



Waste Plan

Palmerston North

SMALL CITY BENEFITS, BIG CITY AMBITION

2018/21

Te Kaunihera o Papaioea
Palmerston North City Council



To fulfil the vision of small city benefits, big city ambition the Council has adopted five goals.

The Eco City Strategy was developed to achieve **Goal 4: An eco city**, and this plan shows how the Council will contribute to achieving this goal.

Note that this draft plan may be combined with the Waste Minimisation and Management Plan prior to consultation in order to align with Council obligations under the Waste Minimisation Act.

To meet its obligations under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 to “promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation”, Council must develop a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP). Council’s WMMP is currently being reviewed, and will be informed by a city wide waste assessment that analyses the flows of waste in the city and identifies where the most significant reductions can be made, allowing us to prioritise interventions.

Recent progress has been made in moving towards zero waste events in the city. Council may mandate zero waste events in future once there is a system in place to make it easy for event organisers. Council has been having initial success in using a ‘behaviour change’ approach to encourage people to minimise and properly dispose of waste, and this programme should be expanded significantly in future. Council has also been working with strategic partners such as

iwi, the hospital and Massey University to trial programmes diverting waste, particularly food waste, from landfill.

A 2009 Council report estimated that Council facilities sent 840 tonnes of waste to landfill each year. As much as 88% of its office waste could be diverted from landfill and recycled or composted. At Palmerston North parks, 35% of the waste stream is recyclable paper and glass, while 36% could be composted. Dealing with this waste is often a challenge, because the waste is typically co-mingled and difficult to dispose of.

A behaviour-change approach is needed to make it easier to recycle and compost and more difficult to dispose to landfill. However, even composting or recycling takes energy and time, and much waste could be avoided altogether by implementing a low-waste procurement policy.



The purpose of the Waste Plan is to use our legislative powers and policies to ensure that urban development is sustainable now and into the future and demonstrate leadership and best practice by developing and implementing an environmental sustainability plan for the Council, Council run events and facilities (Priorities 5 and 7, Eco City Strategy).

The Council provides waste and recycling services for the city in order to:

- Ensure the city's solid waste is adequately and affordably managed;
- Maximise proportion of waste diverted from landfill (e.g. through recycling, composting);
- Manage hazardous waste in an environmentally responsible manner.



Where we are now



- Council provides a range of waste management services to the city through a combination of rates and user fees.
- City-wide waste volumes and landfill diversion rates have been relatively stable over recent years.
- Council produces around 840 tonnes of waste each year which is sent to landfill, much of which could instead be recycled or composted.
- Palmerston North lacks recycling capability for some materials that are successfully recycled elsewhere.

Where we want to be



- Reduction in the gross volume of waste produced citywide.
- Reduction in the gross volume of waste produced by Council operations.
- Greater proportion of waste being diverted from landfill, and instead recycled or composted as appropriate.
- Provision of recycling services in the growing north-west section of the city.
- Sustainably recycling materials for which there is currently no option but to send to landfill.

How we're going to get there

Day to day / ongoing actions to achieve the purpose

- Provide a kerbside solid waste collection service on a user pays basis.
- Provide a kerbside recycling collection service, fully funded through rates.
- Provide recycling drop-off points at Ashhurst, Ferguson St, and Awapuni, including solid waste at Ashhurst.
- Provide a greenwaste drop-off collection service at Ashhurst and Awapuni, for a small fee, and an E-waste, compact fluorescents and batteries collection service at Ferguson St, for a fee.
- Deliver public rubbish and recycling services in parks, roads, and other public spaces.
- Deliver rubbish and recycling services to new residential and commercial properties.
- Operate the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) at Awapuni.
- Manage the closed municipal landfills (Awapuni and Ashhurst).
- Provide composting operation at Awapuni.
- Provide commercial services for food, recycling, and glass: funded from user charges.
- Investigate asset management for the rubbish and recycling activity.

Specific programmes to achieve the purpose (with timeframe)

- Investigate providing a polystyrene recycling service (by end of 2018/2019).
- Trial programme providing for the recycling of mattresses (by end of 2018/2019).
- Review the procurement policy to require lower waste Council purchasing (by end of 2019/2020).
- Investigate establishing a new drop-off site for recycling and green waste in the north-west of the city to service urban growth (by end of 2018/2019).
- Investigate providing receiving and disposal options for liquid hazardous waste (by end of 2018/2019).



Actions contributing to Council's strategic themes

a) Smart city practices

- Introduce RFID monitoring of kerbside recycling collection services to better manage the assets, and monitor presentation and participation rates.
- Utilise GPS tracking of trucks to allow for route optimisation.
- Incorporate electric trucks to fleet and monitor performance.

b) Sustainable practices

- Composting services which divert greenwaste from landfill, and provide a revenue stream for Council.
- Work towards 'zero-waste events', as outlined in the Sustainable Practices Plan.

c) Iwi partnerships

- Work with iwi and other regional partners to investigate culturally sensitive management approaches, including biosolid disposal options.
- Support the implementation of the national 'Para Kore' programme in the region, facilitating zero-waste strategies for marae.

d) Strategic partnerships

- Work with other public institutions to trial food waste management systems.
- Work with commercial sector to improve recycling rates.



Measures of success

- Decrease in the gross volume of waste produced city-wide
- Increase in the proportion of waste diverted from landfill
- More events are zero-waste

Related policies

- Waste Management and Minimisation Plan
- Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw
- Trade Waste Bylaw

Long-term Plan levels of service



Council provides:

- a kerbside solid waste collection service
- a kerbside recycling collection service
- recycling drop-off points
- a greenwaste drop-off service

to manage waste in an environmentally responsible manner and maximise proportion of waste diverted from landfill.

Long-term Plan KPIs



Rubbish and recycling placed in the Council's official bags or bins is collected on the stated day.

Compliance with resource consents for the Rubbish and Recycling Activity measured by the number of:

- abatement notices
- infringement notices
- enforcement orders
- convictions.

A 30 year Asset Management Plan is in place and major AMP projects approved in the 10 year plan are achieved.

Actions considered but not funded in this plan

- Trial providing a kerbside organics collection service.
- Partially rate for provision of the kerbside solid waste collection service.
- Process the stockpile of mixed waste glass at the closed Awapuni Landfill





Palmerston North City Council

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