

# Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

A collection of various plastic waste items, including bottles, containers, and packaging, illustrating the problem of plastic pollution. The items are scattered on a white background, showing a mix of colors and shapes, from a large white jug to small caps and a syringe.



# Contents

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4	Executive Summary
6	1. Introduction
	1.1 Why do we need a waste plan?
	1.2 What types of waste does our Plan cover?
	1.3 What informs the Waste Plan?
9	2. The problem: our waste
	2.1 How much waste is going to landfill from Hamilton?
	2.2 How much recycling are we doing?
	2.3 Future demand
11	3. Challenges we face in managing our waste
12	4. Hamilton's waste minimisation performance
12	5. Our approach to waste management and minimisation
13	6. What do we want the future to look like?
	6.1 Our Strategy
	6.2 Targets
14	7. What are we going to do?
	7.1 Our proposed activities
	7.2 Considerations
	7.3 Council's intended role
	7.4 Our action plan
20	8. Funding the Plan
	8.1 Waste levy funding
	8.2 General and Targeted Rates
	8.3 Funding business and community actions
21	9. Monitoring, evaluating and reporting progress
22	Glossary of Terms



## Executive Summary

Hamilton's original Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (Waste Plan) was adopted in 2012 and most of the activities from the 2012-2018 Waste Plan have been completed. However, throughout the years we have seen an increase in waste to landfill. Hamilton produced an estimated 245,700 tonnes of waste in 2016. Of this, approximately 120,099 tonnes was sent to landfill (49 per cent) and 125,600 tonnes was reused, recycled or composted (51 per cent).

Despite our efforts to minimise waste, we appear to have sent about 33 per cent more waste to landfill in 2016 compared to 2012. However, the lack of good quality waste data from private waste operators makes it hard to tell the exact amount.

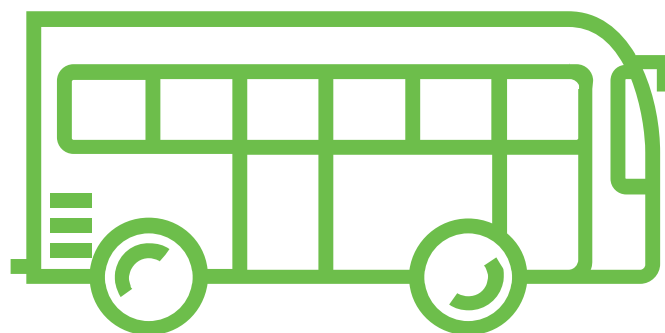
Our kerbside rubbish has increased by about 11 per cent and our kerbside recycling has reduced by about 12 per cent.

This matches a national trend in increasing waste to landfill and declining recycling. National information indicates there has been a 20 per cent increase in waste to landfill across New Zealand since 2014.

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 places an obligation on all councils to promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within their city or district. However, it may be that stronger central government intervention is required in the form of product stewardship schemes and national regulation, as the Council does not have the right legislative tools to be able to address big waste issues such as tyres, packaging or e-waste. We intend to take a strong position advocating to central government for this to happen.

Hamilton City Council also intends to focus on the avoidance, reduction and minimisation of waste in our city. We will make the most of our waste resources, foster innovation and maximise the opportunities that can be created from resource recovery.

This Waste Plan sets out goals, objectives and targets to guide us towards waste avoidance, reduction and recovery. Thirty-three activities are detailed and will be carried forward into the Council's long-term and annual plans to ensure the resourcing is available to deliver on our Plan.



**120,099 TONNES**  
**= 7500 BUSES**

### Proposed activities include:

- Implementing a new rubbish and recycling kerbside collection.
- Partnering with key sectors and groups including business, health related organisations, the community sector; the construction and demolition industry, and local government organisations, non-government organisations and other key stakeholders to achieve a reduction in waste to landfill.
- Improving waste minimisation at events held at Council sites.
- Making the most of opportunities to address the growing construction and demolition waste issue, including waste avoidance, reuse and recovery.
- Updating the Solid Waste Bylaw for regional consistency, to facilitate data collection and to ensure it supports the changes in kerbside service.

# VISION

**Hamilton:** where waste minimisation and resource recovery are an integral part of our lifestyle and economy

## GOALS

What we want to achieve in the medium term

1

Reduce quantity of all material entering the waste stream, and increase resource recovery

2

Increase innovation and opportunity from waste resources.

3

Hamilton community is a leader in waste minimisation.

4

Waste and resource recovery infrastructure meets Hamilton's growing needs.

5

Recognise and celebrate innovation in waste minimisation and avoidance.

## OBJECTIVES

What we need to achieve in the short-term

1

Hamiltonians are choosing to engage in waste minimisation.

2

Hamilton's waste diversion is continually increasing.

3

All Hamiltonian have access to affordable and resilient waste and resource recovery services.

4

Hamilton City Council is a leader by example in minimising waste.

5

Hamilton City Council is partnering with others to achieve efficient and effective waste minimisation and management.

6

Hamilton City Council is influencing Central Government's commitment to waste minimisation.

7

All Hamilton City Council's regulatory decision making considers responsible waste and resource recovery.





## 1.0 Introduction

We all generate rubbish and recycling through our daily activities, at home, when we are at work and when we are out and about. Since 2012 our waste to landfill from Hamilton has increased by approximately 33 per cent, as our population grows the volume of waste going to landfill is going to increase if we don't take any action.

By sending our waste to landfill we are throwing away valuable resources that could be recovered and reused to create new products. We are also creating problems for future generations, as landfills continue to cause environmental harm for decades after closure.

Waste minimisation involves reducing our waste, reusing and then recycling or recovering the resources.

The Waste Plan sets out the Council's Strategy for managing and minimising the waste generated by households, businesses and industries in Hamilton. The Council directly manages less than 15 per cent of the waste generated in Hamilton and we need to work together with the community, business and industry to influence what happens with the rest of the waste. Our Waste Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

### 1.1 Why do we need a waste plan?

This is the Council's plan to ensure we have the infrastructure and services in place to manage waste and that we are supporting our community to avoid, reduce and recycle waste.

By minimising our waste, we work towards:

- preserving and reusing resources – reducing the need for virgin material and the environmental costs associated with them
- creating new opportunities in the reuse and recycling sectors, for employment and innovation
- only using landfill for wastes that have no recovery options.

The actions set out in this Plan will be carried forward into the long term and annual plan process to ensure the resourcing is available to deliver the Waste Plan's goals and objectives.

**The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA 2008) places an obligation on all councils to promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within their city or district.**

The WMA 2008 requires the Waste Plan to:

- consider the Waste Hierarchy
- ensure waste does not create a nuisance
- have regard to the New Zealand Waste Strategy and other key government policies
- consider the outcomes of the Waste Assessment
- follow the Special Consultative Procedure set out in the Local Government Act (2002).

Councils also have obligations under the Health Act 1956 to ensure waste management systems protect public health.

## 1.2 What types of waste does our Plan cover?

The Waste Plan covers all solid waste and diverted material in the city, whether they are managed by the Council or not. Liquid and gaseous waste are not included, except where they interact with solid waste systems, for example hazardous waste like chemicals and the outputs from wastewater treatment plants.

This does not necessarily mean the Council is going to have direct involvement in the management of all waste – but there is a responsibility for the Council to at least consider all waste in the city, and to suggest areas where other groups, such as businesses or households, could take action themselves.

## 1.3 What informs the Waste Plan?

Our Waste Plan is informed by local, national and international data, knowledge and theory. We have researched what other councils here in New Zealand and overseas are doing and have developed a Plan that meets our needs here in Hamilton, while being consistent with international and national best practice.

### 1.3.1 Waste hierarchy

The waste hierarchy is an internationally-used approach to waste management and minimisation. It has strongly influenced the Strategy and actions outlined in this Waste Plan.

The waste hierarchy is a simple framework for the different ways we can think about waste. Preventing waste from occurring in the first place is the easiest way to manage waste. We currently focus too much on the bottom part of the hierarchy, when we should be focusing on the top.

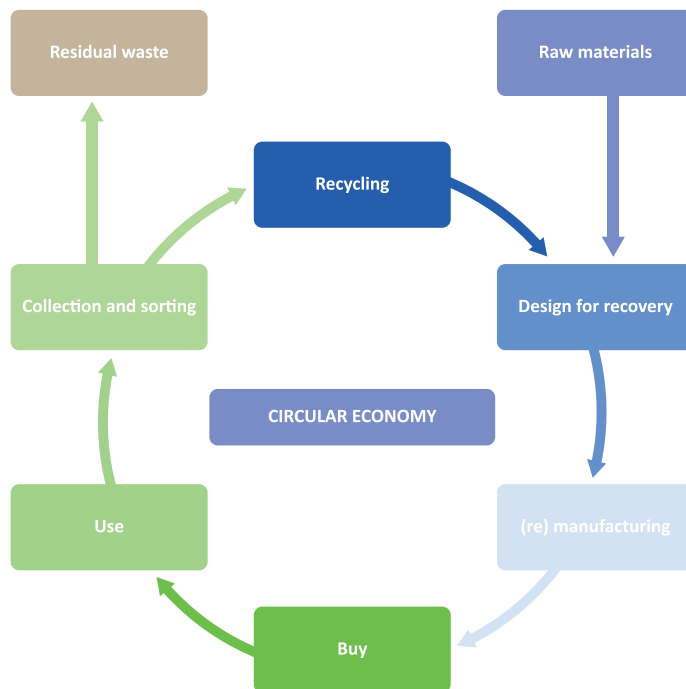


### 1.3.2 Circular economy and zero waste

The transition from the linear economy – ‘take, make, buy, dispose’ – to the circular economy is underway in many parts of the world. It is one of the key changes required as part of the global journey to zero waste. The principles of the circular economy underpin the strategy and actions of this Waste Plan.

“The essential concept at the heart of the circular economy is to ensure we can unmake everything we make.”

– Ministry for the Environment, 2018<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> [www.mfe.govt.nz/waste/circular-economy](http://www.mfe.govt.nz/waste/circular-economy)

### 1.3.3 New Zealand Waste Strategy

The 2010 New Zealand Waste Strategy: Reducing Harm, Improving Efficiency (NZWS) is the central government's core document concerning waste management and minimisation in New Zealand.

The two goals of the NZWS are:

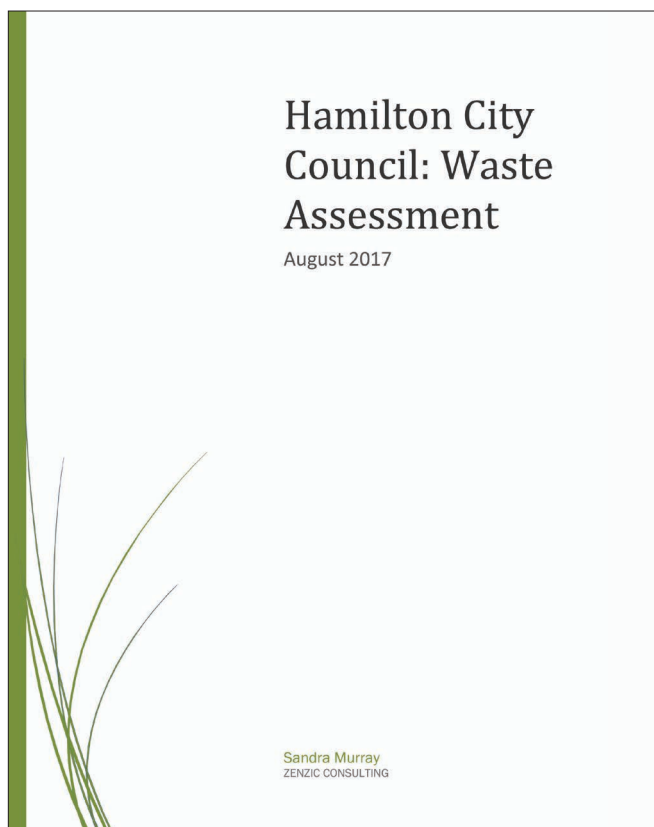
1. Reducing the harmful effects of waste.
2. Improving the efficiency of resource use.

The NZWS provides high-level, flexible direction to guide the use of the legislation, regulation and conventions related to the management and minimisation of waste in New Zealand. As per section 44 of the WMA 2008, we have given regard to the NZWS when preparing our Waste Plan.

### 1.3.4 Waste Assessment 2017

This Waste Plan is based on the 2017 Waste Assessment (WA). The WA is a technical document that outlines waste flows, volumes, services and facilities provided by both the Council and private operators. It also sets out more detail on the plans, policies and legislation the Council has to take into account when developing the Waste Plan.

A summary of the WA is included in this Waste Plan but the full 2017 WA is available on the Council's 'Fight the Landfill' website.



### 1.3.5 Te Whakawhanaunga a Te Kaunihera ki te Iwi Maaori

The Council recognises Maaori as tangata whenua (indigenous people of the land) with kaitiakitanga (guardianship) status and ownership rights regarding their lands and that Maaori are assured the same rights as other citizens.

The Local Government Act 2002 reinforces the importance of continuing to foster such relationships, the necessity of good communication and the value of Maaori heritage and values in New Zealand's progress as a distinctive nation.

To assist in delivering services to Maaori, the Council currently has specific partnership and service agreements with:

- Te Haa o te whenua o Kirikiriroa (THaWK) – an iwi group representing local mana whenua (Maaori with historic ties to the Hamilton/Kirikiriroa area) on issues relating to the management of Hamilton's natural and physical resources.
- Te Runanga o Kirikiriroa (TeROK) – an urban iwi authority representing maataa waka (Maaori/Pacific from other areas) on the impact of the Council's policies. Te Runanga provides a range of services, support, advice, and technical expertise that assist Council to meet the needs of the Maaori community in Hamilton.

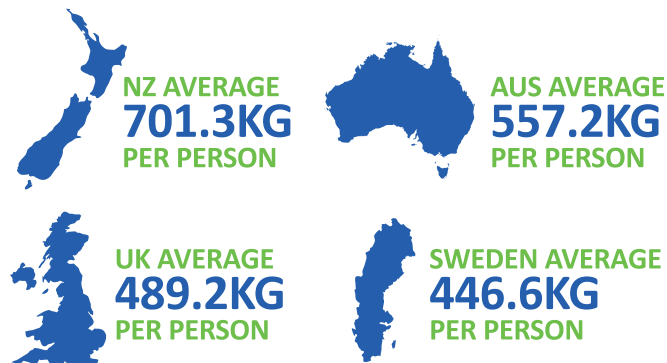
These partnerships and agreements ensure mana whenua perspectives and maataa waka views are represented in decisions about the city, its community capacity and natural and physical resources.



## 2.0 The problem: our waste

In New Zealand we are generating more and more waste. Since 2014 the amount of waste going to landfill across New Zealand has increased by 20 per cent<sup>2</sup>. As we continue to grow, it is likely this increase will continue unless we take action.

In New Zealand we are one of the highest producers of municipal waste in the world.



To understand the opportunities for waste minimisation, we need to first understand more about the waste we are generating.

### 2.1 How much waste is going to landfill from Hamilton?

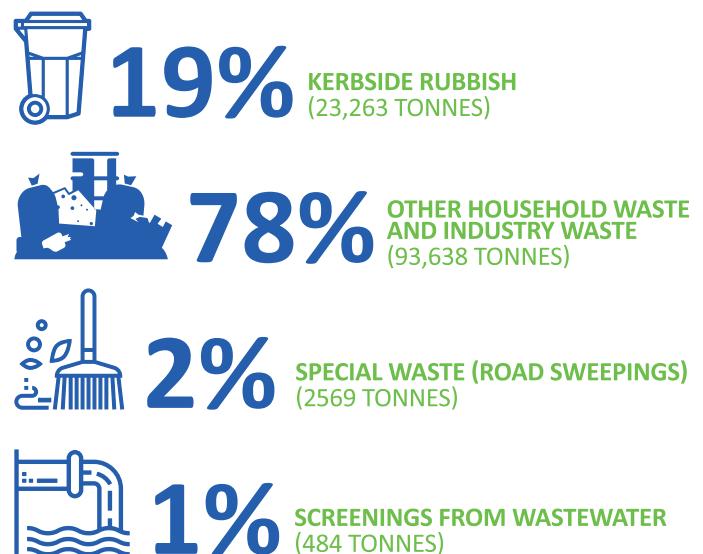
Disposal to landfill is at the bottom of the waste hierarchy and this is where about 49 per cent of Hamilton's waste is going. An estimated total of 120,099 tonnes of solid waste was disposed of to landfill from Hamilton in 2016<sup>3</sup>. This is equivalent to approximately 780kg per person in 2016.

From 2012 to 2016 we've seen an increase of waste going to landfill from Hamilton of approximately 33 per cent.



The reliability of the estimates for different types of waste varies. Some waste to landfill data comes unverified from private waste operators, while other waste data and sludge tonnages are managed by the Council or council contractors.

Based on this data, we have estimated where our waste to landfill is coming from. The largest proportion comes from industry and other household waste (the waste not collected at the kerbside).



Of the general waste to landfill, only 19 per cent was related to the Council-managed kerbside rubbish service, which serviced 54,288 households in 2016<sup>4</sup>. Kerbside rubbish was 23,263 tonnes in 2016, an average of 429kg per household and an increase of 11 per cent since 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Review of the effectiveness of the Waste Disposal Levy 2017, Ministry for the Environment  
<sup>3</sup> This excludes waste to non-levied landfills, as this amount is unknown.

<sup>4</sup> Average number of households serviced by the kerbside rubbish collection for 2016

### 2.1.1 What's in our rubbish bags?

Every few years, the Council undertakes an audit of kerbside rubbish bags. This helps us to understand what rubbish is getting thrown away and what services our community needs.

In 2017 we found that the single biggest thing in our rubbish bags was food waste at 37 per cent. In total, around 50 per cent is organic material that could be composted. Plastics were the second biggest category, of which over half was plastic bags and film.

This is a breakdown of what we found contained in an average black bag.



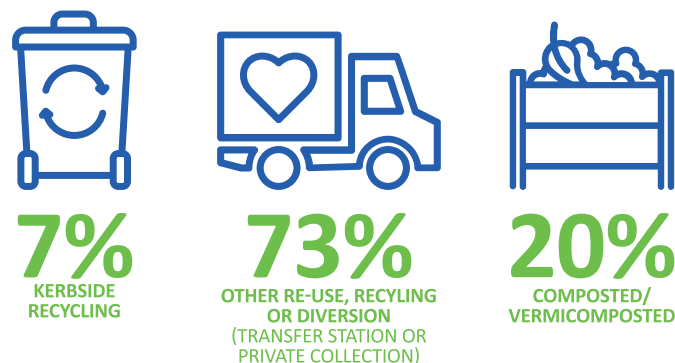
### 2.1.2 What are we throwing away at the transfer station?

As well as understanding what is in our rubbish bags, we can take a look at what materials are going to landfill from the two transfer stations in Hamilton. We found that over 50 per cent of what is going to landfill is made up from timber, plastics and organic waste.



### 2.2 How much recycling are we doing?

Recycling is in the top half of the waste hierarchy and is an important part of waste minimisation. An estimated 51 per cent of all waste collected in 2016 in the Hamilton area was recovered and reused, recycled or composted.



The largest quantity of material recovered was from commercial recycling, while kerbside recycling makes up less than 10 per cent of recycled material.

In 2008 we were diverting 34 per cent of our kerbside waste, in 2016 this dropped to 27 per cent diversion. There are a few reasons for this decline – we aren't reading newspapers as much anymore and we are throwing more rubbish away. We recycle about 57kg per person per annum through our kerbside recycling services. This is lower than for comparable areas in New Zealand.

### 2.3 Future demand

While the factors likely to impact future demand for waste minimisation and management vary and are difficult to predict, they include:

- Considerable overall population and household growth and intensification.
- Economic growth.
- Construction and demolition activity.
- Changes in lifestyle and consumption. eg increase in use of electronics.
- Changes in the collection service or recovery of materials.

From 2013, the population of Hamilton is projected to grow 29.5 per cent by 2033, and 50.3 per cent by 2063.

By 2033, 21.2 per cent of Hamilton's population is likely to be aged 65 years and over, compared to 11.2 per cent in 2013. By 2063 that proportion is projected to reach 34.5 per cent.

This suggests changes in waste generation will occur over time but no dramatic shifts are expected.

## 3.0 Challenges we face in managing our waste

The Council directly manages less than a quarter of the waste generated in Hamilton. Our ability to influence what happens with the other three-quarters varies. This alone makes managing and minimising Hamilton's waste difficult.

Some issues we face include:



**WASTE TO  
LANDFILL  
INCREASING**



**RECYCLING  
DECREASING**



**LACK OF DATA  
& INFORMATION**



**NEED TO DEVELOP  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
FOR FUTURE  
GROWTH**



**DESIGN OF NEW  
HOUSING TO  
MEET STORAGE  
& COLLECTION  
REQUIREMENTS**



**ILLEGAL  
DUMPING  
& LITTER**



**GROWTH IN  
SPECIFIC WASTE  
STREAMS, EG.  
C&D, E-WASTE**



**LACK OF  
CENTRAL  
GOVERNMENT  
LEADERSHIP**

The current low cost of landfill in New Zealand means there is not enough of an economic incentive for widespread investment in waste minimisation behaviour, infrastructure and services. This increases the continued reliance on landfill, rather than an increased focus on the top of the waste hierarchy – reduce, reuse and recycle. Landfill costs will increase, as they have done overseas. By acting now, we can minimise the risk for Hamiltonians.

### 3.1.1 Regional and sub-regional issues

Some waste streams have been identified as national or regional issues which the Council has little control over. Significant issues where national, regional or sub-regional cooperation is likely to improve outcomes for councils have been identified as:

#### a) Shared responsibility for waste/product stewardship

The WMA 2008 places the greatest responsibility for minimising and managing waste onto local councils. However, we only control a small part of the waste stream and in order to achieve significant waste minimisation, other parties need to share the responsibility. In particular:

- manufacturers of products
- organisations responsible for end of life product or service
- regional council and central government.

#### b) Consistent education and engagement

Providing consistent messaging across the region and country will help people to understand and take ownership of their waste.

#### c) Infrastructure capacity

There are gaps in our knowledge of what waste infrastructure will be required regionally in the future and whether there will be sufficient capacity for future demand. This is particularly so for potential new services (eg. food waste, landfills or transfer stations). In order for infrastructure to be financially viable, a minimum volume of waste material is often required. Regional development of infrastructure may enable sufficient volume of material to achieve viability.

#### d) Inconsistent services and data hinder joint working and shared services

Collaboration and developing shared services may lead to improved outcomes and cost savings in service provision. However, variability in services and data capture can hinder joint working.

Similarly, identifying regional waste volumes can be challenging as different councils collect data and information on different waste streams, using variable methodologies.

### 3.1.2 Long-term and global considerations

While they do not immediately affect Hamilton's waste flows, international activities can have a big impact on New Zealand's waste industry.

Some of the recycling collected in New Zealand is exported to Indonesia or Asia, particularly China. China has in recent years tightened measures around the acceptance of recycled materials, requiring a higher standard of recycled product to gain approval for import into China and in some cases ceasing to accept material.

Restrictions on the acceptance of recyclable material mean changes to collection and sorting methodologies to either achieve onshore processing or export standards. This may impact the costs associated with recycling.

Also of concern are the effects of climate change and rising unrest in many countries. International conflict has the potential to disrupt recycling supply chains. As New Zealand has few processing facilities for kerbside recyclables, we are vulnerable should export markets be disrupted.

More information on these challenges are outlined in our 2017 Waste Assessment, available on our 'Fight the Landfill' website.

## 4.0 Hamilton's waste minimisation performance

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The 2012-2018 Waste Plan was Hamilton's first plan developed under the WMA 2008. It was adopted on the 5 April 2012. We have made good progress with many of the actions but we have still seen an increase in waste to landfill.

Key achievements in the implementation of the 2012 Waste Plan include:

- A grants programme for innovative waste minimisation activities and projects.
- A comprehensive review of the kerbside collection service, Lincoln St Transfer Station and Hamilton Organics Centre.
- Development of our 'Fight the Landfill' branding.
- Introduction of enforcement for littering and illegal dumping.
- Co-design of a Waste Awareness Strategy by community groups and Hamilton, Waikato and Waipa district and Waikato regional councils.

This Waste Plan builds on the achievements of the 2012 Waste Plan while including new actions that focus on moving further up the waste hierarchy.

## 5.0 Our approach to waste management and minimisation

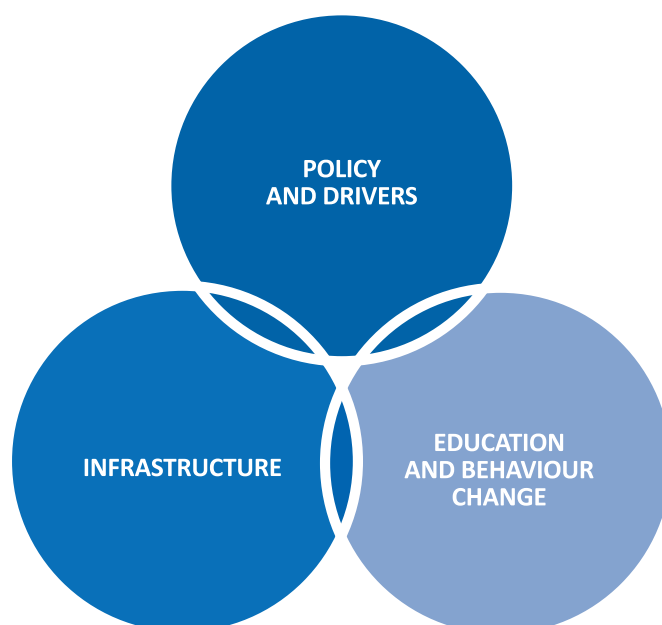
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Our waste to landfill is increasing, as are our overall volumes of waste. We have a growing population, more houses and industry development, all of which will bring significant benefit to Hamilton but will also generate more waste to manage.

Effective waste management and minimisation requires three key elements:

- **Policy and drivers** – we need the right policies and incentives to change practices. These can be put in place by central, regional or local government and can also be led by industry. Examples include Hamilton's Solid Waste Bylaw and the WMA 2008.
- **Infrastructure** – if we don't have the appropriate infrastructure to manage our waste and to support diversion from landfill, it makes diversion very difficult and costly. Examples include the kerbside rubbish and recycling collection service and the transfer station.
- **Education and behaviour change** – to create the change required, we need to ensure that we are all informed about the actions we should and shouldn't be taking. Examples of education initiatives include the Council's Contestable Waste Minimisation Fund and the plastic free July campaign.

These key elements provide the foundation for the way the Council approaches waste management and minimisation.



## 6.0 What do we want the future to look like?

As Hamilton grows, we want to change the way we think about our waste. Sending waste to landfill is getting more expensive and is a waste of valuable resources. Together we can change the amount of waste that we are generating and create value from these resources.

### 6.1 Our Strategy

Our Strategy outlines the short-medium-and long-term outcomes we want to achieve here in Hamilton. To deliver these outcomes we will work with the private and community sectors, central government and territorial and regional councils.

#### Vision:

**Hamilton: Where waste minimisation and resource recovery are an integral part of our lifestyle and economy.**

#### Goals: *What we want to achieve in the medium term*

1. Reduce quantity of all material entering the waste stream, and increased resource recovery.
2. Increased innovation and opportunity from waste resources.
3. Hamilton community is a leader in waste minimisation.
4. Waste and resource recovery infrastructure meets Hamilton's growing needs.
5. Recognise and celebrate innovation in waste minimisation and avoidance.

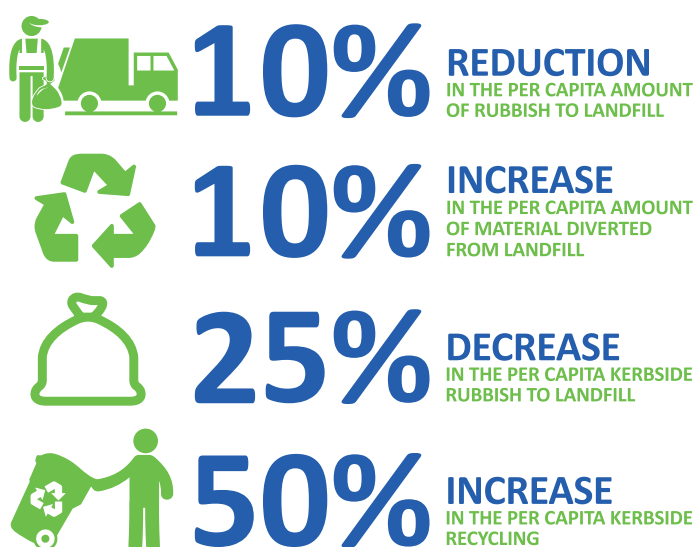
#### Objectives: *What we need to achieve in the short term*

1. Hamiltonians are choosing to engage in waste minimisation.
2. Hamilton's waste diversion is continually increasing.
3. All Hamiltonians have access to affordable and resilient waste and resource recovery services.
4. Hamilton City Council is a leader by example in minimising waste.
5. Hamilton City Council is partnering with others to achieve efficient and effective waste minimisation and management.
6. Hamilton City Council is influencing central government's commitment to waste minimisation.
7. All Hamilton City Council's regulatory decision-making considers responsible waste and resource recovery.

### 6.2 Targets

We are setting four waste minimisation targets for Hamilton over the next six years; these targets will help us understand how we are tracking with our progress. We will monitor and review our progress against our targets and assess whether they need to be amended over the next 6 years.

To meet these targets, we will need to work together to reduce our waste generation and increase our recycling.





## 7.0 What are we going to do?

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Our action plan sets out how we intend to work towards our vision, goals and objectives. It sets out clear, practical initiatives that the Council will implement, either on our own or jointly. While the action plan forms part of the Waste Plan, it is intended to be a ‘living’ document that can be regularly updated to reflect current plans and progress<sup>4</sup>.

### 7.1 Our proposed activities

Our action plan includes thirty-three activities that we believe will enable us to achieve our vision for Hamilton. They can be summarised into key themes:



#### SERVICES

Implement new rubbish and recycling services, support associated education campaigns and review Central Business District (CBD) service.



#### PARTNERSHIPS

Partner or work with key sectors and groups including Iwi, business and industry; health related organisations; the community sector, the construction and demolition industry; and local government organisations, NGOs and other key stakeholders to undertake research and actions on various waste issues.

Identify and support community and business champions in waste reduction and avoidance.



#### EVENTS

Improve waste minimisation at events held at Council sites and support event organisers to implement waste minimisation at events



#### EDUCATION

Support information and education programmes that raise awareness and promote waste minimisation, including developing multi-language resources



#### LITTER & ILLEGAL DUMPING

Keep the streets clean by clearing litter and illegal dumping; and develop and implement a plan to reduce illegal dumping and littering.



#### GRANTS

Issue grants to third parties for the purpose of promoting or achieving waste minimisation and manage grants.



#### DATA

Ensure access to information on waste from both council and private waste collectors and facilities. Capture data on quantities, composition, origin and destination, and the use of the service, in line with the National Waste Data Framework. Monitor and report on waste related activities.



#### COUNCIL MANAGEMENT

Implement best practice waste avoidance, reduction and minimisation within Council sites and operations; and share knowledge and experience gained from such activities.



#### REGULATION

Update the Solid Waste Bylaw for regional consistency, to facilitate data collection and to ensure it supports the changes in kerbside service; and implement waste licensing for operators and collectors.

<sup>4</sup> Under the WMA 2008, waste plans can be updated without triggering the need for a formal review of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, as long as the changes are not significant and do not alter the direction and intent of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

## 7.2 Considerations

The action plan outlines the high level intentions for actions to meet the Council's obligations under the WMA 2008. Further work will be required to determine the costs and feasibility of some projects, which may impact how, when or if they are implemented. Detailed assessments of some actions will be carried out prior to their implementation.

In some instances, the delivery of the actions set out in this action plan will depend on the development or amendment of contractual arrangements with providers. The nature of these contractual arrangements cannot be pre-empted and may impact the nature, timing or cost of these projects.

Therefore, exactly what services are delivered will ultimately depend on the outcomes of the procurement process.

## 7.3 The Council's intended role

The Council intends to oversee, facilitate and manage a range of programmes and interventions to achieve effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within Hamilton. The Council will do this through our internal structures responsible for waste management. The Council is responsible for a range of contracts, facilities and programmes to provide waste management and minimisation services to the residents and ratepayers of the city.

In addition the councils in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions will continue to work together to deliver activities that will support us in achieving our Strategy.

## 7.4 Action plan

The detailed action plan below sets out all the activities we may take under each of the nine themes, the proposed timeline, how it will be funded and the Waste Plan objectives each activity will meet.



### 7.4.1 Services

The Council delivers a range of waste services already and there is scope to review additional services that will support increased waste minimisation in Hamilton.

Ref	Activities	New or existing	Timeframe	Potential funding mechanism	Objectives
1	Implement new rubbish and recycling services and undertake a comprehensive education and information campaign to support the implementation.	New	2018-2021	Levy and rates	1,2,3,4,5,7
2	Provide and promote hazardous waste disposal services for household hazardous waste.	Existing	Ongoing	Levy	1,2,3,5,7
3	Review CBD waste services to identify and implement opportunities for improved waste minimisation in this area.	New	2018-2024	Levy and rates	1,2,3,4,5,7
4	Identify and implement services for targeted waste streams including electronic waste	New	2018-2024	Levy and rates	1,2,3,5,6,7



### 7.4.2 Partnerships

The Council only manage about a quarter of the waste generated in Hamilton. If we are going to achieve our vision, goals and objectives we need to work with others in our community.

Ref	Activities	New or existing	Timeframe	Potential funding mechanism	Objectives
5	Recognise the interests of Iwi and other cultures and encourage and support mechanisms to build capacity and participation in sustainable waste management.	Existing	Ongoing	Levy	1,2,3,5,6
6	Work with business and industry organisations to assist local businesses to reduce waste and increase recycling.	New	2018-2024	Levy	1,2,3,5,6,7
7	Partner with the Waikato District Health Board and other health-related organisations regarding the management of medical waste.	New	2018-2024	Levy, partnerships	1,2,3,5
8	Partner with the community sector to identify efficiencies or opportunities for cooperation/partnership, particularly around reuse of materials.	New	2018-2024	Levy, rates, partnerships	1,2,3,5,6
9	Identify and support community and business champions in waste reduction and avoidance.	New	2018-2024	Levy	1,2,5
10	Collaborate with local government organisations, NGOs and other key stakeholders to undertake research and actions on various waste issues including (but not limited to) influencing central government regulation and product stewardship for key waste streams such as electronic waste, tyres, plastic bags, packaging, etc.	Existing	Ongoing	Levy	1,2,3,5,6
11	Collaborate with key stakeholders to investigate and implement opportunities to address the growing construction and demolition waste issue, including waste avoidance, reuse and recovery.	New	2018-2024	Levy, rates, partnerships	1,2,3,5,6,7



### 7.4.3 Events

Events are an increasing source of waste generation, but they are also a great opportunity for education on waste minimisation.

Ref	Activities	New or existing	Timeframe	Potential funding mechanism	Objectives
12	Improve waste minimisation at events held at Council sites.	New	2018-2024	Levy, rates, partnerships	1,2,4,5,7
13	Support event organisers to implement waste minimisation at events.	New	Ongoing	Levy, partnerships	1,2,3,5,7



#### 7.4.4 Education

A key part of achieving our vision, goals and objectives is making it easy for all Hamiltonians to do the right thing. To do this the Council needs to ensure the right information is accessible and available for our community.

Ref	Activities	New or existing	Timeframe	Potential funding mechanism	Objectives
14	Support information and education programmes that raise awareness and promote waste minimisation, including developing multi-language resources.	New	By 2020	Levy	1,2,3,4,5,7
15	Promote reducing food waste and the beneficial re-use of organic material.	Existing	Ongoing	Levy	1,2,3,4,5,7
16	Develop targeted waste minimisation information and education programmes eg. for youth, elderly, business and construction and demolition industry.	New	2018-2024	Levy	1,2,3,4,5,6



#### 7.4.5 Litter and illegal dumping

Keeping Hamilton clean is an important part of waste management and minimisation. The Council already has a strong enforcement programme for illegal dumping, but we are still experiencing increasing incidents of littering and illegal dumping.

Ref	Activities	New or existing	Timeframe	Potential funding mechanism	Objectives
17	Keep the streets clean by clearing litter and removing illegally-dumped material.	Existing	Ongoing	Rates	1,2,4,5,7
18	Develop and implement a plan to reduce illegal dumping and littering, including education and strong enforcement.	Existing	2018-2024	Levy, rates, partnerships	2,5,6,7



#### 7.4.6 Grants

The Council started the Contestable Waste Minimisation Fund (CWMF) as part of the 2012 Waste Plan implementation. The \$50,000 annual fund has successfully funded a range of projects, providing community groups and businesses with an opportunity to pilot new ideas and to get projects up and running.

Ref	Activities	New or existing	Timeframe	Potential funding mechanism	Objectives
19	Issue grants to third parties for the purpose of promoting or achieving waste minimisation and manage grants.	Existing	Ongoing	Levy	1,2,3,4,5
20	Evaluate the current grant model and investigate and implement opportunities for low interest loans and/or targeted grants.	New	By Dec 2019	Levy	1,2,3,4,5



#### 7.4.7 Data

Having good data is important for the Council to make informed decisions on our waste management and minimisation priorities.

Ref	Activities	New or existing	Timeframe	Potential funding mechanism	Objectives
21	Ensure access to information on waste from both the Council and private waste collectors and facilities. Capture data on quantities, composition, origin and destination and the use of the service, in line with the National Waste Data Framework.	Existing – expanded	Ongoing	Levy, rates	2,3,4,5,6,7
22	Monitor and report on waste-related complaints received through the Council’s service request system.	Existing	Ongoing	Rates	2,3,4,5,6,7
23	Carry out community surveys on waste management and minimisation services within the city.	New	Ongoing	Levy	2,3,4,5,6,7
24	Ensure a household rubbish and recycling composition analysis is undertaken at least every three years for both the Council and private kerbside services.	Existing	Ongoing	Levy	2,3,4,5,6,7
25	Monitor progress and support WasteMINZ National Waste Data Framework project.	New	Ongoing	Levy	3,5,6,7
26	Monitor and report on the Council’s contracted waste services including rubbish and recycling collection data from the kerbside.	Existing – expanded	Ongoing	Levy, rates	2,3,4,5,6,7



#### 7.4.8 Council management

Council staff will implement the actions contained within this Waste Plan and will ensure that Council is ‘learning by doing’ with waste minimisation.

Ref	Activities	New or existing	Timeframe	Potential funding mechanism	Objectives
27	Fund waste minimisation advisors to lead waste management and minimisation within the Council and coordinate the implementation of this Plan.	Existing	Ongoing	Levy	1,2,3,4,5,6,7
28	Review of the 2018-2024 Waste Plan and development of the 2024-2030 Waste Plan.	Existing	2023-2024	Levy	1,2,3,4,5,6,7
29	Ensure that services provided by the Council are in line with and promote current health and safety guidelines.	Existing	Ongoing	Rates	3,7
30	Implement best practice waste avoidance, reduction and minimisation within Council sites and operations; and share knowledge and experience gained from such activities.	Existing	By 2024	Levy	1,2,4,5,7





### 7.4.9 Regulatory

Effective Bylaws and Plans will be integral to delivering a range of waste minimisation actions. They can provide the Council with both the driver for change and the ability to undertake enforcement.

Ref	Activities	New or existing	Timeframe	Potential funding mechanism	Objectives
31	Update the Solid Waste Bylaw for regional consistency, to facilitate data collection and to ensure it supports the changes in kerbside service.	New	2018/19	Levy, rates	2,3,4,5,6,7
32	Implement waste licensing for operators and collectors, potentially as part of a regional or sub-regional initiative.	New	By Dec 2019	Levy, rates	2,3,4,5,6,7
33	Implement and enforce requirements for any properties and developments to ensure waste management and minimisation considerations are taken into account at the design phase, including storage space requirements and access for collection vehicles.	Existing – expanded	In conjunction with the Council planning processes	Levy, rates	1,2,3,4,5,6,7



## 8.0 Funding the Plan

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Now that we have outlined the actions we need to take, our next step is to understand how we can best fund these activities. The Council have a range of options available to us to fund the actions in this plan, these include:

- **General Rates** - a rate that is paid by all ratepayers.
- **User Pays Charges** - paying for services you use, for example, transfer station gate fees.
- **Targeted Rates** - a rate that is set to fund a particular activity or group of activities. It can align to the provision or availability of service.
- **Waste Levy Funding** - The central government redistributes 50 per cent of the funds from the waste disposal levy to local authorities. This money must be applied to waste minimisation activities outlined in the Council's Waste Plan.
- **Waste Minimisation Fund** - Ministry for the Environment use most of the remaining 50 per cent of the levy money on funding projects. Anyone can apply to the Waste Minimisation Fund for funding.
- **Private sector funding** - The private sector may undertake to fund/supply certain waste minimisation activities, for example, in order to look to generate income from the sale of recovered materials, etc. The Council may look to work with private sector service providers where this will assist in achieving the Waste Plan's goals.

Funding considerations take into account a number of factors including the following:

- Prioritising harmful wastes.
- Waste minimisation and reduction of residual waste to landfill.
- Full-cost pricing - 'polluter pays'.
- Public good vs. private good component of a particular service.
- The environmental effects of production, distribution, consumption and disposal of goods and services should be consistently costed, and charged as closely as possible to the point they occur to ensure that price incentives cover all costs.
- Protection of public health.
- Affordability.
- Cost-effectiveness.

The potential sources of funding for each of the actions are noted in the action plan. Budgets to deliver the activities set out in this Waste Plan will be carefully developed through our Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan processes. The mix of funding tools to be used is determined through the Revenue and Financing Policy, this Policy is reviewed every three years in line with the Long-Term Plan.

The approach taken will be to implement as many of the activities as possible while controlling costs and, where possible, taking advantage of cost savings and efficiencies. It is anticipated that by setting appropriate user charges, reducing costs through avoided disposal, more efficient service delivery from working collaboratively and targeted application of waste levy money, the increased levels of waste minimisation as set out in this Waste Plan will be able to be achieved without overall additional increases to the average household cost.

### 8.1 Waste levy funding

The Council receives, based on population, a share of national waste levy funds from the Ministry for the Environment. It is estimated that at the current rate of \$10 per tonne our Council's total share of waste levy funding will be approximately \$570,000 per annum. The WMA requires that all waste levy funding received by councils must be spent on matters to promote waste minimisation and in accordance with their waste plans.

Waste levy funds can be spent on ongoing waste minimisation services, new services, or an expansion of existing services. The funding can be used on education and communication, services, policy research and reporting, to provide grants, to support contract costs, or as infrastructure capital. We intend to use our waste levy funds for a range of waste minimisation activities and services as set out in the action plan – including participating in sub-regional, regional and national activities.

In addition, we may make an application for contestable waste levy funds from the Waste Minimisation Fund, either separately, with other councils, or with another party. The Waste Minimisation Fund provides additional waste levy funds for waste minimisation activities.

### 8.2 General and Targeted Rates

General and Targeted Rates are used for a range of waste management and minimisation services, for example the residential kerbside rubbish and recycling service is funded through general residential rates, as is the clearing of litter and illegal dumping. Any changes to the services funded through General or Targeted Rates will happen through the 10-Year Plan planning process. As this is a six year plan, there will be two opportunities to seek funding through the 10-Year Plan, firstly in 2018 and then again in 2021. All Hamiltonians have the opportunity to have a say on the waste management and minimisation activities in the 10-Year Plan processes.

### 8.3 Funding business and community actions

The Council recognises that we can't implement this Waste Plan by ourselves. We need to work with businesses and community groups to achieve the vision in the most efficient and effective way possible. Councils have the ability under the WMA 2008 to provide grants and advances of money to any person, organisation or group for the purposes of promoting or achieving waste management and minimisation, as long as this is authorised by the Waste Plan.

The Council currently offer a total of \$50,000 per year in contestable funding for waste minimisation activities. We intend to continue having a grants programme. The grants programme will be evaluated to identify if low interest loans or targeted grants could be utilised to achieve good waste minimisation outcomes.

## 9.0 Monitoring, evaluating and reporting progress

This Waste Plan contains 32 actions, as well as a set of waste minimisation targets. Progress against each of these actions and targets will be reported to Council at the end of each year.

Two of the actions - the development of a regionally consistent Solid Waste Bylaw and implementation of the National Waste Data Framework (NWDF) will contribute to the development of a set of standard indicators for reporting purposes.

Indicative metrics for each of the actions are presented in the table below. Specific metrics for each action will be developed and agreed as part of the Waste Plan implementation.

Theme	Indicative Metrics
<b>Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• New services implemented in line with the contract.</li><li>• Reporting of annual volumes of hazardous waste collected via Council-provided services.</li></ul>
<b>Partners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identification of champions and detail of support provided.</li></ul>
<b>Events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 50 per cent reduction in waste to landfill from events (baseline required).</li><li>• Number of events incorporating waste avoidance and minimisation activities.</li></ul>
<b>Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annual reporting of education programme outcomes.</li></ul>
<b>Litter and illegal dumping</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community satisfaction with litter rates. Measured during community surveys.</li><li>• 10 per cent reduction in litter and 15 per cent reduction in illegal dumping compared to 2017 data.</li></ul>
<b>Grants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Successful implementation of annual grants programme.</li></ul>
<b>Data</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Data available for analysis by 2020.</li><li>• No weeks with more than 20 complaints about uncollected kerbside household rubbish and recycling.</li><li>• Audit carried out three yearly.</li><li>• All waste data collected in alignment with NWDF.</li></ul>
<b>Council management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Health and Safety incident reports received from contractor at each contractor meeting - no serious incidents reported.</li><li>• Report on number of sites implementing waste minimisation; with quarterly reporting to track progress against waste and recycling rates.</li></ul>
<b>Regulatory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• All waste collectors and operators are licensed by 2020.</li><li>• New developments meet the needs of the kerbside collection service.</li></ul>

Updates on how the Council is tracking with meeting these metrics will be provided through the Council's 'Fight the Landfill' website [fightthelandfill.co.nz](http://fightthelandfill.co.nz).



## 10. Glossary of terms

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<b>Disposal</b>	Final deposit of waste into or onto land, or incineration.
<b>Diverted material</b>	Anything that is no longer required for its original purpose and, but for commercial or other waste minimisation activities, would be disposed of or discarded.
<b>Landfill</b>	Tip or dump. A disposal facility as defined in S.7 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, excluding incineration. Includes, by definition in the WMA, only those facilities that accept 'household waste'. Properly referred to as a Class 1 landfill.
<b>Resource recovery</b>	a) extraction of materials or energy from waste or diverted material for further use or processing; and b) includes making waste or diverted material into compost.
<b>Recycling</b>	The reprocessing of waste or diverted material to produce new materials.
<b>Reduction</b>	a) lessening waste generation, including by using products more efficiently or by redesigning products; and b) in relation to a product, lessening waste generation in relation to the product.
<b>Reuse</b>	The further use of waste or diverted material in its existing form for the original purpose of the materials or products that constitute the waste or diverted material, or for a similar purpose.
<b>Rubbish</b>	Waste, that currently has little other management options other than disposal to landfill.
<b>Treatment</b>	a) means subjecting waste to any physical, biological, or chemical process to change its volume or character so that it may be disposed of with no or reduced adverse effect on the environment; but b) does not include dilution of waste.
<b>Waste</b>	Means, according to the WMA:  a) Anything disposed of or discarded. b) Includes a type of waste that is defined by its composition or source (for example, organic waste, electronic waste, or construction and demolition waste). c) To avoid doubt, includes any component or element of diverted material, if the component or element is disposed or discarded.
<b>Waste Assessment (WA)</b>	A document summarising the current situation of waste management in a locality, with facts and figures, and required under the Waste Minimisation Act. A Waste Assessment must be completed whenever a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan is reviewed.
<b>Waste diversion</b>	Means diverting waste from landfill and accessing the economic opportunity from the resource.
<b>Waste hierarchy</b>	A list of waste management options with decreasing priority – usually shown as 'reduce, reuse, recycle, recovery, treat, dispose.
<b>Waste minimisation</b>	Means the reduction of waste; and the reuse, recycling, and recovery of waste and diverted material.
<b>Waste resources</b>	Means any waste material that has value that can be recovered, reused or recycled.
<b>Waste stream</b>	Has the same definition as Waste.

## Further Information

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