

23 September 2021

**Request for Official Information responded to under the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) – reference: OIR 2122-67**

I refer to your information request we received on 8 September 2021 for the following:

***Please provide information on what KCDC has done in the past 2 years to minimise organic waste.***

The Kāpiti Coast District Council (Council) response regarding your request is as follows:

Organic waste is highlighted as a priority waste stream in our regional [Waste Minimisation and Management Plan \(WMMP\) 2017-2023](#). To support our organic waste diversion priority, the Council manages a number of programmes and funds some external programmes to target food and garden waste.

**Love your Compost**

Launched in May 2021, the Love your Compost programme aims to reduce the amount of food and garden waste households put into their rubbish bins. The programme offers in person workshops and online resources to Kāpiti residents on home composting systems (composting, worm farming and Bokashi bins), how to compost weeds and safely composting pet waste. As an incentive to get started, Council offers a \$40 discount voucher towards a home composting system of choice or a garden waste collection service to participants in our behaviour change programme.

More information on the workshops, resources and the voucher can be found at [www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/love-your-compost](http://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/love-your-compost)

**Waste Levy Grants**

The Waste Levy Grants are available every year and aim to increase the range, scale and number of waste minimisation activities on the Kāpiti Coast.

In August 2020 the [Waste Levy Grants Allocation Policy](#) was updated to highlight organic waste as a priority funding area under the Seed Funding and Business Waste Reduction application categories.

Organic waste diversion projects funded under the grants during the last 2 years are summarised below:

1. Earth Starch - Organic Wealth joint venture to trial a rapid treatment facility for all types of organic waste and café food waste collection trial.
2. Pae-cycle – a food waste collection service based in Paekākāriki run by Paekākāriki Community Orchard and Gardens.
3. Māoriland Charitable Trust – compost boxes to process food waste collected from local cafés and compostable festival waste, and lobbying local cafes to switch to compostable packaging during the film festival.
4. Kāpiti Primary School – onsite composting system.
5. Pukehuia – composting project.
6. Te Horo School – onsite composting system.
7. The Gardening Group – communal tipping trailer for greenwaste composting.
8. Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Rito – onsite composting hub for onsite and school community composting.
9. Te Ra Waldorf School – onsite composting hub for onsite and school community composting.

In the current 2021-22 funding round, of the 18 applications we have received in total, 12 applications target organic waste diversion. Fund allocation will be finalised by the Grants Allocation Subcommittee in November 2021.

Further information on the Waste Levy Grants can be accessed from [Waste Levy Grants - Kāpiti Coast District Council \(kapiticoast.govt.nz\)](https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/waste-levy-grants)

### **Love Food Hate Waste**

Council was one of the initiators of starting the national Love Food Hate Waste (LFHW) campaign and continues to contribute annually. This campaign creates food waste prevention resources (e.g. meal planners, seasonal recipe books, storage tips etc.) and educational campaigns on social media. Council shares these resources and uses them for LFHW stalls at local markets and Waste Reduction talks to community.

More information on Love Food Hate Waste can be found at [Love Food Hate Waste](https://www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/love-food-hate-waste)

### **Internally**

Council offices have had onsite worm farms to compost staff food scraps since 2015. In 2020 a worm farm was added at the Ōtaki Library for staff use. Work is underway to improve organic waste outcomes for other council facilities.

### **Work with Composting New Zealand**

Composting NZ is a private business leasing land from Council at the Otaihanga closed landfill. They accept garden waste at three sites across the district: Otaihanga Composting NZ site, Otaki Resource Recovery Centre, and Waikanae Greenwaste Centre.

The garden waste is mulched and formed into windrows to produce biogro certified compost, which is then sold to customers through the retail area at the Otaihanga site. Council has a collaborative relationship with Composting NZ to support their activity which makes a significant contribution to the diversion of organic waste from landfill.

Yours sincerely



**Sean Mallon**  
Group Manager Infrastructure Services  
Te Kaihautū Ratonga Pakiaka