6. **WASTE MINIMISATION – REUSE OF OLD BUILDING MATERIALS**     RR 10959

| **Officer responsible** | **Author** |
|---|---|
| Waste Manager | Mike Stockwell, Waste Manager |
| Corporate Plan Output:  Solid Waste, Reuse | |

The purpose of this report is to draw the Council's attention to the need to align its construction contracts with its own Environmental Policy in terms of reusing materials from buildings it demolishes together with other reusable items from all other types of contract work.

**Discussion**

At a recent City Services Seminar Councillor Sally Buck raised the issue of reusable building materials from the demolition of Council buildings that may in certain instances be going to the landfill instead of being channelled to a recycling yard.  This practice would be against the Council's own Environmental Policy which states that the Council shall:

- Minimise the environmental effects of the Council's activities
- Promote environmental care through the Council's influence over others
- Be committed to ….reuse, recycling….
- Incorporate in its contract documents ….requirements for the protection of the environment.

The feeling at the seminar was that the Council's contract documents should include wording to ensure that reusable materials that emerge during the course of any contract (eg doors, window frames from old building demolition) are channelled to the appropriate resale yard and not to the refuse stations or landfill.

It is recommended therefore, that it becomes Council policy to include wording to this effect in all Council contracts.  Contractors would then of necessity build this course of action (ie reuse of certain materials specified in the tender documents) into their tender prices.

**Recommendation:**     That it be Council policy to ensure that reusable materials that emerge during the course of a Council demolition or building contract (eg old doors or window frames) are channelled to an appropriate resale yard and not sent to the refuse stations or landfill.

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