

Waste less, do more!



Draft 2023-2029

Waste Minimisation and Management Plan

March 2023

wastelesswaipa.co.nz

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From the Mayor

Making the very best use of the resources we have is fundamental to the health and well-being of our community. But the fact is... we generate waste, too much waste.

Like all communities, waste is one of the issues our district wrestles with every day. There are issues around how it is generated, how it is managed and how it is reused or disposed of.

The fact is, waste impacts on all of us – in terms of recycling, rubbish collection, climate change, community education, food waste....and more. The big, broad and complex issues of 'waste' are not going away.

Like all councils, the government requires us to produce a *Waste Minimisation and Management Plan*. The Plan helps us comply with the law and (importantly) access waste levy funding from the government that we can spend right here, in our community.

This document is our first cut of that Plan... but only the first cut. Please read it, because waste is not something Council can deal with alone. Developing solutions to our current waste challenges is a joint responsibility

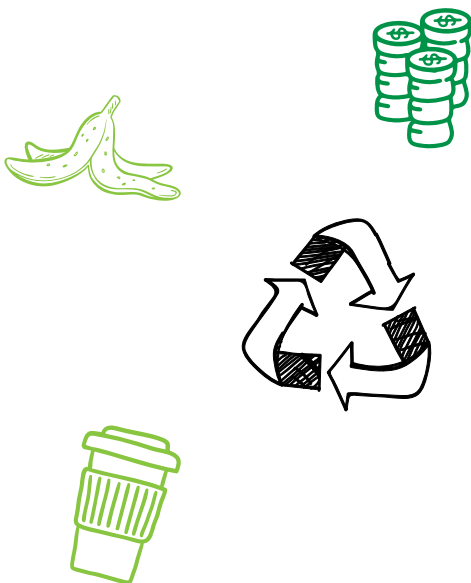
that we share with all Waipā residents, businesses, organisations and the Government.

This draft Plan outlines our thinking so far. It illustrates how we plan to lead and facilitate solutions to prevent waste, support others to help, as well as providing some critical resource recovery services.

But nothing is set in stone, and we don't pretend to have all the answers. Instead, we're asking the community about ways we can waste less, and do more. Please join us and have your say. It's important for all of us.

Ngā mihi

Susan O'Regan
Mayor of Waipā



Let's go back a bit

Since we last looked in-depth at Waipā's waste profile in 2016/17 a lot has changed...

01

In 2016 Waipā locals were recycling glass, plastics, tins, cans, cardboard and paper using the crate-based recycling system. But the contract was coming to an end. In the meantime, people were becoming increasingly aware of environmental issues.

02

In 2017 Council (and others) was left reeling when China said it would no longer accept recycled materials from other countries. It was a huge shock and meant New Zealand (and other nations) had far fewer options in terms of recycling.

03

In 2019 Council rolled out recycling wheelie bins, a fundamental change for our community. It has not always been plain-sailing, but largely wheelie bins have gone well.

04

Meanwhile, our own Government started to drive a large programme of change, reviewing and updating the Waste Act and renewing the Waste Strategy for the first time in 12 years.

05

In 2019 single use shopping bags were banned and pressure came on other hard-to-recycle plastics. Communities, in general, became far more aware of responsibilities around waste.

06

In 2022, Aotearoa New Zealand published its first ever Emissions Reduction Plan, setting out what we must do to meet carbon emissions targets. It included a whole chapter on waste (and for good reason!)

07

In 2022, Waipā District Council completed its second formal Waste Assessment, taking a good look at waste services (private, Council and community-led). It considered future demand, Government policy implications, carbon impacts, specific waste types and potential opportunities. It's a riveting read – [check it out here!](#) (If you don't have time – don't worry. Key points are included in this draft Plan.)



There's been more action as well, but just these points highlight the huge change in Aotearoa New Zealand regarding how we think about waste, and what we are willing to accept as 'waste'. The Government is also taking a much more active role; much more than we've even seen before.

Overall, we're reviewing Waipā's draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan at a real time of change. That means we'll need a nimble and flexible Plan that can change as policy, drivers and funding sources also change. Get involved – it's a great time to part of it!

Worldwide to Waipā-wide

As the Mayor said in her introduction, we're all in this together. This section outlines the international agreements and national policies we must be consistent with, and support.

International considerations and treaties

Aotearoa New Zealand is party to the following international agreements:

1. [Montreal Protocol](#) – aims to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production of numerous substances
2. [Basel Convention](#) – aims to reduce the movement of hazardous wastes between nations
3. [Stockholm Convention](#) – wants to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants
4. [Waigani Convention](#) – bans export of hazardous or radioactive waste to Pacific Islands Forum countries.

Do these agreements matter to people in Waipā? Yes. The impacts of international policies and agreements are real.

For example, these agreements influence the quality of products we can sell from our local recycling sorting facility. And they have a direct impact on whether our contractor can export them. In turn, that translates down to costs, including what ratepayers in our community must pay for waste services.



Government policy levers

While our day-to-day interaction with international treaties can be hard to see or feel, the government's actions and policies are much easier to understand.

New Zealand's waste disposal to municipal landfills increased by 48 per cent in the last decade so it's no surprise waste has become a large focus for government in the past five years. There's a whole programme of work already completed, plus other programmes and initiatives underway to reduce how much waste we put in landfill and to accelerate our transition towards a circular economy (see page 9).

These include (but are not limited to):

- a new national waste strategy and new legislation to better regulate how we manage products and materials circulating in our economy
- increasing the landfill levy (the fee placed by the government on waste material sent to landfills) and applying that levy to more classes of landfill progressively from 2023
- a commitment from the waste sector to reduce carbon emissions in the Emissions Reduction Plan

- a national infrastructure strategy for waste
- encouraging all councils to provide kerbside food waste collection service
- using regulation (product stewardship) to put responsibilities for managing end-of-life products on producers, importers and retailers rather than on communities, councils, neighbourhoods and future. In other words, there's a push to put the responsibility for waste on those who generate it.
- 'Cash for cans' – remember that old-fashioned scheme where a returnable cash deposit was applied to all drink cans and bottles? Something very similar is coming back ...but bigger and better (now called the container return scheme).
- standardising what items you can recycle kerbside across Aotearoa New Zealand
- requiring some businesses to separate food waste
- creating a Plastics Innovation Fund to help reduce plastics in our environment
- phasing out single-use plastic shopping bags and other hard-to-recycle plastics (#3, #6, and several other small single use plastic items).



Separate food waste!

So, there's already a lot of action in this space! Much of it is long awaited and will make many Waipā residents happy.

Many people will welcome the certainty that we will be able to re-process more of our recycling material in the future here, in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Here in Waipā, visitors and new residents will know what can and can't be recycled because it will be consistent across New Zealand. That will help drive down recycling contamination rates and will therefore drive down costs (always a good thing).

Some of these actions are still to be finalised following consultation, but could potentially become triggers for increased council services. For example, they might drive a kerbside food waste collection or see much more shared responsibility for waste and packaging between producers, manufacturers and product retailers.

This draft Plan tries to make the most of the leadership and financial support now available from government by focusing on reducing what we send to landfill while keeping valuable resources in use. It also aims to help prepare Waipā's businesses and communities to better leverage the opportunities provided by some of these government initiatives.

At the end of the day, we want Waipā to remain a place that is forward-thinking and future-focused about waste generation and resource recovery.

HERE IN WAIPĀ, VISITORS AND NEW RESIDENTS WILL KNOW WHAT CAN AND CAN'T BE RECYCLED BECAUSE IT WILL BE CONSISTENT ACROSS NEW ZEALAND.



Emissions reduction

Aotearoa New Zealand's first Emissions Reduction Plan was published in 2022 and sets the direction for climate action for the next 15 years. It lays out targets and actions the Government will take to meet those targets. There will be expectations to reduce emissions across every part of government and every sector of the economy from transport, energy, building and construction, agriculture, forestry and waste. Councils are expected to play their part.

In 2019, 94 per cent of waste emissions in New Zealand were biogenic methane – largely generated by the decomposition of organic waste (such as food, garden, wood and paper waste) in landfills. While waste contributes a small percentage of our total emissions as a country, biogenic methane has a warming effect 28 times greater than carbon dioxide.

Put simply, it's a big problem.



The Government has already committed to a minimum 10 per cent reduction in biogenic methane emissions by 2030, and a 24 to 47 per cent reduction by 2050 (compared with 2017 levels). It's suggesting actions like these to get us there:

- enabling households and businesses to reduce organic waste
- increasing the amount of organic waste diverted from landfill
- reducing and diverting construction and demolition waste (and reusing it where possible)
- exploring bans or limits to divert more organic waste from landfill
- increasing the capture of gas from municipal landfills
- improving waste data and prioritising a national waste licensing scheme.

It's pretty clear we must make changes to achieve the 40 per cent reduction in emissions from waste by 2035 (relative to 2017 levels). Those changes will impact everything...from waste systems to what we do, as individuals.

International recycling markets

There has been a big shift in the international recycling markets. Historically, China has been the largest buyer of recyclables, at one stage purchasing more than 50 per cent of all the world's supply (that's a lot of recycling!).

In 2017, that all changed. The Chinese Government announced restrictions on the import of 24 types of material into China. All of sudden there was too much material to cope with, and there's now a global surplus of products like paper, cardboard and

mixed plastics. That's led to significantly reduced commodity prices.

In response, our Government is now actively planning to invest more in reprocessing of recycling in Aotearoa New Zealand. Plus, with the Basel Convention (see page 3) now enacted, sending unsorted recycling offshore is just no longer possible.

This means that the quality of recycling we collect and sort locally is more critical than ever.

The Waipā Waste Strategy

When developing our last Waste Minimisation and Management Plan in 2017, Council took a longer-term view of waste management and minimisation activities and developed the Waipā Waste Strategy.

The Waipā Waste Strategy sets out the overall goals and a strategic framework for managing waste in Waipā over the next 18 years. A Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (WMMP) is developed every six years.

WAIPĀ WASTE STRATEGY | 2017 – 2035



PROGRESS



DATA



TRENDS



Programme of action with and for the community by the Waste Minimisation Team at Waipā District Council to reduce waste to landfill.

The Waipā Waste Strategy has a vision of “Building zero waste and sustainable communities” and encompasses these goals:

1. Reduce waste and increase resource recovery.
2. Collect waste information for informed decision-making, in line with the National Waste Data Framework.
3. Connect with our community by developing collaborative and enduring partnerships with key stakeholders.
4. Maintain progressive and effective waste minimisation and management services and facilities, without unreasonably burdening future ratepayers.

Where appropriate, activities to achieve the goals of the Waipā Waste Strategy have, and will, be included in our Long-Term (10-year) and Annual Plans. We want to make sure the resourcing is available to achieve the goals and objectives we’ve already developed alongside our community.

In the ‘Six big challenges’ section of this draft Waste Minimisation Plan (page 18) the links to the Waipā Waste Strategy goals are noted.



**Reducing
waste**



Waipā Community Outcomes

The Local Government Act 2002 requires us to describe community outcomes for the Waipā district. These are the things that ultimately Council aims to achieve by providing our services. [Waipā's Community Outcomes](#) all have community well-being at their heart:

- **Socially resilient.** He aha te mea nui o te ao? Māku e kī atu he tangata, he tangata, he tangata! – it’s all about people.
- **Cultural champions.** Promoting our culture and heritage.
- **Environmental champions.** Protecting and sustaining our environment.
- **Economically progressive.** Supporting a thriving, sustainable economy.

Waste minimisation and management can be a great avenue for delivering these well-beings to our community, so it’s a win-win! For example, the Emissions Reduction Plan states “as an average across a range of studies, for every five jobs in landfilling, 15 to 20 jobs could be created in resource recovery”. This means a network of Resource Recovery Centres can deliver on being economically progressive, while also diverting heaps of waste from landfill. What’s not to love?

Providing a way to help our community avoid sending their food waste to landfill would create huge carbon savings, create great compost and deliver on Waipā being an environmental champion.

Again win-win!

The big ideas

There are some key concepts used internationally and locally to frame how we create items and keep 'waste' in use (the circular economy); how we can best approach reducing waste at the outset, plus a framework for what happens to an item after its primary use is over (the waste hierarchy).

There's also the matauranga Māori view on waste held by tangata whenua.

These are all great frameworks to keep in mind when thinking about the issues and problems we will be working on.

Matauranga Māori view on waste

Established in 2010, [Para Kore Marae Incorporated](#) is a Māori, not-for-profit, zero waste organisation with a vision of oranga taiao, oranga whānau, oranga marae. Para Kore delivers a te ao Māori-based sustainability education programme called Oranga Taiao that provides wānanga, resources and support to marae, whānau, hapū, iwi, groups, entities and communities to design out and reduce waste. The work of Para Kore contributes to building a circular economy, soil and kai sovereignty and supporting climate justice and action. The Para Kore whānau is passionate about, and committed to, collective action for a zero carbon, zero waste Aotearoa New Zealand that honours mana Māori Motuhake, and regenerates Ranginui and Papatūānuku.

The following excerpt was prepared by Para Kore to describe how te ao Māori relates to the environment and waste.

"Within te ao Māori, the relationships between land and humans are intimate. Whakapapa describes the line of descent from ancestors down to the present day. Whakapapa links people to all other living things, to the Earth, our mother Papatūānuku and the sky, our father Ranginui, and it traces the universe back to its origins, to te kore, the time of nothingness. We are related to mountains, to rocks, to insects, to birds, to the rivers and bush, to all parts of the natural world. They are our ancestors, our relations. In Māori culture identity is based on local landforms and we may recognise ourselves not only as the river but as a descendant of a river.

The natural world is where and how we belong; and we are the pootiki, the teina, the youngest sibling in this planetary family. As the teina, your whakapapa creates a deep responsibility towards and respect for our elder siblings of the natural world.

Custodianship is passed down through generations, and the relationship is reciprocal: you look after the land; the land looks after you. Reciprocity is a highly regarded value within te ao Māori. In te ao Māori your mana is based on the wellbeing of the collective.

The mindset and paradigm of Aotearoa New Zealand is a Western one, which includes an extractive, linear, capitalist economy. The consumer culture encourages us to base our identity on being a consumer and almost everything has been turned into a commodity. Current business models put profits first above all else and externalises costs to the people and te taiao – the environment.

The extractive, linear, "profits first – above all else" model, has caused harm. Para Kore urges systemic change and a shift to a paradigm which recognises our interconnectedness and entrenches a flourishing planet and flourishing people as the primary goals. As active citizens in a small democracy we must fight for social justice, intergenerational justice, and climate justice and shift power back to the people, to Māori, through embedding Te Tiriti o Waitangi in partnerships, and make the health and wellbeing of our whenua, our rivers, our soils, our air, our waters, our native species and our people, our primary focus.

From the perspective of te ao Māori, all packaging, all materials, all waste has whakapapa to the natural world. Designing out waste and emissions through strong investment in reduce and reuse – the highest parts of the waste hierarchy must be prioritised to enable us to

regenerate and restore Papatūānuku and our relatives of the natural world, and ultimately ourselves, preserving a safe habitat for our tamariki and mokopuna.”

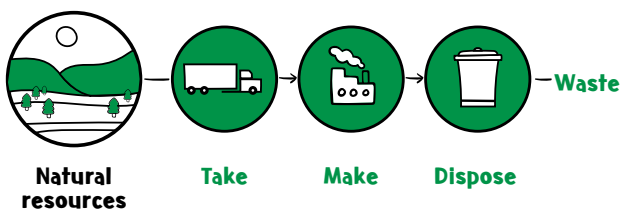
The circular economy (Ōhanga āmiomio) – keeping things in use

We all struggle with what to do with packaging items that can't easily or affordably be recycled, products that are not designed to be repaired and how to handle our organic waste. Reducing our resource use and keeping resources in use has not been prioritised historically in Aotearoa New Zealand – instead we've been more of an 'out of sight, out of mind' society. This has to change.

The Ministry for the Environment is pushing hard towards creating a circular economy.

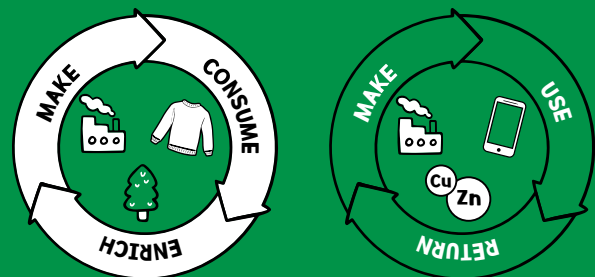
A circular economy ensures we can unmake everything we make, where waste from one process or product is used as an input for another process or product. The circular economy will replace the linear model (our current and historical model) of take, make and dispose (in a landfill). A linear economy is where materials are used to create products with a limited lifespan that are then disposed of. It's an inefficient use of resources.

Linear economy



Technical and biological materials mixed up
Energy from finite sources

Circular economy



Biological materials

Technical materials

Energy from renewable sources

[Image from Ministry for Environment](#)

Earth has finite resources. It's simply not acceptable for products to only be used for short periods of time (often just minutes) and then thrown in a landfill. (Right now, we bet you're thinking about that takeaway coffee cup! More on that later).

[United Nations research](#) indicates that, globally, 36 per cent of all plastics produced (from oil) are used in packaging, including single-use plastic products for food and beverage containers. Minimising waste leads to a more efficient use of natural resources, reduced pollution and less harm to our environment.

Plus, we're wasting valuable resources that could be recovered and reused. A good example is the precious metals in electronics that end up in a mixed landfill and are not recovered if the electronic item is not correctly recycled.

World leaders in the circular economy, the [Ellen McArthur foundation](#), state:

"The circular economy is based on three principles, driven by design:

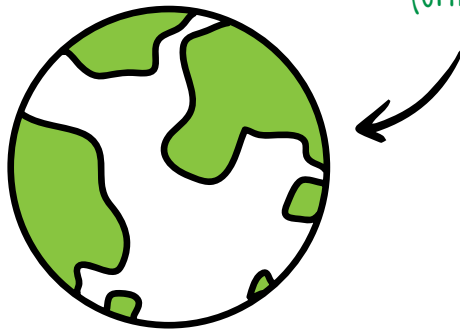
1. [Eliminate waste and pollution](#)
2. [Circulate products and materials \(at their highest value\)](#)
3. [Regenerate nature](#)

It is underpinned by a transition to renewable energy and materials. A circular economy decouples economic activity from the consumption of finite resources. It is a resilient system that is good for business, people and the environment."

Consumer demand for waste reduction is seeing a small but growing number of circular products, systems and solutions coming to market in New Zealand. Council's very own [Waipā Zero Waste Guide](#) released in 2021 lists more than 30 different local businesses and organisations that are offering products or services in the waste reduction and circular economy space.

One local example is [Kaipaki Dairies](#) (a recent recipient of the Government's Plastics Innovation Fund). Kaipaki Dairies provides zero-waste milk for consumers in a swap-a-bottle and via a tap system in supermarkets and specialty stores. It also offers a refillable 18 litre keg system for cafes, meaning no waste or recycling is generated from this business (the milk tastes great, too!).

EARTH HAS FINITE RESOURCES. IT'S SIMPLY NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR PRODUCTS TO ONLY BE USED FOR SHORT PERIODS OF TIME (OFTEN JUST MINUTES) AND THEN THROWN IN A LANDFILL.



The waste hierarchy

We love the old “reuse, reduce, recycle” jingle.

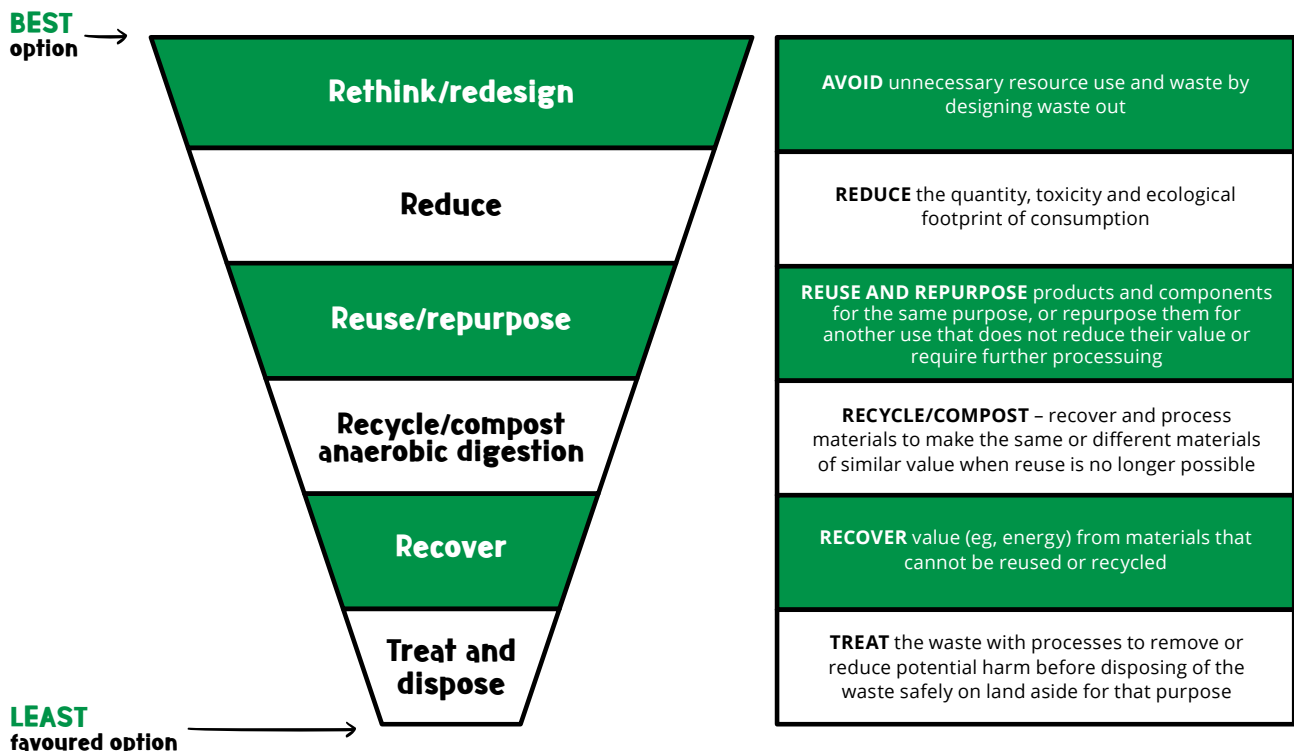
But the reality is that, while we see a lot of recycling we don't see as much reducing or reusing. It's hard when globalisation, the easy availability of cheap products and an inability to repair products have all changed how we view our 'stuff'.

Just a couple of generations ago an electric jug would be expected to last 10 years and would have been a great wedding gift. Now jugs cost less than \$20 and often cannot be repaired when they fail. And yes... we all know it's cheaper to buy a new home printer than change ink cartridges!

So, in addition to reuse, reduce, recycle there are other Rs that need to be considered too, like rethinking our waste – as well as our consumption – in the first place.

The waste hierarchy means individual actions or nationwide policy at the top of the triangle has more overall impact than actions or policy at the lower point of the triangle. In general, actions further up the hierarchy can reduce the costs at a lower level, while environmental impact is generally reduced at higher levels.

Can we change all this by ourselves in Waipā? Not right now, and not alone. But if we embrace the waste hierarchy, we can certainly improve things. In the meantime, we can urge and support the Government to make some of the big changes we need to help us transition to a circular economy.



[Image from Ministry for the Environment](#) The Waste hierarchy.

Let's talk coffee!

How we consume our coffee matters. If you use a plunger or reusable refillable coffee pods at home, there is a lot less waste and resources involved than if you use coffee sachets or coffee pods.

Yes, we know coffee pods can technically be recycled... but only if the company welcomes them back. Many don't and they cannot currently be forced to. But to recycle those pods, they need to be put inside a plastic courier bag, transported back to a central location, and emptied of the coffee grinds before the pod itself can be recycled – probably in a different facility.

And then there's the machine itself – what resources went into creating it? How was it packaged? How long will it last? Can it be repaired...and where will it end up if it breaks? These are all issues that have a direct impact on the waste created.

These are all great frameworks to keep in mind when thinking about the issues and problems we will be working on.

Those resources are just not needed if you make plunger coffee. Spent coffee grinds can be chucked on the garden, and you're done. It's a simple example of rethinking our "waste".

Coffee out and about? No single use coffee cups in New Zealand can be recycled because they're lined with very thin plastic and have paper on the outside (a mixed material). Some could be composted...but only if they are collected separately and transported to a commercial composting facility.

The solution is simple. Use a reusable cup! You don't need the trees grown for the paper in the cup, the trucking to get that to the mill, the paper manufacturing process, the inks used to print that fancy logo, the oil used for the plastic lining and lid...plus all the energy to make the cup and ship it to New Zealand, and then onto to your favourite café.

Plus, a reusable cup doesn't end up in the landfill, producing methane.

A simple switch to a reusable coffee cup can have a large impact. That's what moving up the waste hierarchy means in action.



THE SOLUTION IS SIMPLE. USE A REUSABLE CUP! YOU DON'T NEED THE TREES GROWN FOR THE PAPER IN THE CUP, THE TRUCKING TO GET THAT TO THE MILL, THE PAPER MANUFACTURING PROCESS, THE INKS USED TO PRINT THAT FANCY LOGO, THE OIL USED FOR THE PLASTIC LINING AND LID...

A snapshot of our waste

General waste to landfill in Waipā

In 2020/21 Waipā created approximately 27,000 tonnes of general waste (kerbside collections and transfer stations) which went to landfills. This is an increase of approximately 5,000 tonnes in the past six years. That's the bad news...

But there's also good news! Waipā's population has also grown in this time so, on a per person basis, waste volumes remains unchanged at 0.5 tonnes per capita (500kgs of waste per person).

Way to go, Waipā! Waste volumes in most places in New Zealand are still going up (as they have been for the past 10 years), but here in Waipā it's static, which is something to be proud of! Nationally, waste generation sits around 0.7 tonnes or 740kg of waste per person.



We can do better, Waipā

Council currently provides kerbside recycling to all dwellings in the district and collects 1,774 tonnes of mixed recycling and 1,878 tonnes of glass per year via that service. Solid waste audits (where we collect what is set out on the kerbside and systematically sort it into more than 20 categories) shows each house on average places out a whopping 4.3 kg of good clean recycling each week (if you convert the bi-weekly and monthly volumes into weekly).

The average rubbish set out per household is 9.8kg, with food making up 36.6 per cent of that (check out more details in the pie-chart).

Check out the
pie chart
on the
next page



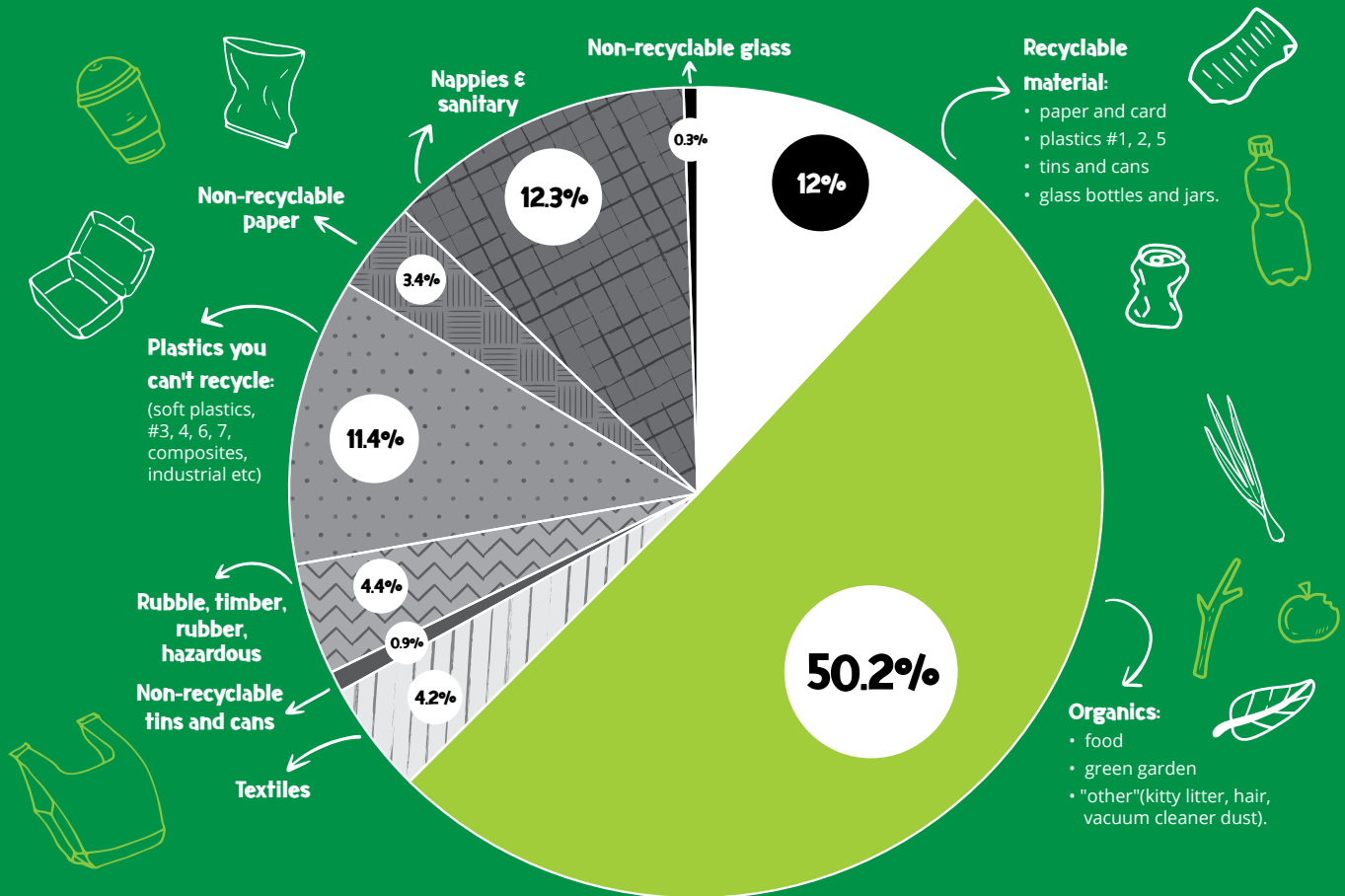
Audits show that 12 per cent of what we throw in the rubbish bin could (and should) be recycled. This is made up of:

5.7%	Recyclable paper
3.2%	# 1, 2 and 5 plastic containers
0.7%	Steel cans
0.3%	Aluminium cans
2.1%	Bottles/jars

Adding recycling and rubbish volumes together, each household generates 12.74 kgs of material. Doesn't sound too much?

But when you think Waipā-wide, for all 21,700 dwellings, that's a whopping 276,458kgs (more than 276 tonnes) of resources put out on the roads and streets of Waipā for collection. This does not include transfer stations, home burning of rubbish or other ways to dispose of waste.

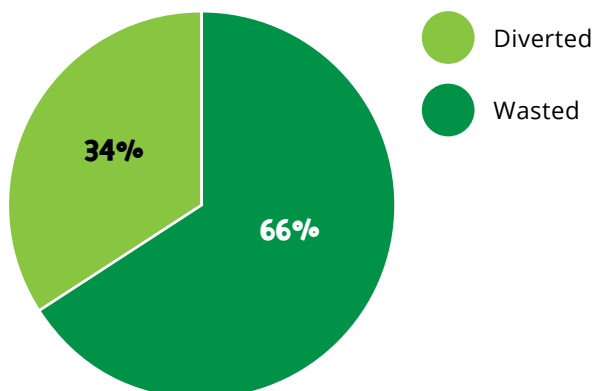
Household Rubbish 2020



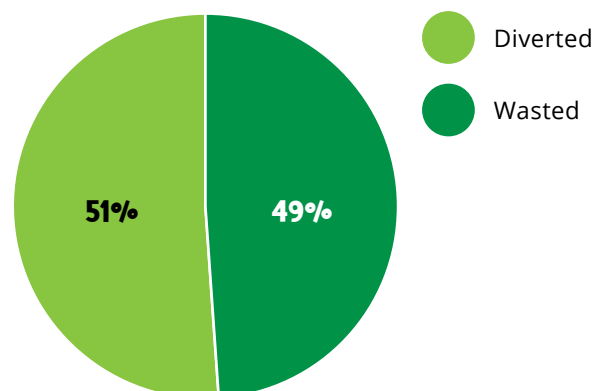
If we all recycled perfectly and had a kerbside food waste collection service to compost food waste, Waipā could send 17 per cent less to landfill.

If people composted their garden waste, that number would be even better!

Current system with recycling and rubbish services



If we recycled everything perfectly and had kerbside food waste



The whole waste pie

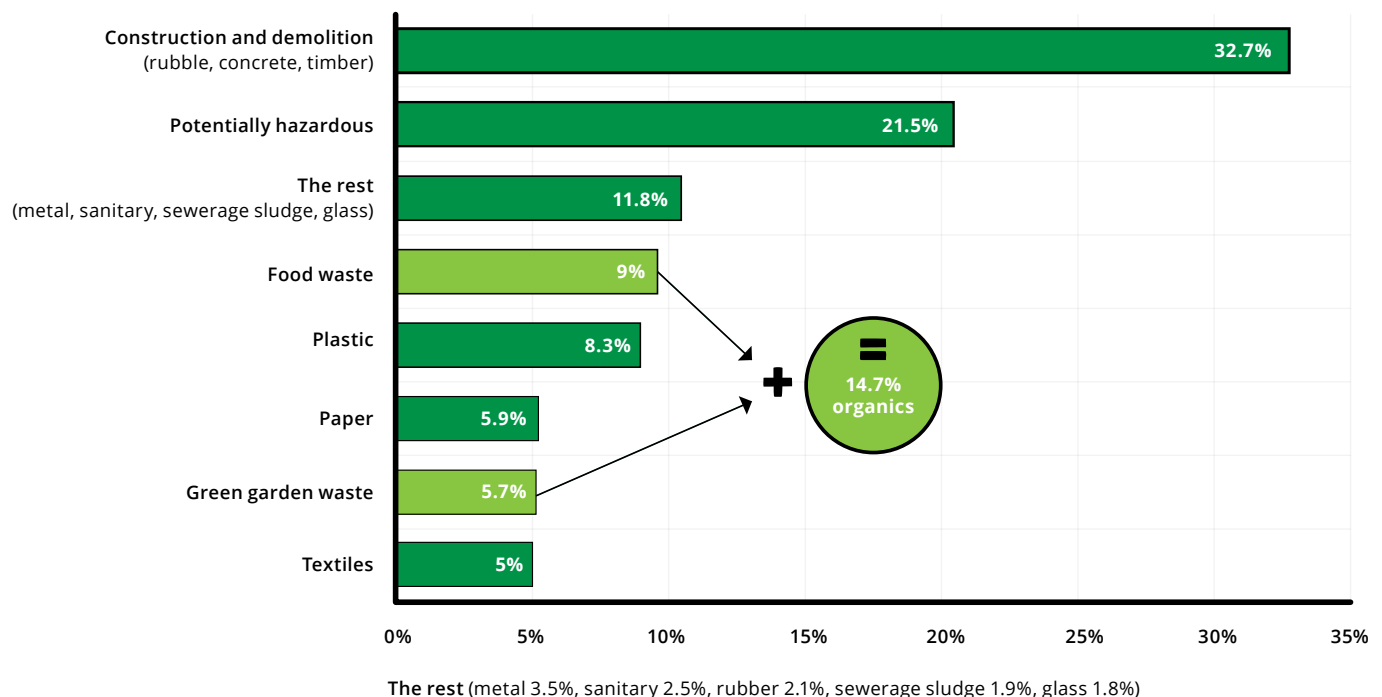
The data we capture from within our district does not capture the whole waste pie. Large volumes of waste can head directly out of Waipā to a landfill and are not ever captured by local transfer station data. Current legislation does not enforce landfills seeking, recording or sharing data on where a load originates. The Ministry for the Environment is best placed to estimate what our largest waste streams are, but even the Ministry concedes the data is poor. The good news is this will change as further work is done on licensing waste operators and collectors (see page 22).

[The Ministry for the Environment states](#) “It is estimated that in Aotearoa New Zealand we generate 17.49 million tonnes of waste per year, of which an estimated 12.59

million tonnes are sent to landfill (71 per cent). This estimate includes waste disposed of to Classes 1, 2, 3 and 4 landfills, clean fills, and farm dumps (see [Types of landfills](#) for descriptions of landfill types). It also includes the materials recycled here in New Zealand and those sent offshore for recycling.”

The Ministry for the Environment surveys of Class 1 municipal landfills show that construction and demolition waste is the largest source of waste at 33 per cent. This is followed by potentially hazardous waste at 24 per cent, food waste at 9 per cent (green garden waste is an additional 5.7 per cent on top of this). Plastics rounded out the top four at 8.3 per cent.

Waste composition of Class 1 landfills in Aotearoa NZ



There is no data or information to say Waipā will be any different from the rest of Aotearoa New Zealand from ‘our’ waste in Class 1 municipal landfills. In fact, we may even be worse as regional areas like ours do not have access to as many infrastructure solutions (like construction and demolition material recovery facilities) as metro areas. So, we need to keep an eye on this whole waste pie when looking to make change and act locally.

Where will the money come from?

The Waste Minimisation Act (s43) requires Council to include information on how the implementation of this Plan will be funded, and information about any grants made and expenditure of waste levy funds.

At the time of writing, Council was awaiting the final version of the New Zealand Waste Strategy and the updated Waste Minimisation Act legislation. These two documents will determine how much waste levy (remember, that's the fee placed by the Government on waste material sent to landfills) funding councils will get in the future and how that is allocated to each council. Currently 50 per cent is allocated to councils and then shared on a per head of population basis.

In the next few years, the waste levy that has historically only been applied to Class 1 municipal landfills will be applied (for the first time) to construction and demolition fills and managed or control fills (Classes 2-4) (see table below).

Data on volumes in these types of landfills (construction and demolition fills and managed or controlled fills) is very poor, so it's hard to predict possible future waste levy revenue from these sources.

Waipā will get its share of this funding. For example, with the levy being doubled from \$10 per tonne to \$20 in July 2021, Waipā's waste levy funding also doubled. In

the last six months before it increased, Waipā received \$98,249 from the Ministry for the Environment. The increase meant we received \$196,105 in the following six months.

If current waste disposal trends continue (as levy is generated by each tonne of waste disposed of) Waipā's annual waste levy funding from the Ministry could be more than a million dollars by 2025.

It's not money in the bank until legislation is confirmed, but waste levy funding can only be put towards avoiding waste generation and increasing resource recovery. On that basis, barring any dramatic change in government direction, it's likely Waipā District Council will be able to have more funding to put towards proposed actions outlined in this Plan.

The bottom line is that there is still uncertainty in the funding space. But we want to keep an open mind about the potential, for example, of co-funding work with another Council, the Government, private business or other keen partner.

IT'S NOT MONEY IN THE BANK UNTIL LEGISLATION IS CONFIRMED, BUT WASTE LEVY FUNDING CAN ONLY BE PUT TOWARDS AVOIDING WASTE GENERATION AND INCREASING RESOURCE RECOVERY.



Timeline for the increase and expansion of the waste levy

Landfill class	Waste types	1 July 21	1 July 22	1 July 23	1 July 24
Municipal landfill (class 1)	Mixed municipal wastes from residential, commercial and industrial sources	\$20	\$30	\$50	\$60
Construction and demolition fill (class 2)	Accepts solid waste from construction and demolition activities, including rubble, plasterboard, timber, and other materials		\$20	\$20	\$30
Managed or controlled fill facility (class 3 and 4)	One or more of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> contaminated but non-hazardous soils and other inert materials (eg. rubble) soils and other inert materials. 	\$20	\$30	\$50	\$60



Our six big challenges

Six new challenges or opportunities emerged in the recent Waste Assessment.

They need addressing in this Plan over the next six years. They are:

1. Diversion options for organic waste (to reduce methane from landfills).
2. Rubbish provision options (In other words, is there a better, more cost-efficient way of community rubbish collection?).
3. Reducing contamination from the recycling service (to keep costs down and people safe).
4. How we can help divert construction and demolition waste (keeping it in use, not in a landfill).

5. Waste and resource recovery infrastructure resilience (planning for community access to help people do the right thing with their waste).
6. National waste policy and advocacy gains (making the most of government funding and opportunities).

In addition to these, there's a focus on supporting more matauranga Māori approaches to waste minimisation in this draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan.

Support more matauranga Māori approaches to waste minimisation

Past Waipā Waste Minimisation and Management Plans do not refer to te ao Māori or matauranga Māori approaches to waste minimisation. To support great waste outcomes for Waipā and its people, more effort needs to be put in this area.

Through the term of the next six years council will seek to address the following actions:

- partner more actively with tangata whenua and Māori groups to support the kaupapa around waste minimisation and para kore
- actively encourage marae and Māori organisations to apply for waste minimisation community funding

- support Para Kore Marae Incorporated, Aotearoa's leading te ao Māori based zero waste organisation, to lead work in this space locally
- support community capacity by funding attendance of kaimahi, kaumaatua or rangatahi to annual Para Kore hui.

These actions will be funded via the Ministry for the Environment's waste levy and support:

- Goal 3 from the Waipā Waste Strategy Connect with our community by developing collaborative relationships.

1. Diversion options for organic waste

Waipā waste audits have identified that 50.2 per cent (4.9 kg) of all household rubbish put out on the kerbside is organic material. By reducing organic matter in our rubbish, we can make a big difference to how much methane-producing waste goes to landfill from households in Waipā.

The Ministry for the Environment states in Aotearoa New Zealand the average:

- office worker produces 0.6 kgs of food waste per week
- café produces 67 kgs waste per week
- supermarket produces 1173 kgs of food waste per week.

Food grown for human consumption is lost (becomes wasted) all the way through the supply chain. Organic matter (like food) is reported to generate four per cent of total gross emissions for New Zealand when disposed of in a landfill. (That's a lot!)

Proposed actions to reduce food waste in Waipā are:

- Education focussed on reducing food waste in the home
- Investigate Council providing a kerbside food waste collection service
- Encouraging home composting and support community composting initiatives
- Support opportunities to reduce food waste across all sectors from paddock to plate

These actions will be funded via the Ministry for the Environment's waste levy and support Goals 1, 3, and 4, from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Reduced waste and increased resource recovery
- Connect with our community by developing collaborative relationships.

Effective waste services and facilities.

2. What about our rubbish collection?

It's been more than 20 years since Waipā District Council provided kerbside rubbish collection via council rates. Our existing recycling contract ends in 2026. That means we have time to assess if Council and the community wish to add additional services such as a council-provided kerbside rubbish service.

The Council is also required to comply with Section 17A of the Local Government Amendment Act 2014, which has specific criteria for a service review.

17A Delivery of services

"(1) A local authority must 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."

Based on preliminary research into the waste service costs of seven other similar-sized councils (Western Bay, Marlborough, Waimakariri, Tasman, Invercargill,

Gisborne and Selwyn) it is likely council could develop a contract package (rubbish and recycling at the minimum) that would result in most households paying less than they are now for a council contracted recycling service and a private rubbish service.

Modern contracts can also have elements of user-pays built in (e.g., "pay as you throw" tags added to rubbish wheelie bins, or a set number of rubbish bags paid for in rates per year with extras need to be purchased at residents' cost). This means smaller households and low rubbish generators are not disadvantaged.

Proposed action to investigate waste contract possibilities is:

- Investigate what the cost savings would look like if we introduced a rubbish service that is provided by Council rather than through commercial providers like it currently is.

This investigation will be funded via the Ministry for Environment's waste levy and support Goal 4 from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

Maintain progressive and effective waste minimisation and management services and facilities, without unreasonably burdening future ratepayers.

****At this stage, we are just proposing to investigate the options. Further community consultation will take place before any changes are made to the status quo.**

3. Reduce contamination from the recycling service

More than 11,000 recycling bin inspections in 2021 showed many households in our community are recycling nearly perfectly. Bravo and thanks!

But about 10 per cent of households are still placing rubbish items in the recycling bin – and that has serious consequences. Once contamination/rubbish items gets mixed up with other recycling, a much larger volume of good clean recycling material becomes contaminated. When that happens, we have no choice but to send it to landfill.

Items like knives, scrap metal, engine oil, nappies (and worse) also pose a huge health and safety risk to our recycling sorting team. This contamination costs ratepayers a considerable amount of money from lost productivity due to cleaning shutdowns, specialised cleaning costs, equipment damage and landfilling costs.

Put simply Waipā, it's not ok.

There is some confusion about what can be recycled in Waipā and what cannot, especially for new residents arriving in our district. That's because different councils accept different items for recycling.

We're supporting a proposal from government to standardise what items are collected for recycling nationwide. It means you'll be able to recycle the same items in Waimakariri, Waipu and Waipā – easy peasy!

Proposed actions to reduce contamination from the recycling service are:

- Continue pre-collection bin audits and wider community education on recycling correctly*
- Investigate the possibility to secondary sort all 'contamination' that comes off the sorting line in first pass*
- Advocate for national recycling standards and align to them fully when implemented#
- Continue to work hard to reach those in our community who need to improve their recycling knowledge#

* will be funded via rates and via the waste levy from the Ministry for the Environment.

will be solely funded via the waste levy.

These actions support all goals from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Reduced waste and increased resource recovery
- Collect waste information for informed decision making.
- Connect with our community by developing collaborative relationships.
- Effective waste services and facilities.

4. Diversion options for construction and demolition waste

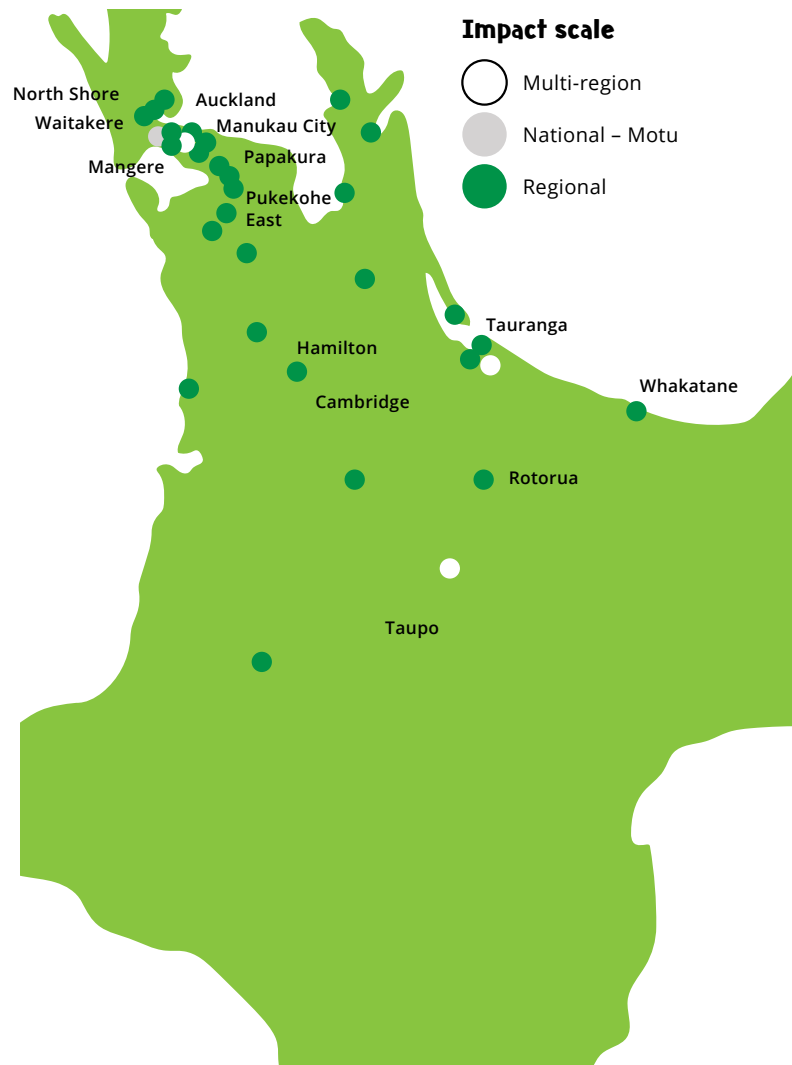
Construction is a major sector of the Waipā economy and all new urban, business and industrial development contributes to construction waste. The Ministry for the Environment surveys of Class 1 municipal landfills show that construction and demolition waste is the largest source of waste (33%).

We also know it is not easy to access construction and demolition collections and services and there

are challenges making the market for product viable. The scale of these solutions often needs (probably) government-level support or at least regional co-operation.

In the past large infrastructure projects are developed via the waste levy fund through public funding of private businesses. Private organisations often want to stay in a metro area to maximise supply and minimise travel distances... but that does not help grow a national network of construction and demolition diversion facilities, or provide access to for districts like Waipā.

This [map shows MfE waste levy funding for infrastructure](#) (of all types) since 2010, which clearly shows metro areas getting more successful applications funded. We would like to advocate strongly that Government should focus on basic service provision into the regions in coming funding rounds.



With housing intensification occurring there is a lot of house demolition occurring in the district. Local projects have shown it costs about the same to:

- Pay a local crew to carefully take down a house (deconstruct) and use (sell or upcycle) those resources again
- Or to demolish a house with a digger and send it all to landfill.

By carefully choosing houses that were built before the 1960's and making sure all the floors and windows are in good condition, you can generate sales from deconstructed building materials. Money the developer would have paid to knock down, crush up, and transport the crushed house to landfill could be used to pay people to take reusable resources out of a home for reuse or sale. The rest, like old tin roofing iron, can be recycled.

By changing our mindset, deconstruction can be an opportunity to provide meaningful work for local people, while diverting a whole pile of waste from landfill. (Psst! Some larger councils have a staff member dedicated to helping reduce construction and demolition waste...because it is such a significant part of the waste volume.)

Proposed actions to improve construction and demolition waste diversion in Waipā are:

- Investigate the feasibility of de-construction social enterprise.
- Advocate to Government for equitable regional access to government-funded diversion infrastructure and to progress product stewardship schemes for large construction and demolition waste streams.
- Support industry where goals align to reduce waste or increase construction and demolition resource recovery.

These actions will be funded via the Ministry for the Environment's waste levy and support goals 1, 3 and 4, from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Reduced waste and increased resource recovery
- Connect with our community by developing collaborative relationships.
- Effective waste services and facilities.

5. Waste and resource recovery infrastructure and resilience

Waipā District Council owns no waste assets, transfer stations or machinery. Natural disasters are significant waste generators (think about the Christchurch earthquakes and large-scale flooding we saw in February 2023). Following previous natural disasters, a Disaster Waste Management Planning Guide was developed by regional councils. It's now a GIS web-based tool can be used to model, predict and then plan what do to with waste in the case of a natural disaster.

There are no Class 1 municipal landfills in Waipā district. However, there are two Class 1 landfill disposal options within 100 km. There are two privately-owned transfer stations in Waipā District, one in Cambridge and one in Te Awamutu. These stations act as central bulking points for rubbish, where recyclables and a few selected waste streams of reusable materials are separated out from waste prior to transfer to landfill, for example, scrap metal, recyclables and green waste.

Waipā District Council is the only council in the Waikato Region that does not own a Refuse Transfer Station.

During community consultation on the (2021 – 2031) Long-Term Plan the community strongly supported investment in Waipā's very first resource recovery centre. A resource recovery centre model is primarily about reuse (not about rubbish). It's about getting as many items as possible back into reuse through upcycling, reuse, repurposing, second-hand shop sales, composting or recycling.

The preferred option was to partner with a community organisation, charitable group or iwi partner to develop a resource recovery centre to service the Waipā District.

Proposed actions to improve waste and resource recovery infrastructure and resilience in Waipā are:

- Utilise the existing GIS planning tool to complete desktop preparedness and link into the established Civil Defence Emergency Framework.
- Start work on planning for a network of resource recovery centres over the next 15-20 years including urban areas and provision for servicing of rural villages.
- Support community capacity growth in resource recovery operations.

These actions will be funded via the Ministry of the Environment's waste levy and support goals 2, 3, and 4, from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Collect waste information for informed decision-making.
- Connect with our community by developing collaborative relationships.
- Effective waste services and facilities.

6. National waste policy and advocacy gains

The Ministry for the Environment is currently consulting on a draft New Zealand Waste Strategy which clearly charts a path away from a take-make-use-dispose linear economy model to a [circular economy \(Ōhanga āmiomio\)](#). It also includes a proposal to licence waste operators nationally rather than each council having to licence the same few companies. This will save time and will allow better access to waste data.

In July 2020 the Government declared six priority products for regulated product stewardship under the Waste Minimisation Act. Regulated product stewardship makes producers responsible for specified problematic products at the end of life and ensure the costs of proper waste management are paid by producers, retailers and consumers – not communities, councils and the environment. We support this! The six priority products are:

- I. Tyres and large batteries (currently consulting on proposed regulations)
- II. Electrical and electronic products [e-waste] (accreditation applications and consultation on regulations for these schemes were anticipated from the second half of 2022)
- III. Farm plastics (accreditation applications and consultation on regulations for these schemes were anticipated from the second half of 2022)
- IV. Refrigerants and other synthetic greenhouse gases (scheme co-design has been completed)
- V. Agrichemicals and their containers (scheme co-design has been completed)
- VI. Single-use plastic packaging (scheme co-design has not started)

The Government is also in the scheme design phase for an improved 'cash for cans' scheme now called the [container return scheme](#), which will have customers pay a returnable cash deposit on bottles and cans of drinks.

In other countries there is huge potential for the community and the not-for-profit sector to play a part in collecting eligible bottles and cans of drinks e.g., bottle drives, sports clubs collecting larger volumes, or to even run (under contract) a larger-scale bulking facility. This scheme is self-funded by the pre-paid deposits on each can and bottle and may be implemented by 2025. If so, that offers a great opportunity for Waipā community groups to become more involved in resource recovery.

Proposed actions to get the most benefit from national policy are:

- Advocate for national or regional licensing of waste operators. If that is not possible use existing bylaw clauses to enact licensing locally.
- Support increased understanding of, and participation in the circular economy by locally operated businesses and industry.
- Support local industries and community groups to make the most of opportunities brought about by regulated product stewardship scheme (e.g., farmers for agrichemicals and containers, Waipā Urban Miners with e-waste and small batteries) and community groups (large and small) to participate and benefit from the container return scheme.

These actions will be funded via the Ministry for the Environment's waste levy and will support goals 1, 2 and 3 from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Reduced waste and increased resource recovery
- Collect waste information for informed decision making.
- Connect with our community by developing collaborative relationships.



Western Bay of Plenty District Council: A case study

Western Bay of Plenty District Council struck a new waste contract which started on 1 July 2021.

This council has a similar split between townships and rural communities and a similar population as Waipā. In urban areas, Western Bay Council is providing under one contract:

- fortnightly mixed recycling in a 240L wheelie bin (identical service to Waipā District Council)
- fortnightly glass recycling in a 45L glass crate (in Waipā we have a 140L glass wheelie bin collected monthly)
- weekly collection of food scraps in a lockable 23L food waste container.
- weekly collection of rubbish in a 140L wheelie bin.

The cost is \$149 through an annual targeted rate for all urban households and each household has to purchase 'pay as you throw' tags for the rubbish wheelie bin collection. These cost \$3.95 per pick up of the 140L rubbish wheelie bin.

This means recycling and food waste are rates-based, but rubbish collection has an element of user pays. It means those who recycle well and separate all their food are low waste generators. It incentivises the community to use all the diversion services to their full extent, before using the rubbish bin.

In the rural area (where there is an existing kerbside rubbish collection) there is a fortnightly recycling and glass collection and a weekly collection of rubbish, so the

same as the urban properties, but without the food waste collection. This will cost \$98 via annual targeted rate for rural households, plus the 'pay as you throw tags' that each household needs.

Early results show that households in Western Bay are putting out their rubbish wheelie bin once every 2-2.5 weeks. So, for an urban property the recycling, food waste and rubbish service will cost them:

- \$149 through an annual targeted rate
- + \$102 in user-pays 'pay as your throw' tags (when using the 140L wheelie bin every two weeks. (If people put out a wheelie bin every 2.5 weeks on average, the pay as you throw cost would be \$82 per year).

TOTAL: \$251 for mixed recycling, glass recycling, food waste collection and using the pay as your throw rubbish service every two weeks.

Even if households in Western Bay needed to put their rubbish wheelie bin out every week, their total service cost would only be \$354 (\$149 base rate + \$205 for 52 "pay as you throw" tags @ \$3.95 each).

In comparison, Waipā's existing recycling and rubbish services costs:

- \$124 via rate for Council mixed and glass recycling (in the 2022-23 year)

- + \$234 for the pre-paid rubbish bag option (\$4.50 x 52. Most Waipā households place out only one pre-paid bag per week which is 60L and costs \$4.50 per bag.)

TOTAL: \$358 total for mixed recycling, glass recycling and current one bag per week rubbish collection.

Using a 140L rubbish wheelie bin every 2 weeks would be doable for many households in Waipā which only put out one 60L pre-paid bag now. Plus, that 60L includes the 33 per cent that is food, that in Western Bay, would be in the food waste bin.

Providing a rates-funded rubbish service could benefit the community on a scale that warrants further investigation. Possible benefits are:

- there would be consistent services across the district (rural and urban)
- it would likely reduce contamination (and the cost of that) in the recycling wheelie bin
- Council will be in charge of the collections and can all those answer all customer questions ourselves
- truck movements in neighbourhoods would be reduced
- more stability and certainty about cost
- Council will have access to much more data on our Waipā's rubbish habits and could use this information to educate, create supporting services and track progress.

On the down side, introducing a council rubbish service may adversely impact businesses that currently provide private rubbish services (some are locally owned and operated and some are large multi-nationals).

Further investigation and public consultation into possible cost efficiencies, benefits and impacts would be required before any changes were initiated.

Proposed actions to investigate waste contract possibilities are:

- investigate introducing a council-rated (contracted) rubbish service including options of user pays
- depending on the outcome of that investigation, tender for a rubbish contract in the same cycle as the current recycling contract in order to gain any possible synergies and cost efficiencies.

These actions will be funded via the Ministry for Environment's waste levy and supports goals 2 and 4, from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Collect waste information for informed decision-making.
- Effective waste services and facilities.

Any future contract will be funded via rates.

Things we need to keep doing... or do more of

We've done some good work on many of these topics and waste streams, but we need to keep these going to work towards the vision of building zero waste and sustainable communities.

- **Provide current kerbside recycling service**

Kerbside recycling service is provided to all residential dwellings (rates funded) and schools and early childhood education centres (opt in via annual invoice).

This action supports goal 4 from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Effective waste services and facilities

- **Provide servicing of litter bins and collect illegal dumping**

This will continue under the current contracts as a rates-funded activity.

- **Extension action**

Deliver education or enforcement project to tackle increasing levels of illegal dumping (funded via waste levy).

This action supports goal 4 from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Effective waste services and facilities.

- **Complete compositional waste audit every three years.**

This is a key piece of detailed data that we can use to track trends in waste disposal and recycling contamination (among other things!)

- **Extension action:**

Use that data to engage our community in waste minimisation and keep developing our data on waste.

These actions will be funded via the Ministry for the Environment's waste levy and support goal 2 from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Collect waste information for informed decision making.

- **Develop partnerships, joint working and co-operate with other councils.**

This action will be funded via the Ministry for the Environment's waste and supports goal 3 from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Connect with our community by developing collaborative relationships.

- **Continue the Waste Minimisation Community Fund**

This has been oversubscribed for several years so is very popular with the Waipā community. The quality of the projects is impressive each year. Funded projects can support community capacity building in resource recovery or waste minimisation, or support local businesses to lead the way in their own industry or sector.

Funding is allocated via an open funding round once a year. A panel (the Waipā Waste Minimisation Advisor, a waste professional from a neighbouring Council and a community zero waste guru) independently assesses all applications against known criteria (as outlined in the [funding guidance](#)). Those scores are then brought together and the panel discusses all the projects, the scores and decides on the level of funding. Applicants are notified by email, and the expectations of the funding are reiterated along with the timeframe expected for delivery of the project (12 months, unless they communicate otherwise).

This action will be funded via the Ministry for the Environment's waste levy and supports goal 3 and 4, from the Waipā Waste Strategy:

- Connect with our community by developing collaborative relationships.

- **Improved access to household hazardous waste disposal.**

Council offered two successful household hazardous waste events in 2022 which took in more than 7.5 tonnes of tricky and sometimes environmentally damaging waste, we want to continue to offer household hazardous waste drop off events.

- These actions will be funded via the Ministry of the Environment's waste levy and support goal 4 from the Waipā Waste Strategy: Effective waste services and facilities.

WE WANT TO CONTINUE TO OFFER HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP OFF EVENTS. WE WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO SHARE/PROMOTE EXISTING SERVICES THE COMMUNITY CAN ACCESS REGULARLY IN BETWEEN ONE-OFF EVENTS



How will we measure our progress?

Monitoring and evaluation

The Waste Assessment Report includes data collection and analysis which will, over the longer term, track trends in district-wide waste generation and the end outcome for that waste (diverted/ composted/ recycled etc or disposed of).

This data is a bit rough as it is currently based on voluntary reporting from private companies. But this is likely to change with the Government proposing licensing waste operators centrally. This will increase accuracy and reduce the number of assumptions being made.

We will continue to get strong data from a smaller data set (approximately 500 households) by continuing

our solid waste audits. This provides good data on household waste and recycling and helps us track things like the amount of recyclables in the rubbish, different types of rubbish by weight and proportion etc, and the proportions of recyclables and contamination in our recycling. We also get whole of service data from our recycling provider.

Individual projects will be evaluated with volumes or weights, where appropriate, as well as qualitative data to capture and changes in knowledge, satisfaction with events etc.

WELL DONE FARMERS & PRODUCERS!



Here's some data from past events:

Before you started the workshop today how confident were you to start your own worm farm?

Really confident.	1
Not too confident.	4
Not confident at all.	7

After participating in the Zoom worm farming workshop how confident are you to start your own worm farm?

Really confident.	10
Not too confident.	2
Not confident at all.	

Reporting

Council staff complete a report quarterly for Council's Service Delivery Committee. Plus, we track progress on this Plan annually and share those results.

We also report on Waipā's waste levy funding allocation to the Ministry for the Environment. Our local delivery programme is eligible to be audited by the Ministry as well.

Within the Waste Assessment Report, annual tracking documents are reviewed by an independent waste expert and progress against goals are reported on.

We also try to share news with our community. We share news on waste minimisation projects, advise where community waste minimisation funding is going (including [on our website](#)) and use social media to share what's happening in Waipā's waste minimisation space!



Timeline for delivery

The speed at which the Government is working on waste reduction and waste-based carbon initiatives makes it almost impossible to give accurate timelines on when things like mandated services, infrastructure development, new policy, new bans and product phase outs might start. All this will be led by the Ministry and much (if not all of these) are likely to come into play over the next six years covered by this Plan. It's going

to be a busy time! We can outline the timeline for some activities in this Plan. These are the ongoing business-as-usual actions, activities which are regular scheduled events and activities which are Council-driven within current budget levels.

Some are harder to put into a timeline as they rely on external triggers like increased funding (rates and/or government support via the Waste Levy), a

government policy or mandate, or are activities that need a supportive sector partner, or other driver to be successful.

At the start of each financial year a short action plan will be presented to Council for discussion and endorsement.

Ongoing business as usual actions:

- Partner more actively with tangata whenua and Māori groups to support the kaupapa around waste minimisation and para kore
- Support Para Kore Marae Incorporated, Aotearoa's leading te ao Māori-based zero waste organisation, to lead work in this space locally
- Encouraging home composting and support community composting initiatives
- Continue to work hard to reach those in our community who need to improve their recycling knowledge
- Support community capacity to grow into the space of resource recovery operators
- Advocate to government for equitable regional access to government-funded diversion infrastructure and to progress product stewardship schemes for large construction and demolition waste streams.
- Provide current kerbside recycling service to all residential dwellings and schools and early childhood education centres (opt in).
- Provide litter bins and regular servicing and collect illegal dumping
- Develop partnerships, joint working and co-operate with other councils

Regular scheduled actions:

- Actively encourage marae and Māori organisations to apply for waste minimisation community funding
- Support community capacity by funding attendance of kaimahi, kaumaatua or rangatahi to annual Para Kore hui
- Complete compositional waste audit every three years.

- Extension action: Use that data to engage our community in waste minimisation and keep developing our data on waste
- Continue the Waste Minimisation Community Fund annually
- Improved access to household hazardous waste disposal every 18-24 months.

Planned council-driven actions:

- Support increased understanding of, and participation in, the circular economy by locally operated businesses and industry
- Utilise GIS planning tool to complete desktop preparedness and link into established Civil Defence Emergency Framework
- Start work on planning for a network of resource recovery centres over the next 15-20 years including urban areas and provision for servicing of rural villages
- Investigate feasibility of de-construction social enterprise
- Investigate introducing a Council-rated (contracted) rubbish service including options of user pays/'pay as you throw'
- Depending on the outcome of the investigation, tender for a rubbish contract in the same cycle as the current recycling contract in order to gain any possible synergies and cost efficiencies.

Actions dependent on a funding increase:

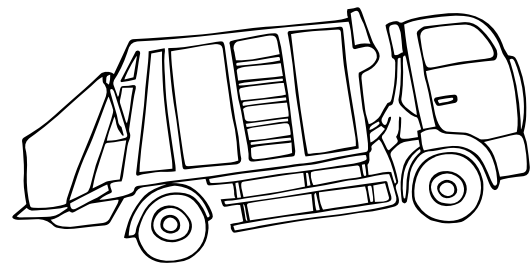
- Investigate Council-contracted kerbside collection for household food waste and a fit-for-purpose service for commercial properties. Consider local or regional processing options.
- Continue pre-collection bin audits and wider community education on recycling correctly
- Investigate the possibility to secondary sort all 'contamination' that comes off the sorting line in first pass
- Extension action: Deliver education or enforcement project to tackle increasing levels of illegal dumping (funded via waste levy).

Actions that will need a Government trigger:

- Investigate Council-contracted kerbside collection for household food waste and a fit-for-purpose service for commercial properties. Consider local or regional processing options.
- Advocate for national recycling standards and align fully if implemented by government.
- Advocate for national or regional licensing. If that is not possible use existing bylaw clauses to enact licensing locally.

Actions that will need a supportive sector partner, or other driver:

- Support opportunities to reduce food waste across all sectors from paddock to plate
- Support local industries and community groups to make the most of opportunities brought about by regulated product stewardship scheme (e.g. farmers for agrichemicals and containers, Waipā Urban Miners with e-waste and small batteries) and community groups (large and small) to participate and benefit from the container return scheme.
- Support industry where goals align to reduce waste or increase construction and demolition resource recovery



**kerbside
collection
for household food
waste**

INVESTIGATE COUNCIL-CONTRACTED KERBSIDE
COLLECTION FOR HOUSEHOLD FOOD



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