



1. REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

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Corporate Plan Output: Solid Waste	

The purpose of this report is to present for adoption the Regional Waste Management Agreement (Attachment A) which has now had input from participating Councils.

INTRODUCTION

Councillors will recall that the first draft of this Agreement was put before them last year. The outcome of that was a resolution seeking input from the constituent Councils.

There appears to be general consensus on the document from all Councils, apart from one or two minor grammatical points and one larger issue.

The larger issue is whether the document should be an Agreement, or Guidelines. At present three District Councils prefer Guidelines, whereas the other seven prefer Agreement.

The arguments for Agreement are as follows:

- A more meaningful document that will be seen by the general population as more worthwhile.
- A firmer commitment by Councils, formalised by affixing the Council seal.
- Retention of flexibility for individual Councils, given that the bulk of the document is made up of “Guiding Principles”.

The arguments for Guidelines are as follows:

- Concern that the term Agreement is too binding on individual Councils.
- Concern that certain principles will be difficult to adhere to consistently, and that Councils could be censured for not complying in full (eg *All* economic and regulatory policies may not be consistent with or promote waste minimisation goals).

The staff group resubmitted this report to the Subcommittee, in order to seek guidance on this issue. The Subcommittee endorsed the Regional Canterbury Waste Management Agreement (Appendix A) and has now circulated it to all Councils for adoption.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Regional Waste Management Agreement endorsed by the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee be adopted by the Council.
 2. That it be noted that the document is an agreement to establish guiding principles.