

6. BACKGROUND MATERIAL ON REGIONAL WASTE MINIMISATION

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To provide background information on regional waste minimisation issues considered or actioned by the Subcommittee during the last few years as requested by the Committee at the December 2004 meeting.

BACKGROUND

2. Subsequent to signing the Regional Waste Minimisation Agreement in 2000 (which was attached to the December 2004 agenda) the waste minimisation focus has largely been around the following four areas, i.e. raising awareness of waste issues regionally, regional organics, regional construction and demolition, and contributing towards regional hazardous waste minimisation through representatives on the Regional Hazardous Waste Working Party (RHWWP).
3. Listed in section 4 of the report are a number of reports that reflect key areas which have been considered and actioned by the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee during previous years. In addition a copy of the *Review of the New Zealand Waste Strategy 2002* will be tabled. The background material is to provide the Subcommittee with the context of some key past actions when planning for the future – for which it is recommended that time be set aside during the March 2005 meeting.
4. The Recovered Materials Foundation (RMF), produced some of the separately circulated reports, and a representative is available to attend the March meeting to provide an overview of its involvement. Apart from the RMF researching various issues for the Subcommittee itself, the Christchurch, Selwyn and Waimakariri Councils have individually contracted the RMF to provide certain recycling services.
5. Regarding regional hazardous waste minimisation action by individual territorial authorities and the RHWWP, it is suggested that staff update the Subcommittee at the March or April 2005 meetings of the Subcommittee.
6. The most recent decision of the Committee regarding regional waste minimisation was that of August 2004 (report separately circulated) when the Subcommittee **resolved**:
 1. That quotes be obtained for work on tyres, participation in recycling and recycled wood products.
 2. That the proposed actions for:
 - (a) advancing waste minimisation through levies,
 - (b) regional information sharing,
 - (c) placing of refuse bins along roadsides, and
 - (d) a solid waste remit on establishing waste levies be further developed by staff and reported back on.
 3. That staff be requested to select suitable organisations from which to obtain quotes.
 4. That in respect of the proposal on “recycling in the work place” the Christchurch City Council Resource Efficiency Team, RMF and Ashburton Waste Busters be requested to carry out this function.
7. Progress has been made with developing a proposal for recycling in the work place, and a separate report is included in this agenda. The other initiatives are still in the process of being considered and further information will be available at the March 2005 meeting.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8. There is current agreement amongst member councils to make \$75,000 annually available for regional waste minimisation initiatives which is contributed by each territorial authority in proportion to population statistics as follows:

Council	Population (2001 census)	%	Apportionment of \$75,000
Christchurch	316,230	65.8	49,350
Waimakariri	36,900	7.7	5,775
Hurunui	9,880	2.1	1,575
Selwyn	27,300	5.7	4,275
Ashburton	25,450	5.3	3,975
Banks Peninsula	7,500	1.6	1,200
Kaikoura	3,480	0.7	525
Waimate	7,100	1.5	1,125
Mackenzie	3,720	0.8	600
Timaru	41,970	8.8	6,600
TOTAL	479,530	100	\$75,000

9. For the current financial year only \$5,000 has been authorised (August 2004) to date - a contribution towards Living Earth's application to ERMA (the Environmental and Risk Management Authority) on restricting the use of *clopyrolid* based herbicides in New Zealand.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Subcommittee :

- (a) Invite the Recovered Materials Foundation to present a summary/update on work done for the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee at the March 2005 meeting.
- (b) At the March meeting:
 - (i) Consider options for waste minimisation actions for the rest of 2004/05 financial year.
 - (ii) Consider options for a regional waste minimisation plan for 2005/06.