



AGENDA

Taranaki Solid Waste

Thursday 20 May 2021, 10.30am

Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee

20 May 2021 10:30 AM

Agenda Topic

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Apologies

An apology was received from Council N W Walker, Taranaki Regional Council.

Notification of Late Items

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Membership of Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee

Neil Walker	Taranaki Regional Council
Alan Jamieson	Stratford District Council
Bryan Roach	South Taranaki District Council
Richard Handley	New Plymouth District Council

Health and Safety Message

Emergency Procedure

In the event of an emergency, please exit through the emergency door in the committee room by the kitchen.

If you require assistance to exit please see a staff member.

Once you reach the bottom of the stairs make your way to the assembly point at the birdcage. Staff will guide you to an alternative route if necessary.

Earthquake

If there is an earthquake - drop, cover and hold where possible.

Please remain where you are until further instruction is given.



Date: 20 May 2021

Subject: **Confirmation of Minutes - 25 February 2021**

Approved by: G K Bedford, Director - Environment Quality
S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: 2752951

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) takes as read and confirms the minutes and resolutions of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting held in the Taranaki Regional Council chambers on Thursday 25 February 2021 at 10.30am
- b) notes that the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee held at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Thursday 25 February 2021 at 10.30am have been circulated to the New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and the South Taranaki District Council for receipt and information.

Matters arising

Appendices/Attachments

Document 2717102: Minutes Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee - 25 February 2021



Date: 25 February 2021, 10.30am
Venue: Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford
Document: 2717102

Present	Councillors	N W Walker B Roach A Jamieson R Handley	Taranaki Regional Council (Chairman) South Taranaki District Council Stratford District Council New Plymouth District Council
Attending	Councillors	D McIntyre M Chong	Taranaki Regional Council New Plymouth District Council
	Mayor	N Volzke	Stratford District Council
	Mr	G Bedford	Taranaki Regional Council
	Mrs	H Gerrard	Taranaki Regional Council
	Miss	L Davidson	Taranaki Regional Council
	Ms	V Araba	Stratford District Council
	Mr	S Pathan	Stratford District Council
	Mr	A Green	Envirowaste
	Ms	K Hope	New Plymouth District Council
	Ms	J Dearden	New Plymouth District Council
	Mr	H Denton	South Taranaki District Council
	Mr	J Beeslaar	South Taranaki District Council
	Ms	B Rymer	South Taranaki District Council

Apologies Apologies were received from David Langford (NPDC), Mike Oien (SDC), Lousie Campbell (SDC) and Rebecca Martin STDC
 Roach/Handley

Notification of Late Items There were no late items.

1. Confirmation of Minutes - 19 November 2020

Resolved

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) takes as read and confirms the minutes and resolutions of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting held in the Taranaki Regional Council chambers on Thursday 19 November 2020 at 10.30am
- b) notes that the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee held at the Taranaki Regional Council , 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Thursday 19 November 2020 at 10.30am have been circulated to the New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and the South Taranaki District Council for their receipt and information.

Walker/Jamieson

Matters arising

1.1 Menstrual Products in Schools

It was noted that the Government have introduced funding for menstrual products in schools. It was clarified that this does not affect the Taranaki Menstrual workshops that are being organised by the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer, as these workshops are focused on reusable products as an alternative to single use products.

1.2 Plastic in Road Surfacing Trial

Ms K Hope will get an update on the trial and email it out to the Committee.

2. Regional Waste Minimisation Officer's Activity Report

- 2.1 Ms J Dearden, Regional Waste Minimisation Officer, New Plymouth District Council, spoke to the report informing the Committee members of significant activities undertaken by the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer, in collaboration with the district council officers of New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and South Taranaki District Council. The memorandum is for information only.
- 2.2 During the AGRecovery workshops Officers will be conducting a survey with farmers and use that data to evaluate the events and use that information for future planning.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) receives the memorandum and notes the activities of the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer.

Handley/Roach

3. Update on Actions to Manage Recycling Contamination

- 3.1 Ms K Hope, Manager – Resource Recovery, New Plymouth District Council, spoke to the memorandum providing an update on the status of recycling contamination in the Taranaki region and progress against actions to reduce contamination rates.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) receives the memorandum and notes the report's findings.

Jamieson/Walker

4. Bring It Reusable Coffee Cup Campaign

- 4.1 Ms K Hope, Manager – Resource Recovery, New Plymouth District Council, spoke to the memorandum updating the Committee on engagement New Plymouth District Council are carrying out with the hospitality sector and the public to reduce single use coffee cups by promoting alternatives.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) receives the memorandum and notes the proposed activities of New Plymouth District Council.

Jamieson/Roach

5. General Business

- 5.1 Mr A Green Envirowaste, introduced himself and provided an update on Envirowaste activities.

There being no further business, Committee Chairperson, Councillor N W Walker declared the meeting of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee closed at 11.53am.

Confirmed

Chairperson _____

N W Walker

20 May 2021



Date 20 May 2021

Subject: **Regional Waste Minimisation Officer's Activity Report**

Approved by: A J Matthews, Director - Environment Quality
S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: 2768055

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to inform the Committee members of significant activities undertaken by the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer, in collaboration with the district council officers of New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and South Taranaki District Council.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum and notes the activities of the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer.

Discussion

2. The Regional Waste Minimisation Officer's activity report is attached.

Decision-making considerations

3. Part 6 (Planning, decision-making and accountability) of the *Local Government Act 2002* has been considered and documented in the preparation of this agenda item. The recommendations made in this item comply with the decision-making obligations of the *Act*.

Financial considerations—LTP/Annual Plan

4. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Policy considerations

5. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the *Local Government Act 2002*, the *Resource Management Act 1991* and the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Iwi considerations

6. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's policy for the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 2002*) as outlined in the adopted long-term plan and/or annual plan. Similarly, iwi involvement in adopted work programmes has been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Legal considerations

7. This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

Appendices/Attachments

Document 2772702: Regional Waste Minimisation Officer Activity Report May 2021



Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu

**New Plymouth
District Council**

NPDC reference: ECM 8527156

Agenda Memorandum

Date: 20th May 2021

**Memorandum to Chairperson and Members
Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee**

**SUBJECT: REGIONAL WASTE MINIMISATION OFFICER'S ACTIVITY REPORT
4TH QUARTER**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memorandum is to report on significant activities undertaken by the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer (RWMO), in collaboration with the district council officers of NPDC, STDC and SDC.

This report provides information on activities in the wider community, and matters of potential interest to the Committee from March 2021 and May 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

1. Receives the memorandum and notes the activities of the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer and districts.

DISCUSSION

AGrecovery – 'One stop shop events' *NPDC* *STDC* *SDC*

1. Purpose

This event allowed farmers and growers to safely and responsibly dispose of various farm waste in one go. This event is an extension of the Rural Waste Minimisation Project, designed to tackle some of the barriers to recycling that New Zealand's rural communities face and raise awareness of recycling options for farmers and growers. The programme is part funded by the Ministry for Environment's Waste Minimisation Fund.

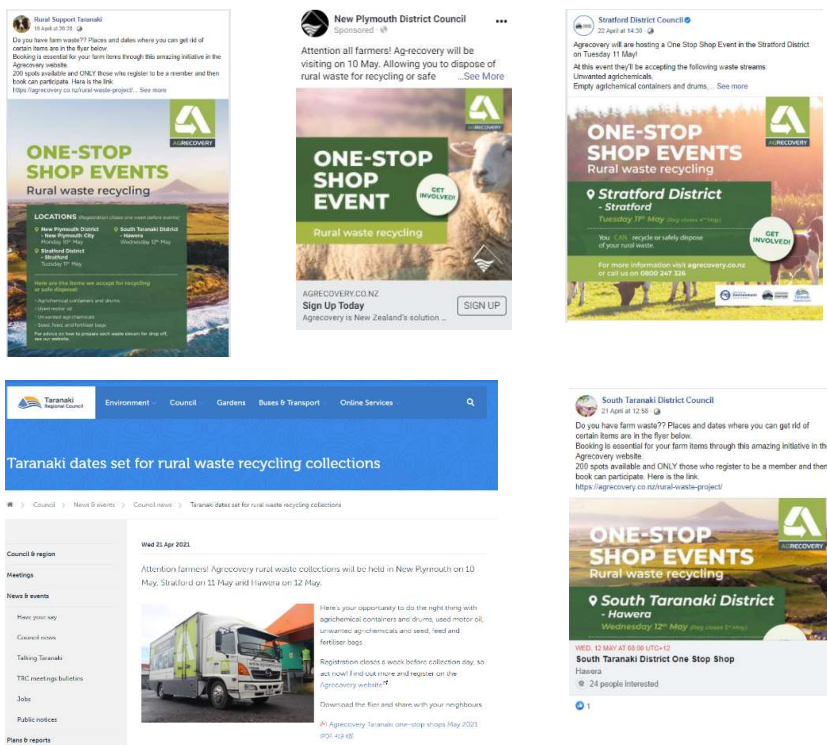
More than 45 farmers registered online to participate in a 'One stop shop' event in Stratford, Hawera or New Plymouth.

The One Stop Shop events will involve the collection of the following by chemical waste:

- Agrichemical containers and drums
- Used motor oil
- Unwanted agrichemicals
- Seed and feed bags

2. Promotion

AGrecovery have a comprehensive network of communications which was used throughout Taranaki. The RWMO planned supplementary communications around the event in collaboration with District Council officers. Extensive advertising in local newspapers, radio and rural community Facebook pages helped share the event and what was offered to help support farmers. The uptake of registrations was initially slow, but increased closer to the closing date for registrations.



3. Results

At the time of writing this report, the events had been held, but final reports had not been received. The information below is provided based on the booking information. Further information on how the events went will be provided in the next meeting.

	Venue	Attendance numbers	Date
NPDC	The Junction	35	10 May 2021
STDC	The Furlong	28	12 May 2021
SDC	A & P Show grounds	12	11 May 2021

Overall each 'One stop shop' event went really well. AGrecovery communicated well with the Councils and managed the planning, advertising, booking and set up in each location.

New Plymouth District Council provided a coffee cart (Ministry of Coffee) for the event located at The Junction location. Farmers received a complementary insulated reusable cup that then gave them 50 cents off the coffee they purchased. This was well received by the farmers who registered for the event and enabled staff to engage on wider waste minimisation objectives. A survey was conducted with farmers at each event results will be compiled and shared in the next report.



Richard Handley observing a chemical drop off by a local farmer at the NPDC AGrecovery event

Home and Lifestyle Expo – April *NPDC*

The NPDC Resource Recovery team participated in the Home and Lifestyle Expo, a three day event at the TSB Stadium, New Plymouth in April. Three thousand two hundred and seventy nine people visited the expo over the weekend.

The aim of our exhibit at the Expo was to promote the message 'Think before you buy'. We had a combined exhibit with the NPDC Three Waters team who promoted a similar message, 'Think before you flush'. Our team did an amazing job interacting with the public and discussing the concept 'Rethink' and 'be a conscious consumer'.

The target audience for the Expo was residents in New Plymouth and the surrounding areas who wanted to explore ideas and promotions that showed off new and current home and lifestyle products and services. Our large combined exhibit focussed on Rethink, Reuse, Recycle.

Expo messages:

- Rethink
 - identifying and choosing products that activate the circular economy at the point of purchase
 - Choosing reusable/recyclable options from the supermarket.
 - Identifying recyclability on plastic packaging - 'check the triangle' 1,2 and 5.
- Reuse
 - Promoting 'Again Again' & 'Bring it Campaign'.
 - Using cotton veggie and fruit bags.
 - Promote The Junction reuse shop
- Recycle
 - Promoting alternative recycling options
 - Recycling of your soft plastic at Countdown.
 - Take your items to The Junction recycling wall - 'TerraCycle', bottle lids etc.
- 'Think before you buy' and 'Think before you flush'

The team identified 'simple swaps' and alternatives to single use products that are readily available for the public. We explained using examples from our 'grazing table', for example how a simple swap to a cotton produce bag was an easy change to make, moving towards more sustainable living practices and reducing soft plastic waste at home.

Reusable beverage cups were also promoted aligning with NPDC's 'Bring it' reusable cup campaign and the 'Again Again' cup lending initiative. A number of people engaged and signed a pledge to bring a reusable cup when they bought a takeaway coffee rather than using a single use cup. Takeaway beverage cups are not recyclable and are a common contaminant of recycling bins. Compostable coffee cups may seem like a good option but as these need to go to a commercial composting facility to be broken down, most compostable cups still go to landfill. An estimated 295 million beverage cups go to landfill in New Zealand every year after a single use (*Packaging Forum*).

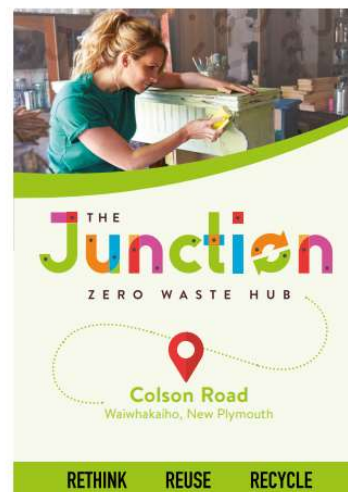
We gave away number of simple swaps and products that could replace single use household items. We engaged with the public on their views on Rethink and Reuse asking them about their own experience and were they aware of the types of reusable items available? Feedback and comments from the public were generally positive. People were very curious and open to discussion about what they could do to swap out plastic from their general household routine and other ways to minimise waste, by rethinking what they buy in the first place. A lot of people said they used the veggie bags, but those that did not were very happy to receive a bag, hence breaking down the first barrier for them to using plastic bags in the fruit and vegetable section at the supermarket. There was also a lot of interest in the use of soap bars instead of a liquid pump bottle, and the bees wax wraps and silicon food covers instead of cling film. Many people commented positively that it is like going back to what we all used to do before all the plastic bottled products came into the supermarkets. There were a couple of negative interactions where the person just could not be bothered changing or were happy with the use of plastic in their situation especially for the disposal of pet litter and other odorous things.

Simple swap	Number of Expo promotional give aways
Reusable menstrual cups	8
Cotton produce bags	175
Aluminium drink bottles	12
Corn starch lunch box	10
Zip up cooler bags	10
Zero waste pencils promoting website	200
Silicon straws	200
Tote carry bags	200



Expo as a Zero Waste Event

The Expo was a collaborative Zero Waste event with NPDC Events and Venues. We received a number of positive comments from the public and exhibit holders who supported this concept, who were impressed with the clarity of our Zero Waste branding. Vendors commented they had not seen this at other expos around New Zealand. The team of Zero Waste Warriors worked with Events and Venues to monitor and sort the waste stations throughout the 3 days. Two waste stations consisting of glass, organics, landfill and recycling were set up at the food village and outside entrance to the Expo. Diversion from landfill was over 75%. Two large plastic bags of soft plastic were also collected and taken to Countdown for recycling. The main area of confusion for the public was that single use compostable coffee cups and food packaging at this event were compostable whereas at kerbside these single use cups go to landfill. We had a number of NPDC staff and young Zero Waste volunteers over the weekend that gave up their time on the waste stations engaging the public on where to put waste.





*Waste Free with Kate –Food Masterclass, Parenting Workshops & Reusable Sanitary Products in Schools *NPDC**

Waste Free Parenting

Nineteen people attended the Waste Free Parenting workshop on 4 March. Feedback indicated the workshop was well received with 70.6% of attendees rating the workshop highly.

Of the attendees, many committed to making changes to their behaviour, particularly through the use of reusable coffee cups, better recycling or composting.

A total of 20.8 tonnes of waste is estimated to be diverted from landfill by the workshop attendees in relation to the use of reusable cloth nappies.

Food Masterclass

Twenty nine people attended the Food Lovers Masterclass on 1 march. Feedback from the workshop indicated that 83 % attendees highly rated the workshop.

The workshop and incentive packs given to the attendees increased interest in the workshops which was funded by NPDC at a reduced rate of \$20 Per Person. The majority of people 60% heard of the works hop through social media and 20% through word of mouth. NPDC linked to the Kate Meads event page on Facebook this helped promoted the workshop locally

Feedback:

- “Great workshop with lots of interesting info and different perspectives on how we see food. Picked up a few useful new tips, and found out about some helpful products to reduce food waste. Thanks.”
- “Very informative and facilitator was very knowledgeable and nice” o
- “Really helpful, fantastic gift pack - thank you”

Sanitary products in schools

The RWMO coordinated the delivery of Menstrual Workshops in schools which were facilitated by Rochelle Searle from Waste Free with Kate. Menstrual waste disposables equate to around 5,000 tonnes of waste being sent to New Zealand landfills every year. The workshops aim is to give young women product knowledge and choice to make decisions about their own bodies and products available. These workshops are a powerful tool to discuss topics around women’s health that we tend

not to talk about. By holding these workshops and making these products free in schools we hope to have a continued positive impact on our school community in relation to waste minimisation.

The total number of schools visited last year regionally is shown in Table 1. The workshops successfully reached our more vulnerable schools in areas like Patea and Okato where social and economic disadvantages impact knowledge and access to reusable products.

Table 1 School engagement in 2020 reusable sanitary product workshops

	Number of Schools	Number of students engaged	Products donated: Reusable pads or cups
NPDC September 2020	7	610	1,050
STDC September 2020	3	300	450
SDC September 2020	1	228	360

This year NPDC held workshops in March 2021 (Table 2) and also plan to hold them in September 2021. The RWMO aimed to increase the number workshops held in schools and also hold workshops in community centres reaching out to our more vulnerable communities, increasing the amount of products distributed. While two schools were interested in the workshops and had held the workshops the previous year, better engagement with new schools is needed to increase the reach for this workshop programme. The new Zero Waste Education Officer will work with the RWMO to promote these workshops in September 2021.

Table 2 School engagement in March 2021 reusable sanitary product workshops

NPDC	Number of workshops	Number of students/attendees engaged	Products donated: Reusable pads or cups
New Plymouth Girls High School	3	410	600
Waitara High School	2	202	300
Plunket mothers	1	15	66

There was a very positive response to the presentations, with a lot of very enthusiastic, curious, and inspired students, staff members and parents. At all of the schools/organisations, the students, teachers and parents were very keen to try the menstrual cups and pads, and the products were seen as a necessity rather than a novelty.

It was relatively easy getting schools booked in as the contacts we had from visits the previous year were very keen to have hold the workshops again.

The teachers and other staff who attended at the schools were really grateful for the amazing opportunity and products their students received. The general feedback was that the products were life changing for so many of the girls and would be the difference of a loaf of bread and bottle of milk for the family.

As to be expected, students were generally quite reserved at the beginning of the presentation but warmed up as time went on. We found that the younger the students were, the more hesitant they were to ask questions. This can be attributed to the stigma around periods and the fact that menstruation is still a relatively new experience for them.

Encouragingly, there was a fair amount of prior knowledge amongst students and staff members in terms of the environmental impacts of single-use products, as well as some of them already being aware of/using reusable menstrual products.

With the reception of the presentations being so positive, we are eager to continue this initiative throughout New Plymouth district high schools in conjunction. A suggested improvement would be to make start up kits for the girls and include a wet bag.

Zero Waste Events ***NPDC***

Over the 2020-21 season NPDC received 13 Zero Waste Event Plan Funding Applications. Of those, two were cancelled due to Covid-19 level 2 restrictions, four were from other NPDC teams and the rest were from other organisations running events over the summer season. Of the 13 events, eight of these had over 1000 people and two had over 8000 people.

In the 2020/2021 event season, all events achieved at least 50% diversion of waste away from landfill (Table 3). Where events have been held for two years, Table 3 provides information on the 2019/20 year to monitor if diversion rates are improving.

Table 3 Zero Waste Event diversion rates for the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 summer seasons

2019/2020	2020/2021	Event	Attendance 2020/2021	Diversion estimate 2019/2020	Diversion estimate 2020/2021
December	December	<i>Christmas at the Bowl</i>	12,000	N/A	80-85%
N/A	January	<i>L.A.B</i>	14,000	N/A	94%
January	N/A	<i>Breakers basketball</i>	3,000	61%	N/A
January	January	<i>Six60</i>	15,000	89%	91%
January (NPDC)	N/A	<i>Ben Harper</i>	7,000	86%	N/A
January	N/A	<i>Breakers basketball</i>	3,000	86%	N/A
February	February	<i>Americarna - Inglewood</i>	12,000	44%	78%
February	February	<i>Americarna - Waitara</i>	8,000	65%	84%
February	February	<i>Americarna - New Plymouth City</i>	10,000	50%	69%
February	February	<i>NP Water Ski Club</i>	100	79%	70%
N/A	April	<i>Fade out</i>	5,000		65%
Covid	April	<i>Home and lifestyle expo</i>	4,000	N/A	75%
March	March	<i>Koru Project</i>	3,000	67%	66%
N/A	March	<i>Oxfam event</i>	10,000	N/A	77%
Event did not take place due to Covid-19 restrictions/level changes 2020-2021					
February		<i>St Pius School</i>	1,000	80%	
October		<i>Puanga festival</i>	8,000	50%	
November		<i>Tui Mai</i>	8,000	50%	
March		<i>MultiEthnic Extravaganza</i>	8,000	Below 50 %	

Learnings

What went well

- Face to face meetings with event organisers were highly valuable to:
 - Gain insight into the types of waste likely to be produced, communication of the Zero Waste event philosophy and the process of running a Zero Waste event (including waste station set up, the required diversion rate and limitation of contamination using Zero Waste Heroes).
 - Provide a candid environment for questions and establishment of rapport with the event organiser.
- Rapport established between the Resource Recovery team and the waste contractor (Waste Management Ltd) helped to ensure the correct number and types of bins were booked according to the needs of the event.
- Application form is comprehensive and gathers the right information to be able to assess the Zero Waste Event plan and waste station layout.
- Purchase of more Zero Waste Hero vests and cut proof gloves eased the pressure on the equipment loan system when there were back to back events that also crossed over with loaning these items to Events and Venues teams for the Bowl concerts.
- The development of a volunteer check list/pictorial card that could be used for education and referred to by Zero Waste Heros during the event was extremely valuable.
- The equipment bond form helped to facilitate collation (and doubled as a check list) of waste infrastructure loan out requirements prior to the event organiser picking these items up.
- Where event organisers were in their second season of holding a Zero Waste event in conjunction with NPDC, the previous learnings they had made completing their Zero Waste Plans easier.
- Positive feedback on the events included:

"We were very pleased with the vests, gloves and educational information provided for the bin stations. This made it easy for the volunteers to ensure they were prepared and up to speed for managing the stations."

"Overall we were happy with the success of the Zero Waste Stations. We were able to achieve an excellent diversion to landfill rate and we were well supported through the process from application to collection of the promotional material and PPE etc."

What we can improve on

- Develop an information pack to accompany the Zero Waste events application form, streamlining the information given to event organisers in the first instance, thus reducing further enquires and time taken to answer questions/give information.
- Review bond form to include space to record other loan items (vests, gloves, banners) and to keep track of how many bin liners are required to be given out.

- The velcro on the bin wraps is not consistent with the lids and therefore mismatches occurred that resulted in the wrap not attaching to the lid (this was noticed by ourselves and mentioned to us by three other event organisers).
- Ensuring there is sufficient resource available to administer and manage the events when it gets busy.
- Remind event organisers to clean the lids and wraps before returning.
- Remember to ask the Waste contractor for waste weights from all events so we can measure effectiveness of each event.
- Two event organisers also commented that they thought the bin lids, while bright and attractive, were not functional in their context:

Education Plan – May - July *NPDC* *STDC* *SDC*

The three district councils are working together to promote consistent themes across the region using the Regional Behaviour Change Strategy (RBCS). A behaviour change action plan is being written for each selected theme coordinated by the RWMO with waste officers from the districts. Each campaign/project is based on the upper level of the waste hierarchy where possible. Planned themes for the final quarter are outlined below.

Fourth Quarter: May - June - July 2021		
RECYCLE <i>AGrecovery regional event May 2021</i>	AVOID <i>Non-flushables (use reusable wipes and sanitary products)</i>	AVOID/REUSE/RECYCLE <i>Plastic Free July 2021 regional Campaign - RETHINK</i>

Sustainable living skills facilitator training and classes *STDC*

In April STDC hosted Rhys Taylor, National Coordinator for the Sustainable Living Trust. Rhys led a facilitator training course to support community members in running community education courses on sustainable living topics (waste minimisation, energy efficiency, gardening, etc). Seven residents were trained as facilitators, including two Enviroschools educators.

Growing out of this facilitator training course, STDC has signed a contract for Enviroschools to deliver a series of community education classes on sustainable living topics in South Taranaki. The first course was delivered in April at Koromiko Kindergarten. The topic was how to make your own bathroom, kitchen, and laundry products (packaging free). There will be 4 or 5 further community education courses delivered before the end of the financial year.

Make your own bathroom, kitchen & laundry products

The South Taranaki District Council (STDC) & EnviroSchools are proud to bring you this workshop



Make and take home your own environmentally friendly bathroom, kitchen and/or laundry products with easy to find ingredients plus find out how to make loads more.

Recycling banners in grocery stores *STDC*

South Taranaki District Council is working with grocery stores and supermarkets across South Taranaki to promote proper recycling. Over the next six months, the two banners displayed below will be traveling to stores across the district. One banner focuses on how to recycle milk bottles (empty + clean, no lids, unsquashed) and the other focuses on meat trays (no packaging, clean, and loose). The banners are currently up at the Hāwera Pak'nSave, and are right next to the products they refer to, in order to maximise their impact.



TSB Hub Waste minimisation and recycling plan *STDC*

The STDC Environment and Sustainability Officer is working with staff at the TSB Hub to develop a waste minimisation and recycling plan for the Hub. Currently, all waste produced at the Hub is going to landfill. Initial recommendations to the Hub include updating the outside waste collection point to allow for the collection of recyclables, introducing standardised recycling bins inside, and introducing the composting of paper towels. These recommendations will be actioned by the Hub staff over the coming months.



Zero Waste Education Lessons *STDC*

Over the past year, Zero Waste Education has been delivering waste minimisation workshops for several schools across South Taranaki. Lessons have been delivered in the following schools: Pātea Area School, St. Joseph’s School, Waverley Primary School, Mokoai School, and Kakaramaea. The contract that STDC has with Zero Waste Education is nearing its conclusion. The remaining funds in the contract will be used to host waste minimisation workshops as a part of STDC’s upcoming School Holiday Programmes. STDC staff are now awaiting a reporting summary from Zero Waste Education.

Mid-term Review of the STDC Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018 *STDC*

The STDC Environment and Sustainability Team is currently conducting a mid-term review of the STDC Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018. There have been significant changes to the national and regional waste management system since this plan was published. The mid-term review puts these changes into context and analyses progress to date on the 16 targets and 41 actions written into the WMMP 2018, up until 31 December 2020. Findings and recommendations for the improvement in the next WMMP will be presented to STDC’s Policy & Strategy Committee. Once approved by STDC, the findings will be shared with the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee.

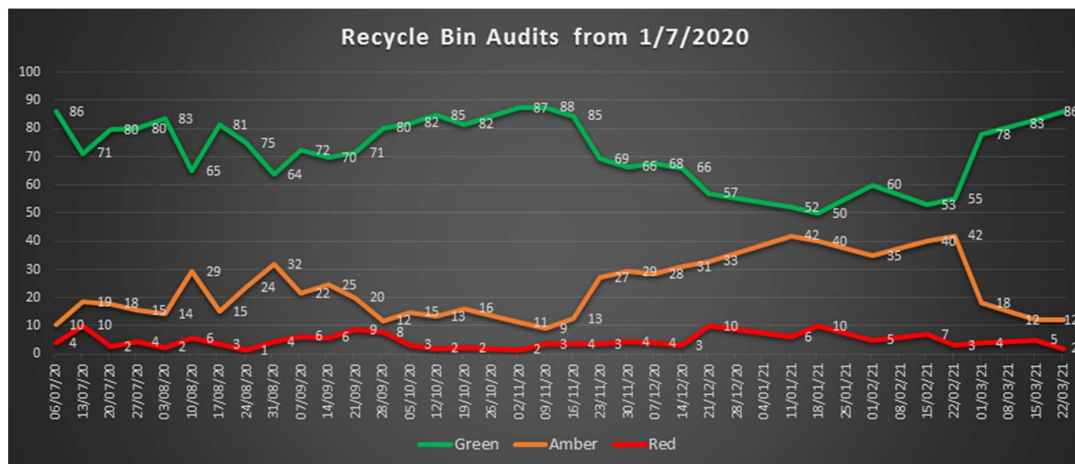
Reducing contamination ***SDC***

Stratford District Council is closely following the results of the recycle bin audits to understand resident behaviour when recycling. We have a "3 strike" process where the recycling service is suspended and currently there are four addresses in the Stratford District that have had their recycling service suspended for three months due to three strikes of contamination. This in accordance with Section 12.6 of the Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw to reduce contamination levels at the MRF and deter those residents that continue to contaminate their bins.

Lids continue to be a major contamination issue. For example, on 19 April 2021 there were 82 amber and red tags issued with 75 bins with lids in them. 91% of the contaminated bins contained lids. We are working with New Plymouth District Council and South Taranaki on a targeted campaign for "lids off" to try and reduce the contamination getting to the MRF.

A regional Health and Safety audit was completed on the EnviroWaste Bin Auditor on 12 April 2021. The result was very good with compliance with all criteria both for him and the vehicle. Suggested improvements are in the area of bin handling during the audit process - currently he uses a pen to move things around in the bin. New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) is looking at providing him with a collapsible pole to reach further down into the bin. Worthy to note, the bins that are red tagged are turned away from the kerb and the red tag placed on the lid handle to alert the recycling truck driver not to collect that bin. The bin auditor also texts the driver through their system, of the addresses with the red tagged bins.

Below is Stratford District Council's bin audit results since 1 July 2020 until the end of March 2021. During the period November 2020 to end of February 2021, the criteria for the amber tags was toughened up and this resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of amber tags. The criteria has now relaxed and the outcome was that there was a huge reduction in the number of amber tags.



Contributions from

Louise Campbell, *ASSET MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR* ***SDC***

Brittany Rymer, *ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER* ***STDC***

ECM 8527156

Prepared by

Miss Jessica Dearden

REGIONAL WASTE MINIMISATION OFFICER



Date 20 May 2021

Subject: **The Junction - Reuse shop and Education Programme**

Approved by: A J Matthews, Director - Environment Quality
S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: 2773727

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to inform the Committee members of activities undertaken by the Junction.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum and notes the activities of the Junction.

Discussion

2. The Junction activities report is attached.

Decision-making considerations

3. Part 6 (Planning, decision-making and accountability) of the *Local Government Act 2002* has been considered and documented in the preparation of this agenda item. The recommendations made in this item comply with the decision-making obligations of the *Act*.

Financial considerations—LTP/Annual Plan

4. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Policy considerations

5. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks

including, but not restricted to, the *Local Government Act 2002*, the *Resource Management Act 1991* and the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Iwi considerations

6. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's policy for the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 2002*) as outlined in the adopted long-term plan and/or annual plan. Similarly, iwi involvement in adopted work programmes has been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Legal considerations

7. This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

Appendices/Attachments

Document 2772704: Report on the Junction operation May 2021

THE JUNCTION – REUSE SHOP AND EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the operation of The Junction activities, including the Reuse shop which opened in March 2020 and the education programmes, which have been offered since August 2019.

RECOMMENDATION

That, having considered all matters raised in the report, the report be noted.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

1. This report is provided for information purposes only, and has been assessed as being of some importance.

DISCUSSION

2. The Junction – Zero Waste Hub is a key facility for achieving Council’s Zero Waste 2040 vision and maximising diversion of waste from landfill. The Junction is a community space that is helping to create attitude change around waste by providing easy options for reusing and recycling unwanted items as well as education on how to avoid creating waste in the first place.
3. Located on Colson Road, Waiwhakaiho, New Plymouth, The Junction includes:
 - Reuse shop and drop-off
 - Education – workshops, events and tours
 - Recycling bins
 - Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)
4. Operation of The Junction is a collaborative partnership with Council contracting WISE (Waitara Initiatives Supporting Employment) Charitable Trust to run the Reuse Shop, Sustainable Taranaki to provide educational services and EnviroWaste Services Ltd. to operate the MRF.

The Junction - Reuse shop

5. The Reuse shop provides a second life for items which would have otherwise been disposed to landfill and provides a cheap alternative to landfilling. The Reuse shop currently operates within a temporary tent building with attached gravel yard and 40 foot containers next door to the MRF. The shop is open from Tuesday to Sunday 10am till 3pm.
 6. Since the Reuse shop opened on 6 March 2020 the operation has gone from strength to strength despite a Covid-19 lockdown which meant the shop was
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shut for all of April and half of May 2020. Both visitor numbers and sales have steadily increased (Figure 1 and 2).

- As shown in Table 1 over 38,000 items have been sold through the Reuse shop, diverting 92 tonnes of materials from landfill since the shop opened. Over 13,000 visitors have shopped and/or dropped off items over this period.

Table 1: Reuse Shop

	May 2020 to May 2021
Visitors	13,538
Drop-offs	1,328
Items sold	38,753
Tonnes diverted	92



Figure 1 Number of visitors per month

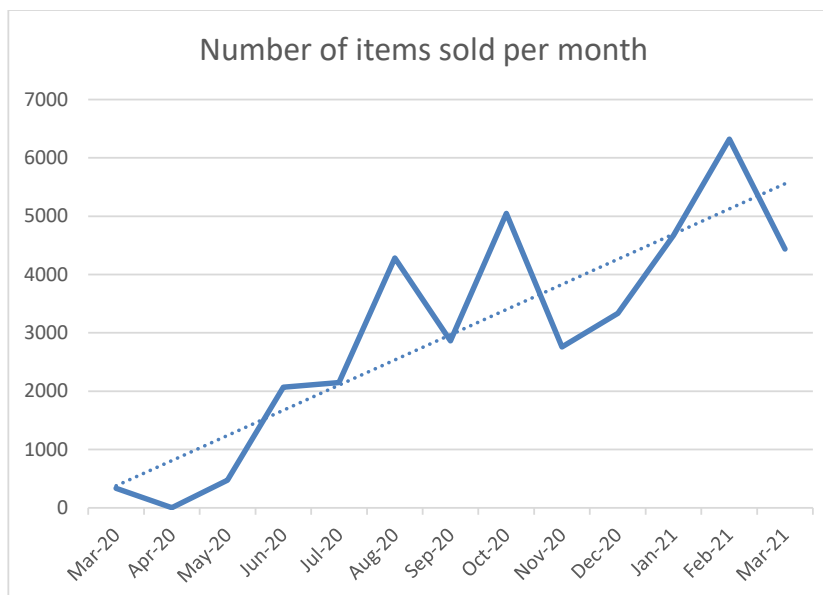


Figure 2 Number of items sold per month

8. As well as cleaning and repairing items for resale the shop staff also upcycle items for sale through the shop. Some of the items produced include earrings made out of bike tyre inner-tubes, mini glasshouses made from recycled windows, chairs made from ATV tyres and upcycled furniture. WISE plan to continue to increase their upcycling of items over time to increase the value and saleability of donated items.
 9. A range of items are donated and sold through the Reuse shop but building materials in particular are proving to be increasingly popular with shoppers and are also a point of difference compared with other second hand shops. Builders in the region are becoming increasingly aware that offcuts, demolition fixtures and fittings and new obsolete items can be taken to The Junction rather than being landfilled and DIYers are visiting in increasing numbers for items to finish their projects. Some of the more interesting items that have passed through the shop include new bath tubs, complete show room kitchens, Pink Batts off-cuts (which have proved very popular) and bronze brackets and bolts which the company donating them has requested be used in sculptures by local artists.
 10. The Junction – Reuse shop provides a range of recycling options for items which cannot be recycled at the kerbside, including:
 - Household batteries
 - Milk bottle lids
 - Writing instruments
 - Shaving razors, their blades and packaging
 - Aluminium can tabs and wine bottle tops
 - Bread tags
 - Cling wrap, food storage bags, food storage containers
 - Toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, floss containers and their packaging
 - The Collective suckies yoghurt tubes and pouches
 - L'OR, Maccona, Illy, L'affare, Nescafe Dolce Gusto and Jed's coffee capsules
 - Scrap metal.
 11. Although these recycling options are relatively new to The Junction they are already proving popular with residents.
 12. A range of Will and Able bulk cleaning products are also available at the Reuse shop, so residents can refill their own containers. These products are eco-friendly and produced by New Zealanders with intellectual disabilities. Refilling containers, rather than purchasing new, reduces the amount of plastic bottles produced.
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Chair made from ATV tyre

Recycling options



Bulk cleaning products



Inside the reuse shop



Play sink made from old BBQ

The Junction - Education

13. In August 2019 Sustainable Taranaki took over running the MRF tours and started holding workshops and events at The Junction, under contract to Council. Since then more than 2,700 residents have participated in educational activities at The Junction.
14. Residents have had the opportunity to participate in workshops on everything from making a garden bed, worm farm or compost bin from recycled materials to preparing their own cleaning products and making Christmas wrap and gifts. All of these workshops have provided practical skills to reduce waste at home.
15. School groups, residents and businesses have undertaken 94 tours of the MRF facility where they have seen how our kerbside recycling is sorted by MRF staff and learnt about what can be recycled at the kerbside and what not to put in your recycling bin.
16. Events held at The Junction have included planting of the gardens, which involved 70 volunteers, green drinks where businesses have the opportunity to present their waste minimisation initiatives and share ideas with other businesses, and teacher engagement sessions where teachers from various schools come together to discuss waste minimisation initiatives in schools around the district.

The Junction - Communication

17. Effective communication with our community is essential to achieve the goals for the site. This is managed under a joint Community Engagement Plan which contains measurable KPI's that are reviewed annually. The Junction is promoted through a broad range media and also at events. The site has a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/TheJunctionTaranaki> which currently has 2,700 followers, a Twitter account and a page on the Council's website <https://www.newplymouthnz.com/Residents/Your-Property/Zero-Waste-Recycling-and-Rubbish/The-Junction>.



Community event in Marfell



Making cleaning products



Watching how the recycling is sorted



Making a compost bin



The Junction sculpture

NEXT STEPS

18. On 1 June 2021 shop opening hours will increase to 10am to 4pm Tuesday to Sunday and E-waste recycling will shift from the transfer station to The Junction. Over the next 12 months The Junction operation will continue to focus on expanding their customer base, raising a higher community profile and engagement, and identifying new waste streams that can be diverted from landfill.
19. Within the next six months a Steering Committee will be established to provide guidance and ensure the growth and success of the site. A representative from Ngāti Tawhirikura has been invited to be part of this group along with representatives from the three partners. Nominated community representatives with the skills needed to make The Junction a success will also be brought onto the committee as needed.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING IMPLICATIONS

20. Further expansion of site infrastructure such as a permanent building for the Reuse shop and development of the green spaces, will be dependent on the outcome of the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT

21. This report confirms that the matter concerned has no particular implications and has been dealt with in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002. Specifically:
 - Council staff have delegated authority for any decisions made;
 - Council staff have identified and assessed all reasonably practicable options for addressing the matter and considered the views and preferences of any interested or affected persons (including Māori), in proportion to the significance of the matter;
 - Council staff have considered how the matter will promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and the future.
 - Unless stated above, any decisions made can be addressed through current funding under the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan;
 - Any decisions made are consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
 - No decisions have been made that would alter significantly the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council, or would transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

Report Details

Prepared By: Nicolette West (Resource Recovery Contracts Engineer)
Team: Resource Recovery
Approved By: Kimberley Hope (Resource Recovery Manager)
Ward/Community: Whole district
Date: 10 May 2021
File Reference: ECM

-----*End of Report*-----



Date: 20 May 2021

Subject: **Commercial Waste Reduction**

Approved by: A J Matthews, Director - Environment Quality
S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: 2773736

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to update the Committee members on the progress of the New Plymouth District Council to reduce commercial and industrial waste to landfill in Taranaki under the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum and notes the activities of the New Plymouth District Council.

Discussion

2. The Commercial and Industrial Waste information item is attached.

Decision-making considerations

3. Part 6 (Planning, decision-making and accountability) of the *Local Government Act 2002* has been considered and documented in the preparation of this agenda item. The recommendations made in this item comply with the decision-making obligations of the *Act*.

Financial considerations—LTP/Annual Plan

4. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Policy considerations

5. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks

including, but not restricted to, the *Local Government Act 2002*, the *Resource Management Act 1991* and the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Iwi considerations

6. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's policy for the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 2002*) as outlined in the adopted long-term plan and/or annual plan. Similarly, iwi involvement in adopted work programmes has been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Legal considerations

7. This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

Appendices/Attachments

Document 2772701: Commercial and Industrial Waste Options Information Item May 2021

UPDATE ON COMMERCIAL WASTE REDUCTION

PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress on the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan action to reduce commercial and industrial waste to landfill in Taranaki.

RECOMMENDATION

That, having considered all matters raised in the report, the report be noted.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

2. This report is provided for information purposes only, and has been assessed as being of some importance.

DISCUSSION

3. The New Plymouth Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2017 has an aspirational goal of Zero Waste to landfill by 2040. Commercial and industrial (C&I) waste forms around 60% of all waste sent to landfill in Taranaki and is therefore a key priority waste stream if we are to make significant progress towards Zero Waste.
 4. Historically the Council has relied on the private sector to provide services and infrastructure to business and industry. However, while there is some active diversion of commercial waste streams (particularly organic and meat wastes), little progress has been made with waste reduction of commercial and industrial waste. Therefore it is important for Council to actively identify measures which will reduce the amount of C&I waste produced and sent to landfill.
 5. A feasibility study on options for C&I waste minimisation was undertaken by NPDC in 2019/20, with the following scope of work:
 - Reviewing existing data on commercial and industrial waste streams;
 - Estimating current and future waste streams;
 - Engaging with waste generators and the waste industry in Taranaki;
 - Developing and evaluating options for minimising and managing commercial waste in New Plymouth;
 - Developing concepts for a materials recovery/processing operation;
 6. The feasibility study identified a number of barriers to waste minimisation for the commercial sector:
-

- Lack of information/knowledge within businesses on what can and cannot be reused, recycled and/or composted;
 - A lack of time for businesses to separate the waste streams they produce, particularly in the construction and demolition sector;
 - Businesses often assume that the cost for diversion is higher than landfill disposal;
 - Landfill is often the most cost-effective waste disposal option for businesses;
 - Special waste streams often pose health and safety issues and thus require appropriate management;
 - Tenants not receiving options to enable recycling or composting of materials;
 - A lack of processing capability and facilities within the region to process waste streams e.g. construction waste;
 - Waste management is not a core or priority issue for businesses (relatively low cost, effective services for waste removal and disposal); and
 - Smaller businesses produce lower volumes of materials - they are not an attractive source of recoverable materials.
7. The following needs of businesses were identified:
- Cost effective waste minimisation;
 - Processing infrastructure (locally) for the waste streams with no current local processing capacity;
 - Efficient service – businesses want bins/containment (landfill, recycling, food waste) removed on time, appropriate for the site/operation and easy to use;
 - Information about what can and can't be reused, recycled and/or composted.
8. A range of options were identified to meet business needs, address barriers to resource recovery and reflect approaches that have been adopted elsewhere. These options were evaluated against key objectives identified by Council including:
- Meeting needs of local industry;
 - Increasing the diversion of waste from landfill (including clean fill);
 - Delivering products at a quality suitable for end markets;
 - Reducing net carbon impacts;
 - Achieving an acceptable cost to business; and
 - Providing value for money for any Council funds invested.
9. The recommended approach was to implement a package of activities that include:
- Extending targeted rate funded kerbside collection service to small businesses;
 - Promoting existing commercial recycling services;
 - Subject to a confirmed business case, developing a commercial food waste service for medium sized businesses; and
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- Subject to a confirmed business case, establish a new C&I waste recovery facility.
10. This recommended approach is now being progressively implemented. The extension of the targeted rate funded kerbside collection service to businesses has been included in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan. Should this be approved, the scope will likely include the ability for businesses, religious organisations, clubs and charitable organisations to opt-in to the same service that is offered to residents. There will be criteria applied to assess whether the kerbside collection service will suit a particular organisation and user fees for the service applied
 11. The promotion of existing commercial recycling services has been incorporated into the education work programme for our commercial waste minimisation officer and will continue to be improved as engagement with this sector expands. The [Zero Waste Taranaki](#) website contains a range of information for businesses, including an A-Z Zero Waste Directory. The Council has also been trialling a Resource Wise Business Programme with seven businesses. This programme provides tailored support for individual business to develop action plans to reduce business waste.
 12. Further assessment of a commercial food scraps collection has been put on hold until a regional organic processing facility becomes available. This is also included in the Long Term Plan.
 13. In 2020 a detailed business case for a Commercial Waste Sorting Facility was completed, and indicates a manual sorting facility using a materials handler is a feasible option, utilising existing infrastructure at the New Plymouth Transfer Station after it is relocated to the new site on the neighbouring Resource Recovery Facility. Detailed design has been completed, and engagement with waste service providers (potential customers of the facility) on the concept design was undertaken early this year.

NEXT STEPS

14. Subject to approval in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan, a project plan will be developed for the extension of kerbside service to businesses with the service becoming available later in the 2021/2022 year. Options for organic waste processing will be considered regionally.
 15. The procurement of construction works and operation of the Commercial Waste Sorting Facility will be undertaken, with the facility likely to be operational in early 2022. A governance team will be set up incorporating representation from the commercial sector and hapū.
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FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING IMPLICATIONS

16. All costs and resources required to progress these projects have been incorporated into the Long Term Plan.

IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT

17. This report confirms that the matter concerned has no particular implications and has been dealt with in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002. Specifically:
- Council staff have identified and assessed all reasonably practicable options for addressing the matter and considered the views and preferences of any interested or affected persons (including Māori), in proportion to the significance of the matter;
 - Council staff have considered how the matter will promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and the future.
 - Unless stated above, any decisions made can be addressed through current funding under the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan;
 - Any decisions made are consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
 - No decisions have been made that would alter significantly the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council, or would transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

Report Details

Prepared By: Kimberley Hope (Manager Resource Recovery)
Team: Resource Recovery
Ward/Community: District wide
Date: 10 May 2021
File Reference: ECM8532912

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