

HAVE YOUR SAY: WASTE MANAGEMENT MINIMISATION PLAN

REVIEW



INTRODUCTION

Taupō District Council's Waste Management Minimisation Plan is up for review and we want your feedback.

The plan aims to protect public health and safeguard the Taupō District by ensuring refuse and recycling is managed in a safe, efficient and sustainable manner, and it is reviewed every six years to make sure this is being achieved.

As part of the development of our draft plan we assessed the effectiveness of existing services and infrastructure and identified a number of new waste minimisation initiatives that could be implemented.

We all have a part to play in looking after the place we love, and you can help by taking the time to think about the items that have been identified in the review and by giving us your thoughts.


In the following pages we outline our existing waste minimisation programmes as well as the new initiatives we are proposing.

You can find out more about these in our Statement of Proposal and Waste Assessment 2018 by going to taupo.govt.nz/consultation, where you can also make a submission.

HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY

 **Online**

taupo.govt.nz/consultation

 **Email**

wasteminimisation@taupo.govt.nz

 **Post**

The Chief Executive Officer
Taupō District Council
Private Bag 2005
Taupō 3352
Freepost No. 112497

**Submissions open on Monday 12 March
and close on 16 April, 2018, at 5pm, and the
dates of any hearings will be made public.**

Please note, your submission (including any personal information supplied) will be made available to the Councillors and the public.



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council



KERBSIDE COLLECTION

Maintaining current kerbside collection (ONGOING)

Our aim: To provide a convenient refuse and recycling collection service in our urban areas.

We are proposing no change to the current service due to the cost of breaking an existing six-year contract and providing wheelie bins and new trucks for collection. We see the current bag system as incentivising people to recycle, and also limiting the amount of rubbish that goes into the landfill. Residents wanting wheelie bins can arrange this with commercial providers directly, so we don't believe we need to provide a council-funded service.

REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE OPTIONS

Subsidised home composting and worm farms (ONGOING)

Our aim: To reduce the amount of food waste being sent to landfill.

We offer a home composting subsidy to encourage people to dispose of their food waste by alternative means. We currently reduce about 180 tonnes of waste through this scheme each year. If you are interested in finding out more about home composting visit taupo.govt.nz/composting for more information.

E-waste service (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To facilitate the reduction of e-waste, Council will fund a \$10,000 annual programme.

E-waste (discarded electronic devices like computers and computer peripherals) is a growing concern worldwide and we are proposing to introduce an e-waste service in response to this. The new service will aim to reduce the amount of electronic devices going to landfill as they are harmful to our environment and have long-term implications. The new initiative would provide an opportunity for the community to recycle more of these products and we aim to prevent 30 tonnes of e-waste going to landfill each year.

Marae and iwi cooperation (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To support district marae and iwi with a \$5000 annual waste minimisation education programme.

We believe there is an opportunity to work more closely with marae and iwi to promote waste minimisation. Education and support initiatives will help increase awareness around waste diversion options, build relationships between council and iwi, and reduce waste going to landfill. This co-operation can also help marae reduce waste and therefore their ongoing waste costs.

Community grants (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To support waste minimisation activities in the community with \$10,000 in annual grants.

Waste minimisation concerns us all, and we can all play our part. We want to get more people actively involved by offering grants to community groups for grassroots waste minimisation and education projects. These projects get more people engaged, help to increase awareness of the issues, and can ultimately reduce the amount of waste we send to landfills. The grants also allow us to build relationships with the community and act quickly to support their initiatives. The grants will have specific criteria and may need ongoing support from our staff, but we believe that community involvement is key to minimising waste.

**IN 2017/18 WE DIVERTED
21,411 TONNES OF WASTE
FROM LANDFILL, INCLUDING:**

- » 5.24 million glass bottles
- » 15.2 million plastic containers
- » 8,713 tonnes of green waste
- » 5,686 tonnes of concrete

TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OPTIONS

Broadlands Road Landfill and our Transfer Stations (ONGOING)

Our aim: To provide ongoing waste disposal and diversion opportunities throughout the district.

The Broadlands Road Landfill and our district's transfer stations have been in operation for many years and the review found that despite the long-term costs of owning these facilities, they offer the best solution for our community. The current model allows us to use a mix of rates and user charges to keep disposal fees affordable, as well as a gate fee to provide funding and promote waste minimisation. Costs of new landfill cells need to be considered, and the landfill resource consent for the Broadlands Road site must be renewed in 2027, but overall we believe that maintaining the current model is the best option.

PROMOTING WASTE MINIMISATION

Education is key (ONGOING)

Our aim: To educate our community about the importance of waste minimisation.

We run several education programmes to help our community reduce waste and make better decisions about how we dispose of it. We believe education is a key factor in waste minimisation and we want to continue our school programmes so that our future generations know the importance of reducing waste. We also want to continue our *Love Food, Hate Waste* programme and our composting workshops, as well as education programmes that target specific needs, like ensuring wet wipes and fats are disposed of correctly.

Product stewardship (ONGOING)

Our aim: To advocate for product stewardship.

Producers and consumers have a role to play in minimising waste and we think we should continue to actively promote this in a stewardship role. Legislation is already in place at a national level to support product stewardship, and it has been shown that there are considerable benefits: waste is reduced, product designs tend to better address recycling, and costs for disposal are carried by the user rather than the ratepayer. There are also benefits for local businesses involved in the processes, and there is room for cooperation with neighbouring waste groups around the North Island.

More litter enforcement (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To reduce littering.

In order to reduce fly tipping and littering, we are proposing to increase the number of our existing staff who are warranted litter officers. We believe having a greater presence of litter officers will help remind people about how important it is that litter ends up in the bins and not on our streets or public spaces – and ultimately our lake – and that it will also make for a better experience for our visitors.

Reducing construction/demolition waste (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To find out how we can reduce construction waste.

It has been identified that an increasing amount of construction and demolition waste is being produced in the district and we are recommending that new initiatives be undertaken to help reduce this. Promoting awareness of how to divert this waste, incentivising this diversion, and building relations with industry are key starting points. Developing markets for recycled materials, ensuring that diversion is cost effective, and exploring the need for sorting this waste stream at source will have to be addressed, but we believe the benefits far outweigh the costs.

School composting and organics programme (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To promote composting in our schools with a \$5000 annual education programme.

In line with our wider community education and schools programmes, our review also identified an opportunity to teach students about the importance of composting and waste diversion at an early age. This type of education programme not only teaches children about how to minimise waste and reduce landfill, but it has been shown that they are key motivators for better waste reduction in their homes. This programme can also help expand the home composting programme and help us build active relationships with our schools.

Reducing farm waste (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To investigate and facilitate the needs of the rural sector.

The review also identified the importance of better understanding the needs of the rural sector and better supporting rural waste disposal and diversion. By building relationships with the farming industry we can help to promote increased diversion of farm waste to landfill (perhaps with price incentives for this diversion), while also reducing the amount of waste being burnt or buried on farms. Support from industry and central government may be required, and markets for diverted materials will need to be developed, but it is clear that a better understanding of the current situation needs to be found.

Support event organisers in reducing waste (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To give additional support to local event organisers in reducing waste.

The event industry is an important driver of our local economy, and it is vital that we help it to minimise waste. In a new initiative we want to build closer relationships with organisers and show them all available options for reducing waste. This can include better education on waste diversion, methods of reducing litter, changing the types of materials offered at events to promote recycling, and streamlining post-event clean-ups.

Targeted litter prevention (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To reduce litter with a \$5000 annual education programme.

Illegal dumping is becoming an increasing problem and our review notes that promoting awareness of the issue, better community relationships, and a targeted litter prevention programme for our beaches and roadways are the preferred solutions.

Reduce single-use plastic bags (NEW PROPOSAL)

Our aim: To advocate and facilitate on the reduction of single-use plastic bags in our community.

While Council has limited control over the use of plastic bags, it wants your support in reducing the considerable impact they have on our environment. Increasing awareness around single-use plastic bags and promoting alternatives amongst our communities will help us achieve this.

**SINCE THE LAST
WASTE MINIMISATION PLAN
WAS IMPLEMENTED WE HAVE:**

- » Extended plastic recovery options to include types 3-7 plastics
- » Welcomed 900 properties to our subsidised composting programme
- » And extended the street litter bin service to include recycling bins

» SUBMISSIONS OPEN ON 12 MARCH AND CLOSE ON 16 APRIL, 2018, AT 5PM