

Waste management strategy

Waste Management Plan 2005: Towards Zero Waste

Summary

How we manage our solid, liquid and gaseous wastes, impacts on each on each one of us. It also impacts upon our city and on our environment, both now and in the future. Waste minimisation and the efficient use of our natural resources is fundamental to a sustainable way of life and to the future wellbeing of our city and its residents.

This Waste Management Plan establishes a vision, goals and targets for waste in the city. It also provides actions that aim to advance on the targets. This plan is focused on solid waste, and updates the 2003 Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan and the 2004 Waste Action Plan. This 2005 Plan incorporates both strategy and action planning into a single document for ease of use.

Vision

A prosperous city, where each person and business takes responsibility for waste minimisation and actively works toward zero waste.

Goals

- Individuals and businesses take greater responsibility for waste minimisation.
- Council provides much enhanced reuse and recycling services at the kerbside.
- Council supports and incentivises waste reduction, reuse and recycling.
- Council ensures that environmentally-sound waste disposal services are provided.

The following targets have been set to move Christchurch towards the attainment of the solid waste vision and goals and include both domestic and commercial waste:

Type of Waste	No more than: (kg/person/year)	Target Year
Green and kitchen waste sent to landfill	30	2015
Paper and cardboard sent to landfill	90	2015
Plastic waste sent to landfill	60	2015
Kerbside waste collected by Council	25	2015
Wood waste sent to landfill	22	2015
Rubble received at refuse stations	10	2015
Minimum reduction of the waste stream overall	320	2020
All potentially hazardous waste sent to landfill is treated or otherwise meets landfill acceptance criteria		
All cleanfill sites in Christchurch are licensed under the Cleanfill Licensing Bylaw 2004		



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Each year Christchurch disposes of approximately 263,000 tonnes to landfill. This means that every person produces an average of 764 kg of waste per year that ends up in the landfill (domestic and commercial waste combined). Actions taken to date to reduce solid waste to landfill include, but are not limited to:

- Operating and improving a kerbside recycling programme, with the addition of plastic supermarket bags in 2004;
- Operating a green-waste composting plant;
- Offering assistance to businesses to become more resource efficient;
- Providing free drop-off of domestic quantities of recyclable materials at the refuse stations;
- Offering a free drop-off of domestic quantities of household hazardous at each refuse station;
- Collection of unwanted and banned agricultural chemicals from farms in Christchurch;
- Working with the construction and demolition industry to identify methods to reduce waste from their activities;
- Facilitating recycling at public events; and
- Implementing opportunities within the Council to become more resource efficient, such as paper, cardboard, glass, plastic and metal recycling; kitchen waste recycling; reduced paper usage through duplex printing and photocopying, and the establishment of a sustainable supply chain policy.

Despite these actions, total waste to landfill has increased since 2002 reversing the downward trend achieved since 1994. More needs to be done to achieve the vision, goals and targets contained in this Plan.

Significant proposals in this Plan are aimed at reducing the amount of household and organic waste going to landfill.

In February 2006 the Council confirmed the vision, goals and targets contained in the Waste Plan. The Council then decided not to proceed with any of the three options previously consulted

on, and established a working party comprising councillors and officers to develop and recommend to the Council a solution to advance the vision, goals and targets within a budget allocation specified in the 2006 to 2016 LTCCP.

Each person in Christchurch can affect how successful we are in meeting our vision, goals and waste reduction targets. How each person and business responds to this challenge will determine our success in making Christchurch a more sustainable and waste free place to live.

