



PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Draft West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan

Issued 4 July 2018

Submissions close at 5pm on 18 August 2018

Summary of Proposal

All Councils are required under the Waste Minimisation Act (WMA) 2008 to consider the current situation with regards to waste minimisation and management in their area and set out how they will progress efficient and effective waste management and minimisation.

This process is documented in a **Waste Assessment** and future direction and actions are set out in a **Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (WMMP)**.

The last Waste Assessment on each West Coast district was carried out in 2011/2012 and final WMMPs were adopted by the Buller, Grey and Westland Districts in 2012 (following public consultation).

These waste assessments and WMMPs need to be reviewed and adopted every six years.

Why is this being proposed?

A joint WMMP can be developed as an efficient and effective way for Councils to complete strategic planning for waste minimisation and management. This time round Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils have elected to proceed with a regional approach for the required review.

Each Waste Assessment evaluated current quantities and composition of waste and diverted materials in the district, existing services, future demand for services and practicable options for addressing the various waste and diverted materials streams.

These Waste Assessments have been reviewed and updated in the form of a Regional Waste Assessment to reflect the changes that have occurred locally, regionally and nationally since 2011/2012 and also to meet the requirements of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

A WMMP must contain a summary of Council's waste management and minimisation objectives, policies, methods and funding to achieve effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the district. The WMMP must also include a commitment to waste minimisation through consideration of the waste hierarchy and must have regard to the New Zealand Waste Strategy and the most recent Waste Assessment undertaken by Council. In addition, Councils must ensure that nuisance is not caused by the collection, transport and disposal of waste.

The draft **West Coast Regional Waste Assessment** describes the waste situation, sets out vision, goals objectives and targets for the Region and develops options for meeting future demand.

The draft **West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan** summarises the information presented in the Waste Assessment and adds an action plan.

The purpose of the WMMP is to provide the basis on which future policies, service provision and facilities will be provided to manage the Region's waste and to minimise the quantities requiring disposal while making the best use of Council's resources and fostering sustainability.

What is being proposed?

The Regional Waste Assessment has identified that over 15,000 tonnes of waste was generated in the West Coast Region in 2016. Around 70% of this waste went to the landfill, with the remainder diverted, either by recycling or composting. This diversion occurs predominantly through recycling at kerbside and transfer stations and recovery green waste for mulch or compost.

ISSUES

The Waste Assessment has identified a range of waste management and minimisation issues to be addressed, including:

While there is some information available about the quantity and composition of waste generated in the West Coast Region, the data is incomplete.
There is a lack of consistent services for visitors, residents and businesses across the Region.
There are bylaws in place in Grey and Westland Districts that provide for collection of data, however they are not currently enforced.
Waste at tourism hotspots and illegal dumping of waste is an ongoing issue.
Costs for waste minimisation and management services in the region are relatively high (but likely reasonable in light of scale and transport distances.)

The overall vision of the WMMP is:

“To deliver community benefits and reduce waste. West Coast businesses and households will be provided with efficient and effective waste minimisation and management services.”

PROPOSED TARGETS

A series of waste minimisation and management targets are proposed:

To reduce waste disposed of to landfill to below 300kg per person each year.
To recycle at least 35% of waste collected at the roadside from households.
To recover or recycle at least 50% of the waste taken to transfer stations in the West Coast Region.
To establish 5 recycle and waste stations at tourism hotspots across the Region.

PROPOSED ACTION PLAN

To address the issues identified and meet the key targets, Council proposes a range of actions. These actions reflect the need to balance policy, provision of services including infrastructure and community engagement. In all cases the focus is on enabling the West Coast community to manage their waste according to the waste hierarchy, preferring waste avoidance, reduction and recycling over recovery and disposal of residual material.

Actions relate to both continuing and enhancing existing activities and starting new activities and initiatives. The Action Plan is dynamic and needs to be responsive to changes in demand, resources and external circumstances. Making such changes and adjustments is anticipated as an integral part of this WMMP.

The Action Plan includes actions focusing on waste minimisation and management infrastructure, education of the West Coast community and getting the right policy framework in place.

INFRASTRUCTURE ACTIONS
Investigate and maintain a watch on wheelie bin based user pays technology for refuse collection.
Investigate a transition to two stream (co-mingle recyclables + separate glass) for kerbside recycling services across the Region.
Investigate ¹ a periodic garden waste collection service (most likely combined with a bulky waste collection service).
Investigate optimising services for bulky household waste including the role of the regional transfer station network and potential bulky waste collections (scheduled for all households or on demand).
Implement recycle/waste stations at tourism hotspots across the West Coast - trial the approach in Buller District (North Beach, Punakaiki) and then roll out to other locations.
Investigate/trial ² dry waste (construction waste, commercial waste) sorting including the use of charging to incentivise semi-sorted loads at key transfer stations.
Implement processing of shredded green waste and sludge in Greymouth, Hokitika (and potentially Reefton).
Investigate consolidating Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) operations and options for glass (local processing and beneficial use).
Investigate combining Grey and northern Westland District refuse disposal in the medium term (as cells at Butlers and/or McLean's Landfills are completed).
Maintain a watch on the Westport waste to energy proposal.

EDUCATION ACTIONS
Continue to update and maintain information on waste and recycling collection and drop off services in the West Coast Region on Council websites and information for visitors.
Disseminate information on waste minimisation and management to all residents (including holiday makers/temporary residents) including national programmes like 'Love Food Hate Waste'.
Maintaining school education programme , support existing environmental education activities for schools, homes and businesses.

POLICY ACTIONS
Develop criteria for making grants available from Council's allocation of Waste Levy funds. Provisionally criteria will be based on contribution to the Vision, Goals and Objectives for waste minimisation and management with consideration of co-funding. Applications for funding should also be assessed for their ability to deliver the promised benefits, ie due diligence on organisation capability, governance and accountability.
Develop a regional Solid Waste Bylaw and associated implementation plan targeting implementation of a licencing regime in 2019.
Continue to report on progress against the targets in the WMMP in Annual Reports.
Collaborate with central government, local government organisations, non-government organisations (NGO) and other key stakeholders to progress national activity on waste minimisation and management policy ³ .

¹ Detailed analysis of options considering cost of service, diversion of materials, fairness/equity, safety and protection of the environment (illegal dumping).

² Look at Westport, Reefton, McLeans and Hokitika transfer stations, detailed analysis of options considering cost of service, diversion of materials, fairness/equity, safety and protection of the environment (illegal dumping).

³ Including policy and analysis relating to tourism waste.

POLICY ACTIONS

Continue to actively address illegal dumping activity including where possible identifying perpetrators and if required undertaking clean-up activity.

Council will fund these actions through a combination of targeted rates, user pays fees and charges and waste levy funding.

The above actions are intended to provide a wide ranging approach to waste services in the West Coast Region to protect public health promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation.

Where to find more information

The draft Regional Waste Assessment and draft Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (WMMP) can be collected from any of the Council's service and community Centres, from Council's main offices or downloaded from the each of the Council's websites.

Council	Westland District Council	Grey District Council	Buller District Council
Web address	www.westlanddc.govt.nz	www.greydc.govt.nz	www.bullerdc.govt.nz
Main office	36 Weld Street, Hokitika	105 Tainui St, Greymouth	6-8 Brougham St, Westport
Telephone	0800 474 834	03 769 8600	0800 807 239
Service centre(s)		Runanga Service Centre Greymouth District Library	Reefton Service Centre

How to have your say

We want to hear feedback from our communities on the draft West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan. **Key questions** include:

1. Do you agree with the Council's vision for waste minimisation and management?
2. Have the Councils set the right targets for waste minimisation and management?
3. Councils regularly consider a range of options for managing waste that cannot be reused or recycled. What are the key considerations Council should take into account?
4. The draft Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan commits Councils to considering a range of additional activities. What would you support being introduced in the West Coast Region?

We want to hear from as many people as possible before a decision is made, so please have your say today.

All submissions must be in writing. Submissions can be made by completing the easy online **survey** or by filling out survey forms available from each Council. Refer to your Council website for full details.

You are welcome to speak in person in support of your submission – if you wish to do this, please clearly indicate this in your submission. Submissions will be heard and considered at a hearing after the closing date – final date to be confirmed.

Submissions close at **5pm on 18 August 2018**.

Every submission made to the Council will be acknowledged in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002, copied and made available to the public.