

5. CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE MINIMISATION

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Subcommittee of the national construction and demolition waste minimisation project and a proposed add-on specific to the roading industry in Canterbury.

BACKGROUND

The Ministry for the Environment, through its Sustainable Management Fund (SMF), has funded a construction and demolition (C&D) waste minimisation project. The project began in December 2003 and will be completed in June 2005. A steering group has been formed and is comprised of representatives of the following organisations:

- Building Research Association of New Zealand (BRANZ)
- Recycling Operators of New Zealand (RONZ)
- North Shore City Council
- Hamilton City Council
- Christchurch City Council
- Ministry for the Environment

Sinclair Knight Merz, based in Christchurch, is managing the project.

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT FUND AND CANTERBURY WASTE SUBCOMMITTEE C&D PROJECTS

The SMF project will achieve substantially the same outcomes as the Canterbury Waste Subcommittee (CWSC) Canterbury regional C&D project proposed in late 2002.

The SMF project has identified seven industry sectors to be targeted:

- Architects and designers
- Engineers
- Developers and builders
- Sub-contractors
- Product suppliers
- Demolition firms
- Home renovators
- Recycling Operators
- Local and regional government

Specific tasks and outcomes of the project include:

- An assessment of existing markets for recycled and reusable materials from C&D waste and the development of regional market development strategies for Auckland, Waikato and Canterbury.
- A verification programme for the chain of custody and processing of C&D materials within the resource recovery industry.
- A website as an information portal for industry, local government and the community.
- A review of current legislative tools that are available to local and regional government to regulate C&D waste.
- Best practice guidelines for the industry target sectors.

The completion date for the SMF project is 16 June 2005.

Like the SMF project, the proposed regional C&D project would have:

- Identified stakeholders
- Conducted market surveys
- Examined regulatory tools
- Developed industry best practices

Given that the SMF project will achieve for Canterbury the outcomes sought for the proposed Canterbury regional C&D project, it is suggested that the regional C&D project would be essentially redundant. It should be noted, however, that the SMF project will be focused on building construction and demolition, that will not be captured in the SMF project. **It has been proposed to the SMF project manager that the surveys conducted in Canterbury could be expanded to include the roading industry** with funding to cover the cost of performing this extra work. The project manager agrees that this would be a more efficient approach than conducting a separate study, since some of the same stakeholders would be involved in both a Canterbury-specific roading C&D study and the SMF building C&D project. The funding needed to add roading C&D to the Canterbury portion of the study is estimated at less than \$5,000. This amount is substantially less than the \$40,000 originally budgeted for the CWSC's own project.

SUMMARY

The Sustainable Management Fund's C&D project will achieve the same outcomes as the proposed CWSC C&D project, with the addition of the road construction sector to the Canterbury portion of the SMF project. The CWSC's own project now becomes unnecessary and this will reduce the costs to CWSC down to around \$5,000 for the entire process.

Staff

Recommendation: That the regional Construction and Demolition waste project as previously approved by the Subcommittee be replaced by participation in the Sustainable Management Fund project.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.