

5. DRAFT SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN: PART 2 - ACTION PLAN LTCCP SUBMISSIONS

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The purpose of this report is to recommend to the Council a response to the Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) submissions received on the Draft Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan: Part 2 - Action Plan (SHWMP: Part 2 Action Plan).

BACKGROUND

Submissions have been received on the Draft SHWMP: Part 2 - Action Plan as part of the 2004/05 LTCCP process. Staff have responded to the submissions and have prepared this report, which summarises the submissions and responses for the Annual Plan Subcommittee meetings in June 2004.

At its meeting on 25 March 2004 the Council resolved:

- “1. That the amended Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan: Part 2 - Action Plan be approved for release for public consultation as part of the 2004/05 LTCCP process.”*
- “2. That the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee be afforded the opportunity of viewing submissions on this plan and making a recommendation to the Annual Plan Subcommittee.”*

This report fulfils item 2 of this resolution.

(It should be noted that the SHWMP Part 2 version consulted on by the public was a modified version of that which existed on 9 March 2004 - refer italicised paragraph below.)

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

“Note: Text referring to a proposed domestic kerbside organics collection service and the related additional capacity for an enclosed compost plant in both the draft LTCCP and the Solid Waste Action Plan was deleted in line with the Council resolution on 18 March 2004 not to proceed with this service at this time. Consequently, the proposal to collect household organics was not put before the public and has not passed through a special consultative procedure as required by the Local Government Act 2002. Despite this, submissions on the concept have been received by the Council.”

Some 33 submissions were received on solid waste matters, most were directed at a proposed kerbside collection service for household organics. Sixteen submissions were in favour of the service, including several Community Boards, eight submissions were opposed to the service. The reply sent to all of those concerned with the organics collection service can be found in Attachment 2.

Other matters raised in the submissions related to:

- The move to 26 rubbish bags.
- Greater promotion for home composting options.
- The placement of composting facilities in a local reserve.
- Greater controls placed on manufacturers (eg the National Packaging Accord and extended producer responsibility legislation).
- Greater amounts to be recycled at the kerbside, at refuse stations and at events.
- Wanting wheeliebins for the kerbside collection of recyclables.
- The periodic kerbside collection of unwanted large household items.
- Increasing the diversion of hazardous waste from landfill.
- The use of biodegradable plastics for rubbish bags.

Each of these matters were addressed in replies to the submitters and only minor alterations are recommended to the SHWMP: Part 2 Action Plan, which staff can make prior to the final draft being approved by the Council, which is planned for August 2004.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

In the staff replies to the submissions about the household organics collection service, staff have proposed that a trial is carried out, involving 5,000 households over a 10 months period (The technical details of the trial are provided in the Technical Briefing Paper Attachment 1). It is considered that this trial is required to add certainty about the options under consideration and to clarify for the Council the costs and outcomes of two key options:

1. **“Decentralised Composting”**, which includes the promotion of home composting, existing commercial greenwaste collection services and community garden composting. Promotion will include offering a subsidy for compost bins, composting workshops and direct marketing approaches. This part of the trial will be carried out in two distinct ways: (1) establishing a marketing approach around existing community networks (eg 2,000 households associated with selected schools and sports groups); and (2) marketing within a geographic area (eg 1,000 households in a selected neighbourhood).
2. **“Organics Recycling”** which involves the weekly kerbside collection of kitchen waste and small types of greenwaste in a hygienic 40 litre container with a biodegradable compostible liner. The organics collected from 2,000 households in a selected area will be processed at a centralised compost plant. All households in the area selected will receive the service, how they respond to it, will be up to them.

It is considered that this trial will also fulfil the 18 March 2004 Council resolution made as part of its deliberations on the Draft 2004/05 LTCCP:

- “1. That a kerbside domestic kitchen food waste collection is not proceeded with at this stage, and not allowed for in the current budget.*
- 2. That options for reducing both food waste and garden waste to landfill be further developed taking into account social, environmental, cultural and economic factors”....*

Findings and firm proposals arising out of this trial will form the basis of a special consultation process (as per the LGA 2002) for ongoing improvements to the City's organics waste management. Clearly this trial will determine the most sustainable and socially acceptable option for reducing household organic waste in Christchurch.

BUDGET REQUIREMENTS AND SOURCE OF FINANCE

(a) Cost

The proposed trial will cost \$324,000 in operating costs in the 2004/05 financial year. A breakdown of costs can be found in Attachment 1. In addition there is likely to be ongoing operating expenditure needed to fund whatever initiative the Council decides to proceed with as a result of the trials. At this stage the level of this ongoing funding is unknown but it is suggested in the meantime it is allowed for in the budget as the same amount as the trial (ie \$324,000 operating in 2004/05 and ongoing years).

(b) Source of Finance

There is currently no finance allocated in the City Water and Waste Unit 2004/05 budget for this project. It is proposed that the City Water and Waste operating budget be increased by \$324,000 per year from 2004/05 and ongoing. This will increase the rates by 0.200%.

Note: This report has also been submitted to the June Annual Plan Subcommittee which is hearing the LTCCP submissions.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Sustainable Transport and Utilities Committee:
 - (a) Confirm that they wish this household organics trial to proceed.
 - (b) Recommend to the Annual Plan Subcommittee that the trial be financed by an increase in City Water and Waste operating budget of \$324,000 per year from 2004/05 and ongoing.

2. That based on the submissions, staff make appropriate changes to the Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan: Part 2 - Action Plan and bring the final document before the Council for approval in August 2004.

**Chairman's
Recommendation:**

1. That the Committee notes:
 - (a) That a successful household organics trial has already been held (see attachment).
 - (b) The waste plan has a target of 90% reduction of organic waste to landfill by 2010 and there is a similar target in the regional waste plan. The national waste strategy targets a 95% reduction by 2010.
 - (c) Information from other cities where such services are provided is available.
2. That another household organics trial at a cost of \$324,000 not proceed.
3. In view of the submissions, the Council proceed with the household organics collection and processing plans originally proposed for the draft LTCCP.
4. No changes be made to the Waste Plan.
5. Home composting continue to be encouraged (as well as the above).