

## 6. CANTERBURY JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE (CJSC) AND CANTERBURY WASTE SUBCOMMITTEE (CWSC) ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBER COUNCILS

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The purpose of this report is to table the annual report on the exercise of the Subcommittee's functions which is required to be submitted to all member councils on an annual basis in terms of clause 4 of the revised constituting agreement.

A copy of the report is set out below.

### **ANNUAL REPORT - CANTERBURY JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE AND CANTERBURY WASTE SUBCOMMITTEE**

The initial meetings of the CJSC and the CWSC were held on 19 November 2001 with Councillor Denis O'Rourke being elected as Chairman and Councillor Bill Woods as Deputy Chairman.

In addition the CWSC appointed Councillor Denis O'Rourke, Councillor Bill Woods and Mr Gerald Clemens as nominee directors on the Board of Transwaste Canterbury Ltd for the period to 17 March 2005. Mr Gil Cox was subsequently reconfirmed for a further four year term on 18 March 2003 until 18 March 2007.

The number of meetings held by the Subcommittee since that date are as follows:

2001	1
2002	8
2003	8

A summary of the main topics and issues considered by the CWSC over the previous period of its current term is as follows:

#### **Revised Constituting Agreement**

Following on from the decision of the CWSC at its meeting on 19 November 2001 to review the constituting agreement for both the CJSC and CWSC, originally adopted in May 1999, a working party consisting of elected representatives and staff was established to review this agreement with legal assistance and support being provided by Buddle Findlay.

A final form of agreement was formally adopted by the CWSC on 11 July 2002 and the required resolutions adopting the revised agreement subsequently made by all 10 member councils.

The new agreement emphasises and defines more clearly the role of the CJSC and CWSC in regional waste minimisation and the participation of the six shareholder member councils in the regional landfill.

#### **New Regional Landfill at Kate Valley**

A major issue for the Subcommittee in respect to shareholder councils in the joint venture company, Transwaste Canterbury Ltd, was the site selection and application for resource consents for the new proposed regional landfill at Kate Valley in North Canterbury.

At its meeting on 4 February 2002 shareholder members of the Subcommittee formally resolved to inform the Transwaste Canterbury Ltd Board that the Subcommittee supported the selection of the Kate Valley site for a new regional landfill.

Subsequently on 11 March 2002 the Subcommittee resolved to prepare a submission in support of the resource consent applications lodged by Transwaste Canterbury Ltd for the new landfill to the Hurunui District Council and Environment Canterbury.

A total of over 6,000 submissions were received on the resource consent applications and hearings were held during the period November 2002 to February 2003 by four commissioners appointed to jointly represent the Hurunui District Council and Environment Canterbury.

A total of 25 consents for a period of 35 years, but with some 324 conditions attached, were granted and an appeal was subsequently lodged to the Environment Court by Transwaste Canterbury Ltd against some of these conditions.

A special meeting of the Subcommittee to discuss the appeal to the Environment Court was held on 9 May 2003 and the Subcommittee decided not to also lodge an appeal to the Environment Court but to offer support in any other way possible.

At its meeting on 6 October 2003 the Subcommittee authorised the Chairman to present a statement of evidence in support of the application by Transwaste Canterbury Ltd to the Environment Court. The decision of the Environment Court is expected in April 2004.

Associated with the process of establishing the new regional landfill at Kate Valley was the sale of the Cattle Peaks station and at its meeting on 19 November 2001 the Subcommittee was advised that this had been sold at a small profit.

### **Policy Issues - Recovered Materials Foundation (RMF) and Transwaste Canterbury Ltd (TCL)**

At its meeting on 9 June 2003 the Subcommittee decided to appoint two additional trustees to the Board of the RMF to represent member councils (other than the Christchurch City Council) on the board of that organisation as provided for in the amended trust deed for the RMF. It subsequently resolved at its meeting on 8 December 2003 that Councillor Robbie Brine (Waimakariri District Council) and Mr John Stroh representing the northern and southern councils respectively be appointed as trustees on the Board of the RMF.

Following on from the implementation of the Local Government Act 2002 the Subcommittee also adopted two specific policies relating to the appointment of directors to TCL and to Council-controlled organisations (COs) (such as the RMF).

### **Transwaste Canterbury Ltd (TCL) Monitoring Reports**

As required by the Local Government Act, and the shareholders agreement, copies of the TCL Ltd Annual Reports, Statements of Corporate Intent and Business Plans have continued to be reported to the Subcommittee for monitoring, comment and information.

### **Standards for New Zealand Landfills**

At its meeting on 2 September 2002 the Subcommittee resolved to approach the Minister for the Environment, Hon Marion Hobbs, to seek mandatory minimum standards for landfills. Subsequent to this the Ministry for the Environment released a draft discussion document on national landfill classifications and waste acceptance criteria as best practice guidelines.

While the Subcommittee did not lodge a submission direct on this document, information on the submissions lodged by the Christchurch City Council and Canterbury Waste Services was supplied to it for its information.

In addition as a result of the request for meeting with the Minister for the Environment, Mr Chris Purchas, Sustainable Business Section, Ministry for the Environment, attended the meeting of the Subcommittee on 8 December 2003 and discussed with members the concerns that the Subcommittee had previously expressed regarding the desirability of raising the standards for Type B landfills to those applicable to Type A landfills over a period of time.

### **Minimising Organic Waste in Canterbury**

In May 2003 the Subcommittee contracted Landcare Research Ltd to investigate organic waste reduction in Canterbury. Specific terms of the brief related to:

- To estimate the amount, source and destination of organic waste in the region.
- Review of waste practices and options to reduce organic waste.
- Provide recommendations and priorities for action.

Key themes of the report received by the Subcommittee from Landcare Research in October 2003 related to the desirability of:

- Source separation - organics should be separated at their source.
- Wherever possible process and keep organics on site.
- Enhancing the beneficial use for organics.

The Subcommittee has agreed to hold a seminar in Timaru in March 2004 to discuss this topic further following which it is intended to convene a working party to formulate a regional organic action plan.

### **Regional Waste Minimisation**

On 2 September 2002 the Subcommittee resolved to prepare a regional strategy on waste minimisation and a working party was established which met on three occasions on 25 October, 3 December 2002 and 20 February 2003.

The first meeting of the working party which consisted of Councillors Denis O'Rourke, Ron Wright, Lee Burdon and Zefanja Potgieter (CCC), Don Young (WDC), Ashley Harper (TDC) and Brian Lester (ADC) identified two possible areas for further investigation:

- Regional organics
- Construction and demolition material

The report back from the working party was received on 18 March 2003 and recommended that a study on regional organics be funded at an estimated cost of \$40,000 in the 2002/03 financial year together with a contribution to a national study on restricting clopyralid use at a cost of \$2,500 in the 2002/03 financial year.

A further study on the reduction of regional construction and demolition waste estimated at \$50,000 was held over to the 2003/04 financial year in view of the fact that the Ministry for the Environment was undertaking a similar national study on construction and demolition waste over a two year period which would involve the Canterbury area. It was suggested therefore that the study be deferred until further discussion was held with the Ministry to ensure that there would be no overlap.

It had been intended that \$50,000 would be allowed for the study in the 2003/04 financial year together with \$25,000 for unspecified projects.

Suggested options for further study related to:

- Review of waste data from all districts to determine likely volumes of recyclables and potential volumes plus disposal paths.
- A detailed analysis of transport costs for moving recyclable materials around the Canterbury region.
- A detailed analysis of the pros and cons of advocacy-type projects.

At the 6 October 2003 meeting a further report was received back on the three proposals mentioned above and it was agreed that a quote from the Recovered Materials Foundation for \$4,200 for the first study, to review waste data from all districts to determine likely volumes of recyclables, be accepted and that firm proposals be received back from the RMF on the second study with the third study proposal being undertaken by the Christchurch City Council.

### **Other Topics**

#### *Resource Recovery from Cleanfill Sites*

At the meeting on 3 November 2003 a report was received advising Subcommittee members of the Christchurch City Council Cleanfill Licensing Bylaw. The report gave background to this proposed new bylaw and requested specifically that the Waimakariri and Selwyn District Councils be asked to also consider the application of a similar bylaw plus all other Canterbury territorial local authorities.

### *Regional Hazardous Waste*

On 18 March 2003 an update was provided on two pilot projects which had been undertaken by the Waimakariri District Council and Waimate District Council on the collection of hazardous waste.

The Canterbury Hazardous Waste Working Party had received a report on 20 February 2003 from Tonkin and Taylor Ltd outlining a regional hazardous waste collection strategy and discussing the advantages and disadvantages of a regional co-ordinated domestic/agricultural hazardous waste collection programme.

The information was received and it was recommended to constituent councils that they develop a programme to contribute to regionally co-ordinated domestic and rural hazardous waste collection.

#### **Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the information be received and distributed to member councils for their information.

#### **Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** That the above recommendation be adopted.