimisation Planning: A Guide For Territorial Authorities (2015)
- Waitaki District Council's Long Term Plan

Further information on the above plans, policies and legislation and how it has been considered in the formulation on this plan is contained in the Waste Assessment.



