



FAQs Ngā putuputu pātai

Flexible funding for household kerbside recycling

Pūtea pīngore mō te hangarua kāinga ki te taha huarahi

What is being proposed?

He aha e marohi nei?

Whakatane District Council is proposing a change to section 6.3.4 of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2021 Action Plan. The change relates to how funding can be used for the Council's household kerbside recycling service and the Council is seeking the option to use some of the waste disposal levy received from the Ministry for the Environment to help fund household kerbside recycling collections.

Why is the Council proposing this change?

He aha te Kaunihera e marohi ai i tēnei panonitanga?

The proposed change would allow Council to use a portion of the waste disposal levy to help reduce targeted rates, where funding is available and not already committed to other waste minimisation projects.

What is the waste disposal levy, and where does it come from?

He aha tēnei utu porowhiu para, ā, nō hea tēnei utu?

The waste disposal levy is charged on all waste sent to landfills. It has two purposes: to reflect the full cost of sending waste to landfill, and fund waste minimisation activities such as composting and recycling.

Half of the levy money raised is distributed to territorial authorities (city and district councils). The amount of levy each council receives is based in population and must be

spent in line with its Waste Management and Minimisation Plan on activities that promote or achieve waste minimisation.

The other half is managed by the Ministry for the Environment. You can read more about the waste disposal levy here:

Waste disposal levy | Ministry for the Environment

SCAN ME



What is the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan?

He aha te Mahere Whakahaere me te Whakaiti Para?

The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan sets out how the Council believes the district can achieve effective and efficient waste management and minimisation and is a requirement of councils under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA). The plan is required to be reviewed every six years, as part of a Waste Assessment. The next Waste Assessment will be completed during 2026. It will review the current state of waste management in the district and identify opportunities to improve how waste can be further reduced.

How is household kerbside recycling currently funded?

Ka pēhea te hangarua kāinga ki te taha huarahi e whakaea ināiane?

Household kerbside recycling is currently funded through a mix of targeted and general rates as a part of the kerbside services in the district.



Why are we proposing to allocate waste disposal levy funding to household kerbside recycling?

He aha mātau e marohi ai ki te toha atu i tēnei utu porowhiu para ki te hangarua kāinga ki te taha huarahi?

The Waste Minimisation Act requires that waste disposal levy funding is used for activities that help reduce waste going to landfill. Household kerbside recycling supports this by recovering materials that would otherwise be disposed of as waste.

This proposed change would allow the Council to use waste disposal levy funding to support the household kerbside recycling service as part of its wider waste minimisation efforts.

How would this proposal change my rates?

Ka pēhea tēnei kaupapa e panoni i aku tāke kaunihera?

The changes will not automatically lead to any change in rates but does provide the option of using waste disposal levy funds for household kerbside recycling. If the decision is made to use the funds for this purpose, then it would reduce some of the rates funding required.

No specific decision has yet been made about the extent to which the service will be subsidised; this will be analysed in the Annual Plan 2026/27 and may be considered in future planning of the Long Term Plan, subsequent Annual Plans, and the Waste Assessment intended for 2026.

Will the waste levy fully fund household kerbside recycling?

Ka whakaea te utu porowhiu para i te utu katoa o te hangarua kāinga ki te taha huarahi?

This is unlikely, as there are several activities identified in the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan that already have waste disposal levy funds allocated to them. The amount of levy funding received varies each year, and it must be

allocated across the range of priority waste minimisation activities identified in the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan that benefit the whole district, not just a single service such as household kerbside recycling.

The Council has also set aside waste disposal levy funding in a reserve, which is not intended to be used toward household kerbside recycling. This funding is prioritised for future waste minimisation projects. For more information on these projects, see pages 19–27 of the Council’s Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2021.

Will this mean household kerbside recycling services will change?

Ka panoni ngā ratonga hangarua kāinga ki te taha huarahi?

No, if waste disposal levy funding is used for household kerbside recycling it will not change how the service is delivered by the Council.

How will this impact recycling service and rates in the future?

Ka pēhea tēnei e whakapā atu ki ngā ratonga hangarua me ngā tāke kaunihera o anamata?

This change would allow the Council to consider using waste disposal levy funding to support household kerbside recycling, alongside other priorities set out in the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

Any rates reduction included in the 2026/27 Annual Plan would not guarantee ongoing or consistent reductions in future years. How levy funding is allocated will be reviewed each year by Council’s solid waste team, based on progress against waste minimisation priorities.

If you have any queries on your kerbside collection services or waste management outside of this specific change to the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan please feel free to contact Customer Services
Phone: 07 306 0500 Email: info@whakatane.govt.nz

