

Waste Minimisation

Purpose

We deliver refuse collection and disposal service that meets our statutory obligations and community needs. We ensure that this service is affordable, hygienic and environmentally sustainable, contributing to our wellbeing, and protecting and enhancing our natural assets and open spaces.

Legislation associated with this service

- Local Government Act 2002
- Waste Minimisation Act 2008
- Resource Management Act 1991
- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996
- Litter Act 1979
- Health Act 1956
- Climate Change Response Act 2002.

Risks and Issues

Operational Solid Waste Facilities

- Environmental contamination occurs through events beyond the control of Council
- Operator fails to meet contractual obligations.
- Central government legislation drives up disposal costs - this relates to Waste Minimisation levy's
- Illegal Dumping of Rubbish – due to decrease in service level (e.g. missed collections, costs of disposal, distance to travel)
- Public and Contractor Health – Contractors and members of the public are not exposed to Health risks
- Public and Contractor Safety - accidents causing injury and damage to Kaipara Residents, visitors or property

Closed Landfills

- Illegal substances deposited without Council knowledge
- Leachate contamination from groundwater
- Adjacent landowner issues
- Not meeting Resource consents conditions
- Unknown historic illegal landfills on council land
- Impact of Climate Change – Unknown cost to protect Closed landfills in coastal areas

Other Business Risks

- KDC may have to implement central government initiatives that are currently being investigated. Central government proposed future changes are expected over the next 1 – 3 years, it is not known how these will affect our current levels of service, budgets and already planned projects These include but are not limited to:
 - Increasing the disposal levy
 - Standardising kerbside refuse and recycling (both how we collect and what we collect)
 - introduction of Container Deposit Schemes and
 - Compulsory Product Stewardship of some products.
- Environmental contamination occurs through events beyond the control of Council
- Inadequate condition/performance assessments – lack of reliable data for renewals/replacements and valuations
- General Maintenance, Operation and Collection Contract Management – unsatisfactory resulting in unnecessary or excessive costs and/or insufficient output or quality. Poor Contractor performance

- Loss of information, caused by staff turnover or illness

How we fund this Group

- General rates;
- Fees and charges;
- Financial contributions;
- Borrowing;
- Asset sales; and
- Lump sum contributions.
- Waste Minimisation Grant

Refuse and Recycling

What we do

The decisions we make on managing solid waste directly affect our communities and our environment. We focus on delivering a seamless, affordable and hygienic rubbish collection service balanced against environmental goals of waste minimisation and reducing waste to landfill as described in our Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2017.

We provide two transfer stations for general waste and recycling disposal; weekly kerbside recycling in key urban areas from Mangawhai to Dargaville; transfer stations at Hakaru and Dargaville; recycling drop-offs at our two transfer stations and litterbins in key areas throughout the Kaipara district.

We manage leachate pollution from historic landfills to protect environmental quality; and closed landfill activities comply with the legislation. We also clear illegally dumped rubbish and remove abandoned vehicles.

Contribution to Community Outcomes

- Climate smart: Provide recycling and plan waste minimisation options when future planning
- Vibrant communities: Promote a clean environment across the District
- Healthy environment: Recycling is encouraged

What we will deliver

Description	When
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the Council Solid Waste Team to enable more focus on waste minimisation and improvements to the activity • Assets registered in Assetfinder, includes closed landfills and litterbins and locations • Installation of compaction solar powered bins in various locations, coastal and some urban • Provision of waste minimisation, sustainable and circular economy education to communities and business, through Council website/publicity and external groups funded by Council • Installation of weigh bridge at Dargaville Transfer Station 	2021/2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed Landfill Assessments for Climate Change Readiness (only closed landfills in coastal areas) • Implement changes set by Central Government, these could include container deposit schemes, kerbside collection standardisation of refuse and recycling, both products collected and how we collect them. • Obtain consents, purchase land, commission design for new resort centre, tender contract. • Investigate and install sound proofing options at Dargaville and Hakaru Transfer Stations 	2022/2023

Description	When
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement composting facility 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin work on closed landfill remediation as identified in assessments. Build new resort/processing plant with incinerator 	2023/2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential reutilisation of some key closed landfill sites i.e. develop a dog park at the Kaiwaka site in partnership with Parks Team Negotiation for potential buy back or Hakaru Landfill or site upgrade Continue closed landfill remediation works 	2024/2031

Performance Measures

	LTP Year 1 Target 2021/2022	LTP Year 2 Target 2022/2023	LTP Year 3 Target 2023/2024	LTP Years 4-10 Target 2024/2031
Percentage of residents who are very satisfied or satisfied with waste management.	70%	70%	75%	75%
Average amount of general refuse collected and disposed of per property within the Kaipara District	Set benchmark	Less than previous	Less than previous	Less than previous
Average amount of recycling collected and deposited per property within the Kaipara District	Set benchmark	Greater than previous	Greater than previous	Greater than previous
Closed landfill activities meet legislative compliance. No resource consent abatement notices, infringement notices, enforcement orders or convictions.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

Changes in Levels of Service

To increase the levels of recycling, it is proposed (subject to Consultation) to introduce recycling bins which will be funded through a targeted rate.

A composting facility will be provided to reduce volumes of land fill.

It is noted that central government is looking at initiatives that may be added throughout the period of this LTP to increase to levels of service especially with regards to recycling.

Significant Negative Effects

Activity	Effect	Mitigation
Solid Waste Activity	Kerbside Collections: Loose kerbside recycling materials and broken solid waste bags may become windblown litter and odorous if not collected promptly.	This is managed through contract specification with regards to kerbside collection and bylaws around when refuse and recycling should be placed out for collection.
	Transfer Station and Recyclable Facilities: Excessive recyclable and	This is managed through contract specification and regular inspections

Activity	Effect	Mitigation
	general refuse materials may become windblown litter.	by Council staff to ensure sites are tidy. Additional storage and fencing will be considered if this becomes an issue.
	Closed Landfills: Closed landfills can be targets for illegal dumping (fly tipping) which can become odorous and untidy. Also, potential for odour issues arising from landfill gases escaping into the atmosphere.	Closed landfills are inspected quarterly for fly tipping and gas odours.
	Public Litterbins: Capacity problems can cause bins to become over full (in holiday seasons) and overflowing litter is blown around the area	Council regularly reviews bin capacity and suitability with contractors – this is largely managed by contractors; additional collections are completed over the seasonal periods where required.
Discharges of pollutants to water and land. (Environmental effects)	Transfer Stations: There is a possibility of stormwater contamination on site if materials are not managed well.	This is managed via separation of leachate and stormwater management systems and regular inspections of the separate systems.
	Closed Landfills: If closed landfills are not capped off and vegetated correctly, they may release additional solid waste or leachate to the environment.	Closed landfills are Consented under the Northland Regional Council there are strict monitoring conditions on leachate discharge.
Discharge or migration of landfill gas (environmental and economic effects)	Closed Landfills: Potentially explosive/flammable landfill gases may have a noxious odour and could damage soil health and vegetation, there is also concerns around the emissions of greenhouse gases.	Council monitors closed landfills as per resource consent conditions which includes monitoring for evidence of landfill gas, Northland Regional Council also monitor.
Disruption of service (social and economic effects)	Kerbside and Litterbin Collections: Disruption to kerbside solid waste services can cause a public health effect if wastes are not collected in a timely manner.	This is managed by the contractor – Council can utilise a sub-contractor if refuse contractor does not meet contract conditions.
	Transfer Stations: Failure to open these sites can prevent businesses operating and create public health risks with the storage of waste on properties.	Waste can be stored at residences or business for short periods of time. In the event of a long-term closure waste, both kerbside and general waste can be transported directly to Puwera Landfill south of Whangarei.
Unaffordable or uneconomic cost of services (social and economic effects)	Recycling: The loss of viable markets for recovered materials can have a negative effect on the economic viability of recycling	This is managed by Council contractors. Council provides drop off locations for recycling through the two Transfer Stations and a recycling

Activity	Effect	Mitigation
		kerbside collection in the main urban areas, the contractor is responsible for all marketing. This is a user pays service with no rate payer funding.
	Self-Haul Waste: Disposal costs are governed by conditions outside of council control. Gate and other disposal charges are influenced by these.	All refuse disposal is user pays and managed by the refuse contractors, any rise in costs by contractor has to be justified and approved by Council.
	Kerbside Collection: This is also influenced by conditions outside of Council control.	As for above disposal is user pays and managed by refuse contractors.
	Transfer Stations: Gate charges are directly influenced by the cost of disposal at landfill.	Transfer station disposal costs are user pays, and any increases in gate charges need to be approved by Council. Transfer Station disposal activities are user pay basis, Council provides a small budget for property and asset maintenance.
	Public Litter bin Collections: Issues caused by illegal dumping of household rubbish and capacity issues over seasonal periods	This is managed by Council contractors and a free service to the public. Capacity is increase over seasonal periods and bins monitored.
	Closed Landfills: Central government legislation governs how we manage closed landfills; any changes could result in additional cost.	This is beyond Council control and any changes need to be managed and prioritised. Regular inspections are completed to ensure closed landfills are up to the current standards.
Illegal dumping: (environmental, economic and social effects)	Any reports of dumping are dealt with promptly and if offenders identified they are prosecuted.	When dumping is reported Council manages the clean up as soon as practicably possible, offenders are prosecuted where evidence is found.

How are we considering Climate change?

Climate Smart Community Outcome helps guide Council's waste minimisation activities. We are still in the process of understanding the kinds of risks climate change poses to Council's waste minimisation services. Over the next three years we will identify climate-related risks to our closed landfills and aim to identify these closed landfills' contributions to GHG emissions. We aim to reduce the District's overall emissions by reducing the amount of solid waste that goes to landfill. We are developing an improved system to treat and discharge leachate. We will also support groups and businesses towards waste reduction and circular economy practices, including facilitation of increased composting opportunities.