

21. INTERNAL WASTE MINIMISATION PROJECT

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The purpose of this report is to inform this Committee of an 'internal' waste minimisation programme the Target Zero Team will be carrying out at Council facilities and assets.

BACKGROUND

In March of this year the Ministry for the Environment released the New Zealand Waste Strategy. The strategy presents a vision of working 'towards zero waste and a sustainable New Zealand' and outlines a long-term plan for the management of solid, liquid and gaseous waste to attain this vision.

The strategy has been adopted 'in principle' by the National Council of Local Government New Zealand, which has recommended to all Councils that they:

- Adopt the strategy as a basis for local plans, programmes and actions,
- Continue to work in partnership with central government in enabling local and regional Councils to realise the strategy's long-term goals.

At the 2 September 2002 meeting, the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee recommended to its' member Councils *'that they adopt the strategy as a basis for local plans, programmes and actions'*. This recommendation was accepted by this Council at its September 2002 meeting and provides a mandate for this project.

Three core goals are identified in the National Waste Strategy. These are:

1. Lowering the social costs and risks of waste.
2. Reducing the damage to the environment from waste generation and disposal.
3. Increasing economic benefit by more efficient use of materials.

To achieve these goals the strategy sets a number of national and regional targets including that:

"By December 2005, all Councils will ensure that procedures for waste minimisation have been addressed for all facilities and assets they manage and will have set target reductions based on public health, environmental and economic factors."

A number of waste minimisation projects initiated at Council assets and facilities over the last two years already contribute to this target. These include:

- The Car Pool and Staff Bike Project, initiated by Corporate Services,
- The Paper Project, initiated by Corporate Services,
- The Zero Waste to Landfill Project, initiated by Corporate Services,
- The Zero Waste Library Project, initiated by the Target Zero Team,
- The Zero Waste Service Centre Project, initiated by the Target Zero Team.

The Target Zero team, which specialises in assisting businesses to minimise waste, will build on this by developing and implementing waste minimisation programmes for other Council facilities and assets over the next three years. The Project Sponsor is Ken Lawn, Director of Operations. The aim of the project is that "by 2005 all Christchurch City Council assets and facilities that are either staffed or operationally managed on a day-to-day basis will have developed solid, liquid and gaseous waste minimisation programmes and have practices in place".

This project was discussed at a Target Zero seminar to this Committee on 5 November 2002, and it was agreed to expand the project to include those companies that Christchurch City Holdings Limited (CCHL) holds shares in.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND PROGRESS TO DATE

Waste Minimisation at CCC Facilities and Assets

The project involves working with a number of Units within Council to develop and establish waste minimisation programmes and practices for Council assets and facilities that are either staffed or operationally managed on a day-to-day basis by Council staff. Options for incorporating waste minimisation procedures/requirements into everyday management practice at Council assets and facilities that are not Council operationally managed, will be investigated at a later date.

The scope of this project includes solid, liquid and gaseous waste, the assumption being that energy has already been addressed by the Councils' Energy Manager.

Programmes will be developed that are specific to each asset and facility, and incorporate waste minimisation procedures/requirements into everyday management practice. For groups of similar facilities, such as QEII, Centennial and Pioneer Leisure Centres, a pilot project will be undertaken at one site and then developed for use in the other facilities.

Sites selected to date include Centennial, QEII and Pioneer Leisure Centres and Animal Control. Scoping visits to assess potential for projects have been undertaken at Pages Store, QEII and Animal Control and one is organised at the Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant. Staff managing these sites have expressed interest in working with Target Zero on this project.

The project steps and progress to date are:

Action	Status
1. Gain commitment /support from the Corporate Team.	Corporate Team informed of project proposal. Ken Lawn agreed to be project sponsor.
2. Initial communication with Unit/Facility Managers	Complete excluding Parks and Waterways Unit, and staff from the Glassons building. Potential sites identified for scoping visit.
3. Select assets/facilities for programmes	October/November 2002.
4. Meet with key asset/facility staff to discuss project and identify a Programme Champion	November 2002 onward. (Projects will be initiated over the next 2 years).
5. Develop site specific plans	November 2002 - 2005
6. Implement plans	November 2002 - 2005
7. Monitor the effects of measures implemented through the plans	November 2002 - 2005
8. Evaluate the effectiveness of the programmes	March 2002 – 2005
9. Write programme templates where several similar facilities exist	March 2002 – 2005
10. Disseminate templates as recommended in the evaluation	April 2003 – June 2005
11. Reporting	Final report May 2005

There may be costs associated with implementing waste minimisation at Christchurch City Council assets and facilities. However, these are not expected to be high, indeed experience to date with other businesses shows that with most projects there is a cost saving. It is not possible to estimate costs until preliminary work has been carried out at each site. It is expected that these costs will come out of the existing facility/asset budgets.

Waste Minimisation at CCHL Companies

To date, the Target Zero team has begun to make initial approaches to the CCHL companies. The companies contacted so far are very receptive to working with Target Zero to develop waste minimisation projects. At the time of writing a Resource Efficiency Assessment has been scheduled for the offices of Red Bus Ltd and Orion New Zealand Ltd; Christchurch International Airport has confirmed that work is being undertaken by Pattle Delamore to look at waste minimisation and waste contract opportunities across the entire site; Lyttelton Port Company Ltd has expressed interest and has invited Target Zero to visit the site to look for opportunities to minimise waste and is looking at our website to find out more about our work prior to this. Contact is currently being made with the Selwyn Plantation.

A project to require waste minimisation activities at events held on Christchurch City Council property is currently in progress. For this reason, Jade Stadium and Christchurch City Facilities Ltd have not been contacted at this stage, as it is thought that waste minimisation activities at these businesses, and those they manage, will be implemented through the events project.

RELEVANT CURRENT POLICY

Board and City Care Ltd

The project is consistent with many initiatives, reports and policies undertaken by the Council over recent years. These include the Lets Dream Report, Sustainable Christchurch projects, The Natural Step and the Zero Waste policy.

CONCLUSIONS

The New Zealand Waste Strategy includes a target for Council's to implement waste minimisation at facilities and assets they manage by 2005. This Council has adopted the strategy, and will proceed over the next three years to meet this target. Such a target is aligned with current Council policy and activities, in particular those of the Target Zero Team and Sustainable Christchurch initiative. This work is an extension of previous work undertaken at the Civic Office, Service Centres and Libraries.

Staff

Recommendation: That the information be received and the Committee endorse the programme.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.