



Climate Change Action Plan: *Waste and circular economies*

Mahere Mahi Huringa Āhuarangi: *Para me te Ōhanga āmiomio*

This is one of six action plans, which support
our [Climate Change Strategy 2020-23](#).

To view the other documents, visit whakatane.govt.nz/climate-change



Why this area is important

He aha tēnei e whakahirahira ai?

New Zealanders still have a ‘throw away’ mindset. Nationally, more than 5% of New Zealand’s emissions are from waste, mostly due to domestic waste sent to landfill. The landfill used for our District’s waste captures and destroys 90% of its methane emissions, but we must do more to reduce the environmental effects of our waste. This means changing our behaviour, which cannot come from Council alone. While the Council provides direction and education (for example by running waste audits, media campaigns around recycling and greenwaste contamination, and assisting with community clean-ups), responsibility for waste management lies with the whole community.

At a national level, central government is working on a number of initiatives that will help address our increasing waste problem. These include:

- Product stewardship- making manufacturers and retailers responsible for problematic wastes such as electronic waste and packaging
- Container Return Scheme – a refund scheme for returning beverage containers
- Changes to and increasing the Waste Levy – the tax we pay on the amount of waste we send to landfill

The Council is actively involved in lobbying central government for these changes, all of which will encourage a decrease in waste we send to landfill. Some of these changes will also support circular economy models. A circular economy is an alternative to the traditional linear economy. It means we keep resources in use for as long as possible, extract the maximum value from them whilst in use, then recover and regenerate products and materials at the end of each service life. You can learn more about circular economies at: mfe.govt.nz/waste/circular-economy.

Where we are now

Kei hea tātou ināianei?

As a district, the amount of waste we send to landfill is less than the national average. In 2018/19 it equated to 370Kg per person, compared to the national average of 740Kg per person. Nationally, the amount of waste sent to municipal landfills for the period 2009 to 2019 increased by 48%.

A major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions from landfill is our food waste. A 2018 national survey found that 34.1% of our kerbside refuse was food waste and 49.7% was ‘avoidable’ by changing our behaviour and what we do with this waste. Contamination in our recycling and greenwaste still remains a major problem, resulting in waste going to landfill that could be recycled or composted. Everything we buy and consume has already had an effect on our climate through manufacturing and transport- we need to change our behaviour and reduce waste in the first instance. To help support these behaviour changes, the Council supports many waste minimisation projects in the community, such as school composting, re-useable nappies at day cares, community cleanups, plus many more.

In terms of the circular economy, the Council currently has a model in place where greenwaste is composted with kiwifruit farm waste, killing the PSa virus and resulting in a compost going back onto kiwifruit farms. We will continue to investigate and consider other circular economy models in our solid waste practices.

The actions we take to address our waste issues are set out in our six yearly ‘Waste Management and Minimisation Plan’ (WMMP). We are currently working on the next version of our WMMP which is due in 2021. The specific actions that will be included in the WMMP, and support our Climate Change Strategy 2020-23 will be added to this action plan.

What we want this action plan to achieve

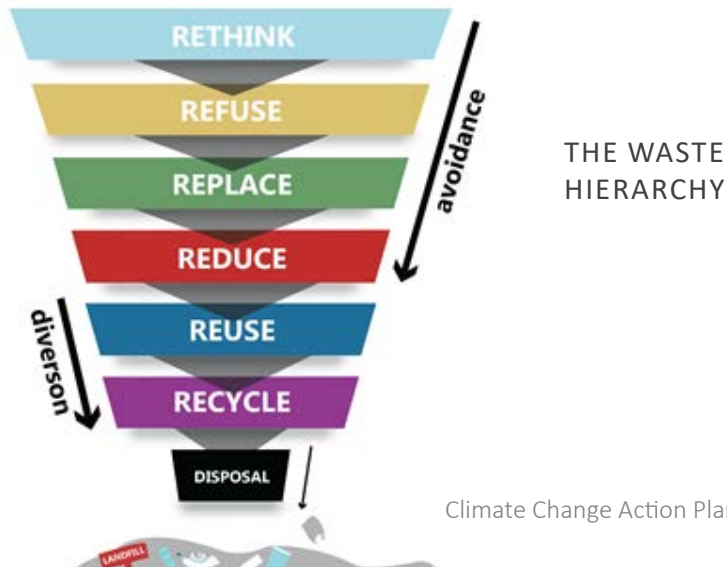
Ngā paetae o tēnei Mahere Mahi

Outcomes

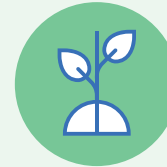
1. Reduce waste-related carbon emissions
2. Ensure the resilience of our waste infrastructure

Goals

1. Reduce the amount of waste generated by the Council
2. Move community waste patterns up the waste hierarchy
3. Reduce waste transportation emissions
3. Manage climate change risks to existing and future waste services



This action plan primarily contributes to these climate change principles:



We will care for and protect the environment

Ka manaaki, ka tiaki mātou i te taiao











We will think and act long term

Ka whakaaro pae tawhiti, ka mahi pae tawhiti mātou



SHORT TERM RESOURCE REQUIREMENT

 = Additional funding requirement
  = Incorporate into business-as-usual (BAU)
  = Additional staff time requirement

Goal	Actions	Short term (2020-22)	Short term resource requirement (\$/BAU/staff time)	Medium term (2022-24)	Long term (2024-31)	Key external stakeholders and partners
1. Reduce the amount of waste generated by the Council	1.1 Raise internal organisation awareness	Undertake internal awareness campaign		Review waste awareness messaging	Continue to roll out educations and awareness campaigns	Ministry for the Environment
	1.2 Audit of Council waste	Waste Audit undertaken of Civic Centre		Waste Audit undertaken of all Council facilities	Waste Audits undertaken periodically	OCS contractor Waste Management NZ Ltd
	1.3 Work with suppliers to reduce waste coming into the organisation	Incorporate packaging and life-cycle considerations within procurement Policy		Work with key suppliers to consider low waste alternatives	Consider project to address key waste streams	Suppliers
2. Move community waste patterns up the waste hierarchy	2.1. Review and implement Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP)	Review WMMP Update Waste Management and Minimisation Action Plan, and include an action to investigate options for food waste collections and processing		Implement WMMP	Review WMMP by 2027	Contractors Community
	2.2. Implement central government policy changes that support circular economies within the District	Support and implement central government policies promoting circular economies (specific actions to be included in WMMP)		Continue to support and implement central government policies promoting circular economies (specific actions to be included in WMMP)	Continue to support and implement central government policies promoting circular economies (specific actions to be included in WMMP)	

SHORT TERM RESOURCE REQUIREMENT



= Additional funding requirement



= Incorporate into business-as-usual (BAU)



= Additional staff time requirement

Goal	Actions	Short term (2020-22)	Short term resource requirement (\$/BAU/staff time)	Medium term (2022-24)	Long term (2024-31)	Key external stakeholders and partners
3. Reduce waste transportation emissions	3.1. Work with contractors that provide waste transportation	Initiate discussions regarding electric or low-emissions trucks for solid waste operations Discuss opportunities with sector		Continue conversations and keep abreast of industry trends and latest technology	Continue conversations and keep abreast of industry trends and latest technology	Waste Sector Waste Management NZ Ltd Ministry for the Environment
	3.2. Investigate and where possible implement initiatives that reduce transportation of waste	Discuss opportunities with sector Investigate opportunities to divert more material from waste stream		Discuss opportunities with sector Review latest best practice in waste reduction	Discuss opportunities with sector If appropriate investigate alternative landfill opportunities	Waste sector Waste Management NZ Ltd

SHORT TERM RESOURCE REQUIREMENT



= Additional funding requirement



= Incorporate into business-as-usual (BAU)



= Additional staff time requirement

Goal	Actions	Short term (2020-22)	Short term resource requirement (\$/BAU/staff time)	Medium term (2022-24)	Long term (2024-31)	Key external stakeholders and partners
4. Manage climate change risks to existing and future waste services	4.1. Identify at risk and vulnerable waste infrastructure susceptible to various climate change projections (including closed landfills)	Utilise National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) climate change projections and the Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement to understand specific infrastructure vulnerabilities Identify the likely impacts of climate change on the Council's solid waste infrastructure Identify the levels of risk to Council solid waste infrastructure arising from climate change		Update identified risks with latest knowledge / assumptions	Update identified risks with latest knowledge / assumptions	Bay of Plenty Regional Council Ministry for the Environment National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Local Government New Zealand
	4.2. Apply climate change assumptions to new waste-related projects	Utilise local analysis, NIWA's climate change projections and the Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement to inform project options.		Update assumptions with latest information	Update assumptions with latest information	Bay of Plenty Regional Council Ministry for the Environment National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Local Government New Zealand
	4.3. Develop adaptive design and planning pathways for ongoing operation and renewal of waste infrastructure	Develop adaptive planning methodologies with adopted procedures Determine Council DAPP approach		Provide training in the use of dynamic adaptive pathways planning (DAPP), as recommended by the Ministry for the Environment	Strategies for infrastructure types developed	Bay of Plenty Regional Council Central Government

If you want to learn more about our climate change project visit whakatane.govt.nz/climate-change

This is one of six action plans which support our climate change strategy.

The other action plans are:

- [Leadership and collaboration](#)
- [Transport](#)
- [Energy](#)
- [Water services](#)
- [Land use and the built environment](#)

