

29. "TOWARDS A NATIONAL WASTE MINIMISATION STRATEGY" – DISCUSSION PAPER

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Corporate Plan Output: Regional Waste Minimisation	

The purpose of this report is to recommend the formation of a City Services Committee working party to comment on the discussion paper.

BACKGROUND

In December 2000 the above discussion paper was released jointly by the Ministry for the Environment and Local Government New Zealand. The paper was prepared by the *Waste Minimisation and Management Working Group* appointed by the Minister of the Environment mid 2000. The initial driving force behind this was the Remit submitted by the Council to the 1999 Local Government New Zealand conference.

The discussion paper (attached) sets out a draft Vision and Goals for a national waste minimisation strategy and in addition requests comments on 11 key waste minimisation questions. On 19 February 2001 Local Government New Zealand and the Ministry for the Environment will host a morning workshop on the Strategy in Christchurch, and Councillors and staff from all Canterbury local authorities are invited to attend. Further details will follow.

The preparation of a national strategy for waste minimisation is an important event long advocated by the Council, and it is recommended that the Committee appoint a working party to study and comment on the discussion paper during February, in time to report to the March meeting of the Committee. The Ministry for the Environment has indicated that the 1 March deadline for comments will be extended to 31 March for Christchurch's comments, but that the June 2001 deadline for the Strategy necessitates comments no later than that.

Apart from the Council commenting on the discussion paper, the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee has decided to submit comments as well.

SUMMARY

The committee needs to appoint a working party that can complete its review of the discussion paper in time for sign-off by the next committee meeting in March, or should time restrictions prevent this, the Working Party should be given delegated power to report directly to the March Council meeting.

- Recommendation:**
1. That a working party of elected members and relevant staff be appointed to draft the Council's comments on the national waste minimisation strategy discussion paper.
 2. That due to the tight time-frame the Working Party be given delegated power to report directly to the March 2001 Council meeting.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted and the subcommittee consist of the Chairman, Councillors Sally Buck, Carole Evans, Ian Howell and relevant staff, ie Mike Stockwell, Waste Manager, Zefanja Potgieter, Christine Byrch and Simon Collin.