

16. THE REGIONAL HAZARDOUS WASTE REDUCTION PROGRAMME

Officer responsible City Water & Waste Manager	Author Karyn Durham, Hazardous Waste Reduction Co-ordinator, DDI 371-1991
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The purpose of this report is to update and inform the Committee on the Regional Hazardous Waste Reduction Programme. This two year Programme is one of the implementation programmes (refer attachment) for the Canterbury Hazardous Waste Management Strategy which has a long term objective "to eliminate the adverse effects of hazardous waste on the environment".

BACKGROUND

The Programme is funded jointly by Ministry for the Environment, Environment Canterbury and participating local authorities in the Canterbury Region, contributions over the two years being as follows:

Ministry for the Environment	\$101,066
Environment Canterbury	\$25,202
Christchurch City Council	\$9,070
Canterbury TLAs	\$5,106
Total	\$140,444

The programme has been operational since Jan 2000 and progress of the programme for the first six months to June 2000 has been outlined in previous committee reports. This report therefore covers the period June 2000 to June 2001. The reduction programme will finish in January 2002.

PROGRAMME REVIEW

Rachel Hargreaves resigned from the position of Hazardous Waste Reduction Coordinator from 20 October. Rachel was replaced by Karyn Durham who was seconded from the position of Waste Minimisation Facilitator with the Christchurch City Council until 10 January 2002. This change in staffing provided an opportunity to review the progress and direction of the programme.

The overall aim of the programme is to seek ways to reduce or eliminate at source, the degree of hazard or quantity of hazardous waste produced. It is also expected that the programme will develop networks and systems to ensure that hazardous waste reduction at source continues to be addressed beyond the two year project life.

The key objectives of the programme can be summarised as:

1. Reducing Impacts

- Develop and promote initiatives for "cleaner production" in the hazardous waste area
- Facilitate hazardous waste audits

2. Developing Networks and Systems

- Ensure networks and systems are in place to effectively work with industry to minimise hazardous waste and to ensure hazardous waste reduction continues to be addressed beyond the end of the programme.

PROGRESS TO DATE

Progress to date is listed below under the programme objectives, although the two objectives are not mutually exclusive with projects often having a dual function by reducing impacts and by raising awareness amongst regulators and industry of the benefits of cleaner production.

1. Reducing Impacts

Projects / Initiatives	Status	Outcome/Expected Outcome
Investigation of the main industry sectors that generate priority hazardous wastes has been carried out to determine what actions are required to reduce hazardous waste at source. Investigation has included research on processes, site visits to businesses, discussion with council officers, identification of regulatory requirements and discussion with product suppliers and industry associations.	Ongoing	Enhanced understanding of waste generating activities / industries
Pilot waste minimisation project with electroplaters is underway. This project seeks to reduce levels of heavy metals in wastewater discharges	Underway	Reduction in metals in wastewater discharges.
Working with Hazardous Waste Advisory Service to establish stricter requirements for disposal of chlorinated solvent sludge from drycleaners. Drycleaners will be required to recycle chlorinated solvent sludge.	Underway	50% reduction in disposal of perchloroethylene to landfill from drycleaners
Involvement in Target Zero Foundries Project to ensure that recommendations made regarding testing and reuse / disposal of sand took into account the possibility of contamination by hazardous substances.	Completed	Established procedure for testing of sand prior to disposal.
Pilot hazardous waste minimisation project with powdercoaters using trichloroethylene for vapour degreasing begun May 2001.	Underway	Identification and dissemination of information on best practice
Site visits / audits to businesses in other districts being carried out to identify opportunities for reducing hazardous waste and to build capacity in Councils seeking to undertake waste minimisation work with businesses.	Underway	Increased awareness of opportunities to reduce hazardous waste
Research to be carried out to determine wastes and waste disposal practices of Agricultural Spray Contractors	Underway	Improved waste disposal practices

2. Developing Networks & Systems

Initiatives	Status	Outcome/Expected Outcome
Integration of hazardous waste into waste minimisation initiatives that currently exist or that are being developed.	Ongoing	Increased recognition that hazardous waste can be addressed using waste minimisation methodology.
Working with other units within CCC to achieve their hazardous waste reduction objectives through cleaner production initiatives. An example of this is the project with electroplaters that has been funded by the Water & Waste Unit but managed by the Hazardous Waste Reduction Co-ordinator.	Ongoing	Increased recognition and application of cleaner production as way to address hazardous waste issues
Organised hazardous waste workshop, primarily for waste minimisation consultants and Council staff throughout the district. The purpose of the workshop was to provide information to help participants develop their understanding of hazardous substance and hazardous waste issues, regulations and responsibilities and how these relate to industry.	Completed	Increased understanding of hazardous waste issues / knowledge sharing
Identified opportunities for the Hazardous Waste Advisory Service to assist Councils to take a more proactive approach to managing and reducing hazardous waste.	Underway	Improved management of hazardous waste
Established dialogue with Occupational Safety and Health on opportunities for OSH and CCC waste minimisation and hazardous waste functions to work together	Ongoing	Information sharing / promotion of waste minimisation services

SUMMARY

The Canterbury Hazardous Waste Reduction Programme has played an important role in raising the profile of hazardous waste among those who are involved with industry in a regulatory capacity and with those who work with industry to minimise waste. It has also been instrumental in setting a path that will ensure hazardous waste in Canterbury continues to be reduced well into the future.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.