

Questions and Answers

Waste Free, Together – For people, environment, and economy

The eight councils of the Wellington region have developed a new draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. The plan is founded on an overall vision of working together as a region to become waste-free. The key focus within the plan is to reduce the total quantity of waste sent to Class 1 landfills by a third by 2026. Some questions about the new draft plan are answered below:

What's the purpose of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP)?

The draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan sets out how councils intend to effectively and efficiently manage waste. A waste management and minimisation plan must include objectives, policies and methods of achieving effective and efficient waste management. These methods include: collection; recovery; recycling; treatment, and disposal services for each district; any waste management and minimisation facilities; and any waste management and minimisation activities provided for by the council. A plan can also set targets for waste management and minimisation.

What's a Class 1 Landfill?

The Technical Guidelines for Disposal to Land (2016) prepared by the Waste Management Institute of New Zealand, define a Class 1 landfill as a site that accepts a city's solid waste. Class 1 landfills also generally accept construction and demolition waste, some industrial waste and contaminated soils. Class 1 landfills require rigorous assessment, must be engineered to meet strict environmental protection controls, and address landfill gas management. Class 2 and 3 landfills accept different and less hazardous types of waste, and therefore do not need to be designed to the same environmental standard.

Do we actually need a WMMP?

Yes. Under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 it's a legal requirement for local councils to provide effective and efficient forms of waste management and minimisation. Local councils are legally required to develop a WMMP for their city or district, and to review this plan at least every 6 years.

Currently we have a Wellington Region WMMP in place, and in accordance with legislation, this plan has recently been reviewed. Following this review, the councils of the Wellington region have developed a new draft WMMP.

The Wellington Region Waste Assessment is an outcome of the review process. A copy of the Wellington Region Waste Assessment is available at wgtregionwasteplan.govt.nz. Alternatively, you can contact your local council for a copy of the waste assessment.

How will the new WMMP work?

The draft WMMP includes a regional action plan, which is supported by eight local council action plans. Each local council action plan will be unique and will respond to the particular needs of that community.

Subject to further analysis and feasibility investigations, some of the potential regional actions include:

- development and implementation of a new regional waste bylaw template
- optimisation of kerbside collection systems
- shared governance and service delivery
- collaboration and lobbying on waste management and minimisation issues.

A copy of your local council action plan can be found in Part B of the draft WMMP. A copy of the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan will be available at wgtregionwasteplan.govt.nz from 22 March 2017.

When will the WMMP be implemented?

The WMMP includes a range of actions for each council. These will mainly happen over the 6-year life of the plan, but some may take longer than that to complete. In some cases, the proposed actions involve the continuation of educational and community support programmes already under way. In others, scoping and investigation of potential projects will be required to determine the best local way forward. If a council then decides to consider a significant change in waste or recycling services, further public consultation and the consideration of costs would be required. Similarly, if a council proposes a new waste bylaw for example, that bylaw would need to be publicly consulted on.

When can I make my submission?

You can make a submission to your council during the following times:

Territorial authority	Consultation dates 2017
Carterton District Council	24 March – 24 April
Hutt City Council	28 March – 28 April
Kāpiti Coast District Council	3 – 28 April
Masterton District Council	7 April – 8 May
Porirua City Council	3 April – 1 May
South Wairarapa District Council	7 April – 12 May
Upper Hutt City Council	22 March – 28 April
Wellington City Council	18 April – 19 May

A copy of the draft WMMP, the Waste Assessment and the electronic submission forms for each local authority are available through the regional website wgtregionwasteplan.govt.nz

A hard copy of each of these documents is also available from your local council, or from your local council library (please see below for postal and contact details).

- Carterton District Council Administration Building, Holloway Street, PO Box 9, Carterton 5743, Phone 06 379 4030
- Hutt City Council Administration Building, 30 Laings Road, Private Bag 31912, Lower Hutt 5040, Phone 04 570 6666
- Kāpiti Coast District Council, 175 Rimu Road, Private Bag 60601, Paraparaumu 5254, Phone 04 296 4700
- Masterton District Council, 161 Queen Street, PO Box 444, Masterton 5840, Phone 06 370 6300
- Porirua City Council Administration Building, 16 Cobham Court, PO Box 50218, Porirua 5240, Phone 04 237 5089
- Upper Hutt City Council Civic Administration Building, 838-842 Fergusson Drive, Private Bag 907, Upper Hutt, Phone 04 527 2169
- Wellington City Council Service Centre, Ground Floor, 101 Wakefield Street (Civic Square), PO Box 2199, Wellington 6140, Phone 04 499 4444
- South Wairarapa District Council, 19 Kitchener Street, PO Box 6 Martinborough 5741, Phone 06 306 9611