

Officer responsible Waste Manager	Author Zefanja Potgieter
Corporate Plan Output: Regional Landfill	

The purpose of this report is to report on the re-convening of the Regional Waste Staff Group, now called the Solid Waste Staff Group (the Staff Group).

BACKGROUND

In early 1996 representatives of the Canterbury District and City Councils got together to discuss growing difficulties with disposal of solid and hazardous wastes in Canterbury. As a result of these discussions it was agreed to form a Canterbury Regional Waste Working Party, and on the 1 May 1996 the Regional Waste Management Working Party held its first meeting. This Working Party changed into the Canterbury Waste Joint Standing Committee on the 11 November 1996. The Staff Group was formed to service the needs of the Working Party as well as its successor the Canterbury Waste Joint Standing Committee. Gareth James of Waimakariri District Council was elected Chairman of the Staff Group that consisted of staff drawn from the ten constituting councils of the Committee. The Staff Group met on several occasions with its main initial aim that of progressing with the concept of a regional landfill. Other issues progressed by the Staff Group were a hazardous waste strategy for which a sub-working group was appointed which is still operational. Issues like waste minimisation were also identified as requiring attention.

STAFF GROUP RECONVENED

With the regional landfill process well under way, the Staff Group was reconvened with the primary function of servicing the needs of the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee. The first meeting was held on 29 April 1999.

At the meeting a variety of issues were discussed, including working towards a regional approach for waste minimisation in Canterbury.

In this regard the Staff Group resolved:

1. That the Staff Group recognises the need for an overall vision to guide waste minimisation strategies in order to guide waste minimisation efforts in the region.
2. That the Staff Group is keen to help achieve an overall goal for a sustainable Canterbury which can be adopted by those Councils in Canterbury wishing to do so, working together with any interested relevant party, including the Recovered Materials Foundation, Canterbury Dialogues and the Target Zero Regional Network.
3. Staff will develop a regional strategy/action plan to help implement and coordinate waste minimisation initiatives in Canterbury.

No other substantive resolutions were adopted that require reporting to the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee at this stage. The Staff Group will regularly report to the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee.

Recommendation: That the Solid Waste Staff Group provide a comprehensive report on the status of each territorial local authority's waste management plan/strategy, including:

1. A summary of key features of each waste management plan or other strategy in place;
2. Key initiatives already undertaken by each territorial local authority;
3. Significant differences between plans/strategies.

Chairman's Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.