



Agenda Council Meeting

Deliberation of Submissions to the
Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024

**Tuesday 14 May 2024
at 1.00pm**

Waitomo District Council is committed to conducting its business in a manner that is open, transparent and facilitates accountability and public participation. Any member(s) of the public wishing to address the Council at a Meeting or Workshop are asked to make arrangements through the Mayor's Office at least three clear working days before the scheduled Meeting or Workshop.

All attendees at this meeting are advised that the meeting will be electronically recorded (audio and video) for the purpose of webcasting to the Council's website. Every care will be taken to maintain individuals' privacy; however, attendees are advised they may be recorded as part of the general meeting proceedings.



NOTICE OF MEETING

A MEETING OF THE WAITOMO DISTRICT COUNCIL IS TO BE HELD IN THE WAITOMO DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, QUEEN STREET, TE KUITI ON TUESDAY 14 MAY 2024 COMMENCING AT 1.00PM

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor John Robertson
Deputy Mayor Allan Goddard

Cr Dan Tasker
Cr Janene New

Cr Eady Manawaiti
Cr Janette Osborne

Cr Gavin Todd

MICHELLE HIGGIE
MANAGER – GOVERNANCE SUPPORT

ORDER PAPER

Items of Business

Page No.

1. Karakia Tuwhera
2. Apologies
 - Mayor John Robertson
3. Declarations of Member Conflicts of Interest
4. Deliberation of Submissions to the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024 3
5. Karakia Whakamutunga

PLEASE NOTE

1. The business papers attached to this Order Paper set out recommendations and suggested resolutions only. Those recommendations and suggested resolutions **DO NOT** represent Council policy until such time as they might be adopted by Council resolution.
2. This Order Paper may be subject to amendment either by the addition or withdrawal of items contained therein.
3. This Meeting will be **webcast** in real time to the Waitomo District Council website and will also be available for viewing on demand as soon as reasonably practicable following the meeting.

Document No: A717264

Report To: Council Meeting



Meeting Date: 14 May 2024

Subject: Deliberation of Submissions to the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024

Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this business paper is to provide comments on submissions to the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) for Council's deliberation.

Background

- 2.1 All WMMP's are subject to the requirements of the Local Government Act's (LGA) Special Consultative Procedure, a requirement also set out in the Waste Minimisation Act Part 4, sections 44 and 50(3).
- 2.2 A Communication Plan was developed for the required consultation and involved outlining the key messages, target audience, communication channels, and the following timeline:

Adoption of the Statement of Proposal	27 February 2024
Consultation opened	4 March 2024
Drop-in session 1 at Gallagher Recreation Centre	12 March 2024
Drop-in session 2 at Te Kuiti Landfill	16 March 2024
Consultation closed	8 April 2024
Hearings	30 April 2024
Deliberations	14 May 2024
Adoption of WMMP	25 June 2024

Commentary

- 3.1 Six submissions were received, with five submitters generally in support of the draft WMMP. Three submitters thought the actions should be undertaken sooner than the given timeframes. One submitter spoke in support of their submission. The WMMP is, by its very nature, a strategic document, and does not go into operational detail. All submitters provided positive suggestions for operational issues, and these will be taken into consideration as staff start to implement the actions. The feedback from submitters is appreciated and a response to each submission is provided below.

3.2 **SUBMISSION No 001**

- 3.3 We appreciate that some communities / marae / residents / groups / schools etc. may already be undertaking some of the proposed activities in the Action Plan tables. There is flexibility in the phasing of the activities to ensure that activities can be applied as required, without unnecessary duplication, and in no way diminishing the efforts already made by some. The Action Plan does not go into operational detail, as that will evolve as staff commence each activity. Timeframes for the actions are based on available resources (financial and staff) at any time. We will engage with marae to build on the good work that they are doing already.

- 3.4 The future of the Te Kuiti Landfill has been the subject of a significant body of work over the past few years by Council staff, Councillors, and external consultants. The final decision

will be based on financial risk, current best practice, industry knowledge and the legislative responsibilities of territorial authorities.

3.5 **SUBMISSION No 002**

3.6 Illegal dumping is a costly problem for many rural councils and there is no easy fix.

3.7 **SUBMISSION No 003**

3.8 A small resale shop currently operates from the Te Kuiti Transfer Station, and this may be expanded once the future of the Landfill is decided. As well as standard recycling the Transfer Station also accepts a diverse range of materials for recycling or recovery such as paint, used oil, gas and oil heaters, gas bottles, whiteware, timber, tyres, bitumen, concrete, scrap steel, batteries, e-waste and household hazardous waste. New materials are added as markets develop e.g. there is now a market for recycling child car seats. The levels of service provided for rural residents will be assessed and alternative options may be identified. Council's focus will be looking at increased levels of diversion for the largest waste types that go into the landfill currently.

3.9 **SUBMISSION No 004**

3.10 The framework for waste management and minimisation in New Zealand is a result of five pieces of legislation and strategic policy documents. The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 requires councils to have regard to the national Waste Strategy when preparing our WMMP. This ensures that the Council can have local flexibility in the WMMP while still adhering to the national goals. The development of the WMMP is undertaken in accordance with MfE Guidelines. A WMMP must have regard to the waste hierarchy, the national Waste Strategy and Council's most recent Waste Assessment (completed in August 2023).

3.11 We appreciate that some communities / marae / residents / groups / schools etc. may already be undertaking some of the proposed activities in the Action Plan tables. The activities do not go into operational detail, as that will evolve as staff commence each activity. There is flexibility in the phasing of the activities to ensure that activities can be applied as required, without unnecessary duplication, and in no way diminishing the efforts already made by some. Timeframes for the actions are provided to ensure sufficient resources (financial and staff) are available to complete all actions within the six-year period of the WMMP. However, that doesn't preclude activities being undertaken earlier if resources allow.

3.12 Incorporating marae into the targets is consistent with the national waste strategy, which adheres to the guidelines established by the Ministry for the Environment.

3.13 **Action No 5** – Council already has Ministry for Environment funding approved to undertake a feasibility study for kerbside organics collection in Te Kuiti. The feasibility study is a collaboration with Otorohanga District Council.

3.14 **Action No 11** – Risk assessments should be done on all closed landfills, not just those that are potentially floodable. Other hazards such as landslides, earthquakes, or seismic activity are also to be considered.

3.15 **Action No 8** – Upgrading the functionality of the Te Kuiti Transfer Station will be considered once a decision on the future of the Landfill is made. This could include a resource recovery hub where the benefits flow directly back to the community.

3.16 The national Emissions Reduction Plan is addressing the complex issue of construction and demolition waste from a national perspective, which is preferable to each Council attempting to fund and manage these waste materials at a local level.

3.17 Two strategic goals were included in the 2018 WMMP, and the first goal of ensuring the safe disposal of waste to protect our natural environment was achieved, without any health and safety breaches or resource consent non-compliance. The second goal of minimising waste

disposal within the district was not achieved as waste generated within the district and disposed to landfill increased from 3,829 to 4,917 tonnes, an increase of 28%.

- 3.18 There were 55 service requests for illegal dumping in 2023, and the tonnage is included in total waste to landfill. Information on diverted materials is included in the Waste Assessment as follows:
- All collected recycling is transported to EnviroNZ's depot in Otorohanga to be sorted and then transported to the Hamilton Material Recovery Facility for further processing, and on-selling to national and global markets for use in consumer goods.
 - All greenwaste is chipped and used as daily and /or intermediate cover on the Landfill.
 - E-waste is collected by E-Cycle to be broken down into component parts, which are on-sold to specialist recyclers for reuse in new products.
 - Metals are removed by scrap metal dealers.
 - Household hazardous waste is collected by a licensed Haz Waste service provider and transported to a treatment facility in Auckland.
- 3.19 The author of the report has been in the waste industry since 1992, variously serving as Branch Manager for a private waste company, Senior Manager at a publicly listed waste company, Solid Waste Engineer in Local Government, Consulting Engineer, Ministerial Advisor on the Waste Advisory board and now Independent Consultant to Local Government. The brief was to prepare the Waste Assessment and WMMP in line with the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.
- 3.20 Target No. 4 wording - We're unable to rephrase Target No. 4 as the term "diversion" is a technical term utilised by Ministry for Environment.
- 3.21 The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) is, with the goals outlined in the Emissions Reduction Plan, aiming to decrease and redirect construction and demolition waste for beneficial purposes. This initiative is currently underway at the Te Kuiti Landfill. However, it is not within the routine responsibilities of the Waitomo District Council to provide construction and demolition containers for on-site collections.
- 3.22 **SUBMISSION No 005**
- 3.23 The opportunities and benefits from further collaboration with the Waikato Regional Council and neighbouring councils are welcomed. The information and support provided through these networks is invaluable to smaller councils who may have limited resources. We acknowledge the support and valuable advice provided in the submission and welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with the Waikato Regional Council.
- 3.24 **SUBMISSION No 006**
- 3.25 We appreciate that partnership with the private waste sector could expedite the provision of additional infrastructure and services for our District. We acknowledge the support and valuable advice provided in the submission and welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with the private waste sector.

Recommendations from Submission Hearing

- 4.1 Target No. 3 of the WMMP be revised to state – With the support and input from marae Waitomo District Council aims to distribute information on the Oranga Taiao zero waste education program to 50% of the district's marae by 2029.

Suggested Resolutions

- 1 The business paper on Deliberation of Submissions to the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan be received.
- 2 Target No. 3 of the WMMP be revised to state - With the support and input from marae Waitomo District Council aims to distribute information on the Oranga Taiao zero waste education program to 50% of the district's marae by 2029.



ROMARIO PEREIRA
FACILITIES OFFICER



LIZ RILEY
PROPERTIES AND FACILITIES MANAGER



SHYAMAL RAM
GENERAL MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

8 May 2024

Separate Enclosure: Submissions Booklet