



# **AGENDA**

## **Taranaki Solid Waste**

Thursday 4 September 2025 10.30am

## Taranaki solid Waste Management Committee

04 September 2025 10:30 AM



Agenda Topic	Page
1. <a href="#">Cover</a>	1
2. <a href="#">Karakia</a>	3
3. Apologies	
4. <a href="#">Confirmation of Minutes - 20 March 2025</a>	4
5. <a href="#">Regional Annual Data Report 2024/2025</a>	8
6. <a href="#">Regional Operations Report</a>	17
7. <a href="#">Taranaki Regional Waste Minimisation Officer's Activity Report</a>	24
8. <a href="#">Karakia to close meeting</a>	33
9. <a href="#">Agenda Authorisation</a>	34



**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!



**Date:** 4 September 2025

**Subject:** Confirmation of Minutes – 20 March 2024

**Author:** M Jones, Governance Administrator

**Approved by:** AJ Matthews, Director - Environment Quality

**Document:** TRCID-1492626864-1123

### Recommendations

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- 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 20 March 2024
- b) notes that the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee held at on Thursday 20 March 2024 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.

### Appendices/Attachments

Document TRCID-1492626864-501: [Taranaki Solid Waste Minutes – 20 March 2024](#)



<b>Date:</b>	20 March 2025	
<b>Venue:</b>	Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford	
<b>Document:</b>	TRCID-1492626864-501	
<b>Present:</b>	D McIntyre	Chairperson
	M Chong	New Plymouth District Council (joined meeting at 10.35am)
	M McKay	Stratford District Council
	B Roach	South Taranaki District Council
<b>Attending:</b>	A J Matthews	Director - Environment Quality
	V McKay	Manager - Environmental Assurance
	M Jones	Governance Administrator
	G Cotter	New Plymouth District Council
	J Waterman	New Plymouth District Council
	J O'Connor	New Plymouth District Council
	C Koen	New Plymouth District Council (left meeting at 12.20pm)
	S Wilson	South Taranaki District Council (left meeting at 12.20pm)
	L Jones	Enviroschools
	T Wilson	AgRecovery

**Apologies:** M Chong for lateness.

## 1. Confirmation of Minutes – 14 November 2024

### Recommendations

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) took as read and confirmed the minutes and resolutions of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting held at Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road Stratford on 14 November 2024
- b) noted that the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee held at on Thursday 14 November 2024 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.

McKay/Roach

## **2. AgRecovery Update**

- 2.1 T Wilson gave a PowerPoint presentation to provide an update on AgRecovery initiatives in the Taranaki region and New Zealand.

### **Recommendation**

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) received the agenda memorandum AgRecovery Update and accompanying presentation.

McIntyre/Roach

## **3. Presentation – Taranaki Enviroschools Zero Waste**

- 3.1 L Jones gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Enviroschools zero waste programme.

### **Recommendation**

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) received the agenda memorandum Presentation – Taranaki Enviroschools Zero Waste.

McKay/Chong

## **4. Regional Waste Minimisation Officers Report**

- 4.1 G Cotter provided an update on the activities undertaken by the Regional Waste Minimisation officers in the region.

### **Recommendations**

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- b) received the memorandum Regional Waste Minimisation Officer's Activity Report March 2025  
c) noted the activities of the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer and District Councils.

Roach/McKay

## **5. Regional Annual Data Report 2023/2024**

- 5.1 G Cotter provided an update on the regional waste data for the 2023/2024 financial year.

### **Recommendations**

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) noted that the memorandum Annual Data Report 2023/2024 was received at the previous Taranaki Solid Waste Committee meeting held on Thursday 14 November 2024  
b) received the update on the regional waste data for the 2023/2024 financial year.

Roach/McKay

## **6. Consumer Guarantees (Right to repair) Amendment Bill**

- 6.1 G Cotter gave an overview of the Consumer Guarantees (Right to repair) Amendment Bill that is currently open for consultation and the draft submission seeking feedback from the committee.

### **Recommendations**

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) received this memorandum and the attached Submission for Right to Repair Bill
- b) noted the content of the Submission on the Consumer Guarantees (Right to repair) Amendment Bill and provide any additional commentary for inclusion in the submission.

McIntyre/Roach

There being no further business, Committee Chairperson, D H McIntyre declared the meeting of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee closed at 12.29pm.

**Taranaki Solid Waste**

**Management Chairperson:** \_\_\_\_\_

**D H McIntyre**



**Date:** 4 September 2025

**Subject:** Regional Annual Data Report 2024/2025

**Author:** J O'Connell, Resource Recovery and Sustainability Lead, New Plymouth District Council

**Approved by:** AJ Matthews, Director - Environment Quality

**Document:** TRCID-1492626864-1115

### Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on regional waste data for the 2024/25 financial year.

### Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum Annual Data Report 2024/2025 be received
- b) notes the update on regional waste data for the 2024/2025 financial year.

### Discussion

2. The regional joint services contract for solid waste kerbside collection and transfer station operations requires the contractor to provide monthly data on the volumes of waste, alongside contamination levels at a household-level, received through the Council services provided. Reports required under the resource recovery facility contract provide information on recycling composition and contamination levels received from all incoming recycling for the region.
3. The provision of these data to the Ministry for the Environment is a requirement under Part 3 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

### Appendices/Attachments

TRCID-1492626864-1114: [TSWMC Annual Data Report 2024/2025](#)

## REGIONAL ANNUAL SOLID WASTE DATA REPORT (JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025)

### PURPOSE/ TE WHĀINGA

1. The purpose of this report is to update on the regional waste data for New Plymouth District Council (NPDC), South Taranaki District Council (STDC) and Stratford District Council (SDC) for the 2024/2025 financial year.

### RECOMMENDATION / NGĀ WHAIKUPU

**That, having considered all matters raised in the report, the report be noted.**

### SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT / TOHUTOHU KAI WHAKAHAERE

2. This report is provided for information purposes only, and has been assessed as being of some importance.

### BACKGROUND / WHAKAPAPA

3. The regional joint services contract for solid waste kerbside collection and transfer station operations requires the contractor to provide monthly data on the volumes of waste, alongside contamination levels at a household-level, received through the Council services provided. The reports required under the resource recovery facility contract provide information on recycling composition and contamination levels received from all incoming recycling for the region.
4. The data is required under Part 3 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and is reported to the Ministry for the Environment.
5. This report presents the waste data for the 2024/2025 year and compares it to the previous four years of data.

### DISCUSSION

#### *Total tonnes to landfill*

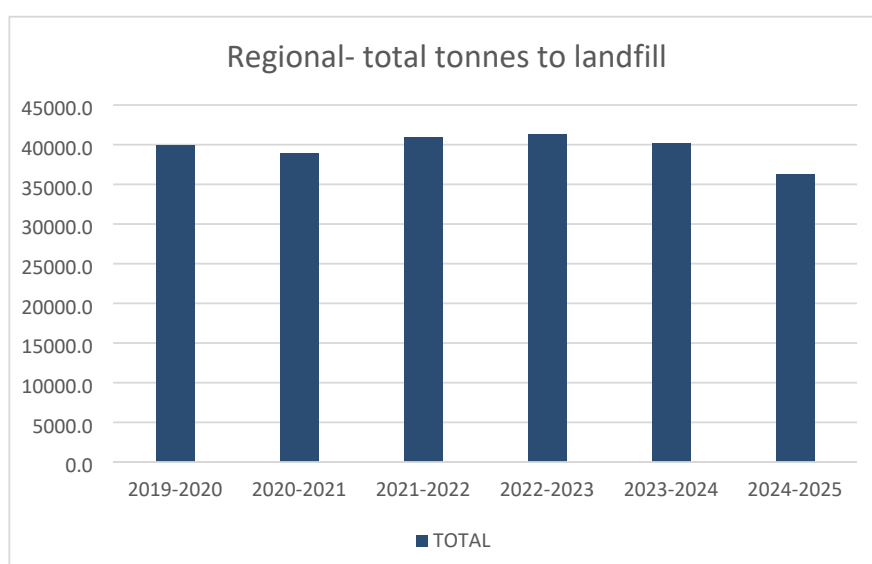
6. [Table 1](#) shows the total tonnes sent to landfill from waste collected from kerbside collection and transfer stations for each council. For NPDC, the waste tonnes from The Sorting Depot, the commercial waste sorting facility that opened 3 July 2023, have been included for the last two financial years.

***Table 1 Total tonnes to landfill from Council waste services for Taranaki region***

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
NPDC	25197.2	25523.0	24900.0	25160.0	22666.1
SDC	1741.3	1730.0	1534.0	1545.7	1589.2

STDC	11979.3	13639.0	14815.0	13501.0	12046.5
TOTAL	38917.8	40892.0	41249.0	40206.7	36301.8
Percentage change per year	-3%	5%	1%	-3%	-10%

7. Both NPDC and STDC have seen decreases in total waste to landfill, with NPDC seeing a 10% reduction and STDC an 11% reduction. SDC saw a 3% increase.
8. [Figure 1](#) shows the change in total tonnes sent to landfill for the region. There was an overall 10% decrease (-3905 tonnes) in total amount of waste sent to landfill despite a 1% increase (+1900) in population for 2024/2025. This reduction is likely related to lower consumption, increased tonnage being diverted through The Sorting Depot in New Plymouth, and changes to kerbside collection in South Taranaki.



**Figure 1 Annual regional total tonnes to landfill**

#### *Total tonnes of recycling*

9. [Table 2](#) shows the total tonnes of recycling collected from kerbside and transfer stations across the region. This includes co-mingled recycling and glass.

**Table 2 Total tonnes of recycling per year**

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
NPDC	5746	5784	6298	6505	5789
SDC	492	469	532	495	256
STDC	2208	1663	1813	1583	1071
TOTAL	8446	7916	8643	8583	7116
Percentage change per year		-7%	8%	-1%	-21%

10. There was a substantial decrease (-1467 tonnes) in total recycling tonnes for the region. A decrease in recycling can be a negative trend if partnered with an increase in landfill waste, meaning the diversion percentage of materials would decline. However, as the total tonnes of landfill waste also decreased, recycling

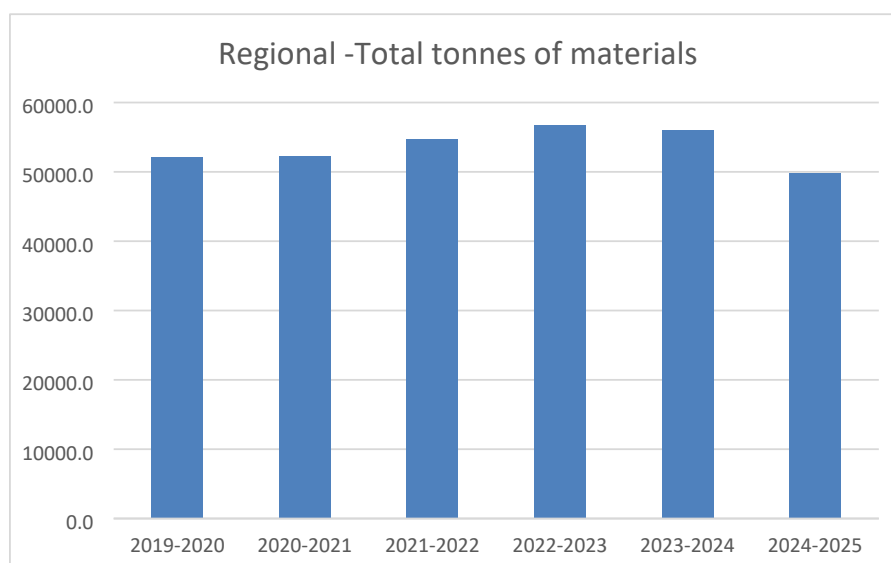
tonnes decreasing shows that overall material generation and disposal has declined.

*Total tonnes of materials*

11. [Figure 2](#) and [Table 3](#) show the total tonnes of waste collected at transfer stations, the Sorting Depot, and kerbside collections from across the region. The waste materials included are landfill waste, recycling and glass, food scraps, green waste, scrap metal, and mixed materials from the Sorting Depot.
12. The total amount of waste collected for 2024/2025 was 49,878 tonnes, which is a reduction of 6,106 tonnes from the previous year.
13. Tonnages across all waste streams except scrap metal reduced and scrap metal increased slightly. Of the total tonnage, 13,575 tonnes (27%) was diverted from landfill.

**Table 3 Total materials entering waste management system**

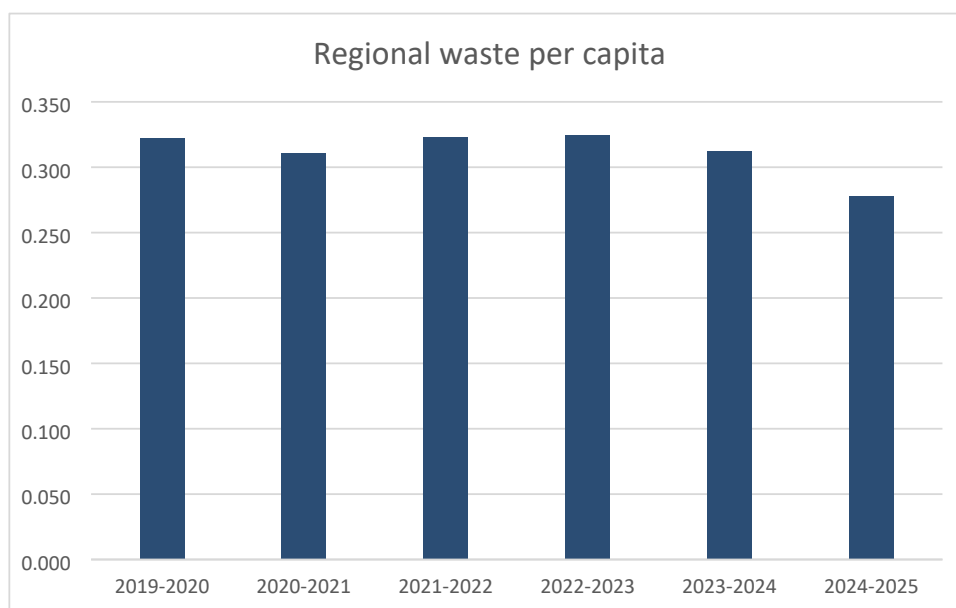
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
<b>Waste</b>	38917.8	40892.0	41249.0	40206.7	36301.8
<b>Recycling</b>	8446.0	7916.0	8643.0	8582.8	7116.2
<b>Food scraps</b>	1654.0	1457.0	1379.0	1434.6	1421.7
<b>Greenwaste</b>	2896.7	3969.9	5003.3	4038.5	3172.4
<b>Scrap metal</b>	432.1	518.5	439.0	399.9	404.0
<b>Sorting Depot diversion</b>				1321.7	1461.6
<b>Combined</b>	52346.6	54753.4	56713.3	55984.2	49877.6
<b>Diverted</b>	<b>13428.8</b>	<b>13861.4</b>	<b>15464.3</b>	<b>15777.5</b>	<b>13575.8</b>
<b>Diversion %</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>27%</b>



**Figure 2 Total tonnes of materials entering the waste management system across the region by financial year**

*Waste per capita*

14. Both NPDC and STDC showed reductions in waste to landfill per capita for 2024/2025 and the region achieved an 11% per capita waste reduction, shown in Figure 3.



**Figure 3 Annual regional waste per capita average**

15. The average waste generated per person has reduced to 278 kg, driven by decreases in both New Plymouth District and South Taranaki District. This could be related to new kerbside offerings and smaller bins in South Taranaki, reduced consumption, or use of private services (which are not captured in this data set.)

**Table 4 Regional Waste to Landfill per capita**

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
NPDC	0.291	0.292	0.284	0.283	0.251
SDC	0.176	0.171	0.155	0.152	0.153
STDC	0.417	0.469	0.504	0.456	0.403
Total	0.311	0.323	0.325	0.312	0.278
Percentage change per year	-4%	4%	0%	-4%	-11%

*Recycling per capita*

16. [Table 5](#) shows a regional 18% decrease in recycling tonnes per capita for 2024/2025. The average amount of recycling generated per capita has reduced to 54 kg. The decrease is highest in Stratford and South Taranaki. This could be due to increased cost of living driving reduced consumption and changes to waste services.

**Table 5 Regional Recycling per capita**

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
NPDC	0.066	0.066	0.072	0.073	0.064
SDC	0.050	0.046	0.054	0.048	0.025
STDC	0.077	0.057	0.062	0.053	0.036
Total	0.067	0.063	0.068	0.067	0.054
Percentage change per year		-7%	9%	-2%	-18%

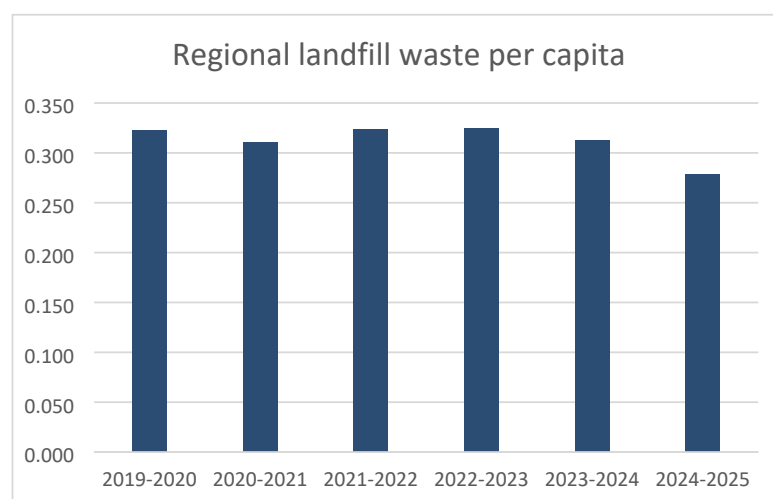
*Waste per household*

17. NPDC and SDC both showed increases in the average amount waste generated per household, which is calculated as total tonnes of waste from kerbside collections divided by the total number of households receiving the collection service.

**Table 6 Waste per household per year (kerbside only)**

	NPDC		SDC		STDC		Regional	
2020/2021	0.241	-6.4%	0.509	-7.5%	0.408	-0.9%	0.293	-5.6%
2021/2022	0.258	7.0%	0.517	1.6%	0.406	-0.6%	0.305	4.3%
2022/2023	0.256	-0.8%	0.475	-8.1%	0.398	-2.0%	0.300	-1.9%
2023/2024	0.263	2.5%	0.484	1.8%	0.390	-1.9%	0.303	1.2%
2024/2025	0.273	3.7%	0.508	4.9%	0.291	-25.5%	0.291	-4.0%

18. NPDC waste per household increased from 263 kg in 2023/2024 to 273 kg in 2024/2025. SDC increased from 484 kg to 508 kg for the same period.
19. However, as total waste tonnes to landfill decreased for the region, the waste per household calculation highlights that a higher proportion of landfill waste came from kerbside than in previous years. This could be due to increasing costs to dispose of waste through transfer stations.

**Figure 4 Annual regional waste per household average**

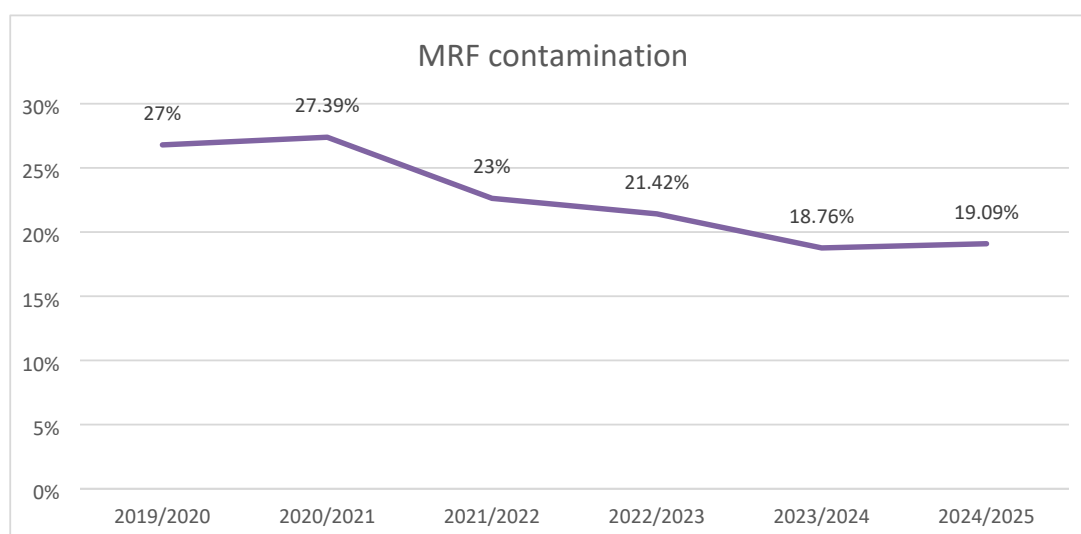
*Contamination of recycling*

20. [Table 7](#) shows the average contamination rate for recycling delivered to the MRF from kerbside and transfer stations per month in 2024/2025.

**Table 7 Average monthly contamination percentage for recycling delivered to the MRF**

2024-2025	
1/07/2024	18.8%
1/08/2024	18.8%
1/09/2024	19.6%
1/10/2024	19.9%
1/11/2024	17.4%
1/12/2024	18.5%
1/01/2025	17.6%
1/02/2025	16.3%
1/03/2025	16.2%
1/04/2025	20.3%
1/05/2025	23.6%
1/06/2025	22.1%
Average	19.1%

21. The average recycling contamination percentage for the region was less than 20% for nine of the 12 months last year and the average for 2023/2024 remained less than 20%, despite an increase in the last quarter.
22. [Figure 5](#) shows the annual average contamination percentage for the past five years which highlights the overall downwards trend.

**Figure 5 Annual regional contamination percentage for recycling delivered to the MRF**

## **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND CONSIDERATIONS / HURINGA ĀHUARANGI**

23. Waste emissions are one of the key emission reduction sources identified nationally. The region's work to reduce waste and focus on circular economy will result in reducing emissions from waste. All Waste Management and Minimisation Plans in the region include emission reduction targets.

## **NEXT STEPS / HĪKOI I MURI MAI**

24. The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan determines all waste minimisation activities from 2023- 2029. All activities are planned with consideration to behaviour change best practice and relevant research about waste minimisation communication and engagement approaches.

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING IMPLICATIONS / NGĀ HĪRAUNGA Ā-PŪTEA, Ā-RAUEMI**

25. There are no financial or resourcing implications arising from this report. All waste minimisation activities are funding through the national waste levy funding or through council long term plan process.

## **IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT / HĪRANGA AROMATAWAI**

26. This report confirms that the matter concerned has no particular implications and has been dealt with in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002. Specifically:
- Council staff have delegated authority for any decisions made;
  - Council staff have identified and assessed all reasonably practicable options for addressing the matter and considered the views and preferences of any interested or affected persons (including Māori), in proportion to the significance of the matter;
  - Council staff have considered how the matter will promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and the future.
  - Unless stated above, any decisions made can be addressed through current funding under the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan;
  - Any decisions made are consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
  - No decisions have been made that would alter significantly the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council, or would transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

---

### **Report Details**

Prepared By: Jenn O'Connell (Resource Recovery and Sustainability Lead)

---

---

Team:	Resource Recovery and Sustainability
Approved By:	Jessica Stokes (Manager Delivery – Infrastructure and Sustainability)
Ward/Community:	Regional
Date:	8 August 2025
File Reference:	ECM9557109

-----*End of Report*-----



**Date:** 4 September 2025

**Subject:** Regional Operations Report

**Author:** J O'Connell, Resource Recovery and Sustainability Lead, New Plymouth District Council

**Approved by:** AJ Matthews, Director - Environment Quality

**Document:** TRCID-1492626864-1116

### Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the regional waste services undertaken by New Plymouth District Council (NPDC), South Taranaki District Council (STDC), and Stratford District Council (SDC) for the period April to September 2025.

### Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum Regional Operations Report
- b) notes the updates on regional waste services.

### Discussion

2. The regional operations report is attached.

### Appendices/Attachments

Document TRCID-1492626864-1113: [TSWMC Regional Operations Report April – September 2025](#)

## **REGIONAL SOLID WASTE OPERATIONS REPORT (MARCH – JULY 2025)**

---

### **PURPOSE/ TE WHĀINGA**

1. The purpose of this report is to update on the regional waste services undertaken by New Plymouth District Council (NPDC), South Taranaki District Council (STDC), and Stratford District Council (SDC).

### **RECOMMENDATION / NGĀ WHAIKUPU**

**That, having considered all matters raised in the report, the report be noted.**

### **SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT / TOHUTOHU KAI WHAKAHAERE**

2. This report is provided for information purposes only, and has been assessed as being of some importance.

### **BACKGROUND / WHAKAPAPA**

3. NPDC, STDC, and SDC have a regional joint services contract for solid waste kerbside collection and transfer station operations. The scope of works includes Landfill, Recycling, Glass and Organics Collections; full management and operation of all Refuse Transfer Stations; provision of bins and bulk haulage from the Refuse Transfer Stations for all waste streams and processing of organics for a temporary period.
4. The current solid waste contract began on 1 October 2024.
5. In addition, local waste services include The Sorting Depot Commercial Materials Processing Facility (NPDC); Colson Rd Landfill Closure (NPDC); The Junction (NPDC); and Rural Transfer Stations.

### **DISCUSSION/ KŌRERORERO**

#### *Regional Solid Waste Services*

6. From 1 October 2024, Waste Management (WM) NZ have been the contractor for Taranaki's solid waste services, including kerbside collections and transfer station operations.
7. The change came with brand new onboard technology and collection vehicles, including two fully electric trucks, which have improved the efficiency and sustainability of this service. The change has also been reflected in an increase of compliments and reduction in complaints regarding the kerbside collection service.

### Over-filled Bins

8. However, with the new contractor, there has also been a more stringent approach to the acceptance of overfilled bins, driven by concerns around health and safety, and escape of litter. This change has led to an increase in service requests. In response, the contractor and council have collaborated to establish criteria and communication strategies to address the issue.
9. Councils have communicated with communities directly, through service requests, and through local advertising (STDC, [Figure 1](#))



Figure 1 Local advertising for STDC Close the Lid campaign

### NPDC Kerbside Opt-in for Small Businesses

10. Small businesses in New Plymouth District were given the opportunity to opt-in to the kerbside waste collection in November 2024. Since then, fifty-five customers have taken up service and applications increase steadily. The lower cost when compared to private collection, and the opportunity to recycle, have been the two main benefits cited by the customers.

### Battery Disposal

11. The threat of battery related fires in collection trucks and at waste handling facilities is an ongoing threat to our contractors and infrastructure. NPDC officers are working to improve and implement a new process for handling and disposing of damaged lithium and other dangerous batteries. Once the new process is in place, we can inform residents of the disposal options, and the dangers of disposing to the kerbside collection.

### Material Recycling Facility (MRF) Contamination data

12. [Table 1](#) shows the tonnage of incoming recycling received at the MRF from kerbside and transfer stations between January and June 2025 and the contamination rates of that recycling.
13. Contamination of recycling rates at the MRF have increased this quarter, which could be connected with stricter enforcement on overfilled bins.

Table 1 Contamination of recycling at the MRF

MRF Overall Contamination %	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
Total incoming recyclables (tonnes)	509.88	417.35	453.09	421.92	416.65	377.51
Contamination - tonnes to landfill	89.58	68.15	73.24	85.76	98.15	83.43
Contamination Percentage	17.57%	16.33%	16.16%	20.33%	23.56%	22.10%

### The Sorting Depot commercial waste processing facility

14. The Sorting Depot is open to commercial account customers and accepts skip bins of commercial and demolition waste for sorting.
15. Figure 2 shows the data breakdown of diversion and tonnes to landfill from July 2023 – June 2025.

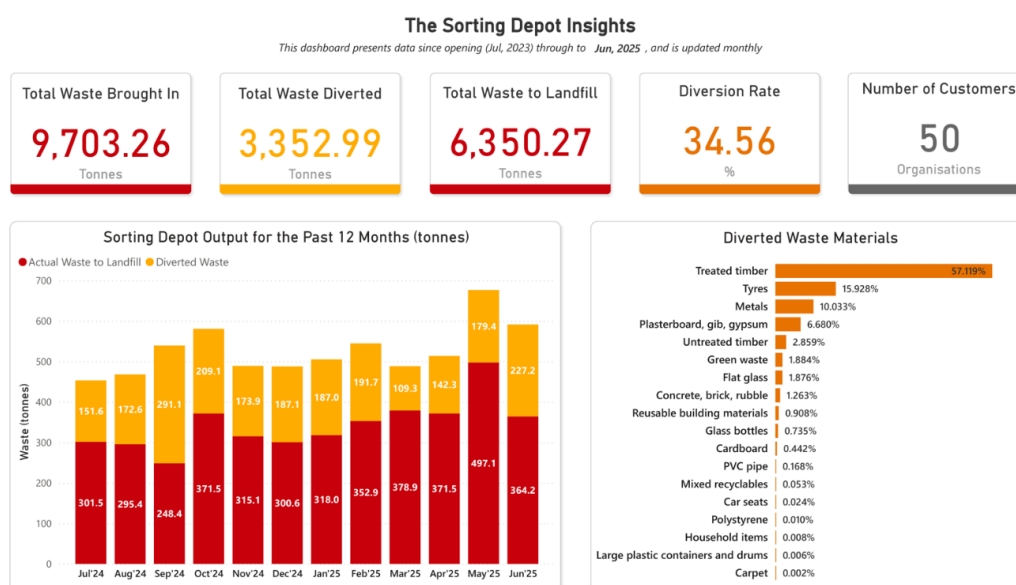


Figure 2 The Sorting Depot waste data insights

16. The total tonnage entering the Sorting Depot has continued to increase and the facility is averaging a 34.6% diversion rate. At end of June 2025, there were 50 registered customers, an increase of 14 customers since last reported in September 2024.

### The Junction

17. In the year July 2024 – June 2025, The Junction has diverted 276.9 tonnes of materials. This is a 35% increase from the previous year, in which 205.1 tonnes of materials were diverted.

18. Construction of the new permanent building for The Junction is well underway. The shop is expected to open in the new location in November 2025.

#### *STDC Food Scrap Collection*

19. Since the introduction of the food scraps collection service in October 2024, the South Taranaki District has diverted approximately 270 tonnes of food waste from landfill, a significant step towards South Taranaki District Council achieving the goals outlined in the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.
20. However, with an average presentation rate across the district of 17%, there is opportunity for improvement. To support improving this outcome, the Council will implement a public engagement campaign, aimed at encouraging greater uptake of the service.

#### *Hāwera Transfer Station Infrastructure Improvements*

21. Significant improvements have been made to the Hāwera Transfer Station to enhance the site's functionality and long-term sustainability. The roadway has been upgraded with improved heavy-duty concrete surfacing to better sustain the usage under pressure by the heavy-weight vehicles making use of this road.



*Figure 3 Birds eye view of the Hāwera Transfer Station showing areas of improvement*



*Figure 4 and Figure 5 Driveway and curb and channel improvements at the Hāwera Transfer Station*

### **NEXT STEPS / HĪKOI I MURI MAI**

22. The Solid Waste Services contract is a ten-year contract between Waste Management NZ and the Taranaki district councils. Contractor KPI's will continue to be monitored and reported to the committee.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND CONSIDERATIONS / HURINGA ĀHUARANGI**

23. Waste emissions are one of the key emission reduction sources identified nationally. The region's work to reduce waste to landfill and recover organic materials will result in reducing emissions from waste.

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING IMPLICATIONS / NGĀ HĪRAUNGA Ā-PŪTEA, Ā-RAUEMI**

24. There are no financial or resourcing implications arising from this report.

### **IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT / HĪRANGA AROMATAWAI**

25. This report confirms that the matter concerned has no particular implications and has been dealt with in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002. Specifically:
- Council staff have delegated authority for any decisions made;
  - Council staff have identified and assessed all reasonably practicable options for addressing the matter and considered the views and preferences of any interested or affected persons (including Māori), in proportion to the significance of the matter;
  - Council staff have considered how the matter will promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and the future.

- 
- Unless stated above, any decisions made can be addressed through current funding under the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan;
  - Any decisions made are consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
  - No decisions have been made that would alter significantly the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council, or would transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.
- 

**Report Details**

Prepared By:	Jenn O'Connell (Resource Recovery and Sustainability Lead)
Team:	Resource Recovery and Sustainability
Approved By:	Jessica Stokes (Manager Delivery – Infrastructure and Sustainability)
Ward/Community:	Regional
Date:	8 August 2025
File Reference:	ECM9556994

-----*End of Report*-----



**Date:** 4 September 2025

**Subject:** Regional Waste Minimisation Activity Report

**Author:** J O'Connell, Resource Recovery and Sustainability Lead, New Plymouth District Council

**Approved by:** AJ Matthews, Director - Environment Quality

**Document:** TRCID-1492626864-1111

### 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 council officers of New Plymouth District Council, South Taranaki District Council and Stratford District Council.

### Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum Regional Waste Minimisation Activity Report
- b) notes the activities of the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer and district councils.

### Discussion

2. Attached is the Regional Waste Minimisation Officers activity report for September 2025.

### Appendices/Attachments

TRCID-1492626864-1112: [TSWMC Regional Activity Report April-September 2025](#)

---

## **REGIONAL WASTE MINIMISATION ACTIVITY REPORT (APRIL – SEPTEMBER 2025)**

---

### **PURPOSE/ TE WHĀINGA**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on waste minimisation activities undertaken by the Council officers of New Plymouth District Council (NPDC), South Taranaki District Council (STDC) and Stratford District Council (SDC).

### **RECOMMENDATION / NGĀ WHAIKUPU**

**That, having considered all matters raised in the report, the report be noted.**

### **SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT / TOHUTOHU KAI WHAKAHAERE**

2. This report is provided for information purposes only, and has been assessed as being of some importance.

### **BACKGROUND / WHAKAPAPA**

3. Waste Management and Minimisation Plans (WMMP) are the guiding document for directing waste management and minimisation actions across territorial authorities and are required to be reviewed every six years. WMMPs include action plans for delivering on the outcomes of the Plan. The WMMP for each Taranaki territorial authority was adopted on:

NPDC	31 October 2023
SDC	14 November 2023
STDC	17 November 2023

4. An activity report is a standard item presented to the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee (referred to as the Committee) and provides information of recent and upcoming activities, which helps inform the Committee on how the Taranaki Territorial Authorities are tracking on the delivery on of the WMMPs outcomes.

### **DISCUSSION/ KŌRERORERO**

5. Activities that have been delivered or are planned, that contribute towards the WMMP between April and September 2025 are summarised for the Committee's information:

### *Taranaki Milk Tops Challenge*

6. Term Two (April to June 2025) saw tamariki from 25 schools across the region participating in the Taranaki Milk Tops Challenge – Te Taki Taupoki Miraka o Taranaki. Students collected an incredible 199,579 plastic milk bottle tops during the term.
7. The campaign invited schools to compete in collecting milk bottle tops—small but significant plastic items that often contaminate kerbside recycling.
8. The initiative diverted 360 kilograms of plastic from landfill while also educating our students that even the smallest items can have a big impact when it comes to waste. The collected tops will be processed by Egmont Refuse and Recycling.
9. To celebrate the collective effort, each district honoured its top-performing schools. Huiakama School in Stratford took out the overall win, collecting an impressive 412 tops per student.
  - a. New Plymouth District
    - i. Waitara Central School – 96 tops per student
    - ii. Waitara East School – 80 tops per student
    - iii. St Joseph’s School Waitara – 72 tops per student
  - b. South Taranaki District
    - i. Manaia School – 140 tops per student
    - ii. Normanby Primary School – 71 tops per student
    - iii. St Joseph’s Hawera – 65 tops per student
  - c. Stratford District
    - i. Huiakama School – 412 tops per student
    - ii. Stratford Community Childcare Centre – 45 tops per student
    - iii. Avon Kindergarten – 44 tops per student
10. This regional campaign was a follow-up to a successful campaign in Stratford in 2024. The Stratford campaign was awarded a Highly Commended award at the WasteMINZ conference in June 2025.



*Figure 1 Certificate and trophy for the regional winners of the Taranaki Milk Tops Challenge, Huiakama School*

### *NPDC Repair Café*

11. On 29 June 2025, community groups and NPDC officers, supported by Repair Network Aotearoa, came together at the Ferndale Hall for New Plymouth's first Repair Café.
12. A steady stream of people visited the café and 39 items were assessed and repaired by dedicated and skilled volunteers. Items included clothing, bicycles, appliances, toys and more. Where items couldn't be repaired at the event, volunteers gave advice and tips or referred people to local repair businesses.
13. Feedback from attendees and repairers was great, with lots of ideas shared as to how we can continue to grow repair culture in our community and reduce waste by saving repairable items from going to landfill.



*Figure 2 Repairers at New Plymouth District Council's Repair Cafe, June 2025*

### *NPDC Zero Waste Fund – September 2025*

14. The next round of New Plymouth District Council's Zero Waste Fund will be open for applications from 1 – 30 September 2025. The fund will be promoted alongside the Community Climate Action Fund and Planting Our Place / Te Korowai o Tāne as NPDC Community Environmental Funds / Te Ringa Mohimohi Taiao.
15. The fund will be targeted to the upper levels of the waste hierarchy, funding projects that reduce the resources being used, redesign products and processes to avoid waste, or keep things in use for as long as possible without significant reprocessing.

### *NPDC Puke Ariki Waste Audit*

16. NPDC officers completed a waste audit of three days' worth of landfill, organics/compostable and recycling at Puke Ariki Library and Museum. [Table 1](#) shows calculated annual totals based on the results of this audit.
17. Results indicate that new hand dryers planned for the site should reduce the number of paper towels going to landfill (44%) and increasing signage will help ensure any remaining paper towels go to the compostable bin.
18. From the audit results, officers calculated that Puke Ariki is diverting 75% of their material and could divert up to 23% more. The high diversion rate is attributed to efforts from sustainability champions at the site, well thought out recycling and compost bin systems, and adding recycling of TetraPaks and

other small items taken to The Junction. The site has also signed up to The Sorting Depot to divert any building materials from exhibitions.

*Table 1 Calculated data from Puke Ariki Waste Audit*

Waste to Landfill per annum	1740 kg	24%
Recycling per annum	3697 kg	52%
Composting per annum	1741 kg	24%
Total waste per annum	7178 kg	
Total waste diverted per annum / Total diversion rate %	5438 kg	76%
If bins used correctly AND soft plastics collection was introduced, the site could divert an additional:	1665 kg	23%



*Figure 3 Waste Audit at Puke Ariki*

#### *NPDC Tour of Resource Recovery Facilities for WITT Building Students*

19. In May an NPDC officer presented to WITT building students on minimisation and management of Construction and Demolition waste. This presentation was followed up with a tour of the MRF, The Junction and The Sorting Depot, including observing the construction of The Junction new build ([Figure 4](#)). The students learned about Council infrastructure and services, how to minimise waste at home and on building sites, and how to prioritise reuse and to reduce contamination in recycling.
20. This is the second year of working with WITT building students on construction waste education and was an opportunity to introduce the NPDC Construction Waste Plan process. As a result, students are planning to set up bins to sort on site during their build.



Figure 4 Students observing the construction of The Junction new permanent building

### NPDC Zero Waste Events

21. Under the NPDC Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2019, a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan is required for any event that receives Council funding or support and/or is held on Council land. Through this bylaw, Council officers have supported event organisers by assisting with their waste plans, providing volunteer support for managing waste and subsidising bin costs if the event reaches a 50 per cent diversion from landfill rate.
22. Below is a summary of the waste data for events that took place between February and July 2025.

#### NPDC Events

Number of Events	Total Waste Diverted	Average Diversion Rate
18	2382.2kg	72%

#### Community Events on Council land

Number of Events	Total Waste Diverted	Average Diversion Rate
9*	356.75kg	66%

\*number of events that have applied through online portal

#### Seaside Market

Number of Events	Total Waste Diverted	Average Diversion Rate
8	252.2 kg*	61%

\*diversion does not include waste avoided through encouraging use of reusable cups, plates, and cutlery with the market's dishwashing trailer

### SDC Waste Levy Contestable Fund

23. In May 2025, Stratford District Council officers delivered the third Waste Levy Contestable Fund. The fund received eight high quality applications, requesting a total of over \$50,000 from the funding pool of \$25,000.

24. Successful applications included:

- a. 'On the House', a perishable food rescue organisation currently operating in New Plymouth, seeking funding to support a move to Stratford
- b. educational programs through Huiakama School and Enviroschools
- c. assets to support rural residents divert waste from landfill and reduce their use of the burn and bury methodology to eliminate waste.

*SDC Campaigns*

25. Stratford District Council officers are currently planning for two new campaigns in August and September. The first is the "Got a Green Sticker" campaign, which will see residents win reusable cups and drink bottles as a reward for good recycling habits.
26. The second is the "What's In Ya Bin" campaign, which will promote greater volumes of recycling being taken out of the landfill bin and either composted, re-used or recycled correctly.

*STDC Quarterly Public Reporting*

27. Following feedback at a previous Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting, the South Taranaki District Council is publishing quarterly reports on waste diversion scores across the community. The first infographic ([Figure 5](#)) was released in June, with the next to follow in September.



Figure 5 South Taranaki Recycling Review, released publicly June 2025

---

*STDC Enviro Schools Action Day, 19 June 2025*

28. As part of a sustainability-focused learning day at Turuturu School, South Taranaki District Council's Waste Minimisation Officer delivered and facilitated an interactive educational activity known as the "Landfill Timeline." The game was designed to engage students in hands-on learning about the longevity of waste materials in landfills. A total of 50 students participated in the activity throughout the day, enthusiastically working together to match various common household items—such as plastic bottles, aluminium cans, nappies and glass jars—with their estimated decomposition timelines.
29. This activity was part of a wider day of environmental education coordinated by EnviroSchools, bringing together a series of engaging and meaningful workshops to inspire students and foster environmental stewardship.



*Figure 6 Students at the Enviro Schools Action Day, June 2025*

## **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT AND CONSIDERATIONS / HURINGA ĀHUARANGI**

30. Emissions generated from waste are one of the key emission reduction sources identified nationally. The region's work to reduce waste and focus on circular economy will result in reducing emissions from waste. All Waste Management and Minimisation Plans in the region include emission reduction targets.

## **NEXT STEPS / HĪKOI I MURI MAI**

31. The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan determines all waste minimisation activities from 2023- 2029. The report will continue to provide updates to the committee on progress towards the actions in the plan.

## **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING IMPLICATIONS / NGĀ HĪRAUNGA Ā-PŪTEA, Ā-RAUEMI**

32. There are no financial or resourcing implications arising from this report. All waste minimisation activities are funded through the national waste levy funding or through council long term plan process.

## **IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT / HĪRANGA AROMATAWAI**

33. This report confirms that the matter concerned has no particular implications and has been dealt with in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002. Specifically:
- Council staff have delegated authority for any decisions made;
  - Council staff have identified and assessed all reasonably practicable options for addressing the matter and considered the views and preferences of any interested or affected persons (including Māori), in proportion to the significance of the matter;
  - Council staff have considered how the matter will promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and the future.
  - Unless stated above, any decisions made can be addressed through current funding under the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan;
  - Any decisions made are consistent with the Council's plans and policies; and
  - No decisions have been made that would alter significantly the intended level of service provision for any significant activity undertaken by or on behalf of the Council, or would transfer the ownership or control of a strategic asset to or from the Council.

---

### **Report Details**

Prepared By:	Jenn O'Connell (Resource Recovery and Sustainability Lead)
Team:	Resource Recovery and Sustainability
Approved By:	Jessica Stokes (Manager Delivery – Infrastructure and Sustainability)
Ward/Community:	Regional
Date:	8 August 2025
File Reference:	ECM9556984

-----End of Report -----



**Kia uruuru mai**

***Karakia to close meetings***

Kia uruuru mai  
Ā hauora  
Ā haukaha  
Ā haumaia  
Ki runga, Ki raro  
Ki roto, Ki waho  
Rire rire hau  
Paimārie

Fill me with  
Vitality  
Strength  
Bravery  
Above, below  
Within, outwards  
Let the wind blow and bind  
Peace upon you

**Nau mai e ngā hua**

***Karakia for kai***

Nau mai e ngā hua  
o te wao  
o te ngakina  
o te wai tai  
o te wai Māori  
Nā Tāne  
Nā Rongo  
Nā Tangaroa  
Nā Maru  
Ko Ranginui e tū iho nei  
Ko Papatūānuku e takoto ake nei  
Tūturu o whiti whakamaua kia  
tina  
Tina! Hui e! Taiki e!

Welcome the gifts of food  
from the sacred forests  
from the cultivated gardens  
from the sea  
from the fresh waters  
The food of Tāne  
of Rongo  
of Tangaroa  
of Maru  
I acknowledge Ranginui above and Papatūānuku  
below  
Let there be certainty  
Secure it!  
Draw together! Affirm!

## AGENDA AUTHORISATION

Agenda for the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 4 September 2025.

Confirmed:



25 Aug, 2025 10:50:53 AM GMT+12

A J Matthews

**Director - Environment Quality**

Approved:

Not Submitted

M J Nield

**Director – Corporate Services**