

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CANTERBURY WASTE JOINT COMMITTEE

**Held in the No 3 Committee Room, Civic Offices
on Monday 8 October 2007 at 10.30am**

PRESENT: Councillor Sally Buck (Chairperson) (Christchurch City Council), Councillor Bev Tasker (Ashburton District Council), Councillor Robbie Brine (Waimakariri District Council), Mayor Gary Jackson (Hurunui District Council), Councillor Pat Mulvey (Timaru District Council), Councillor Lindsay Philips (Selwyn District Council), Councillor Dave Pullen (McKenzie District Council), Councillor Bob Shearing (Christchurch City Council), Councillor Judy Waters (Environment Canterbury), Councillor Ross Little (Environment Canterbury)

IN ATTENDANCE: Kevin Crutchley, Simon Collin, Zefanja Potgieter, Mark Christison, Tony Moore (Christchurch City Council) Brian Gallagher (Timaru District Council) Sally Cracknell (Hurunui District Council) Don Young (Waimakariri District Council) Dave Hock (Selwyn District Council) John McGartland (McKenzie District Council) Darren Patterson (Environment Canterbury) Geoff Hem (Envirowaste Services) Craig Tregurtha (Crop and Food Research), Kevin Roche, Secretary (Christchurch City Council)

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillor James Gibson, Councillor Sue Wells, Brian Purcell, and Jane Parfitt

1. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 13 AUGUST 2007

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the Canterbury Waste Joint Committee meeting of 13 August 2007 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

2. 2007/08 ACTION PLAN UPDATE

2.1 Business Sustainability

Kevin Crutchley, Resource Efficiency Team, Christchurch City Council, spoke to the proposal on the expansion of the Target Sustainability Programme to other Canterbury districts. He outlined the background and objectives of the programme and advised that it was intended to target additional medium to larger businesses in the Waimakariri, Selwyn and Timaru districts. Costs involved were

detailed within the report. In response to questions Mr Crutchley advised that the cost to businesses involved related to time input and that the Memorandum of Understanding with the businesses involved required them to report back and to measure their waste-reduction and energy-efficiency gains. Councillor Tasker noted that at the last meeting of the Joint Committee good feedback had been received on this programme in respect to the Ashburton area. Mayor Jackson suggested a report back be provided in the second quarter of next year providing information on case studies which could provide information for other districts, such as Hurunui. Mr Crutchley advised that the programme would not be completed at that stage but that it would be possible to provide an interim report back.

The Committee **resolved** to support the project for the 2007/08 Action Plan, and to provide an interim update report back for the six months from February 2008.

2.2 Compost Product

Tony Moore reported on the municipal compost application trial. It had been realised there was currently a gap in the practical application of compost in Canterbury in respect to agriculture. The original proposal of utilising compost in the production of root crops, such as potatoes, had been discontinued in view of the contamination problems experienced with glass particles. It is now intended to carry out three trials with joint funding provided by Envirowaste Services Ltd, Environment Canterbury, Foundation for Arable Research, Compost New Zealand and the Canterbury Joint Waste Committee. Crop and Food Research Ltd were currently finalising trial design and would carry out the trial and testing.

Details of the trials were contained within the report, and would cover:

- Application of compost to kale (forage brassica)
- Application of compost to pasture (mixture of grass and rape)
- Application of compost to maize

Mr Craig Tregurtha from the soils team at Crop and Food Research Ltd, spoke regarding the trials which would be held in the South Canterbury area over a three-year term. It was noted that one of the original farms which was to be involved was now being converted to dairying, and being sold, and a new option needed to be found.

The opportunity was then taken for questions and discussion.

- Councillor Tasker advised that a lot of work on composting had been undertaken by the Five-Star feedlot in Ashburton and they would hold information which would be of assistance.
- Councillor Waters commented she felt the use of compost in grape growing would be a high visibility alternative, for example in the Waipara Valley area.
- Councillor Brine asked if Councils should invest in compost production prior to completion of the trials and Mr Hem advised he felt this was an

individual decision for each Council and that there were merits in trying to divert organics from landfill as soon as possible.

- It was noted that growers were already tracking compost from Christchurch to Central Otago.
- Mayor Jackson spoke regarding the 'Greening of Waipara' project and it was advised it was probably cheaper to take compost to Marlborough where scientific resources were located rather than to undertake trials locally.
- Mr Tregurtha confirmed that the costs included end-sampling and were based on crop rather than financial years.
- Brian Gallagher spoke about the rates of application which were done at various rates per hectare to gauge the effects.

The Subcommittee **resolved** to approve the Karina Downs project for municipal compost application for the 2007/08 Action Plan and for staff to report back on the three-year budget for this programme and on an alternative additional project in due course.

3. REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

The Chairperson drew members attention to the reminder in the agenda on the need for Joint Committee member Councils to re-appoint members to the Joint Committee following the triennial election.

4. INFORMATION SHARING

Councillor Philps reported on the visit from the Deputy Mayor of Beijing to the "Hot Rot" composting plant at the Selwyn District Council.

Councillor Waters spoke on the hazardous waste programme and advised there would be a report to the Hazardous Waste Working Party and that two tenders had been received. Funding had been received from the Ministry for the Environment for the next two years. It was advised that 158 tonnes had been collected over the last five years, some of which had been shipped overseas for destruction.

Mark Christison spoke regarding the Christchurch City Council tender process for its new waste collection. He advised that tenders closed on 15 October.

Simon Collin reported that the Christchurch City Council was making a submission on the Waste Bill before Parliament and advised this could be made available to other TLA's if they wish.

The meeting concluded at 11.45am and Councillor Ross Little took the opportunity to thank the Chairperson and other members for their contribution over the past term of the Joint Committee.