

11.9.6

**Chairperson and Committee Members**

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

13 OCTOBER 2011

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

**WELLINGTON REGION WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION PLAN**

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1 This report asks the Environment and Community Development Committee to agree to the recommendations of the “*Joint Committee on the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan*” (the Joint Committee) and as a consequence, agree to adopt the (amended) Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP).

**SIGNIFICANCE OF DECISION**

- 2 This report does not trigger the Council’s Significance Policy.

**BACKGROUND**

- 3 The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA2008) came into force in September 2008. Under the Act territorial authorities are required to develop a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) by 1 July 2012 to encourage and promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within its district. It was agreed to develop a regional WMMP.
- 4 The process to develop a Regional WMMP started early 2010 with a Regional Waste Assessment which was incorporated in the Draft WMMP.
- 5 On 21 April 2011 the Draft WMMP was presented to Council and approved for public consultation (report IS-11-178). During the meeting of 21 April 2011 Council approved the establishment of the ‘*Joint Committee on the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan*’, to hear the submissions to the Draft WMMP. Councillor Penny Gaylor is Council’s representative on this Committee.
- 6 The role of the ‘Joint Committee’ when the Draft WMMP is approved will be to oversee the implementation of the Regional WMMP. The regional steering group (existing of (senior) council officers) that was established at the start of the drafting process will also be overseeing the implementation of the WMMP. This provides for an implementation mechanism, with an operational/management and a governance/political component.
- 7 A total of 276 written submissions were received of which 232 were received by Wellington City Council. This was the result of the consultation period of the Draft WMMP coinciding with the adoption of the new recycling service in

Wellington. Of the 232 submissions 207 dealt (almost) exclusively with the recycling services. This leaves a total of 69 written submissions and 11 oral submissions received by the eight participating councils. Kapiti Coast District Council received 3 submissions, of which one was made by Council and two by Forest & Bird New Zealand, from the Kapiti and from the Horowhenua branches. In paragraph 14-16 of this report the summary of the submissions and the proposed responses are discussed.

- 8 After closure of the submission periods of the eight participating Councils (which varied), two meetings to hear submissions took place in August 2011. One in Wellington and one in Hutt City. None of the three Kapiti submitters wanted to speak to their submissions.
- 9 On Thursday 1 September 2011 the Joint Committee met in Porirua to consider a report from officers on submissions received by Councils on the proposed Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP). The report included officers' responses to the issues raised in submissions and recommended a number of changes to the proposed WMMP. That report is attached as **Appendix 1**.

## CONSIDERATIONS

- 10 After considering the report (Appendix 1), that includes the rationale for the recommendations, the background to the process and the analysis of submissions, the Joint Committee agreed to
  - *recommend to each territorial authority of the Wellington region (the Councils) that the draft WMMP be amended as proposed by officers (see appendix 1A of the report to the Joint Committee).*
  - *recommend to the Councils that they adopt the amended WMMP as soon as practicable.*
  - *recommend to Councils that the Joint Committee be continued with an amended terms of reference reflecting an ongoing governance role for the Joint Committee.*
- 11 **Appendix 1A** represents a summary of recommended changes and **Appendix 2** contains new recommended wording for the draft WMMP that would give effect to the recommendations of the Joint Committee.
- 12 Council received three submissions to the Draft WMMP: one from the solid waste manager on behalf of Council, one from Kapiti Forest & Bird and one from Horowhenua Forest & Bird.
- 13 Council submitted that the Council has formally adopted a Zero Waste to Landfill goal and wishes to amend the action list to reflect that working towards this goal is an ongoing action.
- 14 *The proposed response as noted in Appendix 2: the submission is noted and it is recommended that the action of ongoing support towards the goal of zero waste*

*to landfill will be added to the Kapiti Coast District Council Action Plan as action KC0.*

- 15 The two submitters on behalf of Forest & Bird noted that communities needed to take responsibility for their own waste issues rather than trucking waste elsewhere.
- 16 *The proposed response as noted in Appendix 2: Council has adopted a zero waste policy for some years and has the policy that it would not invest in a new landfill site once the Otaihanga landfill reached the end of its life (2007). The rationale for this is that unless landfill charges can be used to provide a pricing incentive for waste reduction, the need to generate enough waste to pay for operating and development costs runs counter to waste reduction goals. Analysis to date shows this is not achievable given the proximity of other landfills in the region. The Council has made a commitment to explore regional options for waste disposal, including new technologies that avoid landfill solutions.*

No change to the draft WMMP is recommended. Both submitters will receive a reply by letter.

- 17 **Appendix 3** of this report provides the Draft Terms of Reference for the Joint Committee that reflects an ongoing governance role in implementing the regional WMMP
- 18 **Appendix 4** of this report is the final version of the Regional WMMP, which includes the proposed amendments. This final version will be published on the website.
- 19 Officers from each of the Councils have been consulted on the development of Appendices 1, 2 and 3 of this paper. Each Council will consider recommendations equivalent to those in this paper.

## Financial Considerations

- 20 The WMMP is not expected to raise any financial implications in the current financial year. Any participation in initial regional work will be met within existing budgets. In the longer term there may be financial implications arising from new, expanded or even reduced actions under the final WMMP. These would need to be considered as part of future Long-term Plan and Annual Plan processes.

## Legal Considerations

- 21 There are no legal considerations other than to reflect that Council has met its legal obligations under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 to review its waste related bylaws and develop a new WMMP before 1 July 2012.

## Delegation

- 22 The Environment and Community Development Committee has:

*7.1. The Authority to develop (within any wider existing strategic framework) policies and work programmes that support the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the community.*

### Consultation

- 23 The Draft WMMP has been available for public consultation from 2 May 2011 to 2 June 2011.

### Policy Implications

- 24 Kapiti's Individual Action Plan in the WMMP supports Councils Zero Waste to Landfill policy and support Councils Sustainable Communities – Outreach programme.

### Publicity Considerations

- 25 A media release will be prepared and the final WMMP and Waste Assessment of March 2011 will be published on the website.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 26 That the Environment and Community Development Committee adopts the amendments to the “Councils of the Wellington Region Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2011-2017” (WMMP) attached as Appendix 2 to report IS-11-361;
- 27 That the Environment and Community Development Committee adopts the ‘Councils of the Wellington Region Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2011-2017’ to take effect immediately;
- 28 That the Environment and Community Development Committee approves that the Regional Joint Committee oversees the implementation of the WMMP within the Terms of Reference attached as Appendix 3 to report IS-11-361 and that Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ will be appointed to the Regional Joint Committee;

### Report prepared by:

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**SOLID WASTE SERVICES  
MANAGER**

### Approved for submission by:

**Sean Mallon**

**GROUP MANAGER  
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### ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix 1: Paper to the Joint Committee on the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) for the meeting of 1 September 2011

Appendix 1A: Summary of recommended changes to the Draft WMMP

Appendix 2: Report on submissions to the Draft WMMP

Appendix 3: Terms of Reference of the Joint Committee

Appendix 4: Draft Regional WMMP (final version, including proposed changes)