

**SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT BY THE  
CHAIRMAN OF THE CITY SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**PART A - MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION**

**2. WASTE REDUCTION GOAL**

<b>Officer responsible</b> City Water & Waste Manager	<b>Author</b> Mike Stockwell, DDI 371 1332
Corporate Plan Output: Solid Waste	

The purpose of this report is to propose a change in the waste reduction goal.

**BACKGROUND**

The following report was considered by the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee (CWSC) at its meeting on 12 March 2001.

*"Currently many of the members of the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee have adopted as part of their own Solid Waste Management Plans a waste reduction goal of zero waste to landfill by 2020 (i.e. Christchurch, Kaikoura, Hurunui, Selwyn, Ashburton, Mackenzie and Timaru Councils). There are a variety of different target dates by which this should be achieved. It is desirable that all Canterbury Councils should have the same target for the zero waste objective, given the regional approach they all have taken.*

*As members are aware, Transwaste Canterbury Ltd is currently conducting a feasibility and economic study of its Kate Valley Regional Landfill site. A critical part of the study included identification of the proposed landfill gate charge in \$/tonne that the company must get to make the project economically viable. This charge is dependent upon incoming future refuse quantities. The economic model includes a high volume waste scenario and a low volume scenario. The high volume scenario is for a 0.5% waste reduction per year. The low volume scenario is dependent upon what the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee members (and others) actually do in terms of waste minimisation activities over the coming years.*

*Canterbury is leading New Zealand in waste minimisation initiatives, and the RMF study into regional co-operation with these initiatives should further enhance this. It is therefore appropriate that the zero waste to landfill goal be confirmed, but that an achievable target date which is co-ordinated with the regional landfill project be now set on a region-wide basis. Analysis of recent waste reduction trends, discussion with industry, and the results of public consultation by a number of Canterbury Councils, suggest that we adopt targets of:*

- (a) *Zero waste to landfill as soon as possible, taking into account social legal and economic constraints.*
- (b) *A minimum reduction by 50% of the volume of waste to landfill from 2000 to 2020.*

- Recommendation:*
1. *That this Committee recommend its constituent TLA members include waste reduction goals of:*
    - (a) *Zero waste to landfill as soon as possible, taking into account social legal and economic constraints.*
    - (b) *A minimum reduction by 50% of the volume of waste to landfill from 2000 to 2020.*
  2. *That this goal and target is also suggested for this Committee's submission on "Towards a National Waste Minimisation Strategy".*

2 Cont'd

**THIS COUNCIL'S CURRENT REDUCTION GOAL**

This Council's Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan (SHWMP) Part 1, incorporates the following overarching goal:

To reduce the rate per person of solid waste going to the landfill as follows, taking account of Real Costs:

- by 14% by the year 2000
- by 30% by the year 2005, and
- by 100% by the year 2020 or by time the new regional landfill is filled.

It is to be noted that the base year for reduction was 1994 and the first bullet point has already been achieved by a 12% reduction from compost plant activities and 5% from kerbside recycling making a 17% reduction total.

**PROPOSED NEW GOAL**

The SHWMP Part 1 was approved by the Council in 1998 and is due for revision in 2003. In the meantime it is proposed that the goal be amended to become.

- (a) Zero waste to landfill as soon as possible, taking into account social, legal and economic constraints.
- (b) A minimum reduction by 50% of waste to landfill from 2000 to 2020.
- (c) Zero organics to landfill by 2010.

**Points to note are:**

- Goal (a) is the vision
- Whilst goal (b) is less than this Council's current goal it will nevertheless be very challenging because:
  - it relates to total waste volume therefore has to overcome population increase whereas the previous goal was related to waste per head of population
  - we have already removed 17% of the waste stream via composting and kerbside recycling, thus future reduction will become progressively more difficult
- Goal (c) has been adopted by the CWSC at its meeting on 12 March 2001 for recommendation to member Councils. The removal of more organics from the waste stream in Christchurch is being addressed by the new undercover compost plant project and will be reported on in more depth in a Solid Waste Seminar and subsequent Committee reports.

**PROPOSED ACTION**

In terms of the provisions of the Local Government Act any proposed amendment to the existing SHWMP has to be notified for public submissions, and after hearing of submissions the final decision must be made at a meeting of the Council. It is therefore proposed to:

- Notify the recommended amendment to the Vision and Goal of the SHWMP on 24 March 2001 as per (a), (b) and (c) above;
- Allow for a four week period for written submissions, ending 27 April 2001, to be heard by a committee of the Council;
- Present the report of the committee to the 24 May 2001 meeting of the Council for consideration.

When amending its waste management plan the Council must have regard to the matters specified in Section 538 of the Local Government Act 1974. Section 538 states:

*"Every territorial authority shall promote effective and efficient waste management within its district and, in so doing, shall-*

- (a) *Have regard to environmental and economic costs and benefits for the district; and*
- (b) *Ensure that the management of waste does not cause a nuisance or be injurious to health".*

22. 3. 2001

- 3 -

2 Cont'd

**SUMMARY**

The Canterbury Waste Subcommittee has carefully considered a set of solid waste reduction goals and under its delegated authority recommends that its ten member Territorial Local Authorities each formally adopt these goals. The council needs to follow the consultative procedure set out above in order to change the relevant parts of the existing SHWMP.

**Chairman's**

**Recommendation:**

1. That the Council publicly notify its intention to amend, by way of the special consultative procedure, parts of the Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan of 1998 (SHWMP) as set out in the report.
2. That pursuant to section 716A(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1974 the Council give public notice on Saturday 24 March 2001 calling for submissions from interested persons in accordance with section 716A, such submissions to close at 5.00pm on Friday 27 April 2001.
3. That the Council appoint a subcommittee to consider public submissions on the proposed changes to the SHWMP, and that the subcommittee be authorised to report directly to the 24 May 2001 meeting of the Council.

**CONSIDERED THIS 22ND DAY OF MARCH 2001**

**MAYOR**