

7. COMMUNITY WASTE MINIMISATION FUND

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment Group
Officer responsible:	City Water and Waste Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The report proposes the establishment of the Community Waste Minimisation Fund and sets out the detail of the proposal.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. As from the 2005/06 financial year an annual amount of \$50,000 is available from the Council's *Waste Minimisation Fund* in the existing City Water and Waste budget to fund by way of grants suitable community based waste minimisation initiatives. This funding is derived from the existing general waste minimisation levy which is imposed on every tonne of refuse disposed of at landfill. (Potential funding for commercially based waste minimisation initiatives already exist through the *Sustainable Industries Fund* of the Recovered Materials Foundation.) The Community Waste Minimisation Fund therefore falls under the umbrella of the Council's *Waste Minimisation Fund*.
3. It is recognised that good ideas on how to increase waste minimisation exist in the community and that tapping into such knowledge and ideas could potentially add value to reaching the waste reduction goals set out in the Council's Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan 2003. It is also recognised that there may be instances where insufficient financial resources exist to develop such ideas, into viable and practical options of benefit to the whole community. Furthermore informing the public of the existence of the new Community Waste Minimisation Fund may in itself stimulate creative thinking towards such new ideas.

PURPOSE OF THE FUND

4. The purpose of the fund is to support the goals of the Council's Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan by encouraging and assisting the Christchurch community to contribute to these goals by developing effective and practical approaches to waste minimisation in the community. North Shore City Council has a comparable fund in existence, called the *WasteWise* Fund, and the proposal for Christchurch incorporates some elements of that.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

5. Community waste minimisation projects, including but not limited to increasing community participation in *Reducing, Reusing, Recycling and Recovery* of materials from the waste stream; research; sponsorships and awards; and feasibility studies or set-up costs for new non-commercial initiatives.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

6. Any individual or organisation. This would include individuals and community groups (whether incorporated or not).

INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

7. Details required from applicants:

Name and contact details.

Full description of project.

Project objectives/outcomes including how the outcomes will be assessed/measured.

Description of how the project meets the assessment criteria and how it contributes towards the Council's community outcomes

Breakdown of project tasks and time frames.

Breakdown of staff/volunteers/other funding that will be involved.

Breakdown of project costs.

How much funding is being sought from the Council.

8. Assessment criteria will be determined by the Planning Manager from time to time. It is proposed that the initial criteria cover the following categories as set out below and applicants would need to demonstrate to what extent the application addresses some or all criteria categories. Criteria weighting will depend on the individual project and its stated outcomes.

Category	Criteria	Assessment Basis (Note: The examples below are likely to differ from project to project)
A. Environmental	Effective use of natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The avoidance and/or diversion of waste from landfill anticipated ▪ The extent to which the project will 'close the loop' of resource use ▪ The avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions
	Amenity values are protected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The extent to which visual impact, noise, odour, dust and litter are avoided
B. Social and Cultural	Community participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The level of community uptake and the extent to which the community is encouraged to take responsibility for its own waste and/or products
	Employment & education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Potential for local job creation ▪ Educational opportunities provided
C. Achievability	Flexibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The general practicability of the project and the likelihood that the outcomes will be achieved
D. Economic	Costs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Operational cost, capital cost, cost per household, cost per tonne (as appropriate)
	Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Avoided costs, revenue and other economic benefits (as appropriate)

PROJECT SELECTION AND FUNDING LIMITS

9. Project selection will be by the City Water and Waste Planning Manager and City Water and Waste Unit Manager. It is recommended that the maximum amount per application be \$10,000 from the total available annual funding of \$50,000. The Planning Manager should however have the discretion to review this provision if the particular circumstances require a different approach, and an annual management review of the operation of the Fund will be undertaken. Payment of grants may, depending on the conditions of approval of a grant not be a lump sum payment, but subject to approved progress reports.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

10. As from 2005/06, an annual amount of \$50,000 has been budgeted. As the funding is from the dedicated Waste Minimisation Fund, funds unallocated in any year can be carried over to subsequent years.

SUMMARY

11. The Community Waste Minimisation Fund is aimed at encouraging and assisting the Christchurch community to develop effective and practical approaches to waste minimisation in the community. An annual amount of \$50,000 has been budgeted. Once approved, the publication 'City Scene' will be used to promote participation in this initiative.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Council:

- (a) Establish the Community Waste Minimisation Fund for 2005/06 financial year as set out in the report.
- (b) Delegate to the Planning Manager the management and implementation of the Community Waste Minimisation Fund.
- (c) Review the operation of the Community Waste Minimisation Fund for the 2006/16 LTCCP.