

West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

Prepared for: Buller District Council, Grey District Council, and Westland District Council

Prepared by: Tonkin + Taylor



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Contact details:

Website: www.tonkintaylor.co.nz

Address: Level 3, 161 Victoria Street, Wellington, 6011

Tonkin & Taylor Ltd
Environmental and Engineering Consultants

Report prepared by:



Adrienne Kozlowski
Resource Recovery Consultant

Report reviewed by:



Hannah Kelly
Project Manager

Authorised for Tonkin & Taylor Ltd by:





Chris Purchas
Project Director

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WMMP on a page

Current situation

2022/23 waste quantities (tonnes)			
	Landfill 	Recovery 	Regional recovery
Transfer station	10,887	1,085	9%
Kerbside	5,375	1,794	33%

Key legislation and policy

- Waste Strategy – Te rautaki para
- Waste Minimisation Act
- Emissions Reduction Plan

What is working well?

- Enviroschools campaign
- Kerbside collections
- Access to services

Where do we want to be?

Vision:
“By 2030, our enabling systems are working well, and behaviour is changing”

Goal 1

The building blocks are in place to enable change.

Goal 2

More activity is circular, and we produce less waste.

Goal 3

Emissions and other environmental indicators are improving.

What improvement is required?

Consistent data collection

Regional diversion from landfill

Alignment in services across the region

Understanding of waste from tourism sector

Organic material recovery

Options assessment

How do we get there?

- Creating partnership with iwi, industry, businesses and community groups.
- Making diversion easy by investing in recovery of organic materials (food, garden and timber waste).
- Supporting circular processes (product stewardship schemes).
- Advocating central government for change to encourage circular systems (keeping materials in cycle for as long as possible).
- Continue developing our behaviour change education.
- Working on the resilience of our waste services.

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (the Plan) outlines how the West Coast will progress efficient and effective waste management and minimisation within the region. It explores the implications of the Government’s Waste and Resource Efficiency Strategy (2025), for the West Coast councils and proposes the district’s approach to delivering waste management and minimisation services.

The Plan has been designed to meet each Council’s obligations to evaluate and plan for waste minimisation and management in their district under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

1.2 Scope

The Plan covers the whole of the West Coast and reflects a regional approach to minimising waste through regional collaboration.

All solid waste whether it is landfilled or diverted material is considered in this Plan, which includes items being reused, recycled, or composted. Liquid and gas wastes are managed through other policies are not in the scope of this Plan.

1.3 The life of this plan

This is the draft of a new plan developed to replace the region’s 2018 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. This Plan will go out for public consultation and the Council will seek feedback on the Plan.

The Plan will be reviewed six years from the approval date unless it is reviewed in the interim.



2 Context

2.1 Strategic context

The role of territorial authorities is shaped by policies, plans and regulations. This ensures progress is made towards agreed pathways and priorities at a regional and/or national level.

There is wide a range of statutory documents and associated policy that impacts on waste minimisation and management in the West Coast Region. These are summarised in Figure 2.1 and further detail is provided in the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment (2024) in Appendix C.

Waste Minimisation Act 2008	Waste and Resource Efficiency Strategy	Climate Change Response Act 2002
Resource Management Act 1991 (under review)	Emissions Reduction Plan 2022	Health Act 1956
Local Government Act 2002	Waste Disposal Levy Expansion	National Plastics Action Plan
	West Coast WMMP 2018	West Coast District Councils Long Term Plans

Figure 2.1: Key statutory documents and policy.

Waste and Resource Efficiency Strategy

The Government’s Waste and Resource Efficiency Strategy details the future direction of waste management and minimisation in Aotearoa New Zealand. The strategy defines outcomes to address waste disposal, reuse/recycling, and emissions, litter, environmental and contaminated land impacts resulting from waste management (Figure 2.2).



1. Including, where relevant, consideration of impacts not just associated with disposal.

Figure 2.2: The Government’s waste and resource efficiency strategy outcomes (MfE, 2025).

The strategy provides a summary of activities that will enable these outcomes to be achieved. These activities are:

- Fit-for-purpose legislation that supports:
 - An efficient market for waste management and recycling;
 - Optimal investment decisions; and
 - Appropriate responsibilities across the supply chain.
- Cost-effective, outcomes-focused investment of the waste disposal levy in infrastructure, innovation and local projects.

- Working with the sector, business, iwi/Māori, local government and communities to develop and implement practical cost-effective solutions.
- Where necessary, targeted policy and regulatory measures.
- Using the waste hierarchy to guide decision-making, enabling us to keep resources in the economy at their highest value where possible.

The strategy does not mandate or propose targets and does not explicitly reference a Circular Economy Approach. However, Council has decided to broadly align with the targets in the previous strategy (Te rautaki para | Waste Strategy) and a wider circular economy approach. This is given their alignment towards council’s own outcomes including those of the West Coast region.

These targets were:

- 1 **Waste generation:** reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10 per cent per person.
- 2 **Waste disposal:** reduce the amount of material that needs final disposal by 30 per cent per person.
- 3 **Waste emissions:** reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by at least 30 per cent.

Circular Economy

A circular economy as described by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) is:

“an alternative to the traditional linear economy in which we keep resources in use for as long as possible, extract the maximum value from

them whilst in use, then recover and regenerate products and materials at the end of each service life.”¹

There are three core principles of a circular economy:

- 1 Design out waste and pollution.
- 2 Keep products and materials in use.
- 3 Regenerate natural systems.

Figure 2.3 illustrates the relationship between a circular economy (the central circle) and the role of policy (national and local), infrastructure and education.

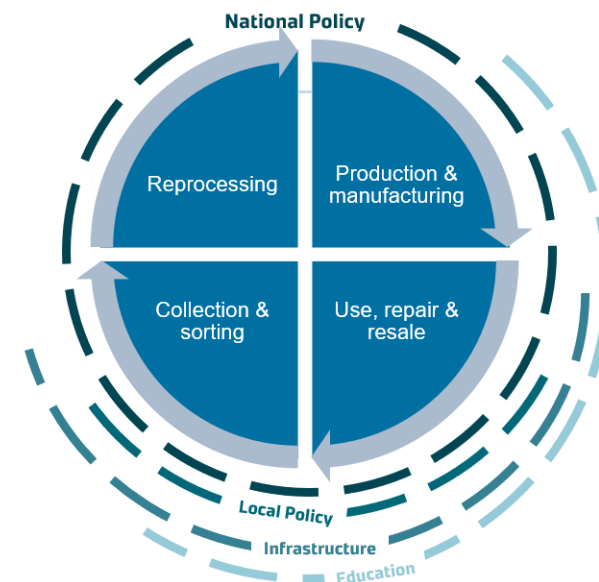


Figure 2.3: Circular economy.

¹ <https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/areas-of-work/waste/ohanga-amiomio-circular-economy/>

Waste hierarchy

The Circular Economy emphasises the designing out of waste and pollution. In line with this thinking, the waste hierarchy (Figure 2.4) is a useful framework to prioritise waste avoidance and actions that support a Circular Economy. Where value cannot be recovered from the materials, or there is no current market for the material the focus is on safe treatment and disposal.

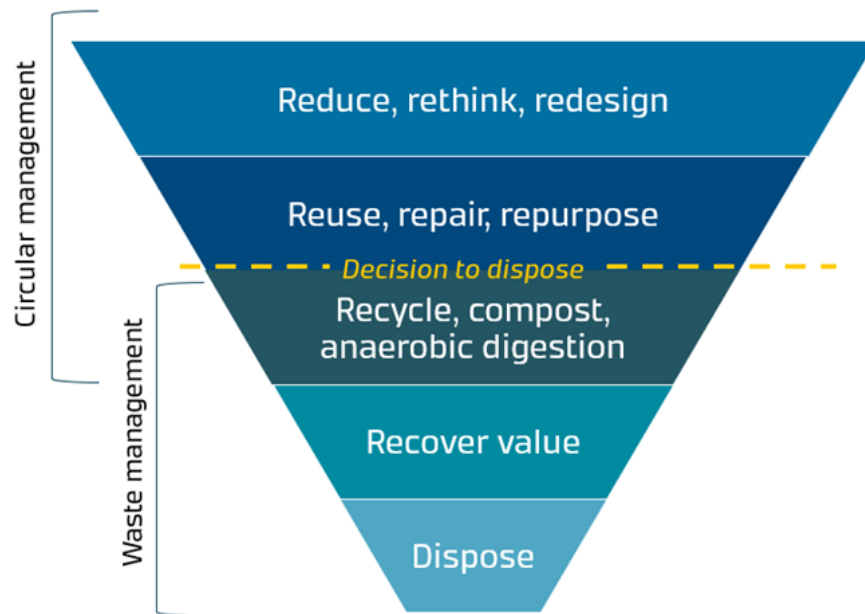


Figure 2.4: The Waste Hierarchy.

Regional characteristics

The West Coast's most notable characteristics which influence the waste management and minimisation system include:

- **Relatively sparsely populated area** – 32,700 (2023) across approximately 23,245 km².
- **High numbers of tourists, expected to increase.** In 2023, there was an average of 160,000 visitors to the region each month, which is greater than four times the number of residents passing through the region monthly.
- **Key industries** include electricity, gas, water, and waste services (14% of GDP, 2023), agriculture, forestry, and fishing (13.8% of GDP, 2023), and mining (8.4% of GDP, 2023).
- Strong history of **regional collaboration** across the councils.

2.2 The waste situation

This section considers the current situation and how we have progressed on the goals and targets established in our last WMMP (2018) including:

- Key achievements.
- Where our waste comes from and what we do with it.
- How much waste we generate as a region.
- How much waste we are recovering and recycling.

It also considers how waste services may change for our region in the next six years.

What have we achieved?

A high-level summary of what has been achieved over the last WMMP period is shown in Figure 2.5.

Key highlights include:

- There are 20 EnviroSchools within the West Coast Region, including five Eco early childhood education centres and 15 schools.
- Multiple diversion partnerships established, including TechCollect for e-waste diversion, small appliance recycling with EnviroNZ, Mitre 10 drop off points for polystyrene and plant pots, and household battery diversion.
- Investigations taking place for two resource recovery projects:
 - Regional construction and demolition (C&D) material reprocessing.
 - Feasibility of regional organic processing solutions.

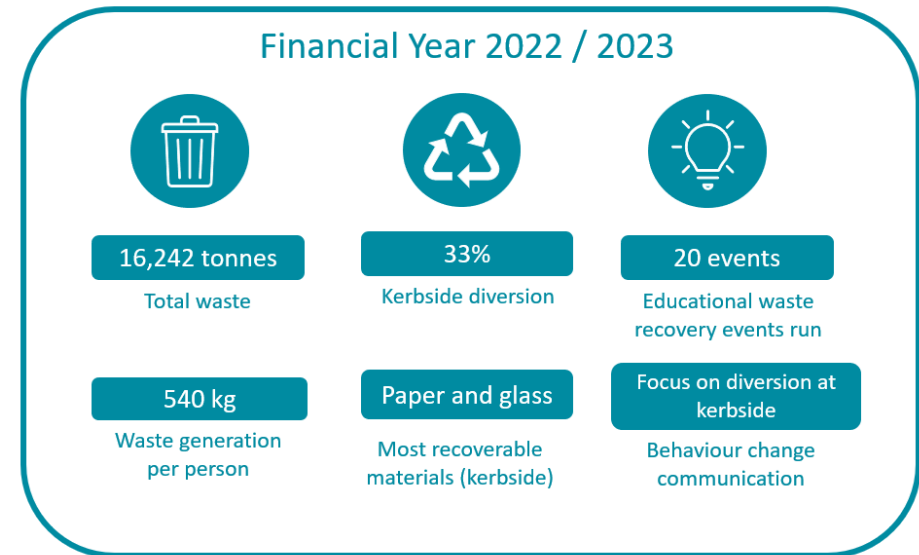


Figure 2.5: Summary of what has been achieved.

Infrastructure and services

Waste in the region is generally collected via kerbside collection (residential) or dropped off by domestic and commercial customers at transfer stations, recycling centres, resource centres and directly to landfill.

A range of services and infrastructure is provided across the region, as outlined in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1: Summary of waste infrastructure and services in region

Waste hierarchy	Infrastructure/service	Buller	Grey	Westland
Reduce, rethink, redesign	Education	Enviro schools, council website, and sharing information	Enviro schools, council website and sharing information	Enviro schools, council website and sharing information
Reuse, repair, repurpose	Second hand trading	Op shops	Op shops including McLean’s Pit Reuse and recovery shop	Magpies Nest re-use shop (Hokitika Transfer Station)
Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Collection	Kerbside collection in all the urban areas of the District	Kerbside collection in certain parts of the district	Kerbside collection in certain parts of the district
	Transfer stations and reuse centre	Westport and Reefton Transfer Stations Maruia Recycling Centre Karamea Resource Centre	Blackball, Moana, and Nelson Creek Resource Centres McLean’s Pit and Preston Road Recycling Centre	Kumara, Hokitika, Ross, Harihari, Whataroa, Franz Josef, Fox Glacier and Haast transfer stations.
	Organic waste collection/drop off	Some transfer stations/resource centres accept green waste drop off	Some transfer stations/resource centres accept green waste drop off	Some transfer stations/resource centres accept green waste drop off
Recovery	Agrichemical drop off	Agrecovery drop off sites at Reefton transfer stations and Westport Farmlands.	Agrecovery drop off sites at Greymouth Farmlands.	Agrecovery drop off sites at Hokitika Transfer Station.
	Alternative drop off	E-waste collection available at transfer stations across all three districts. Diversion partnership with TechCollect. Mitre 10 diversion for polystyrene and plant pots at Mitre10 stores. Household battery diversion available at transfer stations across all three districts Small appliance recycling at Hokitika transfer station with EnviroNZ		
Treat	Hazardous waste	Household quantities of hazardous waste are accepted	Household quantities of hazardous waste are accepted	Household quantities of hazardous waste are accepted
Dispose	Collection	Kerbside collection in all the urban areas of the District	Kerbside collection in certain parts of the district	Kerbside collection in certain parts of the district
	Public place bins	39 urban bins, 36 bins in parks and reserves	170 litter bins – currently under review	39 town landfill waste and recycling bins

Waste hierarchy	Infrastructure/service	Buller	Grey	Westland
	Transfer stations	Westport and Reefton Transfer Stations Maruia Recycling Centre Karamea Resource Centre	Blackball, Moana, and Nelson Creek Resource Centres McLean's Pit and Preston Road Recycling Centre	Kumara, Hokitika, Ross, Harihari, Whataroa, Franz Josef, Fox Glacier and Haast transfer stations
	Landfill	Maruia and Karamea Landfills All landfill waste collected at Westport, Reefton and through kerbside collection is taken to York Landfill in Nelson.	McLean's Pit Landfill	Butlers Landfill

Waste composition and flows

Waste generation in the West Coast accounts for all materials which are thrown away in landfill waste bins (red bins) and recycling/glass bins (yellow bins and blue glass crates). This waste comes through two main sources:

- 1 Kerbside collection (landfill waste and recycling that is collected from your household).
- 2 Public/commercial waste drop-off facilities.

In 2022/23 the West Coast generated 16,241 tonnes of waste, including landfill waste, recycling, and material that can be diverted from landfill. Figure 2.6 depicts the sources of waste showing 10,867 tonnes (67%) is from drop-off to waste facilities in the region with 5,375 tonnes (33%) from kerbside collection services.

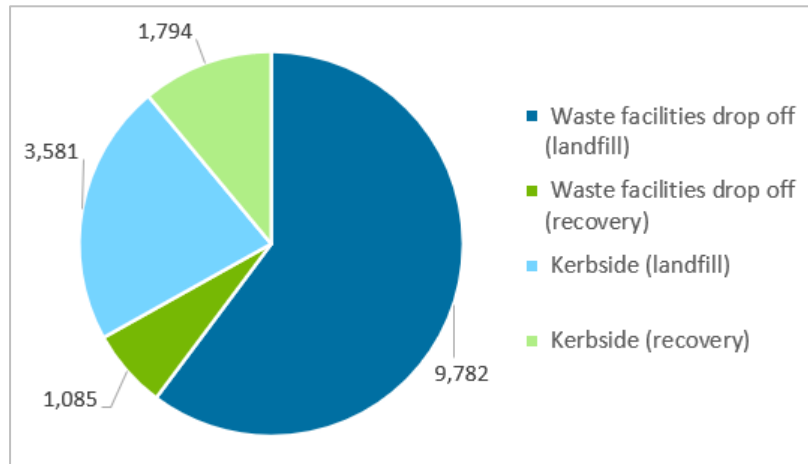


Figure 2.6: West Coast waste generation 2022/23 by source.

Kerbside waste

Kerbside waste services across the West Coast include landfill, co-mingled recycling, and glass collection². Figure 2.7 shows how the 5,375 tonnes of kerbside waste are spread across these services.

Currently 33% of the total waste collected at kerbside is diverted through co-mingled bins and glass crates. This is just under the >35% target for 2023 which was set in the 2018 WMMP, demonstrating the region is on track to achieving this target.

With Westland District Council introducing a glass kerbside collection service in 2025, and reduction of kerbside contamination remaining a priority for the councils, the region is well placed to align their next target with the national target for 2030. Figure 2.8 shows actual progress towards 2024 targets.



Figure 2.7: Total waste collected at kerbside.

² Westland District Council will be implementing a glass collection in 2025.

Currently, waste to landfill from kerbside services is 3,581 tonnes per year, equating to 402 kg per person per year. The target set in the previous Waste Strategy for 2030 is to achieve a 10% reduction in waste generation per person and 30% in the amount of waste which requires final disposal (landfill).

As such the West Coast need to focus on reducing the generation of waste and focus on recovering material where possible. Data suggests that 1,118 tonnes of recoverable material is disposed of through the kerbside landfill waste bin annually. Through continued education with the community, the recoverable material has potential to be diverted from the landfill waste bin which could increase kerbside diversion from 33% to 54%. Further work is required to reduce the overall generation of waste.

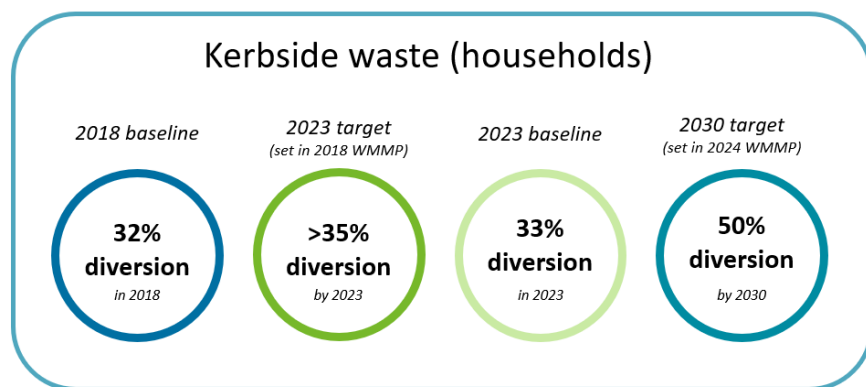


Figure 2.8: Kerbside diversion tracking against targets.

Transfer stations and resource centres

There are currently 15 waste and material recovery facilities in the region. Volumes of waste and diverted material across the recovery facilities in the region varies significantly. The current diversion rate across these

facilities is 18% which is significantly under the target set in the 2018 WMMP of >50% diversion (Figure 2.9).

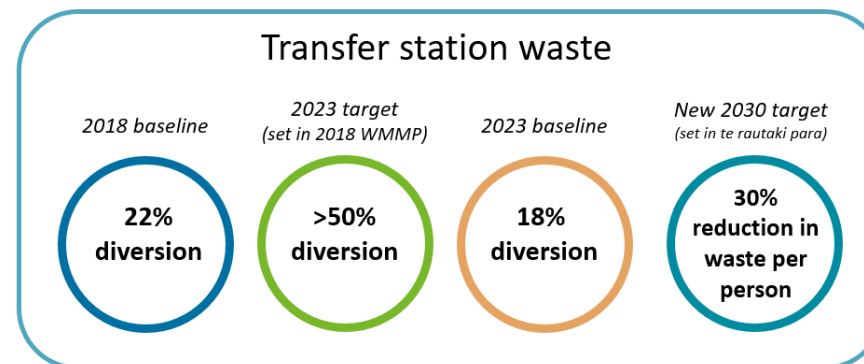


Figure 2.9: Transfer station diversion tracking against targets.

As with kerbside collections, there are significant opportunities to increase the diversion of materials at these recovery facilities particularly as materials directly dropped off represent 66% of the total waste.

Total waste to landfill

The total waste to landfill from across the region is detailed in Figure 2.10. Overall waste is increasing year on year since 2018/19, noting a significant peak in 2020/21 due to the relocation of waste from Fox Glacier Landfill.

It is expected that increasing costs of waste disposal to landfill resulting from the waste levy expansion and emissions trading scheme will drive a reduction in waste to landfill. The region will need to support this through offering recovery options for commonly disposed of waste materials

including a kerbside food waste collection, construction materials and other recoverable materials.

The total waste disposed (including recovery and landfill waste) per capita is described in two scenarios below:

- 1 400 kg per person – excluding the estimated impact of tourism in the region.
- 2 540 kg per person – including the impact of tourism in the region (i.e., using actual waste figures with no exclusions).

The second scenario, using actual waste data, has been relatively consistent for the last three years, and shows an increase of 102 kg per person since the 2018/19 baseline figure. Further information on how tourism impacts total waste quantities in the West Coast is provided in Section 5.3 of the Waste Assessment.

Viewing waste generation per person in line with the previous waste strategy (Te rautaki para) targets, the West Coast needs to work collaboratively to bring total waste generation down 10% per person and total waste to landfill down 30% per person over the next six years.

Future waste projections

Forecasting the potential waste generated in the region allows us to consider how expected population and household growth, changes to service, or planned construction and demolition activities may influence council’s role in managing waste. The forecast excluding visitor waste estimates are detailed in Figure 2.11.

Figure 2.11 presents waste generation (landfill waste in blue and recoverable waste in green) from 2019 to 2023. The projections shown from 2023 to 2048 are in the lightly shaded section of the graph which is based on current population projections from Stats NZ and assumes no changes to the waste services offered in the region. This data stresses the

importance of reducing total waste generation and waste disposal (waste to landfill).

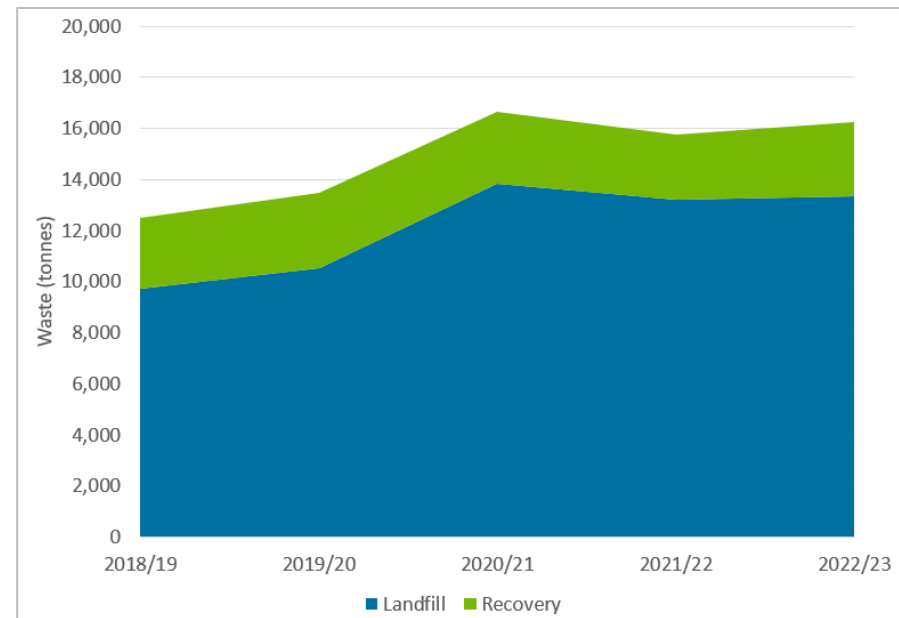


Figure 2.10: Total waste disposed to landfill (excluding the relocation of waste from Fox Glacier Landfill).

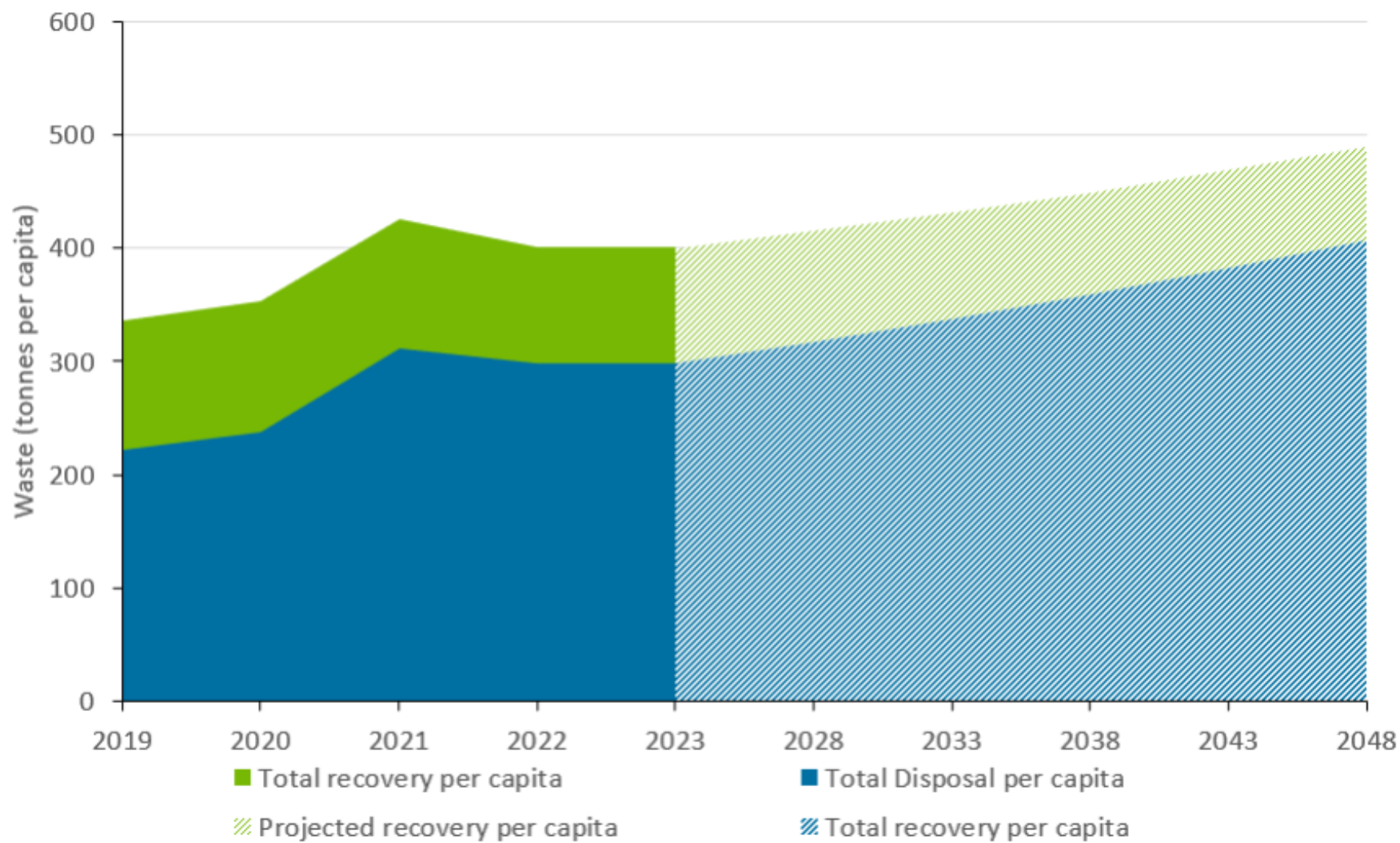


Figure 2.11: Future forecast waste generation per capita based on population forecast (visitor waste estimations excluded).

Challenges and opportunities

Analysis conducted in the Waste Assessment, attached as Appendix C, identified issues and opportunities which should remain a priority when planning waste management and minimisation in the region. These are summarised below.

- Continued, or enhanced, regional collaboration creates an opportunity to boost economies of scale and support a lot of the following opportunities/challenges.
- Affordability of meeting the future national targets is an increasing challenge for the West Coast councils, partly due to low population density.
- Streamlining data collection across all Council services.
- There is considerable opportunity to increase the capture of materials (specifically paper, plastic, metals, and organic materials) for diversion.
- Streamlining kerbside collections with all Councils offering the same service, and planning for new services as required, in line with the national kerbside standardisation. We recognise that work is currently underway to increase recovery from kerbside through the combined procurement work with Grey and Westland.
- Increasing the availability of information regarding waste diversion, infrastructure, and current performance to rate payers and members of the public online and in other methods to increase buy-in.
- Focus on sectors likely to generate more waste in the future including:
 - Agricultural waste – ensuring farmers make informed decisions on waste management and appropriate services for their sector.
 - Mining waste – considering the increases in waste volumes and types from the industry.
- Reporting of emissions associated with waste services and management does not currently take place. As part of the National Strategy tracking of this data will need to start taking place.
- Education and behaviour change are important to reduce the generation of materials, enhance the use of existing infrastructure, improve the capture of materials for recycling and recovery, address contamination in recycling and illegal dumping.
- There is currently limited information available on contamination in kerbside recycling which makes it difficult to track progress. Work is required to record this data and understand underlying barriers to recycling well, alongside leveraging national policy change such as alignment with national standardisation of what is collected for recycling.
- Waste from tourism is expected to increase therefore work to support the procurement of goods and consumables from tourism providers and careful planning around communication and infrastructure available to tourists to encourage diversion of waste is essential to successful recovery in the region, in particular Westland.
- There is no disposal facility (landfill) in the Buller District - landfill waste is transported out of region to Nelson. There is also a lack of hardfill and hazardous waste facilities in Buller District.

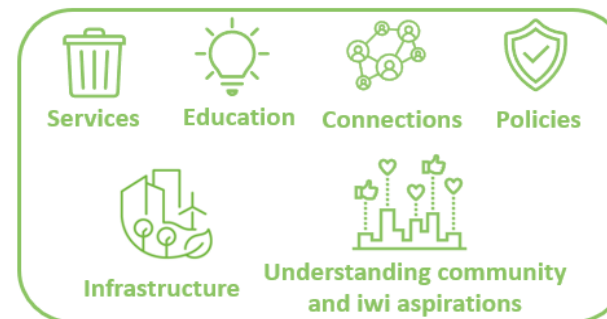


Figure 2.12: Opportunities for the West Coast.

3 Where do we want to be?

3.1 Where do we want to focus now?

This section introduces the vision, goals, objectives, and targets (strategic framework) for waste management and minimisation in the West Coast. Together, the vision, goals, objectives, and targets establish the planning foundations for the waste management and minimisation plan (WMMP).

3.2 Strategic framework

The relationship between Vision, Goals, and Objectives is illustrated in Figure 3.1.



Figure 3.1: Vision, goals, objectives, and targets.

The West Coast Councils have aligned, in the context of their region, to the vision, goals, and objectives with that of the national Waste Strategy. This ensures the WMMP will be future proofed, and the region will be well positioned to adapt to national direction.

Vision

The region’s vision statement is reflective of consultation with the community, and the framework outlined in the previous waste strategy (Te rautaki para, the Waste Strategy).

Our vision statement is:

“By 2030, our enabling systems are working well, and behaviour is changing.”

Goals

To deliver on the West Coast vision for waste management and minimisation, the Councils have aligned to the three goals set out in the previous waste strategy (Te rautaki para). These are described in Figure 3.2.



Figure 3.2: Goals for waste management and minimisation.

Objectives

The objectives set out for the region reflect the targets outlined by Central Government in the Waste and Resource Efficiency Strategy, and other policy documents. These have been adapted to reflect the regional context.

- 1 To drive and support change through our plans and engagements by looking at the big picture/taking a systems [or holistic] approach.
- 2 To establish a regional network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials.
- 3 To take responsibility as a region for how we manage and dispose of things, and to be accountable for our actions and their consequences.
- 4 To consume less, and use what we have for longer by repairing, reusing, sharing, and repurposing.
- 5 To ensure our resource recovery systems are effective, and to make use of key infrastructure outside of the region, where appropriate.
- 6 To look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste (where possible), sustainably and without increasing emissions, before final disposal.
- 7 To acknowledge our role as a region to reduce emissions and start to track emissions from our significant sources.
- 8 To identify and manage contaminated land in a way that reduces waste and emissions and enhances the environment.

3.3 Targets and measurement

The targets set out for the region reflect the targets outlined by Central Government in the Waste and Resource Efficiency Strategy, and other policy documents, and have been adapted to reflect the regional context. Where Councils had undertaken action on the target, regardless of whether this had been partially or fully met, the target was amended to take the next intuitive step.

The Strategy has the following national targets that the West Coast, alongside the rest of the country, must aim to achieving by 2030:

- Waste Generation: reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10 per cent per person.
- Waste Disposal: reduce the amount of material that needs final disposal by 30 per cent per person; and
- Waste Emissions: reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by at least 30 per cent.

Performance standards, specific to national kerbside standardisation, have also been set by Central Government, which the Councils must aim to achieve. Of the total household waste placed at kerbside, Councils will need to divert:

- 30 per cent by 2026.
- 40 per cent by 2028; and
- 50 per cent by 2030.

In addition, targets should also align with Councils' Long Term Plan performance measures and Asset Management Plan key performance indicators. The targets in Table 3.1 align with these, and the expected performance of proposed priority actions outlined in Section 9.6 of the Waste Assessment.

It is important to recognise the challenges that the region will face in meeting the national targets, primarily due to the significant levels of transient visitors that travel through the region annually (look to Waste Assessment Section 5.3 for more information).

Table 3.1 compares the:

- targets set in 2018 (for 2022/23),
- actual data for 2022/23 (progress against 2018 targets), and
- new targets set in this WMMP to be achieved by 2030.

The table clearly displays the targets that have been carried forward from the 2018 WMMP and the next intuitive step to improve waste performance in the region. Targets that are, at the time of writing, required by central government are also clearly indicated.

It is useful to note that the targets 1, 2, and 3 are based on the forecasted waste figures using population estimates. If the population estimates prove to be incorrect, the target may change accordingly.

For further detail on district specific performance against 2018 targets reference Table Appendix A.1 in Appendix A.

Table 3.1: WMMP targets

	Target	Unit	2022/23 target (set in 2018 WMMP)	2022/23 baseline	2030 Regional Target
			<i>What did we aim to achieve?</i>	<i>What have we achieved?</i>	<i>What would we like to achieve?</i>
Waste generation					
1	Reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10% per person by 2030	kg per capita per annum	<300	494	445
Waste to landfill					
2	Reduce the total waste tonnes per capita going to landfill by 30% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	-	402	282
3	Reduce the total waste tonnes per dwelling going to landfill from the Council kerbside collection by 30% per person by 2030	kg per capita per annum	-	573	401
Diversion of waste					
4	Increase the amount of household waste diverted to recycling (Council provided kerbside collection only)	% diversion from landfill	>35%	33%	50% by July 2030
5	Reduce contamination of Council provided kerbside recycling.	% contamination	-	31%	15%
Waste emissions					
6	Increase organics (food, garden, timber waste) capture at transfer station and kerbside (%) *	% diversion from landfill	-	4%	30%
7	Reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by 2030 (CO ₂ e) *	% reduction of biogenic methane	-	13,670 tCO ₂ e	30% reduction (9,569 tCO ₂ e)
Customer satisfaction					
8	Percentage of community satisfied with the solid waste service.	% satisfaction	>85%	72 – 82%	>85% satisfaction
9	Total number of complaints received about the Council’s solid waste service	No. of complaints annually	-	N/A	<50 complaints annually

	Target	Unit	2022/23 target (set in 2018 WMMP)	2022/23 baseline	2030 Regional Target
			<i>What did we aim to achieve?</i>	<i>What have we achieved?</i>	<i>What would we like to achieve?</i>
	Environmental health and safety				
10	Maintain 100 per cent compliance with resource consent conditions for Council-operated solid waste district facilities.	% compliance	-	100%	100% compliance

Note: targets marked with an (*) asterisk are requirements are set out in the Emissions Reduction Plan by Central Government.

Note: the figure for Target 7 marked with an (1) is based on the current default emissions factor for Class 1 landfill without LFG collection.

3.4 Council’s role







To meet the targets detailed in Table 3.1 and to develop pathways for circularity and effective change, the three district councils in the West Coast Region can take action through the various roles it holds.

Council’s intended role in waste management and minimisation services is to ensure the system is well set up to meet forecast demand, the needs of the region. This is delivered through a number of different roles, depending on the level of influence Council has in each of the actions. We have defined these roles in Figure 3.3: Roles of Council in delivering the WMMP..



Figure 3.3: Roles of Council in delivering the WMMP.

The various roles are described as follows:

-  Collaborator/connector – To be the connecting party between groups.
-  Advocate/promote – To Central Government, community, or industry for change.
-  Service provider – To host/provide the service (infrastructure, programme, service).
-  Regulator – to direct/govern the region/district.
-  Enabler – to guide and assist along with collect information to assist in decision-making.
-  Advisor – To support community groups, Iwi, residents, industry and other.

When developing the Action Plan, presented in Section 5, these roles were considered, to assess their practicality and feasibility.

4 Funding the plan

4.1 Plan implementation

The funding of the implementation of this WMMP will come from a range of sources including targeted rates, general rates, waste levy, external revenue streams, and other funding. Many funding sources have restrictions in what they can be utilised for. These are explored in the following table.

Table 4.1: Funding sources for waste action plan

Funding source	Description	Applied to waste activities, such as...
Targeted rates	Eligible properties pay rates to be provided specific services that benefit the people in these eligible properties, but which also contribute to wider public benefits.	Kerbside collection service. Operational cost of landfills.
Waste levy	Councils review an allocation of national waste levy funds, allocated by the Ministry for the Environment, which can be spent in accordance with section 23 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education • Product stewardship programmes (e.g., e-waste, polystyrene, and battery diversion) • Enviroschools • Karamea and Maruia recycling processing and freight • Support waste infrastructure and assets projects • Feasibility studies

Funding source	Description	Applied to waste activities, such as...
External revenue streams	Revenue generated from waste management and minimisation activities, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gate fees at Waste and Resource Recovery Facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating Waste and resource recovery transfer station(s)
General rates	All properties pay a charge which contributes to the council's wider waste management activities and provides public good benefits. Where it is difficult to identify who/what may benefit from an activity, or who/what may cause a problem for which a council activity is required, the costs are funded from the general rate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of waste facilities • Contractors and internal charges
Other funding	External funding such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central government funding (e.g., Climate Emergency Response Fund) • Contestable funds (Waste Minimisation Fund) • Regional Infrastructure Fund • Private sector co-financing 	Capital intensive project, such as upgrades to Material Recovery Facility and waste infrastructure and assets. Currently priorities of the WMF are for organics processing and resource recovery.

4.2 Waste disposal levies

The waste disposal levy sets a rate to disposal of waste, and has been progressively increasing since 2020, reaching \$60 per tonne as of July 2024. The levy will continue to increase by smaller increments between 2024 to 2027.

The Waste Minimisation (Waste Disposal Levy) Amendment Act (2024) allocates 50 per cent of the waste disposal levy to Council to focus funding on “local projects to minimise waste in line with their Waste Management and Minimisation Plans.”³

The scope of the waste disposal levy has been broadened to include a wider, more comprehensive set of government priorities. Waste levy funding received by councils must be put towards:⁴

- the promotion and achievement of waste minimisation
- activities that reduce environmental harm or increase environmental benefits.
- local authorities to:
 - manage emergency waste.
 - to repair or replace waste management and minimisation infrastructure damaged by an emergency.
- the Ministry’s waste management and minimisation and hazardous substances responsibilities for example:
 - policy development and implementation.
 - collecting and using waste data and evidence.
 - work related to international agreements on chemicals and waste.

³ <https://environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/acts/waste-minimisation-act-waste-disposal-levy-amendment-act-2024/>.

- projects that remediate contaminated sites.

4.3 Provisions for waiving waste disposal charges

In exceptional circumstances, the waste disposal levy may be waived by the Secretary for the Environment.

Section 29 of the WMA provides that the Secretary for the Environment has discretion to waive a levy payment for the disposal facility operator if satisfied that ‘exceptional circumstances’ justify the waiver. Waivers, granted by Secretary, are waste- and disposal-site specific and do not have conditions.

⁴ <https://environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/acts/waste-minimisation-act-waste-disposal-levy-amendment-act-2024/>.

5 Action plan

This action plan sets out a programme for the region to work towards the vision and targets outlined in this Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. Significant changes to levels of service will be incorporated into the Long-Term Plan process and subsequent public consultation.

The Action Plan has been designed to meet the requirements of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and the Local Government Act 2002, by including all options that are practical for the Region to achieve their waste management and minimisation objectives.

These options have been assessed in terms of their:

-  Cost to council (is it economically viable?)
-  Accessibility and affordability
-  Impact on the wider environment
-  Social and cultural outcomes
-  Partnership and collaboration potential
-  Recovery and markets
-  Whether it relates to responsible consumption
-  Whether they are appropriate for the West Coast or through a regional lens
-  Technical risk

Six focus areas emerged from the options assessment process and will help the West Coast to work towards their vision.

- 1 Creating Partnerships.
- 2 Communicate and share circular economy initiatives.
- 3 Policy development.
- 4 Product stewardship.
- 5 Making diversion easy.
- 6 Resilience.

Improving data collection is also an important priority area for councils to continue to focus on. The other shortlisted options from the Waste Assessment are detailed in Appendix B.

The Action Plan outlines the following points for each focus area:

- Specific actions to address the issue.
- Whether the action is district-specific or a regional action.
- How the action aligns with the strategic framework.
- Council's intended role.
- Position on the waste hierarchy.
- Funding source.
- Implementation period.

5.1 Focus area 1: Creating partnerships



Table 5.1: Creating partnerships

#	Theme/category	Action	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils' intended role	Target addressed (Table 3.1)	Waste hierarchy	Funding source	Implementation period
1.1	Industry waste	Advocate and facilitate sector groups (e.g. C&D, Agricultural waste groups) to discuss problems and explore solutions. Utilise resources outside of the region and connect with other regional sector groups (e.g. Tradie Breakfast).	OB1, OB3	Advocate/promote Enable Advisor	2	Rethink/redesign	Waste Levy Disposal, General rates	2024 - 2030
1.2	Contamination in kerbside	Collaborate with central government, local government, and non-government organisations to assess solutions to reduce contamination and explore opportunities for the West Coast to improve waste management. This could include joining nationwide forums e.g. WasteMINZ TAO Forum or connecting with the Sustainable Business Network.	OB1, OB3, OB5	Advocate/promote Enable Advisor	2, 3, 4, 5	Rethink/redesign	General rates or Waste levy Disposal Fund	2024 - 2030

#	Theme/category	Action	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils' intended role	Target addressed <i>(Table 3.1)</i>	Waste hierarchy	Funding source	Implementation period
1.3	Industry waste	Investigate and facilitate collaboration opportunities across the region with iwi, industry, businesses, community groups, utilising activities that are already established e.g., virtual/in person networking events, Council gardens etc.	OB1, OB3, OB5	Collaborator/connector Enabler	2	Rethink/redesign	General rates or Waste levy Disposal Fund	2024 - 2030

5.2 Focus area 2: Communicate and share circular economy initiatives



Table 5.2: Communicate and share circular economy initiatives

#	Theme/category	Action	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils' intended role	Target addressed (Table 3.1)	Waste hierarchy	Funding source	Implementation period
2.1	Reduce generation	Utilise council websites to link to existing resources to help plan and manage material management e.g. BRANZ and REBRI for the construction sector.	OB3, OB6	Service provider Advisor	2	Rethink/redesign	General rates	2024 - 2030
2.2	Contamination in kerbside	Develop an educational programme of work focusing on behaviour change and information sharing to the community.	OB1, OB3, OB6	Service provider Advisor	1, 2, 3, 4	Reduce, reuse/repurpose, recycle, recover	Waste Disposal Levy, general rates	2025 - 2030
2.3	Contamination in kerbside	Utilise and/or build on national waste and behaviour change campaigns and/or collateral to promote waste diversion.	OB3, OB6	Service provider Advisor	2, 3, 4, 5	Recycle, recover	Waste Disposal Levy, general rates	2025 - 2030

5.3 Focus area 3: Policy development



Table 5.3: Policy development

#	Theme/category	Action	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils' intended role	Target addressed (Table 3.1)	Waste hierarchy	Funding source	Implementation period
3.1	Contamination in kerbside	Develop solid waste bylaw to strengthen enforcement.	OB1, OB3, OB4, OB6, OB7	Regulator	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Recycle, recover	General rates	2024 - 2026
3.2	Information and education	Investigate whether a grant for waste and resource recovery activities in the region can be developed between Councils.	OB3, OB4	Regulator	2, 6	Recovery	Waste Disposal Levy, general rates, contestable funding	2025/2026
3.3	Reduce generation	Tourism Levy implemented for those staying in the region to cover the costs of infrastructure including waste assets and management.	OB5, OB6	Advocate Regulator Advisor	8, 9	Rethink/redesign	Waste Disposal Levy, External revenue streams, general rates, contestable funding	2026/2027

5.4 Focus area 4: Product stewardship



Table 5.4: Product stewardship

#	Theme / category	Action	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils' intended role	Target addressed (Table 3.1)	Waste hierarchy	Funding source	Implementation period
4.1	Information and education	Advocate for action and research promoting the top of the waste hierarchy (e.g. Product Stewardship Schemes, Right to Repair legislation, and research into recovery options for difficult to manage waste streams).	OB2, OB3, OB6	Advocate/promote Enable Collaborator /connector	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	Rethink/redesign, reduce, reuse/repurpose	Waste Disposal Levy, general rates	2024 - 2030
4.2	Industry waste	Investigate whether Council want to facilitate Product Stewardship Schemes at their transfer stations e.g. Tyrewise collection point when the programme opens, promoting the programmes to encourage uptake.	OB2, OB3, OB6	Enable Advisor	1, 2, 3	Reuse/repurpose, recycle, recover	Waste Disposal Levy, general rates	2024 - 2030
4.3	Reduce generation	Continue to support and promote product stewardship schemes through existing transfer stations where appropriate.	OB2, OB3, OB6	Advocate/promote Enable Collaborator /connector	1, 2, 3	Reduce	Waste Disposal Levy, general rates	2024 - 2030

5.5 Focus area 5: Making diversion easy

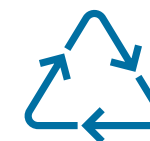


Table 5.5: Making diversion easy.

#	Theme/category	Action	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils' intended role	Target addressed (Table 3.1)	Waste hierarchy	Funding source	Implementation period
5.1	Streamline data collection	Align services available at transfer stations across the region.	OB2, OB5	Service provider Enabler	8, 9	Recover	Waste Disposal Levy, general rates	2024/2025
5.2	Reduce generation	Investigate alternative options to manage waste streams/materials which take up most volume in the regions landfills and transfer stations.	OB1, OB2, OB5	Advisor	2, 3, 6, 7	Rethink/redesign	Targeted rates, Waste Disposal Levy, general rates, contestable funding	2025/2026
5.3	Reduce generation	Review the results from C&D feasibility study to assess the best options for C&D recovery in the region (subject to feasibility study).	OB2, OB3, OB4, OB6, OB7	Enable Advisor	2, 6, 7	Reuse/repurpose	Targeted rates, Waste Disposal Levy, general rates, contestable funding	2024/2025
5.4	Reduce generation	Review the results from organics feasibility study to assess the best options for organic recovery in the region in line with central governments indicated direction.	OB2, OB3, OB4, OB6, OB7	Enable Advisor	2, 3	Recycle/recover	Targeted rates, Waste Disposal Levy, general rates, contestable funding	2025/2026

#	Theme/category	Action	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils' intended role	Target addressed <i>(Table 3.1)</i>	Waste hierarchy	Funding source	Implementation period
5.5	Reduce generation	Investigate the volumes and impacts of waste from tourism, which can feed into a feasibility study for how to manage waste from tourism in the region.	OB1, OB2, OB3, OB5	Enable Advisor	1	Rethink/redesign	External revenue streams, general rates, contestable funding, Central Government funding	2026/2027

5.6 Focus area 6: Resilience



Table 5.6: Resilience

#	Theme/category	Action	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils' intended role	Target addressed <i>(Table 3.1)</i>	Waste hierarchy	Funding source	Implementation period
6.1	Environmental impacts	Develop resilience plans for current waste infrastructure and services. This could include collaborating with Civil Defence and other organisations to develop a regional Disaster Waste Management Plan. This will ensure processes in place for managing waste associated with natural disasters, and waste from earthquake prone buildings.	OB1, OB3, OB5, OB8	Enable Advisor Collaborator/Connector	10	Recover/treat and dispose	External revenue streams, general rates, central government funding, contestable funding.	2026/2027
6.2	Environmental impacts	Investigate the feasibility of a regional Disposal Facility/Landfill that could service the entire region.	OB3, OB5, OB8	Service provider. Enabler	10	Treat and dispose	External revenue streams, general rates.	2026/2027

5.7 Focus areas summary

With the actions detailed in Table 5.1, Table 5.2, Table 5.3, Table 5.4, Table 5.5, and Table 5.6 the region should see waste generation start to decrease and diversion of recoverable materials increasing.

We recognise that many actions presented in this plan are for the councils to act as an advocator, advisor, and enabler by working with the community, iwi, and industry groups to educate, upskill and change behaviours and attitudes towards waste and material. The plan also includes a few tangible options which will actively promote waste diversion and recovery, these are detailed in Figure 5.1.

The figure shows that the greatest wins for diversion of material from landfill is to focus on organic materials (food and garden waste) and commercial waste including that of the construction sector. The values within the green section of the figure detail the potential recovery which can be achieved from each of the tangible infrastructure options.

There are multiple actions that are not directly related to target waste streams or infrastructure but are critical in supporting capital and operational activities. This lack of quantifiable link makes it difficult to present the potential savings (waste reduction and emissions) of these supporting initiatives. It is more helpful to consider these options as underpinning the increased capture and reduced emissions delivered by the capital investments. The capital and operational activities will have limited impact without the supporting activities and the supporting activities will have limited impact without the infrastructure and ongoing services.

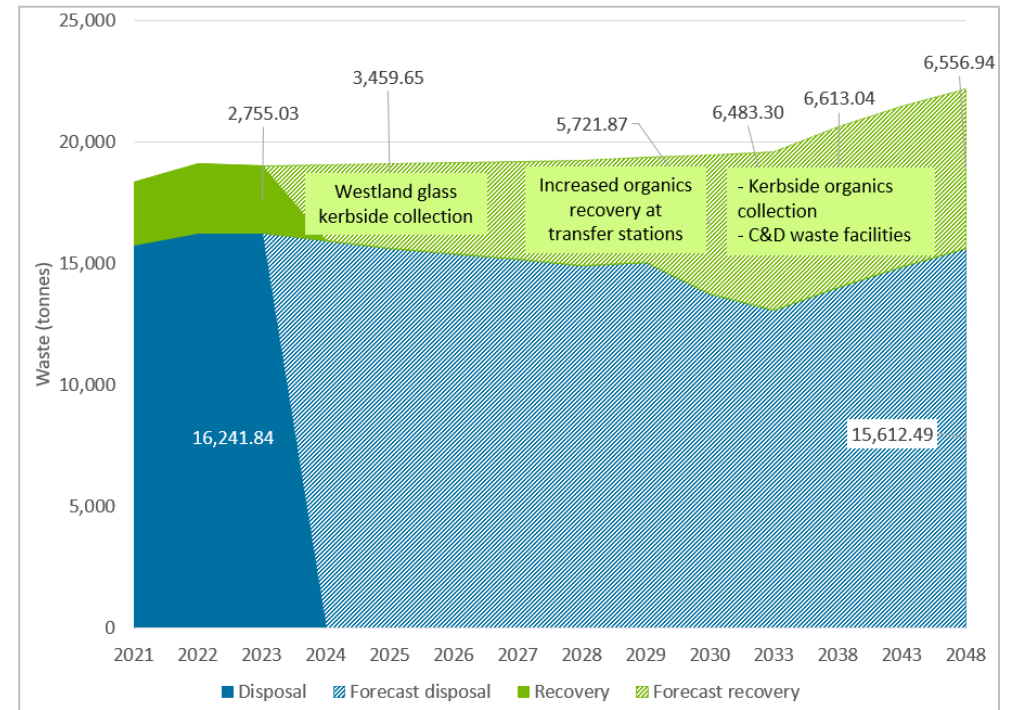


Figure 5.1: Diversion forecast with actions implemented.

6 Monitoring, evaluating, and reporting progress

6.1 Monitoring and reporting

The councils will monitor and report against the targets set out in Table 3.1 of this plan, to determine the effectiveness of the action plan. This will, at minimum, include:

- Type, quantity and composition of waste and captured materials.
- Origin of the waste/source of materials received.
- Contamination tonnages for waste services managed by each council.
- Monitoring of specific waste streams, such as illegal dumping.
- Progress in capturing more reuse data [if relevant].
- Effectiveness of actions in the plan and progress towards the targets set in Table 3.1.
- Compliance with legislative requirements.
- Better capture and reporting of circular economy activities and emissions generated from waste.

It is expected that the councils will track progress against the targets annually to review performance. Table 6.1 details the targets and how the annual review may take place.

6.2 Evaluation and review of the plan

Council will conduct a full review of the Plan at intervals of not more than six years after adopting the Plan or the last review. Any review of the Plan will be preceded by a Waste Assessment under section 51 of the Act.

Table 6.1: Targets and tracking performance

	Target	Unit	2022/23 baseline	2030 Regional Target	What might tracking targets annually look like?
			<i>What have we achieved?</i>	<i>What would we like to achieve?</i>	
Waste generation					
1	Reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10% per person by 2030	kg per capita per annum	494	445	Consistent data collection across the region will allow this to be measured and compared. This could be documented in Annual Reports.
Waste to landfill					
2	Reduce the total waste tonnes per capita going to landfill by 30% per person by 2030	kg per capita per annum	402	282	Consistent data collection across the region will allow this to be measured and compared. This could be documented in Annual Reports.
3	Reduce the total waste tonnes per dwelling going to landfill from the Council kerbside collection by 30% per person by 2030	kg per capita per annum	573	401	Consistent data collection across the region will allow this to be measured and compared. This could be documented in Annual Reports.
Diversion of waste					
4	Increase the amount of household waste diverted to recycling (Council provided kerbside collection only)	% diversion from landfill	33%	50% by July 2030	Consistent data collection across the region will allow this to be measured and compared. This could be documented in Annual Reports.
5	Reduce contamination of Council provided kerbside recycling	% contamination	31%	15%	Conduct, and track results of, kerbside recycling audits.
Waste emissions					
6	Increase organics (food, garden, timber waste) capture at transfer station and kerbside (%) *	% diversion from landfill	4%	30%	Consistent data collection across the region will allow this to be measured

	Target	Unit	2022/23 baseline	2030 Regional Target	What might tracking targets annually look like?
			<i>What have we achieved?</i>	<i>What would we like to achieve?</i>	
					and compared. This could be documented in Annual Reports.
7	Reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by 2030 (CO ₂ e) *	% reduction of biogenic methane	13,670 tCo ₂ e	30% reduction (9,569 tCO ₂ e)	Determine the most appropriate way to estimate biogenic methane emissions and continue to track data.
Customer satisfaction					
8	Percentage of community satisfied with the solid waste service	% satisfaction	72 – 82%	>85% satisfaction	Consistent measurement of community satisfaction (e.g., align survey questions). This could be documented in Annual Reports.
9	Total number of complaints received about the Council’s solid waste service	Number of complaints annually	-	<50 complaints annually	Follow a consistent internal tracking system and ensure it is used operationally. This might be documented in Annual Reports.
Environmental health and safety					
10	Maintain 100 per cent compliance with resource consent conditions for Council-operated solid waste district facilities	% compliance	100%	100% compliance	Continue monitoring performance as per current process.

Appendix A District & regional performance against targets

Table Appendix A.1 : District & regional performance against targets

Target	Unit	2022/23 target (set in 2018 WMMP)	2022/23 performance (baseline)				2030 Regional Target	
			Buller District Council	Grey District Council	Westland District Council	Region		
		<i>What did we aim to achieve?</i>	<i>What have we achieved?</i>				<i>What would we like to achieve?</i>	
Waste generation								
1	Reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	<300	372	605	450	494	445
Waste to landfill								
2	Reduce the total waste tonnes per capita going to landfill by 30% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	-	295	522	344	402	282
3	Reduce the total waste tonnes per dwelling going to landfill from the Council kerbside collection by 30% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	-	394	821	455	573	401
Diversion of waste								
4	Increase the amount of household waste diverted to recycling (Council provided kerbside collection only,	% diversion from landfill	>35%	40%	36%	19%	33%	50% by July 2030

Target	Unit	2022/23 target (set in 2018 WMMP)	2022/23 performance (baseline)				2030 Regional Target	
			Buller District Council	Grey District Council	Westland District Council	Region		
			What have we achieved?					What would we like to achieve?
	excludes green waste and food waste) *							
5	Reduce contamination of Council provided kerbside recycling.	% contamination	-	-	-	31%	TBC	
Waste emissions								
6	Increase organics (food, garden, timber waste) capture at transfer station and kerbside (%) *	% diversion from landfill	-	5%	6%	0% ⁽²⁾	4%	30%
7	Reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by 2030 (CO ₂ e) *	% reduction of biogenic methane	-	2,921 tCO ₂ e	7,604 tCO ₂ e	3,145 tCO ₂ e	13,670 tCO ₂ e ⁽¹⁾	30% reduction (9,569 tCO ₂ e)
Customer satisfaction								
8	Percentage of community satisfied with the solid waste service.	% satisfaction	>85%	-	-	-	72 – 82%	>85% satisfaction
9	Total number of complaints received about the Council's solid waste service	No. of complaints annually	-	-	-	-	N/A	<50 complaints annually
Environmental health and safety								
10	Maintain 100 per cent compliance with resource consent conditions for	% compliance	-	100%	100%	100%	100%	100% compliance

Target	Unit	2022/23 target (set in 2018 WMMP)	2022/23 performance (baseline)				2030 Regional Target
			Buller District Council	Grey District Council	Westland District Council	Region	
		<i>What did we aim to achieve?</i>	<i>What have we achieved?</i>				<i>What would we like to achieve?</i>
Council-operated solid waste district facilities.							

Note: targets marked with an (*) asterisk are requirements are set out in the Emissions Reduction Plan by Central Government.

Note (1) the figures for Target 7 are based on the current default emissions factor for Class 1 landfill without LFG collection. The default emission factor used is 1.023.

Note (2) green waste material at WDC facilities is stockpiled but not quantified.

Appendix B Other shortlisted options

Table Appendix B.1: Making diversion easy – other shortlisted options for Focus Area 5

#	Theme/category	Action	Regional (R), or district-specific (X, Y, Z)	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils intended role	Target addressed (Table 3.1)	Waste hierarchy	Implementation period
5.6	Contamination in kerbside	Investigate options to prevent contamination of glass colours (Westland).	WDC	OB3, OB5	Enable Advisor	2, 5	Recycle	2024/2025
5.7	Contamination in kerbside	Investigate solutions for high contamination in kerbside comingled recycling in Grey District Council.	GDC	OB3, OB5, OB6	Enable Advisor	2, 5	Recycle	2024 - 2030
5.8	Contamination in kerbside	Collaborate with local industry/organisations to establish hubs for collection of difficult materials/common contaminators of recycling e.g. Supermarkets.	R	OB3, OB5, OB6	Enable Advisor	2, 4, 5	Recycle, recover	2024 - 2030
5.9	Illegal dumping	Investigate developing a financial assistance programme and penalty system to manage illegal dumping. This could include rebates/discounts for current resource recovery infrastructure or tracking in illegal dumping hotspots for penalties.	R	OB1, OB2	Enable Advisor	2, 8	Recycle, recover, treat and dispose	2024 - 2030

Table Appendix B.2: Creating partnerships – other shortlisted options for Focus Area 1

#	Theme/category	Action	Regional (R), or district-specific (X, Y, Z)	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils intended role	Target addressed <i>(Table 3.1)</i>	Waste hierarchy	Implementation period
1.4	Illegal dumping	Collaborate within Council (internally), across Councils (regionally), and with organisations/industry (externally) to actively track illegal dumping and record data through existing processes, such as Request for Service system.	R	OB2, OB5, OB6	Collaborator/Connector	2, 8	Recycle, recover, treat and dispose	2024 - 2030

Table Appendix B.3: Communicate and share circular economy initiatives – other shortlisted options for Focus Area 2

#	Theme/category	Action	Regional (R), or district-specific (X, Y, Z)	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils intended role	Target addressed (Table 3.1)	Waste hierarchy	Implementation period
2.4	Reduce generation	Map out existing resource recovery work that is happening in the region including community-led initiatives and share and promote publicly.	R	OB3, OB5, OB6	Service provider Advisor	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Reuse/repurpose, recycle, recover	2024/2025
2.5	Information and education	Align information available on council websites regarding waste services, education, and policy where possible. For example, share good news stories in a consistent and regular manner, share activities from EnviroSchools through Annual Reports, ensure the information on waste services available is consistent, up to date and easy to find online.	R	OB3, OB5, OB6	Service provider Advisor	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Reuse/repurpose, recycle, recover	2024/2025
2.6	Information and education	Collaborate with industry and community to create West Coast A-Z recycling and recovery directory to highlight circular services in the region.	R	OB3, OB5, OB6	Service provider Advisor	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Reuse/repurpose, recycle, recover	2024 - 2030

Table Appendix B.4: Improving data collection – shortlisted options for Focus Area 7

#	Theme/category	Action	Regional (R), or district-specific (X, Y, Z)	Alignment with Strategic Framework	Councils intended role	Target addressed (<i>Table 3.1</i>)	Waste hierarchy	Implementation period
7.1	Streamline data collection	Establish a template for reporting consistency from each District Council and Regional Council (waste data, emissions data) including waste streams reported on, total tonnage, diversion, contamination - align to new national requirements 1 July 2024 onwards.	R	OB1, OB7	Enabler	1, 2, 4	Recycle, recover, treat, and dispose	2024/2025
7.2	Streamline data collection	Investigate/support data collection on waste diversion through other sources e.g., reuse shops, foodbanks, etc.	R	OB1, OB7	Enabler Advisor	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Reuse/repurpose	2024 - 2030

Appendix C West Coast Regional Waste Assessment
