

## *Kōrero Mai Let's Talk*

Tell us what you think about  
our Waste Management and  
Minimisation Plan by  
5pm Sunday, 23 May 2021.

**DRAFT**

Whakatāne District Council

# Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2021

*Te Mahere Whakahaere me te Whakaiti Para  
o te Kaunihera ā-rohe o Whakatāne 2021*

*Increasingly, whānau, hapū, iwi, community groups and rangatahi are identifying and expressing their waste minimisation aspirations. Council wants to work with all our communities to support endeavours to reduce, recycle or reuse waste as a resource opportunity.*

*The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2021 will guide how we manage our solid waste for the next six years – now's the time to tell us if you think we've got it right.*

# Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2021

## *Te Mahere Whakahaere me te Whakaiti Para 2021*

*The draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2021 outlines our vision, goals, objectives, actions and targets for managing our solid waste for the next six years.*

This draft plan is now open for public consultation and we are seeking feedback from across our communities to find out if we are on the right track to manage and minimise our waste. The management of waste affects every single person in our district, now and into the future, so it is important you tell us what you think about this plan, and also play your part in achieving the vision.

The preparation and implementation of the WMMP is a requirement of the Waste Minimisation Act (WMA), which aims to ensure that waste streams are better managed and minimised wherever possible. The full document is available at [whakatane.govt.nz/wmmp](http://whakatane.govt.nz/wmmp)

## Why we need a plan

### *He aha tātou e whakarite mahere ai?*

Whakatāne District Council has a statutory requirement under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) to promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the Whakatāne District. We also have an obligation under the Health Act 1956 to ensure that our waste management systems protect public health.

## Funding the plan (paying for our waste)

### *Te pūtea tautoko*

The actions from the plan are funded through:

- general rates
- refuse transfer station charges
- targeted rates
- external funding where possible
- Central government funding for waste minimisation projects

## Now is your chance to tell us what you think

### *Kōrero mai!*

- Have we got our vision right?
- Do you agree with our goals, objectives, targets and actions?
- Do you see your aspirations around waste minimisation represented in this plan?
- Have we missed anything?

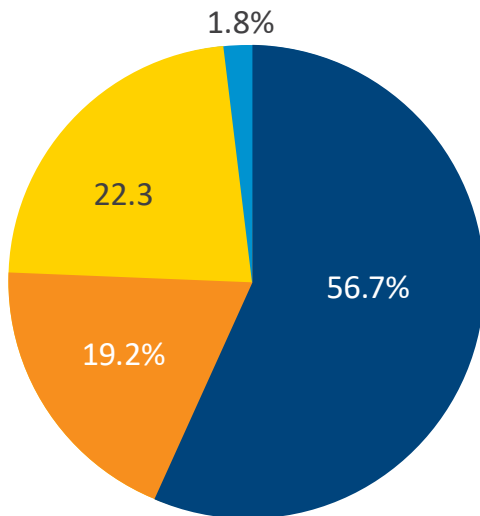
**Visit [koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz/wmmp](http://koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz/wmmp) and tell us what you think.**



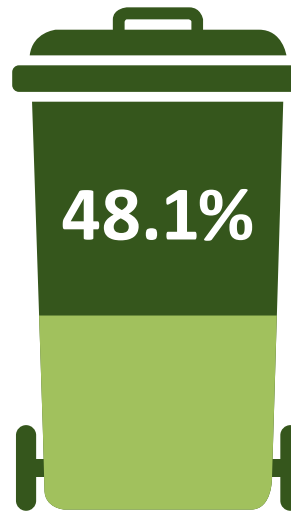
# A snapshot of our waste

## *He whakarāpopototanga o te para*

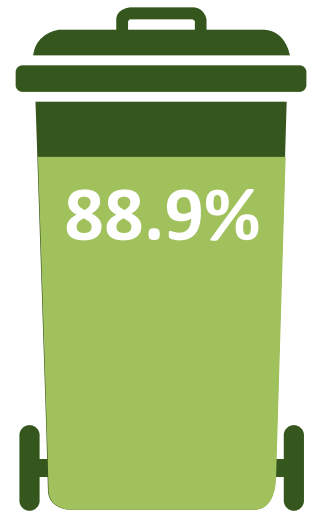
In the 2019-20 year, we diverted 43.3% of all our waste from landfill to be recycled, composted or reused. While this figure is positive, more than 13,000 tonnes of waste was sent to landfill that year. It is possible that some of this landfilled waste could be composted, recycled or reused.



**Breakdown of solid waste 2019/20**



Landfilled waste is from kerbside collections

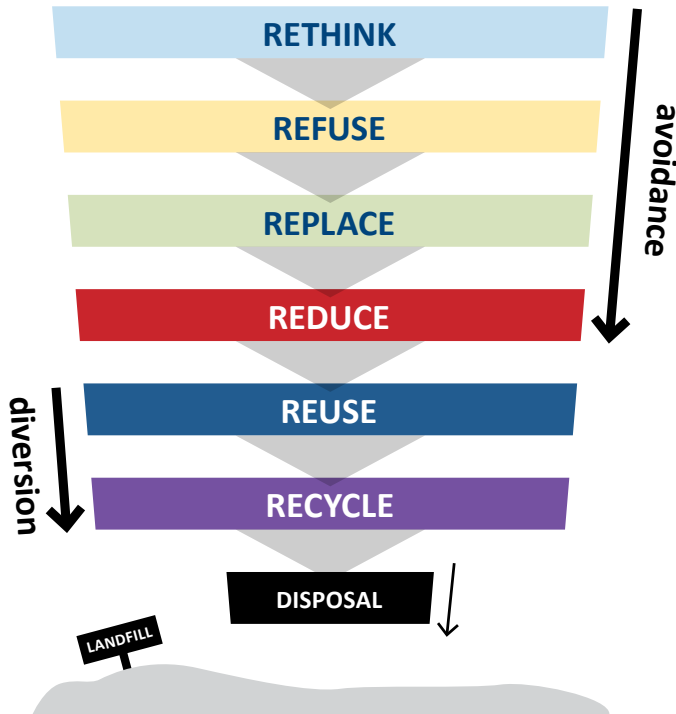


Percentage of rateable properties receiving kerbside services

# The Waste Hierarchy

## Te Pūnaha whakarōpū para

Figure 1: The Waste Hierarchy



Source: Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor Report, "Rethinking Plastics in Aotearoa New Zealand" December 2019.

The 'waste hierarchy' refers to the idea that waste avoidance should come before reuse and recycle, with landfilling as the final option. In general, actions closer to the top of the hierarchy can reduce costs at a lower level, and environmental impact is generally reduced at higher levels. However, relative costs can vary significantly depending on factors such as disposal and transport.



**3,422**

TONNES OF GREEN-WASTE COLLECTED FROM KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS



**2,416**

TONNES OF RECYCLING COLLECTED FROM KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS



**6,314**

TONNES OF REFUSE COLLECTED FROM KERBSIDE COLLECTIONS

The Council has previously concentrated on diversion, but we need to make waste avoidance our priority. To achieve this, we need our communities to join us on the journey and look for more local ways of dealing with our waste.



# Key issues

## *Ngā take matua*

- More recyclables could be diverted from both domestic and commercial properties, rather than going to landfill.
- Demolition waste could be diverted for reuse. There is also a lack of facilities to recycle or otherwise divert these materials.
- There is a lack of understanding, regulation and disposal options for medical waste in the district.
- Rural and farm waste disposal practices have limited options and are not fully understood.
- Licensing provisions in the Council waste bylaw are not yet implemented.
- Waste minimisations practices vary and are not fully understood, with some residents expressing frustration that they are not able to recycle more.
- Central government waste policy is undergoing a number of changes.
- Contamination of kerbside recycling and green waste continues to be a significant issue.
- There is a lack of data on waste deposited in 'uncontrolled' sites, such as clean fills and farm dumps.
- Variations in refuse transfer station fees within the district presents a financial risk to Council and our communities.
- Organic food waste could be diverted for composting or alternative processing.
- Waste Levy charges increasing from \$10 to \$60 per tonne from 2021 to 2025, and continued increases in Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) charges mean landfill costs will continue to rise significantly.



# Vision, goals, objectives and targets

*Te matakitenga, ngā whāinga me ngā whāinga tiritiringa*

OUR VISION IS:

*Our communities  
working together to  
turn our waste into  
resources*

## Goals and objectives

*Ngā whāinga*

**Goal 1: Communities throughout our district are knowledgeable about waste**

- Provide education on what happens to different types of waste and the resulting implications (financial, health and environmental).
- Make waste data easily accessible and understood.
- Provide information that allows our communities to make best use of existing waste avoidance and diversion services, and potential new ones.

**Goal 2: Communities that are committed to firstly avoiding waste, and then secondly reusing and recycling it**

- Process and manage waste locally where feasible and cost-effective.
- Create opportunities for our communities to be involved with waste minimisation initiatives.
- Where avoidance of waste is not possible, look for opportunities to turn it into a resource.

**Goal 3: Communities that look for and consider new initiatives and innovative ways to minimise waste**

- Investigate and implement new services, facilities or other initiatives that will avoid waste or divert it from landfill.
- Consider each waste stream separately when investigating new minimisation opportunities.
- Work collaboratively with other councils, whānau, hapū and iwi and relevant stakeholders to provide new waste minimisation opportunities, and lobby central government for change.

# Targets

## *Ngā whāinga tiritiringa*

This plan is expected to guide the next six years of waste management and minimisation in the Whakatāne District. During this time, we expect the way waste is managed in New Zealand to change significantly. Government, industry and councils around the country are already working on issues like:

- Product stewardship for tyres, e-waste, plastic packaging and other difficult items.
- Development of a container return scheme.
- Possibly more bans similar to the single-use plastic bag ban.
- An increase and expansion of the Waste Levy charged at landfills.
- Better consistency between kerbside collections in different areas.

Other areas that are likely to change include:

- The way information about waste is collected and monitored.
- The New Zealand Waste Strategy.
- Reviews of legislation like the Waste Minimisation Act.
- More investment in facilities to manage our waste within New Zealand.





This means that things are going to change in the Whakatāne District too, and this depends on a lot of factors out of our control - making it hard to plan for the next six years.

Council is suggesting that we set an overall target for the district that is based on the amount of rubbish sent to landfill each year, per person – compared to the national average:

*Whakatāne District  
will stay below 70%  
of the national average  
amount of waste sent  
to landfill per person,  
each year*

*Explanation: Whakatāne District currently sends around 370kg of rubbish to landfill per person each year, which is rated as 'good' against similar districts. The national average is around 740kg.*

The suggested action plan for this WMMP has a focus on engaging with our communities about waste issues while looking for local solutions. This overall target will be supported by a number of other targets that reflect this focus:

- Council aims to keep customer satisfaction with our kerbside services and transfer station at above 80%.
- Run or support at least 15 community engagement and education initiatives each year.
- Increase the overall understanding of waste issues across our communities.

# Action Plan - what are we going to do?

## *Te Mahere Kokenga – ka aha mātou?*

Our draft plan includes 28 actions (plus climate change actions) that will enable us to achieve our vision for the Whakatāne District. They are summarised into these key action areas.

Action area	Key actions	Issues addressed and what it will do
<b>Regulation</b>	<p>Implement Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw provisions for waste operator licensing and multi-use residential developments.</p> <p>Implement waste-related central government policy changes.</p> <p>Implement a 'three strikes and you're out' policy for kerbside contamination.</p>	<p>This will help the Council set standards and gather data so we can plan and manage our waste better.</p> <p>The Council will be required to implement pending waste-related legislative changes.</p> <p>Reducing kerbside contamination will increase the amount of waste recycled and composted.</p>
<b>Measuring and monitoring</b>	<p>Increase monitoring to provide more information in certain areas, such as commercial, industrial and rural wastes.</p> <p>Undertake surveys to measure our communities' understanding of waste issues.</p>	<p>Provide a better understanding of all waste within our district and opportunities for minimisation.</p> <p>Allow Council to determine the understanding of waste issues and changes during the term of the plan.</p>

<p><b>Education and engagement</b></p>	<p>Continue with current education and engagement strategies and include new areas such as rural, industrial and commercial. Continue working with community groups and look for further opportunities.</p> <p>Work with whānau, hapū and iwi to better understand Te Ao Māori values, mātauranga Māori (indigenous knowledge) and tikanga in relation to waste minimisation.</p>	<p>Ensure our communities are engaged and understand service decisions, and residents are able to make the most of existing and any new or altered services.</p> <p>Whānau, hapū and iwi aspirations are better understood and respective visions and strategies around waste minimisation are reflected.</p>
<p><b>Collections and services</b></p>	<p>Continue existing services. Investigate and if feasible, implement a district-wide food waste collection and processing solution.</p>	<p>Maintains current minimisation services and investigates possibilities to address food waste.</p>
<p><b>Infrastructure</b></p>	<p>Investigate opportunities for a Resource Recovery Park and managing waste locally.</p> <p>Investigate opportunities for local waste infrastructure especially in relation to organic processing.</p>	<p>Investigates opportunities to create new waste minimisation initiatives.</p> <p>Local processing of organics would reduce transportation costs while providing local resources in the form of composts.</p>
<p><b>Leadership and management</b></p>	<p>Continue to collaborate with other councils and waste organisations. Implement central government policy changes.</p> <p>Undertake a review of the WMMP in six years' time.</p>	<p>The Council will look for regional solutions and work with others on waste issues and lobbying central government.</p> <p>The Council will meet its legislative obligations in relation to waste management and minimisation.</p>
<p><b>Climate Change Action Plans</b></p>	<p>Execute the actions outlined in the Council's Climate Change Waste and Circular Economy Action Plan.</p>	<p>Undertake solid waste and circular economies actions that will contribute to the Council achieving its climate change targets.</p>

## *How to kōrero mai:*

Online: [koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz/wmmp](http://koreromai.whakatane.govt.nz/wmmp)

Email: [submissions@whakatane.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@whakatane.govt.nz)

**Post:** Whakatāne District Council,  
Private Bag 1002, Whakatāne 3158

**Contact your elected members:**  
[whakatane.govt.nz/elected-members](http://whakatane.govt.nz/elected-members)

### **WE WILL KEEP YOU IN THE LOOP**

Whether or not you choose to make a submission, we will keep you posted on progress on our Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. Our website will continue to be updated with new information and we will also keep you up-to-date through social media and other local media channels.

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draft Waste Management and  
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