

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

NOTES OF A SEMINAR OF THE COUNCIL

Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices
on Tuesday 3 July 2007 at 9.30am

PRESENT:

Christchurch City Council:

Councillor Bob Shearing (Chair)
Councillors Helen Broughton, Sally Buck,
Graham Condon, Barry Corbett, David Cox,
Carole Evans, Pat Harrow, Bob Parker and
Norm Withers.

Timaru District Council:

Councillor Michael Oliver (Chair of the District Services
Committee) and Brian Gallagher, (Solid Waste Manager).

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from
Mayor Garry Moore and Councillors Gail Sheriff and
Sue Wells and General Manager City Environment
Jane Parfitt.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Community Board Members: John Freeman (from 11.00 -
11.10 am), Stewart Miller and Tony Sutcliffe (until
10.25am).

Council Officers: Chief Executive Tony Marryat, City
Water and Waste Manager Mark Christison, and Project
Manager, City Water and Waste Tim Scott.

1. TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL – NEW WASTE SERVICE

Councillor Carole Evans, as the immediate past chair of the Zero Waste Working Party (ZWWP) welcomed the guests from the Timaru District Council to the seminar and then handed over to Councillor Bob Shearing, current chair of the ZWWP, to chair the seminar.

Timaru District Councillor Michael Oliver, supported by Brian Gallagher, Solid Waste Manager, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation which covered the following information regarding the Timaru District Council Waste Service:

- Chronology of Solid Waste Development (from 1988)
- 1990 wheelie bins introduced to urban, 1994 to rural areas
- Vehicle numbers paying to use the Redruth landfill
- 1998-2005 graph showing waste levels

ACTION

ACTION

- Pie graph of total waste stream composition 1999
- Source of waste for Timaru
- Breakdown of kerbside collection
- Catalyst for change (increasing waste tonnes, reducing landfill space, public concern 1999-2005, achievement of NZ waste targets.)
- New solid waste strategy (collection, recycle processing etc)
- Bin for organics, bin for residual, crates for recycling.
- Split bin with window (strong issue with contamination.)
- Final choice - 3 bins - large bin for organics, large recyclable and half size for residual)
- Pie graph: Three bin trial summer 2005/06 - quantities collected. (recycle 94%, rubbish 6%.)
- Graph - divert 32 %
- Total oppose or support: 13% oppose, 87% support.
- Problems encountered - separation in kitchen, others in house not educated, didn't know what to put out, collection days mixed up, not enough space, capacity too much for elderly and too small (disposable nappies)
- 93% was big bin
- Assessment of "smaller properties" - residents using 120 litre bins. (Rubbish 30 litre, recycle 45 litre, organic 60 litre)
- Ecocart frame - currently in use.
- Council strategic direction (RFP 2005: Contractor: Envirowaste Services: Costs 2006) Breakdown: Costs 2006 - collection charge \$249 pa (\$104 in 2005): Landfill fee \$100t/ (\$75 in 2005): Recycle \$40t unsorted, free if sorted: Organic \$30t. Comments about the cost increase virtually nil.
- *Q: Why targeted rate? A: TDC has always had service charges (eg water, sewer, waste) for reason for transparency with full cost recovery. 17.9% rate increase last year - made clear to ratepayers that there was a \$145 increase on their waste charge.*
- Council had to Determine Policy and Rules: Detailed.
- Weekly organic/fortnightly recyclable and rubbish on alternate weeks/ weekly collection for CBD/compulsory in urban areas, option rural on collection routes/targeted rate for all properties in defined collection areas/three bin package compulsory, no reduction in cost/special cases may use only a rubbish bin/dispensation for larger rubbish bin cost because of medical/financial reasons.
- Bin options described.
- Community consultation on implementation (letters, meetings, personal visits by staff to assess and confirm options, media launch, calls to customer services and dedicated TDC response staff.)
- Graph showing calls to customer services 2006 on new bin introduction
- Bin delivery - programmed to take three weeks to collect old and deliver new
- 3 bin implementation: 18,300 properties - issues
- Logo
- 3 bin example from San Francisco bar.
- Graph - rubbish collection comparison

ACTION

- Collection composition graph
- Kerbside Collection breakdown graph
- Weight of bins graph 2006/07.
- Contamination/process loss. Contract states TDC shall deliver with no greater than 6% contamination - now steady at 5%. Clean glass stream now, once issues with paper in glass sorted. Contamination in organics very low.
- Bin audits - comparison between trial of summer 2005, and June 2007.
- June 2007 organic bin audit. Plastic bags an issue.
- Organic Bin Audit 2007
- Rubbish Bin Audit, June 2007
- Example of bins grouped for weekly collection
- Bins on hills - Timaru has had bins since 1990 - issue has gone away. Could leave bin at bottom of drive or at gate.)
- 3 bin stacker trolley (Ecocart) - TDC services up to 500 - small truck manual collection once a week.
- Frames of MRF and compost system.
- Summary - initial "fuss" will settle down, new collection system will become part of normal day to day behaviour.
- Frame showing all factors required to make system work.
- New bylaw introduced in January 2007.

The question and answer session raised the following:

- **Q:** TDC Bylaw - enforced/fined individuals? **A:** Not yet, but staged enforcement about to commence.
- Targeted rate - issue for CCC
- **Q:** Composting - does providing a bin for organics encourage people to throw out what they once would have composted? **A:** Those who want to compost for their garden will continue to do so. Those residents who are not as motivated are likely to dump organics.
- **Q:** Reaction from private bin collection contractors? **A:** No - Timaru has had bin collection since 1990.
- **Q:** Issue of separate weeks for different collections - why? **A:** Cost - weekly collection would cost more. The TDC experience is that 140L fortnightly provides ample capacity, and 40L for organics works well.
- Bin liners for organics? **A:** No - (Seattle example with good composting system cited - quote "any bag is a bad bag". Cornstarch bags "fantastic", but very expensive.) Encouraged to wrap in newspaper.
- Why stackable trolley collection carried out by separate truck rather than incorporated into normal collection run? **A:** Not feasible, given small number. Capacity issues and wide variety of usage also deciding factors.
- High rise residential/office blocks - provide bigger bins? **A:** Will assess each situation. Usual for residents to work together.
- Noted TDC has a giant shredder for green waste - has a brush/branches collection been considered? (Wisconsin provides shredding service on the street.) **A:** TDC shreds at MRF.
- Colour coding to international standard? **A:** TDC followed Australian standard.

ACTION

- Any provision for the collection of small batteries? **A:** Small part of waste stream-TDC mainly looking at larger items for diversion. Hazardous waste issues will be addressed in the future, but considered to be a national issue.
- Logo for sale? **A:** May consider entering into negotiations.

2. SOLID WASTE IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT UPDATE

Following a short break for a cuppa, the seminar continued with Mark Christison speaking to a PowerPoint presentation, '*Solid Waste Implementation Project Update*' - (copy on file).

Subsequent questions and comments included the following:

- It was noted the TDC opted for the BOOT model for contracting the MRF.
- CCC looking at a 15 year contract - facilities would revert to the CCC. Next phase is to look at details of budget/LTCCP/indicative costs from tenderers - hope to complete within four weeks before bringing back to the Zero Waste Working Party.
- Rural sector - same pattern overall as urban "roll out"?
- Information sharing - ensure community is aware of progress with rubbish collection and handling system.
- The CCC will have to decide quite soon as to whether a targeted rate will be required.
- TDC Stacker bin trolley commended - can CCC provide same or similar for "special need" situations?
- KPIs - seek feedback from community on a regular and frequent basis - also provide capability to bring in further KPIs.
- Apartment blocks - special needs to be recognised?
- Lifestyle/farmers do not need organics collection - most would deal with themselves.
- Targeted rates issue - Councillors need to have information and be aware of current and future costs for service.
- Markets for end product likely to be an issue?
- Noted Zero Waste Working Party report to the 5 July 2007 Council meeting.

Mark and team

At the conclusion of the seminar, thanks were expressed to Councillor Michael Oliver and Brian Gallagher from the Timaru District Council, and congratulations were extended to the TDC on the waste initiatives they have implemented. The positive effects from the various Councils working in conjunction on waste issues was also strongly commended by those present.

OUTCOME:

The information was received.

The seminar concluded at 11.35 am.