AGENDA

Meeting of the
Buller District Council

Commencing at 3:30pm
Wednesday 28 August 2024

To be held at the
Clocktower Chambers
Palmerston Street
Westport

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

2024 CHARTER

CORE COUNCILLOR ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governance role entails:

- Strategic planning and decision-making;
- Policy and strategy review;
- Community leadership and engagement, and stewardship;
- Setting appropriate levels of service;
- Maintaining a financially sustainable organisation; and
- Oversight/scrutiny of Council's performance as one team.

The governance role focusses on the big picture of 'steering the boat' - management's role focusses on 'rowing the boat'

Our commitments to best support each other and meet the challenges and opportunities of 2024 include:

CLEAR AND RESPECTFUL COMMUNICATION

We are committed to:

Actively listening and not interrupting;

Remaining conscious of 'tone', body language, and amount of time speaking (allowing time for others);

Responding/answering in a timely manner; and

Being honest, reasonable, and transparent.

TRUST AND RESPECT

We recognise that trust and respect must be earned and that a team without trust isn't really a team. Trust can be built by:

Valuing long-term relationships; being honest; honouring commitments; admitting when you're wrong; communicating effectively; being transparent; standing up for what's right; showing people that you care; being helpful; and being vulnerable.

CONTINUOUS LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT

Continuous learning and improvement are critical for growing together as a team.

We are committed to constantly reviewing what is going well and what needs to improve in relation to the way we work together, the processes we follow, and the outcomes we deliver.

NONE OF US IS AS SMART AS ALL OF US

Council

Chairperson:	**Mayor**
Membership:	The Mayor and all Councillors
Meeting Frequency:	Monthly – or as required.
Quorum:	A majority of members (including vacancies)

Purpose

The Council is responsible for:

1. Providing leadership to, and advocacy on behalf of, the people of Buller district.
2. Ensuring that all functions and powers required of a local authority under legislation, and all decisions required by legislation to be made by local authority resolution, are carried out effectively and efficiently, either by the Council or through delegation.

Terms of Reference

1. To exercise those powers and responsibilities which cannot legally be delegated by Council:
   a) The power to set district rates.
   b) The power to create, adopt and implement a bylaw.
   c) The power to borrow money, or purchase or dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the Long Term Plan.
   d) The power to adopt a Long Term Plan or Annual Plan, or Annual Report.
   e) The power to appoint a Chief Executive Officer.
   f) The power to adopt policies required to be adopted and consulted on under the Local Government Act 2002 in association with the Long Term Plan, or developed for the purpose of the Council's governance statement, including the Infrastructure Strategy.
   g) The power to adopt a remuneration and employment policy for Chief Executive Officer.
   h) The power to approve or change the District Plan, or any part of that Plan, in accordance with the Resource Management Act 1991.
   i) The power to approve or amend the Council's Standing Orders.
   j) The power to approve or amend the Code of Conduct for Elected Members.
   k) The power to appoint and discharge members of committees.
   l) The power to establish a joint committee with another local authority of other public body.
   m) The power to make the final decision on a recommendation from the Parliamentary Ombudsman, where it is proposed that Council not accept the recommendation.
   n) Health & Safety obligations and legislative requirements are met.

2. To exercise the following powers and responsibilities of Council, which the Council chooses to retain:
    a) Resolutions required to be made by a local authority under the Local Electoral Act 2001, including the appointment of an electoral officer and reviewing representation arrangements.
    b) Approval of any changes to Council's vision, and oversight of that vision by providing direction on strategic priorities and receiving regular reports on its overall achievement.
    c) Adoption of governance level strategies, plans and policies which advance Council's vision and strategic goals.
    d) Approval of the Triennial Agreement.
    e) Approval of the local governance statement required under the Local Government Act 2002.
    f) Approval of a proposal to the Remuneration Authority for the remuneration of Members.
    g) Approval of any changes to the nature and delegations of the Committees.
    h) Approval of funding to benefit the social, cultural, arts and environmental wellbeing of communities in Buller District
    i) Ensuring Buller is performing to the highest standard in the area of civil defence and emergency management through:
        i) Implementation of Government requirements
        ii) Contractual service delivery arrangements with the West Coast Regional Group Emergency Management Office
    j) All other powers and responsibilities not specifically delegated to the Risk and Audit Committee, subcommittees, independent hearing panels or Inangahua Community Board.

Buller District Council

Venue: Clocktower Chambers, Westport. Livestreamed on BDC YouTube Channel

28 August 2024 03:30 PM

Agenda Topic

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 1

Prepared by Simon Pickford
Chief Executive Officer

APOLOGIES

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1. REPORT SUMMARY

That Buller District Council receive any apologies or requests for leave of absence from elected members.

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That there are no apologies to be received and no requests for leave of absence.

OR

That Buller District Council receives apologies from (insert councillor name) and accepts councillor (insert name) request for leave of absence.

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 2

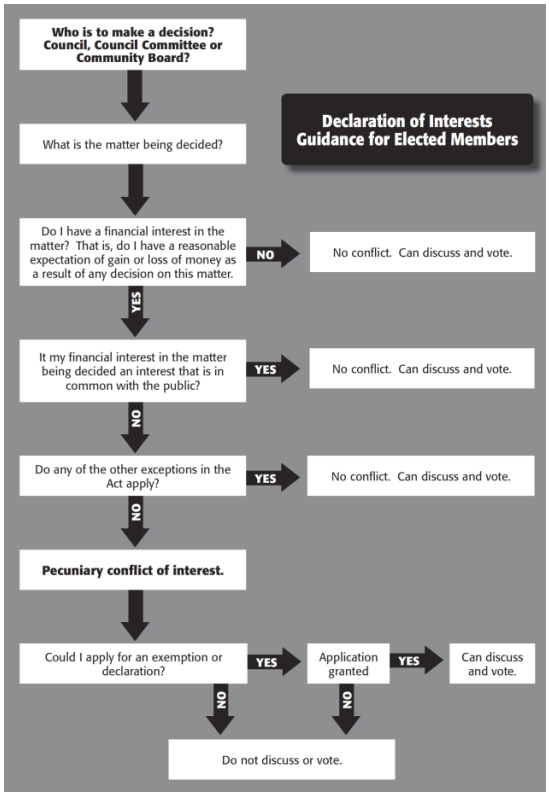
Prepared by Simon Pickford
Chief Executive Officer

MEMBERS INTEREST

Members are encouraged to consider the items on the agenda and disclose whether they believe they have a financial or non-financial interest in any of the items in terms of Council's Code of Conduct.

Councillors are encouraged to advise the Governance Assistant, of any changes required to their declared Members Interest Register.

The attached flowchart may assist members in making that determination (Appendix A from Code of Conduct).



DRAFT RECOMMENDATION:

That Members disclose any financial or non-financial interest in any of the agenda items.

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 3

Prepared by Simon Pickford
Chief Executive Officer

Attachments 1. Council Meeting Public Minutes 31 July 2024

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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1. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and confirm the Public Minutes from:

- **Council Meeting 31 July 2024**

ORDINARY MEETING OF THE BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL, HELD AT 3.30PM ON WEDNESDAY 31 JULY 2024 AT CLOCKTOWER CHAMBERS, PALMERSTON STREET, WESTPORT.

PRESENT: Mayor J Cleine, Deputy Mayor A Basher, Cr P Grafton, Cr T O'Keefe, Cr A Pfahlert, Cr Joanne Howard, Cr G Neylon, Cr R Sampson, Cr G Weston.

IN ATTENDANCE VIA ELECTRONIC LINK: Cr L Webb, N Tauwhare (Iwi Representative)

IN ATTENDANCE: S Pickford (CEO), K Trigg (Group Manager Community Services/Acting Group Manager Regulatory Services), P Numan (Group Manager Corporate Services), B Little (Policy Advisor), M Aitken (Interim Group Manager Infrastructure Services), C McDonald (Governance Secretary)

MEDIA: N/A

PUBLIC FORUM:
Tina Boyd – Spoke to flood protection, specifically her father's property at 81 Cape Foulwind Road. Tina wants to ensure that her elderly father doesn't live in fear of flooding and wants action taken now.
Dave Hawes – Spoke in support of the sale of the former Reefton Service Centre to free up the funds. Also spoke to the two senior housing units in Reefton that need to be fixed and upgraded to Healthy Homes Standard (they have been unattended for two terms of Council). He urged Council to put the funds from the sale of the former Reefton Service Centre to the senior housing portfolio in the Inangahua Ward.

MEETING DECLARED OPEN AT: 3:51PM

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1. APOLOGIES (Page 7)
Discussion:
Cr C Reidy.
N Tauwhare (Iwi Representative) early departure.

RESOLVED
That Buller District Council receives apologies from Cr C Reidy and accepts N Tauwhare (Iwi Representative) request for leave of absence.

Deputy Mayor A Basher / Cr P Grafton
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. MEMBERS INTEREST (Page 8)

Discussion:

Mayor J Cleine - PE 2 Code of Conduct. Will not participate in discussion. Deputy Mayor A Basher will take over as Chair of the meeting.

Cr R Sampson - PE 2 Code of Conduct. Will not participate in discussion.

RESOLVED that members disclose any financial or non-financial interest in any of the agenda items.

Cr A Pfahlert / Cr G Weston
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES (Page 9)

Discussion:

Cr G Weston to be added as present for the meeting *noted and amended*

RESOLVED That Council receive and confirm the Public Minutes from:
• Council Meeting 26 June 2024

Mayor J Cleine / Deputy Mayor A Basher
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. ACTION POINTS REPORT (Page 33)

Discussion:

Nil. Update Action Point 25 – to include an update on camp development plans of the leasee.

RESOLVED that Council receive the Action Point list for information.

Cr P Grafton / Cr Joanne Howard
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. FORMER REEFTON SERVICE CENTRE (Page 35)

Discussion:

Cr G Neylon (on behalf of the Inangahua Community Board) gave a history of the project that the Community Hub wished to enact regarding this building in response to a question as to whether they had been given enough time to present a viable proposal.

K Trigg spoke to the report and answered questions.

RESOLVED That the Council:
1. Notes the recommendations of the Inangahua Community Board (9 July 2024) as follows:
• dispose of the former Reefton Service Centre property on the open market subject to legal advice; and
• use the funds from the sale as investment into the senior housing portfolio in the Inangahua Ward.

Cr A Pfahlert / Cr G Weston
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Resolves that the former Reefton Service Centre (building and associated land sections 178-179 Town of Reefton NL 8B/1024) be:
a. disposed of on the open market, subject to legal advice; or
~~b. leased at a commercial rate; or~~
~~c. leased for a community use at a commercial rental amount; or~~
~~d. leased for a community use at a peppercorn rental amount.~~

Cr T O'Keefe / Deputy Mayor A Basher
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Resolves that if the property is to be disposed of on the open market, then the proceeds of any sale are used to fund:
a. Development of the Senior Housing portfolio within the Inangahua Ward; and/or
~~b. Upgrading Council owned Community facilities within the Inangahua Ward~~

Mayor J Cleine / Cr R Sampson
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDERS (Page 41)

Discussion:
Mayor J Cleine discussed revisiting the casting vote.
An additional recommendation was added and is read as recommendation 5.

RESOLVED That Council:
1. Receive the report;

Deputy Mayor A Basher / Cr Joanne Howard
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Notes the outcomes of the Ombudsman's 2023 Report ' Open for Business' and the resolution to adopt the findings of the report by Council on 13 December 2023;

Mayor J Cleine / Deputy Mayor A Basher
10/10

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Notes the advice from Local Government New Zealand regarding amendments to Standing Orders as a result of the Local Government Electoral Legislation Act 2023 (Audio-Visual attendance at meetings);

Mayor J Cleine / Cr G Neylon
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Adopts the amended Buller District Council Standing Orders as attached in Attachment 1.

Cr G Weston / Cr T O'Keefe
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Further amend the Buller District Council Standing Orders attached as Attachment 1 by replacing Standing Order 19.3 with the following:
19.3 Chairperson has a casting vote/Kei te ūpoko te pōti whakatau
The Mayor, Chairperson, or any other person presiding at a meeting, has a deliberative vote and, in the case of an equality of votes, has a casting vote.

Mayor J Cleine / Cr P Grafton
5/5
MOTION LOST

7. REPRESENTATION REVIEW – INITIAL PROPOSAL (Page 130)

Discussion:

Cr L Webb departed the meeting at 4.41PM

P Numan spoke to the representation review and the process that has occurred to this point.

Cr L Webb returned to the meeting at 4.42PM

Cr G Neylon explained how the Inangahua Community Board came into existence.

RESOLVED That Council:

a. **Receive** the Representation Review – Initial Proposal report; and

b. **Consider** how its representation arrangements can best provide for the fair and effective representation of identified communities of interest; and

c. **Adopt**, in accordance with sections 19H and 19J of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the following initial proposal for representation arrangements to apply for the 2025 and 2028 elections:

1. Buller District will be divided into three wards.

2. Those three wards will be:
a) Seddon Ward as shown in Attachment 1
b) Inangahua Ward as shown in Attachment 1
c) Westport Ward as shown in Attachment 1

3. The council will comprise the Mayor and 10 Councillors elected as follows:
a) 2 Councillors elected by the electors of Seddon Ward
b) 2 Councillors elected by the electors of Inangahua Ward
c) 6 Councillors elected by the electors of Westport Ward.

4. There will be an Inangahua Community Board, comprising the area of Inangahua Ward.

5. The Inangahua Community Board will comprise four elected members and two members appointed by the council representing Inangahua Ward; and

d. **Direct** the Chief Executive Officer, as required by section 19M of the Local Electoral Act 2001, to publicly notify the initial proposal, as adopted in c. above, within 14 days of this resolution (and before 8 August 2024) and distribute the initial proposal for public consultation.

Cr Joanne Howard / Deputy Mayor A Basher
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. DISESTABLISHMENT OF AN EXISTING RESERVE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A REPLACEMENT RESERVE AND AN ACCESS EASEMENT IN REEFTON TOWNSHIP (Page 144)

Discussion:
Cr T O'Keefe departed the meeting at 4.52PM and was not present for the vote.
M Aitken spoke to the need for this to be formally applied via a Council resolution.
Cr T O'Keefe returned to the meeting at 4.53PM

RESOLVED That Council:
1. Receives this report.

2. Authorises Buller District Council staff to formally request the Minister of Conservation to consider an exchange of the current drainage reserve for an equivalent land area and titles.

Mayor J Cleine / Cr P Grafton
9/9
Cr T O'Keefe was not present for the vote.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Agenda item 10 was addressed next.

10. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT (Page 223)

Discussion:
The CEO spoke to the report and answered questions.

RESOLVED That Council receive the Chief Executive Officer's Report for information.

Cr P Grafton / Deputy Mayor A Basher
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Meeting adjourned at 4.58pm
Meeting reconvened at 5:13pm with Deputy Mayor A Basher as the Chair.

N Tauwhare (Iwi Representative) is accepted as a leave of absence for the remainder of the meeting.

Agenda item 11 was addressed next.

11. PORTFOLIO LEADS VERBAL UPDATE (Page 228)
Discussion:
Mayor J Cleine returned to the meeting at 5.13pm

Cr T O'Keefe returned at 5.14pm

RESOLVED That Council receive verbal updates from the following Chairs and Council Representatives, for information:

a. Inangahua Community Board – Cr L Webb. Cr G Neylon gave the update as he was Chair of the last Inangahua Community Board meeting and noted the Reefton Service Centre being resolved is a good thing and aligns with what the Community Board unanimously voted on.

b. Regulatory Environment & Planning - Councillors Neylon and Basher
There are a number of Resource Consent Hearings and District Licensing Committee hearings coming up.

c. Community Services - Councillors Howard and Pfahlert
Community grants and revitalisation funding applications close 24 August and everyone is encouraged to have a look at revamped funding page on the Buller District Council website.

d. Infrastructure - Councillors Grafton and Weston
Good discussions about water lines and why it is not going through KiwiRail. The roading network is being looked at with the railway tunnel being shut and an increase of heavy vehicles on the roads in the district.

e. Corporate Policy and Corporate Planning - Councillors Reidy and Sampson
Nothing to update.

f. Smaller and Rural Communities - Councillors O'Keefe and Webb
Lots of time put to Subcommittees and support. Will be branching out and supporting the meetings/workshops with getting new members and connections in the communities.

g. Iwi Relationships - Ngāti Waewae Representative Ned Tauwhare and Mayor Cleine

h. Te Tai o Poutini Plan – Mayor J Cleine and Cr G Neylon
There has been positive interaction with letters being sent out and public interaction. Submission forms are confirmed to be dropped into the Council office.

i. Joint Committee Westport Rating District – Mayor J Cleine, Cr J Howard and Cr C Reidy
Hasn't met again. No status on new community representative.

~~j. WC Health Localities Project - Cr G Neylon~~
Withdrawn

k. Regional Transport Committee – Cr Phil Grafton
First meeting a few weeks ago.

Deputy Mayor A Basher / Cr A Pfahlert
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor J Cleine resumed as the Chair.

Agenda Item 9 was addressed next.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT (Page 152)
Discussion:

It was suggested that Mayor J Cleine provide direction on the day of the LGNZ Annual Meeting regarding the proposed remits

Recommendation three has been amended from *'3.Provides direction to the Mayor (via the table below) for voting on Proposed Remits at LGNZ Annual General Meeting 2024.'*
to
'3. Delegates to the Mayor for voting on Proposed Remits at the LGNZ Annual General Meeting 2024.'

Mayor J Cleine invites any elected member who has a strong view to communicate these to the mayor prior. Cr G Neylon / Cr G Weston

RESOLVED That Council:
1.Receive the report for discussion and information.

2.Notes Inwards and Outwards Correspondence and provide direction for any responses required.

3. Delegates to the Mayor for voting on Proposed Remits at the LGNZ Annual General Meeting 2024.

Cr G Neylon / Cr G Weston
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PUBLIC FORUM RESPONSE:
Dave Hawes - will receive a written response.
Tina Boyd - will receive a written response and connected to the Resilient Westport Steering Group.

12. PUBLIC EXCLUDED (Page 229)
Discussion:
Nil

RESOLVED That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting:

Item No.	Minutes/Report of:	General Subject	Reason For Passing Resolution Section 7 LGOIMA 1987
PE1	Simon Pickford – Chief Executive Officer	Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes	(s 7(2)(i)) - enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations); or (s 7(2)(j)) - prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.
PE2	Simon Pickford – Chief Executive Officer	Code of Conduct	(s 7(2)(a)) - Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

Mayor J Cleine / Deputy Mayor A Basher
10/10
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED AT: 5.42pm

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 4

Prepared by Simon Pickford
Chief Executive Officer

Attachments 1. Council Action Points August 2024

COUNCIL ACTION POINT LIST

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1. REPORT SUMMARY

A summary of council resolutions requiring actions.

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the Action Point list for information.

Council Action Points - CURRENT

No	Meeting Date / Action Point	Responsible	Update	Date Required By
24	**29 November 2023** **Punakaiki Campground** Update on progress with upgrading the Punakaiki Wastewater Treatment Plant	~~D Marshall~~ M Sutherland	A budget of $796,000 was included in the 2023/2024 annual plan for this project. The project has funding of $398,000 from the TIF fund, $198,000 from various council sources and $200,000 from other funds - external funding. Current estimates to undertake the project are $496,000. Staff have a number of matters to complete before the project commences including: • Decision to proceed or not with a propriety system and sole supplier. • The level of TIF funding if the project cost is lower (approved application was based on a 50% contribution at cost estimate of $796,000 • External funding - indications are that funding may not be available Update 16 April 2024 Council staff have engaged with staff managing the TIF fund. We have noted that we expect to have a much lower claim than they are funding us for due to lower project costs but that we are now unlikely to receive the $200,000 of external funding. TIF have advised that the saving on the grant claim can be used to fund this shortfall if it occurs as they will still get a saving based on our forecasts. Update 26 June 2024 Council staff received confirmation from TIF on 13 June 2024 that the Funding Agreement is now being prepared based on the proposed project timeline targeting project completion by mid-September 2024. Project status reports will be provided through RAC once initiation phase completed.	~~26 June 2024~~ 25 September 2024
25	**28 February 2024** **Punakaiki Campground Lease** D Marshall to bring back reports to April Council regarding proposal from the Leasee	~~D Marshall~~ M Sutherland	Staff have been focused on achieving the additional funding from TIF during the last month and on preparing the draft enhanced annual plan. Staff will be contacting the leasee over the effluent system installation in the coming month and will engage and report back on their proposal by end of June. Update 26 June 2024 Once the TIF Funding Agreement has been received and approved by Council, staff will contact the leasee regarding the effluent system project and report back to the August 2024 meeting. Update 31 July The 28 August Update is to include Camp Development Plans of the Leasee Update 28 August Due to staff illness this will be included in the September update to Council with the update on the Punakaiki Wastewater Treatment Plant	~~26 June 2024~~ ~~28 August 2024~~ 25 September 2024
26	**28 February 2024** **Brougham House Update** Staff will report back in December 2024 on progress update on options being considered for Brougham House, EOC and Library.	K Trigg		18 December 2024

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL
28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 5

Prepared by Rick Barry
Contract Project Manager

Reviewed by Krissy Trigg
Group Manager Community Services

Attachments
1. Site Plan
2. Proposal
3. Submissions (contact details redacted)

REEFTON CAMPGROUND PROPOSAL – CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

1. REPORT SUMMARY

In May 2024 Council gave the approval for the Reefton Campground Accommodation Project Group to undertake public consultation on the proposed erection of 6 new cabins on part of the Reefton Recreation Reserve situated between Bridge Street and Ross Street, Reefton. Eight submissions were received, and this report outlines the submissions for Council. It seeks Council's approval or rejection of the proposal. If Council approves the proposal the report also seeks Council's consent as the administering body of the reserve and as the local authority.

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1) Consider all submissions received and hear from those submitters wishing to speak;

2) After consideration of all submissions received to the proposal resolves to:

a) Confirm that the Sections 49, 50, 51, 52 and 53 Town of Reefton (the Site) are part of the Reefton Recreation Reserve, set apart as a camping ground under section 53(1)(h) of the Reserves Act 1977; OR

Not confirm that the Sections 49, 50, 51, 52 and 53 Town of Reefton (the Site) are part of the Reefton Recreation Reserve, set apart as a camping ground under section 53(1)(h) of the Reserves Act 1977;

b) Declare the Site a relocatable home park; OR

Not declare the Site a relocatable home park;

c) Consent to the erection of the cabins, the construction of the car parks and installation of services (which may be used for the purposes of providing permanent or temporary personal accommodation for workers) as set out in Attachments 1&2, in its capacity as administering body of the reserve; OR

Not consent to the erection of the cabins, the construction of the car parks and installation of services (which may be used for the purposes of providing permanent or temporary personal accommodation for workers) as set out in Attachments 1&2, in its capacity as administering body of the reserve

d) Consent to the placement of the cabins on the Site, in its capacity as a local authority under the Camping Ground Regulations; OR

Not consent to the placement of the cabins on the Site, in its capacity as a local authority under the Camping Ground Regulations

3. ISSUES & DISCUSSION

BACKGROUND

3.1 **The Proposal**

In June 2023 Buller District Council (BDC) endorsed a funding application of $300,000 from the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) Better Off Funding, to support the Reefton Campground Accommodation project. This initiative aims to alleviate the shortage of worker and visitor accommodation in Reefton, by providing seed funding, to aid in establishing up to 10 new transportable cabins at the Reefton Campground. The cabins will initially

serve as temporary worker accommodation and later be repurposed for visitor accommodation.

The proposal developed by the project involves the construction of four double units, two single units (which are accessible units) and 10 car parks on part of the Reefton Reserve. The proposed cabins fall within the definition of a relocatable home for the purposes of the Camping Ground Regulations 1985.

The site chosen for the proposed cabins consists of 5 separate lots arranged in 3 certificates of title - NL 2D/407 (sections 49 and 50 Town of Reefton), NL 1A/462 (section 51 Town of Reefton) and Part NL 2D/397 (sections 52 and 53 Town of Reefton). See **Attachment 1**.

Reefton Campground is located on recreation reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. Council is the administering authority under the Act therefore any decision regarding the development of the reserve must have Council approval. As the reserve is a public space consultation has been undertaken. The final decision of Council can therefore be informed by the views of the community. At the meeting of 29th May 2024 Council resolved:

> '*1. Approve the Project Group's public notice and proceed to consultation as per lawyers recommendation outlined in this report.'*

3.2 Consultation and Submissions:

Consultation was undertaken during July 2024. The public notice was placed in the Grey Star newspaper and The Clarion. Council's website had a page set up with the proposal and opportunity to make submissions. Paper copies of the proposal and submission forms were advertised and available at the Reefton Visitor and Service Centre and Brougham House.

In total 8 submissions were received. Five of the submitters supported the proposal and three opposed it. Copies of the submissions are attached as **Attachment 3**. A summary of the submissions is in the table below:

Name:	Support/oppose	Comments
1. Nigel Mahoney	Strongly support	N/A
2. Nicky	Oppose	Workers accommodation will detract from role of camp for holiday makers/tourists. Could lead to friction e.g. kids holidaying vs. off shift workers sleeping. Separate site for long term accommodation would lessen impact.
3.Simon Delander,	Strongly support	Federation in support and will contribute financially. Great opportunity for motor

Federation Mining		park and wider Reefton community to benefit from mine development.
4.Tara Papworth	Support	Support development for the town, especially around accommodation, which is in short supply, as long as it's managed well and doesn't negatively affect existing resources.
5.Fiona Wykes	Strongly support	Manager of Motor Camp – supports proposal as will benefit both the camp and community.
6.Reefton Reserve Subcommittee	Strongly support	Support project for benefit of camp and community long into future
7.Susan Wauchop	Strongly oppose	It is wrong site – spoiling Reefton's most beautiful spot. Plenty of alternative sites – proliferation of derelict industrial sites and underutilised bare land Use of public land for private profit -why should Council fund housing for the mining industry. No to funding private profit from taxpayers' funds.
8.Moira Lockington	Strongly oppose	Suggest any spare Council money used to benefit of ratepayers. People in Walsh and Dick Streets are buying water because water makes them ill. Oldest area in town, past plans not fulfilled. Walsh Street needs footpaths. Do maintenance not build huts for transient miners.

Two of the submitters will be speaking to their submissions today. The Council must now make a final decision on the Proposal after considering all the submissions.

3.3 Further Action if Approved.

If Council was to approve the Proposal at this meeting a number of decisions must be made to provide for the use on the reserve, specifically on Lots 49, 50, 51,52 and 53 Town of Reefton (the Site).

a. *Confirm that the Site is part of the Reefton Recreation Reserve set apart as a camping ground under section 53(1)(h) of the Reserves Act 1977*:
As there is no current Reserve Management Plan for the campground and the history of the campground goes back many decades it is advised that to avoid any doubt the Council, as

administering body of the reserve, confirm that the Site is part of the Reefton Recreation Reserve which has been set aside for a camping ground.

b. *Declare the Site a relocatable home park*:
Council will need to make a decision that the locality, position, and condition of the Site is suitable for a relocatable home park and, if so, permit the use of the Site for a relocatable home park. The relocatable home park must be separate from that part of the camping ground used for camp sites unless otherwise permitted by the Council.
In making that decision the Council will need to be satisfied with the provision of reticulated sewerage, storm water drainage, and a reticulated water supply to the Site.

The Reefton Campground Accommodation Project Group has engaged qualified civil and drainage engineers to assess the existing services on the site. The engineers have confirmed that the site is equipped with reticulated sewerage, stormwater drainage, and water supply.

The current reticulated sewerage and water supplies are sufficient for the proposed relocatable home park. However, the existing stormwater drainage is directly connected to the sewerage system, which is not ideal as it results in unnecessary treatment of stormwater as sewage. Consequently, the engineers have designed a new on-site stormwater system for the proposed park. This new system has been tested and found to be compliant with soakage requirements, with a 100% reserve area and a calculated secondary path.

If the project proceeds, the new on-site stormwater system will require Resource Consent to ensure all potential environmental impacts are assessed and to obtain the necessary permissions from relevant authorities before installation.

c. *Consent to the erection of the cabins, the construction of the car parks and installation of services (which may be used for the purposes of providing permanent or temporary personal accommodation for workers), in its capacity as administering body of the reserve:*
Under the Reserves Act 1977 the administering body of a recreation reserve, in this case the Council, must give permission for any development on the reserve.

d. *Consent to the placement of the cabins on the Site, in its capacity as a local authority under the Camping Ground Regulations 1985*; As a local authority Council must give its consent to the cabins being placed on the Site under the Camping Ground Regulations 1985.

Each of these matters, a. to d. must be resolved, either accepted or rejected, after consideration of the submissions received. If the proposal is accepted then all of the above matters must be resolved.

4. CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 Strategic Impact

The Long-Term Plan 2021-2031 includes Key Performance Indicators as follows for Property:

- Ensuring land and property owned, vested, and managed by the Council is rationalised and utilised responsibly, and for the benefit of the Buller community.
- Council land is managed to support use by non-profit community enterprises and community organisations, and also commercial use when appropriate.

4.2 Significance Assessment

This proposal is not considered to be significant in terms of Council's Significant and Engagement Policy.

4.3 Risk Management Implications

This decision does not provide Council with a significant risk.

4.4 Values

The proposal aligns closely with Buller District Values by being Community Driven and Future Focussed. In addition, it demonstrates the Council's commitment to working as a team by working with the Project Group for the best interests of the community.

Overall, the Reefton Campground Accommodation Project demonstrates a collaborative approach by the Council and the community, aimed at fostering economic prosperity, supporting local enterprises, and enhancing the overall quality of life in Reefton.

4.5 Policy / Legal Considerations

Legal implications are considered above in 3.3.

4.6 Tangata Whenua Considerations

The Site is subject to Part 9 of the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998. That part requires certain disposals to be offered for purchase or lease to Ngai Tahu in certain circumstances. However, legal advice confirms Part 9 is not triggered by this Proposal. This is because the Proposal does not involve the transfer of ownership of the land (which remains owned by the Crown) and does not involve the grant of a lease for a term of 50 years or longer.

The decision does not involve a significant decision in relation to ancestral land or a body of water or other elements of intrinsic value, therefore this decision does not specifically impact Tangata Whenua, their culture and traditions.

4.7 Views of Those Affected

Public consultation with the community has been undertaken – see 3.2 above. The feedback from that consultation will be considered at this meeting.

4.8 Costs

The approved Better Off Funding is capped at $300,000 + GST. This funding is projected to cover the costs of the following services:

- Administrative and Project Management Services
- Design Services - Building, Civil and Site Infrastructure
- Legal Consultancy
- Resource Consent costs
- Building Consent costs
- Initial Civil and Infrastructure upgrades work

Funding for the procurement of the proposed new cabin/cottage buildings and associated construction works is not covered by the Better Off Funding. The Project Group aims to secure additional funding from external sources, by negotiating with potential partners involved in funding new mining operations within the Reefton area.

The operating costs to maintain and operate the proposed new cabin/cottage accommodations are expected to be covered by the ongoing booking fees, paid by the occupants.

4.9 Benefits

The Reefton Campground Accommodation Project presents significant benefits to both the Council and the community.

For the Council:

- The project enhances the land managed by the Council and the Reefton Reserve Subcommittee, aligning with strategic goals outlined in the Council 2021-2031 Long-Term Plan.
- Facilitates the provision of safe, compliant, and diversified public, community, and commercial buildings.
- Supports non-profit community enterprises and commercial ventures, promoting economic growth and tourism for the Reefton community and the wider Buller District.

For the Community:

- The project addresses the pressing need for accommodation options for both workers and visitors staying in Reefton
- Utilises funding support from the DIA to establish additional cabins, enhancing accommodation capacity and contributing to the sustainable growth of Reefton.
- Promotes economic growth and tourism by improving infrastructure and services at the Reefton Campground.

4.10 Media / Publicity

It is expected there will be significant interest from the media and the public which will be managed by the Councils Communication and Engagement team.

ATTACHMENT 1 – SITE PLAN

Gowans Walters
& Associates Ltd
building designers
tel: 03-544-9499
fax: 03-544-9488
enquiries@gowanswalters.co.nz

PROJECT
ACCOMODATION UNITS
at: REEFTON CAMP GROUND
for: BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSED BUILDING PRACTITIONER
BUILDING CONFIDENCE

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN

scale(s) at A3

sheet title
3D PERSPECTIVE

sheet 01 of 04
drawn J.L
date 12.03.2024
job no. 23184 (C04)

Gowans Walters & Associates Ltd
building designers
tel: 03-544-9499
fax: 03-544-9488
enquiries@gowanswalters.co.nz

PROJECT
ACCOMODATION UNITS
at: REEFTON CAMP GROUND
for: BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSED BUILDING PRACTITIONER *BUILDING CONFIDENCE*

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN

scale(s) at A3

sheet title
3D PERSPECTIVE

sheet 02 of 04

drawn	J.L
date	12.03.2024
job no.	23184 (C04)

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& Associates Ltd
building designers
tel: 03-544-9499
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PROJECT
ACCOMODATION UNITS
at: REEFTON CAMP GROUND
for: BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

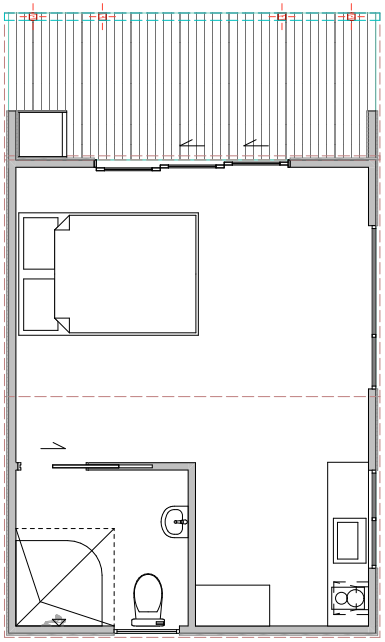
LICENSED BUILDING PRACTITIONER
BUILDING CONFIDENCE

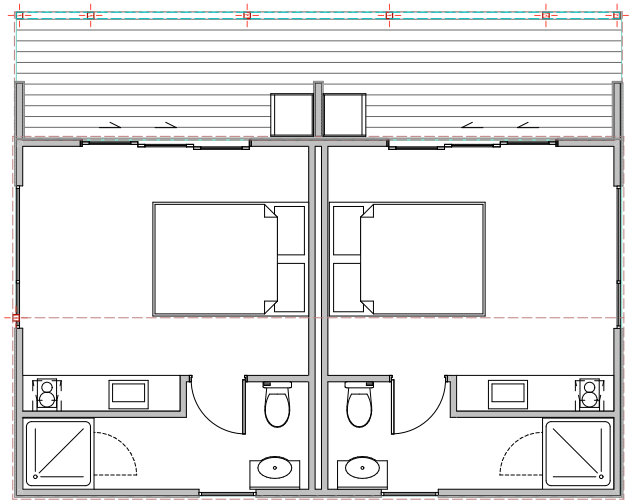
REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN

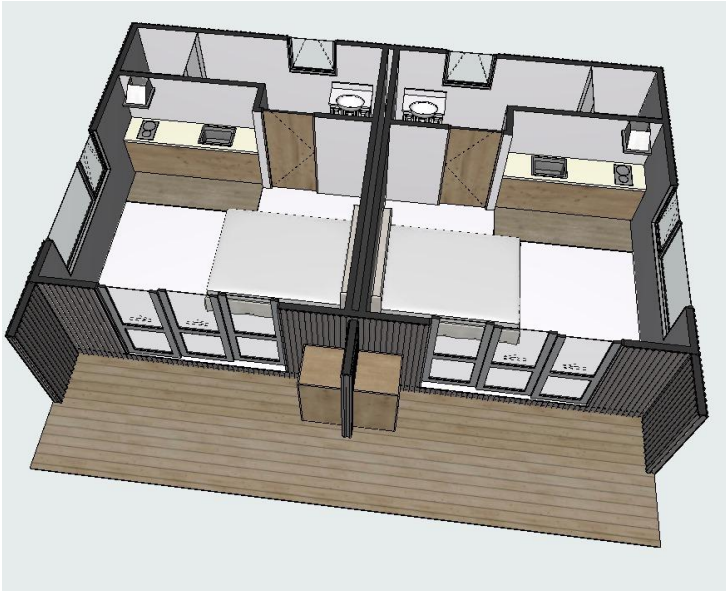
scale(s) at A3

sheet title
3D PERSPECTIVE

sheet 03 of 04
drawn J.L
date 12.03.2024
job no. 23184 (C04)







Gowans Walters & Associates Ltd
building designers
tel: 03-544-9499
fax: 03-544-9488
enquiries@gowanswalters.co.nz

PROJECT

ACCOMODATION UNITS

at: REEFTON CAMP GROUND

for: BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSED BUILDING PRACTITIONER BUILDING CONFIDENCE

REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN

scale(s) at A3

sheet title: 3D FLOOR PLAN

sheet 04 of 04

drawn J.L

date 12.03.2024

job no. 23184 (C04)

Nigel Mahoney

[redacted]

Name

[redacted]

Organisation

[redacted]

Postal address

[redacted]

Phone

[redacted]

Email

[redacted]

Please indicate if you wish to speak to your submission in person

No

Would you prefer your contact details be withheld when submissions are made available online?

No

What do you think about the proposed accommodation project at the Reefton Campground?

Strongly support

Do you have any comments about the proposal?

Nicky

[redacted]

Name

[redacted]

Organisation

Postal address

[redacted]

Phone

[redacted]

Email

[redacted]

Please indicate if you wish to speak to your submission in person

No

Would you prefer your contact details be withheld when submissions are made available online?

Yes

What do you think about the proposed accommodation project at the Reefton Campground?

Oppose

Do you have any comments about the proposal?

While it's a great idea, I worry that temporary accomodation for miners exct. will detract from the camp grounds role for holiday makers and tourists as these are two very different groups with different needs. Ie holidaying with the kids vs trying to sleep when off shift, which may lead to friction in the common areas, or a reduction in holiday makers.

A separate site for the long term accommodation would lessen the impact on the tourism market, and could likely make more money as often accommodation costs are covered by companies.

Simon Delander
Federation Mining

[redacted]

Name
[redacted]
Organisation
[redacted]
Postal address
[redacted]
Phone
[redacted]
Email
[redacted]

Please indicate if you wish to speak to your submission in person

No

Would you prefer your contact details be withheld when submissions are made available online?

No

What do you think about the proposed accommodation project at the Reefton Campground?

Strongly support

Do you have any comments about the proposal?

Federation is a strong support of this project and will make a financial contribution to the construction of the new cabins. We believe this project offers a great opportunity for the Reefton Motor park and broader Reefton community to benefit from the development of the Snowy River Mine by accommodating and supporting mine workers. Thank you for the opportunity to submit.

Tara Papworth

[redacted]

Name

[redacted]

Organisation

Postal address

[redacted]

Phone

02108399077

Email

[redacted]

Please indicate if you wish to speak to your submission in person

No

Would you prefer your contact details be withheld when submissions are made available online?

Yes

What do you think about the proposed accommodation project at the Reefton Campground?

Support

Do you have any comments about the proposal?

Support development for the town, especially around accommodation which is in short supply, as long as it's managed well and doesn't negatively affect existing resources.

Fiona Wykes

[redacted]

Name
[redacted]
Organisation

Postal address
[redacted]
Phone
[redacted]
Email
[redacted]

Please indicate if you wish to speak to your submission in person

No

Would you prefer your contact details be withheld when submissions are made available online?

Yes

What do you think about the proposed accommodation project at the Reefton Campground?

Strongly support

Do you have any comments about the proposal?

As manager of the Reefton Motor Camp I support the proposal as it will benefit both the Reefton Motor Camp and the Reefton community into the future.

Reefton Reserve Subcommittee

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

Proposed Reefton Campground Accomodation Project

Submission Form

Have **your** say!

Name:

Organisation:

Postal address:

Phone:

Email:

Please indicate if you wish to speak to your submission in person
✓ Yes No

Would you prefer your contact details be withheld when submissions are made available online?
Yes ✓ No

Submission number: *Office use only*

Privacy Statement: In accordance with the Local Government Act 2002, all submissions (including your name and contact details) will be made available to the public as part of the decision-making process. Please refer to **www.bullerdc.govt.nz/privacy** or contact Council for a copy of Council's Privacy Statement.

What is being proposed?

Council invites public feedback on a proposed development at the Reefton Motor Camp, on part of the Reefton Recreation Reserve located between Bridge Street and Ross Street, Reefton. A plan showing the site of the proposed development is available on the Council's website.

The Council proposes to install 6 new cabins on the site, comprising 4 double units and 2 single accessible units. Additionally, 10 car parks will be constructed on the site. The cabins may be prefabricated off-site and later transported to the site, where they will be connected to essential services such as power, drainage, and plumbing.

- The purpose of this proposal is to provide long-term or temporary accommodation for workers and/or Reefton visitors.
- The Council proposes to set aside the site for the purposes of the camping ground, and as a relocatable home park (as defined in the Camping-Grounds Regulations 1985).
- No financial burden is anticipated on Council or Ratepayers for this project.

Submissions are accepted during the consultation period from Monday 1 July 9:30am to Thursday 1 August 5.00pm 2024. Late submissions will not be considered.

Your submission

1. **What do you think about the proposed accommodation project at the Reefton Campground?**

✓ Strongly support Support Neither support nor oppose Oppose Strongly oppose

2. **Do you have any comments about the proposal?**

Please feel free to identify which elements of the proposed changes you wish to comment on.

We support this project for the benefit to the Reefton Motor Camp and the Reefton Community, long into the future.

Need more room? You can attach extra pages – just make sure they're A4 and that you include your name and contact information.

Have **your** say!

For more information or for sending us your submission

Email
info@bdc.govt.nz with the subject Reefton Campground Project if you have any questions.

Online
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Post
Return this completed form to the mail slot at Council Office on Brougham Street, Westport or the Reefton Visitor and Service Centre.

Want a hard copy?
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Susan Wauchop

BULLER
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

Proposed Reefton Campground Accomodation Project

Submission Form

Have **your** say!

Your details *Please complete all fields*

Name:

Organisation:

Postal address:

Phone:

Email:

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Please indicate if you wish to speak to your submission in person

✓ Yes ○ No

Would you prefer your contact details be withheld when submissions are made available online?

✓ Yes ○ No

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Your submission

1. **What do you think about the proposed accommodation project at the Reefton Campground?**

Strongly support | Support | Neither support nor oppose | Oppose | ✓ Strongly oppose

2. **Do you have any comments about the proposal?**

Please feel free to identify which elements of the proposed changes you wish to comment on.

My objection to the proposed accommodation project is based on 3 grounds

- It is the wrong site. It will involve the spoiling of, arguably, Reefton's most beautiful public space. The entry to Reefton is one of the most picturesque of any small town. I was totally awed on my first visit. Like many other first time tourists, I had to stop to take a picture. The sweeping lawns, the extraordinary trees.. Spectacular. To build on this site would be like building on Hagley Park. Inconceivable.
- There are plenty of alternative sites. I've spent 7 months walking the streets of Reefton.. ooh-ing + aah-ing at the beautiful private gardens, + groaning at the proliferation of derelict industrial sites + under utilised bare land. Plenty of potential sites. Why not build around the Race Course?
- The use of public land for private profit. I understand that the impetus for this proposal has come from the re-entry of the mining industry to Reefton. Why on earth would, or should the Council be so desperate to fund housing for this industry - one of the wealthiest on the planet? It is not as if they need to be enticed here. These Australians are desperate to come. So - a BIG NO to funding private profit from tax-payers funds!

Need more room? You can attach extra pages – just make sure they're A4 and that you include your name and contact information.

Have **your** say!

For more information or for sending us your submission

Email
info@bdc.govt.nz with the subject Reefton Campground Project if you have any questions

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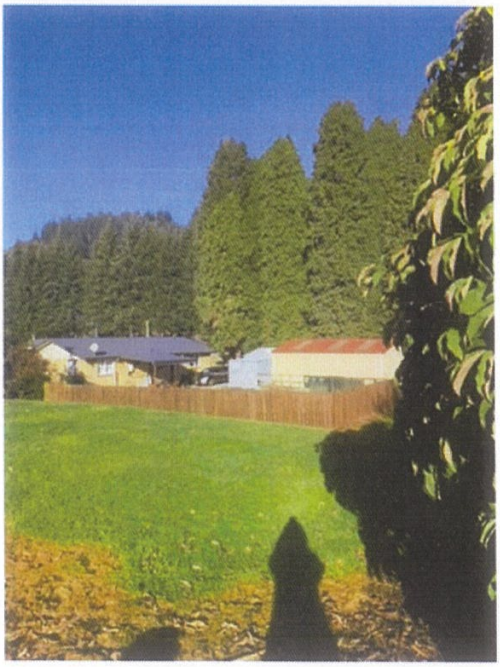
The proposed site



Looking the other way – at the Campground Manager's house.

Moira Lockington

BULLER
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

Proposed Reefton Campground Accomodation Project

Submission Form

Have **your** say!

Your details *Please complete all fields*

Name:

Organisation:

Postal address:

Phone:

Email:

Privacy Statement: *In accordance with the Local Government Act 2002, all submissions (including your name and contact details) will be made available online as part of the decision-making process. Please refer to* ***www.bullerdc.govt.nz/privacy*** *or contact Council for a copy of Council's Privacy Statement.*

Please indicate if you wish to speak to your submission in person

Yes ✓ No

Would you prefer your contact details be withheld when submissions are made available online?

Yes ✓ No

Submission number: ***Office use only***

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Your submission

1. **What do you think about the proposed accommodation project at the Reefton Campground?**

Strongly support | Support | Neither support nor oppose | Oppose | ✓ Strongly oppose

2. **Do you have any comments about the proposal?**

Please feel free to identify which elements of the proposed changes you wish to comment on.

When Oceania Gold came to Reefton the workers preferred to live in Westport, Greymouth & Hokitika.
If the BDC has some spare money I would suggest it be spent in the town for the benefit of the RATEPAYERS.
There are people in Walsh and Dick Streets which include the Pensioner Flats who buy water as their water makes them ill. The pipes in this area are probably the oldest in the town as this is the area where people first lived
What has happened to the Kerbing & Channeling plan that I was involved in in 2018 with the engineer Tracy Fleming?
What has become of the money that was set aside for this task? Walsh Street is a very busy street there should be footpaths to the top of the street. Children, prams, a lady on a walker, Mobile scooters all drive on the road. I am surprised there has not been an accident. Take a look at the roofs of the pensioner flats. They are rusty and a disgrace
Do some maintenance not build huts for transient miners

Need more room? You can attach extra pages – just make sure they're A4 and that you include your name & contact information.

Have **your** say!

For more information or for sending us your submission

Email
info@bdc.govt.nz with the subject Reefton Campground Project if you have any questions.

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BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 6

Prepared by Mel Sutherland
Manager Infrastructure Delivery

Reviewed by Michael Aitken
Group Manager Infrastructure Services

Attachments: 1. West Coast Regional Waste Assessment 2024 Final Draft
2. Te rautaki para - Waste Strategy

WEST COAST REGIONAL WASTE ASSESSMENT 2024 – COUNCIL APPROVAL

1. REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides Council with an update on key regional and local level work undertaken to implement the West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2024 - 2030.

As part of this report, Officers present the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment 2024. The Waste Assessment sets out the information necessary to identify key issues and priority actions to be addressed in the next WMMP 2024 -2030.

Finally, a discussion on the next steps under the Waste Minimisation Act are considered, so that, Councillors may make a formal decision on the future direction of the West Coast Region WMMP 2024 – 2030.

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Receive the report.**

2. **Agrees with the findings from the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment 2024 and;**

3. **Adopts the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment 2024.**

4. **Agrees to proceed with the amendment of the existing West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018 to develop a**

new West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024 based on:

a) The findings from the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment 2024

b) Alignment of activities with the 2023 Te rautaki para - National Waste Strategy – under the Waste Management Act 2008, Section 50(3)(a).

3. ISSUES & DISCUSSION

3.1 Background

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) requires all territorial authorities adopt a Waste Minimisation Management Plan (WMMP) to be the guiding document to promote waste management and minimisation within their districts. Joint WMMP are encouraged from Central Government to avoid duplication of efforts, identify opportunities for waste outside of the district, develop regional waste infrastructure, and boost economies of scale.

The existing West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan - WMMP was prepared in 2018 for the three Councils of the West Coast Region. Section 50 (1) (b) of the WMA specifies the conditions to review the WMMP and requires all territorial authorities to review their WMMP at intervals of not more than six years after the last review. As such the existing West Coast Regional WMMP will expire in September 2024, a decision on whether to update the WMMP is now required.

The three West Coast Councils have again joined efforts to undertake the regional WMMP review due in 2024. To support the review the Waste Minimisation Act sets out several statutory requirements that must be met. These include:

- the development of a Waste Assessment as specified in Section 50 of the Act (discussed in the current situation); and
- having regard to the New Zealand Waste Strategy 2023; and
- the development of the range of actions and initiatives that will be developed by each West Coast Territorial Authority to enact the WMMP.

Further, as per the statutory requirements of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, the Medical Officer of Health must be consulted with to provide feedback on the Waste Assessment. Specifically, this feedback relates to the Health Act 1956 which requires Councils to ensure the provision of waste services to adequately protect public health. This feedback is included in the Waste Assessment. All this feedback will be considered in the development of the WMMP.

3.2 Issues and Waste Assessment finding

- Results of the updated Waste Assessment show:
  - Waste generation is steadily increasing in the region. Results show approximately 402kg per person in the West Coast Region was disposed of to landfill in 2022/23 compared with approximately 300kg per person in 2018/19.
  - Diversion of waste from landfill in the region has decreased from 22% in 2018/19 to 18% in 2022/23. The data suggests that recovery has remained consistent with waste to landfill increasing during this period.
  - Waste from tourism accounts for 28% of all waste in the West Coast.

- The Waste Assessment has proposed the following options to address in the next six-year period:
  - Consider how the region can capture organic wastes from entering landfill.
- Utilise Government supported Product Stewardship Schemes to increase diversion of waste from landfill.
  - Collaborate with industry to support waste management knowledge and practices.
  - Focus on collaboration within the region between community groups to support waste management (removing the reliance on Council to provide services).
  - Increasing the amount of divertible materials which are being sent to landfill.
- Addressing the level of contamination in kerbside recycling. Approach contamination, and other issues, through educational and behavioural change.
  - Increase and target communication for better waste management practices in tourism hotspots.
  - Engage different industry groups in the region to ensure recovery of waste streams at an industrial scale.

- These issues and options are broadly consistent with those identified in the 2018 WMMP. This means that some progress has been made, but many of the actions identified in the 2018 WMMP remain relevant.

- It should also be noted that during the past six years there has been significant change at national level with the release of Te rautaki para, the 2023 Waste Strategy which shows Central Government's commitment to transition to a circular economy. An amendment to the 2018 WMMP would enable these changes to be reflected in an amended WMMP.

3.2 Discussion

Based on the findings of the Waste Assessment review each of the three West Coast Councils will need:

1. To decide whether to adopt the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment 2024 (attached to this document).

2. Decide on the future direction of the West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation Management Plan, according to the three following options:

   - Option 1: continue with the West Coast Regional WMMP 2018 (status quo) - WMA s50(3)(b).

   - Option 2: **(recommended option):** amend the existing West Coast Regional WMMP 2018 and extend activities to align it with the 2023 National Waste Strategy to develop a new West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024 – 2030 – WMA s50(3)(a).

   - Option three: revoke and replace the West Coast Regional WMMP 2018 with a new District or Regional WMMP – WMA s50(3)(a).

Note, Grey and Westland District Councils have already decided to proceed with Option 2.

3.4 Timelines

The following table presents the steps and scheduled timeframes to meet the legal requirements under the Waste Management Act to adopt the amended West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation Management Plan 2024 -2030.

West Coast Regional Waste Assessment – Elaboration	March to July 2024
West Coast Regional Waste Assessment – Buller District Council Approval	28 August 2024
Waste Minimisation and Management Plan Draft - Elaboration	July to September 2024
Waste Minimisation and Management Plan Draft – Buller District Council workshop	11 September 2024 (TBC)
Waste Minimisation and Management Plan Draft– Buller District Council Adoption	30 October 2024
Waste Minimisation Management Plan Consultation and submissions	8 November to 9 December 2024
Hearings and deliberations	12 February 2025 (TBC)
Waste Minimisation Management Plan Buller District Council Adoption	March 2025

4. CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 Strategic impact
All territorial authorities must adopt a Waste Minimisation Management Plan (WMMP) to be the guiding document to promote waste management and minimization within their districts. Projects, actions, and targets established in the WMMP would need to be considered as part of the Councils Long-Term Plan.

4.2 Significance Assessment
The adopted WMMP will be the document guide to lead waste management in the region. Waste Projects and Annual Plans would be addressed to meet the targets established in the WMMP.

4.3 Risk Management Implications
Some of the projects and actions set in the WMMP may be costly to implement. Waste Levy funds will be used to implement most of the projects; however, some costly initiatives may need extra budget from Council.

Non – compliance with the targets may result in government to withdrawal the waste levy funds reimbursed to Council ($240 per annum to 2024 financial year)

4.4 Values
A WMMP aligns with Council values of providing fit for purpose and safe community services to maintain public health.

4.5 Policy / Legal Considerations
The Waste Management Act 2008 Section 50 requires all territorial authorities adopt a Waste Minimisation Management Plan (WMMP) and specifies the conditions to review their WMMP at intervals of not more than 6-years after the last review.

Public consultation in accordance with the section 83 (Special Consultative Procedure) is required.

4.6 Tangata Whenua Considerations
Tangata Whenua value the health of the land and its people. A WMMP to guide the waste management in the region is a key director to ensure community and environmental health.

4.7 Views of Those Affected
Under of the WMA 2008 there is a statutory requirement that community consultation is undertaken. Therefore, consultation will be executed in accordance with Section 83 (Special Consultative Procedure) of the Local Government Act 2002.

4.8 Costs

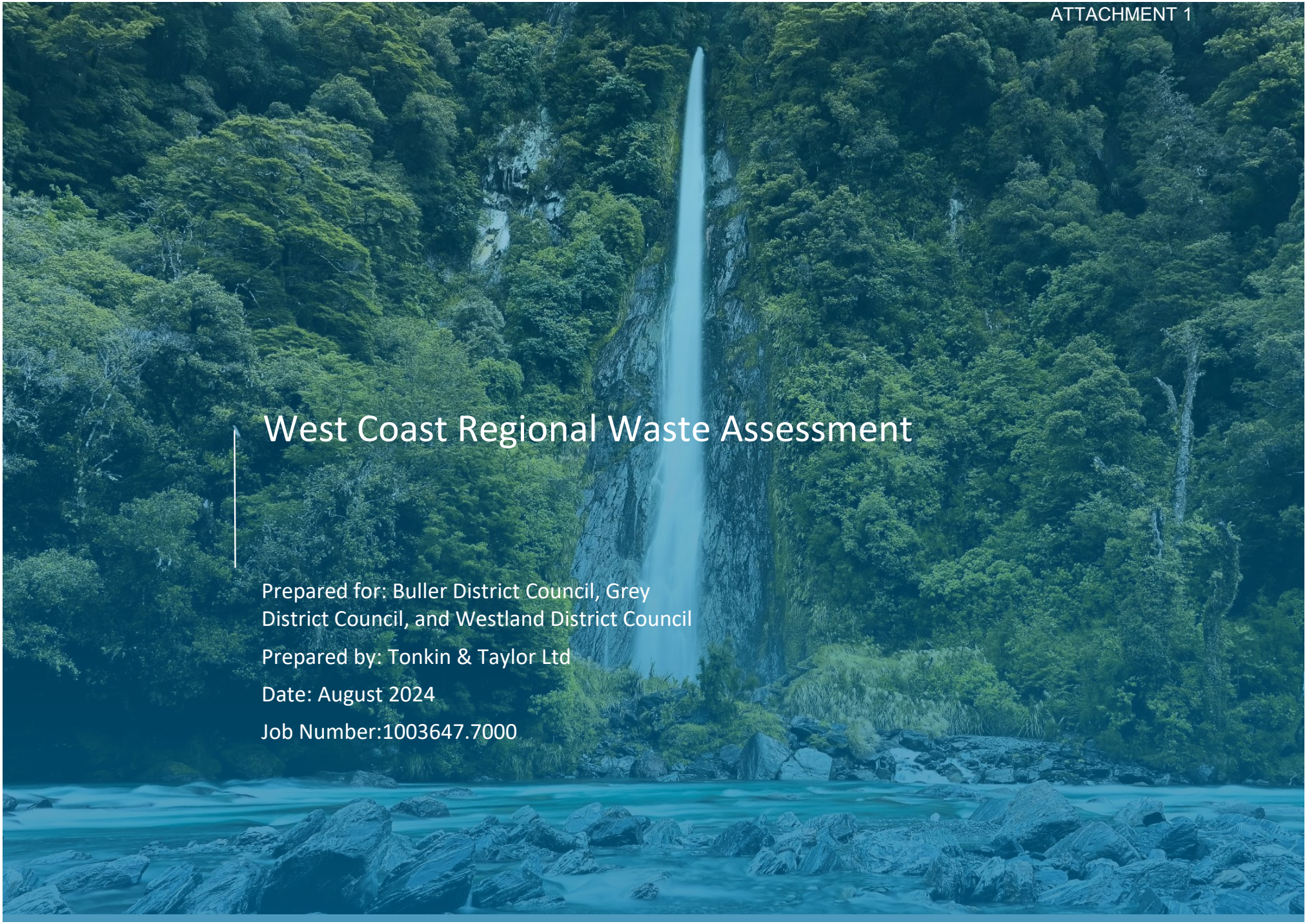
Waste Levy funds will be used to implement most of the projects; however, some costly initiatives may need extra budget from the Council. Long-Term Plan 2025-2035 to be updated to allow budget to cover some of the projects.

4.9 Benefits

A Waste Minimisation Management Plan (WMMP) is expected to be a guiding document to promote waste management and minimization within the districts. Moreover, a joint WMMP may avoid duplication of efforts, help to identify opportunities for waste outside of the district and support regional waste infrastructure development.

4.10 Media/Publicity

Continued media interest regarding Waste Management is expected to remain high. Media and publicity management will be established according to the Council policies and processes.



West Coast Regional Waste Assessment

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

Prepared by: Tonkin & Taylor Ltd

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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:	Report prepared by:	Authorised for Tonkin & Taylor Ltd by:
.....	.....	.....
Adrienne Kozlowski	Hannah Kelly	Chris Purchas
Resource Recovery Consultant	Project Manager	Project Director

Tonkin+Taylor

Executive Summary

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

What required improvement?
- Understanding of waste from tourism sector
- Regional diversion from landfill
- Organic material recovery
- Alignment in services across the region
- Consistent data collection

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.

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.

Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This Waste Assessment establishes the planning foundations for the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) that will be prepared for Buller District Council (BDC), Grey District Council (GDC) and Westland District Council (WDC), referred to herein as 'the Councils.'

The Waste Assessment describes the current waste situation, sets the vision, goals, objectives, and targets for the districts, and develops options for meeting future demand. The outputs from this Waste Assessment will be summarised in the final regional WMMP.

It also positions the Councils to adequately protect public health by providing facilities for the safe recovery and disposal of waste. A statement from the Medical Officer of Heath is provided at the conclusion of this document.

This Waste Assessment and the subsequent WMMP meet each Council's obligations to evaluate and plan for waste minimisation and management in their district under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

While a WMMP must be reviewed every six years, this assessment takes a much longer-term view. This recognises local government long term planning approaches and that decisions on contracts for services (typically 10 years or more) and infrastructure investment (with a service life of 20-50 years) span many years.

This Waste Assessment covers solid waste generated within the boundaries of the Councils and will take a regional approach. The focus is on materials entering the waste management system (kerbside or transfer station collection, processing, and disposal).

1.2 Waste Assessment Structure

This waste assessment has three parts:

Part 1 – Where are we now?

This covers policy and legislative context, the current waste situation including waste flows, infrastructure, services and forecast of future demand. This will be summarised in the WMMP.

Part 2 – Where do we want to be?

This includes the vision, goals, objectives, and targets for the Waste Assessment, which will form part of the WMMP.

Part 3 – How are we going to get there?

This part identifies options and assesses the suitability of each option (as required by Section 51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008) and includes a summary of the outcome of consultation with the Medical Officer of Health. The preferred options from the Part 3 assessment will be presented in the WMMP.

1.3 What must a WMMP address?

A WMMP must contain a summary of the Councils' objectives, policies and targets for waste management and minimisation. The plan should clearly communicate how the Councils will deliver on these objectives.

Section 43 of the WMA states that a WMMP must provide for:

- Objectives and policies for achieving effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the territorial authority's district.
- Methods for achieving effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the territorial authority's district, including:
  - collection, recovery, recycling, treatment, and disposal services for the district to meet its current and future waste management and minimisation needs (whether provided by the territorial authority or otherwise).
  - any waste management and minimisation facilities provided, or to be provided, by the territorial authority.
  - any waste management and minimisation activities, including any educational or public awareness activities, provided, or to be provided, by the territorial authority.
- How implementing the plan is to be funded; and
- If the territorial authority wishes to make grants or advances of money in accordance with Section 47, the framework for doing so.
- In addition, a WMMP must have regard to the waste hierarchy, the Waste Strategy, and a Council's most recent Waste Assessment (this document).

Part 1

The Current Situation

2 New Zealand legislative context

Legislation surrounding waste management and minimisation continues to evolve in New Zealand. This section offers a summary of relevant legislation, policy and central government activity in 2024.The dark squares in Figure 2.1 are covered in detail within this section, the lighter squares are important considerations for Councils and the main elements of these legislative requirements are further detailed in Appendix A.

Figure 2.1: Relevant waste legisation, policy, and activity.

2.1 Te Rautaki Para | Waste Strategy 2023

Te Rautaki Para Waste Strategy (2023) is the Government's core policy document concerning the future direction of waste management and minimisation in New Zealand. The vision of the Waste Strategy commits New Zealand to a low-emissions, low-waste, circular economy by 2050.

The strategy includes three national targets to achieve by 2030.

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.

Alongside the targets, key parts of the strategy that the West Coast may need to plan for include:

- Implications from regulated product stewardship schemes.
- Data collection and reporting requirements.
- Resource recovery infrastructure network (local and national).
- Behaviour change programmes (local and national).
- Contaminated land and remediation.

The aspirations of Te Rautaki Para Waste Strategy are underpinned by several acts, including:

- Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (under review)
- Local Government Act 2002

- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996
- Climate Change Response Act 1996
- Resource Management Act 1991 (under review)
- Litter Act 1979 (under review)

There is some uncertainty about what the future legislative framework will look like given a number of these acts are under review. This includes proposals relating to nationally coordinated investment in infrastructure, clearer obligations for producers of waste (households and businesses) and specified services such as food waste collection from households.

Section 44 of the Waste Minimisation Act requires councils to have regard to the waste strategy when preparing their WMMP.

2.2 Kerbside standardisation

Early in 2023, the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) announced a move to standardise kerbside recycling across the country as part of the workplan/priorities laid out in Te Rautaki Para. This announcement signalled:

- A **standardised set of recyclable materials** will be collected from households in urban areas (i.e., towns of 1000 people or more), this was implemented 1st February 2024.
- **Kerbside organics collections** be available to households in all urban areas by 2030.
- **Minimum standards for diverting waste from landfill** would apply to councils, with reporting requirements for private waste companies.
- Businesses would be required to separate food scraps from general waste by 2030.

The announcement was followed by a Gazette Notice released on 13 September 2023. The Gazette Notice sets out the first tranche of performance standards[1] related to standardisation of materials collected for recycling at the kerbside. The standard set of materials to be collected are:

- Glass bottles and jars
- Paper and cardboard
- Plastic bottles, trays, and containers 1, 2, and 5
- Aluminium and steel tins and cans

As of 1 February 2024, the collection of standard materials applies to all councils that collect kerbside recycling, food scraps or food and garden organics (FOGO) from households and that include such services in their Waste Minimisation and Management Plans (WMMPs).

The notice also applies to private waste companies that collect household kerbside recycling or organic waste on behalf of councils. The notice does not apply to transfer stations, community recycling centres, other drop-off recycling schemes or private waste

[1] Standard materials for kerbside collections Notice 2023 (Notice No. 1) [2023-go4222].

companies and social enterprises that operate collections independently of councils.

The Gazette Notice also signalled that further regulations under Section 48 of the Waste Minimisation Act will be developed and that these regulations would:

- Ensure kerbside recycling services are provided to households in urban areas by 2027.
- Make kerbside organics collection services available to households in all urban areas by 2030.

The need for businesses to also separate food scraps from general waste by 2030, as signalled in the original announcement, is likely to be considered as part of the broader waste legislation review process.

The lack of clarity regarding the timing of some of these proposals creates a degree of uncertainty for councils. However, Te Rautaki Para clearly sets out a pathway towards a more circular economy.

2.3 Waste Disposal Levy Expansion

For every tonne of waste disposed to landfill, a levy is applied and collected by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE). Since 1 July 2021, the landfill waste disposal levy has been progressively increased and expanded (Figure 2.2). Government signalled further increases in the 2024 Budget with the levy on Class 1 landfills increasing to $75 by July 2027 through 3 $5 increases. The same will apply to construction and demolition fill ($45 by 2027) and managed or control fill ($20 by 2027). The waste disposal levy is equally shared between councils (city and district) and the waste minimisation fund.

The Government also announced changes to the way the waste disposal levy can be spent. Previously the funding allocated to councils was required be spent on promoting or achieving the waste minimisation activities set out in their waste management and minimisation plans.

The scope of projects which can now be funded through the Waste Disposal Levy will be expanded to include a wider range of projects supporting the environment and climate change mitigation and adaptation in addition to minimising waste. These projects can include costs associated with disposal of waste generated by an emergency such as a cyclone, and to clean up contaminated sites and landfills vulnerable to severe weather events – before they cause a problem.

Territorial authorities received waste levy refunds based on levy collected, levy refunded, and their district's population.[2] The Waste Levy distribution over the last five quarters is shown in Section 4.

The increase in the Waste Disposal Levy provides an opportunity for the region to increase investment in waste minimisation and broader environmental protection activities. However, due to the review of the Waste Minimisation Act, and projected population decline for the region, there is uncertainty on how much levy revenue will be available to the region.

[2] Territorial authorities and the waste disposal levy | Ministry for the Environment.

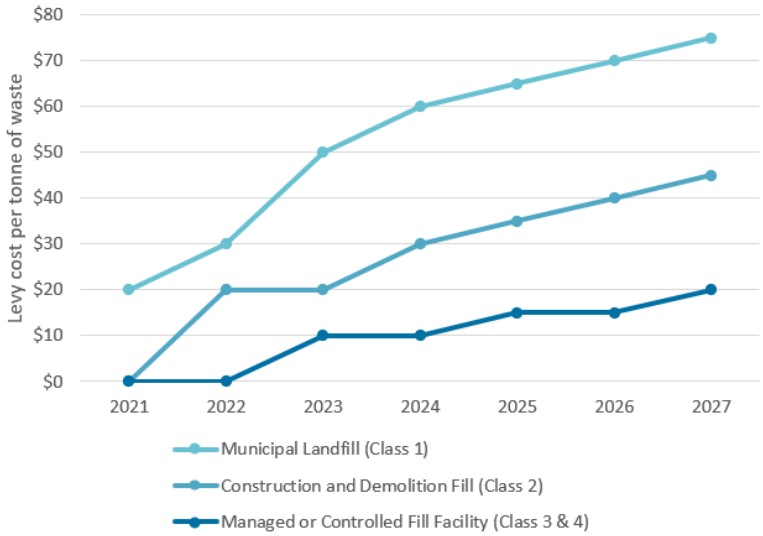

Figure 2.2: Waste Disposal Levy expansion.

2.4 Container Return Scheme

Figure 2.3: New Zealand Container Return Scheme model (figure adapted from Ministry for the Environment).

Alongside kerbside standardisation announcements in early 2023, the Government deferred the introduction of a **national beverage container return scheme (CRS)**. Container return schemes encourage consumers and businesses to return beverage containers (e.g., bottles, cans etc) for recycling and/or re-use. They do this by including a refundable deposit (e.g., 20-cents or more) in the price of purchase.

While the scheme has been deferred it has not been abandoned. Depending on design, any future CRS may have an impact on the

quantity of containers collected through kerbside recycling services and drop-off locations including transfer stations and may significantly increase the value of some collected materials. The current design of the deferred CRS is illustrated in Figure 2.3: New Zealand Container Return Scheme model (figure adapted from Ministry for the Environment)..

2.5 Emissions Reduction Plan

In May 2022, the national **Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP)** was released. The ERP sets out the planned targets and objectives with an initial focus on the period from 2022 to 2025. The plan aims to enable a transition to a low-emissions, climate resilient future for Aotearoa New Zealand. As the first of its kind, the government is placing new requirements on councils to reduce their emissions from waste with particular focus on emissions from organic materials and landfill gas. A significant action for local government to reduce emissions is to offer a food scraps collection service by 2030 in line with the kerbside standardisation program of work.

Planning is now underway on the second emissions reduction plan. This will cover the emission budget for the years 2026 to 2030.

2.6 International Commitments

New Zealand is party to the following key international agreements that are of relevance to waste minimisation and management:

- **Montreal Protocol** – to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production of ozone-depleting substances.
- **Basel Convention** – to reduce the movement of hazardous wastes between nations.
- **Stockholm Convention** – to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants.
- **Waigani Convention** – bans export of hazardous or radioactive waste to Pacific Islands Forum countries.

New Zealand has also joined other countries in supporting the launch of negotiations towards a new treaty to combat plastic pollution. This legally binding treaty is expected to be negotiated by the end of 2024. After negotiation, countries will go through their own treaty-making processes to determine whether they will sign up to the treaty.

2.7 Impact for West Coast

As discussed earlier in this section, Te Rautaki Para clearly sets out a pathway towards a more circular economy and the legislation surrounding waste management are likely to reflect this. The key impacts of this shift that the West Coast will need to plan for are:

- Ensuring Council is positioned to align with kerbside standardisation regulations within the timeframes outlined by MfE.
- Planning for how the increase in waste levy funding will be allocated.
- Accounting for, and future proofing, waste management infrastructure to adapt to changes in material quantities resulting from any CRS or product stewardship.

3 Our region

3.1 Our region

This Waste Assessment and the resulting WMMP have been prepared within the unique local and regional context of the West Coast. The actions and objectives identified in the Waste Assessment and WMMP reflect, intersect with, and are expressed through other planning documents. Key planning documents and other factors influencing waste management and minimisation are discussed in this section.

The West Coast region spans approximately 23,245 km² of mainly rural land.

The region is made up of three districts (Buller District, Grey District and Westland District), with three key towns: Greymouth, Westport, and Hokitika. A summary of the population spread, and expected growth, is provided in Figure 3.1.

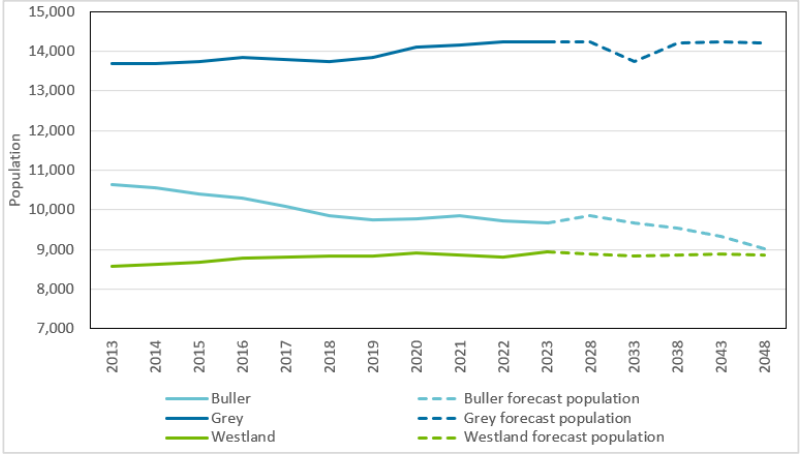

Figure 3.1: Population spread and expected growth in the West Coast.

Population

West Coast Region is home to a population of 32,700 (2023 estimate)[3] making it the least populous region in Aotearoa. The population is projected to reduce to 30,000 by 2048.[4]

Looking at the population characteristics[5], key areas to note are:

- West Coast's population tends to be older than the national average. The current median age across the region is 47.2 years.

[3] https://figure.nz/chart/qYPFtR1JzsKFLy4b-SXfyuF28vKbvz5E9 data from Stats NZ.

[4] https://figure.nz/chart/qYPFtR1JzsKFLy4b-SXfyuF28vKbvz5E9 data from Stats NZ, based on 2018 data.

[5] https://ecoprofile.infometrics.co.nz/West%20Coast%20Region/PDFProfile#h29.

- The birth rate in the region is expected to decline by 7% on average year on year from current levels, with the death rate increasing by 9% on average year on year. This is leading to an aging population within the region.
- As seen in Figure 3.2, the region's population is set to steadily decrease, meanwhile, visitor numbers are set to increase as discussed in the Tourism section below.

Marae/iwi

There are three iwi that span across the West Coast region: Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, and Ngāti Rārua. Ngāti Waewae, a sub-tribe of Ngāi Tahu, are mana whenua for Te Tai o Poutini from Kahurangi Point, to the north bank of the Hokitika River.[6] Ngāi Tahu lands cover much of the South Island and are New Zealand's largest single tribal territory.[7]

From 2018 Census data, 11.7% of the West Coast population identify as Māori.[8]

Each Council has Māori representation:

- Buller: Non-elected Māori Portfolio Councillor
- Grey: Iwi representative
- Westland: Two iwi representatives

Industry

Key industries contributing to the West Coast's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) 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).[9]

The top three farm types in the West Coast are dairy cattle farming, beef cattle farming and forestry. There are two locations for meat processing in the region – ANZCO Foods Kokiri, and Silver Ferns Farms Hokitika. Another significant driver of economic activity is Westland Milk Products, which has a new lactoferrin plant being constructed at a facility based in Hokitika.[10] This new plant adds to powder and butter manufacturing at the site.

Mining is the key industry where the West Coast Region shows a strong comparative advantage.[11] The West Coast has a range of existing and potential mining projects, which includes projects recently consented near Westport, or working through the consent process north of Greymouth.

In early 2024, a number of mining consent applications have been submitted within the West Coast including a renewed application

[6] Mō Mātou | About Us | Ko Arahura te awa | Ngāti Waewae – Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae (ngatiwaewae.org.nz).

[7] Ngāi Tahu – Te Ara Encyclopaedia of New Zealand.

[8] Place Summaries | West Coast Region | Stats NZ.

[9] west-coast-region-economic-profile-2023.pdf page 4.

[10] https://www.westland.co.nz/news/70m-west-coast-investment-to-secure-westland-as-global-dairy-leader/.

[11] west-coast-region-economic-profile-2023.pdf page 8.

(since approved) for a mineral sands mine north of Greymouth[12] and a mineral sand mining application near Westport.[13]

With increasing growth in these industries, it is important for the region to consider management of waste resulting from mining activities including maintenance of heavy equipment, general consumables (PPE, packaging) and waste from supporting commercial activity alongside agricultural waste products. All of these waste streams will contribute to waste requiring recycling or landfill disposal.

Tourism

The West Coast is an ideal location for tourism and has an increasing number of tourists visiting every year, particularly between the months of November and April (as seen in Figure 3.2.[14] 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 hotspots for tourists include Greymouth, Westport, Hokitika, Fox Glacier, Franz Josef Glacier, and Reefton.[15]

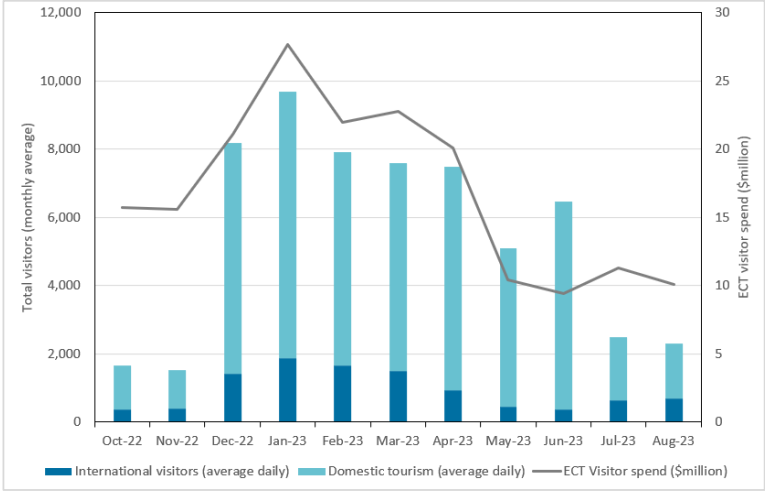

Figure 3.2: Tourism numbers and spend on the West Coast between October 2022 and August 2023.

Regional collaboration

The three district councils within the West Coast have a strong history of collaboration. The most recent Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (2018) was conducted regionally.

Grey and Westland District Council are also conducting a joint procurement for their waste services contracts, to come into place mid-2025. This aims to align services across the two districts as

[12] West Coast mine proposal gets the green light (1news.co.nz).

[13] Sand mining proposal for Buller goes to hearing | RNZ News.

[14] Tourism data sheet graph.

[15] West_Coast_Visitor_Trends_August_2023_q77iv4P.pdf. (d3sak6swcqiwkw.cloudfront.net)

much as possible. The procurement documents are being drafted in a way to allow Buller to join at a later date, if they choose to.

3.2 Regional Policy

Alongside the 2018 Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan,[16] the District Councils have a proposed combined District Plan: Te Tai o Poutini Plan.[17] It sets out the objectives, policies, rules, and methods to manage land use activities and subdivision across the districts. The formal public submissions and hearing runs from 2022 – 2024.[18] The existing District Plans for each Council remain in force (at least in part) until the combined District Plan comes fully into force.

3.3 Local Policy

West Coast waste management and minimisation documentation and relevant supporting policy is summarised in Table 3.1.

Long-Term Plans

All district councils within New Zealand must adopt a Long-Term Plan (LTP) as per Section 93 of the Local Government Act 2002. The LTP must be reviewed every three years and include information on activities, goods or services provided by Council, and specific funding and financial management policies and information.

Local authorities have been given the flexibility to defer the release of their 2024 – 2025 Long-Term Plans for one year whilst decisions are made by the new government on the future of the 3 Waters Service. All three Councils have decided to defer the LTP and are developing an enhanced 2024/25 Annual Plan.

The waste management and minimisation outcomes from the three district councils current LTPs are summarised in Appendix B.

[16] West Coast Regional WMMP 2018.

[17] Te Tai o Poutini Plan.

[18] https://ttpp.nz/timeline/.

Table 3.1: Relevant waste management policy for Councils in the West Coast Region

Policy	Buller	Grey	Westland
Financial Planning documents	2023 – 2024 Annual Plan Fees and Charges	2023-2024 Annual Plan	2023 -2024 Draft Annual Plan
Statutory Planning documents			
Long term plan	2021 - 31	2021-31	2024 - 2034
Infrastructure Strategy	30 Year Infrastructure Strategy 2021 - 2051	30 Year Infrastructure Strategy 2021-2051	Within 2021 – 31 LTP
Asset Management Planning documents	N/A	Draft AMP 2024	Draft AMP 2024
Landfill Management plans	Karamea and Maruia Landfills	McLeans Pit Landfill and Recycling Centre	Butlers Landfill Management Plan
Bylaws and Waste policies	Solid Waste General Model Bylaw	Solid Waste Bylaw 2012 Refuse & Recycling Kerbside Collection 2012	Refuse and Recycling Bylaw 1992

West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018

The West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan was finalised in April 2018 and was adopted by all three Councils in the region in the same year.

The Plan (WMMP) covers all solid waste and diverted material (anything that is no longer required for its original purpose, but still has value through reuse or recycling is "diverted material" in the three districts, whether they are managed by Council or not) generated in the West Coast Region. This does not imply that the Councils are going to have direct involvement in the management of all waste - but there is a responsibility for the Councils to at least consider all waste in their districts, and to suggest areas where other groups, such as businesses or householders, could take action themselves.

The Plan's vision 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."

Goals include actively avoiding and reducing waste where possible, managing waste responsibly, and maximising community benefit. Further information on the associated objectives and targets are available in Section 8.1.

Waste bylaws

Table 3.1 describes the most recent Solid Waste Bylaws in the region. The Local Government Act 2002 explains that a local authority must review a bylaw no later than five years after the

date on which the bylaw was made. Therefore, each district council is overdue for a review of their solid waste bylaw.

3.4 Implications for the West Coast

Based on the factors described in this section, Council will need to plan for:

- Waste streams which are generated from an aging population (medical and sanitary waste).
- Management of varying waste volumes from peak tourism seasons and international tourists who may have less knowledge of New Zealand waste management systems.
- Management of material quantities from growing industries, particularly organic materials from forestry and the primary sector.
- In tourist hot spots, there is an opportunity for recovery of commercial food waste.
- Supporting Mana Whenua aspirations in regard to waste management and minimisation.
- Increased collaboration with other neighbouring regions, district councils and stakeholders in the waste sector.
- Increasing commercial waste as a result of increased economic activity (new mining activity, Westland Milk expansion).

4 Waste education, services, and infrastructure

Councils have a number of roles to play in regard to waste education, services, and infrastructure, depending on the level of influence they hold. At each level of the waste hierarchy, the council can have more or less influence.

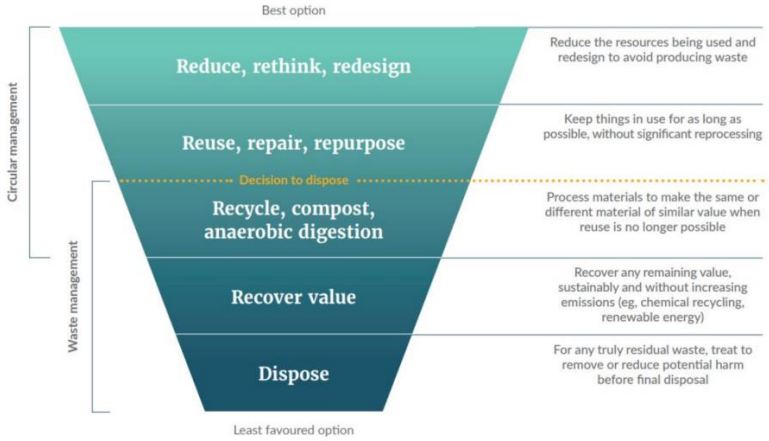

Figure 4.1: The Waste Hierarchy.

Table 4.1: Council's role at each level of the waste hierarchy

Level of the waste hierarchy	Council's role
Reduce, rethink, redesign	Collaborator/connector Advocate/promote
Reuse, repair, repurpose	Collaborator/connector Advocate/promote
Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Service provider. Collaborator/connector Advocate/promote
Recover value	Service provider. Advocate/promote
Dispose	Service provider

4.1 Reduce, rethink, redesign

The 'reduce, rethink and redesign' stage of the hierarchy aims to reduce the resources being used and redesign to avoid producing waste.

Outside of sharing educational and informative information on their website, Councils have minimal influence in this space. Therefore, their role becomes that of collaborator/connector, and to advocate/promote.

Education and behaviour change

The importance of effective education, communication and behaviour change in waste minimisation and material recovery is widely accepted. This is an underlying need at all levels of the waste hierarchy.

Targeted communication campaigns with clear, concise messages developed using behaviour change principles can have a strong impact on behaviour – whether this be about reducing or rethinking waste that is in individual control (i.e., a takeaway coffee cup) or behaviour at disposal (i.e., disposing of batteries at a drop-off location rather than putting them into landfill).

Enviroschools

There are 20 Enviroschools within the West Coast Region, including five Eco early childhood education centres and 15 schools. All Enviroschools engage in a wide range of actions for sustainability – one of these actions is 100% zero waste, showing that waste minimisation is a core part of the programme.

Regional partners include Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils and the Department of Conservation (DOC). Regional collaborators in the West Coast are Conservation Volunteers New Zealand, Sustainable Coastlines Charitable Trust, West Coast Penguin Trust, and West REAP (Rural Education Activities Programmes).

4.2 Reuse, repair, repurpose

The 'Reuse, Repair, and Repurpose' stage of the hierarchy aims to keep things in use for as long as possible, without significant reprocessing.

Councils have influence in this area through three key avenues:

1 Education: providing resources online promoting ideas on how to reuse or repurpose commons items, or directing to community groups or businesses can repair.

2 By supporting and/or creating a space for people to learn how to repair items (i.e., holding a repair café, or supporting a community group to do so).

3 By supporting, sharing, and lobbying for consumer's right to repair.

Right to repair

Although Councils do not have jurisdiction to require producers to repair their goods, Councils can get involved in lobbying for central government to take some action. In April 2024, The Consumers Guarantees (Right to Repair) Amendment Bill was introduced to Parliament. The aim of this bill is to require manufacturers to make items repairable, new parts accessible and information available to consumers.

4.3 Recycling and recovering value

Where we are unable to keep materials in use without significant reprocessing New Zealand's nationwide recycling infrastructure (e.g. transfer stations, processing plants) is vital to process these materials to make the same or different material of similar value.

Transfer stations, recycling, and resource recovery centres

The West Coast region has a range of facilities to manage waste (Table 4.2).

In Buller District, recyclable materials are captured at Westport and Reefton Transfer Stations, Maruia Recycling Centre, and Karamea Resource Centre where they are sorted before being sent to end markets out of the region (Table 4.5).

In Grey District, there are Resource Centres at Blackball, Moana and Nelson Creek, and Preston Road Recycling Centre in Blaketown. Recyclables are consolidated at these sites and sent to McLean's Pit Recycling centre for sorting, before being sent out of the region to end markets.

Westland District have a number of transfer stations located at Kumara, Hokitika, Ross, Harihari, Whataroa, Franz Josef, Fox Glacier and Haast. These Transfer Stations are used to consolidate waste streams. Recyclable materials are sent to Hokitika Transfer Station for sorting before being sent out of the region to end markets.

There are currently three Material Recovery Facilities in the region located at Westport Transfer Station, McLeans Pit Recycling Centre, and Hokitika Transfer Station (Table 4.2).

Due to the low population density across the three districts, a Council-provided kerbside waste collection service is not available for all residents. There are some private kerbside collection services available for residents in Hokitika, Greymouth and surrounding areas, however these boundaries are similar to the Council-offered services. Therefore, households commonly drop their waste directly at transfer stations across the region.

Organics processing

Central government have signalled a potential future requirement for territorial authorities to provide kerbside organics collection services. There are currently no commercial composting / organics processing operations of any scale in the West Coast Region.

At the time of writing, an organics feasibility study is being undertaken within the region.

4.4 Disposal

Disposal should be viewed as the final option for materials where reuse, repair, recycling and recovering value are not viable options. To help manage these residual materials which are generated landfills are utilised as specially designed assets to control the disposal of waste.

Landfills

There are seven operating landfills in the Region as shown in Figure 4.3), five are Council-owned and two are privately owned.

With no large-scale landfill in the Buller District, the majority of landfill waste generated (circa 90%) is collected at Westport and Reefton Transfer Stations and transported to York Valley Landfill in Nelson. Landfill waste from Karamea and Maruia townships is disposed of at their small local landfills which continue to operate to avoid transporting landfill waste long distances. Consent conditions for the Karamea and Maruia sites limit the volume of waste which can be received as these facilities are primarily for local use. Due to the low capacity of these sites, Buller District is reliant on transporting the remaining landfill waste to York Valley Landfill in Nelson.

Landfill waste which is generated in Grey District and Westland District remain within the districts. All landfill waste in Grey is sent to McLean's Pit Landfill which is 6 km outside of Greymouth, and all landfill waste in Westland is sent to Butlers Landfill outside of Hokitika.

At the time of writing this report there are also two private landfills in the region - Taylorville Resource Park in Grey District and Rosco Contractors in Buller District.

The cost to dispose of landfill waste in the West Coast Region is significantly higher than neighbouring districts and districts of a similar context. Disposal fees in the 2023/24 financial year range from $441 per tonne in Grey District to $595 per tonne in Westland District. This is on average $180 greater than districts of a similar context (Figure 4.2).

These disposal costs reflect several factors that include small scale disposal facilities (Grey, Westland) and the need to transport materials significant distances (Buller, Westland).

Disposal fees are set to continue to increase in line operational costs (including transport), capital investment and ongoing increases in waste levy and emissions trading scheme costs. This means that affordability and access is likely to be an ongoing challenge. The increasing costs may make alternatives such as reuse, recycling, and recovery more attractive for many materials.

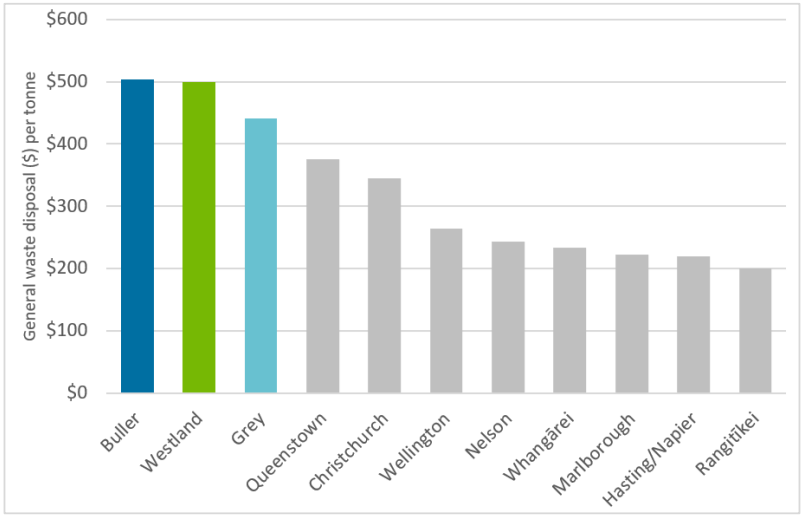

Figure 4.2: Waste disposal costs comparison.

Table 4.2: Facilities for managing landfill waste and recycling

District	Facility name	Landfill waste accepted	Recycling accepted	Weighbridge	Notes
Buller	Westport Transfer Station	Yes	Standard recyclables, scrap metal, tyres, batteries, e-waste, used oil and paints.	Yes	All kerbside landfill waste and recycling is transported to the Westport Transfer Station. Landfill waste is packed for transport and sent to Nelson's York Valley Landfill. There is a material recovery facility (MRF) on-site to sort and bale the recyclables. Recycling is checked, sorted, and compacted before being sent to processing plants (end markets) outside of the region.
	Reefton Transfer Station	Yes	Standard recyclables, scrap metal, tyres, batteries, e-waste, Agrochemical containers, oil, and paint.	Yes	Domestic drop off only.
	Karamea Resource Centre	Yes	Plastics (1,2, and 5), cans, scrap metal, tyres are received as recycling.	Yes	Glass and fibres are accepted but currently disposed as landfill waste. Recycling is sent to Westport for sorting.
	Maruia Recycling Centre	Yes	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, and sorted glass (by colour).	No	Recycling is sent to Westport MRF for sorting.
Grey	McLean's Pit Landfill and Recycling Centre	Yes, including hazardous waste	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, glasses, and green waste.	Yes	There is a MRF on-site to sort and bale the recyclables.
	Blackball Resource Centre	Yes	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, and glass.	No	Landfill waste is sent to McLean's Pit Landfill for disposal. Recycling is sent to McLean's Pit Landfill for sorting.
	Nelson Creek Resource Centre			No	
	Moana Resource Centre			No	
	Preston Road Recycling Centre			No	

District	Facility name	Landfill waste accepted	Recycling accepted	Weighbridge	Notes
	Mitchells Refuse Site	Yes	No	No	This site is for the disposal of Landfill waste only and is transferred to McLean's Pit Landfill for disposal.
Westland	Butlers Landfill	Yes	No	No	Closed to the public. All waste entering Butlers are weighed at Hokitika Transfer Station prior to arriving at Butlers.
	Hokitika Transfer Station	Yes	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, glass, garden waste, and e-waste	Yes	Materials are sorted at Hokitika into different categories and stockpiled, then transported to Canterbury (EnviroNZ) where it is run through an automated sorting facility. Glass is sorted into 1.5 m3 bins then sent to Visy in Auckland (via Canterbury). Landfill waste is sent to Butlers Landfill.
	Kumara, Ross, and Harihari Transfer Station	Yes, including gas bottles, whiteware and tyres.	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, and green waste.	No	Landfill waste is sent to Butlers Landfill. Recycling is sent to Hokitika Transfer Station where it is stockpiled and transported to EnviroNZ in Canterbury to run through an automated sorting facility.
	Whataroa, Franz Josef and Fox Glacier Transfer Station		Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, and uncompacted green waste.	No	
	Haast Transfer Station (replaced Haast Landfill upon closure at the end of 2024).			No	Haast Landfill is due to close in December 2024, and at this point it will become a Transfer Station.

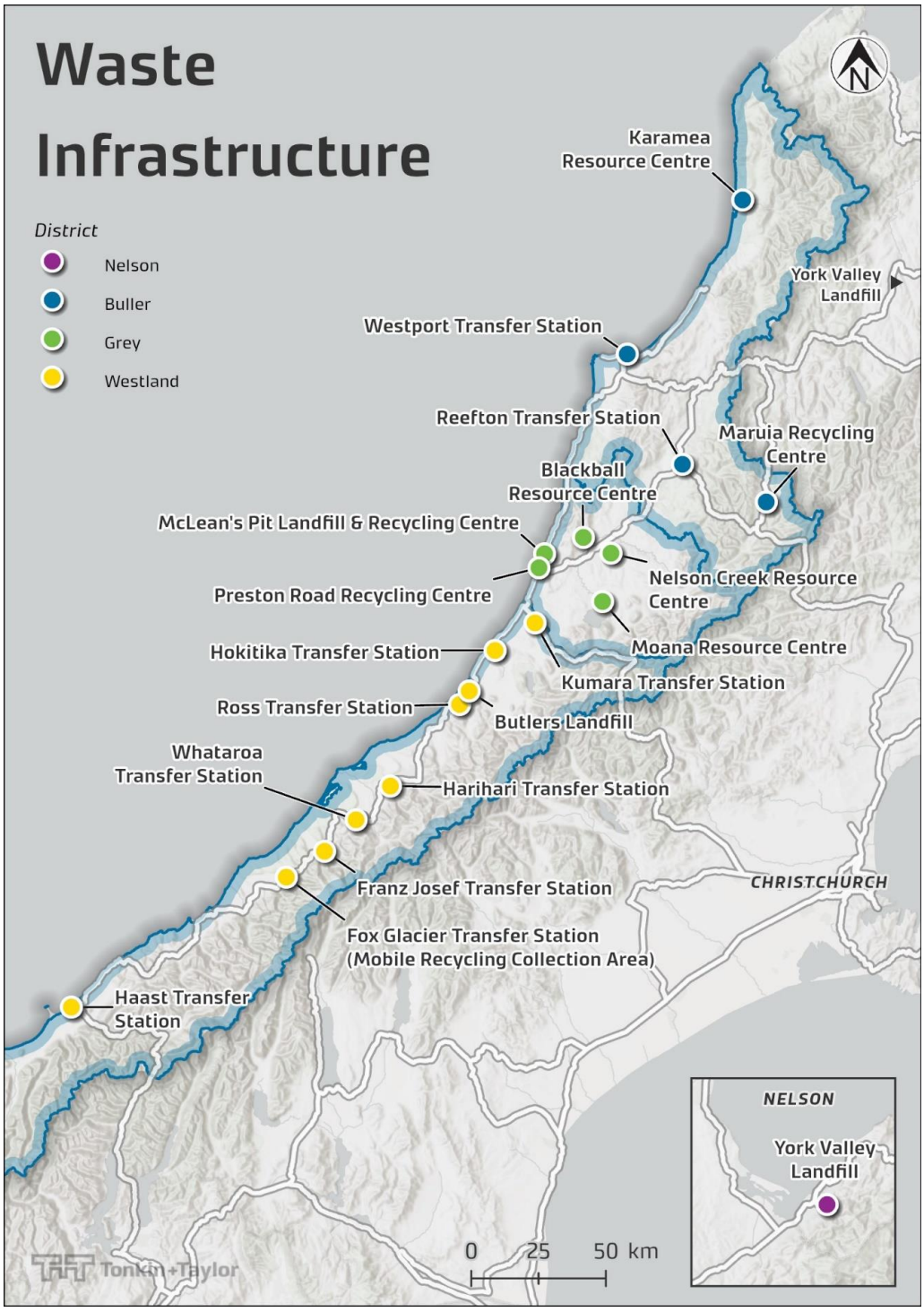

Figure 4.3: West Coast region waste infrastructure locations.

Appropriate disposal of material

During the period, this Waste Assessment has been written, Taylorville Resource Park, located in Greymouth has received an abatement notice from the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) regarding discharge of contaminated water from the site. At the time of writing investigations are ongoing.

Closed and historic landfills

West Coast District has 26 closed landfills (Table 4.3). Each District Council provides the aftercare and monitors groundwater quality at these sites as required under resource consent conditions.[19] Where there are events that expose historic landfill sites, potentially hazardous material may contaminate public spaces such as beaches, which creates a risk to public health.

There have been numerous events in the past six years where Councils have been forced to manage the impacts of climate change at historic landfill sites.[20] In 2018, Cyclone Fehi exposed Cobden Closed Landfill which required $3.2 million investment to fix the site and construct a barrier to prevent reoccurrence. This cyclone event also caused erosion at Hector Legacy Landfill, exposing potentially hazardous materials such as asbestos.[21] As such the region needs to have greater consideration of the resilience of historic assets including landfills.

The most significant historic landfill in the region is Fox River located near Fox Glacier. Following a storm event in March 2019 which brought heavy rainfall and flooding to the region the Fox River Landfill became exposed through erosion resulting in waste washing out to the surrounding environment. After the event took place Westland District Council worked to move the bulk of Fox River Landfill by extraction and trucking. Westland District Council then partnered with the Department of Conservation and the Defence Force to clean up the waste in the river basin. A total of 15,750 tonnes of material from the landfill was collected and disposed of at Butlers Landfill.

This event sparked a nationwide review from Councils of where there were high risk sites which could face similar events. As a result, more Councils are considering the resilience of their waste management infrastructure and its impact on the environment.

[19] https://bullerdc.govt.nz/media/e0mlqxhr/buller-district-infrastructure-strategy-2021-2051_final-for-ltp-adoption.pdf p 126 (Buller only, check others).

[20] https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/393917/rubbish-dumps-near-waterways-in-spotlight-after-fox-river-pollution.

[21] https://www.wcrc.govt.nz/council/news-and-annoucements?item=id:25585fxh017q9s4dsct5.

Table 4.3: Closed landfills in the West Coast

Buller	Grey	Westland
Birchfield Legacy Landfill	Blackball*	Hannah's Clearing
Hector Legacy Landfill	Cobden	Neil's Beach
Inangahua	Dobson	Harihari Old Landfill
Reefton[22]	Moana	Fox River Landfill^
Ikamatua	Nelson Creek*	Sunset Point Landfill
Mawheraiti	Ngahere	Ross*
Springs Junction	Runanga	Kumara*
Charleston		Harihari*
Westport*		Whataroa*
		Hokitika*
		Canavans Knob

* Now site for transfer station or resource centre.
^ Closed Landfill Site no longer in existence (waste relocated due to 2019 event).

Public place litter bins

Litter bins are provided in the urban centres and popular visitors spots including nominated free camping locations throughout the region. Litter bin collection is undertaken by contractors with some cross over between Councils and Department of Conservation (DoC) staff with servicing of heavily used DoC locations.

[22] Note: this is not the same site as the Reefton Transfer Station.

Table 4.4: Numbers of bins and servicing contract

Buller	Grey	Westland
39 urban bins are serviced by Smart Environmental. 36 parks and reserves bins are managed by WestReef.	170 litter bins are serviced by Smart Environmental	39 town landfill waste and recycling bins are serviced by Mt Drums in the northern district and South Westland Rubbish Removal service in the south of the district.

Other waste streams which are:

- Soft plastics recycling scheme
- Soft plastics recycling scheme collection points are not currently available in the West Coast Region.

4.5 Other waste streams

Outside of the waste streams which are generated typically generated by residents and small commercial organisations there are specific waste streams which the region must also consider how to manage.

Disaster waste

Extreme weather events are becoming increasingly common in the West Coast, so more attention may need to be given to how disaster waste is managed. Currently, it is common practice for disaster waste to be sent to key landfills such as Butlers Landfill, but continuing this will decrease the lifespan of these facilities.

Buller's LTP connects climate change issues with the Civil Defence activity that is budgeted for by Council's funding for emergency preparedness.[23] As part of Grey's Environmental Services in their LTP, they aim to provide effective emergency preparedness and activated emergency activities for the safety of the community, as well as enabling communities to be prepared for these events.

Construction and demolition waste

Reducing construction and demolition (C&D) waste is a growing focus area in resource recovery, as it makes up an estimated 40-50% of Aotearoa's total waste to landfill.[24] In lieu of recovery systems, the region must build awareness of what types of C&D waste emerges from this sector. In particular, understanding what hazardous waste is produced, such as asbestos from older buildings seen recently with the demolition of Te Nikau Hospital in Grey District[25], will allow councils to prepare to dispose of this waste appropriately.

Earthquake prone buildings are also an important consideration as this has potential to create significant amounts of demolition waste. The West Coast Region has 201 earthquake-prone buildings on the natural hazards register.[26]

Medical waste

According to New Zealand's clinical waste disposal regulations, there are only a very limited number of circumstances where medical waste can go straight to landfill, without prior treatment.[27]

Medical waste is predominantly disposed of through local medical centres. Councils receive small quantities of medical waste that has been incorrectly disposed of at its facilities.

Both Buller and Grey Districts have hospitals, but Westland medical waste is predominantly from aged care homes and General Practice (GPs).

A significant proportion of in-home medical waste is currently disposed of through general waste systems, which has potential to have health and safety risks for collection and processing staff. There is opportunity for councils to work with Te Whatu Ora, Te Tai o Poutini Hospital and medical waste service providers to promote the safe and appropriate disposal of domestic medical waste.

Hazardous materials

Large quantities of hazardous waste are not permitted to be disposed of in Council landfills, however Grey District Council does accept domestic quantities of hazardous waste at McLeans Pit Landfill for storage in a secure bunded area until such time as it is collected by a suitably qualified contractor for appropriate safe

[23] 21-31-ltp-final-with-audit-report.pdf (bullerdc.govt.nz) page 59.

[24] https://www.level.org.nz/material-use/minimising-waste/.

[25] https://www.kirkroberts.co.nz/case-studies/greymouth-hospital-west-coast/.

[26] Register of earthquake-prone buildings (EPB Register).

[27] Standards New Zealand. (2002).*Management of Healthcare Waste* (NZS 4304:2002). Hutcheson, Dowman & Stewart/Standards New Zealand. Page 31. https://www.standards.govt.nz/shop/nzs-43042002/.

disposal.[28] Certain materials such as asbestos are accepted at Butlers Landfill within the restrictions of the resource consent.

Farm/rural waste

Little research has been conducted on the quantities of waste generated on farms and disposed of on-site across New Zealand. There are two pieces of research, one conducted in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty in 2014[29] and one in Canterbury in 2013[30] on farm waste. The Canterbury study found that 92% of the farms surveyed practised one of the following methods (burn, bury, or bulk store indefinitely) for on-site disposal of waste.[31]

The studies calculated average annual tonnages of waste for four different types of farm in the regions and this is seen as reflective of other parts of New Zealand.[32] Total average waste per annum for all sites was 23.7 tonnes.[33]

Stats NZ (2022 data) indicates the West Coast has approximately 700 farms of various size, including viticulture / orchards (99), dairy (291), livestock (228), arable (33) and other (66).[34]

The West Coast Region offers a small number of free local drop-off points for agrichemical container recycling[35], including:

- Farmlands in Greymouth and Westport
- Hokitika and Reefton Transfer Stations

Agrecovery can also provide free on-property collection of 61 – 1000 L containers by arrangement. Agrecovery services have had minimal uptake in the region, despite an emphasis being placed on advertising when it was initiated. Farmlands Westport has had some uptake, with approximately 25% of containers sold, being returned for recycling.

Other waste diversion schemes available in the region include:

- E-waste diversion via Techcollect Partnership.
- Small appliance recycling at Hokitika Transfer Station, in conjunction with EnviroNZ.[36]
- Mitre-10 diversion drop offs for: Polystyrene and plant pots.
- Household battery diversion.

[28] Hazardous Materials - Grey District Council (greydc.govt.nz).

[29] GHD (2014) Rural Waste Surveys Data Analysis Waikato & Bay of Plenty, Waikato Regional Council Technical Report 2014/55, July 2014.

- [30] GHD (2013), Non-natural rural wastes - Site survey data analysis, Environment Canterbury Report No. R13/52.

[31] GHD (2013), Non-natural rural wastes - Site survey data analysis, Environment Canterbury Report No. R13/52.

[32] NonnaturalWastesSitesurveydataanalysis.PDF.

[33] NonnaturalWastesSitesurveydataanalysis.PDF page 20.

[34] Farms in the West Coast Region, New Zealand - Figure.NZ.

[35] These containers must be no more than 60 L in size, have their lids removed, be free from chemical residues, and have the product label left on.

[36] https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz/notices-news-and-events/posts/small-appliance-recycling-at-hokitika-transfer-station/#:~:text=In%20conjunction%20with%20EnviroNZ%2C%20Westland,Magpies%20Nest%20re%2Duse%20shop.

- Reuse and recovery shops at McLeans Pit, Hokitika Transfer Station (Magpies Nest re-use shop), and opshops throughout the region.

4.6 Infrastructure outside of the West Coast Region

Recyclable materials collected at the waste transfer stations are transported out of the region for recycling and reprocessing. The facilities and processing providers used by Council are detailed in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5: End market providers for recycling and reprocessing

Material processed	Facility/ organisation	Processed
Council kerbside recyclable streams		
Glass	Visy Glass, Auckland	Recycled into new glass
Plastics, paper & cardboard, and Aluminium cans & tin cans	Smart Environmental, Nelson	Materials are either traded for processing NZ or exported.
	EnviroNZ, Christchurch	
Council transfer station recyclable streams		
Tyres	Tyrewise	Tyre recycling in progress
Agricultural plastics	AgRecovery, nationwide	Agrecovery has a collection container at Reefton and Hokitika Transfer Stations, and Westport and Greymouth Farmlands.
E-waste	TechCollect, Auckland	E-waste processing
Household batteries	Upcycle, Auckland	Received household batteries
Metal	Sims Metals, Nelson	Scrap metal
	Metalcorp, Christchurch	Receives scrap metal
Private waste recyclable schemes		
Polystyrene	Expol, Christchurch	Polystyrene for recycling collected at Mitre10
Lightbulbs, plant pots	Mitre 10, nationwide	Lightbulbs, plant pots recycling

4.7 Council service providers

The district councils within the West Coast engage several contractors to provide kerbside collection services, along with the management of Transfer Stations and Resource Centres. Refinement and alignment of these procurement services in the region is being explored.

Table 4.6: Service providers

Council	Service	Provider
Buller	• Zone 1[37] kerbside collection • Westport Transfer Station • Reefton Transfer Station	Smart Environmental Ltd
	• Karamea Landfill and Recycling Centre	WestReef
	• Maruia Landfill and Recycling Centre	Buller District Council
Grey	• McLeans Pit Landfill • Landfill waste collection. • Kerbside collection • Litter bin servicing. • Transfer of recyclables and landfill waste from resource centres	Smart Environment Ltd
	• Blackball Resource Centre • Nelson Creek Resource centre • Moana resource centre	WestRoads Ltd
Westland	• Kerbside collection in Northern Westland • Hokitika Transfer Station & Recycling Centre • Kumera Transfer Station • Ross Transfer Station • Harihari Transfer Station. • Transfer of recyclables and landfill waste from Transfer Stations	EnviroNZ
	• No kerbside collection is provided in South Westland • Whataroa Transfer Station • Franz Josef Transfer Station • Fox Glacier Transfer Station • Haast Landfill	South Westland Rubbish Removal
	• Butlers Landfill	WestRoads

[37] For information on Buller's zoning system, please see Section 4.8.

4.8 Collection

Council provided residential collection

The Councils provide kerbside collection services across specific townships in their districts for landfill waste and recyclables (Table 4.7).

Table 4.7: Current kerbside collection services provided by West Coast District Councils

Service	BDC – Zone 1 only	GDC*	WDC
Landfill waste	60 L Council bag[38], weekly collection	120 L bin, fortnightly collection on alternate weeks to recycling*.	120 L bin, fortnightly collection on alternate weeks to recycling
Recycling	Recycling 240 L bin, fortnightly collection Glass 45 L crate, fortnightly collection	Recycling 240 L bin, fortnightly collection. Glass 45 L crate, fortnightly collection.	Recycling 240 L bin, fortnightly collection This does not include glass.

* For Greymouth CBD, collection frequency is weekly for landfill waste and recycling.

Buller District has been divided into three zones. Zone 1 has a kerbside collection service available, detailed in Table 4.8.

Table 4.8: Current kerbside collection service areas in the West Coast

District	Service area
Buller District	Zone 1: Westport, the areas from Westport to the Mōkihinui Bridge, Westport to Punakaiki, Westport to Reefton including Blacks Point, and Reefton to Ikamatua.
Grey District	Greater Greymouth, Greater Greymouth (residential), and CBD.
Westland	Kaniere Road to Ross, north side of Hampden Street to north side of Hokitika township, south side of Hampden Street, south side of Hokitika township, Brickfield and Blue Spur Roads to Arahura bridge, Kumara Junction to Stafford Loop Road, and Kumara township to Taramakau bridge (return).

Kerbside landfill waste in Grey District is collected and disposed of at McLean's Pit Landfill near Greymouth. Households in Grey District have a fortnightly landfill waste collection service and fortnightly co-mingled recycling and glass recycling collection.

Westland kerbside landfill waste and recycling (excluding glass) is collected and transported to be disposed at Butlers Landfill. This service is provided in Hokitika, Kumara and Ross. Landfill waste and recycling (excluding glass) are collected on alternating weeks. Ratepayers may opt to receive a second sets of bins for an additional rating charge.[39] Glass can be dropped off at transfer stations and sorted by colour.

Commercial and/or industrial collection

Councils offer commercial and industrial organisations the same landfill waste and recycling kerbside collections service as households, consistent with

[38] It is challenging to find this information online.

[39] Draft AMP Westland.

Table 4.7 and Table 4.8. This collection service is tailored to households. If organisations generate more waste, then they can fit in their bin set, the following options are offered:

- Request an additional set of bins, up to a maximum to 2 bin sets (Buller + Westland).
- Drop-off any excess landfill waste and recycling that does not fit in their bin sets at a local transfer station.
- Purchase official landfill waste bags as required (Buller only).
- Arrange a collection service with private contractor.

4.9 Litter and illegal dumping

The West Coast Region has historically had issues with litter and illegal dumping. There are high costs to removing illegally dumped waste, which could be better spent on opportunities higher up in the waste hierarchy. The relative remoteness of the region makes it easy to find locations to dump material if businesses or households want to avoid disposal charges.

Councils are taking action where possible, including investigating littering and illegal dumping occurrences, and charging fines of $400 to persons who commit the offence.

Website information and education

Councils also make clear and concise information available on their Council website, particularly for how to best use the collection and Transfer Station services shown in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9: Education provided on Council websites

Topic	Buller	Grey	Westland
Bin collection	✓	✓	✓
What can I recycle?	✓	✓	✓
Where to go?	✓	✓	✓
Recycling resources	✓	✓	✓
Composting guidance	x	✓	✓
Hazardous materials	x	✓	✓
Agrecovery	✓	x	✓
Battery recycling	✓	x	✓
E-waste	✓	x	✓
Event waste management and minimisation	✓	x	x
Business waste management and recycling	✓	x	x

4.10 Costs for waste management and minimisation

Funding approach

The 2021 – 31 Long-Term Plans set the budget for solid waste operational activity with provision to make amendments if required through the Annual Plan process. The funding allocations are depicted in Figure 4.2.

Funding for operations is through general rates, targeted rates, and user charges. The targeted rates fund kerbside collection services and are detailed through to 2025/26 in Table 4.10.

Table 4.10: Targeted rates for waste management

District	Targeted rate 2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Buller District Council[40] (inclusive GST)	Zone 1: $178 Zone 2: $253 Zone 3: $123	Zone 1: $199 Zone 2: $257 Zone 3: $131	TBC
Grey District Council	Residential: $362.14 Commercial: $684.46	Residential: $411.57 Commercial: $777.89[41]	TBC
Westland District Council	$294 bin collection cost only	$294 bin collection cost only	$294 bin collection cost only

[40] https://bullerdc.govt.nz/media/z0udrkyb/21-31-ltp-final-with-audit-report.pdf p 85.

[41] Based on current draft of the enhanced annual plan 2024/25, noting this is yet to be formally approved so is subject to change.

Waste levy received

Due to the increase in the Waste Disposal Levy charged per tonne of waste disposed to landfill between 2021 and 2024, the amount of the levy revenue that the Councils have received has increased Figure 4.5), creating additional funding opportunities locally for waste minimisation activities. Levy revenue is expected to continue to rise with increases announced through to 2027. With the forecasted decrease in population, the proportion of Waste Levy received by Councils may also decrease in the future.

The amount through to 2027 will likely increase each Council's funding by 20% or more. This will depend on the total quantity of material disposed of to various landfill types across New Zealand.

Other relevant funding sources

- $900,000 has been awarded from the Waste Minimisation Contestable Fund to investigate Construction and Demolition material reprocessing across the region.
- $75,000 has been awarded to the three district councils from the Waste Minimisation Contestable Fund to investigate the feasibility of Regional Organic processing solutions.

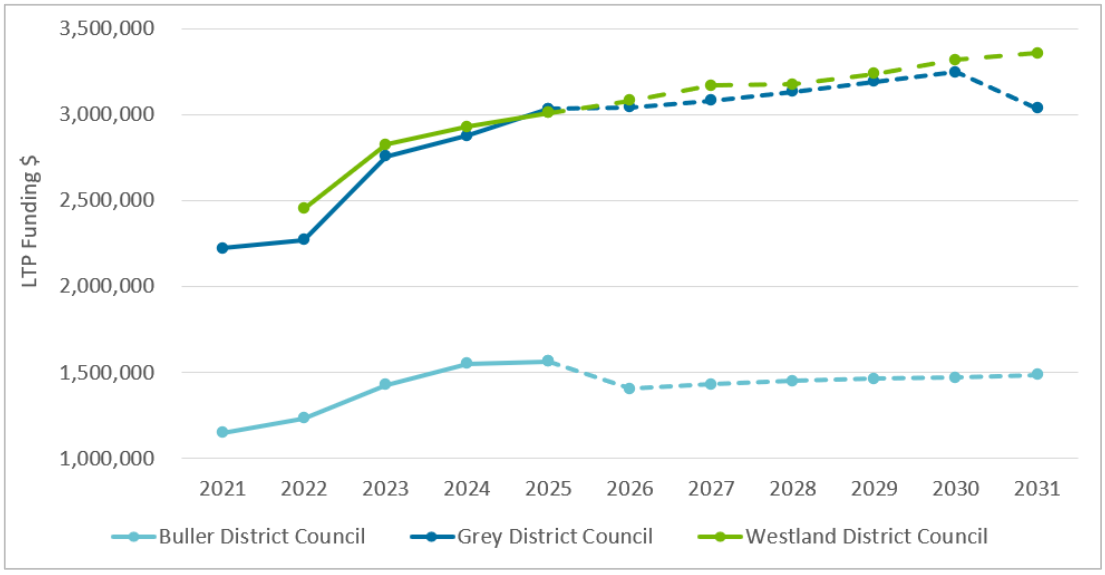

Figure 4.4: Solid Waste Operations funding forecast
Note: dotted line after 2024/25 in graph shows funding forecast.

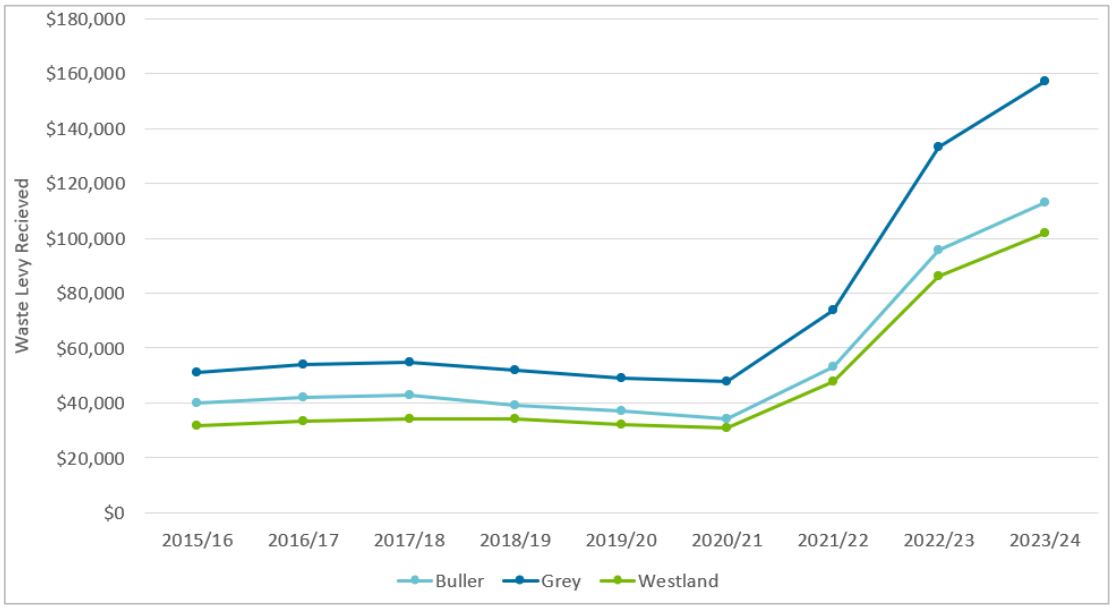

Figure 4.5: Waste Levy Received in West Coast, by district.[42].

[42] https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fenvironment.govt.nz%2Fassets%2Fta-payments-as-at-jan-24-work-spreadsheet-with-graphs.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK.

5 Waste quantities and composition

This section describes the material quantities and composition resulting from the waste management system described in Section 4.

5.1 Timeframe

This document focuses primarily on data for the period between FY 2018/19 and 2022/23, as this data has been collected most consistently across all districts allowing for more accurate comparison. Waste quantities, composition and flows prior to this period are detailed in the 2018 regional Waste Assessment and WMMP.

5.2 Data availability

The information presented in this Waste Assessment informs the strategic approach and specific actions presented later in the document. The data availability for this Waste Assessment shows where there is opportunity for improvement, creating potential actions around data capture and collection.

Data received from the waste service contractors has had varying levels of detail for each district. This is particularly relevant for Westland, where they have two separate contractors in the North and South of the district. Once Haast Landfill closes all waste will be entering Butlers Landfill which will streamline the reporting for the district.

There are two private waste facilities in the region, Taylorville Recovery Park, and Rosco's Hole, both of which have very limited information publicly available on their infrastructure, services, and waste data.

During a waste levy audit conducted by MfE in 2023, it became clear that there was an error in the process for weighing recoverable material entering Grey District Council's McLeans Pit Recycling Centre. The recoverable material which was destined to be recycled was not weighed into the facility, only upon leaving McLean's Pit Recycling Centre to go to the processing facility. Therefore, the weight of some recoverable material which did not go for recovery (due to contamination levels) has not been recorded. This has resulted in some discrepancies in the data from Grey District. For the purpose of this Waste Assessment, we have used the data available from the weighbridge, acknowledging there may be a small margin of error in the recycling data for Grey District.

5.3 Waste quantities

A summary of all material disposed of across the West Coast Region is detailed in Figure 5.1. The data shows that regional waste and recycling volumes are steadily increasing.

There was a significant peak in waste disposal during 2020/21 due to the relocation of 15,750 tonnes of material from Fox River Landfill to Butlers Landfill[43].

As shown in Figure 5.1, diversion rates currently being achieved across all facilities in the region has averaged 19% over the past five financial years. The data demonstrates a dip in recovery in 2020/21 which can be attributed to a few factors.

1 Firstly, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, during nationwide lockdowns some recovery services were temporarily stopped, as a result households were required to dispose of recycling alongside general waste or stockpile it until the facilities started to accept the material again.

2 The second reason for the dip is due to a fire which took place at McLean's Pit Resource Centre in late 2020. This resulted in the facility closing to repair the damage to the site which was therefore unable to accept and process recyclable waste streams. The facility reopened in early 2022.

3 With a natural increase in landfill waste generation from 2018/19 to 2022/23 the diversion rate has naturally decreased. The amount of recyclable waste (including glass) generated in the region as a whole remains consistent at around 2,700 tonnes per year.

4 Two major flooding events took place in Buller District during July 2021 and February 2022 which increased the total quantity of waste to landfill by around 750 tonnes compared to previous years. As more waste was sent to landfill in the district a lower recovery rate was achieved.

[43] Fox Glacier Landfill Remediation Complete | Westland District Council (westlanddc.govt.nz).

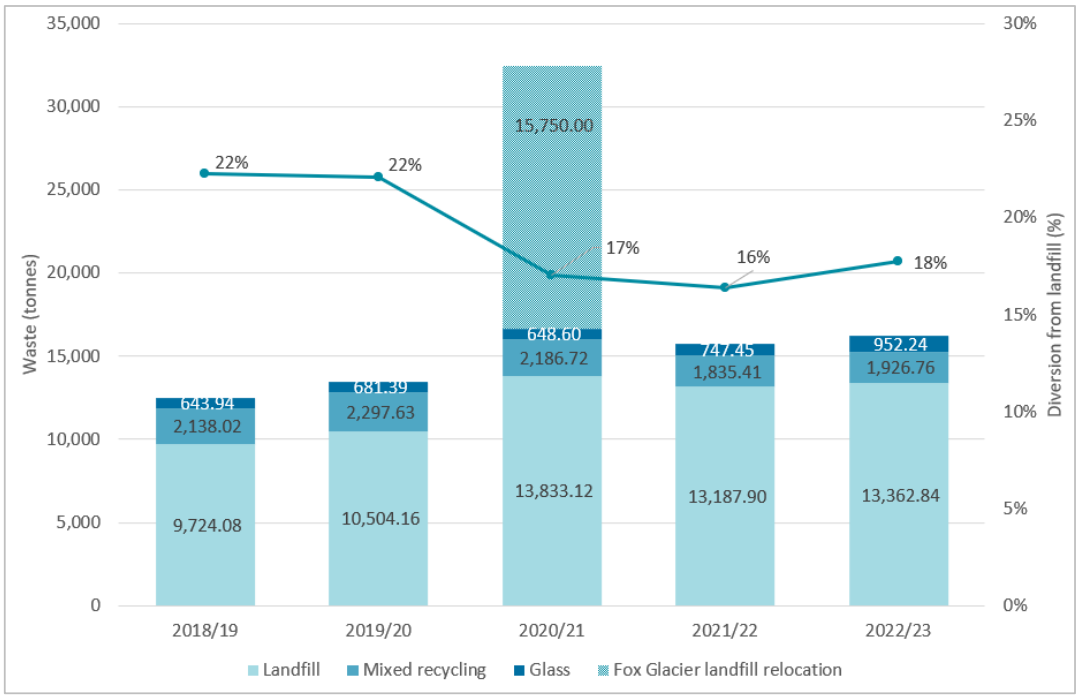

Figure 5.1: Regional waste volumes and diversion rates achieved (including kerbside).

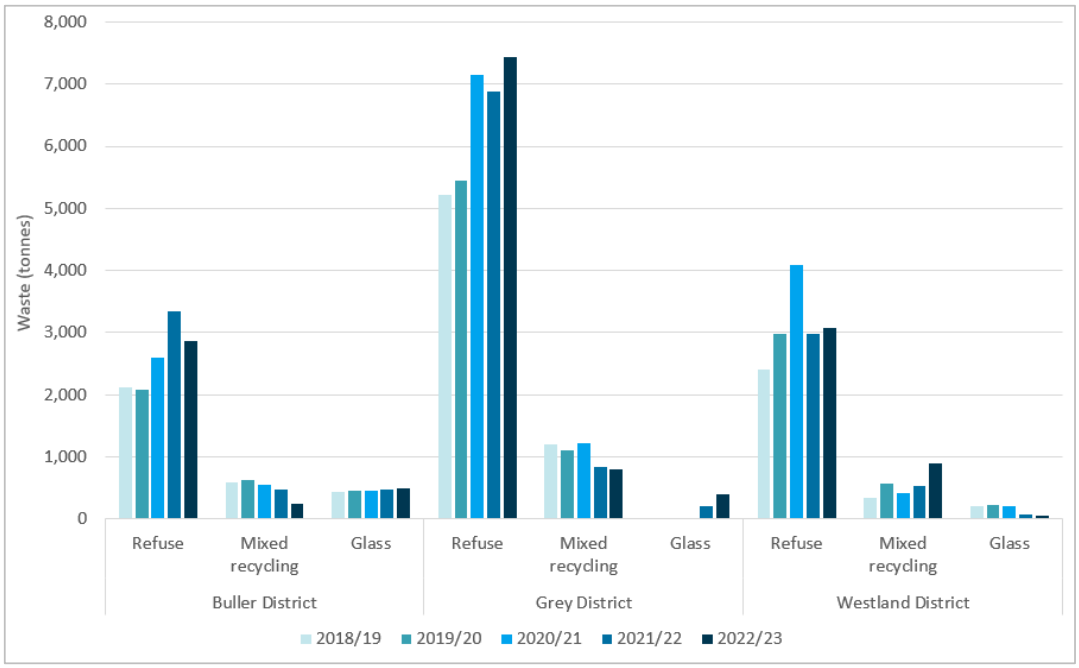

Figure 5.2: All regional waste by district.

Kerbside waste quantities and composition

Figure 5.3 provides a summary of the waste collected from the kerbside across the West Coast Region. Kerbside collection tonnages remain consistent across the period shown, with kerbside landfill waste contributing around 25% of the overall waste in the region. Of the total kerbside waste (including recycling) collected during 2018/19 to 2022/23, on average, 34% is being recovered through co-mingled recycling or glass collections.

Composition of Waste Study (SWAP)[44] data, collected at Westport Transfer Station in 2017, has been used to assess the composition of residential landfill waste collected at the kerbside. The data shows that 70% of the landfill waste generated by households in the region is paper, plastic, putrescible (food and garden waste), metals and glass - most of which is potentially recoverable (Figure 5.4).

In 2014, Buller District Council implemented a kerbside glass collection which increased the district's diversion of waste from landfill from 14% to an average of 40% per annum (2013/14 to 2022/23).

The total quantity of material generated by each district is detailed in Figure 5.2. The quantity of waste is reflective of the population in each district with Grey generating the largest. The data demonstrates on average 81% by weight of all waste generated is sent to landfill.

We have used the general waste SWAP data collected at Westport Transfer station in 2017, to quantify current and potential material capture based on 2022/23 data. As the West Coast Region has not undertaken a SWAP study to investigate the composition of mixed recycling entering the transfer stations in the region, this assessment has used the SWAP data available from another district council of similar context to analyse the recovery which may currently be taking place.

The data shown in Table 5.1 and Figure 5.5 demonstrates the greatest ability to increase capture is through focusing efforts on organics (food and garden waste), plastics and paper/cardboard.

[44]Composition of Waste Study: Westport Transfer Station 11 – 17 December 2017. C. Abernathy, JBL Environmental Ltd.

Table 5.1: Potentially recoverable material from kerbside waste

Material	Current recovery (2022/23)		Potential recovery		Total increase	
	%	tonnes	%	tonnes	%	tonnes
Paper	66%	918	75%	1,038	9%	120
Plastic	20%	159	50%	388	30%	229
Organics (food and garden)	0%	-	60%	628	60%	628
Ferrous metal	44%	56	75%	96	31%	40
Non-ferrous metal	45%	29	75%	49	30%	20
Glass	80%	632	90%	714	10.3%	82
Total	33%	1,794	54%	2,913	21%	1,118

Notes: The above calculations assume 90% capture of glass, 75% capture of paper, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, 60% capture of organics and 50% capture of plastic.

Kerbside waste quantities summary

Figure 5.5 illustrates the data presented in Table 5.1 in graphical form showing current and potential future capture of recyclable and recoverable materials. This is based on the estimate composition, current recovery rates and achievable capture rates for specific material streams. Key points to note include:

- **Paper and cardboard** capture is good (estimated at 67%), with potential to increase this to around 75% with strong education and information for households.
- **Plastic** capture is relatively low but with many plastics not recyclable in New Zealand only plastics 1, 2 and 5 could be targeted through kerbside collections. This can be improved through education and information for households.
- **Organic** capture of 50-60% is considered achievable for kerbside. To achieve this for the West Coast Region a kerbside organics collection will need to be implemented alongside education and information for households.
- **Ferrous and non-ferrous metal** capture is relatively low, this may reflect materials which are not suitable for kerbside recycling i.e. not cans being disposed of through the landfill waste collections. There may be potential to increase this to around 75% for both metals with strong education and information for households on putting aside bulky metals for recycling at transfer station and targeting cans and tins for recycling.
- **Glass** capture at kerbside very good achieving 80% diversion from landfill. Initially for Grey this was not the case as previously glass was included in the mixed recycling collection, therefore users of the kerbside service were required to break this habit. This was successfully changed through effective communication. Many districts of a similar context achieve 90% capture or higher and this should be achievable once the Westland kerbside glass recycling system is in place.
- If the kerbside recovery rates anticipated are achieved this could result in over 50% recovery rate at kerbside. Key contributors to the increased recovery are organic materials (requiring a new collection), paper/card and plastics.

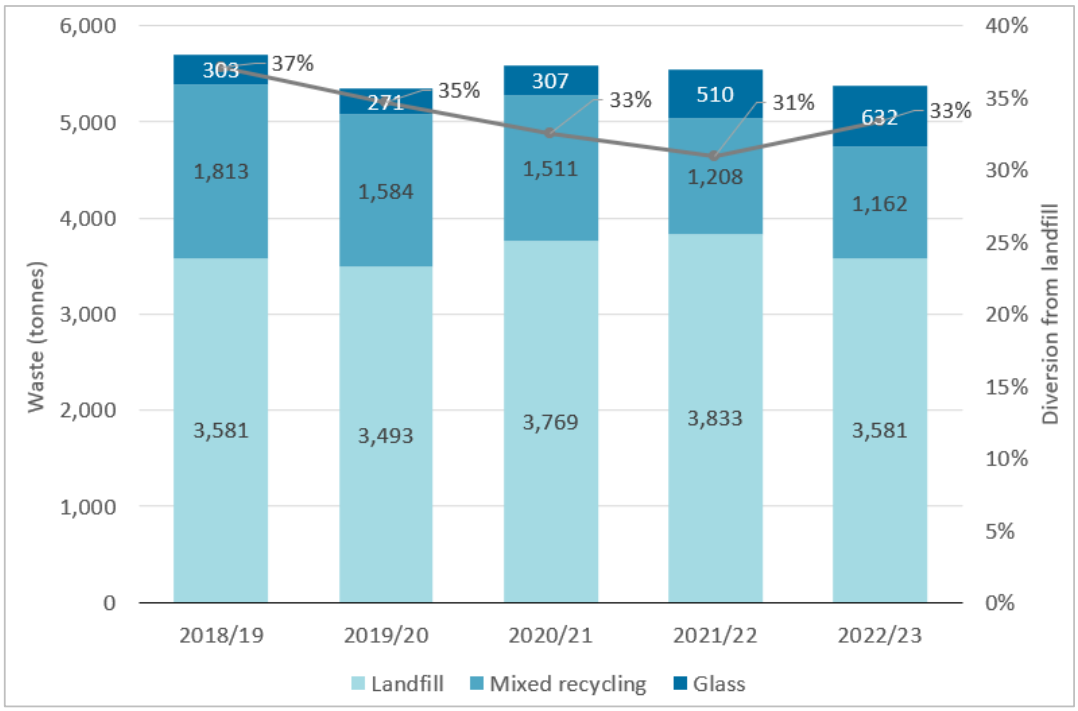

Figure 5.3: Regional kerbside waste and diversion.

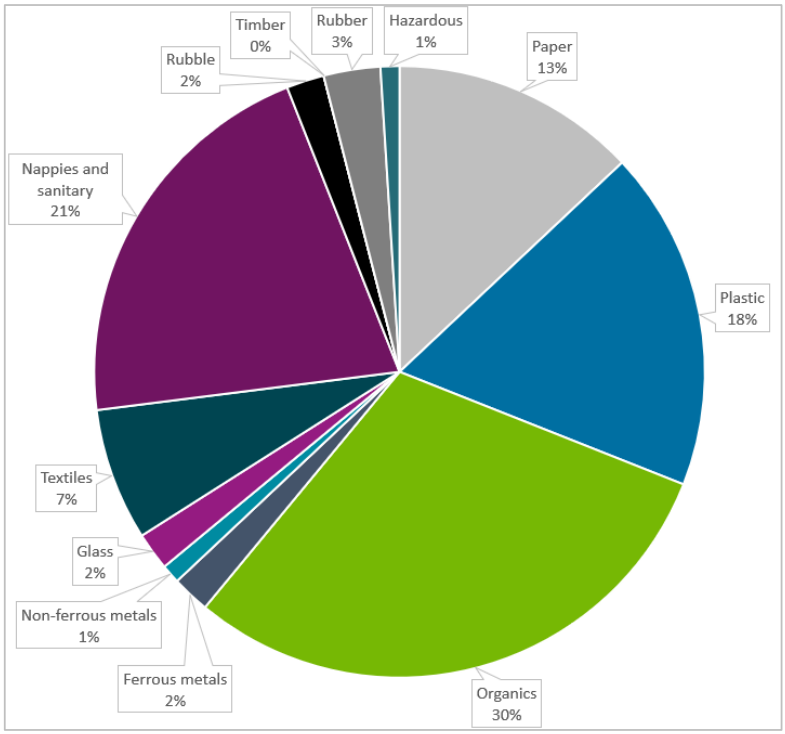

Figure 5.4: Kerbside landfill waste composition (2017 SWAP data from Westport Transfer Station).

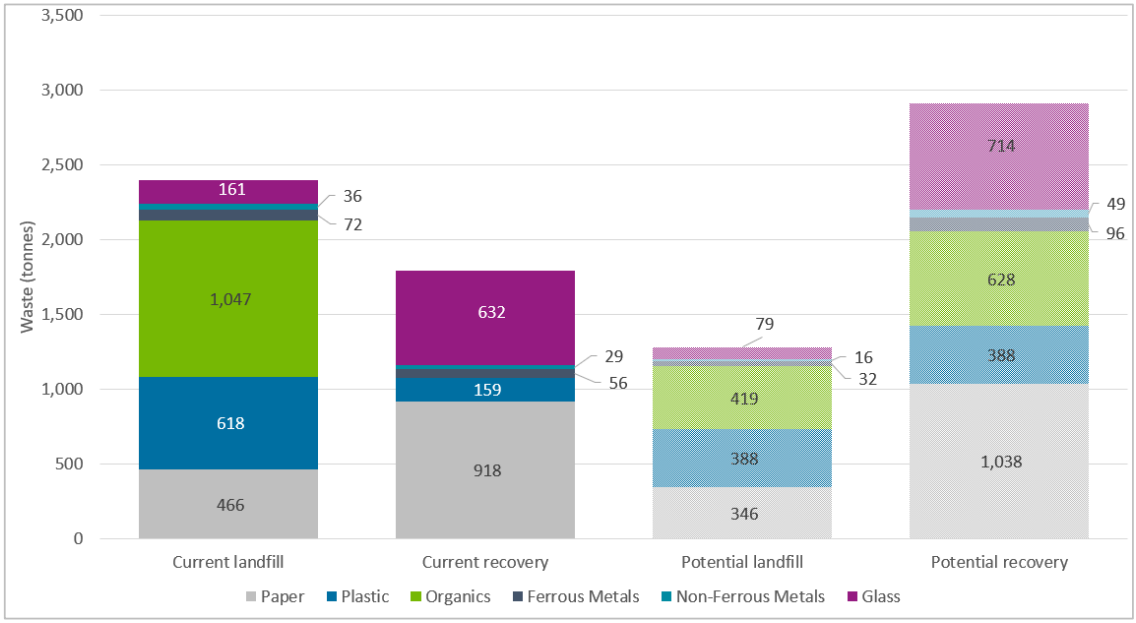

Figure 5.5: Current and potential kerbside material capture.

Transfer Station

As discussed in Section 4 waste is consolidated in multiple facilities across each district before being transported to the primary facility in each district for either disposal to landfill or recovery through markets in New Zealand and internationally. Figure 5.6 demonstrates the total final quantities each facility receives.

The West Coast Region has not undertaken a SWAP study to investigate the composition of mixed recycling entering the transfer stations in the region. Therefore, this assessment has used the SWAP data available from another district council of similar context to analyse the recovery which may currently be taking place.

Waste entering the system through direct drop off at the Transfer Stations and Resource Recovery Centres across the region shows a similar picture to the kerbside diversion. The waste streams which have no current option for diversion at kerbside (organics – food and garden and glass in Westland) demonstrate greater diversion at transfer station. The data (shown in Table 5.2 and Figure 5.7) demonstrates the greatest ability to increase capture is through focusing efforts on plastics, paper/cardboard, organics (food and garden) and glass.

Figure 5.7 illustrates the data presented in Table 5.2 in graphical form showing current and potential future capture of recyclable and recoverable materials. This is based on the estimate composition, current recovery rates and achievable capture rates for specific material streams.

Table 5.2: Potentially recoverable material from transfer station waste

Material	Current recovery (2022/23)		Potential recovery		Total increase	
	%	tonnes	%	tonnes	%	tonnes
Paper	15%	325	50%	1,097	35%	772
Plastic	2%	56	60%	1,607	58%	1,550
Organics (food and garden)	14%	267	60%	1,111	46%	844
Ferrous metal	7%	31	50%	216	43%	185
Non-ferrous metal	6%	10	50%	83	44%	73
Glass	31%	285	50%	465	19%	180
Total	9%	974	43%	4,579	34%	3,605

Notes: The above calculations assume 60% capture for organics and plastics and 50% capture for paper, metals, and glass.

Transfer station waste quantities summary

Key points to note include:

- **Paper and cardboard** capture is relatively low, with potential to increase this to around 50% with strong education and information for households. It should be noted that much of the paper and cardboard entering the transfer stations will be contaminated therefore unable to be captured.
- **Plastic** capture is very low, and improvements should be possible including targeting materials not collected at

kerbside and 'clean' commercial streams such as agricultural plastics.

- **Organic** capture is low with potential to target an increase in green waste captured at transfer stations. There may be potential to increase this to around 60% with strong education and information for households.
- **Ferrous and non-ferrous metal** capture is relatively low, there should be potential to increase this to as much as 50% for both metal types with strong education and information for households on separating bulky metals for recycling. For metals, given their value as commodities, there may be potential to offer incentives alongside education for separating materials - for example free drop off supporting by transfer station staff.
- **Glass** capture is relatively low, there should be potential to increase this to as much as 50% with strong education and information for households on separating flat glass in particular for recycling.
- If the recovery rates anticipated are achieved this could result in over 30% recovery rate at across kerbside and other streams. Key contributors to the increased recovery are organic materials (requiring an increased focus on capture), paper/card and plastics.

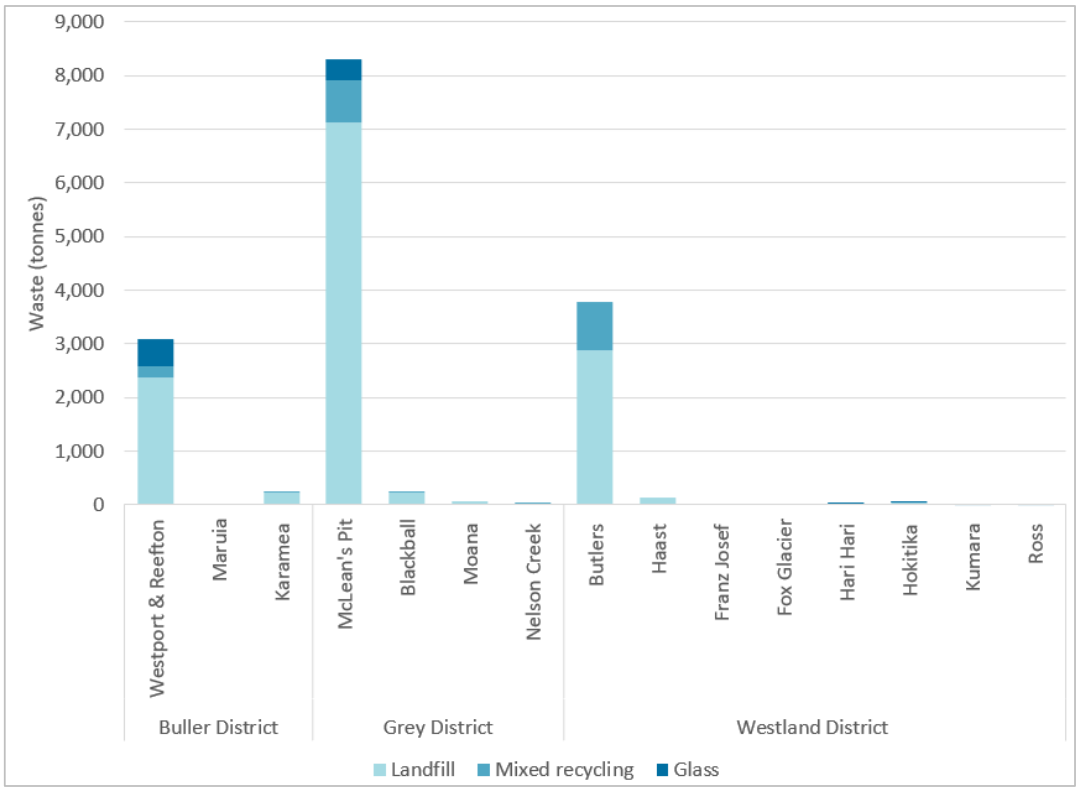

Figure 5.6: Regional waste volumes and diversion by district facility (2022/23).

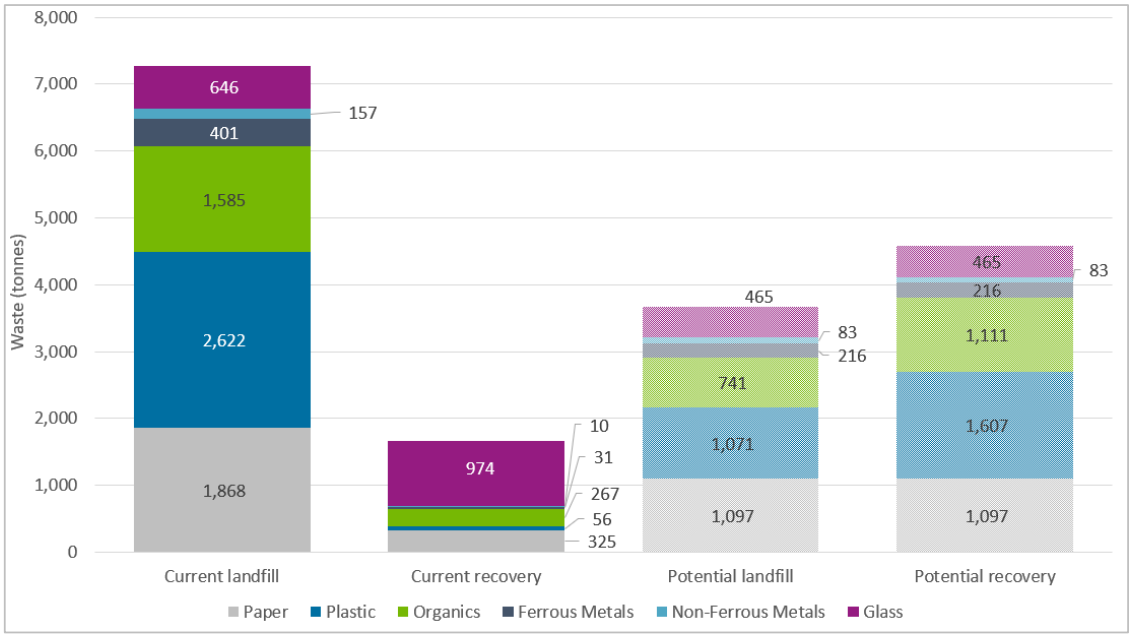

Figure 5.7: Current and potential transfer station material capture.

Tourism waste

As detailed in Section 3.1, the West Coast receives on average 160,000 visitors transiting through the region monthly which is four times greater than the population of the region. Therefore, it is important that the regional waste data explores the contribution from visitors to the West Coast.

Although there is limited data regarding waste from tourism in New Zealand, a study on the implications of increasing demand on infrastructure in Westland as a result of tourism was conducted in 2001 by Lincoln University. The study found that 3 tonnes of solid waste is generated per 1,000 visitor nights in Westland (3kg of waste per visitor per night). It is assumed that this is a combination of food waste within the hospitality sector and general waste from consumption of goods and services whilst travelling.

Due to greater general awareness of waste management through education and communication campaigns in New Zealand, we have reduced this value to 2 tonnes of solid waste per 1,000 nights (2 kg of waste per visitor per night). Applying this theory, it is estimated that visitors contribute to ~26% of total waste per year (Table 5.3).

Table 5.3: Visitor waste per year

Year	Visitor numbers	Estimated waste generation (tonnes)	% of total waste from region
2021/22	1,970,659	4,012	26%
2022/23	2,172,595	4,382	27%

As tourism within the region significantly contributes to the consumption of goods and services it is important to account for the waste generation from visitors in the region alongside residents. By applying the regional diversion rates to the visitor waste data for 2021/22 and 2022/23 we can see a more accurate representation of residential waste generation compared to visitor waste generation (Figure 5.8).

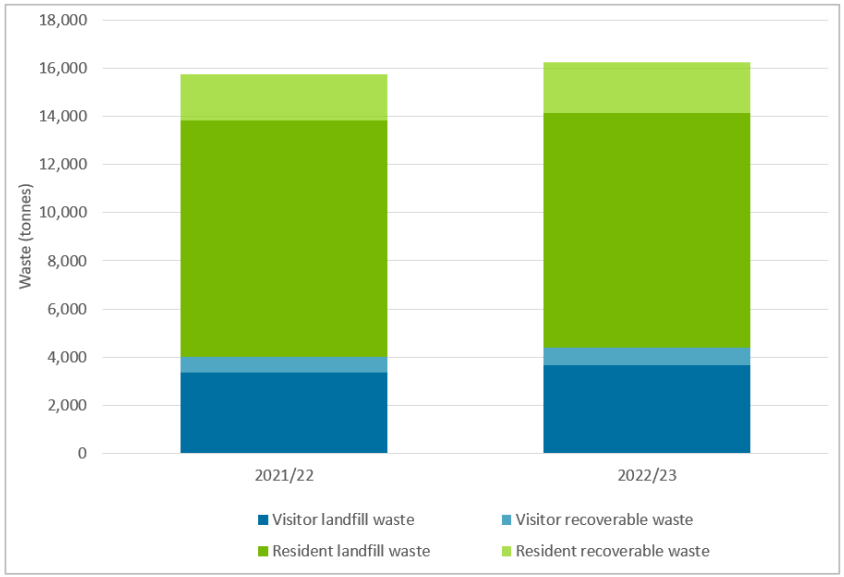

Figure 5.8: Visitor and residential waste generation.

6 System performance

This section provides a range of indicators that can be used as a benchmark for the performance of the West Coast's waste management system.

Since 2018/19 waste disposed of to landfill per person in the West Coast has increased by 102 kg but appears to have remained around 540 kg per person for the last three years (Figure 6.1). When removing the visitor waste data from this assessment the total disposal and recovery per capita decreases to 400 kg per person (this is further detailed in Figure 7.2).

When comparing the West Coast as a region to other district councils of similar context (Figure 6.2) the recovery rate is at the lower end of the range for New Zealand. This reflects a reliance on kerbside recycling (no organic materials collection) and lower end capture rates for recyclable or recoverable materials at transfer stations.

This may be due to the greater space availability in urban areas (larger sections than other urban areas) allowing households to be managing some of their waste onsite by composting, burying, or burning their waste. This, alongside some gaps in the data, may mean the actual waste per capita is higher than the current data shows.

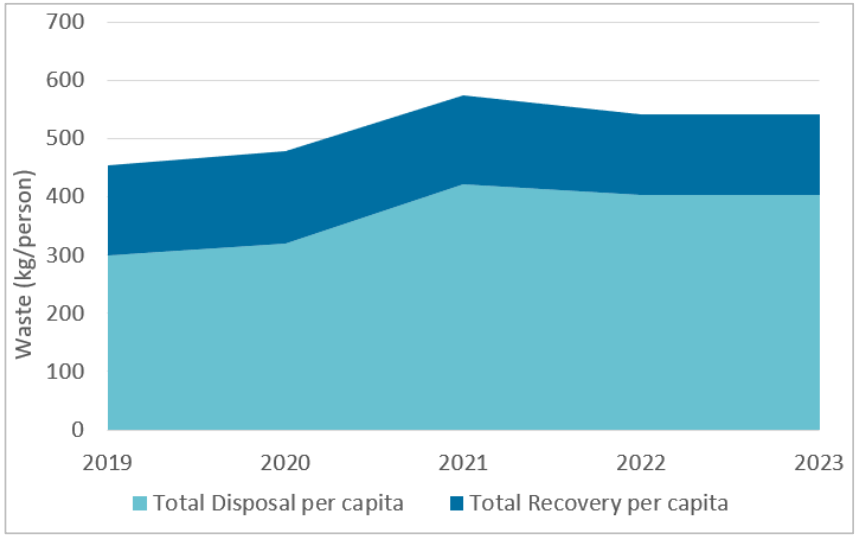

Figure 6.1: Regional waste and recovery per capita.

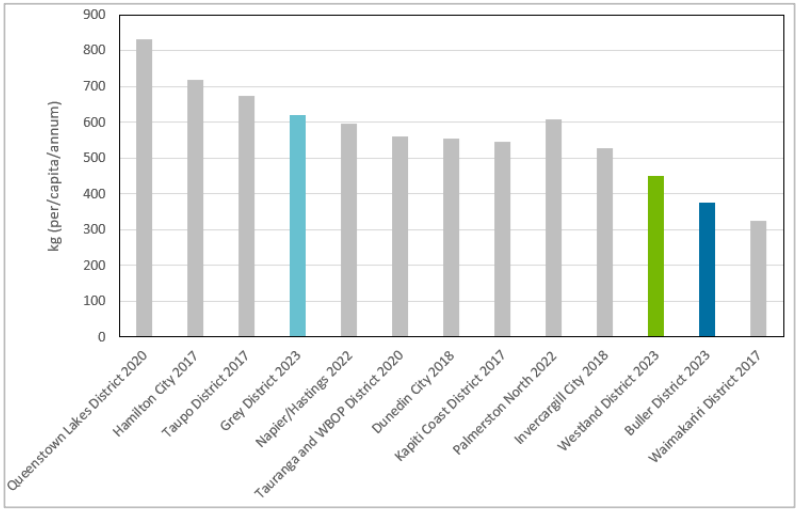

Figure 6.2: Waste per capita relative to other Councils.

6.1 Household waste composition

Comparing the composition of household waste in the West Coast with similar councils (Table 6.1), the following insights are apparent:

1. Households in the West Coast dispose of relatively less organic materials in landfill compared to similar districts.
2. Recycling quantities in household rubbish are relatively higher (paper, plastic, metals, and glass).
3. The quantities of building and industrial materials (rubble, concrete, timber, and rubber) are relatively higher than other Councils.

Table 6.1: Household kerbside material composition relative to similar Councils

Material	Buller District Council *	Ōpōtiki District Council	Manawatū District Council	Central Hawkes Bay District Council
Paper	13%	14%	13.9%	9.0%
Plastics	18%	12%	14.5%	12.1%
Putrescibles	30%	50%	45.1%	53.1%
Ferrous metals	0.4%	2%	2.7%	2.6%
Non-ferrous metals	0.2%	9%	2%	1%
Glass	2%	3%	3%	5.4%
Textiles	7%	4%	5%	4.8%
Nappies and Sanitary	21%	1%	8%	6.0%
Rubble, concrete, etc.	2%	2%	2%	2.9%
Timber	0%	1%	2%	1.0%
Rubber	3%	0%	1%	0.2%
Potentially hazardous	1%	1%	1%	1.2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100.0%

(*) It is assumed that Buller kerbside material composition is representative of all West Coast District Councils kerbside waste compositions. This data is from the 2017 SWAP conducted at Westport Transfer Station.

6.2 Contamination

Contamination of collected recyclables with non-recyclable items is an ongoing issue across the region. Buller District has been tracking contamination in the kerbside recycling bins since 2021 which demonstrates an average level of contamination to be 30%. A similar situation is expected to be the case in Grey and Westland. Contamination levels increased for Grey as the district transitioned from mixed recycling which included glass to a single source glass collection in 2021/22.

Limited data is available on contamination which makes it difficult to track progress. However, the region recognises the issue and currently focus efforts on communication of good recycling practices in an effort to decrease the contamination rates.

6.3 Review of the 2018 WMMP

The last WMMP for West Coast Region was prepared in 2018. The WMA requires that each Waste Assessment include a review of the last WMMP, including an assessment of data, key issues from the last WMMP, any other issues not addressed, and progress on the action plan from the last WMMP.

The 2018 WMMP has a vision to deliver community benefits and reduce waste.

There are three overarching goals, to:

- Avoid and reduce waste where we can.
- Manage waste responsibly.
- Maximise community benefit.

Under these goals there are seven objectives and 10 targets. Table 6.2 shows progress against these targets over the past WMMP period.

Key issues

The key issues identified in the 2018 WMMP are summarised in the table below. It is helpful to consider progress against these issues, as not all were carried forward into targets within the 2018 WMMP. Key issues in the current period are discuss in Section 7.2.

Table 6.2: Progress against key issues in the 2018 WMMP

Issue/opportunity (2018 WMMP)	Comment on progress (from 2018 to present)
Waste Infrastructure	
Transfer stations - there are variable services across the Region.	There continue to be variation in services provided.
There is a lack of consistency in services for visitors to the Region.	Some services have since been removed – educational services are now the focus.
There are three MRFs in the Region sorting similar materials.	There are three MRFs which are referred to as Transfer Stations and Recycling Centres in the Region (Westport, McLean's Recycling Centre and Hokitika).
The two major landfills in the Region are close to each other.	This continues to be true; McLeans Pit is located 65 km from Butlers Landfill.
Disposal costs are relatively high, but likely reasonable in light of scale and transport distances.	This continues to be true. The cost of disposal at the landfills are detailed in Appendix C.

Issue/opportunity (2018 WMMP)	Comment on progress (from 2018 to present)
There are limited services for commercial and construction waste, with limited information available regarding diversion activity focussed on these waste streams.	Feasibility studies for recovery of construction and demolition waste and organics material are underway.
Lack of collections for glass in Westland District and issues with glass contamination in Grey District.	A new waste services contract will provide for glass collection in Westland District in 2025. Glass contamination is no longer a key issue for Grey District.
Waste data	
There is a mix of volume-based estimates and measured weights.	Since the 2018 WMMP, some sites have had weighbridges installed so data collection has significantly improved, but still has room for more improvement. Waste data consistency and data collection can be addressed through waste contractors. Waste services contracts are being reviewed in all districts and will incorporate the provision of quality and accurate data and reporting in line with expectations of central government.
The source of waste is not always clear.	
There is limited data on service areas, set out rate or participation rates for kerbside collection.	
The data regarding quantity of waste collected or processed is not complete.	

Targets

As discussed earlier, the Regional WMMP (2018) set out a range of objectives and targets outlined in Appendix A.

This section looks at the progress the region has made against these targets. The shading for each council shows the current achievement status; green is achieved/on track, orange is partially achieved, and grey is not progressed/decision not to continue.

Table 6.3: Progress on 2018 WMMP targets

Target	Indicator	2018 WMMP target	2022/23 progress			
			Buller	Grey	Westland	West Coast Region
1.1 To maintain or reduce the total quantity of waste disposed of to landfill from the West Coast on a per capita basis	Waste disposed to landfill <300 kg per person each year.	340	295	522	344	402
2.1 Increase in the proportion of material captured for recycling at kerbside and transfer stations.	Kerbside recycling > 35% by 2025	29%	40%	27%	19%	29%
	Recycling at Transfer stations > 50% by 2025	27%	22%	13%	24%	18%
2.2 Establish simple and effective recycling services for visitors to the West Coast Region.	Establishfive5 landfill waste and recycling depots at key visitor locations on the West Coast by 2022. Pilot with two facilities in Buller District followed by the remainder of the Region.	N/A	Three facilities established in 2019, two of these have been removed due to high levels of contamination.	Preston Road Recycling Centre was established and is operational and well utilised by the community.	N/A	N/A

Target	Indicator	2018 WMMP target	2022/23 progress			
			Buller	Grey	Westland	West Coast Region
3.1 Satisfaction with kerbside collection and transfer station services.	% resident and visitor satisfaction	> 85%	Transfer station customer survey takes place. The results of the 2021 survey show that 78% of respondents think the ease of use for the site is 'very good' or 'fairly good'. An overall satisfaction question has not been asked.	Resident satisfaction is tracked via Grey Annual Reports. The 2022/23 results show 80% residents' satisfaction. Visitor satisfaction is not currently tracked.	Latest survey results (2022) show 72% overall satisfaction of kerbside collection service. Note: Visitor satisfaction is not currently tracked.	There is room for improvement to ensure questions are consistent with that of Grey and Westland, and to track each year.
4.1 Reduction in illegal dumping incidents and quantity of material illegally dumped in the West Coast Region.	Reduced quantity of illegally dumped waste. Reduced number of incidents of illegal dumping.	Quantity of illegally dumped waste < 2016/17 figure.	No data has been collected.	161 complaints of illegal dumping received from January 2020 to January 2024. The data is not consistently tracked over time.	Annually, approximately 15 incidents are reported to Council. This is tracked through Council's Customer Service Request system.	Illegal dumping continues to be an issue for the region. There is a lack of data detailing how large the issue is in each district.
5.1 To publish a summary of available data on waste generation and management with each annual report.	Summary data published in Annual Report.	N/A	Waste data is not published in the Annual Reports.	% of waste diversion from landfill is reported in the Annual Reports.	Volumes of waste to landfill is reported in the Annual Reports.	N/A
	To create a grant scheme to support new initiatives to reduce waste.	N/A	Buller District Council has Community Grants and Community-Led Volunteer Revitalisation Funds	Grey District Council has information on their website of external grant schemes. There is currently no Council	Westland District Council has information on their website of external grant schemes. There is currently no	N/A

Target	Indicator	2018 WMMP target	2022/23 progress			
			Buller	Grey	Westland	West Coast Region
			available. It is not clear whether either of these funds have been used for solid waste projects.	funded grant for solid waste activities.	Council funded grant for solid waste activities.	
6.1 Schools programmes supported by Council	Support the Enviroschools programme each year.	N/A	Seven Enviroschools events are run annually.	Five Enviroschools events are run annually.	Eight Enviroschools events are run annually. Supports Paper4Trees.	N/A
6.2 Council (or contractors) promote waste minimisation at events in the Region.	Councils promote waste minimisation at > five events in the Region each year.	N/A	Councils are promoting waste minimisation at local events. There is room for improvement as there is not a system for tracking how many events each Council is attending or supporting.			
6.3 Inform and support West Coast residents and businesses on waste minimisation opportunities.	Information made available and regularly updated on Council websites.	N/A	There is room for improvement to ensure information is consistent across all waste webpages, and regionally where appropriate.			
7.1 Work with others to influence national policy and action on waste minimisation and management.	N/A	N/A	• Participation in WasteMINZ events and TAO forum • Working within LGNZ forums			

7 Forecast of future demand

There are a range of drivers that mean methods and priorities for waste management are likely to continue to evolve, with an increasing emphasis on diversion of waste from landfill and recovery of material value. These drivers include:

- Increasing costs of waste disposal to landfill resulting from the waste levy expansion and emissions trading scheme.
- Changes resulting from Te Rautaki Para including potential changes to the WMA, and requirements for territorial authorities.
- The introduction of product stewardship schemes.
- Activities and policy resulting from the second emissions reduction plan.
- Changes to forestry slash removal requirements resulting from Cyclone Gabrielle.
- Increased private sector capacity to recycle and reprocess materials.
- Changes to markets for materials.
- Economic development in the region.

7.1 Forward projections

Forecasts of waste 'generated' have been developed using population projections, annual visitor data, historic waste quantities and the specific factors relevant to the district (Figure 7.1).

As discussed in Section 6, waste per capita in the region is steadily increasing. Using the current percentage increases in landfill waste and recovery volumes year on year with no changes to the current waste services and behaviours in the region, landfill waste per capita is set to increase by 5% per year and recovery is set to increase by 6% per year.

Based on these figures (removing visitor waste data) waste generation per person is likely to exceed 450 kg by 2043 (Figure 7.2). With a projected population of 32,490 in 2043[45], and similar visitor numbers, the total waste generated (landfill waste and recycling) will exceed 20,000 tonnes per year.

Alongside Council giving their best efforts on waste minimisation and recovery initiatives, to see additional gains it is important for partnerships with private sector and the community to be built and utilised to reach and impact waste streams which Council has little to no influence or control over.

There are several factors which create significant uncertainty in the forecasts and these need to be considered in any decisions made. For example, unknown quantities of waste are generated on rural properties in the region and are assumed to be dealt with by farm dumps and burning farm waste. With the current (regional and national) focus on responsible rural waste management it is possible there will be an increase in commercial quantities of rural

[45] Population data taken from District Council Long Term Plans (LTPs).

waste such as plastic wrap, chemical containers and domestic waste being disposed of at the transfer stations. Other factors impacting future waste generation include:

- The impact of kerbside standardisation on waste disposed of via the transfer station network.
- The impact of varying economic activity in the region including mining and agriculture (dairy farming).

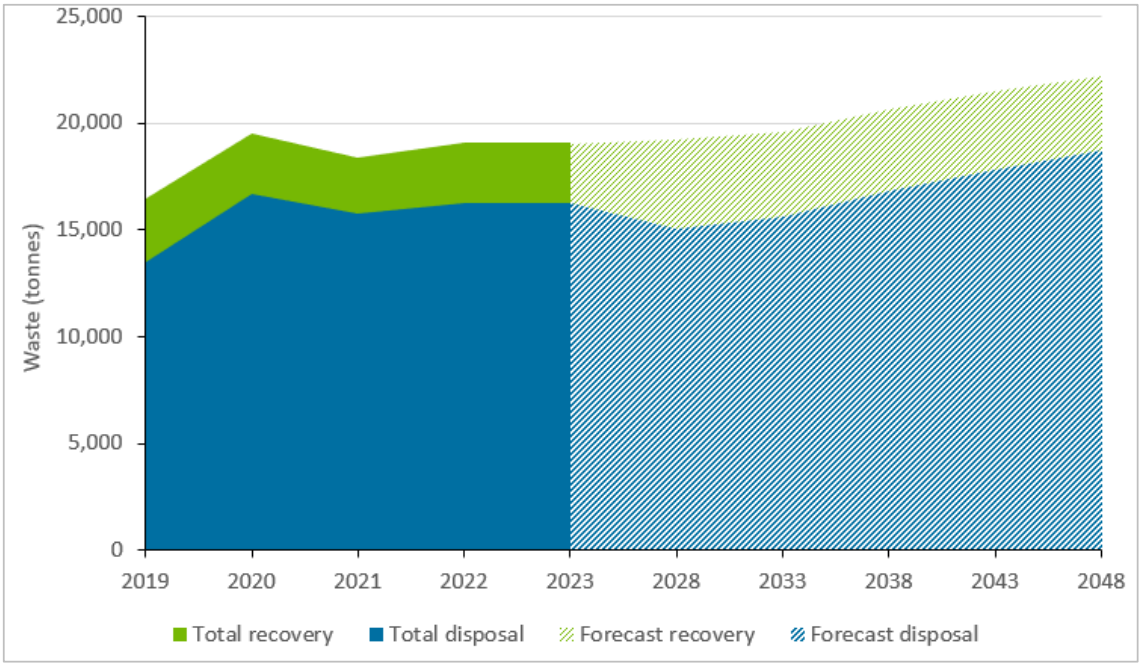

Figure 7.1: Future forecast waste generation based on population forecast.

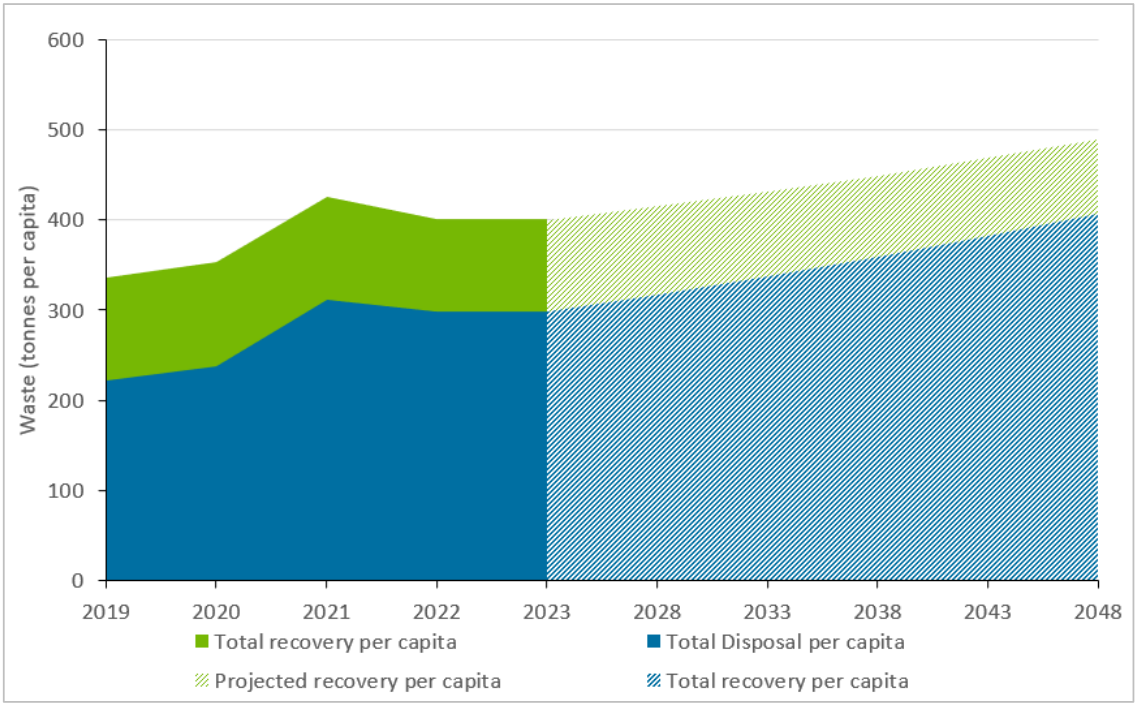

Figure 7.2: Future forecast waste generation per capita based on population forecast (visitor waste estimations excluded).

7.2 Challenges and opportunities

The aim of waste planning at a territorial authority level is to achieve effective and efficient waste management and minimisation. Using the available information, the key waste issues which should be addressed in the WMMP are listed below. These can be compared with the 2018 challenges and opportunities faced in Table 7.1.

- 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 Buller District which creates a challenge as landfill waste is transported out of region to Nelson. There is also a lack of hardfill and hazardous waste facilities in Buller District.

Table 7.1: Challenges, opportunities, and possible solutions from 2018 WMMP

Challenge	Opportunity
Data collection is misaligned and patchy in some waste areas.	To streamline data collection across all contractors, Council, and sites – aim for consistency and alignment across the region.
Significant amounts of Divertible Material are being sent to landfill.	Potential to increase the capture of materials (household recyclables, C&D waste, and organic materials) for diversion.
Lack of information available for ratepayers/members of the public on waste diversion, infrastructure, and current performance.	Opportunity to increase public engagement and awareness of resources that are available resulting in changes to behaviour.
Lack of focus on industrial waste.	Opportunity to engage different industry groups in the region to ensure recovery of waste streams at an industrial scale.
Emissions reporting for waste services and management is not currently taking place.	Opportunity to begin the conversation now to take residents and organisations on the journey.
In some districts there are high amounts of contamination in kerbside recycling. Limited data is available on contamination which makes it difficult to track progress.	Approach contamination, and other issues, through an educational and behaviour change lens. Strengthen these skills within Council. Improve data collection in this area.
Tourism waste is anticipated to increase.	Opportunity to forward plan for this increase and target communication campaigns in tourism hotspots. This may include additional Levy returns for projects, or a potential dispensation for tourism numbers.

Part 2

Where do we want to be?

8 Background

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).

The relationship between Vision, Goals and Objectives is illustrated in Figure 8.1.

Figure 8.1: Vision, goals, objectives, and targets[46].

8.1 Draft 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.

The vision, goals and objectives were drafted in a workshop with Council staff. The National Waste Strategy wording was used as a baseline, and amendments were made to ensure they reflect the West Coast. Particular attention was given to framing each element to ensure they would be easily understood.

Figure 8.2 outlines the vision, three goals and eight objectives which Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils have adopted.

[46] Figure adapted from Waste Assessments and Waste Management and Minimisation Planning – A Guide for Territorial Authorities, MfE 2015.

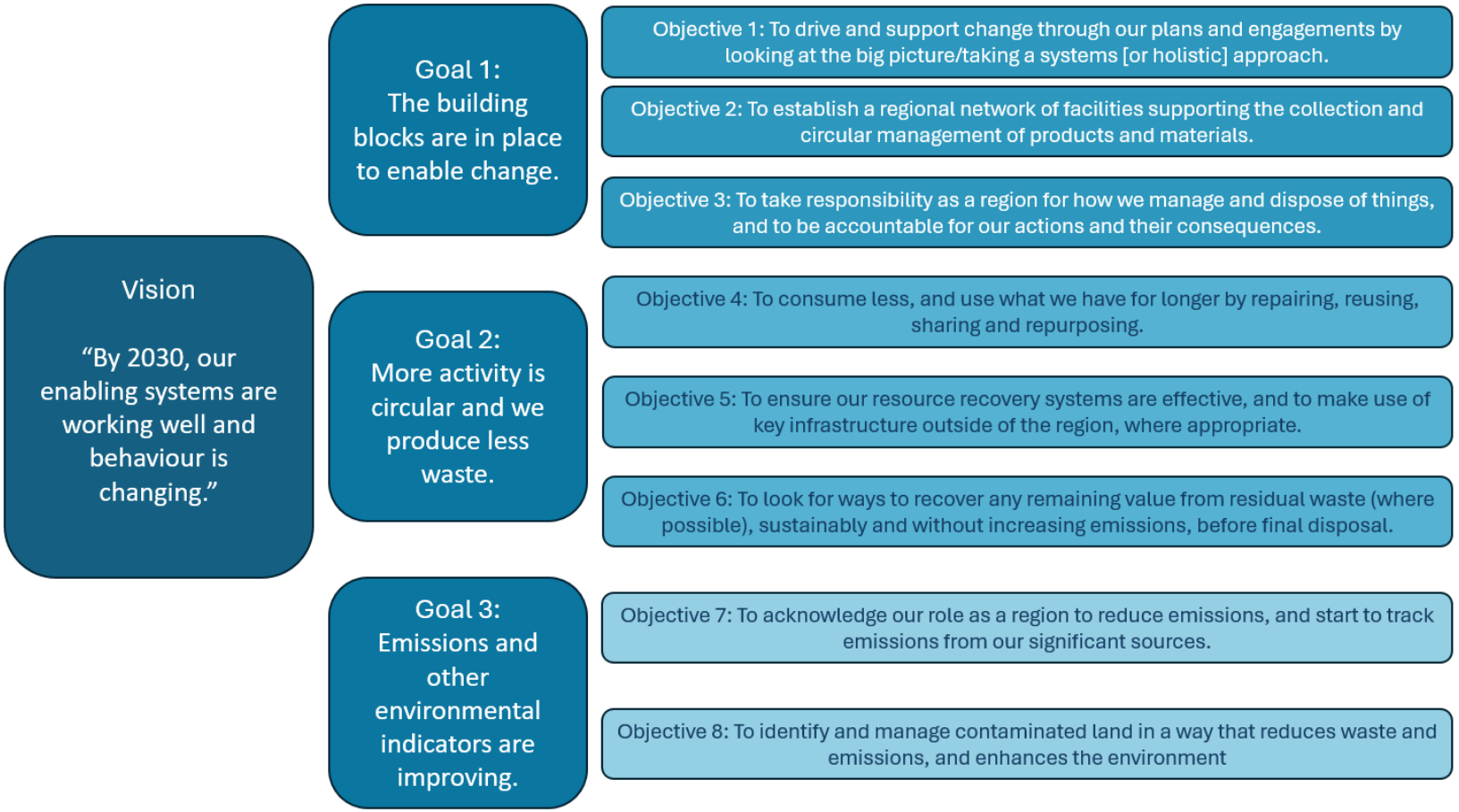

Figure 8.2: Vision, goals and objectives for the WMMP .

8.2 Proposed targets

The Councils set out targets in the 2018 WMMP, as outlined in Table 6.3. The decided approach was to review these targets, align under the appropriate updated goal and objective, and keep them similar where possible.

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.

As discussed in Section 8.1, the Councils have decided to align with the Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy. 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 8.1 align with these, and the expected performance of proposed priority actions outlined in Section 9.6 of this 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 (as discussed in Section 5.3).

Waste Generation: reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10 per cent per person

As discussed in Section 4, Councils have a limited amount of influence in the top levels of the waste hierarchy. Therefore, efforts may need to be focused on building partnerships and lobbying for action by central government.

Waste Disposal: reduce the amount of material that needs final disposal by 30 per cent per person

As discussed in Section 7, to meet this target Council must give their best efforts to waste minimisation and recovery initiatives, alongside building and fostering effective partnerships with private sector and the community to reach waste streams where Council has little to no influence or control over.

Waste Emissions: reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by at least 30 per cent

In 2022, 93.3 per cent of waste emissions were biogenic methane – largely generated by the decomposition of organic waste (such as

food, garden, wood, and paper waste). While waste contributes a small percentage of our total emissions, biogenic methane has a warming effect 28 times greater than carbon dioxide. As such national governments have a focus for District Councils to reduce the volume of organic waste entering landfills.

As not all landfills in New Zealand have the infrastructure to actively capture gases from waste, emissions are not currently measured. In this instance, Councils can estimate the emissions from their landfills through evidence-based estimations. Utilising landfill specific composition data (SWAP data) or combined national level Class 1 landfill data alongside the MfE emission factors for waste a high-level emission figure can be developed for the landfills in the West Coast. This will create a baseline for tracking progress against the 30% reduction target.

Table 8.1: Proposed targets

Target		Unit	2018	2022/23	Regional Target
Waste generation	Reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	385.51	494	445 by 2030
Waste to landfill	Reduce the total waste tonnes per capita going to landfill by 30% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	299.76	402	282 by 2030
	Reduce the total waste tonnes per dwelling going to landfill from the Council kerbside collection by 30% per person by 2030*	kg per dwelling per annum	575.63	573	401
Diversion of waste	Increase the amount of household waste diverted to recycling (Council provided kerbside collection only, excludes green waste) *	% diversion from landfill	37%	33%	30% by July 2026 40% by July 2028 50% by July 2030
	Reduce contamination of Council provided kerbside recycling.	% contamination	N/A	31%	TBC
Waste emissions	Increase organics capture at transfer station and kerbside (%) * *Organics capture includes food, garden, and timber waste streams.*	% diversion from landfill	N/A	4%	30% capture of organic material by 2030
	Reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by 2030 (CO_2e) *	% reduction of biogenic methane	N/A	TBC[47]	30% reduction
Customer satisfaction	Percentage of community satisfied with the solid waste service.	% satisfaction	N/A	72 – 82%	> 85% satisfaction
	Total number of complaints received about the Council's solid waste service	No. of complaints annually	N/A	N/A	> 50 complaints annually
Environmental health and safety	Maintain 100 per cent compliance with resource consent conditions for Council-operated solid waste district facilities.	% compliance	100%	100%	100% compliance

Note: targets marked with an (*) asterisk are requirements from Central Government.

[47] Councils are awaiting guidance from central government on the calculation of biogenic methane emissions from waste before a baseline is confirmed for the region.

Part 3

How are we going to get there?

9 Options identified

9.1 Introduction

Section 51 of the WMA requires that the Waste Assessment contains a statement of options available to meet the forecast demands of the region with an assessment of the suitability of each option.

This section summarises the identification and evaluation of options to meet the forecast demands of the region and to meet the goals and targets set out in Section 8. The process started by identifying a wide range of possible options, or 'possibilities,' and agreeing on a set of evaluation criteria. The list of 'possibilities' have then been evaluated against the criteria to identify priority options. The priority options from this assessment will be incorporated into the draft WMMP Action Plan.

For the West Coast region, the total quantity of waste generated is forecast to increase over the life of this plan as more residents utilise the council waste services offered and economic activity in the region increases. Actions which feed into the WMMP need to take account of these factors, while driving a reduction in total waste generated (whether recovered or landfilled) and a reduction waste disposed to landfill.

9.2 Identifying options

There are a wide range of possible approaches that could be adopted in the West Coast to achieve, or work towards, their vision and goals. A useful way to consider how to make effective change is whether the option addresses infrastructure (including collection), education/information and regulation/policy. These are supported by having the right data to inform strategic and operational decision making.

Ensuring the West Coast is in a good place to transition to a circular economy involves considering materials through their entire life cycle, through production, product design, use and disposal. Maximising the value of materials recovered through waste minimisation and management activities, and actively collaborating with the community and private sector, are important when making this transition. Figure 9.1 details the components of council's contribution to a circular economy with multiple elements in place to set strong foundations for success.

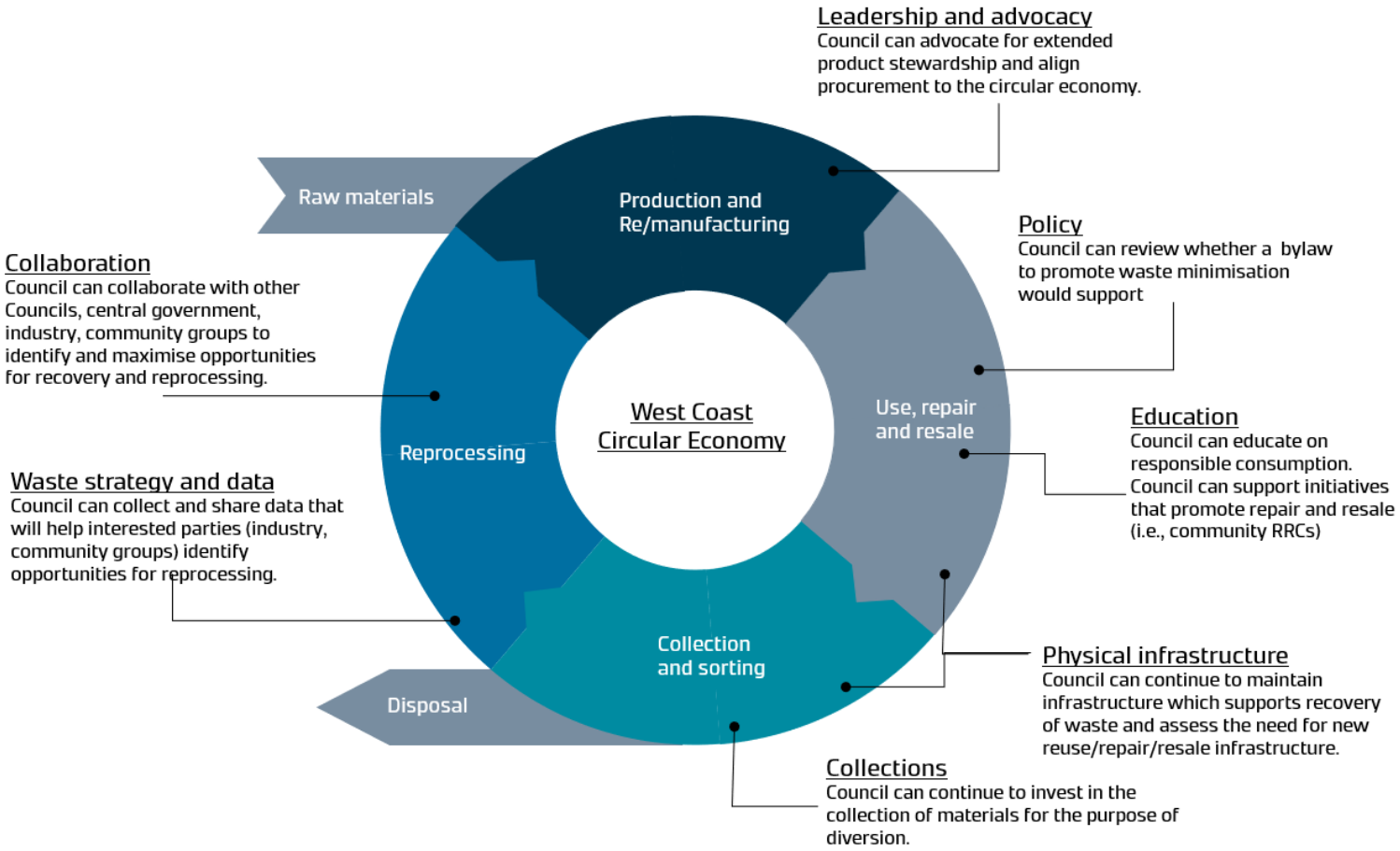

Figure 9.1: Components of Councils contribution to a circular economy in the West Coast.

9.3 Possibilities for the West Coast

From the assessment of Part One of this document, the Current Situation, key opportunities have been identified and could be implemented in a number of ways. This document refers to these as the Possibilities. These Possibilities build on existing, and already planned, activities.

To develop pathways for circularity in the West Coast and achieve effective change in each of the Focus Areas (Table 9.1), there would ideally be a combination of Possibilities covering:

- Policy (e.g., Central Government policy, district bylaws),
- Infrastructure (e.g., regional disposal facility, transfer stations, kerbside collection, signage) and
- Education (e.g. targeted education and behaviour change programmes)

The influence of national policy, local policy, infrastructure, and education sit across different areas of the circular economy (Figure 9.2).

Table 9.1: Possible options development in line with current and planned activities sets out a list of Possibilities, using this approach, with consideration is given to:

- The current activities in place.
- Planned changes still to be implemented; and
- Possibilities - future options not currently planned.

The list of Possibilities is tested against the applicability to the West Coast Region using the Evaluation Criteria in Section 9.4. This evaluation determines whether it will be a Priority Option.

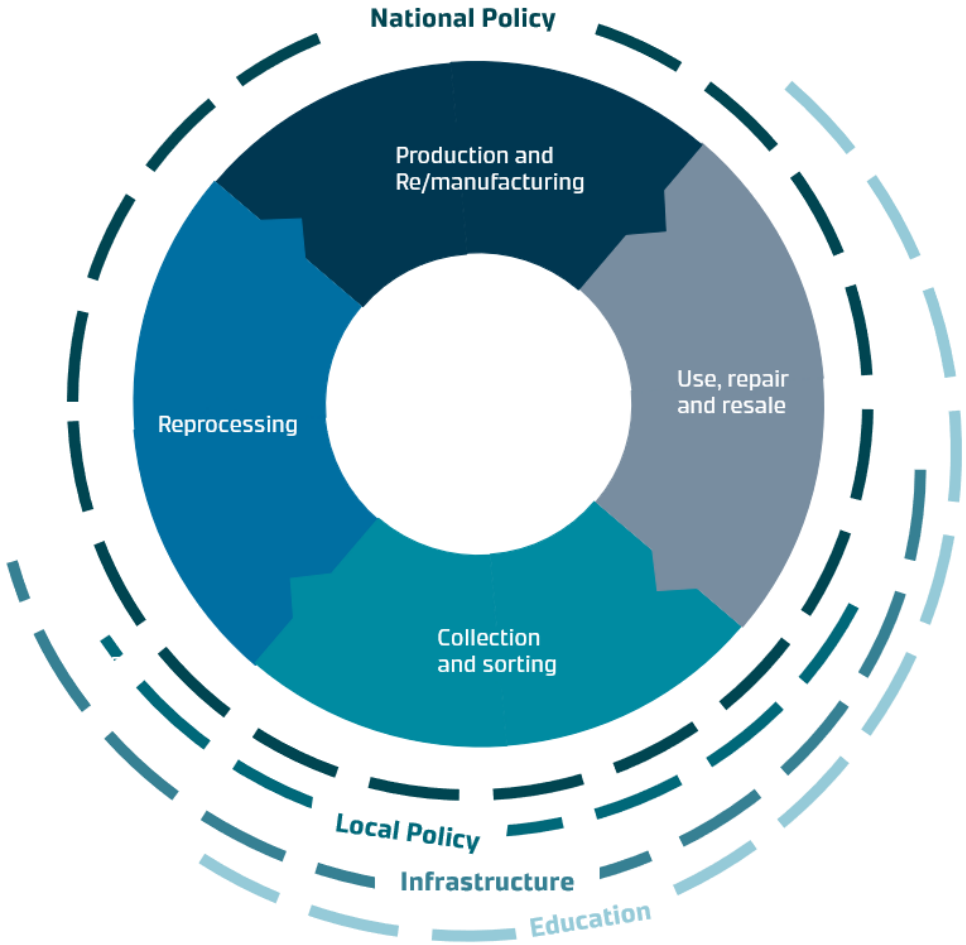

Figure 9.2: Level of influence of change levers in the circular economy framework.

Table 9.1: Possible options development in line with current and planned activities

Focus area / Key opportunity	Intervention	Current What is happening? (Nationally and regionally)	Planned future What is planned to happen? (Nationally and regionally)	Possibilities What opportunities are there to improve? (Possibilities in bold address multiple focus areas)
Contamination in kerbside recycling	Policy	• National standardisation for what is accepted for recycling at kerbside.	• The Proposed National Waste Data Framework will require more reporting on domestic kerbside contamination.	• Collaborate with local industry/organisations to establish hubs for collection of difficult materials/common contaminators of recycling e.g. Supermarkets. • Undertake a study on contamination in kerbside and public litter bins to establish problematic materials, causes for contamination and possible options to prevent contamination, these could include a demerit points system or RFID tags on bins to monitor repeat offenders. • Develop/update solid waste bylaw to strengthen enforcement.
	Infrastructure	• Kerbside recycling bin audits (through an app for Buller and Grey) and random spot checks by kerbside contractors (Buller and Westland). • MRF contamination data collected in Buller.	• N/A	• Investigate options to prevent contamination of glass colours (Westland). • Investigate solutions for high contamination in kerbside comingled recycling in Grey District Council. • Require that kerbside waste contractors to complete random spot checks on recycling bin compliance.
	Education	• Information sharing to public on contamination levels in kerbside bins. • Kerbside recycling bin audits with stickers for non-compliance.	• Kerbside recycling bin audit process plan in place through app in Grey.	• 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. • Identify learnings from bin audits undertaken (by Council and contractors to Council) to identify materials which cause contamination. • Develop an educational programme of work focusing on behaviour change and information sharing to the community. • Utilise and/or build on national waste and behaviour change campaigns and/or collateral to promote waste diversion.
Environmental impacts – Reducing emissions and other environmental impacts associated with waste generation	Policy	• Monitoring of closed landfills in line with consent requirements. • Councils working with Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora, Te Tai o Poutini Hospital and Specialist Services to offer medical waste services.	• Remediation plan for Birchfield and Westport legacy Landfills (Buller).	• Investigate the most efficient way for Councils to report consistently on emissions associated with waste generation and management across the region. • Councils to continue to work with Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora, Te Tai o Poutini Hospital and Specialist Services to ensure medical waste is disposed of appropriately.
	Infrastructure	• N/A	• N/A	• Investigations into which Council owned closed/historic landfill sites require a remediation plan. • 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. • Investigate feasible landfill gas management options for McLeans and Butlers Landfills. Partner with organisations promoting emissions tracking e.g. Development West Coast, West Coast Climate Action Support. • Investigate the feasibility of a regional Disposal Facility/Landfill that could service the entire region.
	Education	• N/A	• N/A	• Promote and share existing tools, case studies and resources to support organisations in calculating their waste related emissions.

Focus area / Key opportunity	Intervention	Current What is happening? (Nationally and regionally)	Planned future What is planned to happen? (Nationally and regionally)	Possibilities What opportunities are there to improve? (Possibilities in bold address multiple focus areas)
Illegal dumping	Policy	• Grey District has a schedule of offences and fees that apply for littering or dumping.	• Litter Act legislation review.	• 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. • 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.
	Infrastructure	• Councils actively address illegal dumping activity including where possible identifying perpetrators and if required undertaking clean-up activity. • Residents report incidents of illegal dumping with Councils utilising services to collect and responsibly dispose of illegal dumped waste.	• Continued collection of illegal waste dumping when notified of occurrence.	• Investigate whether Council provide or partner to provide a bookable bulky waste collection service (e.g. for whiteware).
	Education	• Councils have illegal dumping web pages with information on the issue and education around this.	• N/A	• Information and education on the impacts of illegal dumping and options for unwanted materials - charity shops, reuse, Trade Me.
Industry waste management and uptake in schemes	Policy	• No specific policy on waste minimisation for construction sector.	• The Building Act amendments to include mandatory waste minimisation plans for all construction and demolition projects. • The Emissions Reduction Plan actions on construction waste (15.3.1). • Waste Strategy focus on organic material recovery, including timber from construction and demolition. • Landfill levy increase.	• 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. • Establish needs and barriers from industry to support waste reduction. This can be done through connecting with industry at existing events run by industry or Council. • Advocate and facilitate sector groups (e.g. C and 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).
	Infrastructure	• Agrecovery services are available across the region.	• In the process of setting up a Tyrewise collection point when the programme opens (September 2024), and promoting to encourage uptake (Westland and Buller) • WMF funded construction of C&D recovery arrangements at transfer stations across the region and coordinated management of construction waste materials. • Starting discussion for setting up soft plastics programme and agricultural plastics (Buller only)	• Reflect and investigate low uptake of existing product stewardship schemes in the region including Agrecovery, to apply learnings for new opportunities that emerge. • Investigate options for recovering high volumes of industry waste, with consideration of landfill longevity. Investigate whether Council want to facilitate additional Product Stewardship Schemes at their transfer stations.
	Education	• Educational resources available through private (commercial and not for profit) and public (council) organisations.	• Regional C&D waste engagement and education programme, with key audience as construction sector.	• N/A
Information and education – available to rate payers and members of the public	Policy	• N/A	• N/A	• Align survey questions across districts in resident satisfaction survey to allow for year-on-year and cross district comparison. • Conduct a resident satisfaction survey within Buller. • Consistently share waste recovery and diversion information in Councils Annual Reports.
	Infrastructure	• N/A	• N/A	• Investigate whether a grant for waste and resource recovery activities in the region can be developed between Councils (draft criteria for grant funding has been drafted). • Explore whether the community would like Councils to offer services or guidance such as waste audits to help organisations understand their waste generation better.

Focus area / Key opportunity	Intervention	Current What is happening? (Nationally and regionally)	Planned future What is planned to happen? (Nationally and regionally)	Possibilities What opportunities are there to improve? (Possibilities in bold address multiple focus areas)
	Education	• Information on waste and recycling services in the region are available through the Council's websites and Facebook pages. • School education programmes supporting existing environmental education activities for schools, homes, and businesses. • Composting workshops take place in Buller.	• N/A	• 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 up to date, consistent and easy to find online. • Collaborate with industry and community to create West Coast A-Z recycling & recovery directory to highlight circular services in the region. • Assess whether a regional Waste Minimisation / Behaviour Change role could be developed for the region. • 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).
Reduce generation – waste volumes decrease and increase in material recovery	Policy	• Event waste management and minimisation plan for events (Buller). •	• Regulated product stewardship with six priority products. • Additional funding available through waste levy increases • Organic kerbside collection to become mandatory nationally by 2030. • The Proposed National Waste Data Framework will require more reporting on domestic kerbside and commercial organics. • Landfill levy increase.	• Investigate alternative options to manage waste streams / materials which take up most volume in the regions landfills and transfer stations. • Tourism Levy implemented for those staying in the region to cover the costs of infrastructure including waste assets and management.
	Infrastructure	• Diversion trials e.g. Techcollect partnership (E-waste), small appliance recycling. • Diversion drop-offs: Polystyrene drop-off Mitre 10, Expol), household battery, plan pots. • Trialled 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. • Reviewing the results from C&D feasibility study to assess the best options for C&D recovery in the region.	• C&D feasibility study – construction of facilities based on study recommendations. • Organics feasibility study. • Continued support for diversion partnerships. • Continue to support and promote product stewardship schemes through existing transfer stations where appropriate.	• Implement Resource Recovery Shops in the region's main transfer stations (Westport, McLean's Pit and Hokitika). • Review access to services e.g. rural residents, review transfer station openings times/days to assess whether they meet the needs of locals, visitors. • Investigate opportunities to provide cost-effective services for those not receiving a kerbside collection e.g. mobile solution etc. • Investigate consolidating MRF operations and options for glass (local processing and beneficial use). • 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. • Collaboratively investigate with the community and industry groups what potential reuse, share and repair services would be beneficial for the region, and the role of councils in this i.e., collaboration, support, encouragement. • Map out existing resource recovery work that is happening in the region including community-led initiatives and share and promote publicly.
	Education	• Information available on all three district council websites to encourage waste reduction.	• Continue behavioural change plan and programme set to continue.	• Utilise council websites to link to existing resources to help plan and manage material management e.g. BRANZ and REBRI for the construction sector. • 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.
Streamline data collection across all contractors, Council, and sites	Policy	• N/A	• Joint waste services contract outlines data collection consistent with requirements.	• Investigate / support data collection on waste diversion through other sources e.g., reuse shops, food banks etc
	Infrastructure	• Contractors are collecting data from kerbside and waste facilities (landfills and Resource Centres).	• Standardisation across kerbside delivery (regional approach) – joint waste services.	• Align services available at transfer stations across the region.

Focus area / Key opportunity	Intervention	Current What is happening? (Nationally and regionally)	Planned future What is planned to happen? (Nationally and regionally)	Possibilities What opportunities are there to improve? (Possibilities in bold address multiple focus areas)
			• From 1 July 2024 all waste facility operators are required to collect data and report on the source of the waste they receive through MfE.	• Establish a template for reporting consistency across the region for data which is currently collected but not mandated therefore has no set template and lacks consistency across the region (e.g. contamination, emissions reporting). • Investigate data collection from difficult waste streams often managed by private contractors (e.g. hazardous, EOL vehicles, medical) • Collect tonnage data at Transfer stations from residential drop off and commercial drop off from different sectors to help track trends for future analysis.
	Education 	• N/A	• N/A	• N/A
Streamline kerbside collections - all councils to offer the same service in line MfE's kerbside standardisation	Policy 	• Standardisation of kerbside services nationwide implemented 1st February 2024.	• N/A	• All councils to have the same waste contractor which reports at district level streamlining data capture.
	Infrastructure 	• Weighbridges are installed at Westport, Reefton, and Hokitika Transfer Station, and Karamea and McLeans Pit Landfills to collect waste data. •	• Standardisation across kerbside delivery (regional approach) – consistent waste services. • Possible organic materials collection as per kerbside standardisation •	• Investigation into combining Grey District and northern Westland District refuse disposal in the medium term (as cells at Butlers and/or McLean's Landfills are completed). *Option carried from 2018 WMMP.*
	Education 	• N/A	• N/A	• Coordinated activity on contamination (linked into national action and information)

9.4 Prioritising options

Workshop with Council Staff

To assess the feasibility of the Possibilities listed in Table 9.1, a workshop took place with Council Staff representing the waste and resource recovery teams for each district. The focus areas were reviewed to ensure the key themes were correct with the challenges and opportunities the region currently faces. The current and planned activities under each focus area was then reviewed to ensure all the work to date had been captured. A review of the Possibilities then took place by focus area, with Council Staff amending specific actions required by the Possibility and adding additional options where required.

Evaluation criteria

As not all the Possibilities can be implemented within budget and resource constraints, nine Evaluation Criteria (explained in Appendix D) have been developed to assist Councils' decision making on priority areas for investment and confirm what actions can be proposed in the draft Regional WMMP. The criteria have been developed to align with the West Coast's vision and goals and have been equally weighted for this analysis.

The Evaluation Criteria include:

1 Cost to Council (economically viable)
2 Accessibility and affordability
3 Impact on the wider environment
4 Social/cultural outcomes
5 Partnership and collaboration
6 Recovery and markets
7 Responsible consumption
8 Appropriate for West Coast/regional lens
9 Technical risk

Each Possibility is rated as either high, medium, or low as per the outcomes which can be achieved for each criterion (Table 9.2). They are colour-coded using a traffic light system (i.e., 'low' is red, 'medium' is orange and 'high' is green) with a weighting applied to advice which of the possibilities are in line with the West Coast's vision and goals.

Those which rate higher (17+) show greater alignment with the vision and goals and therefore, is recommended to be considered as an option for action in the WMMP (Table 9.3).

Table 9.2: Rating and weighting key

Colour	Rating	Weighting
	High	3
	Medium	2
	Low	1

Table 9.3: Overall prioritisation guide

Colour	Overall score	Priority
	22 to 27	Option recommended to be taken forward as priority option in the WMMP.
	17 to 21	Options to be considered to be taken forward into WMMP.
	9 to 16	Options may not be taken forward into the next WMMP but may be considered for future WMMPs or after the priority actions have been achieved.

9.5 Evaluation

The evaluation of all 'possibilities' from Table Appendix E.1 are detailed in Appendix E.

9.6 Priority options and actions

Once the list of Possibilities was evaluated (Appendix E), a list of Priority Options emerged. Priority Options were defined as those with a score >17 which demonstrate strong alignment with the region's objectives and goals.

The Shortlist Assessment details the Option Theme (where the options complement or align with other options these have been grouped), Focus Area (initial issue or challenge identified in 7.2) and the Option (which will further support these activities, and ultimately lead towards circular outcomes for the region).

The objectives which the Priority Options are assessed against during the Shortlist Assessment include:

- Objective 1 (OB 1): To drive and support change through our plans and engagements by looking at the big picture/taking a systems [or holistic] approach.
- Objective 2 (OB 2): To establish a regional network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials.
- Objective 3 (OB 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.
- Objective 4 (OB 4): To consume less, and use what we have for longer by repairing, reusing, sharing, and repurposing.
- Objective 5 (OB 5): To ensure our resource recovery systems are effective, and to make use of key infrastructure outside of the region, where appropriate.
- Objective 6 (OB 6): To look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste (where possible), sustainably and without increasing emission, before final disposal.
- Objective 7 (OB 7): To acknowledge our role as a region to reduce emissions and start to track emissions from our significant sources.

- Objective 8 (OB 8): To identify and manage contaminated land in a way that reduces waste and emissions and enhances the environment.

Council's intended role is also detailed in the Shortlist Assessment. These roles include:

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

Table 9.4: Shortlist Assessment (priority options)

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
Top Options	Creating partnerships	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)	R	OB1, OB3	Advocate/promote Enable Advisor
		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.	R	OB1, OB3, OB5	Advocate/promote Enable Advisor
		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.	R	OB1, OB3, OB5	Collaborator/connector Enabler
	Communicate and share circular economy initiatives	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.	R	OB3, OB6	Service provider Advisor

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
		Contamination in kerbside	Develop an educational programme of work focusing on behaviour change and information sharing to the community.	R	OB1, OB3, OB6	Service provider Advisor
		Contamination in kerbside	Utilise and/or build on national waste and behaviour change campaigns and/or collateral to promote waste diversion.	R	OB3, OB6	Service provider Advisor
	Policy development	Contamination in kerbside	Develop solid waste bylaw to strengthen enforcement.	R	OB1, OB3, OB4, OB6, OB7	Regulator
		Information and education	Investigate whether a grant for waste and resource recovery activities in the region can be developed between Councils.	R	OB3, OB4	Regulator
		Reduce generation	Tourism Levy implemented for those staying in the region to cover the costs of infrastructure including waste assets and management.	R	OB5, OB6	Advocate Regulator Advisor
	Product Stewardship	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).	R	OB2, OB3, OB6	Advocate/promote Enable Collaborator/connector
		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.	R	OB2, OB3, OB6	Enable Advisor

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
		Reduce generation	Continue to support and promote product stewardship schemes through existing transfer stations where appropriate.	R	OB2, OB3, OB6	Advocate/promote Enable Collaborator/connector
	Making diversion easy	Streamline data collection	Align services available at transfer stations across the region.	R	OB2, OB5	Service provider Enabler
		Reduce generation	Investigate alternative options to manage waste streams / materials which take up most volume in the regions landfills and transfer stations.	R	OB1, OB2, OB5	Advisor
		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)	R	OB2, OB3, OB4, OB6, OB7	Enable Advisor
		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.	R	OB2, OB3, OB4, OB6, OB7	Enable Advisor
		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.	R	OB1, OB2, OB3, OB5	Enable Advisor
	Resilience	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	R	OB1, OB3, OB5, OB8	Enable Advisor Collaborator/Connector

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
			waste associated with natural disasters, and waste from earthquake prone buildings.			
		Environmental impacts	Investigate the feasibility of a regional Disposal Facility/Landfill that could service the entire region.	R	OB3, OB5, OB8	Service provider. Enabler
Other shortlisted options for consideration	Making diversion easy	Contamination in kerbside	Investigate options to prevent contamination of glass colours (Westland).	WDC	OB3, OB5	Enable Advisor
		Contamination in kerbside	Investigate solutions for high contamination in kerbside comingled recycling in Grey District Council.	GDC	OB3, OB5, OB6	Enable Advisor
		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
		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
	Creating partnerships	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

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
	Communicate and share circular economy initiatives	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
		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
		Information and education	Collaborate with industry and community to create West Coast A-Z recycling & recovery directory to highlight circular services in the region.	R	OB3, OB5, OB6	Service provider Advisor
	Improving data collection	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 01 July 2024 onwards.	R	OB1, OB7	Enabler
		Streamline data collection	Investigate/support data collection on waste diversion through other sources e.g., reuse shops, food banks etc	R	OB1, OB7	Enabler Advisor

9.7 Evaluating the impact of priority actions

Following the prioritisation of the options the associated spend and outcome are presented below. The intent of each action is to increase the capture of materials for recovery (reduce waste to landfill) and decrease emissions.

Material capture

Figure 9.3 presents the material capture for recycling or recovery of the tangible infrastructure options which are included in the priority options. Assumptions have been made regarding the timeline of implementation of these options in line with Central Government targets.

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.

Supporting initiatives

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.

With the planned increases to the waste levy along with LTP funding the regions indicative funding expected towards solid waste management is detailed in (Figure 9.4). It is important to note that funding through other central government sources is expected to be more difficult to obtain.

A high-level assessment of the cost of implementing the prioritised activities across the region suggests a total budget of over $850,000 each year for operational expenditure (with capital expenditure varying depending on the option). These activities are ongoing, largely regional and could be introduced over an extended period drawing on increasing LTP budgets and/or waste levy funding. The breakdown of estimated costs for each of the tangible infrastructure options are detailed in Appendix F.

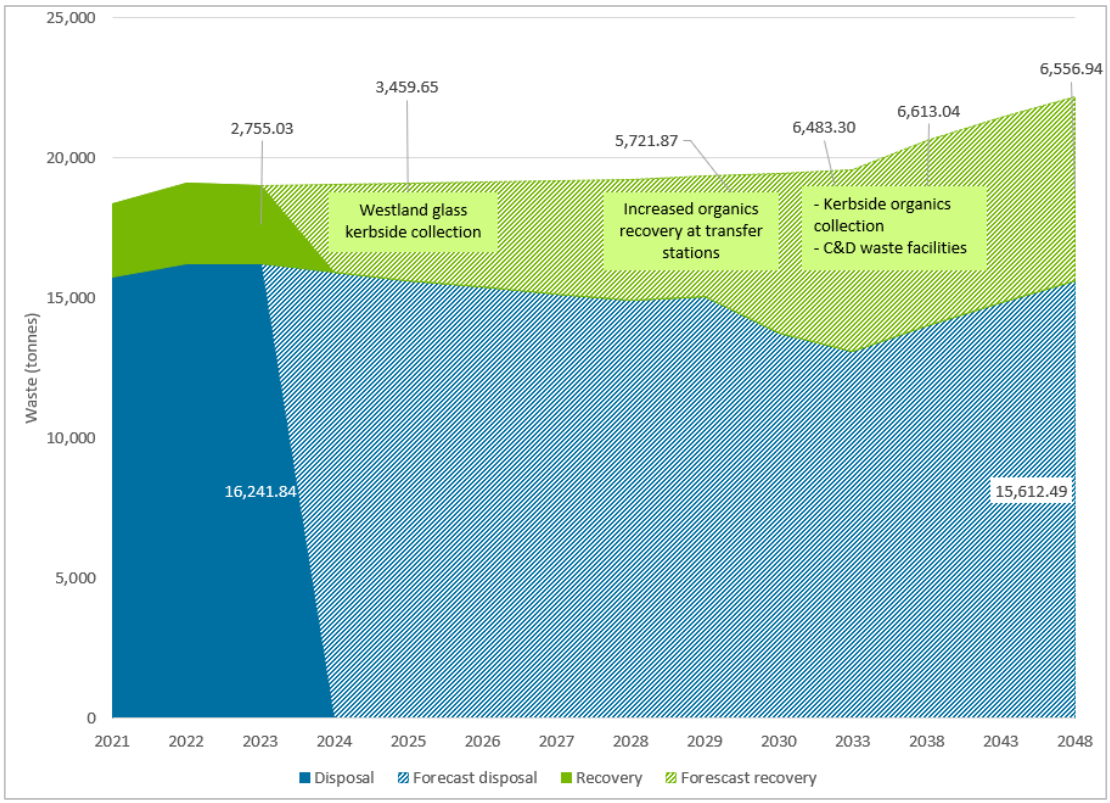

Figure 9.3: Material capture for new activities (priority options).

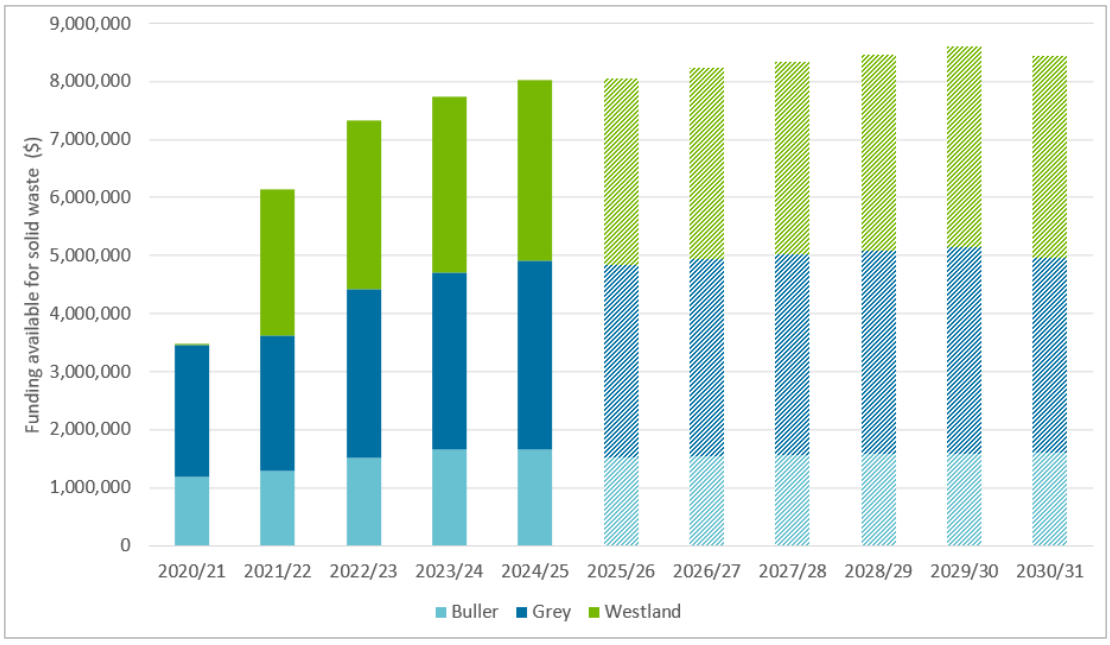

Figure 9.4: Indicative funding expected.

10 Statement of proposal

Drawing on the Possibilities, Evaluation, Priority Options, and the Councils' intended roles in meeting future demand, the Councils must:

- Include a statement of their proposal for meeting the forecast demands including proposals for new or replacement infrastructure.
- A statement about the extent to which the proposals will:
  - Ensure that public health is adequately protected.
  - Promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation.

1 This document has identified that over 16,000 tonnes of waste was generated in the West Coast Region in 2022/23 with 83% being sent to landfill and the remainder diverted via recycling. Diversion occurs predominantly through recycling at kerbside and transfer stations. The diversion of waste from landfill currently being achieved at kerbside is 30% which demonstrates the success of rolling out kerbside recycling services.

2 Table 9.4: Shortlist Assessment (priority options) summarises the Priority Options the councils propose for meeting and managing the forecast demands on waste in the district (subject to consultation). These Options have been aligned to the strategic framework including goals, and objectives set out in Part 2 – Where do we want to be? Current waste minimisation services and activities provide a good foundation and will continue to be delivered and built on to ensure:

1 The West Coast is set up to respond to future national policy changes.

2 Improved data collection and reporting to improve for planning and transparency.

3 Councils can tackle specific waste streams and improve the capture of materials.

4 Support and increase the focus on circular economy activities.

10.1 Councils' intended role in meeting the forecast demand

The next six years

The councils currently provide waste services in the district via a contracts for kerbside collection (to those in eligible areas), transfer station services, and resource recovery facilities. This ensures public health is adequately protected by providing facilities for the safe recovery and disposal of waste. The councils also provide information specific to disposal options and educational resources to encourage recovery and waste minimisation.

However, councils cannot achieve a waste minimisation and progress towards a circular economy alone. The updated regional vision focuses on ensuring systems are set up to enable successful recovery of waste and change in mindset towards consumption and the generation of waste. Over the next six years, through the proposed objectives in Part 2 – Where do we want to be? councils will continue to improve the delivery of waste services and facilities

including a more on supporting and enabling the community to contribute through:

- Developing partnerships and collaboration with industry and community groups.
- Developing behaviour change and education programmes.
- Providing leadership to industry, the community, and residents.
- Ensuring council owned services and facilities are consistent across the region.

Longer range forecast

The Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy envisions a low waste, low emissions circular economy by 2050 and provides a high-level roadmap to achieve this. Over the next 27 years or four Waste Management and Minimisation Plans, a significant reduction in waste to landfill will need to be achieved. Alongside this, total material entering the waste system (waste generated) also needs to reduce.

11 Medical Officer of Health statement

The Medical Office of Health for the National Public Health Service – West Coast provided a statement regarding this Waste Assessment. This statement is included in Appendix G.

Appendix A Relevant policy for waste in the West Coast region

Table Appendix A.1 : National, regional, and district waste policy

National	Regional	District Council specific
Statutory • Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (currently under review) • Health Act 1956 • Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 • Resource Management Act 1991 • Local Government Act 2002 • Litter Act 1979 (under review) • Climate Change Response Act 2002 • Non-Statutory • Emissions Reduction Plan 2022 • Te Rautaki Para | Waste Strategy 2023	• Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018 • Combined West Coast District Plan	Annual Plan 2023/24 • Buller Annual Plan • Grey Annual Plan • Westland Annual Plan Long-Term Plan 2021/31 • Buller LTP • Grey LTP • Westland LTP • Climate change: • Buller climate change adaptation planning

Table Appendix A.2 : Goals and targets from the 2018 WMMP

Goals	Objectives	Targets	Indicators
Avoid and reduce waste where we can	1. To avoid creating waste	1.1 To maintain or reduce the total quantity of waste disposed of to landfill from the West Coast on a per capita basis.	The current figure is 340 kg per person. Waste disposed to landfill < 300 kg per person each year
Manage waste responsibly	2. To make it easy to recycle	2.1 Increase in the proportion of material captured for recycling at kerbside and transfer stations.	The current figures are 29% and 27%, respectively. Kerbside recycling > 35% by 2025 Recycling at Transfer stations > 50% by 2025

Goals	Objectives	Targets	Indicators
		2.2 Establish simple and effective recycling services for visitors to the West Coast Region.	Establish 5 landfill waste and recycling depots at key visitor locations on the West Coast by 2022. Pilot with 2 facilities in Buller District followed by the remainder of the Region.
Maximise community benefit	3. To ensure visitors, households and businesses have access to safe disposal of residual waste	3.1 Satisfaction with kerbside collection and transfer station services.	Resident and visitor satisfaction > 85% Establish 5 landfill waste and recycling depots at key visitor locations on the West Coast by 2022
	4. To reduce illegal dumping and litter	4.1 Reduction in illegal dumping incidents and quantity of material illegally dumped in the West Coast Region. (Establishing landfill waste and recycle stations).	Quantity of illegally dumped waste < 2016/17 figure the number of illegal dumping incidents is < 2016/17 figure.
	5. To create opportunities for West Coast – community partnerships, jobs, innovation, and efficient business	5.1 To publish a summary of available data on waste generation and management with each annual report.	Summary data published in Annual Report To create a grant scheme to support new initiatives to reduce waste
	6. To improve community understanding of issues and opportunities for waste management on the West Coast	6.1 School programmes supported by Council Support the Enviroschools programme each year.	
		6.2 Council (or contractors) promote waste minimisation at events in the Region.	Councils promote waste minimisation at > five events in the Region each year.
		6.3 Inform and support West Coast residents and businesses on waste minimisation opportunities.	Information made available and regularly updated on Council websites.
	7. Councils work with others to improve waste minimisation and management in New Zealand	7.1 Work with others to influence national policy and action on waste minimisation and management.	

Appendix B Long Term Plan overview

Table Appendix B.1 : 2021 – 31 Long-term plan overviews

Buller District Council		
Activity	**Community outcome/sustainable solution**	**Council role**
Solid waste – collection, transfer and final disposal of waste materials generated by households and businesses within the district.	Affordability - The District has a means of safely disposing of its landfill waste. Prosperity - Commercial needs for dealing with waste are met. Culture: • Programmes are provided to schools and the community on waste care and reduction. • There is continued public education around composting, food waste reduction strategies and recycling opportunities. • Environment • Landfill waste is collected and disposed of in a safe, efficient, and sustainable manner, minimising the risk of waste being inappropriately or dangerously disposed of. • Waste minimisation is encouraged.	Council provides ethical, economical, and efficient waste management services, where the concepts of sustainability and social responsibility are equally valued alongside cost. Change behaviours to Solid waste leading to a decrease in the quantity of waste generated per person and divert Solid waste from landfills.
Long Term Plan 2021-2031 • Waste management and minimisation are listed as key aspects for achieving the community's goal of a 'Sustainable Environment'. • Council is committed to this goal through the facilitation of the collection and disposal of landfill waste in a safe, efficient, and sustainable manner, and encouraging and educating the community around waste care and minimisation. However, there is nothing specific about C&D waste. • Council states their desire to move towards a more circular economy, and away from landfills. • Capital funding has been allowed in the Plan for replacement of existing assets over the life of the Plan. No specific detail is provided on specific assets.		
Grey District Council		
Activity	**Community outcome/ sustainable solution**	**Council role**

Buller District Council		
Activity	**Community outcome/sustainable solution**	**Council role**
Solid waste – landfill waste collection, recovery of recyclable materials, management of landfill and cleanfill and resource recovery centres, management of minor quantities of hazardous waste, Litter Bin management, waste minimisation, environmental monitoring.	Economic wellbeing (strong, sustainable) – Efficient and responsible management of solid waste is integral to providing for a strong and sustainable economy. Social wellbeing (safe) – Efficient and responsible management of solid waste is fundamental to the health and safety of people within the community. Environmental wellbeing (practical, resilient, strategic) – Effective, strategic, and responsible management of solid waste provides for resiliency of the environment.	Providing solid waste infrastructure – McLeans Landfill and Recycling Centre Council services provide the following – kerbside recycling for the CBD and urban area of greater Greymouth, landfill waste collection, and litter bins.
Long Term Plan 2031-2031 • Key contributions in terms of waste management are stated as being the provision of waste and recycling collection, storage, and disposal (including management of the McLean's Landfill and McLean's Recycling Centre), the provision of waste minimisation processes and education, and the provision of litter management services and education. • Four key issues for waste management are identified for the district including the need for ongoing development at McLean's Landfill. The need for increased waste minimisation, the financial impact of the ETS, and increasing volumes of demolition waste from the demolishing of earthquake prone buildings. Options for addressing these key issues are outlined in the plan, along with funding projections to provide for them.		
Westland District Council		
Activity	**Community outcome/ sustainable solution**	**Council role**
Solid Waste – manage across Westland District, including waste and recycling collection (pick-up) in the northern and southern parts of the district, the provision of transfer stations and disposal sites serving all townships, and responsible camping waste stations.	• Sustainably Managed Environment • Solid waste is managed appropriately. • Maximised recycling efficiency	Council is responsible for encouraging efficient and sustainable management of solid waste.
Our Way Forward - Council's Long-Term Plan 2031-2031 • Key issues associated with solid waste management are identified as waste minimisation, waste charges, reducing waste tonnage to landfill, communication with the community, and transfer station opening hours. Closed landfill capping projects and legislation changes are also identified as key issues.		

Buller District Council		
Activity	**Community outcome/sustainable solution**	**Council role**
• Funding has been allocated for several capital projects including works at the closed landfill at Hokitika, and capping and new cell construction at Butlers and Haast landfills. • The Plan states that Council are strict with illegal dumpers of waste by using infringements. • There are no specific references to C&D waste due to early stages of this project.		

Appendix C District waste disposal costs 2023/24

Table Appendix C.1 : Buller district – Westport and Reefton Transfer Stations disposal costs

Waste	Unit	Cost
General waste	Per bag	$9.10
	Per tonne	$503.70
	30 Kg	$15.90
	50 Kg	$25.20
	100 Kg	$50.40
	Polystyrene per m3	$327.20
Green waste	Car boot	$10
	Truck (over 500 Kg) per tonne	$143.30
	Single axle trailer	$11.20
	Tandem axle trailer	$16.80
Other items	Whiteware (except refrigeration)	$10
	Tyres – car (each)	$9.60
	Car bodies	$56.20
	Gas bottles (each)	$10
	Paint 10 L pail (each)	$7.80
	Waste oil (4 L)	$2.20
	Waste oil (20 L)	$4.50

Table Appendix C.2 : Grey district disposal costs

Waste	Unit	Cost
McLean's Pit Landfill		
General waste	Per tonne	$441
	Refuse Bag with Council issued tie	Free
	Refuse Bag without Council issued tie	$6.30
Tyres	Car, motorbike and 4WD	$10.60
	Truck	$19.00
	Tractor	$19.70
	Specialist Industrial	$43.70
Other	Unprepared car bodies (per car)	$83.20
	Paint/solvents (per litre)	$4.10
McLean's Pit Recycling Centre		
Commercial Recycling	Per tonne	$141.00
Plastic, paper, cardboard, aluminium cans. Tin cans, glass, light scrap metal, heavy scrap metal, recyclable whiteware, empty LPG bottles, prepared car bodies		free
Green waste	Commercial trailer (per load)	$184.00
	Car boot	$18.40
	Single axle trailer	$23.90
	Tandem Trailer	$31.80
	Small Truck (1.5 m^3 Max)	$55.20
	Large Truck	$184.00
Resource Centres (Moana/Blackball/Nelson Creek)		

Waste	Unit	Cost
General waste	Refuse Bag with Council issued tie	free
	Refuse Bag without Council issued tie	$6.30
	Car Boot	$39.10
	Station wagon	$59.10
	Utility vehicle/van	$59.10
	Single axle trailer	$77.80
	Tandem Trailer	$127.30
	Truck under 5 m, uncompacted general waste	$278.80
	Truck under 5 m, compacted general waste or dense material such as building waste.	$441.20

Table Appendix C.3 : Westland district – Hokitika Transfer Station disposal costs

Waste	Unit	Cost
General waste	Per tonne	$595.00
	60 L bag	$6.00
Green waste	Per tonne	$55.00
	60 L bag	$0.75
Other items	Whiteware (degassed) – per item	$16.50
	Tyres (each)	$10.00
	Gas bottle disposal	$15.00
	Cars (prepared)	$150.00

Appendix D Evaluation Criteria

Table Appendix D.1 : Evaluation Criteria

Measures	Description	Rating		
		Low	Medium	High
Cost to Council (economically viable)	The level of capital and operational expenditure and resourcing required by Council to deliver the option, noting the potential for funding from outside source(s). This criterion covers affordability for Councils.	The option commits Council to a high degree of financial and resource investment.	The option requires financial and/or resource investment from Council.	This option allows Council to experience benefits without the need for significant financial and/or resource investment.
Accessibility and affordability	Solutions delivered which are equally accessible to all in the community. This includes physical access, affordability, consistency in materials accepted, accessibility of information etc.	Access to facilities, services and information does not improve from what is currently available in the region.	Most residents have access to affordable waste/material management facilities, services, and information.	All residents and community groups have access to affordable waste/material management facilities, services, and information.
Impact on the wider environment	Options that minimise negative impacts of waste management and enhance the environment.	Impacts to the environment are consistent with current activities.	Some indirect/unknown positive impacts to the environment.	Positive impacts to the environment are generated or the environment is enhanced.
Social/cultural outcomes	The ability of an option to enable better social, financial, environmental, and cultural benefits for members of the community including Mana Whenua.	No additional outcomes are provided to the region.	Outcomes provided to small/specific group within the community.	Outcomes which benefit multiple groups within the region.
Partnership and collaboration	Options that allow collaboration across stakeholder groups (Mana Whenua, community, businesses, and industry) to ensure all aspects of the circular economy can be implemented.	No collaboration taking place.	Collaboration between existing groups, industries, and Councils.	Cross collaboration between community groups, industries and Mana Whenua with Council acting as a facilitator or connector (little/no Council involvement).

Measures	Description	Rating		
		Low	Medium	High
Recovery and markets	The level of confidence in recovery of the material and viable markets for the output(s) from the solution. Along with consideration from future markets which may become available in the West Coast and New Zealand.	No recovery or markets currently available in New Zealand.	Recovery is currently taking place and markets available in New Zealand with future markets emerging.	Recovery and markets currently available within New Zealand which are available to the West Coast.
Responsible consumption	Encourages and educates residents and visitors to make choices in line with the waste hierarchy	Option does not address behaviour change.	The option considers positive behaviour change.	The option actively promotes positive behaviour change.
Appropriate for West Coast/regional lens	Assessment of how appropriate and resilient the option is for the West Coast, noting seasonal visitor numbers and resilient to a changing waste environment in Aotearoa (including policy direction, market conditions and technical guidance).	Option not practical in the West Coast due to scale, funding requirements or other factor(s).	Option has been implemented in other New Zealand regions of similar context.	Option is likely to be successful in the West Coast or has been in other regions in New Zealand of similar context.
Technical risk	The share of and likelihood of risk taken on by Council to deliver an option.	Council is exposed to a high or unknown level of risk.	Council is exposed to an acceptable level of risk.	Council is exposed to risks which can be effectively mitigated.

Appendix E Possibilities assessment

Table Appendix E.1 : Evaluation of Possibilities options for West Coast

Focus Area	Possible Option	Cost to Council (economically viable)	Accessibility and affordability	Impact on the wider environment	Social/cultural outcomes	Partnership and collaboration	Recovery and markets	Responsible consumption	Appropriate for West Coast / regional lens	Technical risk	Score
Contamination in kerbside	Develop solid waste bylaw to strengthen enforcement.										24
	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.										22
	Develop an educational programme of work focusing on behaviour change and information sharing to the community.										22
	Utilise and/or build on national waste and behaviour change campaigns and/or collateral to promote waste diversion.										22
	Investigate options to prevent contamination of glass colours (Westland).										21
	Investigate solutions for high contamination in kerbside comingled recycling in Grey District Council.										21
	Identify learnings from bin audits undertaken (by Council and contractors to Council) to identify materials which cause contamination.										21
	Collaborate with local industry/organisations to establish hubs for collection of difficult materials/common contaminators of recycling e.g. Supermarkets										21
	Advocate to central government to implement rules for product producer and retailers to take ownership for packaging and offer take back schemes.										20
	Request kerbside waste contractors to complete random spot checks on recycling bin compliance.										19
	Undertake a study on contamination in kerbside and public litter bins to establish problematic materials, causes for contamination and possible options to prevent contamination, these could include a demerit points system or RFID tags on bins to monitor repeat offenders.										15
Environmental impacts	Investigations into which Council owned closed/historic landfill sites require a remediation plan.										20
	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.										20

Focus Area	Possible Option	Cost to Council (economically viable)	Accessibility and affordability	Impact on the wider environment	Social/cultural outcomes	Partnership and collaboration	Recovery and markets	Responsible consumption	Appropriate for West Coast / regional lens	Technical risk	Score
	Promote and share existing tools, case studies and resources to support organisations in calculating their waste related emissions.										19
	Investigate the feasibility of a regional Disposal Facility/Landfill that could service the entire region.										17
	Investigate whether landfill gas capture is required and feasible for McLeans Pit and Butlers Landfills.										17
	Investigate the most efficient way for councils to report consistently on emissions associated with waste generation and management across the region.										15
	Partner with organisations promoting emissions tracking e.g. Development West Coast, West Coast Climate Action Support.										15
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.										21
	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.										20
	Investigate whether Council provide or partner to provide a bookable bulky waste collection service (e.g. for whiteware).										18
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)										26
	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.										21
	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.										21
	Investigate options for recovering high volumes of industry waste, with consideration of landfill longevity.										20
	Establish needs and barriers from industry to support waste reduction. This can be done through connecting with industry at existing events run by industry or Council.										18
	Reflect and investigate low uptake of existing product stewardship schemes in the region including AgRecovery, to apply learnings for new opportunities that emerge.										13

Focus Area	Possible Option	Cost to Council (economically viable)	Accessibility and affordability	Impact on the wider environment	Social/cultural outcomes	Partnership and collaboration	Recovery and markets	Responsible consumption	Appropriate for West Coast / regional lens	Technical risk	Score
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).										24
	Investigate whether a grant for waste and resource recovery activities in the region can be developed between Councils.										22
	Align survey questions across districts in resident satisfaction survey to allow for year-on-year and cross district comparison.										21
	Assess whether a regional Waste Minimisation/Behaviour Change role could be developed for the region.										20
	Consistently share waste recovery and diversion information in Councils Annual Reports.										18
	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 and ensure information on Butlers Landfill is easy to find online (Westland).										18
	Conduct a resident satisfaction survey within Buller.										18
	Collaborate with industry and community to create West Coast A-Z recycling and recovery directory to highlight circular services in the region.										18
	Explore whether the community would like Councils to offer services or guidance such as waste audits to help organisations understand their waste generation better.										18
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.										25
	Investigate alternative options to manage waste streams / materials which take up most volume in the regions landfills and transfer stations.										22
	Tourism Levy implemented for those staying in the region to cover the costs of infrastructure including waste assets and management.										22
	Implement Resource Recovery Shops in the regions' main transfer stations (Westport, McLean's Pit, and Hokitika).										21
	Review the results from C&D feasibility study to assess the best options for C&D recovery in the region (subject to feasibility study)										21
	Continue to support and promote product stewardship schemes through existing transfer stations where appropriate.										21
	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.										20

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Focus Area	Possible Option	Cost to Council (economically viable)	Accessibility and affordability	Impact on the wider environment	Social/cultural outcomes	Partnership and collaboration	Recovery and markets	Responsible consumption	Appropriate for West Coast / regional lens	Technical risk	Score
	Review access to services e.g. rural residents, review transfer station openings times/days to assess whether they meet the needs of locals, visitors.										19
	Investigate opportunities to provide cost-effective services for those not receiving a kerbside collection e.g. mobile solution, etc.										19
	Map out existing resource recovery work that is happening in the region including community-led initiatives and share and promote publicly.										19
	Investigate consolidating MRF operations and options for glass (local processing and beneficial use).										18
	Collaboratively investigate with the community and industry groups what potential reuse, share and repair services would be beneficial for the region, and the role of councils in this i.e., collaboration, support, encouragement.										16
	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.										16
Streamline data collection	Align services available at transfer stations across the region.										23
	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.										19
	Investigate/support data collection on waste diversion through other sources e.g., reuse shops, food banks, etc										19
	Investigate data collection from difficult waste streams often managed by private contractors (e.g. hazardous, EOL vehicles, medical)										18
	Collect tonnage data at Transfer stations from residential drop-off and commercial drop off from different sectors to help track trends for future analysis.										16
Streamline kerbside	All councils to have the same waste contractor which reports at district level streamlining data capture.										15

Appendix F Priority options fundings

Table Appendix F.1 : Priority options funding estimates

Option	Requirement	Capex ($)	Requirement	Opex ($)
Glass diversion Westland kerbside	Fleet *(assuming one vehicle)*	120,000	Contractor	150,000
	Procurement	80,000	Facility maintenance	25,000
	Total	**200,000**	**Total**	**175,000**
Behaviour change/education programme	N/A	N/A	Council time	50,000
			Providers	15,000
			Marketing	20,000
			Total	**85,000**
Organics recovery kerbside	Fleet *(assuming two vehicles)*	240,000	Contractor	150,000
	Procurement	80,000	Facility maintenance	70,000
	Total	**320,000**	**Total**	**220,000**
Organics recovery Transfer Station	Facility development/upgrades	200,000	Contractor	150,000
	Procurement process	40,000	Facility maintenance	120,000
	Total	**240,000**	**Total**	**270,000**
C&D recovery	Facility development/upgrades	200,000	Contractor	50,000
	Procurement process	40,000	Facility maintenance	50,000
	Total	**240,000**	**Total**	**100,000**

Appendix G Medical Officer of Health review

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

17 July 2024

Hannah Kelly
Environmental Scientist
Tonkin & Taylor
PO Box 2083
Wellington

Dear Hannah

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 requires that each Territorial Local Authority (TLA) must review its Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) every 6 years. In doing so, it must make a waste assessment before conducting the review (s50 (2)).
A waste assessment must contain, amongst other things (s1(f)(i)) a statement about the extent to which the proposals contained in it will ensure that public health is adequately protected. The TLA must consider the following methods of waste management and minimisation; reduction, reuse, recycling, recovery, treatment and disposal (s44).
The feedback below is provided by the Medical Officer of Health on the Draft Waste Assessment, June 2024, prepared by Tonkin & Taylor on behalf of the Buller (BDC), Grey (GDC) and Westland District Councils (WDC). This feedback meets the requirement in S51 (5) (b) *In making a waste assessment the TLA must consult the Medical Officer of Health.*

Key Public Health Issues in Waste Management

The Medical Officer of Health considers the Draft West Coast Waste Management Assessment to be a reasonable assessment of the current situation in terms of West Coast household waste collection. It is disappointing that there has been no significant progress towards achieving the 2018 WMMP targets, as outlined in Table 6.3 of this assessment.

The significant issues likely to be of concern in terms of public health include:

- **Identification of the various types of wastes and collection/disposal methods**. The Assessment seems to be reasonable for the waste collected by the three West Coast district councils but the document's authors have identified a lack of consistent data, and also acknowledges that the assessment does not cover private sector landfill operations.

- **Satisfactory collection and disposal of waste so that public health risks are controlled and mitigated.** This issue is not well covered by this Assessment. This is an important omission, given that there have been major issues with a new private landfill (Taylorville Resource Park) where inappropriate mixing of wastes has generated potentially toxic compounds, including hydrogen sulphide. This has created a significant workplace hazard and caused significant odour nuisance to local residents.

- **Addressing the issue of hazardous waste, including medical wastes, asbestos waste and electronic waste (e-waste).** There have been two major demolition projects in the recent past involving hospitals in Greymouth and Westport. Each of these generated significant volumes of waste, including asbestos contaminated materials, and there is no information in the Assessment about where and how these demolition wastes were disposed of.

As noted above, there are very serious public health concerns regarding the consenting and management of at least one private sector landfill facility on the West Coast (Taylorville Resource Park) that are not referred to in this Assessment. The serious issues that have occurred at the Taylorville Resource Park are a matter of public record and have been widely reported in national and local media. The facility has been accepting waste (including hazardous waste and organic waste) from outside the West Coast region. It is the subject of a WorkSafe investigation after a workplace incident involving serious harm, and an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) investigation. From a public health perspective, the risks arising from this one site have the potential to undermine progress towards waste minimisation for the West Coast, as well as exacerbating risks of natural hazards on critical infrastructure (the Greymouth water treatment plant).

Other specific issues of relevance to public health are discussed in the next sections.

Assessment of Waste Quantities and Composition

The Draft Waste Assessment recommends improvements to data collection to more accurately assess waste quantities and composition. It is disappointing to see that the proportion of waste-flows sent to landfill has not decreased since 2018.

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that West Coast district councils plan to continue to conduct regular standardised data collection and analysis of the composition and volume of the waste stream generated across the three districts in order to enable better waste management over the long term.

Collection Services

It is positive to see the continuation of kerbside collection in the West Coast service areas detailed in Table 4.7.

A regular waste collection service reduces the likelihood of illegal dumping and prevents the accumulation of waste that may attract pests and create unpleasant odours, in turn leading to improved public health outcomes.

Food Scraps and Garden Organics Scheme

It is disappointing that there is no food waste or green waste collection service in any of the West Coast service areas. However, the Medical Officer of Health is aware that all three district councils are currently consulting their communities about options for food and green waste collection and this is a very pleasing development.

The predominant source of greenhouse gas emissions from waste disposal is the decomposition of organic wastes such as food scraps and organic waste in the anaerobic environment of a landfill that create leachate and methane, both being deleterious to public health. The health impacts of climate change and the contribution that effective waste management and waste minimisation can make to reduction in greenhouse gas emissions are both very important and relevant to the communities of the West Coast.

The Medical Officer of Health encourages the three district councils to provide a universal scheme for collection of food and green waste in order to further enable reduction of the organic component of the waste stream sent to landfill. If such a scheme involves collaboration between the districts, this offers potential economies of scale for beneficial reuse, such as larger scale composting.

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

Medical Waste

A significant proportion of in-home medical waste is currently disposed of through general waste systems and this could result in significant health and safety concerns for the collection and processing staff. The councils are encouraged to work with Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora, Te Tai o Poutini Hospital and Specialist Services and medical waste service providers to ensure appropriate measures are put in place to protect staff involved in the collection and processing of domestic medical waste.

Diverted Waste Streams

Diversion of reusable materials from waste streams and the provision of public collection points for product stewardship schemes are both positive actions that promote environmental protection which in turn supports good public health outcomes.

It is pleasing to see in Table 9.4 of the Assessment a commitment to identifying and engaging in opportunities in this space. However, the Medical Officer of Health cautions that diverted and collected materials that are stockpiled in the absence of a comprehensive management pathway can themselves constitute public health hazards if not carefully managed. For example, large fires occurring in stockpiles of used tyres in sites in Canterbury have resulted in widespread deposition of toxic airborne particulates and threatened water supplies, crops and livestock. This is in addition to such stockpiles creating potential habitats for exotic mosquitoes which may spread disease.

Consolidation/bulking services must minimise fire, vermin, odour and other risks associated with stockpiled materials. Circular resource networks require careful assessment for true circularity prior to initiation, lest the receptive capacity be misaligned with input demand, resulting in the formation of unwieldy stockpiles which can quickly become public health threats.

Management of Historic Waste Disposal Sites

Between them, the three councils manage 26 closed landfills across the West Coast. The Waste Assessment also notes that on-farm waste burial is a practice that has been (and may still be) used in the region.

There are significant public health risks associated with scouring events involving closed landfills. The Medical Officer of Health is encouraged to see that the waste material on the Fox Glacier closed landfill has been moved to Butlers Landfill, and that this will eliminate the risk of further waster erosion events from that closed landfill.

However, the Medical Officer of Health is also aware that there are other closed landfills on the West Coast that have had reported waste scouring events since 2010, including Cobden closed landfill, Hector closed landfill (both due to Cyclone Ita), and Reefton closed land fill during at least one flood event. These events have not been mentioned in this Assessment.

The Medical Officer of Health encourages the district councils to consider how hazards to public health from these sites, such as leachate contamination of groundwater, are identified, monitored and managed. While these hazards are not themselves solid wastes, they are a consequence of solid waste disposal.

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

Waste Education and Minimisation Programmes

The Medical Officer of Health commends the proposals in Table 9.4 to improve communication and education initiatives to reduce waste. Education is an important part of empowering individuals and communities in making informed decisions and changing behaviours that in turn support the aim of waste minimisation. However, education alone will not change behaviour and it is also important that the other prioritised waste minimisation measures from the Assessment are progressed.

Under the Option Themes 'Creating partnerships' and 'Communicate and share circular economy initiatives" in Table 9.4, there are good opportunities for the councils to improve engagement with their communities. The Medical Officer of Health supports bi-directional engagement with the public, with specific strategies developed for ensuring Māori, as well as other groups' aspirations, priorities, and needs are understood and provided for.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft West Coast Regional Waste Assessment.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Cheryl Brunton
Medical Officer of Health
National Public Health Service
Te Tai o Poutini - West Coast

Te rautaki para
Waste strategy

Getting rid of waste for a circular Aotearoa New Zealand

Ministry for the Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

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Message from the Minister

We have to change how we make, use, manage and dispose

The way we create and manage waste in Aotearoa New Zealand is way behind many other developed countries.

Most of the materials we use end up in landfill. Too much rubbish goes into recycling bins, too many recyclables go into rubbish bins, and there's too much of both. Every year, New Zealand generates more than 17 million tonnes of waste. We send almost 13 million tonnes of that to landfill. This means we lose the value of over two-thirds of the materials we use.

Solid waste is not the only problem; the way we produce, manage and dispose of things also generates emissions of greenhouse and other gases. Reduced waste reduces the depletion of limited resources, including the limited capacity of the atmosphere to absorb greenhouse gas emissions. In 2020, waste contributed around 4 per cent of our total greenhouse gas emissions and around 9 per cent of our biogenic methane emissions, mainly generated by the decomposition of organic wastes such as food, garden, wood and paper waste. The remaining biogenic methane emissions are mostly from agricultural sources.

Many of the products we use aren't built to be repaired, and, even when they are, it's often cheaper to throw them away and replace them, rather than source parts (if they're available).

New Zealanders care about this and are rightly demanding change. The waste sector agrees that change is needed and recognises the opportunities from catching up with the world's best-performing countries.

We can, and should, do better

The way we tackle waste touches many aspects of how we all live and work.

The change we need is not simply getting better at recycling. It's about recognising that when any of us 'throws something away', it doesn't cease to exist. It has to go somewhere: 'away' is usually a landfill.

Significant potential exists in Aotearoa New Zealand to reduce the waste being generated through better design, new business models, and products that are easier to repair. This strategy is based on circular economy principles that support both emissions and solid waste reduction goals.

When something does need to be disposed of as waste, we can do better at recovering useful resources through recycling. Recovering more economic value from waste provides environmental, social and cultural benefits and reduces the risks of harm to human health and the environment.

With this new strategy, our government sets out a long-term path to achieve the vision of Aotearoa New Zealand in 2050 as a low-emissions, low-waste society, embedding circular economy principles.

We need high-quality systems and infrastructure for the whole country that enable widespread circular management of products and materials, including reuse, repair and recycling.

This strategy sets the direction over the next three decades for work on waste: central and local government, the waste management sector, individual industries and businesses, and households and communities. It aims to lift our performance from stragglers to the front of the pack. It sets the goals and targets New Zealand must meet by 2030 to successfully achieve this vision.

Our government has started this work with a series of initiatives. We are establishing regulated product stewardship schemes. We have banned a wide range of single-use or hard to recycle plastic products and invested in projects to minimise or deal responsibly with waste.

We will continue this work with new legislation setting the framework to achieve our strategic goals and action and investment plans to carry out those goals in the medium term.

When I was speaking to the Chair of WasteMINZ Wayne Plummer, he said it feels like he has "spent 25 years lobbying, and five years doing". I am pleased to be releasing this strategy on behalf of the Government, and look forward to the next 30 years of doing.

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment

Introduction

How was the waste strategy developed?

The Government decision in 2020 to increase and expand the waste disposal levy was the beginning of a step-change in our approach to waste. The Ministry for the Environment established a 'waste foundations' workstream to ensure we had the systems in place to use levy funds strategically. Developing this new waste strategy has been a central part of that work.[1]

The Ministry began by working with two advisory groups that brought together substantial expertise on the waste sector, waste minimisation and circular economy thinking, and te ao and mātauranga Māori. Many workshops and discussions confirmed support for a long-term outlook to 2050; and a broad, ambitious approach that covers all aspects of how we use, manage and dispose of materials.

In October 2021, the Government released a consultation paper with proposals for a new waste strategy and new legislation (Ministry for the Environment, 2021b). We received 628 substantive submissions and 1,862 template responses (Ministry for the Environment, 2023a). This final new waste strategy has been prepared taking account of:

- the extensive, thoughtful feedback received in the submissions
- the Government's decisions on waste and the circular economy in *Te hau mārohi ki anamata | Towards a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy: Aotearoa New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan* (Ministry for the Environment, 2022a), and submissions received in consultation on the draft emissions reduction plan
- progress on individual projects across the waste work programme, such as the ongoing development of regulated product stewardship schemes, proposals to transform recycling, the proposals being developed for the new waste legislation, and the enhanced systems for managing investment to minimise waste
- emerging issues, including rapidly growing interest in the potential of chemical recycling, waste to energy technologies, and bioeconomy and renewable energy possibilities.

What role does it have?

The strategy lays out:

- the vision for 2050 and guiding principles, which set the direction and tone for the changes ahead
- the broad pace and phasing for the changes
- goals for the strategy's three phases between now and 2050
- targets for the first phase, to achieve by 2030
- the work priorities to focus on to achieve the 2030 goals and targets

[1] Other foundation projects include new legislation on waste, waste parts of *Te hau mārohi ki anamata | Towards a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy: Aotearoa New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan* (Ministry for the Environment, 2022a) and a programme to build better national data on waste.

- the approach to measuring and assessing progress.

This document provides a lot of information on the work and changes ahead. This is so everyone can see what's coming and work out what it will mean for them.

The clear signals will allow the waste management industry, local authorities, community organisations, businesses and individuals to start to plan their own changes.

The strategy will also be directly relevant for local government:

- When a territorial authority is preparing, amending or revoking a waste management and minimisation plan, it must "have regard to the New Zealand Waste Strategy" or any equivalent government policy (Section 44 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008).
- The government may direct a territorial authority to change its waste management and minimisation plan if that will help achieve the waste strategy (section 48 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008).

The consultation proposals for new waste legislation included requiring there to be a strategy and giving it a much stronger role in guiding central and local government planning, activities and investment. If these proposals proceed, the strategy will become more legally and practically important over time.

What happens next?

The strategy provides high-level direction. The next step is for government to work with local authorities, the waste management sector and others to develop a first action and investment plan (AIP).

The AIP is a supporting plan that will flesh out what's needed to deliver on the waste strategy. It will spell out:

- the immediate priorities for the next five years in different geographical areas, communities, material streams and risk areas
- the mix of regulatory, investment, behaviour change, infrastructure, system change and other actions planned to address the immediate priorities
- the sequence of the actions and how they fit together
- who needs to do what.

The waste strategy and AIP will then govern planning and activity across central and local government. They will also enable organisations in the waste management sector to plan their own activities. The Ministry will regularly assess, and publicly report on, progress against the strategy and AIP.

The Government will prepare a fresh AIP roughly every five years. The exact timing will depend on progress being made and the need for a new plan. The Government will also review and refresh the strategy periodically, in keeping with proposed new legislative requirements.

The proposed new legislation on waste would embed this cycle of strategy, planning and public reporting into law. If that occurs, this cyclical process will give the waste management sector the direction it has asked for.

What does the waste strategy mean for you?

This is not just a strategy for government. To achieve this level of transformational change, everyone needs to get involved. Table 1 summarises what different groups and sectors can do to help.

Table 1: What does the waste strategy mean for you?

Group	Action
Everyone	Increase your or your organisation's awareness of waste; evaluate established practices and habits; identify opportunities to reduce what you consume and avoid waste. Be willing to try new ways of doing things and alternative products or services, like 'product as service' or reuse schemes. Embrace the new systems that are coming, like extended recycling services. Learn how to use them properly, and choose products and packaging that can be recycled by these services. Use your power as a customer or consumer to pressure suppliers to adopt practices that reduce waste. Support other people to change as well.
Households and individuals	Consider hiring or borrowing something you won't use often, rather than buying your own. Learn how and where to get things repaired. Shop at and donate/sell through second-hand shops, online sites and community exchange events. Compost your food scraps and green waste at home or by using a collection service. Get involved in citizen science projects.
Non-governmental organisations and communities	Use advocacy to keep being a catalyst for change. Support businesses and households to make changes, by giving them information and help. Keep creating community-led initiatives, like repair hubs, swap centres, clean-up campaigns and community gardens with composting. Help build our national data on material flows and waste, through research and citizen science projects. Hold businesses and government to account for their progress towards this strategy's goals.
Businesses and industries	Rethink and redesign your processes, products and packaging to reduce waste. Keep up to date with what your industry is doing to reduce waste. Push for, and take part in, voluntary or mandatory product stewardship schemes. Work with local community groups and non-governmental organisations on initiatives to reduce waste. Hold your business and industry to account by systematically measuring and reporting on progress.
Waste management sector	Get involved in implementing this strategy and the process to develop an action and investment plan.

Group	Action
	Consider how you can develop your facilities and services, so they form part of a national network for circular management of resources. Develop industry norms and standards, to make it easy for different parts of the national network to connect. Help develop and implement standardised national regulation of the sector. Support the national waste data programme, to help create high-quality evidence for future policymaking and investment.
Local government	Get involved in implementing this strategy and the process to develop an action and investment plan. Use the strategy as the starting point for your next waste management and minimisation plan. Look for opportunities to work with other councils on new, or expanded, facilities and services that will contribute to a national network for circular management of resources. Support local community groups and non-governmental organisations with their initiatives to reduce waste. Link with national behaviour change programmes to support and expand the reach of your local activity. Make sure that planning and consenting processes take account of the need for waste management infrastructure and services. Plan and resource the work needed to identify and manage vulnerable landfills and other contaminated sites.
Central government	Make sure that circular economy and waste reduction goals connect with and inform other strategies, plans and programmes across government. Be an effective leader and steward of this strategy and the waste management sector, in particular by building and sharing data, and regularly evaluating and reporting on progress. Build engagement systems and processes, to facilitate coordination and collaboration across the sector. Use the Government's procurement power to drive changes in market behaviour. Lead by example.

What is this strategy about?

Getting rid of waste

By definition, almost all waste is undesirable: if we have to look for a way to dispose of it, it is a waste of *something*.

Modern societies extract, use, manage and dispose of materials in ways that cannot be sustained. We frequently rely on extracting non-renewable virgin resources, using them briefly – often just once – then sending them to landfill. That approach pays no attention to the finite nature of our planet's resources, the value that those products and materials may have, and the environmental harm we are causing by disposing of things.

Aotearoa New Zealand cannot be complacent. Compared with other countries, our reuse and recycling rates are poor. In 2021, each New Zealander is estimated to have sent nearly 700 kilograms of waste to municipal landfills. That makes us one of the highest generators of waste per person in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. We have patchy systems and services, and fragile markets, for many recycled materials. This is, in part, because of the challenges posed by our geography and small population.

We can't keep consuming the planet's resources at the same rate to make new things. We can't keep looking for places to bury or burn the things we don't want anymore. Nobody wants to set aside ever more space for new landfills, and it's a waste to put useful materials into a landfill then seal it up. Nor do we want the environmental consequences of burning rubbish, or to invest in the large incinerators that would be needed to minimise toxic discharges.

It's better not to generate waste in the first place.

… including reducing emissions

Our wasteful way of living also creates environmental problems. Visible problems include old disposal sites now at risk from erosion or flood damage, and litter clogging drains and polluting our oceans. The way we produce, manage and dispose of things also results in the emission of greenhouse and other gases. Unwanted emissions are themselves forms of waste. Better managing, and avoiding the production of waste, reduces the depletion of limited resources – including the limited capacity of the atmosphere to absorb greenhouse gas emissions.

When organic material like food scraps, plant matter, paper, cardboard or timber is sent to a landfill, it produces methane as it breaks down. Although methane is not the main greenhouse gas, its warming effect is 28 times greater than carbon dioxide. In 2019, waste caused around 4 per cent of Aotearoa New Zealand's total greenhouse gas emissions and around 9.1 per cent of its biogenic methane emissions. Decomposing organic material in landfills generated 94 per cent of these emissions (Ministry for the Environment, 2022a).

Reducing the amount of organic waste that ends up in landfills will have multiple benefits. It will:

- reduce the amount of methane that is produced, which will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions
- reduce the overall volume of waste going into landfills, so that existing facilities can operate for longer
- mean we're using organic matter more efficiently and wasting less, in ways that can help regenerate the soil.

Many of our municipal landfills have gas capture systems that either burn some of the methane and carbon dioxide being produced or use it to produce energy. However, that's not enough. It doesn't provide the other benefits of avoiding organic material going to a landfill in the first place, and it still results in emissions of both methane and carbon dioxide, including after the landfill has ceased operating.

Minimising waste can also help reduce greenhouse gas emissions in other ways. By rethinking production processes, supply chains, business models and disposal methods we can reduce emissions throughout the whole lifecycle of products and materials, not just at the end of their life.

Te hau mārohi ki anamata | Towards a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy: Aotearoa New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan includes specific targets and initiatives on waste. This strategy reflects those initiatives and targets, and the urgency of tackling climate change.

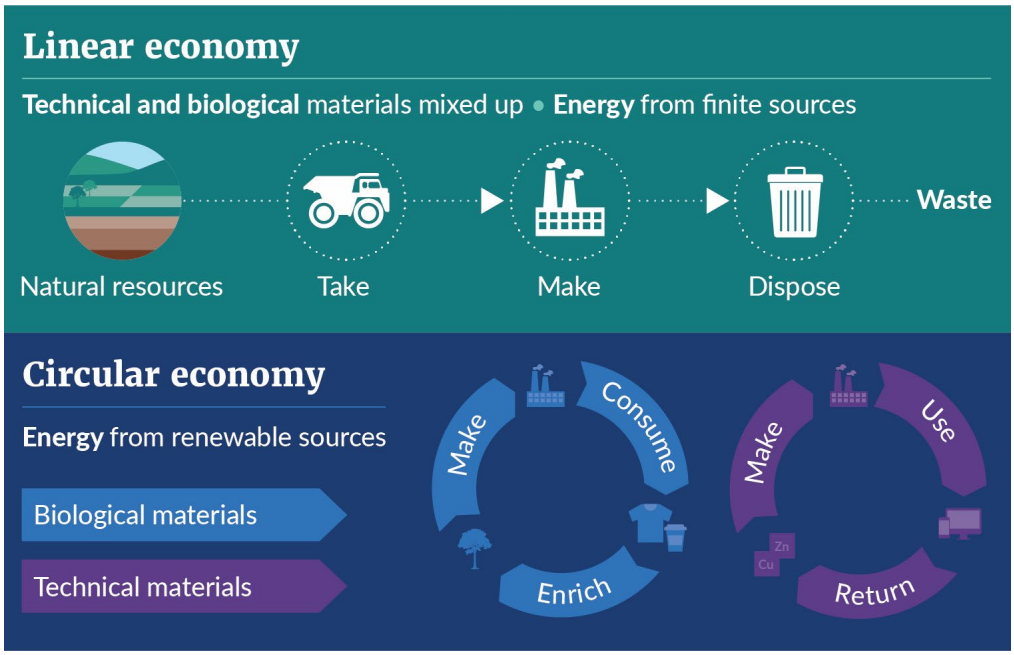
… by moving towards a circular economy

Linear and circular economies

Taking natural resources, making them into something, using and then disposing of it – is referred to as a 'linear economy'.

In contrast, a 'circular economy' is a system where extracted materials are used and reused for as long as possible. For technical or synthetic materials, the ideal scenario is that they are reused forever. Biological (organic) materials will eventually be returned to the soil to enrich it (see figure 1).

Figure 1: Characteristics of linear and circular economies



The Ellen MacArthur Foundation has led international thinking on the circular economy since it was created in 2010. This is the Foundation's description of the circular economy:

> The circular economy is based on three principles, driven by design:
>
> - Eliminate waste and pollution
> - Circulate produce and materials (at their highest value)
> - Regenerate nature.
>
> It is underpinned by a transition to renewable energy and materials. A circular economy decouples economic activity from the consumption of finite resources. It is a resilient system that is good for business, people and the environment. (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, n.d.)

Many countries have adopted circular economy principles:

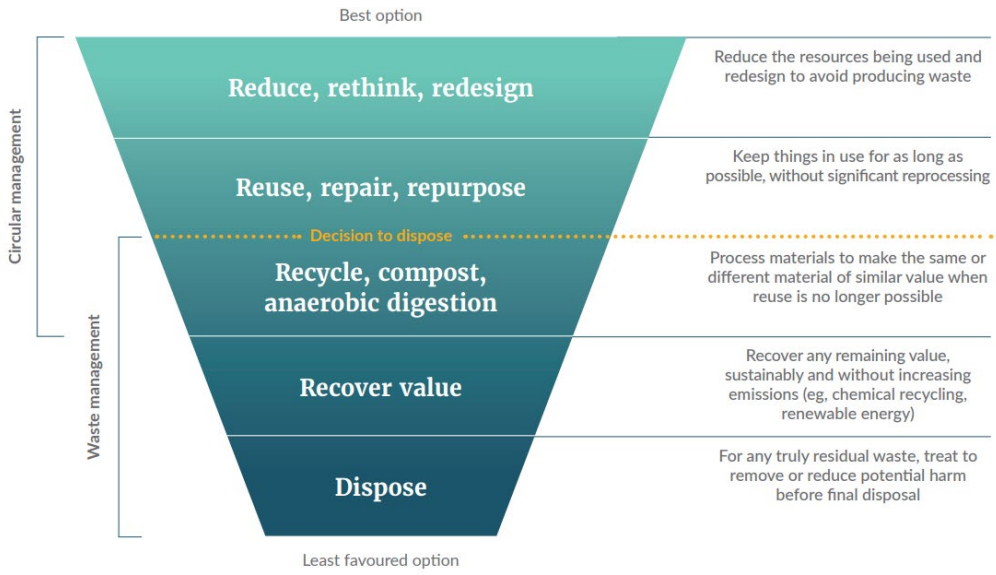
- Japan has had government policies on a circular economy since the 1990s. In 2001, it enacted legislation on establishing a "sound material cycle society", promoting effective use of resources and green purchasing.
- The European Union has included circular economy thinking in its directives and policies since 2013.
- Germany passed a Circular Economy Act in 2012, to promote using circular economy models and managing waste in ways that are compatible with the environment.
- The United Kingdom issued the Circular Economy Package in 2020, which is a package of policies built on previous circular economy commitments and goals for England, Scotland and Wales.
- Many Australian states have adopted circular economy laws and strategies in recent years. This includes new circular economy legislation passed in Victoria and New South Wales in 2021.
- Members of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) endorsed a circular economy approach in the *Pacific Regional Action Plan: Marine Litter 2018–2025* (SPREP, 2018).

Committing Aotearoa New Zealand to a circular economy means we stay in step with many of our major trading partners. We have already committed to developing a full circular economy and bioeconomy strategy in the emissions reduction plan. This waste strategy is an essential first step. It builds on internationally recognised circular economy principles and adapts them for our context.

Waste hierarchy

Circular economy principles build on a tool known as the 'waste hierarchy'. This tool illustrates the best and least favoured options to reduce and manage waste. Many versions exist of the waste hierarchy; some are very technical. For this strategy, we have developed a simple version that is easy to understand and use (see figure 2).

Figure 2: Waste hierarchy



The top layers of the waste hierarchy represent a circular approach to managing materials. The yellow line in figure 2 is the point at which something has no further use in its original form and needs to be managed as waste. The layers below this line make up the waste management system.

No strict boundaries exist between the layers of the waste hierarchy. Some activities or ways of reusing things can fit in more than one layer, depending on how you characterise them. This is especially true at the lower layers, as technology develops and blurs the line between recycling and recovering value. The emerging field of chemical recycling is a case in point. Within the layers there may also be more or less preferred approaches, such as repair before repurpose.

It's best to regard the waste hierarchy as an indication of preferences, rather than a prescriptive tool.

Reduce, rethink, redesign

The first layer of the waste hierarchy is about getting smarter about what we use and how we make things, to avoid generating waste in the first place. For example, not using unnecessary packaging; constructing things more efficiently, so there are fewer offcuts; selling soap in bars rather than in plastic bottles; and simply making things that last longer.

Reuse, repair, repurpose

The second layer of the waste hierarchy is about continuing to use things for as long as possible once they have been made. This includes making it easy to get something repaired; reusing containers (such as refill systems for groceries); or repurposing used timber to make raised garden beds. Repurposing includes food rescue and using unwanted by-products from one process as the raw materials for another process.

Recycling and composting are part of both the circular and waste management systems. However, they are the least preferred form of circular management, although the best form of waste management.

Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion

The middle layer of the waste hierarchy is about reprocessing things, so their materials can be used again. Ideally, they are remade into the same thing, so the materials stay in use at the same value. Melting down glass bottles to make new bottles and recycling aluminium cans are examples of how materials can be used indefinitely.

'Downcycling' means reprocessing something to a less valuable use. For example, turning soft plastics into fence posts or crushing glass to use in roading. The more that materials get downcycled, the less likely they can be recycled again.

Compost is specific to organic material. Because it returns nutrients in organic material to the soil, and helps regeneration, it is a form of recycling: it keeps materials in use rather than disposing of them. Anaerobic digestion of organic material produces biogas, as well as solid and liquid material, to return to the soil.

Recover value

Some technologies extract the remaining value from materials before, or while, they are disposed of. Waste-to-energy facilities are a common example. However, recovering value must be done without increasing emissions or instead of a preferred method higher in the waste hierarchy. Ideally, these facilities process renewable material.

Final disposal

The bottom layer of the waste hierarchy is about permanently disposing of materials. Traditionally, this means using landfills and incinerators. The bottom layer should be reserved for residual waste that can no longer be used in any other way. Final disposal of waste often needs to be accompanied by some form of treatment, to minimise the environmental effects.

… enriched by te ao Māori

Circular economy thinking shares many underlying values with te ao Māori. At a practical level, both focus on not creating waste in the first place and cycles of continual regeneration.

In te ao Māori, the fundamental concept of whakapapa is closely linked and adds further richness. Whakapapa can be broadly described as the kinship between all living things: past, present and future. Whakapapa not only exists between people but between people and the planet. That kinship creates connection, respect and responsibility. Inherent in whakapapa is the need for us to:

- understand how things are connected – in ecosystems or economies – and the potential consequences of our interventions on an existing balance
- recognise and respect the mauri (shared life force) and mana (its external recognition) of nature, and the resources it gives us, as well as those of people
- accept our responsibility to care for nature and what it gives us, as well as people.

In this way, whakapapa gives rise to kaitiakitanga – our stewardship responsibility to actively care for the environment around us.

Whether you think in terms of whakapapa and kinship, or in terms of an environmental ethic and circular economy, those values are important for the transformation we are seeking.

- We must think about how things are connected and how our actions affect them.
- We must recognise the value in natural resources and make the best use of them.
- We must step up to our responsibility to care for nature.

This strategy brings these values together into a vision and principles that create a platform for change unique to Aotearoa New Zealand. The values underpin every part of the waste strategy; they should guide all our actions under the strategy in the future.

Vision and guiding principles

Our vision for 2050

By 2050, Aotearoa New Zealand is a low-emissions, low-waste society, built upon a circular economy.

We cherish our inseparable connection with the natural environment and look after the planet's finite resources with care and responsibility.

Guiding principles

Take responsibility for how we make, use, manage and dispose of things

- Enable people, businesses, organisations and sectors to do the right thing, by improving systems, services and information.
- Shift the responsibility and cost of minimising and managing waste to industries and consumers, and away from communities, nature and future generations.
- Create accountability, by having transparent data and reporting and clear regulated obligations.
- Aim for Aotearoa New Zealand to become as self-sufficient in managing its own waste as practicable.

Apply the waste hierarchy preferences to how we manage materials

- Rethink and redesign products, to avoid using materials unnecessarily, design out waste and pollution, and make it easy to reuse and recycle products.
- Keep products and materials in use for as long as possible, as far up the waste hierarchy as possible.
- Extract remaining value from waste before or during final disposal, where that can be done sustainably and without increasing emissions

Protect and regenerate the natural environment and its systems

- Take account of the planet's limits by choosing renewable over non-renewable resources.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions during a material's entire lifecycle, from extraction, manufacturing and production through to recycling and final disposal.
- Recognise the need to enhance ecosystems, by replenishing natural resources as they are used.
- Clean up and repair environmental damage from current and historical activities.

Deliver equitable and inclusive outcomes

- Recognise the unique perspectives, needs and approaches facing different local communities, businesses, hapū, iwi and whānau.
- Ensure the costs and benefits of change are distributed equitably among communities and across generations.
- Develop and invest to create opportunities and jobs in local and regional communities.

Ensure our systems for using, managing and disposing of materials are financially sustainable

- Develop innovative business models, new markets and more demand for circular solutions and recycled materials.
- Encourage investment from diverse sources of capital and maximise the benefits of co-investment.
- Use central government funding to complement private funding, not displace it.

Think across systems, places and generations

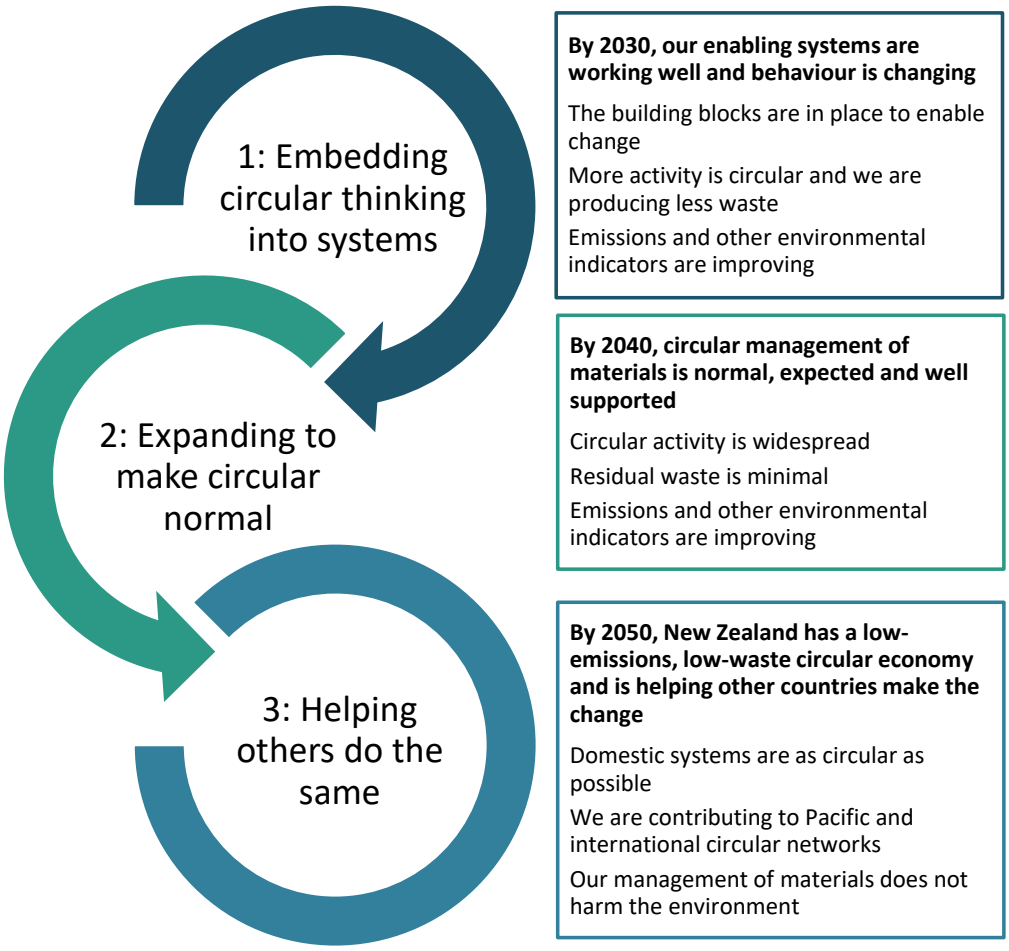
- Consider how the social situation of individuals, whānau, iwi and communities, and their locations – rural and urban, national or international – affect their perspectives.
- Recognise the connections between waste and other environmental, social and economic issues, including climate change and biodiversity.
- Consider how Aotearoa New Zealand's systems can support or connect with others, especially in Australia and the Pacific.

How do we get there?

A waste strategy with three phases

This strategy has three phases. These phases recognise the need to balance our strong ambition with the reality of where we are now, the complexity of the task ahead, and the amount of work we need to do. Each phase has goals that build on those from the previous phase and create momentum over time.

Figure 3: Three phases of getting rid of waste for a circular Aotearoa New Zealand



No firm boundaries exist between one phase ending and another starting; instead, they broadly indicate the sequence and trajectory of change.

Each phase has multiple goals that focus on different aspects of managing materials and waste. The actions to achieve the goals often overlap or contribute to more than one goal. This is because the change ahead is not one-dimensional. We need to work in many areas, and many different parties need to work together, to align and coordinate many different elements.

In broad terms, the logic behind these phases is as follows.

1. First, Aotearoa New Zealand needs to get its own house in order, by getting ready for a long-term programme of systematic change. Initially, we need to focus on putting in place:
   - national systems for planning, funding, investing and reporting, as well as long-term behaviour change programmes
   - a legal framework to regulate what is circulating in our economy and how it is managed and disposed of; and an administrative framework to properly support and enforce the regulations
   - the infrastructure systems, equipment and facilities we need to collect, sort and process unwanted materials across as much of the country as practicable
   - the knowledge, planning and tools we need to prioritise and tackle the task of safeguarding and remediating old or at-risk disposal sites and contaminated land.
2. Second, we need to build on the many initiatives already underway. Systematically, and over time, we can use and enhance existing systems and tools to shift business models and behaviour further up the waste hierarchy and into more circular ways of operating.
3. Next, we will reach a tipping point where circular thinking is no longer an effort or a novelty, but is what consumers expect and is a normal way of doing business and supplying goods and services.
4. Finally, we must maintain the momentum of change and extend the scope and range of circular activity as far as we can, by taking it into more challenging sectors, products and materials.

As Aotearoa New Zealand advances down this path and shifts to circular ways of operating, we must look beyond our own shores. Cooperating with Australia is likely to be important to establish viable recycling systems and markets for some materials. We also need to consider the close connection between our two economies as we introduce regulatory changes for individual products and materials.

With Australia, we have already been working with our Pacific neighbours to support their efforts to reduce and manage waste better (SPREP, 2016, 2018), particularly through the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. Small islands face even greater challenges than we do, given their size, geography and distance from other markets and facilities. As we build our domestic systems to support a circular economy, we must consider where and how Pacific nations can access those systems.

We want to get to a point where Aotearoa New Zealand has caught up with other countries in how it manages materials and avoids waste. We want to see the amount of waste we generate and dispose of comparing well with other countries, and know we are improving the natural environment rather than continuing to harm it. We want to be able to hold our head up internationally and share what we have learnt and done.

Phase 1 – now to 2030: Embedding circular thinking into systems

Goals

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

The building blocks are in place to enable change	1. The strategic planning, regulatory, investment and engagement systems are in place and operating to drive and support change.
	2. We have a comprehensive national network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials.
	3. We all take responsibility for how we produce, manage and dispose of things, and are accountable for our actions and their consequences.
More activity is circular and we produce less waste	4. We use fewer products and materials, and using them for longer, by making them more durable, and repairing, reusing, sharing and repurposing them.
	5. Resource recovery systems are operating effectively for core materials and across all regions.
	6. We look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste, sustainably and without increasing emissions, before final disposal.
Emissions and other environmental indicators are improving	7. Emissions from waste are reducing in line with our domestic and international commitments.
	8. Contaminated land is sustainably managed and remediated, to reduce waste and emissions and enhance the environment.

Phase 2 – 2030–40: Expanding to make circular normal

Goals

By 2040, circular management of materials is normal, expected and well supported

Circular activity is widespread	1. Repairing, sharing and reusing are common, and the preferred options where practicable. 2. Resource recovery systems are easy to access and cover many materials. 3. There is strong demand for recycled material and products. 4. Aotearoa New Zealand's systems are working with others across Australia and the Pacific.
Residual waste is minimal	5. We are extracting the maximum value from materials and products before or during final disposal, where appropriate and sustainable. 6. Residual waste has reduced to a minimum, as has the need for final disposal facilities.
Emissions and other environmental indicators keep improving	7. Emissions from the resource recovery and waste management sector are reducing in line with domestic and international commitments. 8. Plastic pollution has significantly decreased. 9. Programmes to manage or remediate contaminated land and old disposal sites are well advanced.

Phase 3 – 2040–50: Helping others do the same

Goals

By 2050, New Zealand is a low-emissions, low-waste circular economy and is helping other countries make the change

Domestic systems are as circular as possible	1. Aotearoa New Zealand's consumption of virgin resources is largely from renewable sources and has stabilised at sustainable levels. 2. Regeneration is the norm and part of our circular business models.
Aotearoa New Zealand is contributing to regional and global circular networks	3. Aotearoa is part of a regional Pacific network for circular management of materials. 4. Aotearoa is active in international efforts to support low-emissions, low-waste circular economies.
Our management of materials does not harm the environment	5. Resource recovery systems operate effectively, based on a strong understanding of carbon footprints. 6. Residual waste, and the need for final disposal facilities, is minimal, as is its environmental impact.

What do we need to do now?

Focus on achieving our targets

This strategy sets three national targets for us to achieve by 2030 (see figure 4). The targets focus on the three most important changes we need to make.

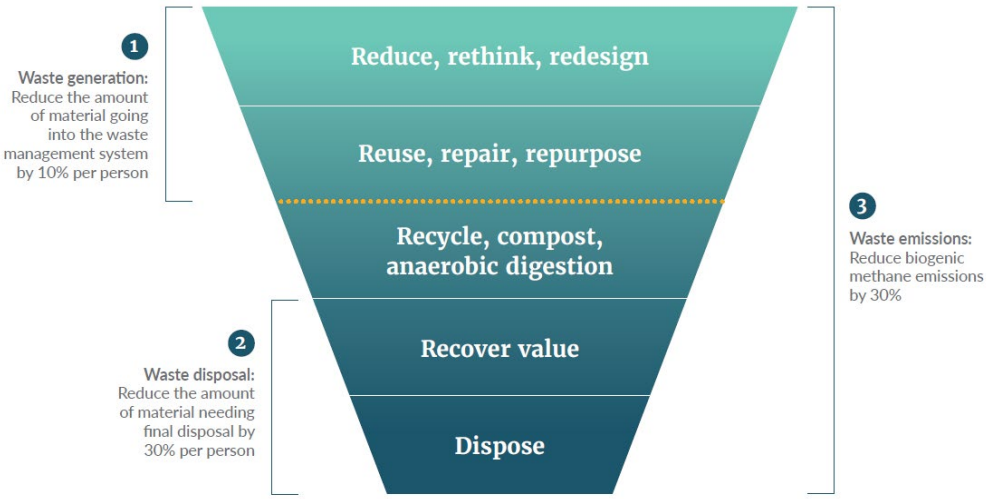
1. Waste generation: reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system, by 10 per cent per person.
2. Waste disposal: reduce the amount of material that needs final disposal, by 30 per cent per person.
3. Waste emissions: reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste, by at least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

These targets are ambitious. To achieve them, we need to take action in many areas and at every level of the waste hierarchy.

For all three targets, we only have patchy data at the moment to set baselines and measure our progress. Some of the data is old and some comes with a high degree of uncertainty. Improving the data is a central part of the Ministry's work programme; it features in many of the goals and actions in this strategy.

Limited data is not a reason to exclude targets from the waste strategy. Targets are an important way to provide focus and to motivate. As the data improves, we expect to be able to refine and extend the targets we are using, through the cycle of AIPs and reviews of this strategy.

Figure 4: Waste hierarchy with targets



Reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10 per cent per person

This target is about reducing the amount of material going into the waste management system for recycling, recovery of value or final disposal. Measuring what crosses that line is a good measure of how much progress we are making on keeping materials in the top two layers of the waste hierarchy. In other words, are we increasing the amount of circular activity and reducing the amount of material we are disposing of?

To achieve a 10 per cent drop in waste by 2030 means we need to significantly change our behaviour and approach in all activities and business sectors.

Given current data limitations, we need to do some work to define and establish a baseline before this becomes an effective target we can use to monitor progress. Addressing the data problem is a priority in the workstream to develop a national waste data system.

A waste generation target like this is widely used internationally, so once we have the data systems working to support it, we will be able to compare our progress with others.

We could also work to develop supporting targets for different sectors. In particular, the Carbon Neutral Government Programme may enable us to set a waste generation target for the public sector. It should also be possible for the construction sector to establish data sources and set targets soon, drawing on the Building for Climate Change programme.

By using all these data sources, we expect to be able to set a benchmark and build a good picture of progress against this target in the next few years.

Reduce the amount of material that needs final disposal by 30 per cent per person

The first target is about reducing how much material goes into the waste management system for recycling and final disposal. However, when material does come into the system, we need to increase the proportion that gets recycled and reduce the amount that goes to landfill or another location for final disposal.

Our second target will keep us focused on this issue. As with the first target, the data that will be gathered from disposal facilities should let us set a benchmark and monitor progress reasonably soon.

As the data improves, we will look at setting more detailed or supporting targets. For example, it may be useful to set separate targets for household and non-household waste. From landfill audits, we can collect data on household waste going into landfills. Over time, we should be able to supplement this with data from the licensing and tracing systems included in the proposals for new waste legislation, and data on waste going through recycling systems.

Reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by at least 30 percent

The third target is closely linked to the emissions reduction plan target of reducing all biogenic methane by 40 per cent by 2035 (Ministry for the Environment, 2022a). Around 94 per cent of waste emissions are biogenic methane, generated when organic material (such as food scraps,

plant matter, timber, paper and cardboard) starts to break down in a landfill. Some, but not all, landfills have systems to flare or capture the gas, but they don't capture all emissions.

Reducing the emissions from waste in landfills will contribute significantly to Aotearoa New Zealand achieving the overall emissions reduction plan target for biogenic methane.

Again, data is a challenge. The Ministry must work with climate change agencies and the waste management sector to gather more and better-quality data.

Getting the building blocks in place to enable change

Goal 1: Systems

Strategic planning, regulatory, investment and engagement systems are in place and operating to drive and support change

Priorities

Goal 1 is about getting organised. It involves new or improved systems for regulation, investment, planning and reporting, data collection, and more. This effort will set us up to work together in new ways and clarify what we can each be doing.

To achieve Goal 1 by 2030, we must focus on the following priorities.

1.1	Pass and implement new legislation to: • require long-term strategic planning and reporting • enable a pipeline of regulatory changes to manage products and materials circulating in the economy and reduce the amount of waste that is recycled or sent for final disposal • create a comprehensive regulatory regime for all waste management activity (ie, recycling and final disposal).
1.2	Set up strategic planning and reporting systems that provide everyone with clear direction.
1.3	Set up data collection systems that provide good quality information, to help us assess progress and agree priorities.
1.4	Set up funding and investment systems that will support this strategy's goals and priorities.
1.5	Establish partnerships and collaboration relationships that will enable us to pool our resources and coordinate our activities.

Central government needs to lead most of this work, because it is about creating national planning, regulatory and investment systems. However, local government, the waste management sector, and other private sector organisations must be closely involved in putting these systems in place, to ensure they are practical and effective for everyone who needs to work with them in the years ahead.

Priority 1.1: New waste legislation

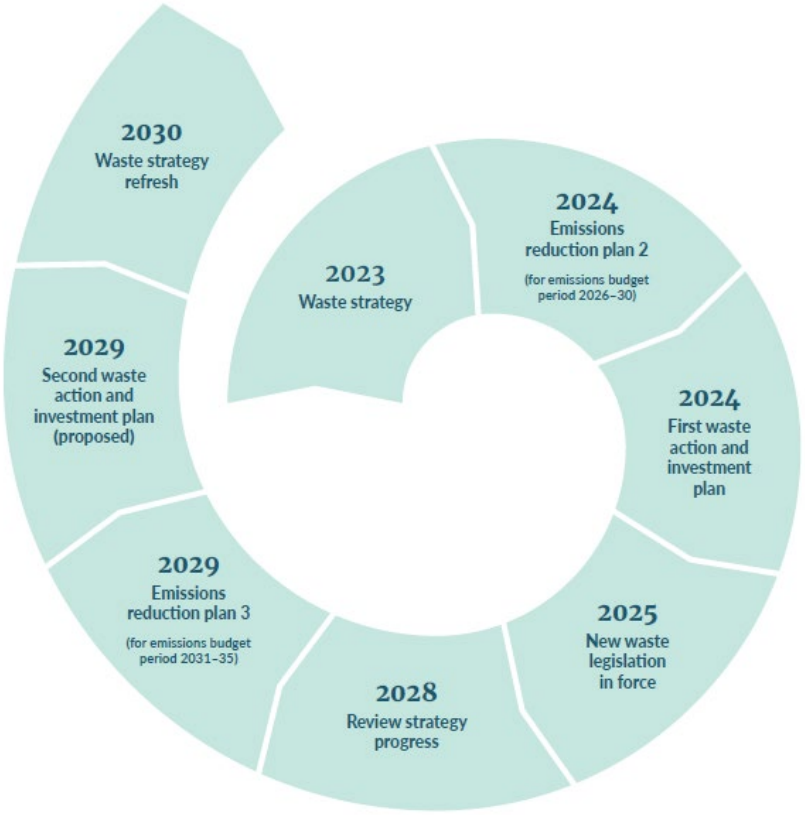
New waste legislation is critical. It will create the legal frameworks, powers and obligations needed to drive change. The intention is for it to be in force in 2025.

Some of the legislative changes will come into effect immediately, while others will be phased in over time. For example, regulation of waste management activity is likely to be phased in between 2025 and 2030. The new law will create powers or regulatory systems to support an ongoing pipeline of more detailed regulations, such as phasing out problematic materials and introducing more regulated product stewardship schemes.[2]

Priority 1.2: Strategic planning and reporting systems

The proposed legislation will embed a system of strategic planning and reporting on waste for central and local government. Precise timing is still to be determined, but the central government cycle would look something like the outline given in figure 5. Local government planning cycles, including development of waste management and minimisation plans, will also draw on and input into this cycle (noting different councils are at different stages in their own planning cycles).

Figure 5: Indicative view of strategic planning cycle



[2] It is proposed that the new legislation uses a wider extended producer responsibility framework to replace the product stewardship provisions in the current legislation.

Priority 1.3: Data collection systems

Better data is vital for good long-term planning and reporting. Steps to build a strong platform of data on material flows and waste management include:

- defining and agreeing the data sets the Ministry and others want to use
- expanding our data sources and methods of collecting data. For example, draw on mandatory data reporting, information collected by audits (where possible), the proposed licensing and tracking systems, citizen science projects and lifecycle assessments
- establishing data management protocols that enable aggregate data to be shared, while commercial confidentiality of specific information is protected
- creating online, public dashboards of data, for easy access and use by all those with an interest.

Priority 1.4: Funding and investment systems

The waste disposal levy will generate significant funds to help achieve this strategy. Other public funding is also made available for waste minimisation initiatives from time to time. Much of our work on establishing good underlying systems relates to ensuring we can effectively manage this funding and investment.

The Ministry has already redesigned the processes for its increased investment activity using the Waste Minimisation Fund, Plastics Innovation Fund and COVID-19 recovery funding. The next step is to align the central government investment framework to this strategy, the AIP – once it is developed – and any changes resulting from the new waste legislation.

Other priorities include:

- improving access to funding for Māori
- attracting more investment partners and sources of capital, including other central and local government agencies, the private sector and iwi.

Councils will also need to consider how to use funding they receive from the waste disposal levy in line with the overall strategic framework. The AIP process and other engagement systems being developed are designed to give councils the clear shared context, direction and priorities they need for preparing their own plans. That greater engagement should also support greater collaboration between councils and with central government.

Priority 1.5: Collaboration and engagement

Because the changes we want to make are deep and complex, we must work together. Almost every action in this strategy needs many parties to contribute. Central government can lead in some areas, but it is equally important we build and resource systems that enable all the players to work together effectively.

Groups and organisations are already working together on particular projects or initiatives and achieving great results. But this takes effort and a sense of common purpose. Getting standing arrangements and agreed protocols in place will set us up for easier and more effective cooperation.

For example, we need:

- cross-government arrangements to connect relevant areas, such as work that the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment is just beginning on a circular and bioeconomy strategy
- a simple way for central and local government to work together on areas of mutual interest, given that our waste responsibilities are intertwined
- long-term working relationships with the main private sector organisations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the waste management sector
- a broader range of mechanisms to engage with and support the many businesses, sectors, community groups and individuals who support a shift to a circular economy.

A particular area of focus must be to build Māori capacity and engagement on waste reduction issues. We know many Māori are concerned about waste, but it is one of many issues competing for attention. Some Māori organisations are doing excellent work in this area (eg, the work Para Kore does with marae to support better waste disposal practices). We intend to investigate and pilot initiatives to better support Māori to achieve their objectives relating to waste.

Goal 2: Infrastructure

A comprehensive national network of facilities supports the collection and circular management of products and materials

Priorities

Goal 2 is about getting the equipment and infrastructure in place that we need for a coherent, nationwide network of facilities for the collection and circular management of products and materials. We have it in some places, for some materials, at least for recycling. But we need it everywhere, for all materials that are able to be reused or recycled. People can't do the right thing with unwanted materials if the supply chain isn't there to take them.

To achieve Goal 2 by 2030, we must focus on the following priorities.

2.1	Align the overall direction and approach across central and local government, and the waste management sector.
2.2	Ensure planning laws and systems recognise waste management services and facilities as essential infrastructure and a development need.
2.3	Secure investment from diverse sources.
2.4	Put in place arrangements that will help parties plan and deliver projects together, efficiently and effectively, so we create a coherent, national circular-resource network.

What is waste management infrastructure?

There are four main types of waste management infrastructure.

Collection infrastructure includes collection vehicles, skip bins, domestic bins for kerbside collections, and bins and collection points at shops and other public places.

Resource recovery infrastructure includes transfer stations and vehicles, drop-off facilities, sorting facilities and washing plants for reuse schemes.

Reprocessing infrastructure includes composting and anaerobic digestion facilities for organic material, plastics processing plants, and plants for managing construction and demolition waste.

Disposal infrastructure includes waste to energy plants, incineration facilities and landfills.

Priority 2.1: Alignment on direction and approach

Infrastructure is the second building block we need to get in place if we are to drive rapid change. Waste and resource recovery infrastructure has developed in an ad hoc way over time and lacking an overall plan or vision. Individual territorial authorities and the private sector have been responsible for the infrastructure, and more could be done to encourage collaboration.

The result has been inconsistencies and gaps in infrastructure and services, inefficiencies and suboptimal rates of recovery. Analysis of our existing infrastructure confirms that what we have now is patchy: between locations and across types of materials. Read more about Waste and resource recovery: Infrastructure and services stocktake.

We now have an opportunity to change that.

Reflecting the vision and principles, this goal is for infrastructure that is comprehensive in three respects:

- nationwide coverage: we need to address the unequal services and facilities in different parts of the country, and make sure smaller and rural communities have services
- range of products and materials: we need to build collection and processing systems that can adapt over time to manage a growing range of products and materials, and not be limited to the core materials where recycling is currently viable
- circular management options: we need to ensure the systems support activity as high up the waste hierarchy as possible, so that, for example, they can incorporate reuse, repair and repurposing services as well as recycling.

To achieve this goal, we need to build from existing systems and processes to create an approach to developing infrastructure that is coherent and coordinated across the waste management sector and country. We are more likely to find economies of scope and scale if we work collaboratively and look across the different parts of the country and different material streams.

The main tools for achieving greater coherence and coordination are:

- the collaborative strategic planning processes being established to support this strategy (including the AIP process)
- the increasing funding for central and local government from the waste disposal levy.

The proposal to embed the strategic planning and reporting framework in the legislation will also help, by strengthening the obligation on councils to align their work with the nationally agreed goals and priorities.

The first step is for central and local government, the waste management sector and others with an interest in circular resource management to build a shared view of what this goal means in practice and chart a path for achieving it. The AIP process will provide the framework for those discussions.

As we do this, it will be important to balance two of the waste strategy's principles.

- The aim for Aotearoa New Zealand to become as self-sufficient in managing its own waste as practicable. This means we must increase our domestic capability to process recycling and dispose of specialised and hazardous forms of waste
- The need to consider how Aotearoa New Zealand's systems can support or connect with others, especially in Australia (trans-Tasman systems may sometimes be more effective and efficient) and the Pacific (our systems may be able to support smaller nations that have greater challenges than us).

Across all this work, we must prioritise reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This means looking at the emissions generated, including transport emissions, throughout the entire lifecycle of

materials, from extraction, manufacturing and production through to recycling and end of life disposal.

There will not be a 'one-size-fits-all' answer. Different places and materials will require different solutions. But, in future, those differences should be deliberate and for good reason, rather than accidents of history. And bringing all the solutions together should add up to a coherent national network of services and facilities that enable all of us to manage our waste responsibly.

Priority 2.2: Recognition in planning laws and systems

Waste management facilities and services have not always been included in lists of essential infrastructure; for example, they are not included as a lifeline utility in the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 or in the definition of infrastructure in the Resource Management Act 1993. Yet the COVID-19 lockdowns in 2020 quickly showed us that waste management services and facilities are essential and must be able to operate, even when most of our economic and social activity pauses.

Waste legislation and resource management legislation could also work together better to manage waste and resource recovery systems. To do so, we need a long-term, coordinated approach to infrastructure planning, to ensure it aligns with planning for developing homes and communities (New Zealand Infrastructure Commission, 2022). This includes identifying and protecting strategic infrastructure corridors decades in advance through our national, regional and local spatial planning tools. The New Zealand Infrastructure Commission's *Rautaki Hanganga o Aotearoa New Zealand Infrastructure Strategy 2022–2052* now includes waste management as core economic infrastructure (New Zealand Infrastructure Commission, 2022).

Waste management facilities and services have not always been included in lists of essential infrastructure; for example, they are not included as a lifeline utility in the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 or in the definition of infrastructure in the Resource Management Act 1993. Yet the COVID-19 lockdowns in 2020 quickly showed us that waste management services and facilities are essential and must be able to operate, even when most of our economic and social activity pauses. The New Zealand Infrastructure Commission's *Rautaki Hanganga o Aotearoa New Zealand Infrastructure Strategy 2022–2052* includes waste management as core economic infrastructure (New Zealand Infrastructure Commission, 2022).

In practical terms, our planning and consenting systems need to ensure that:

- new buildings include space for the full range of bins that occupiers will need, whether they are commercial premises, apartment blocks or townhouse complexes
- developments include sufficient space for collection vehicles to operate
- local areas include space for community facilities, including collection points for a range of products and materials, recycling facilities like small local composting, and repair hubs
- regional plans provide for a coherent network of collection points, transfer stations, and processing and disposal facilities, and good transport links between them.

Although central and local government are largely responsible for making this happen, the waste management sector, businesses and communities all have a part to play, by ensuring they consider these needs when they plan new developments.

Priority 2.3: Investment from a range of sources

Earlier estimates of the investment needed to bring our systems up to a reasonable standard were that between $2 billion and $3 billion would be required.

The revenue generated by the expanded waste disposal levy provides a good start for the investment needed in circular resource infrastructure, but we cannot wait for the levy to generate that level of funding on its own. Because the private sector participates extensively in the waste management sector, it is appropriate that it also invests in the solutions. In general, public funding should be used to fill gaps or kickstart facilities and services that the market struggles to provide; it should not displace private sector investment and activity.

Recognising that levy funds will not be enough in the short term, central government has provided additional funding for new and upgraded infrastructure in recent years. It committed $75 million from the Climate Emergency Response Fund to get infrastructure in place quickly, to reduce methane emissions by diverting organic waste from landfills.

Circular resource management is a growth area, with significant scope for innovation. Opportunities exist for iwi and other new investors to get involved and support new infrastructure, industries and jobs, locally and regionally.

Central government will manage the investment of its levy funds to leverage funding from other sources and work with other government investment vehicles, where appropriate.

Priority 2.4: Working together

Putting priorities 2.1 to 2.3 in place is not enough on its own. We also need to actually deliver projects, and deliver them in a way that cumulatively builds a coherent network of services and facilities.

The Government can play an important role in helping different parties work together. That may include:

- supporting local authorities to work across districts and regions
- helping establish industry norms on technical issues, to enable interoperability
- finding community partners to extend services into hard-to-reach areas.

The Government can also help reduce the risks for commercial and community operations, through collecting and sharing data, improving waste collection systems and promoting behaviour change. The regulatory changes that will follow the new waste legislation will also help create a more consistent and stable national framework to support the circular management of resources.

Goal 3: Responsibility and accountability

We are all taking responsibility for how we produce, manage and dispose of things, and are accountable for our actions and their consequences

Priorities

Goal 3 is about people and organisations being motivated to change to more circular behaviour and to do the right thing when they dispose of something. We know the public strongly supports change, but it is important we focus on hearts and minds, so that support turns into action.

To achieve Goal 3 by 2030, we must focus on the following priorities.

3.1	Deliver long-term, evidence-based behaviour change programmes.
3.2	Give people clear and consistent information on what to do, and why and how to do it.
3.3	Set clear legal obligations on waste disposal, and enforce them effectively with sanctions.
3.4	Report regularly to the public on the environmental consequences of how we are managing and disposing of materials.

Priority 3.1: Long-term, evidence-based behaviour change programmes

We will need to support people to examine and change their current business practices, personal habits and routines, in all their consumption, management and disposal activities.

To make circular approaches the norm, we need to run long-term programmes that address the barriers to adopting sustainable behaviours, and enable and encourage individuals, households and businesses to take action to prevent waste. This involves more than giving people clear information; we must invest in substantial behaviour change initiatives.

Many businesses, NGOs and local authorities already promote waste minimisation actions. These organisations are often under-resourced and unable to sustain long-term initiatives. We also lack a consistent national narrative that ensures the public knows when and how to take action. Central government has, at times, funded organisations or campaigns, or run its own campaign on a particular issue, but has not had a consistent presence in this area of work. Consultation showed strong support for government to take on a central role.

To achieve the waste strategy's goals, central government intends to develop and deliver a long-term behaviour change programme. This will not be a 'one-size-fits-all' standardised approach. It also will not take over the work that others are already doing. We recognise that these organisations have different roles, opportunities and areas of expertise, and target different audiences. Our aim is to provide an overarching programme that complements and supports their work, and to help them leverage off each other's efforts. To successfully deliver these behaviour change programmes, we will need to work together and as partners.

The intention is that this new function would be funded by the waste disposal levy in future, once that is enabled by the proposed new waste legislation. In the meantime, the Climate Emergency Response Fund has provided short-term funding, so we can start programmes that will help households and businesses reduce the amount of organic waste they send to landfill.

Priority 3.2: Public information

Without timely, accurate and clear information, it's hard for consumers to make informed choices or know the best ways to reduce or dispose of waste. All these groups can help give people clear information.

- **Central government**, particularly in relation to any new legal obligations being created by or under the new waste legislation, such as duties of care on how to dispose of waste appropriately.
- **Local government**, particularly when it creates additional obligations through bylaws or establishes new services.
- **Waste management industry**, on how to use its recycling services to minimise contamination, and where and how to dispose of hazardous materials.
- **Producers, manufacturers, suppliers and retailers**, on what their products and materials are made of, whether they can be repaired, how long they should last, and how and where they should be returned, recycled or disposed of.

Some specific initiatives are planned to support providing clear information. For example, the proposed new waste legislation is likely to include powers to require information to be provided to consumers, for example, on aspects of the particular product, or labelling on products and packaging explaining how to return, recycle or dispose of it. The plan to standardise kerbside recycling across the country would also give people clearer information on what to do.

Priority 3.3: Legal obligations and sanctions

This priority is concerned with building both responsibility and accountability. The proposals for the new waste legislation will have a central role here. They include creating new, comprehensive obligations for how people dispose of things and how that waste is managed, including through:

- duties of care (ie, responsibilities for how people manage materials for disposal)
- licensing waste management operators and facilities
- improved legal arrangements to support and enforce compliance.

These proposed legal obligations will be backed up with offences and penalties. The proposed new legislation will include a full set of powers and enforcement tools for the responsible agencies; sanctions and penalties to match the nature of the breach or offence; and a wider range of enforcement tools.

Priority 3.4: Public reporting

Accountability is more than making individuals accountable for following legal obligations. Other critical layers include the accountability of the organisations responsible for the systems

in place to manage waste, and our shared accountability for the cumulative environmental consequences of what we are doing.

The focus on improving our data and reporting regularly to the public (see Goal 1) are both designed to improve accountability. They are ways to hold public agencies – and all of us – to account for how we are doing.

Making more of our activity circular and producing less waste

Goal 4: Using less, for longer

We are using fewer products and materials, and using them for longer, by making them more durable, and repairing, reusing, sharing and repurposing them

Priorities

Goal 4 is simply about using less. It involves using all the tools and techniques in the top two layers of the waste hierarchy. This requires us to rethink what we need and how we design and manufacture things, so we use fewer virgin resources. We also need to make things that last longer, can be reused and are easier to repair.

To achieve Goal 4 by 2030, we must focus on the following priorities.

4.1	Find different ways of doing things, and support more circular business models and practices.
4.2	Make it easy and cost effective to repair things.
4.3	Create more systems and facilities that support things being reused.

Priority 4.1: Doing things differently

This goal is essential to moving towards a circular economy, and achieving the target of reducing the amount of waste we generate and put into the waste management system by 10 per cent. It is about rethinking and redesigning products, services and business models in every aspect of our lives and work.

To achieve this goal, we need to create a climate of innovation. As a society, we could consume fewer virgin resources, generate less waste and recycle more if we rethink the way we do things.

Central government can support innovation in these ways:

- provide seed funding for research, initial business cases, prototypes, equipment and infrastructure
- help groups of interested people and organisations form networks, so they can connect with others with the same goals and benefit from each other's expertise and resources
- work with particular sectors to address any regulatory barriers that are preventing them from making sensible changes
- be willing to experiment and lead the way by adopting redesigned services and products.

Customers also have an important role. Consumer demand is a powerful way to drive change in businesses and supply chains. Whether you are an individual, small or large business, or

community organisation, you can create pressure through your purchasing choices and the information you ask for.

Priority 4.2: Repairing more things

The difficulty in getting products repaired is one of the reasons that things end up in landfills. Even when an item has a relatively minor fault, it often needs to be replaced by a new item. This frustrates many people, here and overseas, and has led to the 'right-to-repair' movement.

Consumer demand can be a powerful way to drive change across a supply chain, from retailers who sell products through to manufacturers who supply them.

Consumer pressure can encourage new business opportunities for repair services, where gaps exist. Communities can also get involved. Many local repair hubs are starting up and finding they are quickly overwhelmed by the demand for their service. Local authorities could support these initiatives by, for example, making space for them in resource recovery centres or other community facilities.

Central government will continue to look for ways to support the right-to-repair movement through legislation and regulations. For example, we are considering whether the new waste legislation should enable, for specific categories of products:

- a minimum level of repairability (such as through setting design standards)
- manufacturers and suppliers to provide information on repairability
- product stewardships schemes including repairability as a goal or obligation.

Beyond waste legislation, there is scope to draw on international experience and look at amending other relevant legislation, such as intellectual property law, the Consumer Guarantees Act 1993 and the Fair Trading Act 1986.

Many governments are taking steps to enable products to be repaired more easily and cost-effectively. The Government will monitor those initiatives and adopt them into its own domestic systems, where appropriate.

Priority 4.3: Reusing things

Reuse systems – where the same container or other packaging is used repeatedly for the same purpose – are a good example of a circular business model. Innovative businesses and customer demand can also drive change in this area.

Many businesses are already exploring reuse options but can face challenges. For example, there may be costs to get set up (such as equipment to collect and clean items) and transporting items for reuse can create greenhouse gas emissions. Central government can help overcome these challenges by providing seed funding, connecting people with others who may want to get involved, and changing regulations that are getting in the way.

Central and local government, and the waste management sector, must think about how to cater for future reuse systems when developing the infrastructure to support collection and processing of products and materials (see also Goal 2).

Goal 5: Resource recovery systems

Resource recovery systems are operating effectively for core materials and across all regions

Priorities

Goal 5 is about recycling. It involves creating a consistent recycling service across the country for core materials. Having a standardised service will make it easier for people to use it. It will also increase the quality of the material collected, by reducing the amount that is contaminated.

To achieve Goal 5 by 2030, we must focus on the following priorities.

5.1	Simplify material streams so more can be recycled, more easily.
5.2	Strengthen collection systems and services across the country.
5.3	Get more people and organisations recycling, and recycling well.
5.4	Create more demand for recycled materials.

Priority 5.1: Material streams

One of the challenges with recycling is that the processes are based on individual materials (such as glass, paper, aluminium and specific types of plastic), but products and packaging often combine several different materials (for example, a paper cup with a plastic lining). This limits recycling. Encouraging manufacturers to use a single material, or combine materials in ways that make it easy to separate them again, can make a big difference to what can be recycled and reducing what is sent to landfills.

The Government can support change in this area by:

- encouraging and funding research and innovation on better ways to use recyclable materials
- setting design standards that control the composition of some products or packaging (this is included in the proposed new waste legislation)
- requiring manufacturers and suppliers to provide consumers with clear information on recyclability, so they can make informed choices when they buy things, which will create pressure for businesses to change
- removing hard-to-recycle materials from our economy.

We've already taken steps in that direction through the National Plastics Action Plan for Aotearoa New Zealand (Ministry for the Environment, 2021a) by phasing out some plastic bags, PVC containers and expanded polystyrene packaging, with additional phase outs still to come. Meanwhile, we can look beyond plastics to consider what other products or materials we could remove from our economy.

Priority 5.2: Collection systems

We have increasingly efficient supply chains that get products to people and businesses wherever they need them. However, our systems for collecting them back up again, so they can be reused or recycled, are much patchier. While Goal 2 focuses on creating the infrastructure we need to provide a consistent service around the country, Goal 5 is about the systems that ensure materials can be collected efficiently for processing (eg, for recycling).

Most councils already provide kerbside collection services for household recycling; some also provide this service for small businesses, particularly in urban areas. But what they collect and how they collect it varies, which makes it confusing for people when they change locations.

We need all councils to take responsibility for kerbside collection of household recycling and general waste. The proposed new waste legislation would clarify that this is a core responsibility for councils.

In urban areas, kerbside collections can build on existing systems. In small towns and rural areas, it is harder to find ways to collect dry recycling and organic material. Councils will need to work together, and with central government and the waste management sector, to find solutions. The Government has announced plans to address these types of issues as part of its work to transform recycling (Ministry for the Environment, 2023b).

Several other initiatives will both help drive the creation of more developed supply chains for collection and processing and rely on them to operate.

At a sector and product level, voluntary and regulated product stewardship schemes depend on there being a collection system (such as retailers or identified collection points). Voluntary schemes operate for a number of products with varying degrees of success. The Government is also working with industry on six regulated, mandatory product stewardship schemes over the next few years for:

- agrichemicals and their containers
- electrical and electronic products, including large batteries
- farm plastics
- plastic packaging
- refrigerants
- used tyres.

The intention is to establish a pipeline to create more extended producer responsibility schemes, once the new waste legislation has been passed, to provide a streamlined process for creating and running these schemes.

Priority 5.3: Getting everyone recycling well

Priorities 5.1 and 5.2 are about the materials for recycling and the systems to collect and process them. But we also need people to use the systems and use them correctly.

Standardising what is collected around the country, and how it is collected, will make a big difference to people recycling correctly. Having clear, standardised labels on products and packaging will also help (see Goal 4).

Having long-term behaviour change campaigns, which clearly set out our responsibilities, are important (see Goal 3). These campaigns will be particularly important for motivating everyone to recycle correctly, because this will often involve them changing their existing habits.

Priority 5.4: Market demand

Another critical part of an effective recycling system is having a use, and preferably a market, for the recycled materials. Currently, there are few or no takers for some recycled materials; for other materials the markets are volatile. However, in some cases (such as metal), the market is reasonably effective and stable.

This is another area where everyone has a role. Customer demand can be powerful in driving change. When customers choose products that contain recycled content over those that do not, it encourages more manufacturers to follow suit. Customers at any stage of a supply chain can have an influence. For example, businesses that manufacture things, or use packaging, can demand materials that contain more recycled content.

The Government can fund research and innovation that supports markets and infrastructure that supply or use recycled material. The proposed new waste legislation would also give the Government power to require a proportion of recycled content in specified products.

The waste management sector is the backbone of this process, because waste management organisations are the primary investors in waste collection and processing infrastructure and facilities. These organisations need a reliable supply of material to recycle, affordable technology to process it, and a steady demand for what it produces. At the moment, this balance is fragile, but the changes set out in this strategy should redress that balance over time.

Goal 6: Recovering value

We look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste, sustainably and without increasing emissions, before final disposal.

Priority

Goal 6 is about using available technologies to extract as much value as we can from waste that cannot be recycled and is destined for final disposal. Although recovering value is near the bottom of the waste hierarchy, and should not displace options further up, we will continue to have residual waste for some time. This is a challenging area that we must approach cautiously, but if we can use truly residual waste without harming the environment we should do so.

To achieve Goal 6 by 2030, we must focus on the following priority.

6.1	Embed a balanced and consistent approach to recovering value from waste across government and industry strategies, policies and actions.

Priority 6.1: Balanced and consistent plans and actions

What do we mean by 'recovering value'?

'Recovering value' means extracting all potential value from waste before or as part of its final disposal. The most common ways to do this involve waste to energy technologies. These technologies use different processes to extract energy from waste (typically heat, electricity or fuel). It is a rapidly evolving space that crosses many policy areas (such as energy, waste, circular economy, climate change and bioeconomy). It therefore needs a coordinated approach across government.

Some waste to energy processes are well established in New Zealand. For example, woody residues are used in combined heat and power plants at sawmills, and used cooking oil is converted into biodiesel. Other countries use processes that are not yet established in Aotearoa New Zealand, such as incinerating municipal solid waste with heat recovery.

Sometimes the boundary between a process that recycles resources and one that converts waste to energy is unclear, because some processes produce hydrocarbons that can be used either as fuel or to create physical materials. This applies to bio-derived *and* fossil-derived hydrocarbons. For example:

- ethanol derived from waste can be used as fuel, food, a medical sanitiser or to make plastics
- hydrocarbons produced by the thermal breakdown of plastic waste can be used as fuel or, if the quality is good enough, for remaking plastics. Thermal processes are typically fuelled by burning some of the hydrocarbons. Burning fossil-derived hydrocarbons, in the process or in fuel outputs, adds to greenhouse gas emissions.

New technologies are emerging all the time and are likely to continue blurring these boundaries. However, experience overseas has shown that it pays to be cautious with a new process until its benefits have been tested and proven.

Why we need to balance competing principles and considerations of waste to energy technology

In principle, extracting remaining value from waste that cannot be used further up the waste hierarchy is an attractive proposition. However, there are competing principles and risks, so we need an approach that recognises this and strikes a sensible balance.

For any technology, we need to consider four aspects: purpose, feedstock, processing and energy produced (see table 2).

Table 2: Main considerations for waste to energy technology

Aspects to consider	Questions to ask
Purpose	What is the primary aim: to dispose of a hazardous or problematic waste or to generate energy?
Feedstock	What waste material will be processed: is it biological, non-biological or mixed? Is the waste truly residual with no higher value? Is there a sustainable, long-term supply of the waste material, taking into account all our planned waste-reduction initiatives and commitment to reduce all waste (including residual waste)? How far will the waste material need to be transported?
Processing	What emissions will the processing plant produce? What other by-products will be created, and how harmful are they? How will by-products be disposed of?
Energy produced	Will the plant generate more energy than it uses, will there be a net gain? Can the additional energy produced be used? What type of energy will it displace: renewable or non-renewable?

The choice of feedstock is likely to be important to the environmental impact of any waste to energy technology: you get out what you put in. A single stream of clean, renewable biological waste is likely to be relatively easy to process and have fewer toxic discharges or residues.

In general, using biological materials (biomass) to create energy can have positive effects, including reducing emissions. However, biomass is an important raw material for the circular bioeconomy. Therefore, it may be better to keep waste biomass from producing and consuming food in the food cycle (for example, in compost) or use it to make biomaterials, than use it for energy.

Single waste streams with fossil-derived hydrocarbons (such as sorted plastics or tyres) can be used in many chemical recycling and waste to energy processes, because their composition is clean and known. However, single waste streams that are sorted can be more appropriately used in processes higher up the waste hierarchy, such as recycling.

Using mixed and non-biological waste (like municipal solid waste) in waste to energy processes can be technically challenging. These types of waste are more likely to create hazardous by-products and generate greenhouse gas emissions.

Large scale waste to energy facilities, like incinerators, are significant capital investments that depend on having a consistent supply of feedstock for their 20- to 30-year lifetime. However, many other initiatives are under way to reduce, reuse and recycle waste, particularly plastic. These include phasing out single-use and hard-to-recycle plastics, and improving recycling systems. These initiatives will quite quickly reduce the supply of this type of feedstock for a waste to energy operation.

What we need to consider and explore

These various considerations combine to produce our broad assessment, as outlined below.

- Waste to energy technology has the potential to displace fossil fuels in industrial applications like process heat (currently dominated by natural gas and coal) and transport (currently reliant on oil).
- Proposals that use clean renewable biomass as a feedstock are most likely to align with our circular economy goals, as the feedstock can be sustainable, they are less likely to produce harmful by-products and have the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Proposals that use single waste streams (such as tyres, treated timber, waste engine oil and some plastics) will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Pyrolysis, incineration or gasification of municipal solid waste is unlikely to align with our circular economy goals, due to their negative effects on the climate, dependency on continued linear waste generation, and likelihood of causing hazardous discharge.

We intend to develop and apply this thinking across government over the next few years, particularly in the context of the circular and bioeconomy strategy work that is getting under way through the emissions reduction plan. This will inform how government agencies implement initiatives and provide advice, including on matters like the application of the waste disposal levy, decarbonisation, regional economic development funding, as well as any government input into consenting applications.

Reducing emissions and other negative environmental effects

Goal 7: Emissions

Emissions from waste are reducing in line with our domestic and international commitments

Priorities[3]

Goal 7 is about reducing emissions from waste. It links directly to our second target, as well as targets in the emissions reduction plan. This is obviously an urgent focus.

To achieve Goal 7 by 2030, we must focus on the following priorities.

7.1	Generate less waste that produces emissions when it is disposed of.
7.2	Recycle organic material instead of sending it to landfills.
7.3	Capture more of the greenhouse gases being produced by organic material in landfills.

Priority 7.1: Create less organic waste

The main greenhouse gas emission generated by waste is methane; it is produced by organic material breaking down in landfills. Organic material includes food scraps, garden waste, paper, cardboard and timber. In line with the waste hierarchy, our first priority must be reducing the amount of organic waste we generate in the first place. Many initiatives are available that businesses, NGOs, households and individuals can take to do this.

Across the food supply system, we need to find more efficient ways to produce and consume food, so that we minimise the amount of usable food we discard. That can happen, for example, because it is uneconomic to harvest the remains of a crop or some of the crop does not reach a required quality standard (because it's the wrong shape or colour).

Many solutions are available to those types of problems. For example:

- growers could let the public, communities or NGOs come onsite to gather what is left after the commercial harvest, assuming this can comply with their health, safety and biosecurity obligations
- growers could find alternative markets or uses for produce that does not meet quality standards (such as food businesses for juice or soup, or supermarkets that market 'odd' produce)

[3] These policies include the policy commitments in the emissions reduction plan, chapter 15 (Ministry for the Environment, 2022a). They are repeated here to make it easy to see the connections with waste initiatives.

- food rescue organisations help minimise food waste by giving it to people in need.

When households change their behaviours, it can prevent significant amounts of food being wasted. Simple steps include planning meals before shopping and storing food properly. Restaurants and cafes can also reduce their costs by storing and managing stock better and using non-traditional parts of ingredients.

Not all food can be repurposed to feed people. However, it can sometimes to be used to feed livestock or as a component in another product or manufacturing process, as long as this complies with safety and biosecurity requirements. If no beneficial ways are available to use food waste, it needs to be recycled (priority 7.2).

The Government is already establishing national programmes to help households and businesses prevent and reduce food waste and, where possible, garden waste (see Goal 3).

The scope is huge to reduce other forms of organic waste. The building and construction sector is now focusing on reducing the amount of timber that is sent to landfills. It is doing this by improving designs and plans, ordering fewer materials to avoid surplus, minimising offcuts and separating materials for recycling during construction. When a building nears the end of its life, renovating, refitting or refurbishing it should be considered. If a building cannot be saved, deconstructing rather than demolishing it means its materials retain some value. The Building for Climate Change programme aims to reduce emissions from constructing and operating buildings and ensure buildings are prepared for the future effects of climate change (Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, 2021).

Priority 7.2: Recycle more organic material

When organic material does need to be disposed of, we need to maximise the amount that is recycled into beneficial uses. The main options are compost and anaerobic digestion. We can develop several initiatives.

- Introduce nationwide, standardised kerbside collection of household food scraps, and potentially garden waste, and support and educate people on how to use the system (see Goal 6).
- Support councils to implement standardised kerbside systems (see Goal 1 and Goal 6).
- Fund and invest in infrastructure to collect, process, manage and recycle organic waste (food, garden, construction and demolition waste) (see Goal 2).

We can do more to encourage composting at home or community gardens. Composting has the added benefits of avoiding the transport emissions generated by kerbside collections, encouraging people to use compost to grow their own food and strengthening community connections.

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 includes a power to control or prohibit how something is disposed of. This power is likely to continue in the new waste legislation. One of the emissions reduction plan's main initiatives is to investigate limiting or banning organic waste from landfills by 2030, as long viable alternatives are available that people can use.

Priority 7.3: Capture more landfill gas

Many, but not all, class 1 landfills taking municipal waste have systems to capture the gas produced by decomposing organic waste. Even where there are capture systems, they still let

some methane through into the atmosphere. The emissions reduction plan includes a commitment to require all class 1 facilities to have a landfill gas capture system in place by the end of 2026. Sites without a system could be banned from accepting organic waste in the future.

The emissions reduction plan also commits to exploring whether non-municipal landfills (classes 2 to 5) need gas capture systems and whether to ban disposal of organic material at these sites by 2030.

Goal 8: Contaminated land

Contaminated land is being remediated and managed to reduce waste and emissions, and enhance the environment

Priorities

Goal 8 is about identifying and protecting old disposal sites and other contaminated sites, and establishing long-term programmes to remediate and manage them. It is important that we fix the environmental damage our past practices have caused. Climate change provides added impetus to do this, given the increasing risk that erosion, flooding or other weather events will expose or breach old landfills and other disposal locations.

To achieve Goal 8 by 2030, we must focus on the following priorities.

8.1	Use the resource management reforms to create a new framework for identifying and sustainably managing contaminated land.
8.2	Identify and assess the risks to communities and the environment posed by vulnerable landfills and other contaminated sites.
8.3	Reduce the volume of soil disposed of at landfills, by increasing soil diversion and reuse.

Priority 8.1: A new framework for identifying and managing contaminated land

Aotearoa New Zealand has a legacy of pollution and contaminated soil from past practices for storing and using hazardous substances, and disposing of waste and hazardous wastes.

We are not well equipped to manage these problems. The current regulatory framework for preventing and managing contaminated land is ambiguous and piecemeal.[4] The prevailing approach to managing contamination is 'dig and dump', which means we treat considerable volumes of soil as waste and transport them to landfills.

Resource management reforms are now under way. They provide an opportunity to change the regulatory framework and our overall approach to managing contaminated land.

The proposals for the Natural and Built Environments Act and National Planning Framework include better ways to identify and manage contaminated land along with a clarified liability regime for meeting the costs. These changes will establish a regulatory framework that is fit for the future, protecting health, and restoring the environment in a sustainable way.

The challenge is then for all involved to use that framework to address the problems, starting with the most vulnerable or at-risk sites.

[4] The Resource Management Act 1991 is the main legislation for identifying and managing contaminated land. It is supported by the National Environmental Standard for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health (NESCS). The NESCS is a national set of planning controls and soil-contaminant standards administered by territorial authorities.

Priority 8.2: Identify and assess the risks from vulnerable landfills and other contaminated sites

In March 2019, part of the Fox Landfill on the West Coast was washed away during an extreme weather event. It spread waste materials over 21 kilometres of river and 60 kilometres of coastline. The clean-up exercise took almost six months. Volunteers and staff from the Department of Conservation and New Zealand Defence Force spent thousands of hours picking up and disposing of rubbish from the rivers and beaches. The Government bore most of the cost.

In future, we can expect more extreme weather events and rising sea levels, which will increase the threat to our landfills and contaminated sites. *Arotakenga Huringa Āhuarangi: A Framework for the National Climate Change Risk Assessment for Aotearoa New Zealand* outlines the risks and actions we must take to prepare for what lies ahead (Ministry for the Environment, 2019).

Starting with landfills at risk from climate change, we want to see these high-risk sites identified and prioritised for adaptation and action. We know there are at least 110 closed landfills that are vulnerable to rising sea levels, but the total number of at-risk sites will be more.

Once sites are identified, those responsible for each site need to lead the preparation and implementation of a site management plan, including an emergency response and contingency plans. Most landfills are owned by a local authority or private company, but ownership can change after a site is closed.

When high-risk landfills are remediated or relocated, the materials at the site should be recovered, wherever practicable. Consistent with this strategy's principles and goals, we should minimise the waste that needs to be redisposed of at a landfill.

Whatever approach we take, remediating landfills is costly. The National Adaptation Plan has already signalled we need to keep working on how best to support the funding of that work (Ministry for the Environment, 2022c).

Priority 8.3: Disposal of soil

Soils are living ecosystems that sustain and support all life, including microbes, plants, animals and humans. Soils are a scarce, finite and living resource.

We are currently wasting large volumes of soil by trucking it to landfills as waste during development projects, or when we manage and remediate contaminated land. Transporting soil creates carbon emissions, in addition to the other negative environmental effects.

Landfill operators use soil to temporarily cover waste materials, to reduce odour and wind-blown litter during their daily operations. Their operating consent or standard procedures often require them to do this, although alternative daily covers are sometimes available.

Increasingly, we are learning that sending surplus soils to landfill is not always desirable or sustainable in the long term. By removing soil from its original location, we make it unavailable for productive or regenerative purposes, which is at odds with the principles of a circular economy.

We need to change our approach, recognise the inherent value of soils and reduce the volume that ends up in landfills. We can do this by applying circular economy concepts to how we use and treat soils. For example, we need to:

- investigate how and why we generate excess soils during construction and demolition
- obtain good data on the volume of soil disposed of at landfills
- promote sustainable remediation of soil as the norm, including treating contaminated soils on site
- explore options to recover and reuse soils when they have been moved off site.

How will we know if we are making progress?

How we will assess progress

For some things in this strategy, especially the initial building blocks for change, assessing progress will simply be about achieving milestones for projects, that is, checking we are getting things done. Examples of this are getting new legislation passed in Parliament and producing the first AIP.

Beyond that, to assess our progress in any meaningful way we need data. In all our systems for managing and using materials, and managing waste, we need to start collecting data systematically and using it to measure, monitor and report on our progress. That way, between us, we will understand material flows and what is being disposed of where.

In the early years of this strategy, we must do our best to work with the limited data currently available. Priority 1.3 includes initiatives that aim to steadily improve the situation. By the time we prepare the next iteration of this strategy, we should have robust evidence to help us make decisions.

Building the data we need

Traditionally, individual councils have collected data on waste, through their waste assessment and waste planning work. The information gathered and how it is measured often vary. We need to bring that information together, and build on it, to create a full national picture.

Until recently, the only consistent data that was being collected nationwide was the volume of waste going to around 30 class 1 municipal disposal facilities. These facilities have been required to report data since 2009, as part of the waste disposal levy process.

Alongside the expansion of the coverage of the waste disposal levy, the Government has also expanded the data reporting requirements for waste management facilities and operators. Data is collected from:

- class 1 municipal disposal facilities
- class 2 construction and demolition disposal facilities
- class 3 and class 4 managed or controlled fill disposal facilities
- class 5 cleanfills
- industrial monofills
- transfer stations.

Sites must report the gross tonnage of waste or diverted material that enters the site and the tonnage that is reused, recycled or removed (diverted tonnage). Transfer stations must also report the tonnage that they send on to disposal or processing facilities.

The Ministry also has an overall data programme that is building on this core information to generate an overall picture of material flows into and through the waste management system.

We need to gather data from a variety of sources, using nationally consistent categories and reporting formats, make sure the data is reliable, and make it available to be used for a range of purposes.

Many new regulatory initiatives on waste are likely to include a data component. For example, the proposals for standardised kerbside recycling collections include mandatory reporting from operators directly to central government, with the aggregate data being published online. The regulated product stewardship schemes being developed will all have data collection and reporting components.

Other initiatives include:

- working with WasteMINZ to review and update the National Waste Data Framework
- partnering with organisations like Keep New Zealand Beautiful and Sustainable Coastlines to maintain citizen science activities that provide data on litter
- working with other government agencies and programmes, for example:
  - Stats NZ, for data on waste exports
  - climate change organisations for data on greenhouse gas emissions from waste
  - the Carbon Neutral Government Programme for data on the volume of central government's waste.

This is just the beginning. The intention is to work with the sector to identify further information needs and potential data sources, and to steadily increase the range and quality of data available to meet those needs.

The Ministry aims to develop an online platform where up-to-date, aggregate data is publicly available.

Using targets

If they can be measured and monitored, targets help focus attention and motivate people and organisations to change. Progress towards a single target does not have to be directly measurable. Often, we can assess progress by evaluating information from several different data sources that, combined, provide a reasonable picture of whether change is happening.

Given the limited data available now, this strategy includes only three targets on critical topics. We know that changes already under way will give us reliable data to measure Target 1 (waste generation) and Target 2 (final waste disposal) within the next few years. At that point, we can set benchmarks and start to monitor and report on progress.

As our data picture improves, we should be able to develop more targets to drive action in other areas of the waste strategy and build an even richer picture. For example, it may be useful to have data sources, targets and measures that:

- let us track our efforts on material streams like food waste, plastics and glass
- show us the geographical coverage of services
- link with the roll out of regulatory initiatives (such as product stewardship schemes or sector licensing)

- let us track progress further up the waste hierarchy, such as product durability, repair rates and uptake of reuse systems.

These developments don't have to wait for the next iteration of this strategy. The work with the sector to develop and report on the supporting AIPs will be one way we can make progress, along with many other initiatives that are under way.

Evaluating and reporting

One of this strategy's guiding principles is to *take responsibility and be accountable* for how we make, use, manage and dispose of things. At a national level, we can support that with systematic and regular evaluation and reporting on progress. Robust data must be the foundation for this work, but it also needs to be periodically interpreted and assessed.

Many of our public sector agencies are required to prepare regular independent reports. For example, the Public Finance Act 1989 requires reports on the state of the economy, and the Environmental Reporting Act 2015 requires reports on the state of the environment.

Following that model, proposals for the new waste legislation include statutory requirements for the Government to periodically review and refresh this strategy and for the Ministry to regularly report progress against it.

We expect it will be useful to complete a progress report before we prepare each new AIP and before we revise this strategy. As our data set grows, these progress reports will give us the opportunity to evaluate, reflect and learn; they will inform our next steps.

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BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM 7

Prepared by Jamie Cleine
Buller District Mayor

Attachments: 1. Local Water Done Well Presentation
2. West Coast Emergency Management Meeting Pack
3. Mayors Correspondence

MAYOR'S REPORT

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1. REPORT SUMMARY

This report is to provide commentary of significant events and meetings attended by the mayor. The Mayoral inwards and outwards correspondence is provided for information and discussion.

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Receive the report for discussion and information.**
2. **Notes Inwards and Outwards Correspondence and provide direction for any responses required.**

3. COUNCIL

3.1 MAYORS TASKFORCE FOR JOBS (MTFJ)

MTFJ Buller Co-Ordinator – Julie Moore

July has been full of meetings with agencies we work alongside to ensure they understand how we support our jobseekers and that they must be signed off by that agency before the jobseeker can be registered with us.

Our biggest hurdle is finding and engaging with those aged 16-24 and out of work. Smaller more isolated communities are impossible to tap into. This is also a similar problem for MSD. We have been working alongside a Videographer, Mayor Jamie, MSD and Buller REAP producing our local MTFJ video. It was a fun project and great to have involvement from MSD. It is now in the final stages, and we hope to launch it in a couple of weeks.

Mayoral Comment:

The team have been busy establishing new engagement opportunities to try and identify and connect with eligible NEET's. A significant barrier to that will be the new MTFJ directive to avoid working with schools across our District. In my opinion this relationship provided access to a vulnerable cohort before they disengaged with training or peer support options. The Buller MTFJ team met with me on 9 August to plan what alternative options we have to promote the MTFJ programme.

Recently I met with MSD Acting Regional Commissioner Shaun Coleman, where I discussed the strong relationship MTFJ Buller has with the local MSD office. I am concerned that the relatively small number of eligible NEETS and the constraints of the MTFJ programme may make achieving our targets difficult. I'm aware this is also a concern of fellow West Coast Mayors.

Local Government New Zealand MTFJ national coordinator recently advised that a funding commitment has been secured from MSD for the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026. This gives us confidence that our community employment program will continue supporting our young people. This commitment shows the value of our partnership and aligns with the government's focus on reducing jobseeker numbers and increasing youth employment. The Buller MTFJ team will continue to work hard to meet our contracted targets for this financial year as this will help in building our case to secure our share of national funding for 2025/26.

3.2 Local Water Done Well

I recently attended a zoom update hosted by Department of Internal Affairs.

This provided further details of the Local Water Done Well enduring settings including the new water service delivery models, financing options, changes to the regulatory regime, and what this information means for councils as we consider our future plans for the delivery of water services.

The presentation slides are included as **Attachment 1.**

Council continues to engage with Selwyn District Council who are leading work with a handful of councils in gathering information in a coherent and consistent format. This will allow various financial modelling to be done to better inform potential collaboration options for water services. At this stage there is no formal decision making required as we continue to work on exploring inter-regional options as previously directed by Council.

3.3 NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY– VISIT

On 2 August I joined the Buller executive team in hosting NEMA Deputy Chief Executive John Price and key members of his team in a visit to Westport. This provided an opportunity to update NEMA on the completion of most of the Council led flood recovery projects. The only outstanding project is the significant Westport Wharf repair which is now underway. The Council relationship with NEMA remains collaborative and the visit was extremely positive and well received by the DCE.

4. External Meetings

4.1 West Coast Mayors, Chairs & Iwi Forum (MCI)

The Mayors, Chairs & Iwi Forum met in Greymouth on 8 August.

Key topics and updates included:

- New Zealand Security Intelligence Service – provided an update on current and emerging security threats to New Zealand.
- Regional Investment Fund (RIF) – criteria now public for the fund applications. It will be necessary for the West Coast applications to show commercial viability, and co-funding as grants will be extremely limited. Most RIF distributions are likely to be some form of loan or equity arrangements.
- Regional Deals – The National Coalition Government have indicated city and regional deals are an option they are keen to explore. Very early days, however this mechanism may provide a regional pathway approach for infrastructure or three waters investments over a much longer 20-30 year timeframe.
- LGNZ Membership – discussion by the non-member councils (BDC is the only LGNZ member on the West Coast) on the information and events the other councils can no longer access.
- The forum also met with officials from Minister Shane Jones office on 14 August to discuss RIF proposals.

4.2 West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee

The Joint Committee met at Grey District Council on 8 August. The agenda pack for this meeting is included as **Attachment 2.**

4.3 Te Tai Poutini Plan (TTPP)

The Committee has met for two extraordinary meetings and a routine meeting during the month. On 26 July the committee resolved to extend the deadline for submissions on the Coastal Hazard Variation until 30 August. This was in response to a request by Cr Neylon for such an

extension to allow more time for the community to understand the variation and prepare any submissions.

On 2 August the committee resolved to request the Project Manager to remind the Hearings Panel that it had by Minute 14 - 11 January 2023 [sic] postponed the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity hearing to October 2024 and that it be asked to reschedule the scheduled hearing for end of August 2024 to end of October 2024. This resolution was in response to a notice of motion put forward by Grey District Mayor Gibson.

On 7 August, at the regular scheduled meeting the committee considered the advice of the Hearings Panel on the implications of postponement of the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity hearings. Buller delegates accepted the advice of the Hearings Panel and opposed further delays to hearings. However, the committee by majority resolved:

1. *The Hearing Panel be advised that, whilst the implications of the delay as sought are duly noted, it is outweighed by the social and financial implications to the three District Councils of having to proceed with the process of identifying and protecting SNAs:*
   - at a time that landowners are under a distinct impression that the District Councils are precluded from doing so.
   - at a time that the Government, per advice provided even over the past few days, remain [sic] committed to drastically modify the obligation of Councils in relation to SNAs.

2. *On that basis, it be confirmed to the Hearing Panel that the Committee still requests the postponement of the August 2024 Hearing on the Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity Chapter of TTPP to the week of 18 November 2024.*

The Hearings Panel have issued a minute to confirm this change in hearing date. The Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity hearing will now be the week of the 18th of November 2024. The first two days of the hearing (Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th) will be held in Westport and the 3rd and 4th days (Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd) in Hokitika.

Full details of the recent meetings and decisions made are available at https://ttpp.nz/

5. LOCAL EVENTS & OTHER RELATIONSHIP MEETINGS

I have attended various local events and relationship meetings over the period:

- Buller High School – annual open evening to tour the school and acknowledge senior students and staff who were hosting the event.

- Acting MSD Regional Commissioner – Shaun Coleman. Discussed local MSD statistics and regional targets.
- Coasters Club Richmond – I presented as guest speaker to around 180 ex coasters for their annual get together in Tasman. Topics included flood recovery, resilient westport work such as flood protection and masterplanning. I also discussed the Kawatiri Coastal Trail, Westland Mineral Sands, West Coast Pies, Kawatiri Health and Buller Resilience Trust.
- LGNZ Roundtable Zoom – this discussed the rise in aggressive interaction elected officials need to deal with as part of their roles. Personal security when attending events and emergency plans for when things go wrong as well as de-escalation techniques were all discussed.
- Mayors Chats Reefton – unfortunately, there were no attendees this month. For the next session on 3 September, I will trial holding Mayors Chats at the Reefton Service Centre to see if this is more accessible for residents.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

For Council consideration – see attached.

Incoming Correspondence 2024	**From**	**Subject**
22 July 2024	Luca Clark	Civil Defence
1 August 2024	Mayor Sam Broughton	Regional Water Services Modelling
2 August 2024	Hon Andrew Hoggard	National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity (response to Grey District Council letter)
7 August 2024	Ngai Tahu	Local Water Done Well Hui thank you
Outgoing Correspondence 2024	**To**	**Subject**
1 August 2024	Dave Hawes	Public Forum Response
1 August 2024	Teena Boyd	Public Forum Response
8 August 2024	To Whom it May Concern	Support for SI Kea NRL Team (MCI)

Local Water Done Well: Enduring settings

Hamiora Bowkett, Executive Director, Water Services Policy

Information session for councils
12 August 2024

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

A new approach to water services delivery

PLANNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR WATER SERVICES

WATER SERVICES DELIVERY PLANS

PLANNING AND ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK

WATER SERVICES DELIVERY ARRANGEMENTS

STREAMLINED PROCESS FOR WATER CCO SET-UP

NEW WATER SERVICES DELIVERY MODELS

FINANCING FOR COUNCILS AND WATER ORGANISATIONS

FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR STORMWATER

ECONOMIC REGULATION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

INFORMATION PROVIDED VIA WATER SERVICES DELIVERY PLANS

FULL ECONOMIC REGULATION REGIME

WIDER REGULATORY SYSTEM

DRINKING WATER QUALITY REGULATION

STANDARDS TO HELP REDUCE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE COSTS

ENABLING LEGISLATION

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WATER SERVICES PRELIMINARY ARRANGEMENTS) BILL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT WATER SERVICES BILL

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Water Services Delivery Plans provide foundation for Local Water Done Well

- The Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill sets out the content requirements, timeframe, and process for developing and accepting Plans.
- Plans will cover information across three key areas: financial and asset information, investment required and service delivery arrangements.
- Majority of the information required for Plans is expected to come from councils' existing public documents (e.g. long-term plans, financial accounts and asset management plans).
- Plans will be a way for councils to reflect on their current approach to water services delivery and whether it will be 'fit for purpose' into the future.
- Support for councils (once the Bill is enacted) will include 'how to' guidance for developing Plans, Plan template, and formal and informal information sessions.

- One-off, transitional documents
- Cover drinking water, wastewater and stormwater
- Have no regulatory function
- Can be developed by individual or joint councils
- Streamlined approach to consultation
- 10-year timeframe; may cover up to 30 years, with detailed info on first three

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Councils can choose from a range of water services delivery models

1	**Internal business unit or division**	• Status quo for many councils • Minimum requirements for water service providers will apply • New financial sustainability, ringfencing rules, and economic regulation will apply
2	**Single council-owned water organisation**	• New company established, 100% owned by the council • Financial sustainability rules will apply, but retains a financial link to the council • Councils with existing water council-controlled organisations will be required to meet minimum requirements
3	**Multi-council owned water organisation**	• New company established with multi-council ownership • Appointment of a Board through shareholder council (or similar body) is advisable but not a statutory requirement • Option to access Local Government Funding Agency finance with the provision of parent support or to create a more financially independent organisation
4	**Mixed council/consumer trust owned**	• Consumer trust established to own majority of shares • Mixed ownership, with one or more councils owning minority of shares • Structure enables financially independent organisation to be established while retaining minority council ownership
5	**Consumer Trust owned**	• Council transfers assets to consumer trust owned organisation • Consumers elect trustees to represent their interests in the organisation • Most financially independent of the available models

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Financing options available

- The New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) Limited has confirmed that it will provide financing to support water council-controlled organisations (CCOs) established under Local Water Done Well and look to assist high growth councils with additional financing.
- LGFA will extend its existing lending to CCOs to new water organisations that are CCOs and are financially supported by their parent council or councils.
- LGFA will support leverage for water CCOs up to a level equivalent to 500 percent of operating revenues (around twice that of existing councils), subject to water CCOs meeting prudent credit criteria.
- LGFA will treat borrowing by water CCOs as separate from borrowing by their supporting parent council or councils.
- Councils will also retain the ability to borrow through LGFA should they choose to keep water services 'in house' rather than establish a water organisation.
- LGFA is also reviewing whether it can prudently provide additional flexibility to councils to meet the future challenges faced by the sector.

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Planning and accountability framework

- Fit for purpose for the new water services delivery system.
- Will help to improve transparency and accountability.
- Supports an enhanced focus on water services.
- Will apply to all local government water services providers.

THREE CORE DOCUMENTS
1. Statement of expectations
2. Water services strategy
3. Water services annual report

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Economic regulation ensures sufficient, high-quality investment

- New economic regulation regime for local government water service providers, implemented by the Commerce Commission.
- The Commerce Commission will have a range of regulatory tools, including mandatory information disclosure, to promote efficient practices and protections for consumers.
- The regime will ensure that revenue collected by local government water service providers through rates or water charges is being spent on the level of water infrastructure needed.

TOOLS
1. Information disclosure
2. Revenue thresholds
3. Financial ringfence
4. Quality standards and performance requirements
5. Price-quality regulation

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Changes to drinking water quality regulation

- Aim to reduce the cost and burden for drinking water suppliers associated with complying with the Water Services Act 2021.
- Designed to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the drinking water regulatory regime, and the approach Taumata Arowai takes to regulating this regime.
- Support a regulatory response that is proportionate to the scale, complexity, and risk profile of each drinking water supply.

KEY CHANGES
➢ How Taumata Arowai regulates drinking water suppliers
➢ Water Services Authority – Taumata Arowai
➢ Reducing the regulatory burden, particularly for small, low-risk suppliers
➢ Change in approach to Te Mana o te Wai
➢ New approach to wastewater standards – single, consistent standard

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Next steps

August

- Enactment of Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill
- Water Services Delivery Plan guidance, templates and further information available for councils

September

- Water Services Delivery Plan information sessions for councils
- Technical support for councils to prepare Water Services Delivery Plans (ONGOING THROUGH TO AUG 2025)

Further information

dia.govt.nz/Water-Services-Policy-Future-Delivery-System

Questions?

waterservices@dia.govt.nz

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Questions

Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

Joint Committee
West Coast Emergency Management

Meeting Time:	9.30am – 11am Thursday, 8 August 2024
Location:	Grey District Council Chambers, Greymouth
ZOOM Details:	815 7545 5060 Passcode: 520610

Agenda

Joint Committee Chair – Mayor Jamie Cleine

1.	Welcome and apologies.	
2.	Confirmation of the Minutes of last meeting held on Wednesday, 8 May 2024 Matters arising.	**Pg. 2-3**
3.	WCEM Manager Report – CLAIRE BROWN	**Pg. 4-9**
4.	New Coordination Executive Group (CEG) Chair and Deputy – CLAIRE BROWN	**Pg. 10**
5.	Ex Rū Whenua: Planning West Coast Recovery – CLAIRE BROWN	**Pg. 11-12**
6.	Emergency Coordination Centre Facilities next steps - CLAIRE BROWN	**Pg. 13**
7.	'Review of Reviews' and Emergency Management System Reform – CLAIRE BROWN	**Pg. 14**
8.	'Resilient Westport' Programme Update – CLAIRE BROWN	**Pg. 15-17**
9.	National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Update – PAT WATERS	**Pg. 18-20**
10.	General Business	
11.	Meeting Close **Next Meeting:** Wednesday 6 November 2024 at Buller District Council Chambers	

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE WEST COAST EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT JOINT COMMITTEE

Joint Committee
West Coast Emergency Management
8 May 2024

Joint Committee

Chair – Mayor Jamie Cleine and Simon Pickford (BDC), Mayor Tania Gibson and Paul Morris (GDC), Mayor Helen Lash, Francois Tumahai, Darryl Lew, Jo Field (WCRC), Cindy Fleming, Tony Hart (WCEM), Pat Waters (NEMA), Te Aroha Cook (Group Controller, arrived 0945hrs)

1. **Welcome and apologies.**
   a. Mayor Jamie welcomed everyone to the meeting.
   b. Apologies from Paul Madgwick, Francois Tumahai, Chair Peter Haddock, Claire Brown
2. **Confirmation of the Minutes of last meeting held on Friday, 1 September 2023.**
   a. No matters arising from the previous meeting.

Moved Mayor Cleine / Tania Gibson **Carried**

3. **Group Manager Report – Cindy Fleming (Acting Group Manager) -** Report taken as read.

- Activations: One activation in April since Joint Committee last met.
- Work programme provided with updated comments.
- Expecting update on NEMA Resilience Fund applications in June.
- Training update provided with good numbers of enrollments. The importance of the Controllers training in June was emphasised.
- Updates provided on the extent of the work in readiness for the National Exercise Ru Whenua.
- Noted the appointment of the EMO Partnerships role with a focus on working with critical infrastructure entities.

Motion: Agreed to receive the report
Moved by: Mayor Lash **Carried**
Seconded by: Mayor Gibson

4. **Reviews of the North Island Weather Events – Cindy Fleming (Acting Group Manager)**

- Multiple reviews and inquiries have occurred in relation to the North Island severe weather events.
- NEMA are producing a consolidated report on the multiple reviews. This will assist us to review the relevance. J Cleine agreed it would be benefit to workshop the findings. S Bastion also noted it would be relevant to review the role of other agencies as well and have some gap analysis. D Lew also noted this would be useful to highlight areas that we need to improve on or areas we need to resource. The findings should go back to Joint Committee. S Bastion noted timing with funding conversations and district council LTPs. J Cleine supported a full and transparent report back that was a consolidated view across all councils.

Motion: Agreed to workshop, to take back to CEG and Joint Committee.
Moved by: Mayor Cleine **Carried**
Seconded by: Mayor Lash

5. Emergency Coordination Centre Facilities - Cindy Fleming (Acting Group Manager)

- C Fleming took the report as read and noted the report addresses a number of questions and concerns raised at previous meetings.
- There was extensive discussion on this item. There were still reservations from some on the benefits and costs associated with the co-location. There was also some attention drawn to the current facilities challenges that Police have and whether there was an opportunity.
- It was agreed to write to the Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery on the matter and whether there was a boarder conversation.
- It was also agreed that WCEM work with FENZ on a full assessment of costs.
- Members were open to an extraordinary meeting to progress these decisions is required.

Motion:	To receive the report and request a full cost breakdown relating to the co-location proposal and confirm financial arrangements between WCEM and FENZ.	
Moved by:	Mayor Cleine	**Carried**
Seconded by:	Mayor Lash	

6. "Resilient Westport Programme Update" – Cindy Fleming (Acting Group Manager)

- Progress has been made with recruitment with a start date in May.

Motion:	To receive the report.	
Moved by:	Mayor Cleine	**Carried**
Seconded by:	Mayor Gibson	

7. National Emergency Management Update from Pat Waters – Report taken as read.

- Review of Review is expected out by end May.
- No updates yet on the outcome of the West Coast's Resilience Fund applications.

noted the importance of the Reviews and the need to workshop how they apply to us.

Motion:	To receive the report.	
Moved by:	Mayor Cleine	**Carried**
Seconded by:	Mayor Lash	

8. General Business

D Lew raised noted Police were currently using the ECC for eight weeks while they were finding alternate accommodation. He noted they requested an extension for a further eight. During these discussions the proposal to write to the Minister in light of the challenges Police were facing with facilities, and the option of a shared precinct should be raised.
J Cleine agreed to draft a letter to circulate for comment.

9. Meeting Closed by Mayor Cleine

Meeting closed 10.40am

AGENDA ITEM THREE

Prepared for:	West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee
Prepared by:	Claire Brown, Manager WCEM Group
Meeting Date:	8 August 2024
Subject:	**WCEM** Group, Manager Report

PURPOSE

To update the West Coast Emergency Management (WCEM) Joint Committee on work progress, key projects, and highlights since the last meeting on 8 May 2024.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE MONITORING AND ACTIVATION

This quarter has been a relatively settled period of weather. There have been no activations since 10-12 April 2024.

NEMA RESILIENCE FUND APPLICATION

The two WCEM applications submitted at the start of this year were both successful. The first is for three emergency cache to be located across the region for alternate coordination centres. The second is a resource to look at transferring the aspects of the emergency management Resilient Westport project to the Grey, Hokitika and Waiho rivers. The NEMA media release regarding the Resilience Fund announcements is at Appendix One for information.

CAPABILITY BUILDING – TRAINING, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL EXERCISES

2024 Training

Appendix Two provides an update on the courses and number of participants, and those enrolled to attend for later in the year.

2024 Exercise Programme

In addition to the annual schedule of courses we are more engaged in exercises. Exercise Pounamu delivered four exercises in the last year. In addition WCEM fully activated in the national National Exercise Rū Whenua that took place over three separate days. More on this topic at Item 5 of this agenda.

WCEM is currently working with the Canterbury Group on how we participate in their 'Exercise Pandora' on 7 November. Although still in the early planning stages, there is a stronger emphasis on the coordination across agencies and response network, including our rural, welfare and critical infrastructure agencies.

WCRC LONG TERM PLAN (LTP) AND DISTRICT COUNCIL ANNUAL PLANS

Work is underway to confirm the WCEM budget as a result of the approved WCRC LTP. The exert from the public consultation document is attached at Appendix Three for information.

The confirmed budgets and levels of service for all district and regional council will be shared and reviewed at the upcoming WCEM planning session on 6 August. This information will also be utilised at the workshop session we are planning in September to review the priorities of WCEM and partner agencies considering the Inquiry into the North Island Severe weather events, and the system reform work underway. This item is discussed further in following agenda item.

WCEM GROUP PLAN REVISION

Work is well underway on the revision of the WCEM Group Plan. Workshops had already occurred to develop the hazards and consequences scenarios, as well as a session with the WCEM team to set out the sections and content of plan. It is expected a version will be ready for public submission towards the end of this year, with a final version submitted to the Minister in early 2025.

Following on from the presentation to CEG on 24 April there will be a 30-minute session on how the plan is shaping up at the next CEG meeting in October.

RECOMMENDATION

That the West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee:

receive this report

Claire Brown
Manager, WCE

APPENDIX ONE

TRAINING SUMMARY FOR 2024 @ 30 July 2024

DATE	COURSE NAME	LOCATION	TOTAL ATTENDEES	
9 & 10 April	CIMS4	Greymouth	9	FINAL
11-Apr	Welfare	Greymouth	11	FINAL
22 & 23 April	CIMS4	Hokitika	8	FINAL
28 & 29 May	CIMS4	Westport	12	FINAL
30-May	Welfare	Westport	3	FINAL
5 & 6 June	CIMS4	Greymouth	11	FINAL
07-Jun	Controller	Greymouth	17	FINAL
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
28-Aug	Planning	Westport	4	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
30-Aug	Planning	Greymouth	9	
24 & 25 September	CIMS4	Westport	4	
26-Sep	Operations	Westport	2	
27-Sep	Logistics	Westport	2	
21 & 22 October	CIMS4	Hokitika	4	
23-Oct	Operations	Greymouth	9	
24-Oct	Logistics	Greymouth	8	
		TOTAL	**139**	

APPENDIX TWO

NEMA MEDIA RELEASE 25 July 2024

Resilience Fund grants for safer communities

Nine projects to help communities prepare, reduce risk, respond and recover from emergencies are this year's recipients of Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Resilience Fund grants, administered by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

Nine projects to help communities prepare, reduce risk, respond and recover from emergencies are this year's recipients of Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Resilience Fund grants, administered by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

NEMA's Director Civil Defence Emergency Management John Price says the recipients' work will make a real and tangible difference for their communities.

"These grants help to build resilience by giving life to innovative approaches. This work will help enable everyone to be safe and keep safe.

"Applications were extremely strong this year, with a broad variety of applicants from regional and local CDEM Groups, iwi and the private sector.

"There's a wealth of knowledge, skills and experience in our communities and lots of great ideas and concepts which can lead to better outcomes for communities.

"The Resilience Fund works in with our National Disaster Resilience Strategy and looks for ideas that address known gaps and opportunities in the system and can be developed for use by other CDEM Groups. This means that the whole country will benefit from the ideas of a few."

The fund has allocated $688,535 to nine projects, including two which will boost capability on the West Coast of the South Island.

The grants will also fund four projects which focus on the role of Māori and marae in the emergency management system.

"In emergencies, Māori and marae play a crucial role in readiness, response and recovery across the country. Building the extensive capability and expertise of iwi and Māori will strengthen the system overall and benefit all New Zealanders." John Price says.

In addition, $200,000 has been allocated to the AF8 Alpine fault earthquake readiness and response plan as part of an ongoing funding arrangement.

"We know that we will likely experience a rupture of the Alpine Fault in the next fifty years, and it is critical that we all take responsibility for disaster preparedness.

"It is not a matter of if but when – we are all in this together."

The nine successful applications are:

- Governing and Managing Disaster Recovery in Uncertain Times - research successful governance and management structures for disaster recovery, based on case studies and existing guidance (Simon Markham Consulting Limited, $54,000)
- Refinement and implementation of a framework for Professional Engineering Services during Emergencies (Nelson Tasman Civil Defence Emergency Management, $50,000)
- Ruapehu Marae Resilience Program - deliver training to 25 marae in the Ruapehu rohe to enhance their resilience during emergencies, self-manage during events and assist the local community (Ruapehu EMO, $115,000)
- Enhancing Situational Awareness for Extreme Weather Response – using AI to collect and analyse information to enhance the quality of intelligence products (Waikato Regional Council, $99,000)
- Te Ātiawa Response and Resilience Development - enhancing emergency response capabilities within the Te Ātiawa community (top of the South Island) (Te Ātiawa o te Waka-a-Maui, $121,600)
- Training for 26 Te Arawa marae and Te Arawa Lakes Trust staff - to ensure consistent emergency response practices across marae and enhance coordination with CDEM (Te Arawa Lakes Trust, $52,835)
- A project to establish emergency caches of supplies across the region to support emergency response coordination and operations (West Coast Emergency Management Group, $110,000)
- Building on 'Resilient Westport Evacuation Planning' for Greymouth, Hokitika and Franz Josef (West Coast Emergency Management Group, $45,000)
- Consistent and effective flood warning and evacuation protocols (National Flood Warning Steering Group c/o Regional Software Holdings Ltd, $41,100)

About the CDEM Resilience Fund:

The CDEM Resilience Fund is a contestable fund to enhance New Zealand's hazard risk resilience. CDEM Groups, other organisations and individuals are eligible to apply.

Applications were considered by a panel against criteria with emphasis on improved collaboration, improved resilience locally and regionally, and consistent approaches.

The Resilience Fund is distributed on an annual basis. For full details on the successful applicants, visit https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/cdem-sector/cdem-resilience-fund

Published: Jul 25, 2024, 12:56 PM

Emergency management

What Council does and why

This activity is responsible for the coordination of hazard reduction, readiness, response and recovery for emergency events. Emergency management, is provided in partnership with the district councils, emergency response organisations and other stakeholders of the West Coast region. There are two key work areas under Emergency Management:

- West Coast Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group
- West Coast Regional Council Emergency Management

West Coast CDEM Group

Under the CDEM Act 2002 (the Act), the region's local authorities must form a CDEM Group which is governed by a combined Joint Committee (the region's Mayors and Chairs, and for the West Coast Poutini Ngāi Tahu) and a Coordinating Executive Group (Council/District Health Board Chief Executive Officers, Police District Commander and Fire Area Manager). Under the Act, the West Coast CDEM Group is required to maintain an operative CDEM Group Plan that outlines a strategy to coordinate CDEM activities across the region.

The Group operates as a shared service across the region's councils delivering emergency management outcomes for risk reduction, readiness, response and recovery with the Regional Council acting as the Administering Authority for the Group. This improves the capability for the region to respond to and recover from disaster.

West Coast Regional Council Emergency Management

Council maintains an emergency response capability to support the West Coast's CDEM Group, and to staff the Emergency Coordination Centre during an event. It does this by ensuring that staff are trained to help coordinate a response, including management of the Council's assets and ensuring essential business continues despite any disaster. Council also operates a 24-hour CDEM duty management service to respond to alerts issued and emergencies as they arise.

Key projects for years 1 to 3

Council will deliver the following key projects:

- Extension to the emergency services resource register to include community and business assets in year 1; and exercised to ascertain access and utility of register in year 2.
- Regional fuel storage capacity review to be undertaken in year 2.
- All Community Groups have developed or are developing Community Response Planning Arrangements in year 2.

Level of service: Emergency Management West Coast will increase risk awareness and readiness, and ensure a coordinated and appropriate response and recovery from a civil defence emergency to reduce the impact on people and property					
		Target			
Measure	**Baseline**	**2024/25**	**2025/26**	**2026/27**	**2027-2034**
An operative Group Plan under the CDEM Act is in place at all times and reviewed within statutory timeframes by the Joint Committee	The Group Plan is operative. Rolling reviews have commenced.	Operative Group Plan	Operative Group Plan	Operative Group Plan	Operative Group Plan
A Group Work Programme implementing the Group Plan objectives is approved and reviewed 6-monthly by the Coordinating Executive Group	**New measure**	Group work programme reviewed 6-monthly	Group work programme reviewed 6-monthly	Group work programme reviewed 6-monthly	Group work programme reviewed 6-monthly
Comply with the West Coast Civil Defence Emergency Management Partnership Agreement	**New measure** Ensure full compliance with the Partnership Agreement	100%	100%	100%	100%
Maintain a suitably trained team to staff the Emergency Coordination Centre	Maintain at least 30 trained staff. 33 as at 30 June 2023	> 30 trained staff	> 30 trained staff	> 30 trained staff	> 30 trained staff

AGENDA ITEM FOUR

Prepared for:	West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee
Prepared by:	Claire Brown, Group Manager
Meeting Date:	8 August 2024
Subject:	Coordinating Executive Group Chair and Deputy

PURPOSE

To confirm the appointment of the Chair and Deputy for the Coordinating Executive Group (CEG).

CONFIRMATION OF NEW CHAIR OF THE COORDINATING EXECUTIVE GROUP (CEG)

As a matter of urgency CEG approval was sought via email for the appointment of a new CEG chair and deputy. CEG approved the recommendation that Simon Pickford (Chief Executive, Buller District Council) is appointed CEG Chair, and Darryl Lew (Chief Executive, West Coast Regional Council) as Deputy CEG Chair for the remainder of this current triennium (through to November 2025), effective immediately.

RECOMMENDATION

That West Coast Joint Committee:

> ***endorse*** the appointment of Simon Pickford as CEG Chair and Darryl Lew as Deputy CEG Chair through to the end of this current triennium, November 2025.

Claire Brown
Manager, WCEM

AGENDA ITEM FIVE

Prepared for:	West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee
Prepared by:	Claire Brown, Manager WCEM
Meeting Date:	8 August 2024
Subject:	EXERCISE RŪ WHENUA AND RECOVERY PLANNING FOR THE WEST COAST

PURPOSE

To feedback on the National Exercise Rū Whenua and consider future work on a West Coast Recovery Plan.

NATIONAL EXERCISE RŪ WHENUA

The national Exercise Rū Whenua took place across June and July. The exercise was based on a large earthquake generated from the Alpine Fault.

Day One – First few days after the initial Earthquake – Regional Based Exercise
WCEM was one of a small number of groups across the county to activate all three Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs) as well as our Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC). This involved two shifts of staff, from 0800hrs to 1800hrs across the four councils. This required a considerable effort by all involved, including CEG agencies and council staff.

The participation of elected members from across our councils was greatly appreciated. This demonstrated a good level of engagement and support from Governance.

The opportunity to practice D4H (the new digital response platform) was a feature of the exercise. It showed the benefit of D4H, but also proved building and maintaining a level of D4H competency across response staff (and agencies) remains a challenge.

The exercise highlighted the need to continue training staff to fill the CIMS roles. Had this been an actual event we would have struggled to source enough staff for two shifts across the region.

Day Two – First few weeks after the initial Earthquake – Wellington Workshop
Day two focussed on coordination and sustained response.
This day involved a large group of public and private, social and infrastructure agencies coming together for one day workshop session, including Iwi / Māori representation. Mayor Gibson, Mayor Lash along with myself, attended this day.

Day Three – First few weeks after the initial Earthquake – Wellington Workshop
The final day three focussed on recovery. Mayor Cleine and Mayor Lash attended this workshop, with Mayor Cleine participating in a panel session.

PROPOSED NEW AREAS OF FOCUS

The following are areas that have been identified as possible areas for more focus:

1. Allocate recovery focused resource within WCEM. This directly relates to the enhanced recovery /community resilience resource in the WCEM LTP from 2025-2026

2. Include Recovery in the annual training programme

3. Commence work on a West Coast Recovery Plan – as a standalone plan that aligns to the current work overhauling the WCEM Group Plan.

The three items above will be considered in a CEG workshop (also discussed in Agenda Item Eight) when reviewing the work programme of WCEM.

RECOMMENDATION
That West Coast Joint Committee:

Receive *the report*.

Claire Brown
Manager, WCEM

AGENDA ITEM SIX

Prepared for:	West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee
Prepared by:	Claire Brown, Group Manager
Meeting Date:	8 August 2024
Subject:	Emergency Coordination Facilities

PURPOSE

This report sets out the next steps for consideration of the proposal for WCEM to co-locate with FENZ.

BACKGROUND

Following discussion on this item at Joint Committee in May, that also took into consideration the accommodation challenges for Police, a letter went to Hon Mark Mitchell, the Minister for Emergency Management and Recovery, and also Minister for Police. A response to that letter was received in July.

NEXT STEPS

It's understood discussions are occurring between Grey District and Police regarding what opportunities may exist. The results of these discussions will be shared with CEG where they are relevant to co-location options.

At CEG in July it was agreed WCEM in collaboration with FENZ provide a budget to CEG in October that itemises and account for costs relating to 1) relocating, 2) office fit-out, 3) any additional resources, and 4) ongoing lease costs and arrangements.

RECOMMENDATION

That West Coast Joint Committee:

Receive the report.

Claire Brown,
Manager, WCEM

AGENDA ITEM SEVEN

Prepared for:	West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee
Prepared by:	Claire Brown, Manager, WCEM Group
Meeting Date:	8 August 2024
Subject:	Review into North Island Severe Weather and System Reform

PURPOSE

To update on work relating to the Government Inquiry into the North Island Severe Weather Event (NISWE), and emergency management 'system reform' work.

2023 SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS – 'REVIEW OF REVIEWS'

In April CEG was advised NEMA would be providing a snapshot of all reports and reviews relating to the severe weather events in 2023. NEMA circulated a first version of this report last week for early stakeholder feedback. It is intended this aggregated 'review of reviews' (RoRs) will assist in the review of the WCEM group work programme.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM REFORM – OPPORTUNITIES FOR 'SIG' TO INFLUENCE

The 16 group managers (representing each regional / unitary council) comprise the CDEM Special Interest Group (SIG). The objective of the CDEM SIG is to have joined up voice on topics of shared interest and priority.

The CDEM SIG submitted to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) a collective view on the recommendations of the Inquiry into the NISWE. Following that, in July the CDEM SIG was invited to contribute to the development of the advice back to Cabinet. The first version of this work will be shared with the CDEM SIG meeting on 13 August 2024.

WEST COAST WORKSHOP

Based on 1) the 'review of reviews', 2) the direction of system reform, 3) Exercise Rū Whenua findings, and the direction of the overhauled Group Plan, a CEG workshop will occur in September to review WCEM's and councils' planning and preparedness. The results of this will be reported back to Joint Committee in November. It is expected this may result in some change in content and priority of the items of the WCEM work programme.

RECOMMENDATION

That the West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee:

Receive the report

Claire Brown
Manager, WCEM

AGENDA ITEM EIGHT

Prepared for:	West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee
Prepared by:	Claire Brown, Group Manager
Meeting Date:	8 August 2024
Subject:	'Resilient Westport' Programme Update

PURPOSE

To share the report presented to the Resilient Westport Steering Group on Friday 26 July.

UPDATE

The first of three phases of this work has commenced. An independent contractor is engaged on the project through until April 2026. The first phase involves project planning.

Planning is guided by the foundation blocks of the PARA framework, looking across the 4Rs (Reduce, Readiness, Response, Recovery) and the 'National Disaster Resilience Strategy' with a focus on:

- enhanced evacuation arrangements to reflect flood protection development
- post flood protection planning arrangements based on breach scenarios
- a programme of maintenance and review of systems and processes for sustained evacuation planning across Westport (final phase 3).

The high-level budget breakdown for this project is set out below.

1. Enhanced Evacuation Planning *Project delivery personnel, planning and implementation* *Phases One to Three* ***24 months.***	**$323,568**
2. Preparedness and Response Tools, Systems and rocesses *Phase Two* ***17 months***	**$65,000**
3. Resources (CAPEX) *Phase Two* ***17 months***	**$60,000**
4. Community Capability and Resilience (OPEX) *Phase Two and Three* ***20 months***	**$51,750**
TOTAL ***24 months***	**$500,318**

Below is an outline of initial project planning for delivery across Phases Two and Three centred around the four project areas.

1. Enhanced Evacuation Planning

Combined project delivery personal, planning and implementation across Phases One - Three, 24 months - $323,568

- Aligning Flood Protection Wall build with community vulnerabilities/risks – i.e. across staged build of flood protection where are and who are the most vulnerable?

- Raising the flag- when to 'prepare to evacuate' and 'evacuate'.

- How and where to evacuate to.

Enhanced evacuation planning has multiple linkages across social, cultural, environmental and economic domains. In acknowledging this, evacuation planning and delivery will need to shift over time during flood protection construction to accommodate real or potential vulnerabilities across these domains. The above is multilayered and informed by (but not exclusive to):

- civil engineer modelling
- flood depth scenarios
- zoned evacuation, community vulnerabilities and level of preparedness
- residual and secondary risks (during and post staged construction)
- existing and improving planning response tools, systems, communications, information accessibility and early response triggers (hydrological modelling and existing stakeholder/critical infrastructure planning, preparedness, tools, systems and planning).

2. Preparedness and Response Tools, Systems and Processes
(Phase Two - $65,000)

Enhanced evacuation planning requires evaluation of current response tools and systems in phases prior to event, during and after. Critical to effective emergency response is the web-based emergency management response platform (D4H) alongside existing stakeholder/critical infrastructure planning, preparedness, tools, systems and planning. D4H is a response management tool used to enhance situational awareness of, and effectively manage tasking in an emergency.

A key focus for this project (but not limited to) will be improved alignment and exploration of opportunities for the strengthening and expansion of robust data, hydrological modelling, river and tidal monitoring and warning systems to inform D4H evacuation planning and response.

3. **Resources (CAPEX)** (*Phase Two - $60,000)*

Phase Two, and into Phase Three, include budget to consider additional resources needed to support enhanced evacuation planning. This includes for example, consideration of an alternate and future Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) determined by risk and consideration of future Westport design and location, evacuation supplies to assist preparedness (household, business, schools, iwi, specific communities), and location of emergency supplies in strategic locations. This part of the project will be informed and occur concurrently with project areas 2 and 3 above and further support Phase Three (sustainability and applicability across the region).

4. **Community Capability and Resilience** *(Phase Two and Three - 20 months. $51,750)*

Stakeholder engagement. This includes technical advice, local and central government, the business and community sector, including emergency services and critical infrastructure agencies.

Business Resilience and Continuity. Support business to develop resilience and continuity to better prepare for emergency's and adapt to a new post emergency environment.

Public awareness and education. This involves maintaining strong public awareness of enhance evacuation planning, and understanding of what the public can expect, and when.

Paramount will be careful and considered public messaging and awareness in alignment with wider Resilient Westport communications and messaging.

Budget has been allocated for contracted personnel to assist stakeholder engagement and public education and awareness over Phases Two and Three.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES TO DATE

Activity to date across this phase includes:

- Understanding and establishing links with wider Resilient Westport Project Leads and governance (RW stand up meeting, ONO RW lead meetings, and RW steering group meetings
- Induction, WCRC onboarding and establishing council network
- WC CDEM Group Manager meetings and project planning
- Background reading, information sourcing, and project scoping
- WC CDEM meeting- Buller and regional
- Meeting with river engineering and hydrology teams
- Early project planning, thinking, testing and discussions
- Early discussion regarding stakeholder engagement and public education personnel recruitment
- RW website content review – CDEM
- NIWA hydrological modelling training
- Administration and Resilient Westport and Buller EOC office sets

RECOMMENDATION

That the West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee:

Receive the report.

Claire Brown
Manager, WCEM

AGENDA ITEM NINE

Prepared for:	West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee
Prepared by:	Pat Waters
Meeting Date:	8 August 2024
Subject:	National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) Update

Report to the West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee Meeting 8 August 2024

Budget 2024

The Government announced its 2024/25 budget on 30 May 2024. There were several items relevant to NEMA and emergency management.

- NEMA is not subject to the 6.5% public sector funding cuts.
- NEMA will be investing in an assurance function. The Chief Executive has indicated that he intends to advertise soon for this at the Deputy Chief Executive level.
- NEMA's current vacancies (due to previous restrictions on employment) are to be reprioritised and filled according to the Govt's priorities (which includes what comes out of the Govt's response to the Govt Inquiry into the NISWE).
- The Government is investing $1 Billion in cyclone relief, resilience, and emergency preparedness. Of that $10.5M has been set aside for the new National Emergency Management Facility in Wellington. Information on the National Emergency Management Facility funding is approximately halfway through the press release (see attached link) https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/more-1-billion-cyclone-relief-resilience-and-emergency-preparedness

Emergency Management Reform

- Submissions on the Emergency Management Bill and insights from last year's severe weather events made it clear that the bill would not deliver the integrated, fit-for-purpose emergency management framework that New Zealand needs.
- The Government therefore discharged the bill. The Government intends to introduce a new bill by the end of 2025.
- The Government will be looking at the recommendations of the Report of the Government Inquiry into the North Island Severe Weather Events, other reviews of last year's weather events, and submissions on the previous bill, and work through what improvements need to be made.
- DMPC after reviewing the findings of the NISWE report will prioritise the recommendations and present to Cabinet in September 2024 recommendations seeking decisions on actions for improving New Zealand's resilience to natural disasters and other emergencies.
- Those decisions will inform the scope, scale, and speed of change in response to the Government Inquiry, including the scope of any future Emergency Management Bill.

CDEM Directors Statement for Tsunami Evacuation Zones

- As a result of the sector-wide desire to have a nationally consistent tsunami evacuation zones, NEMA has worked with CDEM Groups and scientists to develop a more effective national approach that will be included in updated guidance documents.

- NEMA is now recommending one blue tsunami evacuation zone for public facing tsunami evacuation zones. This approach is an evidence-based approach and aligns with best practice. The new approach was announced to CDEM Groups on 15 April 2024, as a statement of intent from the Director, ahead of the formal guideline being updated and published at the end of 2024. This will allow CDEM Groups to progress their work and work planning with the certainty of national direction.
- The Director's Statement can be viewed here:

https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/resources/publications

NEMA Internal Operational Lessons Report

- NEMA has published its internal review report of its operational response to the North Island Severe Weather Events of early 2023.
- NEMA's review was internally focused on the functional capacity of the systems, processes, internal policies, people capability and infrastructure used and/or directed by NEMA during the response.
- Some of the key lessons include:
    - Science, intelligence and geospatial capability and capacity need to be enhanced to build situational awareness and support decision making during emergencies.
    - There continues to be a need for a shared, system-wide "single source of the truth" (Common Operating Picture).
    - The NCC/NCMC facility is not fit for purpose especially for a response of this scale. NEMA and NCC/NCMC IT was not reliable.
    - Deployment of emergency management professionals into the regions was vital to support emergency response operations at local and regional levels.
    - NEMA should build on the selection, training and exercising for emergency management sector deployments to grow capability and capacity to meet future demand.
    - NEMA's well-established relationships across the all-of-government network, and internationally, served us well in our lead agency capacity.
- The report is publicly available:

https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/documents/publications/May-2024-NISWE-NEMA-Internal-Operational-Lessons-Report-FINAL.pdf

Review of Reviews

- Review of reviews - NEMA Chief Executive has commissioned the NEMA Continuous Improvement Unit to conduct a review across reports into the emergency management response to the 2023 North Island Severe Weather Events.
- Progress on this project has been slower than hoped largely due to staff illness.
- A first draft of review of reviews has been sent to stakeholders for feedback.

Exercise Rū Whenua 2024

- Day 1 of Ru Whenua took place on 12 June. This was a functional exercise based on the initial response to AF8 earthquake. The National Crisis Management Centre was activated and coordinated a All of Government response to the scenario.
- Day 2 of the exercise took place on 26 June, this was a table-top exercise aimed at CE level where possible, across Central and Local Government, iwi Māori, NGOs, industries bodies and

commercial businesses. The number of people and organisations that could be invited were restrained by venue capacity.
- Day 3 of Rū Whenua was a tabletop exercise that was held on 10 July, focusing on the transition to recovery.
- NEMA will produce a Ru Whenua post exercise report which will include feedback from participating Groups.
- NEMA will present a discussion paper to the Emergency Management Leadership Group (EMLG) on the future of the exercise programme.

CDEM Resilience Fund

- Internal assessment of applications is complete, NEMA was not able to make any decisions until the release of the Budget.
- It has now been confirmed that there are no changes to the 2024/25 Resilience Fund, and NEMA is in the process of finalising these Resilience Fund assessments.
- All applicants have been advised of the outcomes.

Catastrophic Planning Update

- The first draft of the All-of-Government Catastrophic Handbook is currently being shared with partner agencies for feedback to NEMA.
- There is CDEM Representation on the logistics (Otago and Manawtū), rapid relief (Canterbury, Wellington, Auckland) and intelligence (Tāirawhiti) working groups.
- These working groups had their monthly meetings in late June and early July 2024.
- An All of Government Forum took place on 4 July, involving a discussion on planning assumptions and critical resources.

RECOMMENDATION

That the West Coast Emergency Management Joint Committee:

receive this report

Pat Waters | Regional Emergency Management Advisor

National Emergency Management Agency | Te Rākau Whakamarumaru.

Monday, 22 July 2024

To the Kawatiri/Buller Mayor Jamie Cleine

I always look forward to reading your Friday columns in The News. I find them informative and well written. So, thank you.

A week or so ago you wrote about your involvement in the processes that Civil Defence will use in the future. One aspect I wasn't clear on was how Civil Defence (CD) plan to keep the general population informed. CD may have this covered, but if they don't I have a few suggestions ...

One option is an app. I realise not everyone has a smartphone or the internet – but the app would also supply the latest information to news organisations, radio stations, neighbours, and the families/friends who live outside the area. Other users of the app would include CD, council and emergency staff whom are out in the field (so to speak). It might be possible to make different parts of the app visable to different groups of people.

An app based on something that already exists and that is heavily used by the general population (for example the MetService app) would make it easier to use, as people are already familiar with the structure and how it works.

Another plus is the MetService app design appears to allow more functions to be added as funding becomes available and need arises. This is really important, as it would enable a portion of the app to up and running very quickly.

The app would also be useful in identifying what information is available and what is missing in each CD area of the country. To understand this you could mentally visualise the information written on post-it notes. For example, one note would represent river-monitoring results[1]. Others would be contact CD phone numbers and email addresses, updates from CD, emergency evacuation centre address/status, local radio station frequencies, tides and also MetService alert status (yellow/amber/red). I know there are many more but these are the ones that come to mind. So an empty post-it note would indicate that the local CD staff would need to do some work in this area.

Again using the example of river monitoring results, there would be one place we could all go to for the information – and it would be up-to-date (see point [1] below). Knowledge can reduce stress and help us make better decisions.

[1] I mention river monitoring as the knowledge of how high the Kawatiri River was, turned out to be really important to me during the February 2022 event. Being able to monitor the level of the river gave me peace of mind and enabled me to sleep with ease that evening. I knew about the WCRC webpage because someone had sent me the link during the June 2021 event. Since that time the WCRC has changed the address of the webpage, meaning I need to do some research to find the new one. It shouldn't be so difficult to find essential information.

Regular updates to the general public (for example, hourly) – even if the update says 'no change and we are continuing to monitor the situation' would also be really helpful.

Another consideration is to have RNZ frequencies to the Kawatiri/Buller area extend to FM coverage. New radio equipment all seems to be for only FM these days.

There is no need to reply to this letter – but if you want me to fill out what I've been saying, I'm happy to meet up with you.

Luca Clark
[redacted]
Westport 7825
c: [redacted]

MAYOR SAM
KOROMATUA O WAIKIRIKIRI
MAYOR OF SELWYN
sam.broughton@selwyn.govt.nz

1 August 2024

Kia ora koutou

Following our invitation to explore opportunities for collaboration on a Regional Water Services Model in early July, and productive discussions at the Ngāi Tahu - Councils Local Water Done Well hui last week, we wanted to provide an update to councils that have expressed an interest in exploring partnering opportunities.

Firstly, thank you for being open to exploring water services partnership options for our communities. We genuinely believe that by starting from a broader perspective we can develop and assess options that will provide the best long-term outcomes for our respective communities, and have confidence that we are consulting on the best possible options (whatever those options might be). Councils that have expressed an interest in participating in this work include:

- Buller
- Central Otago
- Christchurch City
- Clutha
- Gore
- Invercargill
- Queenstown-Lakes
- Selwyn
- Southland
- Waitaki

Collectively, our councils represent over 50% of the South Island's population and land area. The door remains open to other councils to participate in this work, noting the very short timeframe we have available to work through this initial analysis and discussions.

Purpose of the RFI template

In our earlier invitation we provided an RFI template to collect water services information on a consistent basis between councils. Thank you to the councils that have provided information so far.

The data provided in the RFI templates will be used as an input to financial modeling commissioned by Selwyn, with support generously provided by Ngāi Tahu, to assess the potential financial impacts of joint water services delivery under a range of scenarios and assumptions. There is no financial or other commitment required from you to participate in this work.

MAYOR SAM

KOROMATUA O WAIKIRIKIRI
MAYOR OF SELWYN
sam.broughton@selwyn.govt.nz

Parameters the financial model will be able to test include:

- Capability to test partnering and joint delivery scenarios, along with the inclusion or exclusion of stormwater services in those scenarios.
- The impact of efficiencies in capital delivery and operating costs (or additional costs as the case may be).
- Ability to meet financial sustainability requirements (once further guidance is available)
- Water services price path with and without harmonisation between districts and over different time periods on a per serviced property (or other agreed) basis.
- Indicative borrowing capacity for joint water services delivery scenarios (for the joint water services entity/entities, not individual councils), along with borrowing cost sensitivities.

Approach to collaboration

We appreciate that providing data requires trust in how it will be used, and to that end we propose and commit to the following principles for collaboration:

- RFI template data will be used for the purposes of collaboration on potential joint water services delivery arrangements.
- We commit to sharing results of the scenarios with you for feedback as early as possible, along with any underlying assumptions that have been used.
- While our aim is to develop shared assumptions, we will be clear where scenarios are based on Selwyn's (or other) assumptions, and in any circumstances where scenarios have not been endorsed by participating councils.

Ultimately, progressing and consulting on a joint services delivery arrangement will require participating councils to develop a shared view on potential benefits and risks. We view financial modeling as a key initial step which will help focus subsequent discussions and analysis across a range of areas (such as governance, shareholding, investment prioritisation, service levels etc).

Next steps

Given the timeframes for Local Water Done Well implementation there is urgency for this work to be progressed during August - September. To enable us to move at pace, we propose several online meetings / workshops as information is collated, and potential options are developed and assessed.

MAYOR SAM

KOROMATUA O WAIKIRIKIRI
MAYOR OF SELWYN
sam.broughton@selwyn.govt.nz

Subject to your feedback, we propose the following key milestones:

- RFI data provided to Selwyn - by Wednesday 7th August
- Initial online meeting between participating councils - week of 12th August
- Analysis of options - during mid-late August
- Second meeting between participating councils to discuss options / scenarios - early September
- By mid-September, agree next steps and further work

We will be sending an invitation for the initial meeting shortly, and ask that you please nominate 1-2 staff to attend this meeting.

Thank you again for your interest in working together to explore what might be possible for our communities. If you have any questions or feedback please contact Di Prendergast on di.prendergast@selwyn.govt.nz

Ngā mihi

Sharon Mason
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Sam Broughton
MAYOR

2 August 2024

Mayor Jamie Cleine
jamie.cleine@bdc.govt.nz

Dear Jamie,

The Grey District Council has asked me to provide clarity on the Government's intention to change the National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB). As was made clear in the ACT-National Coalition Agreement, the Government has committed to stopping the mapping of new Significant Natural Areas (SNAs), and to review their operation.

In March, as part of the 100-day plan, I announced that we would suspend councils' obligations under the SNA provisions of the NPS-IB. The bill that would give effect to this policy is currently before Parliament. The Select Committee considering the bill is due to report back on 30 September 2024, and I expect Parliament to consider the Bill shortly afterwards.

MfE officials will shortly begin consultation on changes to the NPS-IB and, while I don't want to pre-judge the outcome of that review process, I can be clear that our intention is to make changes to the SNA provisions. I expect changes would take effect in 2025.

I understand that the Grey District Council is suggesting that you pause current activities around SNAs in your Joint District Plan until these changes are complete. That is a decision for the Council to make, noting the wider context of the processes described above.

It would be good to be able to discuss this issue, and I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you at some point to work through these issues, and to give you a clearer sense on the Government's intentions in this area.

Yours sincerely,

Hon Andrew Hoggard
Associate Minister for the Environment

7 August 2024

Tēnā koe

Thank you to the Mayors, Councillors, Chief Executives and staff that attended the recent Ngāi Tahu-Council *Local Water Done Well* hui in Ōtautahi Christchurch.

As discussed at the hui, Ngāi Tahu priorities for *Local Water Done Well* are that all communities have access to affordable, high quality water services and that no communities are left behind. Given the challenges currently facing local government, achieving these priorities will require new ways of working together. We were therefore encouraged to hear from you about all of the work already underway within the regions (and other groupings) on the partnering opportunities presented by *Local Water Done Well*.

To this end, we welcomed Selwyn District Council using our 25 July hui as an opportunity to share more information about their invitation to takiwā councils. We are pleased at the interest expressed by councils, both at the hui and since, to work together to consider water services partnership options. We are also pleased to be supporting the modelling work outlined in Mayor Broughton's 1 August letter to you.

Our thanks again to all who attended the hui. The discussion was robust at times, but necessary, and at its heart was our shared interest in achieving better outcomes for all our communities.

Nāhaku noa, nā,

Justin Tipa

Kaiwhakahaere

Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Jamie Cleine

1 August 2024

Dave Hawes

Via email: [redacted]

Dear Dave,

Thanks for speaking at public forum on 31 July on the potential sale of the former Reefton Service Centre Building and your advocacy that, if sold, the funds be used for senior housing upgrades in Reefton.

I'm pleased to advise that council did resolve to dispose of the property on the open market subject to legal advice. Council also resolved that any proceeds of sale be used to fund development of the senior housing portfolio within the Inangahua Ward.

Councillors appreciated your providing context to historic council decisions regarding senior housing as this provided additional information on which to base its decision.

I also acknowledge your kind words towards our elected members and recognition of their efforts and the complex nature of council decision making.

Best Regards,

Jamie Cleine

Buller District Mayor
Phone 027 423 2629 | Email jamie.cleine@bdc.govt.nz

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera O Kawatiri

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Jamie Cleine

1 August 2024

Teena Boyd
Via email: [redacted]

Dear Teena,

Public Forum Response – 31 July 2024

Thanks for speaking at public forum on 31 July about the criteria for the adaptation relief fund which is part of the Resilient Westport work package. The criteria for this fund is an active consideration of the Resilient Westport Steering Group which have a workshop planned to begin forming up the criteria.

I understand you are already connected to the team at Resilient Westport who are best placed to engage with you as the criteria and process for the adaptation fund is confirmed. They will also ensure that your property specific questions can be answered in terms of the impact of the flood protection scheme itself.

Best Regards,

Jamie Cleine

Buller District Mayor
Phone 027 423 2629 | Email jamie.cleine@bdc.govt.nz

8 August 2024

To Whom it May Concern

South Island Kea – NRL Team

The West Coast Mayors, Chairpersons and Iwi leadership wish to express our full support for the South Island Kea NRL bid.

The West Coast has a long history of rugby league with many founding family names strongly associated with playing, refereeing and promoting rugby league on the West Coast. The region has produced many successful NRL players over the years and there continues to be developing talent working their way into teams in Australia.

We believe this solid foundation of rugby league from the West Coast would add significant gravitas to the South Island Kea ethos, weaving a pioneering authenticity into the franchise.

A Christchurch based NRL team would provide an opportunity to transform and grow rugby league in our region. It would provide incredible pathways for our Rangatahi to pursue careers in professional rugby league in the South Island. The mana and leadership that local, visible, professional sport could bring to our people is an exciting prospect. Traditionally these athletes had limited options besides moving to Australia or beyond.

We also believe the popularity of the NRL coupled with the major drawcard of home games in Christchurch will open opportunities to encourage tourist visits to our region as supporters travel to the South Island for games.

We fully support the South Island Keas bid to join the NRL and look forward to ensuring we maximise the opportunity to the West Coast and South Island.

Yours sincerely

Renee Rooney
Chair
Development West Coast

Peter Haddock
Chair
West Coast Regional Council

Jamie Cleine
Mayor
Buller District

Helen Lash
Mayor
Westland District

Tania Gibson
Mayor
Grey District

Paul Madgwick
Chair - Te Rūnanga o Makaawhio

Francois Tumahai
Chair
Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 8

Prepared by Simon Pickford
Chief Executive Officer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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1. REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of activities across the previous month and a 'horizon-scan' of upcoming strategic focus areas and opportunities.

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **That Council receive the Chief Executive Officer's Report for information.**

3. OVERVIEW OF INFORMATION

This report provides information on activity which has occurred over July/August 2024, and key matters of interest to Council.

Public Works Act Review

After over thirty-five years of no significant amendment, Minister for Land Information Chris Penk has initiated a targeted review of the Public Works Act 1981 (PWA). In line with the Government's commitments, the review seeks to facilitate the delivery of critical infrastructure projects to rebuild the economy and promote New Zealand's growth and prosperity.

Guiding principles

The recently released Terms of Reference for the review confirm that it will be driven by three principles: efficiency, effectiveness, and clarity. It is intended to enable high-level changes to be made in a timely manner, whilst ensuring the amendments are consistent with the Government's existing obligations under the Act. The Terms of Reference also confirm that the amendments must still maintain principles of property rights and natural justice, uphold the Crown's legal obligations under Treaty

of Waitangi settlements, and consider Māori land principles under Te Ture Whenua Māori Act 1993.

Purpose and scope

The review highlights the PWA's failure to consider New Zealand's modern landscape, neglecting changes in the types of work occurring, what entities are delivering public works, regulatory changes across land systems, Māori land considerations, the growing population, and the impacts of climate change. PWA processes have failed to adapt to this new environment, proving lengthy and inefficient for all parties involved.

To address these issues, the review will focus on key issues in the PWA's land acquisition and compensation functions. Disposal functions and offer back obligations are specifically out of scope. The identified areas for review are:

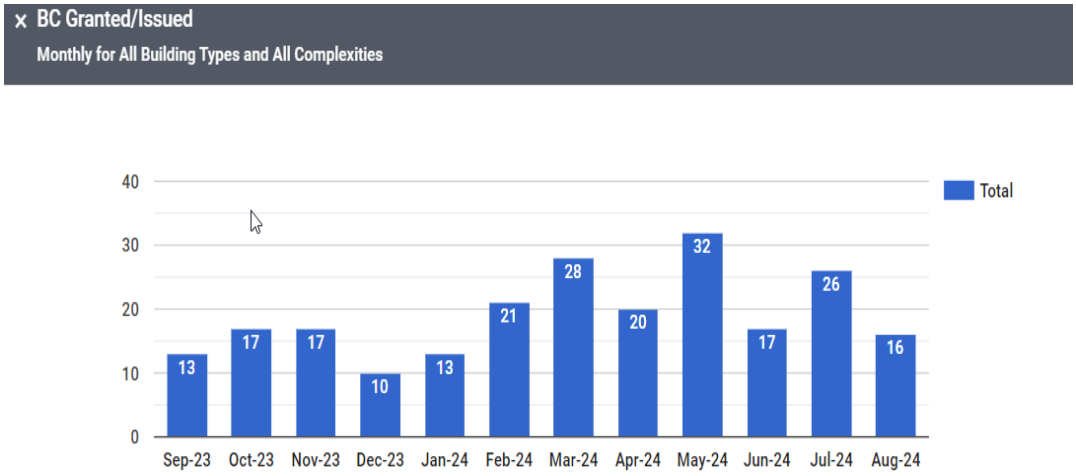
1. Improving access to PWA powers, specifically focusing on enabling greater collaboration between agencies, local authorities, and network utility operators on joint infrastructure projects;
2. Streamlining administrative processes, such as notice and survey timing requirements;
3. Removing duplications and clarifying processes under the PWA, such as the objection process and the PWA's relationship with the designation process under the Resource Management Act 1991;
4. Creating better incentives for landowners to reach early agreement with an Acquiring Authority;
5. Aligning compensation processes with international best practice, particularly focusing on modernising dispute resolution, Māori land valuations, and payment processes; and
6. Making technical changes to improve the PWA's clarity, such as removing redundant sections.

The Minister has assembled an Expert Advisory Panel to assist in this review. The Panel is expected to operate from July to September 2024. The first opportunity for input will be at the select committee stage.

Regulatory Services

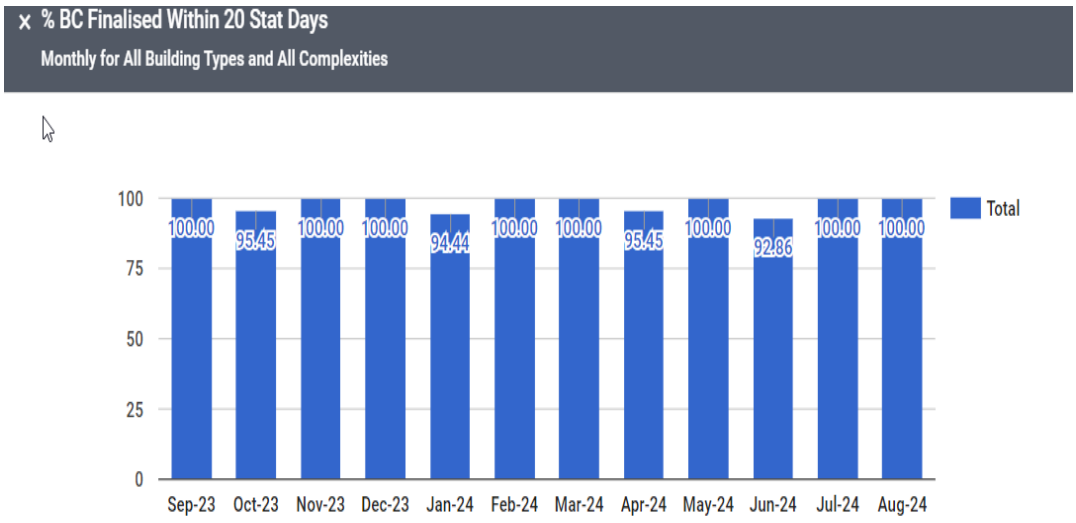
Building Consent Activity

Building Consent activity remains steady. The building team granted 26 applications in July – a rise from June. This includes nine new dwellings granted.



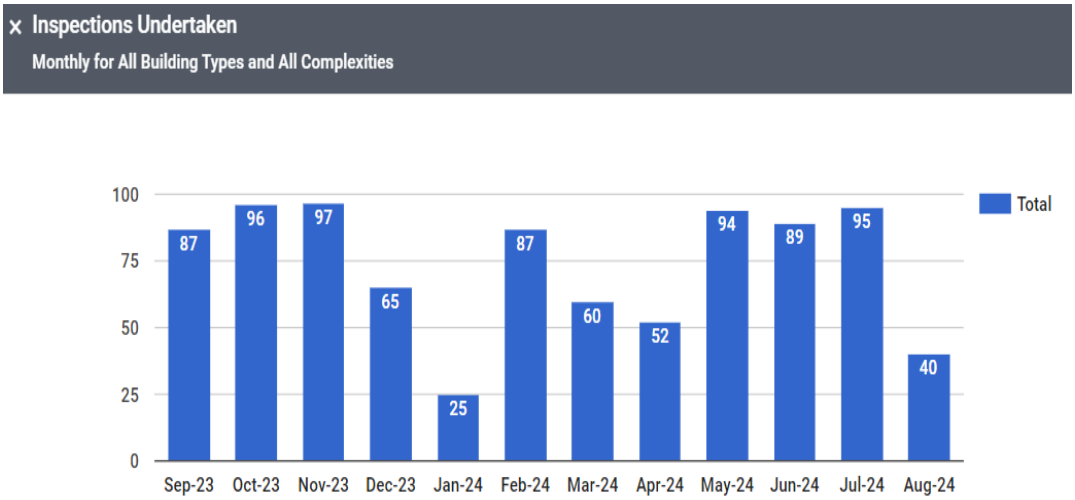
Building Consent Processing Time

The statutory timeframe for determining a building consent application is 20 working days. All building consents were granted within 20 working days,



Inspections

Building inspections remain very busy with 95 undertaken in July.



Infrastructure Services

Karamea Highway reseal – the contractor has agreed, at their expense, to remediate three areas of reseal on the Karamea Highway once the weather improves.

Speed Management Plans – the roll-out of Speed Management Plans are with the Regional Transport Committee who are considering implementation in the light of recent Ministerial announcements.

Punakaiki Campground Sewerage – the sewerage scheme is progressing as planned.

Tauranga Bay toilets - work has concluded on re-instating the public toilet at Tauranga Bay. This project was funded via a 50/50 agreement between BDC and the Tourism Infrastructure Fund (TIF) and completed in late July, on time and within budget.

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 9

Prepared by Simon Pickford
Chief Executive Officer

PORTFOLIO LEADS VERBAL UPDATE

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1. REPORT SUMMARY

A summary of updates is verbally provided by each of the new Portfolio Leads and Council Representatives listed below.

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive verbal updates from the following Chairs and Council Representatives, for information:

a. **Inangahua Community Board – Cr L Webb**

b. **Regulatory Environment & Planning - Councillors Neylon and Basher**

c. **Community Services - Councillors Howard and Pfahlert**

d. **Infrastructure - Councillors Grafton and Weston**

e. **Corporate Policy and Corporate Planning - Councillors Reidy and Sampson**

f. **Smaller and Rural Communities - Councillors O'Keefe and Webb**

g. **Iwi Relationships - Ngāti Waewae Representative Ned Tauwhare and Mayor Cleine**

h. **Te Tai o Poutini Plan – Mayor J Cleine and Cr G Neylon**

i. **Joint Committee Westport Rating District – Mayor J Cleine, Cr J Howard and Cr C Reidy**

j. **Regional Transport Committee – Cr Phil Grafton**

BULLER DISTRICT COUNCIL

28 AUGUST 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 10

Prepared by Simon Pickford
Chief Executive Officer

PUBLIC EXCLUDED

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1. REPORT SUMMARY

Subject to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 S48(1) right of Local Authority to exclude public from proceedings of any meeting on the grounds that:

2. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting:

Item No.	Minutes/Report of:	General Subject	Reason For Passing Resolution Section 7 LGOIMA 1987
PE1	Simon Pickford – Chief Executive Officer	Confirmation of Public Excluded Minutes	**(s 7(2)(i))** - enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations); or **(s 7(2)(j))** - prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.
PE2	Krissy Trigg Group Manager Community Services	Flood Recovery Temporary Houses Options	**s7(2)(i)** enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)
PE3	Krissy Trigg Group Manager Community Services	Future of Flood Recovery Houses	**s7(2)(i)** enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)

Item No.	Minutes/Report of:	General Subject	Reason For Passing Resolution Section 7 LGOIMA 1987
PE4	Sharon Roche – Independent Chair Risk and Audit Committee	Buller Holdings Ltd Directorship Appointment and Remuneration	**(s 7(2)(a)) -** Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons;