

## 10. COMMERCIAL WASTE MINIMISATION UPDATE REPORT

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Corporate Plan Output: Solid Waste	

The purpose of this report is to update this Committee on recent activities, success and proposed activities of the Target Zero programme.

### BACKGROUND

The Christchurch City Council's waste minimisation programme for businesses commenced in 1995, a full time Commercial Waste Minimisation Officer (Christine Byrch) was employed in November 1996. In 1997 the programme was strengthened by involvement in Target Zero, a two year cleaner production programme initiated and managed by the Electricity Corporation of New Zealand (ECNZ) and partially funded by the Ministry for the Environment.

Cleaner Production is defined by the Ministry for the Environment in NZ as:

- Using energy and resources efficiently
- Avoiding or reducing the amount of waste produced
- producing environmentally sound products and services
- Achieving less waste, fewer costs and higher profits

Based on the Target Zero experience, the Christchurch City Council has developed it's own programme promoting the cleaner production methodology to Christchurch businesses while retaining the Target Zero name. These programmes have also been successful. Some of the savings identified by companies participating in the fifth workshop programme coordinated by Waste Minimisation Facilitator, Karyn Durham, are [attached](#).

### THE SCOPE OF TARGET ZERO

The broad scope offered through the cleaner production methodology has resulted in some major efficiencies that will benefit both business and our environment. Results of the ECNZ Target Zero programme achieved collectively by the 12 participating companies include reducing resource consumption by:

- 94,200 m<sup>3</sup> of water per annum
- 17,740 GJ of fossil fuels per annum
- 535 MWh or electricity per annum

These companies also collectively reduced waste by:

- 123,990 m<sup>3</sup> of trade waste per annum
- 890 tonnes of solid waste per annum
- \$684,160 of product per annum
- 1,950 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per annum.

## **DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS**

The broad scope of Target Zero opens up many opportunities to form alliances with other organisations and to secure external funding. For example, the Christchurch City Council Target Zero will be forming a partnership with Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority (EECA), Environment Canterbury and others to become the lead Local Authority in local bottom up action to deliver internationally agreed global CO<sub>2</sub> reduction targets. Also, Target Zero is presently negotiating jointly funding the next workshop programme with Orion and EECA.

## **INTRODUCING JIM WATT: TARGET ZERO PROGRAMME MANAGER**

In February this year, Jim Watt began working 2 days a week in the Waste Management Unit of the Christchurch City Council as the Target Zero Programme Manager. His role is to work with the Target Zero Business Network to achieve their goal which is “Christchurch business understanding, adopting and benefiting from sustainable business practices”. The Target Zero team is extremely fortunate to have employed a staff member with such extensive experience (see [attached synopsis](#)). Jim also works two days a week at Landcare Research forming a useful link with this crown research agency.

## **TARGET ZERO BUSINESS NETWORK SPECIAL AWARD FOR WASTE REDUCTION**

There will be a special award recognising businesses that have implemented waste reduction in the Canterbury Resource Management Awards 2000, called the Target Zero Business Network Special Award for Waste Reduction. The Resource Management Awards held in October, are an Environment Canterbury initiative to promote sustainable management of natural and man made resources in the Canterbury Region. This is an excellent opportunity for Target Zero to link with other organisations to promote and acknowledge waste reduction to Christchurch business.

## **RENAMING THE PROGRAMME - BUSINESSCARE**

We propose to rename and relaunch the Target Zero programme as BusinessCare in November. There are two major drivers for this change:

- Target Zero is confused with Zero Waste New Zealand Trust, the zero waste to landfill goal and does not describe the Target Zero programme which has a much broader scope than just solid waste reduction.
- BusinessCare is a registered charitable trust recently established with Sustainable Management Funding from the Ministry for the Environment and the Zero Waste New Zealand Trust.

BusinessCare has been established to provide a long term, nationally co-ordinated approach to environmentally sustainable business tools, championed locally by co-ordinators from city, district or regional councils, environmental or business organisations. While cleaner production is the programme’s major plank, a wider range of tools will also be promoted.

The BusinessCare management structure comprises a trust board of three to five trustees, two patrons to provide an environmental and business profile, a steering group of five to ten stakeholders and participants to make recommendations to the Board on implementing the vision, goals and objectives.

#### **SUMMARY**

The Christchurch City Council's Target Zero programme promotes the cleaner production methodology to Christchurch businesses. Jim Watt began work in February as the Target Zero Programme Manager.

The broad scope of Target Zero opens up many opportunities to form alliances with other organisations and to secure external funding. For example, there will be a special Target Zero award recognising businesses that have implemented waste reduction in the Canterbury Resource Management Awards 2000 in October 2000.

In November, the Target Zero programme will be renamed and relaunched as BusinessCare to align the Christchurch City Council programme with the national BusinessCare programme funded by the Ministry for the Environment.

#### **Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.