



AGENDA

Taranaki Solid Waste

Thursday 25 May 2023, 10.30am

Taranaki Solid Waste Minimisation Committee

25 May 2023 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM



Agenda Topic	Page
1. Cover	1
2. Karakia	3
3. Apologies	
4. Confirmation of Minutes - Taranaki Solid Waste Minimisation Committee 9 March 2023	4
5. Regional Waste Management Officers Activity Report	9
6. Te Rautaki Para - Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy	23
7. Agenda Authorisation	37



Whakataka te hau

Karakia to open and close meetings

Whakataka te hau ki te uru	Cease the winds from the west
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga	Cease the winds from the south
Kia mākinakina ki uta	Let the breeze blow over the land
Kia mātaratara ki tai	Let the breeze blow over the ocean
Kia hī ake ana te atakura	Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air
He tio, he huka, he hauhu	A touch of frost, a promise of glorious day
Tūturu o whiti whakamaua kia tina.	Let there be certainty
Tina!	Secure it!
Hui ē! Tāiki ē!	Draw together! Affirm!

Nau mai e ngā hua

Karakia for kai

Nau mai e ngā hua	Welcome the gifts of food
o te wao	from the sacred forests
o te ngakina	from the cultivated gardens
o te wai tai	from the sea
o te wai Māori	from the fresh waters
Nā Tāne	The food of Tāne
Nā Rongo	of Rongo
Nā Tangaroa	of Tangaroa
Nā Maru	of Maru
Ko Ranginui e tū iho nei	I acknowledge Ranginui above and
Ko Papatūānuku e takoto ake nei	Papatūānuku below
Tūturu o whiti whakamaua kia	Let there be certainty
tina	Secure it!
Tina! Hui e! Taiki e!	Draw together! Affirm!



Date 25 May 2023

Subject: **Confirmation of Minutes – 9 March 2023**

Approved by: AJ Matthews, Director - Environment Quality
S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: 3173476

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) takes as read and confirms the minutes and resolutions of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting held at Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road Stratford on 9 March 2023
- b) notes that the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee held at on Thursday 9 March 2023 at Taranaki Regional Council have been circulated to the New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and South Taranaki District Council for receipt and information.

Matters arising

Appendices/Attachments

Document 3154094: Minutes Taranaki Solid Waste Committee 9 March 2023



Date: 9 March 2023, 10.45am
Venue: Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford
Document: 3154094

Present		D H McIntyre	Taranaki Regional Council (<i>Chairperson</i>)
		B Roach	South Taranaki District Council (<i>Deputy Chair</i>)
		N W Walker	Taranaki Regional Council (Ex officio)
		M McKay	Stratford District Council
		M Chong	New Plymouth District Council

Attending	Ms	A Matthews	Taranaki Regional Council
	Mrs	V McKay	Taranaki Regional Council
	Mrs	M Jones	Taranaki Regional Council
	Ms	K Hope	New Plymouth District Council
	Mr	H Denton	South Taranaki District Council
	Miss	J Ingram	South Taranaki District Council

Apologies Were received and sustained, from M Deans – EnviroWaste and R Martin – STDC

Chong/Roach

1. Appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair

- 1.1** Mr N Walker, Spoke to the committee requesting they appoint a Chair and Deputy Chair.
- 1.2** Mr M Chong nominated Mr D McIntyre as Chair.
- 1.3** Mr D McIntyre nominated Mr B Roach as Deputy Chair

Resolved

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received this memorandum Appointment of Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee Chairperson
- b) elected Mr D McIntyre as Chairperson of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee
- c) elected Mr B Roach as Deputy Chairperson of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee
- d) determined that this decision be recognised as in terms of section 76 of the *Local Government Act 2002*
- e) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the *Local Government Act 2002* to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Roach/Walker

2. Confirmation of Minutes - 18 August 2022

Resolved

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) took as read and confirmed the minutes and resolutions of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting held at EnviroWaste New Plymouth Transfer station, Colson Road, on Thursday 18 August 2022 at 10.30am.
- b) noted that the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee held at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Thursday 18 August 2022 have been circulated to the New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and South Taranaki District Council for receipt and information.

Matters Arising:

- 1 The invitation to Hawkes Bay waste officers has been postponed as they are currently responding to Cyclone Gabrielle.
- 2 Cost of kerbside collection per household:
- a. New Plymouth District Council \$220
- b. Stratford District Council \$389
- c. South Taranaki District Council \$195.50 - this figure is reflective of the shorter transport time to Bonny Glenn landfill.

Roach/McIntyre

3. Regional Waste Minimisation Officer's Activity Report August 2022

- 3.1 Ms K Hope, New Plymouth District Council, spoke to the memorandum update the Committee on significant activities undertaken by the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer (RWMO), in collaboration with the district council officers of NPDC, STDC and SDC.
- 3.2 Ms K Hope will provide an update at the next Taranaki Solid Waste Minimisation Committee meeting relating to waste minimisation activities at summer events in the Region.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum *Regional waste minimisation Officer's Activity Report August 2022*
- b) noted the activities of the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer and district councils.

McIntyre/Roach

4. Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Update

- 4.1 Ms K Hope, New Plymouth District Council, spoke to the memorandum to present to the Committee the waste management and minimisation plan regional annual KPI summary 2021/2022.
- 4.2 Ms K Hope suggested a workshop be held after the next Solid Waste Minimisation meeting that is scheduled for 25 May 2023.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum *Waste Management and Minimisation Plan update*.

McIntyre/McKay

5. Update on Recycling contamination and the Summer Recycling Audit

- 5.1 M K Hope, New Plymouth District Council, spoke to the memorandum to update the committee on the status of the recycling contamination throughout the region.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum *Update on Recycling Contamination and the Annual Summer Recycling audit*.

Roach/McKay

6. General Business

Mr B Roach discussed the amount of food waste that is being generated by 'Lunch in School' programmes.

Ms K Hope is aware of this and is currently working with schools.

Mr B Roach has requested the committee receives an update on this at the next Taranaki Solid Waste Minimisation Committee Meeting.

There being no further business, Committee Chairperson, D H McIntyre declared the meeting of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee closed at 11.49am

Taranaki Regional

Council Chairperson: _____

D H McIntyre



Date: 25 May 2023

Subject: **Regional Waste Minimisation Officers Activity Report - May 2023**

Approved by: AJ Matthews, Director - Environment Quality
S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: 3173390

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update to the Committee on significant activities undertaken by the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer (RWMO), in collaboration with the district council officers of NPDC, STDC and SDC.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:
- b) receives the memorandum *Regional waste minimisation Officer's Activity Report May 2023*
- c) notes the activities of the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer and district councils.

Discussion

2. Attached is the regional waste minimisation officer's activity report May 2023.

Financial considerations—LTP/Annual Plan

3. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Policy considerations

4. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the *Local Government Act 2002*, the *Resource Management Act 1991* and the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Iwi considerations

5. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's policy for the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 2002*) as outlined in the adopted long-term plan and/or annual plan. Similarly, iwi involvement in adopted work programmes has been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Community considerations

6. This memorandum and the associated recommendations have considered the views of the community, interested and affected parties and those views have been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Legal considerations

7. This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

Appendices/Attachments

Document 3173394: Regional Waste Minimisation Officers Report - May 2023



Date: 16 May 2023

To: Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee

Subject: Te rautaki para – Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy

1 Purpose

The Ministry for the Environment released the Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy on 29 March 2023.

This memo summarises the strategy and discusses its significance to Taranaki as district councils prepare their next Waste Management and Minimisation Plans.

2 Why we need a long term strategy

Aotearoa New Zealand is among the highest generators of waste per capita in the developed world. In 2018, we sent 3.7 million tonnes of waste to municipal landfills (approximately 750 kilograms per person); this is 49 per cent higher than the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) average of 538 kilograms per capita.

Despite slight improvements in 2019 and 2020, the long-term trend suggests the amount of waste we're sending to landfill is increasing; between 2010 and 2019, total waste to municipal landfills increased by approximately 48 per cent. Much of what we send to landfills would be relatively easy to reuse or recycle – it still has value.

Fortunately, awareness and concern are growing, and more people want change. 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 the new waste strategy has been a central part of that work.

3 Consultation on new waste strategy and legislation

In October 2021, the Government released a consultation paper with proposals for a new waste strategy and new legislation. The consultation period was open from 15 October- 26 November 2021 and there were 628 substantive submissions and 1,862 template responses in total.

The Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee provided a submission as part of this consultation.

4 Summary of the strategy

The Te rautaki para – Waste Strategy – getting rid of waste for a circular Aotearoa New Zealand provides the roadmap for the next three decades for how we achieve our vision:

“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.”

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
- The approach to measuring and assessing progress

5 Circular economy

Taking natural resources, making them into something, using it 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. It is designed to replace our current ‘take–make–dispose’ system with a ‘make–use–return’ system (Figure 1).

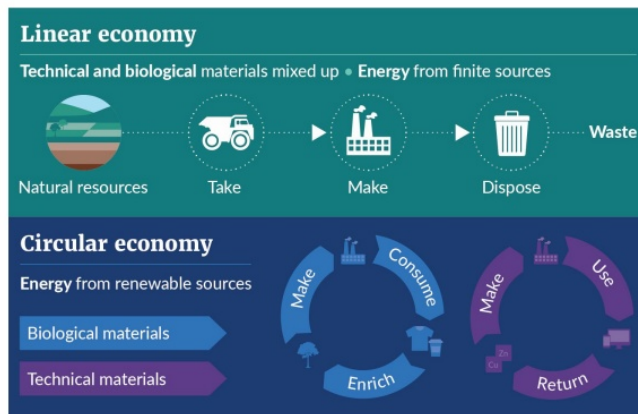


Figure 1 Characteristics of linear and circular economies (sourced from Te rautaki para – Waste Strategy)

6 Guiding principles

Alongside the vision, the waste strategy features six guiding principles:

- Take responsibility for how we make, use, manage and dispose of things
- Apply the waste hierarchy preferences to how we manage materials
- Protect and regenerate the natural environment and its systems
- Deliver equitable and inclusive outcomes

- Ensure our systems for using, managing, and disposing of materials are financially sustainable
- Think across systems, places, and generations

7 Road map to 2050: The three phases

The strategy has three implementation phases (Figure 2). 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.

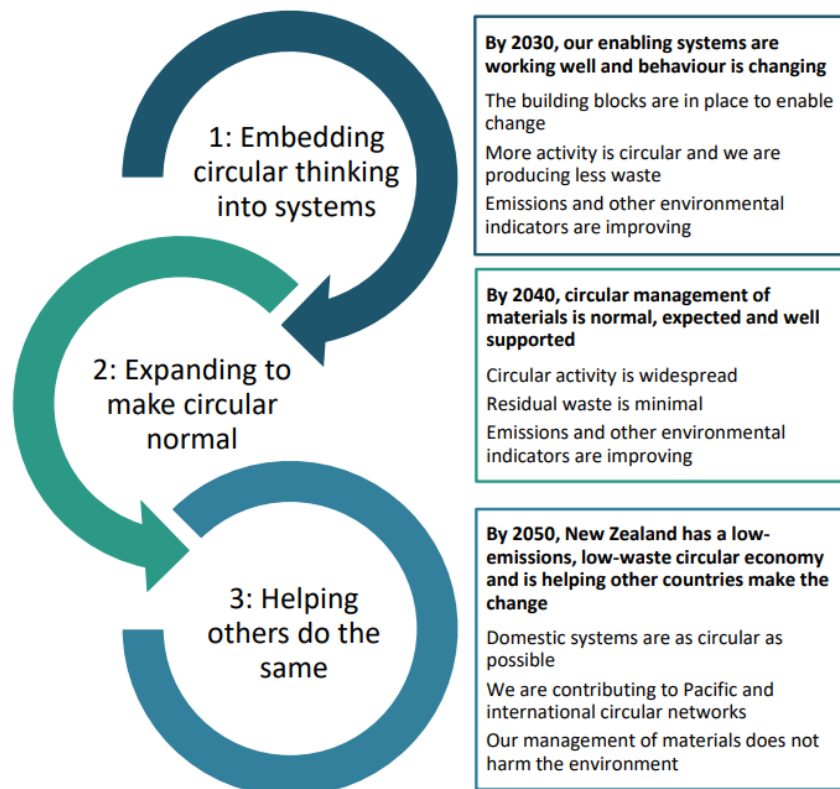


Figure 2 Three phases of getting rid of waste for a circular Aotearoa New Zealand

Phase one- Embedding circular thinking into systems

Phase 1

Embedding circular thinking into our systems

By 2030, our enabling systems work well and behaviour is changing

<p>The building blocks are in place to enable change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The strategic planning, regulatory, investment and engagement systems are in place and operating to drive and support change ▶ We have a comprehensive national network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials ▶ We all take responsibility for how we produce, manage and dispose of things, and are accountable for our actions and their consequences
<p>More activity is circular and we produce less waste</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ We use fewer products and materials, for longer, through increased durability, repair, reuse, sharing and repurposing ▶ Resource recovery systems are operating effectively for core materials and across all regions ▶ We look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste, sustainably and without increasing emissions, before final disposal
<p>Emissions and other environmental impacts are improving</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Emissions from waste are reducing in line with domestic and international commitments ▶ Contaminated land is sustainably managed and remediated to reduce waste and emissions and enhance the environment

Phase 1 is about getting organised. It involves setting up new or improved systems for regulation, investment, planning and reporting, data collection, and more. It also recognises behaviour change as a key priority for ensuring long-term success of the strategy. Our focus needs to be on insuring:

- We have the strategic planning, regulatory, investment and engagement systems in place and operating to drive and support change
- We have a comprehensive national network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials
- We are all taking responsibility for how we produce, manage, and dispose of things, and are accountable for our actions and their consequences.

With the necessary systems, infrastructure, and behaviour change programmes in place, we should see progress towards the second part of phase one which is for more of our activity to be circular and less waste being produced.

The second part of phase one focuses on recycling, using less, and recovering value. These goals relate to the waste generation and disposal targets for 2030. As a result of the early work in phase one, we expect to see:



- We use fewer products and materials, and using them for longer, by making them more durable, and repairing, reusing, sharing, and repurposing them.
- Resource recovery systems are operating effectively for core materials and across all regions.
- We look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste, sustainably and without increasing emissions, before final disposal.

The final part of phase one looks at reducing emissions from waste and managing contaminated land. These goals link directly to our third 2030 target on waste emissions, as well as targets in the emissions reduction plan.

- Emissions from waste are reducing in line with domestic and international commitments
- Contaminated land is sustainably managed and remediated to reduce waste and emissions and enhance the environment.

The emissions reduction plan includes a commitment to require all class 1 landfill 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.

8 Targets for 2030

Three targets are included in phase one. The targets focus on the three most important changes we need to make.

Waste generation

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.

To achieve a 10% drop in waste by 2030, we need to significantly change our behaviour and approach in all activities and business sectors. A waste generation target like this is widely used internationally, so once we have established a baseline and developed a national waste data system, we will be able to compare our progress with others.

Waste disposal

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.

As with the first target, the data that will be gathered from disposal facilities should let us set a benchmark and monitor progress.

Waste emissions

Reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by at least 30 per cent.

The third target is closely linked to the emissions reduction plan target of reducing all biogenic methane by 40 per cent by 2035. 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.

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

Phase two - Expanding to make circular normal

Phase one will lay the foundation for our circular economy and made sure we have the necessary systems in place to meet our targets. Phase 2 builds on the previous goals of seeing circular activity, reduced waste, and improved environmental indicators.

Phase 2

Expanding to make circular normal

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

Circular activity is widespread	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Repairing, sharing and reusing are common, and the preferred options where practicable▶ Resource recovery systems cover many materials and are easy to access▶ There is strong demand for recycled material and products▶ Aotearoa New Zealand's systems are working with others across Australia and the Pacific
Residual waste is minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ We are extracting the maximum value from materials and products before or during final disposal, where appropriate and sustainable▶ Residual waste has reduced to a minimum, as has the need for final disposal facilities
Emissions and other environmental outcomes keep improving	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Emissions from the resource recovery and waste management sector are reducing in line with domestic and international commitments▶ Plastic pollution has significantly decreased▶ Programmes to manage or remediate contaminated land and old disposal sites are well advanced

Phase three - Helping others do the same

Phase three aligns with the vision of the strategy which is for New Zealand to be a low-emissions, low waste circular economy by 2050. This phase aims to see New Zealand expand

into a regional Pacific network for circular management of materials and be active in international efforts that support our vision.

Phase 3

Helping others do the same

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

Domestic systems are as circular as possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Aotearoa New Zealand's consumption of virgin resources is largely from renewable sources and has stabilised at sustainable levels ▶ Regeneration is the norm and part of our circular business models
Aotearoa is contributing to regional and global networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Aotearoa is part of a regional Pacific network for circular management of materials ▶ Aotearoa actively participates in international efforts to support low-emissions, low-waste circular economies
Our management of materials does not harm the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Resource recovery systems operate effectively, based on a strong understanding of carbon footprints ▶ Final disposal of residual waste is minimal, as are its environmental impacts

3.5 Next steps

MfE is supporting the implementation of the strategy through the waste reduction work programme. 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 Action and Investment Plan (AIP).

The AIP is a supporting plan that will flesh out what is 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.

Figure 5: Indicative view of strategic planning cycle



9 How the strategy applies to Taranaki

The waste strategy's vision is consistent with and builds on the three district Waste Management and Minimisation Plans of working towards Zero Waste but shifts the focus towards a low waste, low emission circular economy.

The three district councils in Taranaki are currently reviewing their Waste Management and Minimisation Plans and will be able to incorporate the new direction and targets into new plans. Any planned actions will need to reflect the new strategy and make it relevant for our local situation.

The strategy calls for collaboration between councils on new, or expanded, facilities and services and as a region we are well set up to continue our collaborative approach towards waste management.

Behaviour change is a key focus of the waste strategy, and the region has already identified behaviour change as a priority, highlighting it as one of the four objectives in the existing waste management and minimisation plans, and this also continues to be a strong theme from our local communities through the review of the plans we are completing this year.

The expansion of the coverage of the waste disposal levy to more landfill types, as well as increasing the levy from \$10 to \$60 per tonne between 2021 and 2025 will provide an increase in waste minimisation funding available to territorial authorities enabling further expansion of waste minimisation activities in our local communities.

In addition, the Government has also expanded the data reporting requirements for waste management facilities and operators. 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. While this will require more reporting from territorial authorities, it will also provide valuable data to better inform planning for the future both nationally and locally.

A number of other changes may impact on council services and should be considered or prepared for in the next waste management and minimisation plans, including:

1. A proposed Container Return Scheme
2. Implementation of mandatory product stewardship schemes for 6 priority products
 - plastic packaging
 - tyres
 - electrical and electronic products (e-waste including large batteries)
 - agrichemicals and their containers
 - refrigerants and other synthetic greenhouse gases
 - farm plastics
3. Phasing out hard to recycle, single use plastics
4. Increased enforcement and compliance mechanisms (both centrally and locally).

10 Standardised kerbside collections

As part of the strategy, clear direction has been provided on kerbside collections which will directly impact Taranaki (Figure 3). By 2027, all district and city councils must provide recycling collections to households in urban areas and by 2030, must also provide food scraps collections. From February 2024, what is accepted for recycling will be standardised and all district and city councils will only be accepting the following materials in their recycling collections:

- glass bottles and jars

- paper and cardboard (including pizza boxes)
- plastic bottles and containers marked with recycling symbols 1, 2, and 5
- aluminium and steel tins and cans.

For Taranaki district councils, only minor changes will be required to what is accepted at kerbside as the region is already well aligned with the national standards, and the only changes will be:

1. aerosol cans will no longer be accepted in the yellow recycling bin
2. kitchen paper towels will no longer be allowed in the food scrap bin.

While NPDC already has a food scraps collection service, South Taranaki District Council and Stratford District Council will need to introduce kerbside food waste collections by 2030. This requirement is already being considered in the region’s Waste Assessment and will be included as proposed actions in draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plans. Both councils are seeking central government funding to introduce these services. The introduction of the food scraps collection also relies on the establishment of an organics processing facility, a work stream that is already underway, led by STD, in collaboration with SDC, NPDC and three food manufacturing industries (Fonterra, Silverfern Farms and ANZCO).

As part of this standardisation, a minimum standard to divert 50% of household waste from landfill will be required by 2030. These changes are expected to provide households with consistency across the country and reduce confusion about what is recycled resulting in higher recycling rates and related reduction in landfill waste and associated emissions.

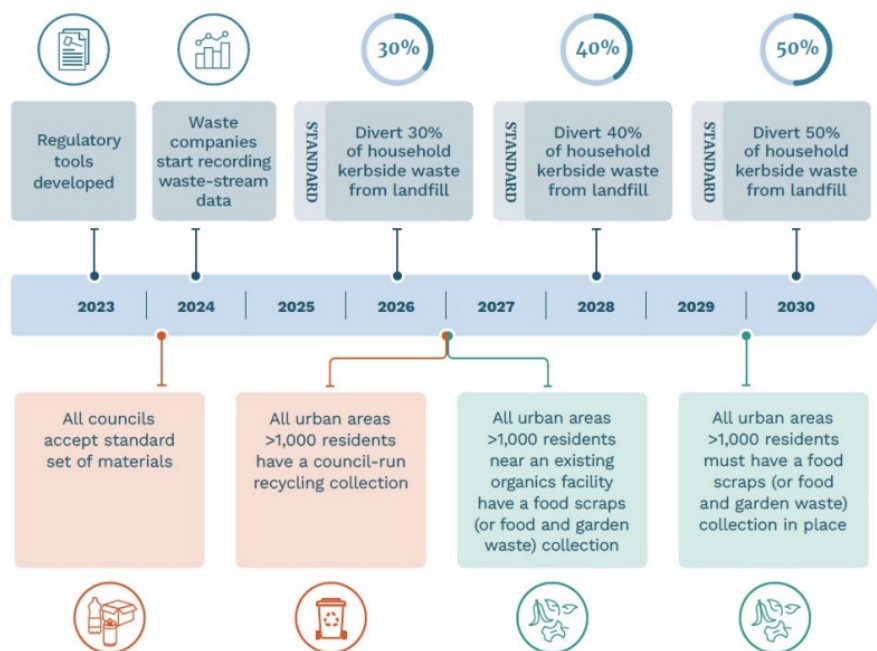


Figure 3 Timeline for implementing changes to recycling and food scraps collections

Prepared by

Graceyn Cotter

REGIONAL WASTE MINIMISATION OFFICER



Date: 25 May 2023

Subject: **Te Rautaki Para - Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy**

Approved by: AJ Matthews, Director - Environment Quality
S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: 3173395

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Committee with a summary of Te Rautaki Para - Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Minimisation Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum *Te Rautaki Para - Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy*.

Discussion

2. The summary on the Strategy is attached.

Financial considerations—LTP/Annual Plan

3. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Policy considerations

4. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the *Local Government Act 2002*, the *Resource Management Act 1991* and the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Iwi considerations

5. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's policy for the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making

processes (schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 2002*) as outlined in the adopted long-term plan and/or annual plan. Similarly, iwi involvement in adopted work programmes has been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Community considerations

6. This memorandum and the associated recommendations have considered the views of the community, interested and affected parties and those views have been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Legal considerations

7. This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

Appendices/Attachments

Document 3173393: Summary of Waste Strategy



Date: 16 May 2023

To: Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee

Subject: Te rautaki para – Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy

1 Purpose

The Ministry for the Environment released the Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy on 29 March 2023.

This memo summarises the strategy and discusses its significance to Taranaki as district councils prepare their next Waste Management and Minimisation Plans.

2 Why we need a long term strategy

Aotearoa New Zealand is among the highest generators of waste per capita in the developed world. In 2018, we sent 3.7 million tonnes of waste to municipal landfills (approximately 750 kilograms per person); this is 49 per cent higher than the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) average of 538 kilograms per capita.

Despite slight improvements in 2019 and 2020, the long-term trend suggests the amount of waste we're sending to landfill is increasing; between 2010 and 2019, total waste to municipal landfills increased by approximately 48 per cent. Much of what we send to landfills would be relatively easy to reuse or recycle – it still has value.

Fortunately, awareness and concern are growing, and more people want change. 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 the new waste strategy has been a central part of that work.

3 Consultation on new waste strategy and legislation

In October 2021, the Government released a consultation paper with proposals for a new waste strategy and new legislation. The consultation period was open from 15 October- 26 November 2021 and there were 628 substantive submissions and 1,862 template responses in total.

The Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee provided a submission as part of this consultation.

4 Summary of the strategy

The Te rautaki para – Waste Strategy – getting rid of waste for a circular Aotearoa New Zealand provides the roadmap for the next three decades for how we achieve our vision:

“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.”

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
- The approach to measuring and assessing progress

5 Circular economy

Taking natural resources, making them into something, using it 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. It is designed to replace our current ‘take–make–dispose’ system with a ‘make–use–return’ system (Figure 1).

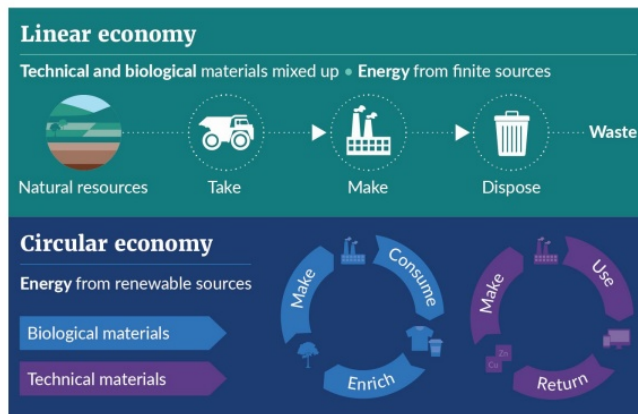


Figure 1 Characteristics of linear and circular economies (sourced from Te rautaki para – Waste Strategy)

6 Guiding principles

Alongside the vision, the waste strategy features six guiding principles:

- Take responsibility for how we make, use, manage and dispose of things
- Apply the waste hierarchy preferences to how we manage materials
- Protect and regenerate the natural environment and its systems
- Deliver equitable and inclusive outcomes

- Ensure our systems for using, managing, and disposing of materials are financially sustainable
- Think across systems, places, and generations

7 Road map to 2050: The three phases

The strategy has three implementation phases (Figure 2). 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.

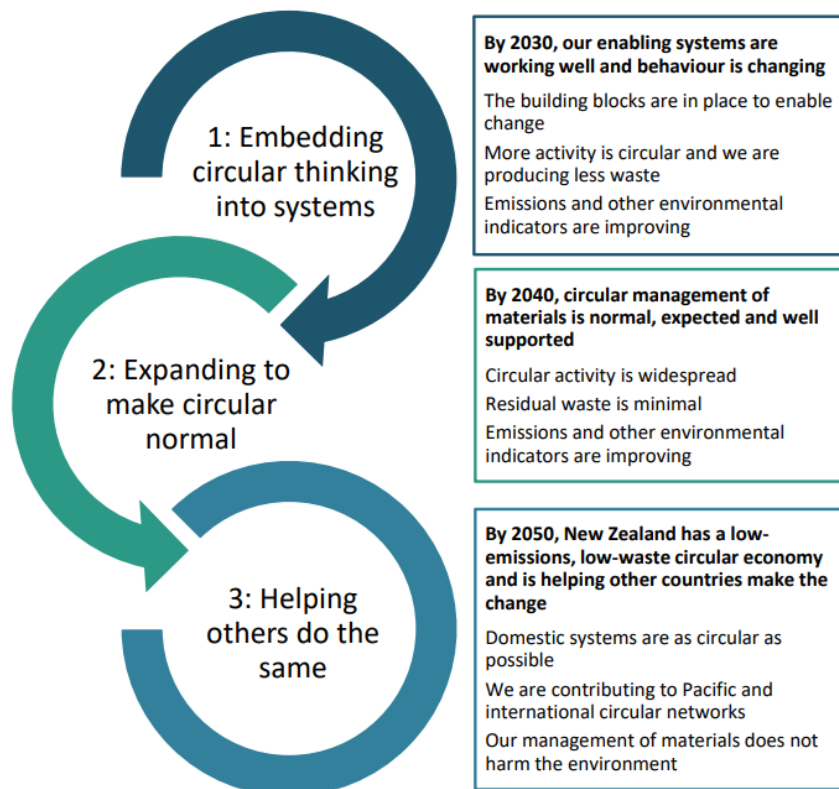


Figure 2 Three phases of getting rid of waste for a circular Aotearoa New Zealand

Phase one- Embedding circular thinking into systems

Phase 1

Embedding circular thinking into our systems

By 2030, our enabling systems work well and behaviour is changing

<p>The building blocks are in place to enable change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ The strategic planning, regulatory, investment and engagement systems are in place and operating to drive and support change ▶ We have a comprehensive national network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials ▶ We all take responsibility for how we produce, manage and dispose of things, and are accountable for our actions and their consequences
<p>More activity is circular and we produce less waste</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ We use fewer products and materials, for longer, through increased durability, repair, reuse, sharing and repurposing ▶ Resource recovery systems are operating effectively for core materials and across all regions ▶ We look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste, sustainably and without increasing emissions, before final disposal
<p>Emissions and other environmental impacts are improving</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Emissions from waste are reducing in line with domestic and international commitments ▶ Contaminated land is sustainably managed and remediated to reduce waste and emissions and enhance the environment

Phase 1 is about getting organised. It involves setting up new or improved systems for regulation, investment, planning and reporting, data collection, and more. It also recognises behaviour change as a key priority for ensuring long-term success of the strategy. Our focus needs to be on insuring:

- We have the strategic planning, regulatory, investment and engagement systems in place and operating to drive and support change
- We have a comprehensive national network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials
- We are all taking responsibility for how we produce, manage, and dispose of things, and are accountable for our actions and their consequences.

With the necessary systems, infrastructure, and behaviour change programmes in place, we should see progress towards the second part of phase one which is for more of our activity to be circular and less waste being produced.

The second part of phase one focuses on recycling, using less, and recovering value. These goals relate to the waste generation and disposal targets for 2030. As a result of the early work in phase one, we expect to see:

- We use fewer products and materials, and using them for longer, by making them more durable, and repairing, reusing, sharing, and repurposing them.
- Resource recovery systems are operating effectively for core materials and across all regions.
- We look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste, sustainably and without increasing emissions, before final disposal.

The final part of phase one looks at reducing emissions from waste and managing contaminated land. These goals link directly to our third 2030 target on waste emissions, as well as targets in the emissions reduction plan.

- Emissions from waste are reducing in line with domestic and international commitments
- Contaminated land is sustainably managed and remediated to reduce waste and emissions and enhance the environment.

The emissions reduction plan includes a commitment to require all class 1 landfill 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.

8 Targets for 2030

Three targets are included in phase one. The targets focus on the three most important changes we need to make.

Waste generation

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.

To achieve a 10% drop in waste by 2030, we need to significantly change our behaviour and approach in all activities and business sectors. A waste generation target like this is widely used internationally, so once we have established a baseline and developed a national waste data system, we will be able to compare our progress with others.

Waste disposal

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.

As with the first target, the data that will be gathered from disposal facilities should let us set a benchmark and monitor progress.

Waste emissions

Reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by at least 30 per cent.

The third target is closely linked to the emissions reduction plan target of reducing all biogenic methane by 40 per cent by 2035. 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.

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

Phase two - Expanding to make circular normal

Phase one will lay the foundation for our circular economy and made sure we have the necessary systems in place to meet our targets. Phase 2 builds on the previous goals of seeing circular activity, reduced waste, and improved environmental indicators.

Phase 2

Expanding to make circular normal

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

Circular activity is widespread	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Repairing, sharing and reusing are common, and the preferred options where practicable ▶ Resource recovery systems cover many materials and are easy to access ▶ There is strong demand for recycled material and products ▶ Aotearoa New Zealand's systems are working with others across Australia and the Pacific
Residual waste is minimal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ We are extracting the maximum value from materials and products before or during final disposal, where appropriate and sustainable ▶ Residual waste has reduced to a minimum, as has the need for final disposal facilities
Emissions and other environmental outcomes keep improving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Emissions from the resource recovery and waste management sector are reducing in line with domestic and international commitments ▶ Plastic pollution has significantly decreased ▶ Programmes to manage or remediate contaminated land and old disposal sites are well advanced

Phase three - Helping others do the same

Phase three aligns with the vision of the strategy which is for New Zealand to be a low-emissions, low waste circular economy by 2050. This phase aims to see New Zealand expand

into a regional Pacific network for circular management of materials and be active in international efforts that support our vision.

Phase 3

Helping others do the same

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

Domestic systems are as circular as possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Aotearoa New Zealand's consumption of virgin resources is largely from renewable sources and has stabilised at sustainable levels ▶ Regeneration is the norm and part of our circular business models
Aotearoa is contributing to regional and global networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Aotearoa is part of a regional Pacific network for circular management of materials ▶ Aotearoa actively participates in international efforts to support low-emissions, low-waste circular economies
Our management of materials does not harm the environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Resource recovery systems operate effectively, based on a strong understanding of carbon footprints ▶ Final disposal of residual waste is minimal, as are its environmental impacts

3.5 Next steps

MfE is supporting the implementation of the strategy through the waste reduction work programme. 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 Action and Investment Plan (AIP).

The AIP is a supporting plan that will flesh out what is 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.

Figure 5: Indicative view of strategic planning cycle



9 How the strategy applies to Taranaki

The waste strategy's vision is consistent with and builds on the three district Waste Management and Minimisation Plans of working towards Zero Waste but shifts the focus towards a low waste, low emission circular economy.

The three district councils in Taranaki are currently reviewing their Waste Management and Minimisation Plans and will be able to incorporate the new direction and targets into new plans. Any planned actions will need to reflect the new strategy and make it relevant for our local situation.

The strategy calls for collaboration between councils on new, or expanded, facilities and services and as a region we are well set up to continue our collaborative approach towards waste management.

Behaviour change is a key focus of the waste strategy, and the region has already identified behaviour change as a priority, highlighting it as one of the four objectives in the existing waste management and minimisation plans, and this also continues to be a strong theme from our local communities through the review of the plans we are completing this year.

The expansion of the coverage of the waste disposal levy to more landfill types, as well as increasing the levy from \$10 to \$60 per tonne between 2021 and 2025 will provide an increase in waste minimisation funding available to territorial authorities enabling further expansion of waste minimisation activities in our local communities.

In addition, the Government has also expanded the data reporting requirements for waste management facilities and operators. 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. While this will require more reporting from territorial authorities, it will also provide valuable data to better inform planning for the future both nationally and locally.

A number of other changes may impact on council services and should be considered or prepared for in the next waste management and minimisation plans, including:

1. A proposed Container Return Scheme
2. Implementation of mandatory product stewardship schemes for 6 priority products
 - plastic packaging
 - tyres
 - electrical and electronic products (e-waste including large batteries)
 - agrichemicals and their containers
 - refrigerants and other synthetic greenhouse gases
 - farm plastics
3. Phasing out hard to recycle, single use plastics
4. Increased enforcement and compliance mechanisms (both centrally and locally).

10 Standardised kerbside collections

As part of the strategy, clear direction has been provided on kerbside collections which will directly impact Taranaki (Figure 3). By 2027, all district and city councils must provide recycling collections to households in urban areas and by 2030, must also provide food scraps collections. From February 2024, what is accepted for recycling will be standardised and all district and city councils will only be accepting the following materials in their recycling collections:

- glass bottles and jars

- paper and cardboard (including pizza boxes)
- plastic bottles and containers marked with recycling symbols 1, 2, and 5
- aluminium and steel tins and cans.

For Taranaki district councils, only minor changes will be required to what is accepted at kerbside as the region is already well aligned with the national standards, and the only changes will be:

1. aerosol cans will no longer be accepted in the yellow recycling bin
2. kitchen paper towels will no longer be allowed in the food scrap bin.

While NPDC already has a food scraps collection service, South Taranaki District Council and Stratford District Council will need to introduce kerbside food waste collections by 2030. This requirement is already being considered in the region’s Waste Assessment and will be included as proposed actions in draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plans. Both councils are seeking central government funding to introduce these services. The introduction of the food scraps collection also relies on the establishment of an organics processing facility, a work stream that is already underway, led by STD, in collaboration with SDC, NPDC and three food manufacturing industries (Fonterra, Silverfern Farms and ANZCO).

As part of this standardisation, a minimum standard to divert 50% of household waste from landfill will be required by 2030. These changes are expected to provide households with consistency across the country and reduce confusion about what is recycled resulting in higher recycling rates and related reduction in landfill waste and associated emissions.

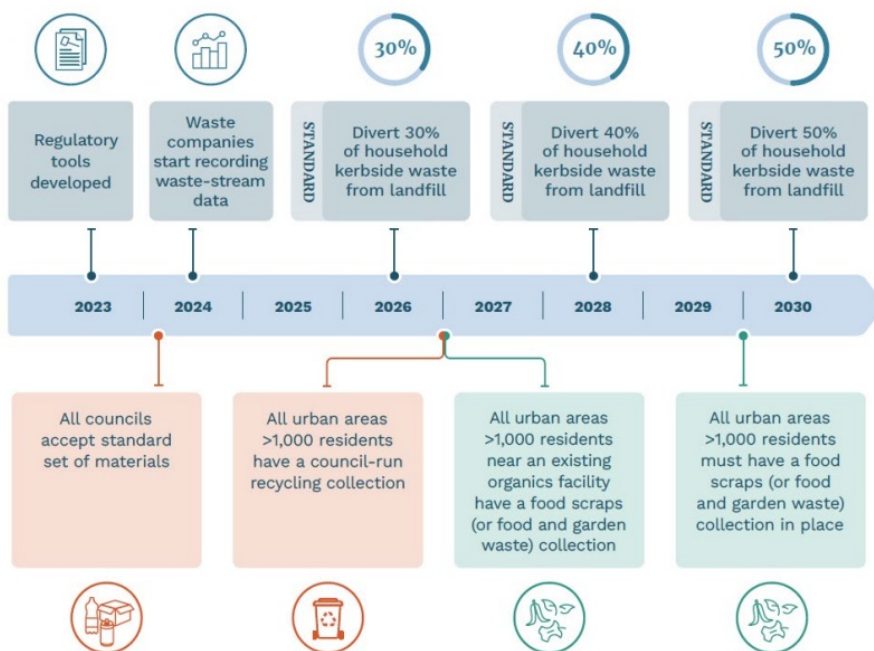


Figure 3 Timeline for implementing changes to recycling and food scraps collections

Prepared by

Graceyn Cotter

REGIONAL WASTE MINIMISATION OFFICER



AGENDA AUTHORISATION

Agenda for the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 25 May 2023.

Confirmed:

Not Cast

A J Matthews
Director - Environment Quality

Approved:



17 May, 2023 2:53:40 PM GMT+12

S J Ruru
Chief Executive