



# WELLINGTON REGION WASTE MANAGEMENT & MINIMISATION PLAN 2023 - 2029

PREPARED FOR  
THE COUNCILS OF  
THE WELLINGTON  
REGION

Absolutely Positively  
**Wellington City Council**  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

 **CARTERTON**  
DISTRICT COUNCIL  
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohē o Taratahi

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TE AWA KAIRANGI

 **Kapiti Coast**  
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Me Huri Whakamuri, Ka Tūro Whakamae

 **MASTERTON**  
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**porirua**city

 **SOUTH WAIRARAPA**  
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Kia Kōwhiri i Tātahi

 **Upper Hutt City Council**  
Te Kaunihera o  
Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta

LESS WASTE  
GREATER PLACE



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# 1 Whakarāpopototanga | Executive summary

The eight Councils of the Wellington region have come together to develop a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) that sets a vision, objectives, targets, and action plans, to take us closer to a future where we collectively care for our resources. This is the third joint WMMP that the Councils have developed, which enables a more efficient and consistent approach to our waste management infrastructure, services, and activities to increase reuse, recovery, repurposing and recycling of waste over the next six years (2023-2029). This WMMP outlines how the eight Councils, mana whenua, community, industry, and businesses can work together to transform how waste is generated, managed, and minimised in the Wellington region. Reflecting this collaboration is the vision for this WMMP, which is:

***E mahi tahi ana ki te tiākinahia a mātou rauemi – hei whakaiti para, ā, ki te whakanui ai te wāhi***

**Working together to care for our resources - for less waste and a greater place**

This WMMP addresses the key issues identified in the Wellington Region Waste Assessment 2023 (WRWA), which, at a high-level, has identified that our modern 'take-make-dispose' economy is not sustainable. We need to start moving towards a circular economy, where we keep resources in use for as long as possible. Then, where possible, recover products and materials and regenerate natural systems at the end of a product's lifecycle. This approach aligns with Aotearoa New Zealand's *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* and Aotearoa New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan - *Te hau mārohi ki anamata | Towards a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy*.

The Councils are committed to making this transition equitable and inclusive, recognising unique perspectives, and ensuring the costs, benefits and opportunities are distributed fairly. Mana whenua are also recognised as partners in the implementation of this WMMP. By minimising waste and valuing natural resources, the Councils are in alignment with mana whenua and their role to exercise kaitiakitanga for te taiao for current and future generations.

This joint WMMP addresses the identified issues by establishing the following objectives:

**Whāinga 1**      **Mā ngā pūnaha para me te taumanu rawa e tautoko he whakaititanga o te tuku haurehu kati mahana mai i ngā ruapara me ngā kohikohinga para.**

Objective 1      Waste and resource recovery systems support a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from landfills and waste collections.

**Whāinga 2**      **He haepapa kiritōpū nō roto mai i te takiwā o Te Whanganui ā-Tara ki te heke haere a mātou whakamahi i ngā rawa me te whakahaumarua a mātou taiao.**

Objective 2      There is collective responsibility within the Wellington region for reducing our resource use and protecting our natural environment.



<b>Whāinga 3</b>	<b>Kei reira ngā tikanga e tū ki te tautoko te katoa ki te whakawaia te iti haere i ngā rawa, ā, te whakaiti para hoki.</b>
Objective 3	The conditions are in place to support everyone to use fewer resources and minimise waste
<b>Whāinga 4</b>	<b>Mā ngā hanganga me ngā ratonga e taumanu ana i te hangarua me te rawa e nui ake ai te hurihanga nei o ngā rawa.</b>
Objective 4	Material circularity is increased through reuse, resource recovery, waste infrastructure and services.
<b>Whāinga 5</b>	<b>Me aro ki te māngai para, he āheitanga he māmā te whakaiti para, te rawa hangarua, ki te iti haere ki nga ruapara hoki.</b>
Objective 5	It is accessible and convenient to reduce waste, reuse materials, and minimise disposal to landfill in line with the waste hierarchy.
<b>Whāinga 6</b>	<b>Hei whakamōhio he pūnaha raraunga ki te kawea i te para me te taumanu me te arotūruki i te para i ngā tini wai.</b>
Objective 6	Waste and resource recovery data systems are in place to track and monitor waste streams.
<b>Whāinga 7</b>	<b>Ko ngā taupuni taumanu rawa me ngā ruapara e tuku ana i te manawaroa kei whītiki he āhuatanga ohotata.</b>
Objective 7	Resource recovery facilities and waste systems are resilient and able to cope with emergency events.
<b>Whāinga 8</b>	<b>Mēnā i matua mai te taumanu rawa, arā ka kite i ngā ruapara e mahia ai mehemea kua otihia rawatia ētahi atu.</b>
Objective 8	Recovery of materials is maximised so that landfills are used as a last resort.
<b>Whāinga 9</b>	<b>E whakahaeretia haumarutia, tōtikatia ana hoki i te kore te para e ārai i te papare rānei i ngā ruapara hoki e ai ki te tikanga pai katoa.</b>
Objective 9	Waste that cannot be prevented or diverted from landfill is managed safely and effectively in accordance with best practice.

The ambitious targets within this WMMP provide a clear and measurable way to track the region’s progress towards the objectives and promote accountability. These are:

1. Reduce the total amount of material that needs final disposal to landfill by:
  - 10% by 2027.
  - 30% by 2030.

We will work towards this by achieving the following sub-targets:

- a. Ensuring construction and demolition waste processing and recovery is available in the Wellington region by 2026.
  - b. Ensuring organic processing systems are available to the Wellington region by 2029.
  - c. Ensuring five new resource recovery locations are added to the existing network within the Wellington region by 2030.
2. Reduce emissions from biogenic methane by reducing the total amount of organic waste disposed to landfill by 50% by 2030.

3. Reduce emissions from the collection and transport of kerbside waste by 30% by 2030.
4. Ensure all urban households have access to kerbside recycling collections by 2027.
5. Ensure food scraps collection services are available to urban households by 2030.
6. For each council to engage with and support 30% of the business community to minimise waste and implement waste minimisation activities by 2029.

A Regional Action Plan and Local Actions Plans have been developed to identify how these objectives and targets will be met. These actions broadly cover:

- Providing and supporting education initiatives within the Wellington region that focus on waste minimisation and responsible consumption.
- Supporting new and existing regional and local waste minimisation initiatives.
- Improving the way we connect and collaborate across the region on waste management and minimisation initiatives.
- Ensuring appropriate kerbside services are in place for recycling and organic waste.
- Ensuring appropriate regional infrastructure is in place to meet our targets and objectives.
- Investigating ways to effectively manage and monitor cross boundary and inter-regional waste flows.
- Investigating options for future disposal of residual waste and what this may look like in the long term.

Most importantly, while Councils play an important role in managing and minimising waste, we cannot do it alone. This WMMP aims to promote a collaborative approach across Councils, central government, communities, mana whenua, industry, and businesses who are all important in helping to transition to a low-emission, circular and low-waste economy.

## 2 Kōrero Whakataki | Introduction

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Waste management and minimisation is a critical issue in the Wellington region, and across Aotearoa New Zealand as a whole. The way New Zealanders currently consume products, based on a linear ‘take-make-dispose’ system, leads to large quantities of waste where resources are not valued. It is also widely recognised that this current linear system, based on the extraction of virgin materials, exponential growth, and overconsumption of natural resources, is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and environmental degradation.

This WMMP still has waste reduction as a key focus, but it also begins the shift required for the Wellington region to move towards a circular economy. This means we will keep resources in use for as long as possible, and where possible, recover and recirculate products and materials, to support the regeneration of natural systems.

This joint WMMP addresses the key issues identified in the Wellington Region Waste Assessment 2023 (WRWA) and aligns with Aotearoa New Zealand’s *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy*, which provides a high-level road map for the nation to shift to a low-emissions, low-waste society built upon a circular economy by 2050.

To support this change, this WMMP acknowledges that everyone can play a role to protect and enhance the environment within the Wellington region. By addressing our waste, steps can be taken to reduce the impacts of climate change, put in place actions to support designing out waste and pollution, keep resources in use for as long as possible, and safely manage the waste that cannot be diverted.

To help achieve this, this WMMP establishes a vision, a list of objectives, a set of targets, and a suite of regional and local council actions that provide a plan for waste transformation in the region. It outlines how the eight Councils, mana whenua, community, industry, and businesses can work together to transform how waste is generated, managed, and minimised in the Wellington region.

### 2.1 Transitioning to a low-emissions future

Aotearoa New Zealand’s first emissions reduction plan - *Te hau mārohi ki anamata | Towards a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy* – was launched in 2022, and waste was identified as having an important role in meeting the 2030 and 2050 emission reduction targets.

While waste was reported as being responsible for 4% of Aotearoa New Zealand’s gross emissions in 2021, 94% of those emissions were from biogenic methane – a potent greenhouse gas<sup>1</sup> with a warming effect 28 times greater than carbon dioxide<sup>2</sup>. This greenhouse gas is generated by organic waste like paper, food scraps and garden waste that breaks down in landfills without oxygen, producing biogenic methane.

Many of our landfills currently accept organic waste and an opportunity exists for councils to develop and implement strategies to reduce organic waste disposal to landfill. This WMMP identifies organic waste management as a key focus area and as such has included a specific target (see **Section 4.4** for further detail) for the Wellington region to reduce organic waste disposal to landfill.

Further, national legislative and regulatory changes are signalling a push towards a circular economy (refer to **Figure 1**) and a drive to heavily reduce carbon emissions. A circular economy means redesigning products and services to reduce resource usage, keeping resources in use for as long as possible, and

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<sup>1</sup> New Zealand’s Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990–2021 snapshot – Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (2023)

<sup>2</sup> Measuring emissions: A guide for organisations - Ministry for the Environment (2023)

recycling or processing them when they reach the end of their life to reduce waste and support the regeneration of nature. To provide the Wellington region with an ambitious plan to steer this transition, this WMMP has been developed with the need to transition to a circular economy front of mind. As a result, it has sought to integrate all components of the plan, including objectives, targets, and actions to guide that transition.

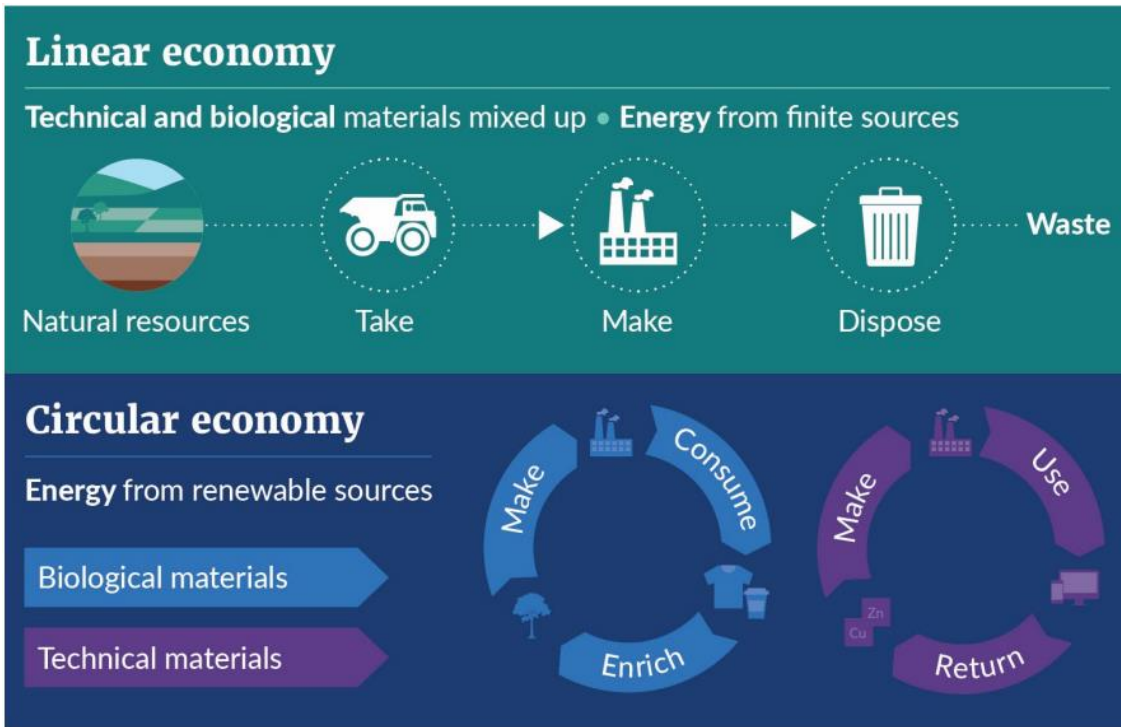


Figure 1: Characteristics of linear and circular economies (Source: Te rautaki para | Waste strategy)

## 2.2 Moving up the waste hierarchy to a circular economy

Notwithstanding the region’s transition to a low emissions future, *te pūnaha whakarōpū para* | *the waste hierarchy* (refer to **Figure 2** below) illustrates the most and least favoured methods to manage and minimise waste. The Ministry for the Environment defines the top two levels of the hierarchy as:

1. **Reduce, rethink, redesign:** Reducing the resources being used and redesign to avoid producing waste.
2. **Reuse, repair, repurpose:** Keeping things in use for as long as possible, without significant processing.

The top two levels of the waste hierarchy are key to changing the Wellington region from a linear economy (where we take, make and then dispose of products) to a circular one. A circular economy is one where waste and pollution are designed out, resources are highly valued and used for as long as possible, and where possible, products and materials are recovered at the end of their lifecycle.

While keeping materials at their highest value and prioritising the first two levels of *te pūnaha whakarōpū para* | *the waste hierarchy* is at the heart of this WMMP, the Councils also acknowledge the importance of continuing to support activities at all levels of the hierarchy to ensure the ongoing successful delivery of existing waste minimisation and management activities (e.g., kerbside collections and behaviour change initiatives).



By placing more emphasis on the top two levels of the waste hierarchy, the Wellington region has signalled a clear shift towards a circular economy. This shift will require protecting and regenerating natural systems and ensuring that fair and inclusive outcomes are created for all communities.

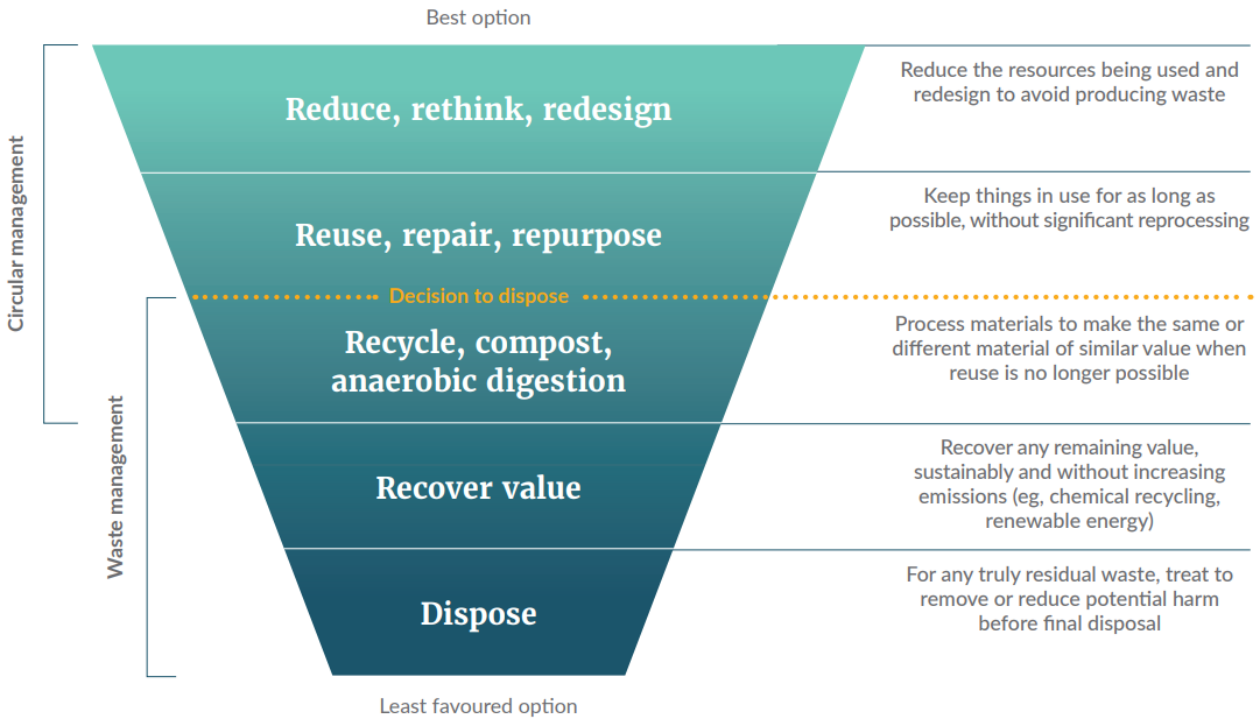


Figure 2: Te pūnaha whakarōpū para | The waste hierarchy (source: Ministry for the Environment, Te rautaki para | Waste strategy)

### 2.3 Why do we need a WMMP?

Section 43 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) requires that territorial authorities adopt a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) to promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within their city or district<sup>3</sup>. Reviews of WMMPs must occur at least every six years.

For the eight councils in the Wellington region, this will be the third joint WMMP. The eight councils are:

- Carterton District Council
- Hutt City Council
- Kāpiti Coast District Council
- Masterton District Council
- Porirua City Council
- South Wairarapa District Council
- Upper Hutt City Council
- Wellington City Council

<sup>3</sup> Section 43 of the WMA.

While Greater Wellington Regional Council does not have a statutory responsibility to develop a WMMP under the WMA, they play a complementary role to the eight councils when it comes to minimising the environmental impacts of waste in the region.

The previous WMMP (2017-2023) had a heavy focus on becoming waste free. However, data from the WRWA suggests recycling performance is static or in decline in most Wellington region cities/districts. With the population in the Wellington region expected to increase, the rate in which we are disposing of waste to landfill is unsustainable. Therefore, this WMMP includes a range of actions to develop the infrastructure required across the region to reuse and recover materials and minimise disposal to landfill.

This WMMP covers all solid waste (including waste diverted via recycling, composting or otherwise) in the Wellington region, whether it is managed by councils or not. Gas emitted from the three Class 1 landfills in the Wellington region continue to be managed by the facility operators, with gas required to be captured according to the National Environmental Standard for Air Quality 2004.

While councils may not have a direct involvement in the management of all waste, there is a responsibility for all councils to at least consider the management of all waste. Councils also have responsibility to provide access to services such as to households, and to suggest areas where other groups, such as businesses, could take action themselves.

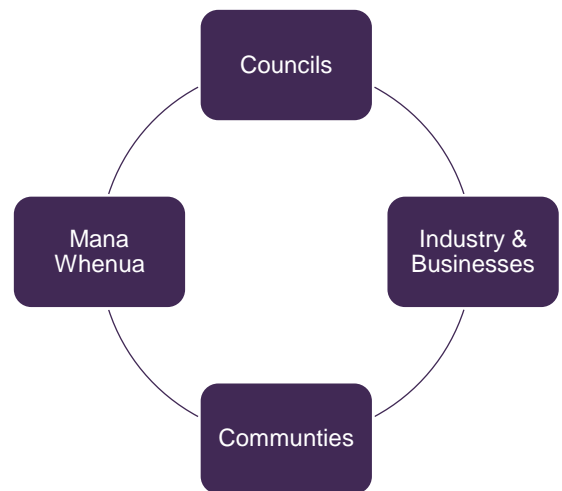
This WMMP covers the period from 2023 to 2029 but is intended to be relevant beyond 2030 as *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* changes are established and embedded at a national, regional, and local level<sup>4</sup>.

## 2.4 Who is impacted by this WMMP?

We all play a role in the waste management and minimisation system, whether as a producer of goods and services, consumer, or processor of waste.

Councils cannot achieve the vision, objectives, targets, or actions outlined in this WMMP alone. It will require joint effort, focus, and a willingness to change from everyone in our region.

The different roles and responsibilities of Councils, mana whenua, community, industry, and businesses are described in detail in **Section 5.1** of this WMMP, it includes details on how Councils may work in partnership with mana whenua and support other key stakeholders to implement this WMMP.



## 2.5 Recognition of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Te ao Māori

We (the Councils) recognise mana whenua as integral to the implementation of this WMMP. This is not only because of our duty as partners under Te Tiriti o Waitangi but because mana whenua have a role in exercising kaitiakitanga (guardianship and protection) to ensure the environment is looked after to sustain current and future generations. As tangata whenua, mana whenua also possess unique perspectives, mātauranga Māori (indigenous knowledge), and tikanga (customs) that can collectively inform possible solutions for the Wellington region’s waste management and minimisation issues.

<sup>4</sup> Section 50 of the WMA

In te ao Māori, traditional waste management practices are centred around sustainability and a circular, closed-loop system. There is a focus on not creating the waste in the first place, and cycles of continual regeneration of nature. This involves returning all resources back to Papatūānuku (the earth). This process intends to reduce harm to the land, waterways, and oceans.

Whakapapa (the kinship between all living things: past, present, and future) is also key in te ao Māori. Whakapapa not only exists between people but between people and the planet. By understanding the connection and responsibility between humans and other living things, everyone can act more responsibly to ensure our actions create balance in the natural environment. Inherent in te ao Māori, is the need for everyone to:

- Recognise the value in natural resources and use them appropriately.
- Think about how things are connected and how our actions affect them.
- Step up in our responsibility to care for nature, what it gives us, as well as people.
- Acknowledge that humans are an element of the environment and part of the overall system.

The work identified in this WMMP will be underpinned by the three commonly understood principles of Te Tiriti, which are:

- **Participation** – we will maximise opportunities for Māori to participate in decisions.
- **Protection** – we will support mana whenua to exercise kaitiakitanga of the environment and seek to ensure that the actions included in this WMMP achieve positive environmental, cultural, social, and economic outcomes for Māori.
- **Partnership** – we remain committed to developing meaningful relationships and partnerships with mana whenua and to collaborate on waste management and minimisation practices and activities important to them.

This means working with Māori, for Māori, in a way that respects rangatiratanga (the right for Māori to make decisions for Māori) and aligns with te ao Māori, mātauranga Māori and kaitiakitanga. Councils will also seek to partner with mana whenua so councils can align with a Māori worldview of waste minimisation. Councils recognise Māori have an in-depth knowledge of Aotearoa New Zealand and the Wellington region environment, and we must work together to draw from whakaaro Māori and achieve waste minimisation aspirations for Māori.

To support this mahi, this WMMP includes a range of actions which seek to develop and strengthen partnerships between Councils and respective mana whenua within their rohe and explore ways of working collaboratively to achieve common goals.

## 2.6 An equitable transition

The way waste is managed and minimised has the potential to create broader benefits for people, the environment, and the economy. Impacts resulting from the transition to a low-emissions, low-waste system, built upon a circular economy, will be identified, and managed in a way that is fair and just across communities. The eight Councils are committed to the equitable and inclusive guiding principles as outlined in *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* and Aotearoa New Zealand's first emissions reduction plan, *Te hau mārohi ki anamata | Towards a productive, sustainable and inclusive economy* including:

- Recognising the unique perspectives, needs and approaches facing different local communities, businesses, hapū, iwi and whānau.
- Ensuring the costs and benefits of change are distributed equitably among communities and across generations.

- Developing and investing to create opportunities and jobs in local and regional communities.

By identifying potential benefits and maximising opportunities brought about by this transition to a low waste, low emissions society, policies and actions can be tailored accordingly to ensure everyone in the Wellington region is supported through this period of change. The Wellington region remains committed through the life of this WMMP to find a range of solutions that benefit our communities, including for example, consideration of cost effectiveness.

## 3 Te āhuatanga o nāiane | Existing situation

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The WRWA provides an assessment of the current waste situation in the region and has been published alongside this WMMP. This section summarises the key findings from the WRWA, within the following broad groupings:

- The legislative context influencing waste activities and outcomes in the region (**Section 3.1**).
- An overview of the Wellington region, including topographical and geographical context, demography, and economy (**Section 3.2**).
- Volumes of waste streams entering landfills (**Section 3.3**).
- Existing infrastructure and future demand (**Section 3.4**).
- The key issues and challenges facing the region (**Section 3.5**).
- What's already working well in the region (**Section 3.6**).

The WRWA acknowledges that a key issue faced by the Councils in the development of this WMMP is the availability and accessibility of data, particularly on the activities of the private waste and diversion sector. This limitation affects the ability of this WMMP to accurately identify flows of materials and quantities of recovered materials across the Wellington region, which influences the framing of analysis presented below, but is a key focus of actions for this WMMP.

### 3.1 Policy drivers and legislative context

The overarching document for waste management in Aotearoa New Zealand is *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy*, which is the roadmap for the next three decades for a low-emissions, low-waste society built upon a circular economy. Alongside this strategy, various legislative and policy frameworks influence waste collection, recycling, recovery, treatment, and disposal services in Aotearoa New Zealand.

We have considered each of these in the preparation of this WMMP, with a particular focus on policies directing us towards a low-emissions, low-waste, circular economy. **Figure 3** illustrates this broad framework.



Legislative framework					Other tools
Waste Minimisation Act 2008	Local Government Act 2002	Hazardous Substances & New Organisms Act 1996	Climate Change Response Act 2002	Resource Management Act 1991	Other tools
New Zealand Waste Strategy	Bylaws	Regulations and group standards related to waste	Emissions trading scheme	National Environmental Standards	International conventions
Waste Management & Minimisation Plan	Long-term Plans			District and regional plans and resource consents	Central government guidelines, codes of practice and voluntary initiatives
Waste Disposal Levy					
Waste Minimisation Fund					
Product stewardship					
Other regulations					

Figure 3: The strategic, legislative and policy frameworks that influence waste collection, recycling, recovery, treatment, and disposal services in Aotearoa New Zealand.

To achieve transformational change, as emphasised in *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* and this WMMP, everyone including the Councils, mana whenua, community, industry, residents and businesses need to get involved. For the Councils in the Wellington region, this includes:

- Building on *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* to implement this WMMP, which will assist in developing an Action and Investment Plan that will provide a greater level of detail on what is needed to deliver on said *Waste strategy*.
- Exploring opportunities to work with other councils on new or expanded facilities and services, that will contribute to a national network for circular management of resources.
- Supporting local community groups and non-governmental organisations with their initiatives to reduce waste.
- Linking with national behaviour change programmes to support and expand the reach of local activity.
- Plan and resource the work needed to identify and manage landfills and other contaminated sites as part of a long-term regional waste management plan.

Each of these focus areas are included within the Regional Action Plan, as set out in **Section 6.1** of this WMMP.

Councils will also need to give effect to any regulations that are currently or expected to be imposed by central government under the WMA. This includes the following:

- Providing household recycling and food scraps collections where they do not already exist, which are expected to be set out in regulations.
- Standardising materials and the minimum standards for diverting waste from landfill, which are expected to be set out in performance standards.
- Changing the reporting requirements to central government, which are expected to be set out in regulations.
- Considering collection services and infrastructure if a regulated product stewardship scheme is proposed for a product.

It's also important to note that Councils will need to adapt to any future changes to legislation or government direction. This may include new and more comprehensive legislation on waste to replace the WMA and the Litter Act 1979<sup>5</sup>.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/areas-of-work/waste/waste-legislation-reform/>

### 3.2 The Wellington region

Understanding topographical and geographical context, demography, and economic drivers in the region helps to provide context to the management of resources and waste. The Wellington region poses several unique topographic and geographic challenges and opportunities when it comes to managing and minimising waste. The region’s topography creates physical barriers between different parts of the region, as well as connections to the rest of Aotearoa New Zealand, as it is flanked by the sea and the Remutaka and Tararua Ranges. This topography has shaped urban development patterns and resulted in two main north-south urban development and movement corridors with limited east-west connections.

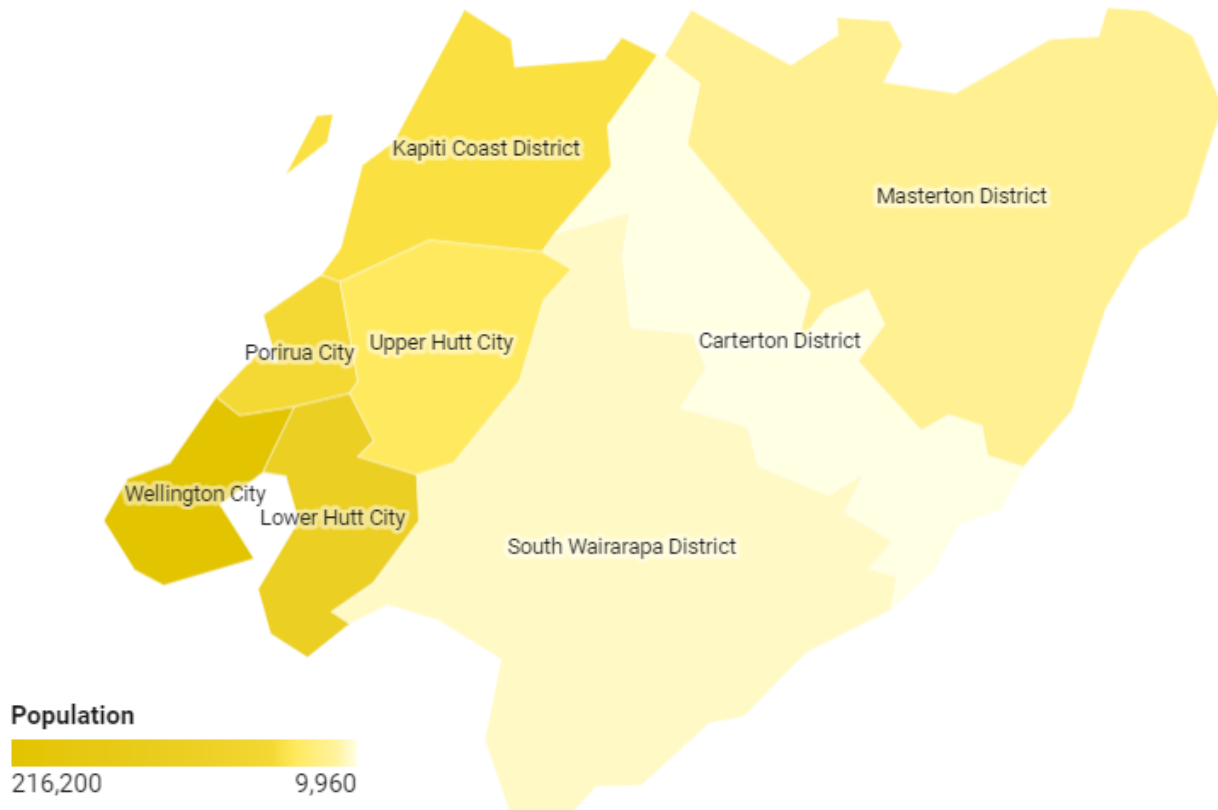


Figure 4: Wellington region illustrating the eight councils and their population<sup>6</sup>

The Wellington region includes the eight councils as illustrated in **Figure 4**. The region’s population of nearly 550,000 people<sup>7</sup> is concentrated in the larger metropolitan areas of Wellington city, Porirua, and Lower Hutt, with the remaining population dispersed to the north throughout the Hutt Valley and along the coastline to Kāpiti, and into the predominantly rural Wairarapa in the west. This results in an inflow of around 82,000 workers every weekday from other districts and cities into Wellington city<sup>8</sup>.

This urban development pattern and limited east-west transport connections create challenges for the movement of people and resources around the region. Particularly if a main north-south transport corridor (e.g., State Highway 1 or 2) is closed or disrupted. Resources need to move to, and through, the different areas of the region where people live, work and play. This includes producers and manufacturers, households and businesses, and the various recycling/reprocessing facilities in the region. This highlights how waste is truly a regional issue, and therefore why a regional approach is needed to minimise waste.

<sup>6</sup> [Facts & figures - WellingtonNZ.com](https://www.wellingtonnz.com/facts-figures)

<sup>7</sup> <https://ecoprofile.infometrics.co.nz/Wellington-Region/Population>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/keeping-cities-moving/Wellington-regional-mode-shift-plans.pdf>

Socio-economic characteristics, such as age, ethnicity, and social deprivation levels vary within and across each of the Councils, therefore each council is likely to have unique vulnerabilities, challenges, and opportunities regarding waste management and minimisation initiatives. Socio-economic characteristics are also likely to change over time. Across the Wellington region, the population is projected to age, with a larger proportion of the population expected to be aged 65 or over<sup>9</sup>. Māori, Pacific and Asian people are also expected to make up a larger share of the region's population<sup>10</sup>. In addition, the cost of living for the average household increased 7.7% in the 12 months to March 2023. This trend of the upward cost of living is anticipated to continue, placing increasing economic pressure on households<sup>11,12</sup>. These socio-economic shifts further highlight the need for this WMMP to support an equitable transition to a low-emissions and low waste society (refer to **Section 2.6** above for more information about an equitable transition).

Of the key industries contributing to the production of goods and services (i.e., Gross Domestic Product (GDP)) within the Wellington region, the professional, scientific, and technical sector contributed the largest proportion (13.9%), followed by public administration and safety (12.5%)<sup>13</sup> (**Figure 5**). Often, the industry share in the region has a direct influence on the type and volume of waste produced and available for management but this is not the case in the Wellington region.

Further, the volumes and types of waste being produced across the Wellington region and subsequently disposed of is anticipated to change as more emphasis on waste minimisation activities, reuse and repurposing initiatives become mainstream. For example, the two sectors which contribute to the largest proportion of GDP in the Wellington region do not have a corresponding waste stream which is the highest contributor to the waste composition in the region (such as materials common place in office-based roles e.g., paper, cardboard, food scraps). Instead, organic waste and construction and demolition (C&D) waste are the highest contributors to the waste composition in the region<sup>14</sup> (as discussed further in **Section 3.3** of this WMMP). Influencing factors include but are not limited to:

- Commercialisation of innovative technologies.
- Sustainable product design.
- A keener focus on mapping behaviour-change pathways.
- Resource initiatives for waste reduction/recycling at both central and local government levels.

However, this change will require wider initiatives such as investment in waste and resource management infrastructure as well as supporting legislative instruments.

<sup>9</sup> StatsNZ 2028 Population Projections (2018) baseline

<sup>10</sup> StatsNZ 2028 Population Projections (2018) baseline

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/cost-of-living-remains-high-for-all-household-groups/#:~:text=The%20cost%20of%20living%20for%20the%20average%20household%20increased%207.7,12%20months%20to%20December%202022.>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.asb.co.nz/content/dam/asb/documents/reports/economic-note/asb-hh-cost-of%20living-update-2023.pdf?et rid=MzI2NTU2OTEyODY0S0&et cid=7054748>

<sup>13</sup> <https://ecoprofile.infometrics.co.nz/Wellington%20Region/Gdp>

<sup>14</sup> Wellington Region Waste Assessment 2023

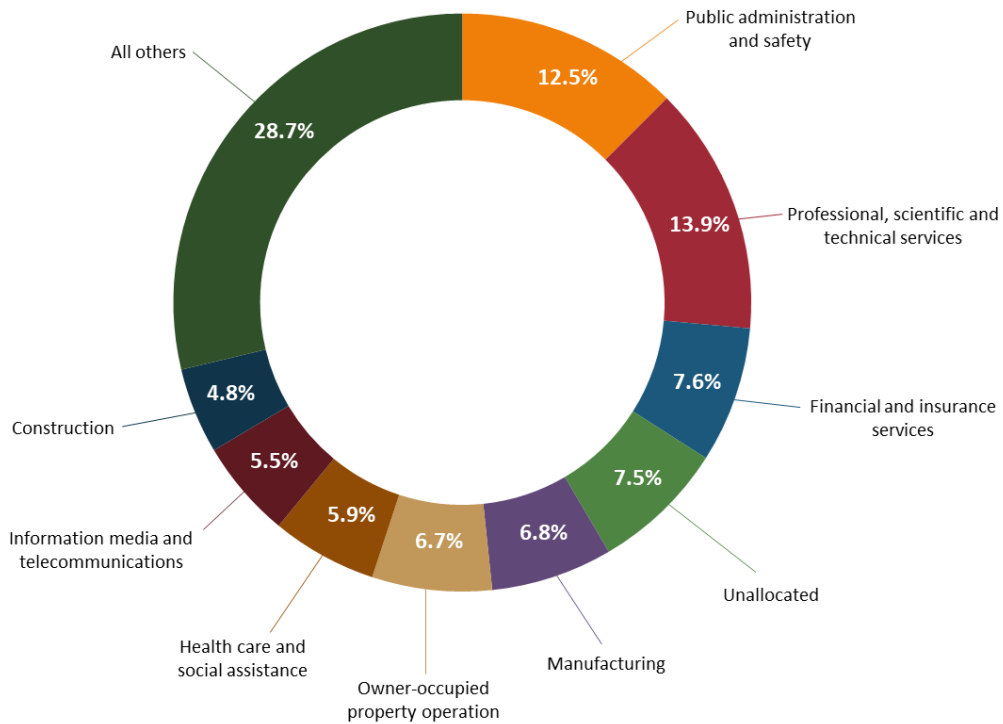


Figure 5: Proportion of Gross Domestic Product by Industry Type for the Wellington Region between 2001 and 2021

### 3.3 How much waste is there?

To understand the volume and type of waste produced in the Wellington region, we need access to reliable and transparent waste data. This data is essential to target activities that will reduce waste production and disposal. However, access to reliable and transparent data is an issue across Aotearoa New Zealand. While we have some waste data for the region from previous years, comparing it decade on decade, or even year on year, is difficult due to inconsistencies in data and reporting requirements and the lack of a national waste data framework. Improving both the quality and quantity of waste data is a core component of *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy*, and this WMMP acknowledges this. The WRWA also highlighted the difficulties and assumptions associated with available waste data.

Nevertheless, to plan for transformation we need to start somewhere. This requires us to review the data we do hold and understand how well our waste management and minimisation system is performing. This information is critical to setting an ambitious vision, clear objectives, tangible targets, and achievable actions for the next six years that will help us to address the issues and opportunities facing our region, and transform how we generate, manage, and minimise waste.

Of note, Aotearoa New Zealand is one of the highest generators of waste per person in the world. In 2018, we collectively sent 3.7 million tonnes of waste to Class 1 landfills (approximately 750 kgs per person). This is 49% higher than the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) average of 538 kgs per person<sup>15</sup>.

At a regional level<sup>16</sup>:

<sup>15</sup> Ministry for the Environment. 2021. *Te kawē i te haepapa para | Taking responsibility for our waste: Proposals for a new waste strategy; Issues and options for new waste legislation*. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment.

<sup>16</sup> Wellington Region Waste Assessment 2023



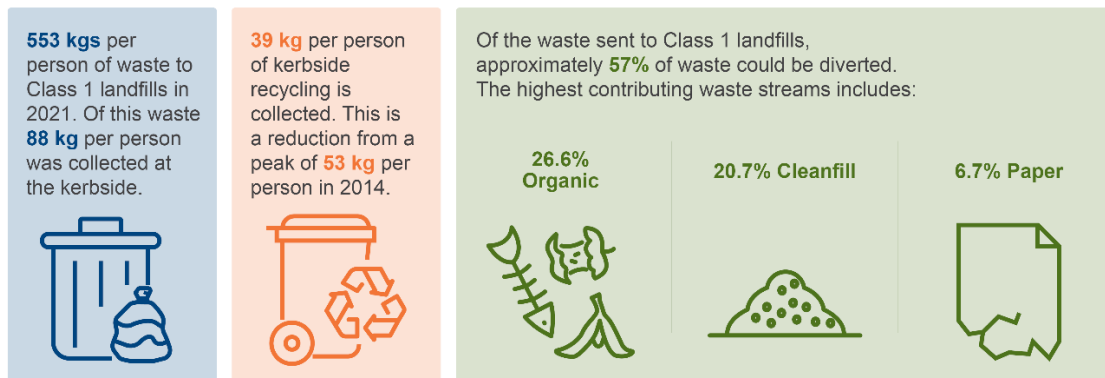


Figure 6: Regional waste overview

With reference to the above diagram (**Figure 6**), the reduction in kerbside recycling collected per person is likely due to other countries restricting the import of certain recyclables, primarily mixed paper, and mixed plastic. An example of this is China’s “National Sword Policy”, which limited the flow of contaminated recycling exports to China and has led to lower overall recycling rates and stockpiling of recyclable materials domestically with Aotearoa New Zealand and other Western countries around the world. However, the effect of this policy has also contributed to improvements in national waste infrastructure to, for example, sort and recover materials (e.g., optical sorters and Material Recovery Facilities).

The following graph summarises the primary composition of levied waste to Class 1 landfills in the Wellington region for 2021/22<sup>17</sup> (**Figure 7**).

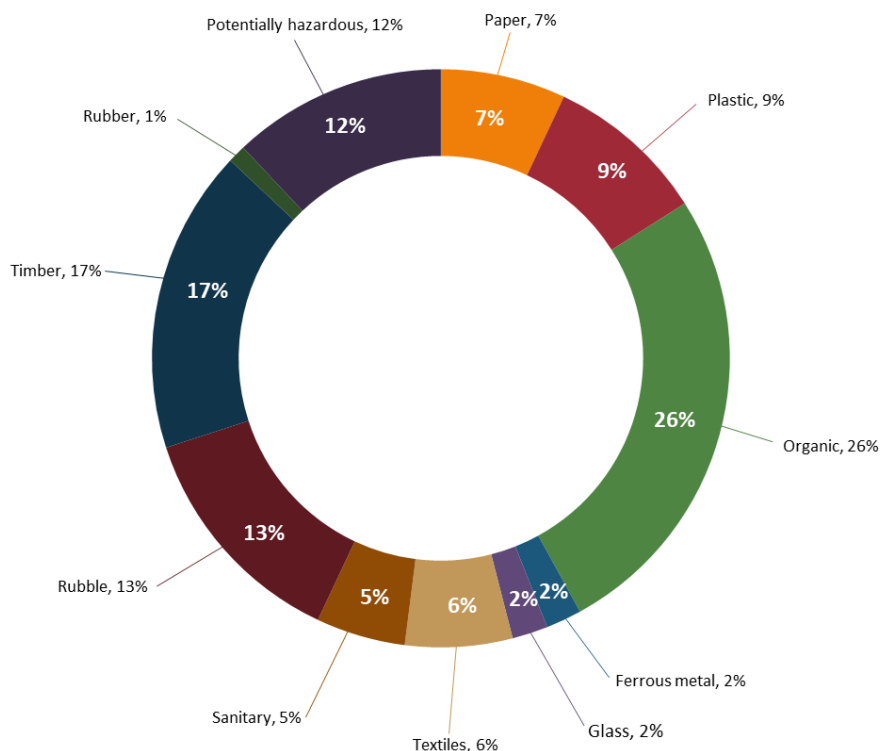


Figure 7: Composition of Levied Waste to Class 1 Landfills

<sup>17</sup> Wellington Region Waste Assessment 2023

As our data improves, we will continue to explore opportunities to improve our progress reporting against our WMMP targets. This reporting is expected to be supported by central government, who are developing an online platform where up-to-date, aggregate data is publicly available (as of November 2023).

As discussed in the WRWA, there is potential to divert as much as 57% of levied waste from landfill with the development of new material collection and treatment systems within the Wellington region. For waste streams such as organic waste, plastics and paper, the impacts of this diversion are expected to be significant and could lead to significant waste and emissions reduction potential (see **Figure 8** Error! Reference source not found. to the right).

For more detail on the assumptions and data used to generate these estimates, please refer to Section 5 and 6 of the WRWA.

### 3.4 What about the future?

The factors that will impact future demand for waste services are difficult to predict, particularly given that the changes signalled within *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* will take time to become entrenched in our daily lives and may be influenced by changes in the government of the day. As such, this WMMP has been developed to provide a step change for the Wellington region under the current legislative conditions with flexibility built in to ensure the actions can continue in the event of governmental changes. However, it should be noted that where significant legislative changes are made, these may affect how the WMMP actions are developed and implemented (e.g., delivery timeframe).

In addition, for the Wellington region to move towards a low waste society, Councils will, via the WMMP, investigate and where possible, work with organisations (e.g., community organisations and NGOs) and partners (i.e., mana whenua) to increase and further enhance reuse, repurposing and recovery activities. To achieve this, Councils recognise the breadth and depth of skills and experience that are present across the region as well as well as the connections and relationships between organisations and partners. In recognition of this, and to support the implementation of the WMMP, Councils have indicated a desire to work more closely (e.g., procurement opportunities) with organisations and partners already working within the waste minimisation and management sector.

Notwithstanding the potential for legislative changes and the desire to work more closely with organisations and partners to deliver the WMMP, forecasting population growth within the Wellington region is an important step in understanding the likely demand on waste services into the future. The forecasted population<sup>18</sup> for the Wellington region is expected to increase by about 42,000 people by 2030 and 180,000 people by 2054 and as such provides an indication of the likely investment required to support current and future waste infrastructure. This will ensure residents and ratepayers are provided with value for money, accessible, effective, and convenient services that support the region in diverting waste from landfills and moving up in the waste hierarchy.

Further, this forecasted population growth is already reflected in construction activity in the region, with approximately 7% of the national number of dwellings under construction happening in the region<sup>19</sup>. This

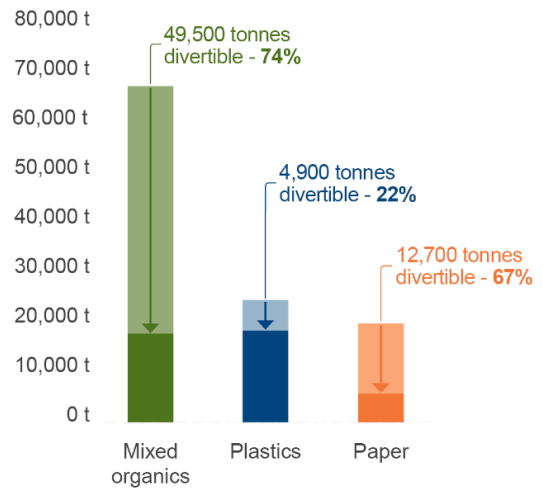


Figure 8: Diversion potential of Levied Waste Streams to Class 1 Landfills

<sup>18</sup> [Population forecast 2020 to 2051 \(sensepartners.nz\)](https://www.sensepartners.nz/population-forecast-2020-to-2051)

<sup>19</sup> Wellington Region Waste Assessment 2023

additional population could require up to 150,000 new homes across the region, with two thirds of this intensification within existing urban areas and one quarter in Wellington city. While it is noted that the highest growth areas are in the three Wairarapa districts, with a growth rate of approximately 51% occurring, this increase is still coming off a relatively low population base. This means the overall proportion of a regional population dominated largely by urban city residents will remain.

The implications of this intensification (and dispersed growth in some areas) means that Councils will need to establish robust waste management and minimisation systems and processes that are accessible and convenient to residents and ratepayers.

In addition to population growth, we also continue to consume more. As a whole, Aotearoa New Zealand has increased the volume of waste generated per capita from 2012 to 2019, with a total increase of approximately 48% between 2010 and 2019<sup>20</sup>. There was a slight decrease in volumes in 2019 and 2020, with the decrease in 2020 likely driven by COVID-19. However, the downward trend has not continued into 2021, and longer-term trends suggest the rate of disposal to landfill is increasing.

While current forecasts suggest the rate of disposal to landfill will only increase, two of the region's landfills have resource consents set to expire within the next ten years. The Southern Landfill, located in Wellington city and Spicer Landfill, located in Porirua will expire in 2026 and 2030, respectively. While there are plans to seek new resource consents for Southern Landfill, there are no guarantees these will be granted, which would severely limit future end-of-life disposal options in the region. This further emphasises the need to reduce the amount of waste generated and sent to landfill in the region.

In the medium to long-term, as the actions from the Regional and Local Action Plans within this WMMP are implemented, the region will be on track to see the amount of waste disposed to landfill reduce.

### 3.5 The challenges / issues we are facing

As highlighted in the WRWA, there are a number of existing barriers or challenges holding the Wellington region back from an orderly transition to a low-emissions, low-waste society. As part of this WMMP, we recognise that these challenges need to be proactively addressed in the objectives, targets and actions put forward by the Councils and will require collaboration with stakeholders and partners across the region. The following section summarises the key challenges and issues we are facing in the waste management and minimisation system in the Wellington region.

For an explanation of how these challenges are addressed in our action plans, please refer to **Section 6** of this WMMP.

#### 3.5.1 Weak pricing signals

Despite the increases to the waste disposal levy, disposal remains a cost-effective option for many businesses and industries. In many settings, the increases are simply incorporated into the cost of doing business. To achieve meaningful waste minimisation and to change ingrained disposal habits, alternate options must be accessible and convenient while also being competitive with disposal to landfill.

#### 3.5.2 Limited data

Limited data, particularly on the activities of the private/commercial waste and recycling sector, limits Councils' ability to effectively plan for and respond to future demand. It also creates issues with tracking and reporting on progress against targets.

<sup>20</sup> Waste reduction work programme. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment, August 2021.

Waste movements across the Wellington region pose a challenge for data, as waste is often generated in one district, then transferred and/or consolidated in another district, before being sorted at a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) or disposed of in landfills. This includes materials disposed to class 2-4 landfills, where there are potentially high quantities of divertible/recoverable material that Councils may not have oversight over.

### 3.5.3 Recycling performance

The data available suggests that recycling performance is static or declining within the Wellington region. Kerbside recycling and drop-off waste tonnages for the Wellington region showed a decreasing trend during 2020/21 and 2021/22<sup>21</sup>. Contamination and low recycling knowledge are ongoing issues.

### 3.5.4 Low diversion of organics from landfill

Food waste, green waste, and biosolids represent a significant proportion of recoverable material being landfilled. While a reasonable fraction of garden waste is composted, there is very little diversion of food scraps. Additional recovery of food and garden waste from landfill is one of the biggest opportunities to improve diversion and reduce biogenic methane emissions from decomposing organic material. As such, cities around the world use legislation and bylaws to effect change which may require households and businesses' recycling, composting and landfill to be separated. Some cities are also banning organics disposal to landfills with some including substantial fines for non-compliance. To support these changes, cities are providing waste collection options to households, drop-off locations, behaviour change programmes, home composting and community gardens that enable food waste diversion from landfill and help mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.

### 3.5.5 Barriers to working together regionally

While the Wellington region has delivered on several key projects, barriers to enhanced regional collaboration could be due to different councils having conflicting priorities at a regional and local level. Councils have traditionally been inward-focused, with each council responding primarily to the drivers within their area. However, where synergies align, collaboration has been sought to take learnings and minimise reworking initiatives. In addition to this, differing ownership of assets, service delivery expectations, and varying levels of funding all create differing imperatives and the scale at which a challenge can be addressed.

It may also be difficult to design regional initiatives that create successful outcomes across all Council jurisdictions, as a regional approach often doesn't consider the nuances of each community makeup. For example, there are wide variances in population density within and across Councils, and a wide range of other differences across topography and demographics. The local inward-focused approach to waste management has resulted in a range of systems, many of which have evolved over time and are not necessarily configured to deliver optimum results in terms of cost and waste minimisation performance. There are likely to be gains from a more consistent, standardised approach that utilises best practice, while allowing for flexibility to address local differences. For example, a more consistent approach to kerbside services and transparency of the flow of materials.

### 3.5.6 Increase in construction and demolition waste from urban development

Population growth, urban development, and an increasing densification of housing through multi-unit dwellings is contributing to the Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste stream, which includes a significant proportion of recoverable material. Up to 50% of NZ's waste to landfill comes from C&D<sup>22</sup>. The region's solid waste bylaws have allowed for multi-unit development storage and collection provisions, and waste

<sup>21</sup> Wellington Region Waste Assessment 2023

<sup>22</sup> Saving Construction Waste, Ministry for the Environment (2021)

minimisation plans for construction above a certain value. The implementation status of these provisions varies between councils.

The previous and current waste assessments are reporting the current low level of infrastructure available to recover construction and demolition materials, including timber, concrete, brick, and plasterboard.

### 3.5.7 Consumption habits

Consumption habits are unlikely to change significantly in the near future. This points to the continued generation of higher quantities of waste per capita in Aotearoa New Zealand than the OECD average. Councils have limited control over the production and importation of products consumed within Aotearoa New Zealand, and minimal influence over the established markets and systems for linear consumption that result in waste generation.

### 3.5.8 Need for new infrastructure

Communities, and the businesses and organisations that serve them, need to implement circular economy practices to reduce waste. This shift necessitates significant investment in new infrastructure and new services, such as regional organic waste processing as well as building awareness of, and community engagement with existing services, to divert resources from landfill. Currently, there is a lack of infrastructure available locally, regionally, and nationally to implement circular practices for the majority of materials currently managed as waste.

### 3.5.9 Changes in government legislation

While *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* has been released, some signalled government policy and legislative changes are not expected to come into effect until after this WMMP is finalised. As such, the region must remain aware of changes that may affect the implementation of the WMMP.

### 3.5.10 Litter and illegal dumping

There is limited data available on the extent of litter and illegal dumping across the region, however, it is a significant issue that negatively impacts our waterways, coastal environment, and urban areas. Increasing cost of living pressures can exacerbate the rate of illegal dumping, and the Litter Act 1979 only provides limited ability for infringing and enforcing penalties for those responsible.

### 3.5.11 Unforeseen events/waste resilience

Events (such as natural or human-made disasters, and pandemics) can result in high volumes of waste in a short period. Weather events are expected to become more commonplace as a result of climate change and may become cascading and compounding events that generate significant amounts of hazardous waste, including contaminated silt and sensitive debris.

Moreover, the COVID pandemic interfered with recycling collections as waste to landfill was prioritised, and workers on the front-line faced significant risks from handling waste during this outbreak.

## 3.6 What is working well in the Wellington region today?

While the WRWA highlighted many challenges and barriers for this WMMP to address, the previous WMMP delivered a number of meaningful initiatives that were received well by stakeholders across the region. Notably, the contribution of feedback given in the stakeholder engagement workshops held to inform the development of this WMMP, identified a number of successful initiatives and programmes underway in the Wellington region. These are characterised and explained in more detail below:



## **Collaboration between Councils and community organisations, industry and businesses**

There are many community/volunteer organisations working to minimise waste and support circularity within the Wellington region, working cooperatively and/or with councils (i.e., sharing knowledge and resources, and partnering on initiatives).

### **Information and education campaigns**

The Councils' own information and education campaigns, as well as the behaviour change programmes of non-council organisations, are helping to create awareness of personal responsibility to reduce waste, and where and what people can recycle. Several strategies that have increased the impact of current communications strategies are:

- “Mainstream messaging” (i.e., that takes away the “greenie” perspective of waste minimisation).
- Tapping into social and environmental values – people are motivated when they know they should care (i.e., connecting waste with impact on the environment).
- Targeting workplaces – this can have a flow-on effect to people in their homes.
- Targeting industries/businesses that can influence the design phase of products (i.e., architects).
- Use of social media as a tool for creating social “buy-in”.
- Education in schools - harnessing youthful energy. Children can also bring messaging home to their families.

### **Zero waste hubs, Community Resource Recovery Centres and repair cafes**

Zero waste hubs, Community Resource Recovery Centres (CRRCs) and repair cafes in the Wellington region help to extend the life of materials, reduce waste, and support circularity in the region. This provides an opportunity to engage with the public and upskill communities, businesses, and other waste generators in identifying and engaging with alternatives to landfilling their waste. As a region we can facilitate the expansion of the repair economy by encouraging consumers to choose alternatives to landfill.

In conjunction with promoting repair and reuse consumer behaviours, as a region we will work with businesses and organisations keen to establish repair and reuse services. This repair and reuse economy is a critical part of the circular economy and is beginning at a grass roots level, but there is a limit to what is possible without active support and partnerships. For example, many skills to repair products have been depleted and it will take time to regrow this skillset across many industries. However, growing the repair economy will not only reduce waste, but will also add value to the local economy. This may be through the promotion of local repair businesses and continued support of initiatives like repair programmes and repair cafes.

In addition, the ‘right to repair’ movement for appliances and bulky household items is gaining traction both globally and nationally. This movement focuses on the consumer and independent repairer’s rights to repair goods which requires products to be designed in a way that is easily repairable. As a region and as discussed further in our regional actions (**Section 6.1**), consideration will be given opportunities to facilitate the repair economy and will, where appropriate, encourage retailers to voluntarily participate in product stewardship and take back old goods and packaging materials when supplying new goods to consumers – building a repair, reuse, and repurpose economy. Further, the second-hand economy is reasonably well established across the Wellington region to enable the exchange of pre-loved items. However, there is plenty of room for this to grow, with part of the challenge being encouraging more people to realise the benefits of this (including alternative drop-off or collection opportunities and the active promotion of options for repurposing and purchasing second-hand items). A sharing economy successfully

facilitates sharing of goods that are infrequently used, which reduces demand for purchasing individual items. This can be facilitated through physical and virtual libraries and rental services.

### **Increased access to waste collection/processing/recycling services and initiatives**

An increasing number and range of waste collection/processing/recycling services and initiatives have been operating in the Wellington region within the last WMMP period, including but not limited to:

- Green waste collections in new areas.
- Green waste processing into compost and mulch.
- Recycled crushed concrete for footpaths (this has been used in Wellington and Porirua).
- Recycling facilities accepting some types of demolition waste.
- Recycling of untreated timber mulched for playgrounds, silt control, coloured landscaping etc.
- E-waste recycling (i.e., repairing and bringing the item back up to specification).
- Processing of cathode-ray tube (CRT) in televisions.
- Processing of PVC/HDPE offcuts.
- Some collection and reprocessing of single-use medical consumables (note: only a very small percentage of total products are diverted from landfill).

In addition to the above, the Councils developed and adopted regionally consistent Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaws during the period of the last WMMP.

The Wellington region should be proud of the progress it is making towards a low-waste, low-emissions future. However, the Councils recognise that this WMMP needs to be accelerated to support the transition for communities, mana whenua, businesses, and industry to reach their waste reduction aspirations.

## 4 Te moemoeā, ngā whāinga me ngā taumata hei whai | Vision, objectives and targets

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Our WMMP vision, objectives, and targets provide a strategic framework for transforming the way the Wellington region generates, manages, and minimises waste.

They are the product of stakeholder engagement workshops held across the Wellington region to discuss the priorities for waste and resources, and what they wish to achieve as a region. These discussions were also informed by the issues and opportunities identified in the WRWA (and described above) and the outcome of the 2023 public consultation process.

Consideration was also given to aligning with the central government's strategic direction set out in key documents such as *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy*.

### 4.1 Vision

The vision for this WMMP is:

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***E mahi tahi ana ki te tiākinahia a mātou rauemi – hei whakaiti para, ā, ki te whakanui ai te wāhi***

***Working together to care for our resources – for less waste and a greater place***

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This vision seeks to foster a collaborative approach to the way resources are managed and minimised across the Wellington region. It will guide the system change needed for the entire region, with a focus on transforming how waste is generated, managed, and minimised. Key to this will be understanding our individual and collective roles and working together effectively (including within and between Councils). To achieve this, this WMMP supports the Wellington region's shift from managing waste to enabling a step-change to influencing the production of waste, including how materials are used and recovered, all in keeping with *te pūnaha whakarōpū para | the waste hierarchy*. It also means utilising the tools the region has available and the need to understand the complex interrelationships and the role of culture, economy, environment, and society in minimising and disposing of waste.

### 4.2 Guiding principles

There are seven principles at the heart of this plan. These principles guide how we will achieve our vision, objectives, and targets in this WMMP. They are informed by the Ministry for the Environment's *pūnaha whakarōpū para | waste hierarchy* and overarching *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy*. The principles set the direction for how we will work to implement our actions, focusing our attention on our priority areas and our desire to collaborate to achieve positive social, cultural, and environmental and economic outcomes for the Wellington region.

- **Whakamanahia Te Tiriti o Waitangi | Honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi** – We will work with mana whenua across the region to honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi in all of our work whether at a policy or project level to incorporate concepts of te ao Māori and support the growth and capability of our mana whenua partners.

- **Te whakaiti para | Waste reduction** – We will take a leadership role in the reduction of waste in accordance with the levels of *te pūnaha whakarōpū para* | *the waste hierarchy* and will support those already engaged in waste reduction efforts.
- **Ōhanga āmiomio | Circular economy** – We will promote a low waste, circular economy and contribute efforts to reduce the environmental impacts of waste across the Wellington region by keeping materials at their highest value for as long as possible and increasing the reuse, repurposing and recovery of resources.
- **Te tiakitanga taiao | Environmental guardianship** – We will take into account the limitations of our planet and its resources by recognising the need to protect, enhance, and restore ecosystems for current and future generations.
- **Te wero i ngā aronga hinengaro | Challenging mindsets** – We will encourage and promote habits and behaviours that focus on the circularity of materials, ensuring sustainable and responsible consumption, the reduction of waste emissions and the reuse and recovery of products and materials.
- **Te mahi tahi me te whai wāhitanga | Collaboration and participation** – Councils across the region will work collectively and look for opportunities to collaborate with everyone to increase capacity and capability to deliver wider social, cultural, environmental, and economic benefits to our communities.
- **He pūnaha manawaroa mō te para me te taumanu rawa | Resilient waste and resource recovery system** – We will continue to invest in the Wellington region’s waste and resource recovery system and our data management systems in alignment with *Te rautaki para* | *Waste strategy* and the Action and Investment Plan to ensure they are fit for purpose going forward. We will manage any residual waste in accordance with best practice.

### 4.3 Objectives

To support the vision, this WMMP includes nine overarching objectives that reflect the priorities, issues, and opportunities identified by the Councils and the stakeholders engaged as part of developing this WMMP. The objectives signal a significant shift in how the Wellington region thinks about waste, the services and infrastructure the region provides, and how businesses, industry, mana whenua, and communities can contribute to making a difference for our region’s future. These objectives aim to strike a balance between ambition and action.

Combined with the guiding principles, the nine objectives set the direction for the Wellington region’s waste system. The nine objectives are as follows:

***Whāinga 1: Mā ngā pūnaha para me te taumanu rawa e tautoko he whakaititanga o te tuku haurehu kati mahana mai i ngā ruapara me ngā kohikohinga para***

**Objective 1: Waste and resource recovery systems support a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from landfills and waste collections.**

The intent of this objective is to create systems that help reduce the amount of greenhouse gases emitted during waste management processes. This objective focuses specifically on emissions produced from disposal of waste to landfills and council-controlled collections (for example: waste, recycling, organics).

***Whāinga 2: He haepapa kiritōpū nō roto mai i te takiwā o Te Whanganui ā-Tara ki te heke haere a mātou whakamahi i ngā rawa me te whakahaumarua mātou taiao.***

**Objective 2: There is collective responsibility within the Wellington region for reducing our resource use and protecting our natural environment.**

The intent of this objective is to emphasise that everyone in the Wellington region shares the responsibility for protecting and conserving our resources and environment. This highlights the need for collaboration and cooperation among communities, mana whenua, businesses and industry, as well as advocacy to central government, in order to achieve sustainable waste management practices.

***Whāinga 3: Kei reira ngā tikanga e tū ki te tautoko te katoa ki te whakawaia te iti haere i ngā rawa, ā, te whakaiti para hoki.***

**Objective 3: The conditions are in place to support everyone to use fewer resources and minimise waste.**

The intent of this objective is to ensure the conditions are in place so that a reduction in resource use and waste minimisation is normalised and promoted at individual, business, and organisational levels. By encouraging, supporting and providing the right conditions for communities, mana whenua, businesses, and industry to minimise waste generation, and supporting those already doing so, this objective aims to foster a culture of waste reduction and resource conservation.

***Whāinga 4: Mā ngā hanganga me ngā ratonga e taumanu ana i te hangarua me te rawa e nui ake ai te hurihanga nei o ngā rawa.***

**Objective 4: Material circularity is increased through reuse, resource recovery, waste infrastructure and services.**

The intent of this objective is to establish waste and resource recovery services, systems and infrastructure that promote material circularity. This means designing systems that enable the reuse, repurposing and recycling of materials, reducing the reliance on raw resources and minimising waste sent to landfills.

***Whāinga 5: Me aro ki te māngai para, he āheitanga he māmā te whakaiti para, te rawa hangarua, ki te iti haere ki nga ruapara hoki.***

**Objective 5: It is accessible and convenient to reduce waste, reuse materials and minimise disposal to landfill in line with the waste hierarchy.**

The intent of this objective is to ensure that residents and businesses have easy access to waste diversion and reuse options and that these options are convenient to use. By making waste diversion accessible and convenient, the aim is to encourage greater participation and compliance with sustainable waste management practices, with waste to landfill a last resort.

***Whāinga 6: Hei whakamōhio he pūnaha raraunga ki te kawea i te para me te taumanu me te arotūruki i te para i ngā tini wai.***

**Objective 6: Waste and resource recovery data systems are in place to track and monitor waste streams.**

This objective focuses on establishing traceability and transparency within waste and resource recovery systems. The intent is to create systems that allow for clear tracking and monitoring of waste, ensuring accountability, and facilitating better decision-making for waste management.

***Whāinga 7: Ko ngā taupuni taumanu rawa me ngā ruapara e tuku ana i te manawaroa kei whītiki he āhuatanga ohotata.***

**Objective 7: Resource recovery facilities and waste systems are resilient and able to cope with emergency events.**

The intent of this objective is to emphasise the role of waste and resource recovery infrastructure and services in emergency events. The resilience of the waste management system should be considered when making regional decisions on infrastructure and services.



**Whāinga 8: Mēnā i matua mai te taumanu rawa, arā ka kite i ngā ruapara e mahia ai mehemea kua otihia rawatia ētahi atu.**

**Objective 8: Recovery of materials is maximised so that landfills are used as a last resort.**

This objective emphasises treating waste disposal infrastructure as a limited resource. This involves implementing strategies to extend the lifespan of existing disposal facilities by diverting and recovering as much material as possible, exploring alternative waste treatment methods, and promoting sustainable waste disposal practices.

**Whāinga 9: E whakahaeretia haumarutia, tōtikatia ana hoki i te kore te para e ārai i te papare rānei i ngā ruapara hoki e ai ki te tikanga pai katoa.**

**Objective 9: Waste that cannot be prevented or diverted from landfill is managed safely and effectively in accordance with best practice.**

The intent of this objective is to ensure that any remaining waste after recycling and recovery processes is managed safely and effectively. The objective involves adhering to established best practices for waste management, including proper handling, treatment, and disposal methods to minimise potential environmental and health impacts.

## 4.4 Targets

The targets within this WMMP provide a clear and measurable way to determine how, as a region, steps are taken to achieve the objectives. The following targets apply across the Wellington region and progress against these will be measured and reported upon collectively as a region annually:

1. Reduce the total amount of material that needs final disposal to landfill by:
  - 10% by 2027.
  - 30% by 2030.

We will work towards this by achieving the following sub-targets:

- a. Ensuring construction and demolition waste processing and recovery is available in the Wellington region by 2026.
  - b. Ensuring organic processing systems are available to the Wellington region by 2029.
  - c. Ensuring five new resource recovery locations are added to the existing network within the Wellington region by 2030.
2. Reduce emissions from biogenic methane by reducing the total amount of organic waste disposed to landfill by 50% by 2030.
  3. Reduce emissions from the collection and transport of kerbside waste by 30% by 2030.
  4. Ensure all urban households have access to kerbside recycling collections by 2027.
  5. Ensure food scraps collection services are available to urban households by 2030.
  6. For each council to engage with and support 30% of the business community to minimise waste and implement waste minimisation activities by 2029.

The targets are ambitious and align with *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy*. These targets are also spread over the life of this WMMP to enable the Councils to manage costs over a longer period while the necessary changes to the region are embedded.

As highlighted previously, the existing data is limited for waste disposal, and even more so for waste generation and diversion. While the Councils have objectives and actions directed at the upper two levels of the waste hierarchy, the data to support measuring targets associated with this is sparse and very limited. The Councils will continue to, over the course of this WMMP, identify how to gain data and measure activity in the upper two levels of the waste hierarchy and contribute to achieving the *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* target for reducing the amount of material entering the waste management system. The Councils will refine the baseline measures for each target during implementation. However, for the purposes of targets 1 – 2, the 2021/22 waste data from the WRWA will be used as a baseline for measuring success.

## 5 Ka pēhea tā tātou whakaiti para, e nui katoa ai hoki i te wāriu o ngā rauemi | How we will reduce waste and maximise the value of materials

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It's important that this WMMP outlines the different roles and responsibilities within the system, and lays the foundations for a truly regional, collaborative approach to waste management and minimisation activities. Key to this will be identifying opportunities for partnership and collaboration and agreeing common principles to guide the work that we do together over the next six years, and beyond.

### 5.1 Roles and responsibilities

The councils of the Wellington region have many roles which are outlined below and described in terms of how we can influence waste outcomes. Waste is also affected by how councils carry out its activities. The following outlines the methods that will be used by the Councils through roles and responsibilities of the Councils, mana whenua, central government, community, industry, businesses and residents. It also outlines how all parties will work in partnership to implement this WMMP.

This working approach with stakeholders and partners will endeavour to:

- Protect and enhance the mauri of resources by working towards a circular economy approach.
- Engage with, empower and involve our community in changing behaviour and solutions.
- Apply a waste hierarchy approach, to increasingly shift our effort and focus towards enabling redesign, reduction and reuse.

By taking a circular economy approach to the waste hierarchy, this will help the Wellington region to understand the complexity of waste and resources and will enable the region to prioritise and focus efforts where the use of resources begins and follow it through its lifecycle.

#### 5.1.1 Collective Ownership of the Waste Problem

Alongside the Councils, central government, mana whenua, communities, industry and businesses all have a vital role to play in protecting the Wellington region's environmental resources. We all need to make responsible choices for managing and minimising our waste by understanding our individual and community impact on our city and our environment. As a collective issue, waste requires a collaborative solution. A model of collective responsibility and action is needed to achieve our vision. Transitioning from a 'take-make-dispose' society to a circular economy where we keep resources in use for as long as possible is a vital step toward minimising waste, circulating resources and adopting a low carbon, resource efficient system.

The below sections outline the different roles required from all our stakeholders and partners in the Wellington region.

#### 5.1.2 Councils' Role

The Councils of the Wellington region have many roles which are outlined below and described in terms of how they can influence waste outcomes. Alongside other stakeholders, we play an important role in the waste management and minimisation system. We influence outcomes through our role as key facilitators, funders, providers, regulators and coordinators of waste management and minimisation activities (described below). At the heart of this, the Councils in the Wellington region will continue to work together and facilitate conversations across the waste, community, and business sectors to build the relationships necessary to drive transformation and a reduction in waste.

- **Provider:** Councils have a role in providing or facilitating the provision of waste management and minimisation services such as resource recovery centres, transfer stations and landfills. Councils also work towards providing accessible and convenient options to encourage the recovery and recycling of materials. Councils can also influence waste reduction outcomes through procurement policies and practices.
- **Funder:** We invest and provide support for businesses and communities by funding initiatives which will help our cities and districts to reduce, reuse, recycle and recover resources and waste. To give effect to this, Councils may use a range of mechanisms, including the promotion via procurement policies and practices for the use of recovered materials in contractual arrangements where appropriate, designing out waste through councils' own procurement practices, and investigating social procurement practices where waste reduction and diversion services support the development of infrastructure.
- **Partner:** We collaborate and partner with mana whenua and various stakeholders including communities, NGOs, businesses, and industry to achieve waste minimisation outcomes. We recognise that local and regional providers can deliver and achieve waste minimisation outcomes alongside Councils. The Councils recognise the breadth and depth of skills and experience that are present across the region as well as the connections and relationships between organisations and partners. As such, collaboration across our eight councils is a priority as we look to collectively deliver actions to solve problems and grow councils' internal capability.
- **Facilitator:** We bring people together to discuss issues, share ideas and connect people. This includes working alongside mana whenua, communities, industry, and businesses to rethink waste and understand their part in driving behaviour change. By fostering engagement, Councils empower communities, mana whenua, businesses, and industry to participate in waste minimisation activities.
- **Advocate:** We advocate for system change in waste management on behalf of our communities. We will advocate for transformative policies, legislation, standards and guidelines from central government and the waste and business sectors. We will also advocate internally to ensure initiatives being delivered by our Councils are joined up and aligned with this WMMP. This WMMP will set the direction for our Councils and our community's waste minimisation efforts across all our work.
- **Regulator:** We are responsible for developing waste management and minimisation policies and strategies that align with national policy. We utilise our bylaws and planning processes to influence cross sector outcomes to achieve waste avoidance and reduction which are also important for business success. In the waste space, our regulatory role covers our Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw, trade waste and litter bylaws which are anticipated to have substantial influence on how groups consider the management of waste. The bylaws are also an important opportunity to collect data to inform councils waste minimisation efforts. We also have a role to play in influencing our city and district plans to support waste reduction.

To implement *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* and other policies, central government has highlighted that the role of councils will change over the next 30 years. This includes improving data collection, requiring the implementation of standard kerbside collections (including food scraps), increasing available funding through the waste disposal levy. To meet Aotearoa New Zealand's commitment under the Emissions Reduction Plan, there will be a need for additional regional infrastructure for resource recovery. Councils are expected to plan for, support and in some cases provide infrastructure to support collection, recovery, reprocessing and disposal networks. To achieve this, central government have indicated that they will continue to allocate resources, funding, and grants in line with *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy* and the Action and Investment Plan, which will be counted on to deliver this WMMP.

### 5.1.3 The Role of Regional Council

Regional council plays a complementary role to the Councils especially in relation to minimising the environmental impact of waste such as litter in waterways, soil contamination, and air pollution. While the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) does not have a statutory responsibility under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, they regulate many of the waste management and minimisation activities such as the operation of a composting facility or a landfill. Collectively, by minimising the waste that enters the natural environment, the Councils and GWRC can achieve more positive outcomes for the region's natural and physical resources.

### 5.1.4 The Role of Central Government

Central government plays a crucial role in supporting this WMMP and its implementation. Central government provides the overarching policy frameworks, guidelines, legislation to guide and mandate the waste management practices across Aotearoa New Zealand, and access to funding for this transformation.

Within *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy*, central government has set national waste management goals and targets, aligning them with a vision for Aotearoa New Zealand to shift to a low-emissions, low-waste society built upon a circular economy by 2050. There are also interconnected policies and strategies developed or under development, including the Emissions Reduction Plan and Circular Economy and Bioeconomy Strategy, that discuss the existing waste issues and future opportunities.

Through its involvement, central government should help ensure a coordinated and integrated approach to waste management and minimisation in the Wellington region, promoting consistency, accountability, and positive environmental outcomes.

### 5.1.5 The Role of Community Organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations

Community organisations (e.g., zero waste hubs, community resource recovery centres) and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) collectively play an instrumental role in waste management and minimisation and the transition towards a circular economy in the Wellington region.

Councils have a key role in ensuring that diverse perspectives, values, needs, experiences, and aspirations are taken into account in community waste management and minimisation decisions. Forming partnerships and strategic alliances with a range of parties is a key mechanism to drive behaviour change and to support the community's waste minimisation efforts. As such, actively involving the community in design and delivery of resource management activities will contribute to a culture shift towards the reduction of waste.

By raising community awareness and understanding of waste generation, minimisation and management issues, through advocacy and education, we can inform and meaningfully contribute to driving positive cultural, systems and behavioural change.

We cannot transform the way we collectively generate, manage, or minimise waste without a social licence from our communities. The role of communities/and or organisations includes:

- **Input and Feedback:** Community members and/or organisations have the opportunity to provide input and feedback on waste management and minimisation plans, policies, and initiatives. This can be done through public consultations, surveys, community meetings, or online platforms. Their perspectives help shape the direction of waste management and minimisation strategies and activities and ensure they align with community values and aspirations.
- **Education and Awareness:** Community members and/or organisations engaging and educating their community about waste generation, waste minimisation practices, recycling programs, and responsible waste disposal is crucial. This includes raising awareness about the environmental and financial impact of waste, promoting behaviour change, and providing information on how individuals and households

can contribute to reducing waste. Community members can also play a role in sharing knowledge and supporting and encouraging others to adopt sustainable practices.

- **Active Participation:** Community members and/or organisations understand their responsibility to actively participate in waste reduction activities and initiatives and are empowered to do so. This can involve participating in recycling programs, community composting initiatives, community clean-up events, or volunteering for local waste management projects. By actively engaging in these activities, community members and/or organisations contribute to tangible waste minimisation efforts and foster a sense of ownership and pride in their local environment.
- **Collaboration with Local Organisations:** Community members and/or organisations can collaborate with other local organisations (e.g., community groups, schools, businesses, non-profit organisations) and/or businesses to promote waste reduction initiatives. This may involve organising awareness campaigns, hosting workshops or events, or establishing partnerships to implement recycling programs or support local circular economy initiatives. In addition, the collaboration of communities and social enterprises plays an important role in the implementation of the WMMP particularly through a procurement approach as it not only helps with reducing waste but gives the community a sense of involvement. By working with others, communities can have a larger and more enduring impact.

#### 5.1.6 The Role of Industry and Businesses

Both the waste industry and other commercial businesses (e.g., retailers, hospitality, manufacturers) play essential roles in the waste management and minimisation system. Building circularity into the way businesses operate will help to increase the Wellington region's waste system resilience by placing more responsibility onto businesses to make waste minimisation front of mind. A circular economy also offers the potential to create new employment opportunities, reduced consumption and disposal, and sustainable growth by increasing repair and resource recovery activities. The waste industry is a key manager of waste and recycling in the region and should be at the forefront of innovative technologies. Businesses also play an important role by reducing waste, complying with regulations, and fostering partnerships and innovation with industries, councils and communities.

#### 5.1.7 The Role of the Waste Industry

The waste industry encompasses waste collectors and processors, recycling sorting and processing facilities, resource recovery centres, composting centres, and waste treatment facilities. The waste industry's role includes:

- **Waste Collection:** Waste collection companies play a crucial role in collecting and transporting waste from households, businesses, and public areas to appropriate facilities. They ensure safe transportation to designated locations.
- **Recycling and Resource Recovery:** Recycling facilities within the waste industry process recyclable materials collected from households and businesses. They sort, clean, and process materials such as paper, plastic, glass, and metal to be turned into new products, thereby conserving resources and reducing waste.
- **Waste Treatment and Disposal:** Waste treatment facilities manage various waste streams, including hazardous waste or materials that cannot be recycled. They employ specialised processes to minimise environmental impacts and ensure safe disposal or treatment of waste in compliance with the relevant legislative frameworks.
- **Innovation and Technology:** The waste industry also plays a role in driving innovation and adopting advanced technologies for waste management and minimisation. This includes exploring new methods of waste reduction, transportation, improving recycling processes, and finding sustainable alternatives for waste treatment.



- **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Industry can collaborate with Councils and other stakeholders to develop and implement waste management and minimisation initiatives. This may involve supporting community innovation and scaling it up or collaborating on community shared spaces for waste recovery or repair. Industry can also implement Council ideas for new resource recovery networks to respond to regional needs.

### 5.1.8 The Role of Businesses

Other commercial businesses, including retail stores, restaurants, offices, and manufacturing facilities, also have a significant role to play in the waste management and minimisation system and the transition to the circular economy. Their role includes:

- **Waste Reduction:** Businesses can actively implement waste reduction strategies, such as using their market strength to influence production processes, minimising packaging, promoting reusable products, and adopting practices that reduce waste generation at the source. This includes initiatives like bulk-purchasing, composting organic waste, and implementing internal recycling programs.
- **Compliance and Reporting:** Businesses need to adhere to waste management regulations and reporting requirements set by the Councils' Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw. This involves properly segregating waste, ensuring proper disposal of hazardous materials, and maintaining accurate records of waste generation and disposal.
- **Collaboration and Partnerships:** Businesses can collaborate with Councils and other stakeholders to develop and implement waste management initiatives. This may involve participating in community recycling programs, supporting local circular economy initiatives, or partnering with waste management service providers.
- **Education and Awareness:** Businesses can contribute to raising awareness and educating employees, customers, and suppliers about waste management best practices. This can include training programs, providing recycling bins and signage, and promoting responsible waste disposal within their premises.

### 5.1.9 The Role of Residents

Our regions' residents are the customers of our current 'take-make-dispose' linear economy through our consumption of goods and services and are a key influence in every step of the waste hierarchy. Their role includes:

- **Rethink/Redesign:** Consumer participation in waste minimisation efforts play a vital role in protecting our natural resources. Consumers have a role to play in prevention of the extraction of virgin materials, and increased regeneration, by, for example, avoiding products that use unnecessary packaging, or by avoiding purchasing products produced by 'fast fashion'.
- **Reduce:** Consumers can reduce waste by being more mindful and only buying what they really need and planning consumption and purchasing of perishables to avoid discarding spoiled food.
- **Reuse/Repurpose:** Consumers can maintain or repair items to retain their usefulness or repurpose products for alternative use and drop off items they no longer need at recycling centres (e.g., council and/or community second hand stores) for others to reuse or repurpose.
- **Recycle/Organics Processing:** Consumers can choose products made from materials that are easily and continuously recycled, make sure their recyclables are recycled in the right receptacle, and ensure unavoidable food scraps and garden waste are appropriately processed (e.g., composting).

## 5.2 Collaboration and partnerships

Councils cannot do all the work set out in this WMMP on their own. Rather, we need to bring together diverse perspectives and expertise from across industry, the businesses community, other councils, mana whenua, and community organisations/NGOs to leverage creative thinking and collaborative efforts. Collaborating and partnering with mana whenua to integrate Māori values, mātauranga Māori (indigenous knowledge), and tikanga (customs) into waste management strategies, practices and decision-making processes will be particularly crucial to ensuring these meet the needs and aspirations of Māori.

The councils of the Wellington region will also collaborate and collectively work together to deliver the range of regional actions (see **Section 6.1** for more detail), and will where appropriate, coordinate work programmes and collectively work to solve regional problems. We will do this through the actions included in this cross-council WMMP.

By working together, we can drive innovation, foster collective responsibility, develop more efficient and sustainable practices, and ultimately make a larger, and more enduring impact. Collaborating will also help to ensure that infrastructure investments are well-informed, financially viable, and aligned with community needs.

To achieve this, the Councils will seek to collaborate and partner with mana whenua, industries and businesses, and communities. It will also look for opportunities to foster and facilitate information-sharing and innovation, collaboration and partnerships between key stakeholders, mana whenua and communities, to help synergise efforts and identify opportunities for improvement.

As highlighted below, there is already mahi (work), collaborations, and partnerships underway in the region to improve the region's resource recovery system. This WMMP will support and build on these, including (but not limited to):

- Zero waste hubs, Community Resource Recovery Centres (CRRCs) and repair cafes across the region.
- Waste reduction and recycling initiatives (e.g., battery recycling trials, soft plastic recycling, and waste education programmes in schools).
- Public information, education and behaviour change campaigns (e.g., Porirua City Council's "Three Strikes" scheme, Hutt City Council kerbside behaviour change and "Three Strikes" scheme, and Kāpiti Coast District Council's "love your waste" campaign).
- Forums, co-operatives and partnerships between Councils, communities, businesses and industries, such as the Wellington Waste Forum (Council-led).
- Increased access to waste collection/processing/recycling services and initiatives.

Further information about how this WMMP will support collaboration and partnerships is included in the Regional and Local Actions Plans (see **Sections 6.1** and **6.2**, respectively for more detail).

As highlighted in **Section 2.5** of this Plan, the joint Councils remain committed to upholding the principles of kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and environmental care (taiao) and developing a meaningful partnership with mana whenua that delivers on Māori needs and aspirations for the waste sector.

Alongside this important mahi, this WMMP seeks to work collaboratively with mana whenua, including supporting and empowering whānau (families), hapū (sub-tribes), iwi (tribes), land trusts, Māori businesses, and communities in their efforts to reduce, recycle, and reuse waste as valuable resource opportunities, and actively involving mana whenua in waste management and minimisation decisions.

## 6 Ngā mahere mahi | Action plans

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The Regional and Local Action Plans are roadmaps that identify what steps we will take to achieve the objectives of this WMMP. Collectively, they set the wheels in motion and steer us toward the long-term achievement of this WMMP.

The action plans are ‘living’ documents that can be updated to reflect progress made<sup>23</sup>. They can be reviewed and updated if changes are needed to ensure the Councils are heading in the right direction. This ensures that the Wellington region is agile and able to adapt and respond to any unforeseen or emerging issues, or changes in waste minimisation initiatives, both nationally and internationally.

The actions are grouped according to their impact on *te pūnaha whakarōpū para* | *the waste hierarchy*, which establishes a general priority to focus on keeping materials at their highest value. The overarching ambition is to eliminate the need to dispose of waste in the first place, which will help drive the transformation needed to meet our ambitious targets.

For clarity, the Regional and Local Action Plans are discussed and presented in the following sections:

- Regional Action Plan – **Section 6.1**
- Local Action Plans – **Section 6.2**

### 6.1 Regional actions

The following table sets out the actions that the eight councils in the region will collectively undertake or support, with mana whenua partners and stakeholders, to deliver on the vision, objectives and targets of this WMMP. These actions will contribute to meeting the objectives and targets as detailed in **Section 4.3** and **4.4**.

As noted above, the regional actions have been grouped according to their impact on *te pūnaha whakarōpū para* | *the waste hierarchy*. The intent of this approach supports the transition for Councils to place greater focus on the higher levels of the hierarchy whilst acknowledging that Councils have an important role in continuing to provide and maintain current services and activities. As such, this transition is expected to take time with external factors such as governmental changes (e.g., waste legislation and government waste programme focus areas) also anticipated to influence and shape the range of regional actions (e.g., delivery timeframes). However, the Councils of the Wellington region recognise the importance of this transition and as such are committed to work collaboratively to deliver the regional actions.

The key regional actions are summarised in the below list:

- Providing and supporting education initiatives within the Wellington region that focus on waste minimisation and responsible consumption.
- Supporting new and existing regional and local waste minimisation initiatives.
- Improving the way we connect and collaborate across the region on waste management and minimisation initiatives.
- Ensuring appropriate kerbside services are in place for recycling and organic waste.
- Ensuring appropriate regional infrastructure is in place to meet our targets and objectives.

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<sup>23</sup> Under section 44 of the WMA 2008, Waste Management and Minimisation 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. A council’s Significance and Engagement Policy is also a relevant consideration in making this determination.

- Investigating ways to effectively manage and monitor cross boundary and inter-regional waste flows.
- Investigating options for future disposal of residual waste and what this may look like in the long term.

The below table provides a detailed breakdown of each action against the level of the waste hierarchy, alignment with objectives, the primary role of council, anticipated funding options and the anticipated delivery timeframe.

## Regional Action Plan

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
<b>Reduce, rethink, redesign</b>						
1	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Allocate and fund resources for the implementation of the WMMP at a regional level. This could include funding for human resources, projects and development of the next WMMP. Identify opportunities to collaborate with other organisations to fund regional projects or initiatives.	All	Funder	Waste Levy General Rates	2023-2029
2	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Strengthen regional collaboration and connections between, the Councils, mana whenua, community groups, businesses, and other organisations. Support the design and delivery of regional WMMP projects and initiatives.	2, 3, 4	Partner, Facilitator	Waste Levy General Rates Other	2024 - onwards
3	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Advocate to central government for policies and initiatives that will improve outcomes for reuse and waste reduction initiative in the Wellington region.	2	Advocate	Waste Levy General Rates	2023-2029
4	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Where appropriate, support, fund, and deliver consistent and coordinated behaviour change messaging, communications and education programmes that focus on waste minimisation and responsible consumption.	2, 3	Funder, Facilitator	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing implementation
5	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Continue to implement the regionally consistent solid waste management and minimisation bylaws and review current regulatory tools to ensure they support the objectives of the WMMP.	3, 4, 6	Regulator	General Rates Fees and Charges Waste levy	2023-2029
<b>Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion</b>						
6	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Investigate and prudently implement options for establishment or improvement of regional infrastructure and services. This could include, organic waste, C&D waste, biosolids, materials recovery facilities, and a region wide resource recovery network.	1, 4, 5	Partner	General Rates Targeted Rates Fees and Charges Waste Levy Other	Ongoing implementation

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
7	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Implement systems to track and monitor how our waste moves around the Wellington region.	6	Regulator	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing implementation
<b>Dispose</b>						
8	Dispose	Monitor litter across the region to understand the extent of the issue and implement further actions to prevent harm to our natural environment	2, 9	Partner	Waste Levy General Rates	2025 - 2026
9	Dispose	Ensure the Wellington region has a plan to address waste from emergency events and post event recovery activities such as via the Wellington Region Emergency Debris Disposal Guidelines or other appropriate plans. The plan would include identifying risks and hazards to waste and resource recovery infrastructure in the region and provide information on how waste generated from disaster events will be managed.	2, 7, 8, 9	Provider	General Rates Fees and Charges	Ongoing implementation
10	Dispose	Prepare a regional waste disposal plan which considers options for waste that cannot be prevented or diverted from landfill over the next 30 years.	2, 7, 8, 9	Provider, Facilitator	General Rates Fees and Charges	2025 – onwards



We have also included a table below to demonstrate how the regional actions and targets put forward as part of this WMMP address the key challenges described in **Section 3.5**:

Regional Challenge:	Aligned Regional Actions/Targets:
Weak pricing signals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #3 (Advocate for policies that will improve outcomes)</li> <li>• Regional action #6 (Regional infrastructure, which could include options for organic waste and biosolids)</li> </ul>
Limited data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #7 (Implement systems to track and monitor waste)</li> </ul>
Recycling performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #4 (Waste minimisation education and responsible consumption)</li> <li>• Regional action #7 (Implement systems to track and monitor waste)</li> </ul>
Low diversion of organics from landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #6 (Regional infrastructure, which could include options for organic waste and biosolids)</li> <li>• Target 1b (organic processing systems)</li> <li>• Target 2 (Reduce emissions from biogenic methane)</li> <li>• Target 5 (Ensure food scraps collection services are available to urban households by 2030)</li> </ul>
Barriers to working together regionally – Including partnering with mana whenua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #1 (Fund and allocate resources for implementation of this WMMP, and look for opportunities to collaborate)</li> <li>• Regional action #2 (Commit to strengthening a regional framework to support collaboration)</li> </ul>
Increase in C&D waste from urban development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #5 (Implement bylaws and review regulatory tools)</li> <li>• Regional action #6 (Establish or improve regional infrastructure and services),</li> <li>• Regional action #7 (Implement systems to track and monitor waste)</li> </ul>
Consumption habits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #3 (Advocate for policies that will improve outcomes)</li> <li>• Regional action #4 (Waste minimisation and responsible consumption education)</li> <li>• Regional action #5 (Implement bylaws and review regulatory tools)</li> </ul>
Need for new infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #2 (Delivery of regional projects and initiatives)</li> <li>• Regional action #3 (Advocate for policies for reuse and waste reduction)</li> <li>• Regional action #6 (Regional infrastructure and services).</li> </ul>
Government legislation still in development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #3 (Advocate for policies that will improve outcomes)</li> </ul>
Litter and illegal dumping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #3 (Advocate for policies for reuse and waste reduction)</li> <li>• Regional action #8 (Consistent monitoring of litter across the region)</li> </ul>
Unforeseen events/waste resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional action #9 (Regional disaster management plan)</li> </ul>

## 6.2 Local actions (by each council)

The tables below set out the range of actions that the eight councils in the region will individually undertake to deliver on the vision and objectives of this WMMP, while ensuring that they meet the needs and concerns of their own communities. These actions will contribute to meeting the targets described in Section 4.4.

### Hutt City Action Plan

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
<b>Reduce, rethink, redesign</b>						
1	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Provide support to local iwi groups and/or other organisations that provide tikanga māori perspectives on waste minimisation initiatives.	2, 3	Partner	Waste Levy	Ongoing
2	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Consider, and/or implement ways to demonstrate waste minimisation and circular economy principles in Council facilities, activities and procurement.	1, 2, 3	Provider	Waste Levy	Ongoing
3	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Continue to embed decarbonisation of Hutt City Council contracts and associated procurement processes.	1	Facilitator, Funder	Waste Levy General Rates Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
4	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Assist local businesses with waste minimisation practices by offering free waste audits, presentations and supporting solutions.	3, 5	Funder	Waste Levy	Ongoing
5	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Utilise the networks and relationships of NGOs to deliver waste minimisation and behaviour change messaging to our community and other stakeholders.	2, 3	Partner	Waste Levy	Ongoing
6	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Continue to support and strengthen the relationships with our waste minimisation partners to improve outreach.	2, 3	Partner, Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
7	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Investigate and/or implement ways to improve the availability of waste and climate related information to the public.	2, 3, 5, 6	Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
8	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Share the ongoing achievements of businesses, NGOs and the community's efforts in reducing and diverting waste through Council forums and communications.	2, 3	Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
9	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Continue to implement solid waste management and minimisation bylaw provisions while monitoring and enforcing current provisions.	1, 2, 5	Regulator	General Rates	Ongoing
10	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Advocate for better waste outcomes to central government and other national bodies of influence.	2	Advocate	Waste Levy	Ongoing
11	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Investigate current, new and emerging technologies and/or approaches that support the future of waste disposal.	1, 4	Provider, Partner	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing
<b>Reuse, repair, repurpose</b>						
12	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Support regional development of regional resource recovery networks to minimise waste and move to a circular economy. This could include, but is not limited to, options for organic waste, C&D waste, biosolids, materials recovery facilities, and a region wide resource recovery network.	2, 4, 5	Partner, Facilitator	Waste Levy Fees and Charges General Rates	Ongoing
13	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Collaborate with councils from the Wellington region to establish collections and processing of C&D waste aligned with reducing waste to landfill.	2, 4, 5	Partner	Waste Levy Fees and Charges General Rates	2023 - Ongoing
<b>Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion</b>						
14	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Investigate and/or implement ways to reduce the disposal of food and/or green waste to landfill.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Provider	Waste Levy General Rates Targeted Rates Other	Ongoing and Implement by 2030
15	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Work with regional water authorities to explore options for the reduction and diversion of wastewater biosolids from landfill.	2, 4	Partner	Waste Levy	2023 - Ongoing
<b>Recover value</b>						
16	Recover value	Maximise the destruction of methane emissions at Silverstream Landfill and recover energy via the powerplant.	1	Provider	Fees and charges	Ongoing
<b>Dispose</b>						

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
17	Dispose	Support regional investigations into methods/technology for monitoring and reducing illegal dumping, and litter and other contaminants from entering our infrastructure networks and natural amenities.	2, 6, 9	Provider, Partner	Waste Levy	2023 - Ongoing
18	Dispose	Investigate and/or implement remediation and further actions (including the use of technology) to prevent harm to our natural environment caused by litter and illegal dumping	2, 9	Provide, Funder	Waste Levy	2023 – Ongoing
19	Dispose	Identify and action opportunities for ongoing improvements to the kerbside rubbish and recycling service.	5, 6, 7, 8, 9	Provider, Partner	General Rate Targeted Rates	Ongoing
20	Dispose	Investigate and/or implement ways to improve the service and operations to mitigate the environmental impacts from Silverstream Landfill.	6, 7, 8, 9	Provider, Partner	General Rates	Ongoing
21	Dispose	Continue to monitor and manage closed landfills to ensure public and environmental health impacts are minimised in line with relevant environmental and safety objectives.	9	Provider	General Rates	Ongoing

## Kāpiti Coast Action Plan

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
<b>Reduce, rethink, redesign</b>						
1	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Educate residents in waste minimisation by providing information and resources which may include workshops, talks, the Council website, social media, newspapers, pamphlets, and posters.	3, 5	Facilitator	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing
2	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Support educational institutions on waste minimisation, via programmes which may include the Zero Waste Education programme, Paper4Trees, cloth nappies trial for pre-schools and Enviroschools.	3, 5	Provider, Funder, Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
3	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Support principles of Te Ao Māori and provide support to local iwi groups. This may include education programmes, grants, and event waste management advice.	3, 5	Partner	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing
4	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Provide annual contestable waste minimisation grants for community groups and explore options for streamlining the community grants process.	3, 5	Funder, Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
5	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Support effective waste management and minimisation at large events through implementation of the solid waste bylaw, and provide support with resource bookings, advice, planning meetings etc.  Investigate options to increase number of post-event waste audits being submitted.	3, 4, 5	Regulator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
6	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Provide annual contestable Business Waste Minimisation Grants and explore options for streamlining the business grants process.	3, 5	Funder, Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
7	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Work with local businesses to investigate, consider, trial and implement initiatives that achieve waste reduction.  Support and the development of Pakihi Toitū o Kāpiti – Sustainable Business Kāpiti – including via the Business Waste Minimisation Consultancy Programme.	3, 5	Facilitator	Waste Levy General Rates	2023 – onwards
8	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Advocate for better outcomes for waste and waste minimisation at a regional and national level.	2	Partner	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
		Consider and respond to Government legislative changes, including <i>Te rautaki para</i>   Waste strategy, Waste Minimisation Act, Litter Act, and Resource Management Reforms.				
<b>Reuse, repair, repurpose</b>						
9	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Maintain or develop new leases for Council land, including using closed landfills for resource recovery operations.  Continue to support waste minimisation groups with affordable leases, including Zero Waste Ōtaki and Otaihangā Zero Waste Hub.	4, 5	Partner	Other	Ongoing
<b>Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion</b>						
10	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Ensure all households in urban areas have kerbside food scrap collection by 2030, or earlier.	3, 4, 5	Provider	Targeted Rates	By 2030
11	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Ensure all households in urban areas have access to kerbside recycling by 2027, or earlier.	3, 4, 5	Provider	Targeted Rates	By 2027
12	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Investigate, trial and implement support for waste minimisation projects in educational institutions, which may include waste audits, setting up recycling systems, composting information and provision of worm farms.	3	Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
13	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Support, create, or increase engagement in targeted educational campaigns and projects, which may include niche recycling programmes (batteries, e-waste, car seats), Love Food Hate Waste Campaigns, Waste Free Parenting/Period programmes, Love your Compost, Illegal Dumping reduction.	3	Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
14	Recycle, compost,	Explore options for satellite Zero Waste/Recycling hubs in the District in collaboration with community groups, businesses, NGO's and other organisations.	4, 7	Partner	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing



#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
	anaerobic digestion					
15	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Continue to support green waste diversion from landfill by composting or other methods.	1, 5	Partner	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing
16	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Explore options for diversion of biosolids from landfill, which may include vermicomposting, in-vessel composting in collaboration with the wastewater team.	1, 5	Provider, Partner	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing
<b>Dispose</b>						
17	Dispose	Continue aftercare of closed landfills, including alternate leachate treatment methods for Otaihanga, maintenance of wetlands, and planting of native trees.	9	Provider	General Rates	Ongoing

## Porirua City Action Plan

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
<b>Reduce, rethink, redesign</b>						
1	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Connect communities, businesses, and industry to increase learning and drive commitment into waste reduction. Continue to support groups that already promote collective responsibility for our waste and our climate.	2, 3	Facilitator	Waste Levy	2024 - 2025 Onwards
2	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Collaborate on, provide, and support opportunities and initiatives for mana whenua to reduce waste on marae, and exercise kaitiakitanga to protect the natural environment from the impacts of waste and material management.	2, 3, 5	Partner	General Rates Targeted Rates Waste Levy Other	Ongoing
3	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Support the delivery of programmes in Porirua which assist businesses to minimise waste throughout their production cycle.	1, 2, 3	Facilitator, Provider	Waste Levy Other	2024 - 2025 Onwards
4	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Embed waste minimisation practices, emissions reduction, and circular economy targets into Council procurement, policy, and services, including when planning for and establishing waste management and minimisation services and infrastructure.	1, 2, 3, 5	Provider	General Rates Waste Levy	2024 - 2025 Onwards
5	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Advocate to and collaborate with central government to inform policy decisions and initiatives that will shape positive outcomes for waste reduction and reuse initiatives.	2	Advocate	General Rates Waste Levy	Ongoing
6	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Ensure governance systems, staff and resources are in place to implement the WMMP.	2	Provider	General Rates Waste Levy	Ongoing
7	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Implement, use, review and evaluate Council regulations including bylaws, compliance activities and enforcement to support behaviour and system change to minimise waste.	3, 6	Regulator	General Rates	Ongoing
8	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Work with partners and internal and external stakeholders to simplify processes for establishing innovative circular businesses and initiatives. This includes actively supporting those already innovating and building in circular principles into their organisations and activities.	3, 4, 5	Regulator, Funder	General Rates Waste Levy	2024 – 2025 Onwards
9	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Support through providing resources and tools for entrepreneurs, social enterprises, community groups and mana whenua to set up enterprises that support Porirua’s transition to a circular economy.	3, 4	Facilitator	General Rates Waste Levy Other	2024 – 2025 Onwards

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
10	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Explore pathways to a circular economy for Porirua over a long-term horizon. This includes a circular economy scan or developing a circular economy roadmap for Porirua.	1, 2, 3	Provider	General Rates Waste Levy Other	2027 - 2028 Onwards
11	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Support research and trials into solutions to prevent waste in collaboration with community groups, private industry, and mana whenua.	1, 2, 3, 4	Partner	Waste Levy Other	2024 - 2025
12	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Explore and assess emerging opportunities and innovation for reduction, reuse, recovery, recycling, treatment, and disposal of materials.	3, 4	Partner	General rates Fees and Charges Waste Levy Other	Ongoing
13	Reduce, rethink, redesign	In collaboration with community groups, NGOs, businesses and other stakeholders, fund and allocate resources towards behaviour change programmes to minimise waste including in schools, our community, and businesses.	2, 3, 5	Funder	Waste Levy Other	Ongoing
<b>Reuse, repair, repurpose</b>						
14	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Improve the accessibility, outreach, and availability of information on waste management and minimisation and litter to a range of diverse communities in Porirua.	2, 3, 5	Facilitator	General Rates Targeted Rates Waste Levy	Ongoing
15	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Collaborate with partners to provide information, and coordinate options for material reuse, recovery, and recycling to make it accessible for businesses, communities, and mana whenua.	3, 4, 5	Facilitator	General Rates Waste Levy	2023 - 2024 Onwards
16	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Collaborate with stakeholders including businesses, communities, and mana whenua to develop a resource recovery network in Porirua such as a community resource recovery park, construction and demolition facility, organic processing facility, repair cafes, tool libraries and community resource recovery hubs.	2, 3, 4, 5	Facilitator	General rates Fees and Charges Waste Levy Other	Ongoing
17	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Provide grants and funding to support re-use, repurposing, and recycling capacity in Porirua City.	3	Funder	Waste Levy	2024 - 2025 Onwards
<b>Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion</b>						
18	Recycle, compost,	Implement a waste data and licensing system in collaboration with central government.	6	Regulator	General Rates Fees and Charges	2024 - 2025 Onwards

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
	anaerobic digestion					
19	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Establish a data monitoring and reporting framework that supports Porirua to contribute to the measurement of Aotearoa achieving <i>Te rautaki para I Waste strategy</i> targets alongside the region to enable reporting to Porirua and Wellington region residents on the implementation progress of the WMMP.	6	Regulator	General Rates	2024 - 2025 Onwards
20	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Work with community groups, partners, and stakeholders to scale up interventions to divert and recover as much waste as possible.	4	Facilitator	Waste Levy Other	Ongoing
21	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Encourage the improvement of Material Recovery Facilities in the Wellington region by improving contracts. Consider the feasibility of establishing another Material Processing Facility in the Wellington region.	4, 5, 6	Partner	Targeted Rates Waste Levy Other	2024 – 2025 Onwards
22	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Review and improve kerbside waste collection services to ensure Porirua has accessible, equitable, and convenient kerbside waste collection services. Prioritise the decarbonisation of kerbside contracts by embedding transport emission reduction targets into procurement processes.	4, 5, 6	Provider	General Rates Targeted Rates Other	Ongoing
23	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Provide for and implement organic kerbside collection and processing services to divert organic waste. Continue to work with community groups providing community composting projects.	1, 4, 5	Provider	General rates Targeted Rates Waste Levy Other	By 2030
<b>Recover value</b>						
24	Recover value	Maximise extraction and destruction of landfill gas and explore options for beneficial use of landfill gas from Spicer Landfill.	1	Provider	Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
<b>Dispose</b>						
25	Dispose	Improve information and data collection on litter and illegal dumping. This could include expanding the number of monitoring sites, establishing actions to address litter and illegal dumping issues, and implementing research and	6, 9	Provider	General Rates	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
		initiatives to prevent litter from entering public spaces and the environment in Porirua City.				
26	Dispose	Collaborate with mana whenua, partners, businesses, and the community to deliver community and business litter prevention action plans.	2, 9	Partner	Waste Levy Other	2023 – 2024 Onwards
27	Dispose	Continuously improve and manage Spicer Landfill's service and operations.	9	Provider	Fees and Charges	Ongoing
28	Dispose	Investigate, consider, and where appropriate restrict materials entering Spicer Landfill where stable and viable alternatives exist for reuse, recovery, and recycling.	5, 8	Regulator	Fees and Charges Waste Levy	2025 - 2026
29	Dispose	Plan for and manage emergency waste and collection services in Porirua, alongside our wider Wellington regional partners.	7	Provider	General Rates	Ongoing
30	Dispose	Investigate and deliver pricing and funding mechanisms which incentivises waste reduction and the recovery of materials.	3, 5	Provider	General Rates Fees and Charges	2024 – 2025 Onwards
31	Dispose	Investigate and consider long term disposal options for Porirua City alongside other councils in the Wellington region.	8, 9	Partner	Fees and Charges	2025 - 2026 Onwards

## Upper Hutt City Action Plan

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
<b>Reduce, rethink, redesign</b>						
1	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Work with mana whenua to support a Māori worldview approach to waste minimisation.	All	Partner	Waste Levy	Ongoing
2	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Provide resources and funding to education providers who educate the public on waste minimisation activities and circular economy principles.	3, 5	Funder	Waste Levy	Ongoing
3	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Continue to provide support and funding to the community through the Environment and Waste Minimisation Fund.	2, 5	Funder	Waste Levy	Ongoing
4	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Facilitate and where possible collaborate with community groups and organisations to promote and undertake waste minimisation activities including but not limited to, audits, processing and diversion.	3, 5	Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
5	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Administer, implement and review the Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2020 and compliance and enforcement activities to support behaviour and system change to minimise waste	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9	Facilitator, Regulator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
6	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Ensure that local communication strategies are adequate to support the implementation of WMMP actions.	2, 3, 5	Provider	Waste Levy	2023-2024 onwards
7	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Advocate to and collaborate with central government to inform policy decisions and initiatives for better waste outcomes and system changes for the residents and businesses of Upper Hutt City.	2, 3, 5	Advocate	Waste Levy	Ongoing
8	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Support and deliver business programmes to assist businesses to minimise waste and implement circular economy principles.	3, 5	Advocate	Waste Levy	2023-2024 onwards
9	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Embed waste minimisation practices and circular economy principles into Council facilities, procurement, policy, and services.	All	Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing



#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
10	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Ensure there are adequate staffing resources across the implementation of the WMMP.	All	Provider	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing
<b>Reuse, repair, repurpose</b>						
11	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Where possible collaborate with and promote the use of repair and reuse organisations such as repair cafes, Menz Shed and EarthLink etc.	2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
12	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Consider, trial and pilot reusable initiatives such as reusable cups and serviceware systems.	3, 4, 5, 8	Facilitator	Waste Levy	2023-2024 onwards
<b>Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion</b>						
13	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Investigate and implement Council kerbside services for standardised kerbside recycling and organics.	All	Provider, Facilitator, Funder	General Rates Waste Levy	By 2027 and 2030
14	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Support local and/or regional food scraps collection and processing.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8	Provider, Facilitator, Funder, Partner	General Rates Waste Levy	By 2030
15	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Support regional investigations into the establishment or improvement of regional infrastructure and services that minimise waste to landfill. This could include organic waste, C&D waste, materials recovery facilities, and a region wide resource recovery network.	2, 4, 8, 9	Partner	Waste Levy	2023-2024 onwards
16	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Promote and support waste minimisation at events and festivals through the implementation of the Solid Waste Management and Minimisation Bylaw 2020 and provide resources and information to increase diversion of recyclable material.	3, 4, 5	Facilitator, Regulator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
17	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Support the recovery of e-waste, through promotion, collection events and or drop-off facilities.	3, 4, 5	Facilitator	Waste Levy	2023-2024 onwards

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
18	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Ensure that the Recycling Station drop off facility has adequate resources to minimise contamination and increase recycling rates.	3, 4, 5, 6	Provider	Waste Levy	Ongoing
<b>Dispose</b>						
19	Dispose	Support through resources such as funding and communications, the domestic hazardous waste collection at the Silverstream landfill.	8, 9	Funder	Waste Levy	Ongoing
20	Dispose	Investigate, trial and support ways to reduce litter and illegal dumping in Upper Hutt.	2	Facilitator	Waste Levy	2023-2024 onwards

## Wairarapa Joint Action Plan

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
<b>Reduce, rethink, redesign</b>						
1	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Implement waste communication programmes for community outreach</b></p> <p>Extend existing communication programmes to focus on additional target audiences, such as retirees, new parents, businesses and less engaged sectors of the community. Focus on diverting waste, educate on the environmental impacts and assist with finding alternatives to households burning waste. Embed circular economy messaging into educational activities and communications. Develop a comms and educational plan to support the delivery of the waste communication programmes.</p>	2, 3, 5	Partner, Facilitator	Waste Levy General rates	Ongoing
2	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Zero Waste and environmental sustainability education in schools</b></p> <p>Work with external providers to develop, trial and implement initiatives to support to schools (including ECE's) on waste minimisation, circular economy principles, and environmental sustainability practices.</p>	3, 4	Partner, Facilitator, Funder	General Rates Waste levy	Ongoing
3	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Monitor to reduce use and disposal of hazardous materials</b></p> <p>Establish a process to record the amount of hazardous waste being disposed of in the region in collaboration with other councils in the Wellington region. To include private and Council contracted activities. Encourage reduced use of hazardous materials by promoting knowledge and awareness of alternatives to hazardous materials in the workplace and home. Coordinate collections for agricultural disposal with Agrecovery.</p>	1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8	Partner, Facilitator	Waste Levy Fees and Charges General Rates	Ongoing
4	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Advocate for waste product ownership</b></p> <p>Work with and advocate to central government on initiatives and legislation that promotes and develops circular economy principles to benefit communities, mana whenua and the environment.</p>	2	Advocator	Waste Levy General rates	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
5	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Encouraging circular economy principles at community level</b> Investigate, consider, trial and implement initiatives that provide education and information on how we can embed circular economy principles at a community level. This will involve working with residents, local businesses and community groups to enable and encourage them to achieve a transition to a circular economy.</p>	4, 8	Provider	Waste levy General rates	Ongoing
6	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Implementing the WMMP</b> Ensure we have enough resources/ staff to enable us to implement the actions of the WMMP and to assist the implementation of the plan both locally and regionally.</p>	2, 3	Provider	General Rates Waste levy	Ongoing
7	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Encouraging waste network opportunities</b> Work with partners to investigate, trial and establish a network that provides information and advice for communities and businesses on opportunities to reuse, reduce and recycle within the region and beyond. Include website links, campaigns etc</p>	2, 3	Partner, Funder	General rates	Ongoing
8	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Investigate targeted waste streams</b> Investigate, consider, trial and implement services for targeted waste streams that are not included in standard kerbside collections. This will include collaborating with local government organisations, non-governmental organisations and other key stakeholders to support Government regulated product stewardship schemes, as well as voluntary, industry-led product stewardship schemes that meet best practice.</p>	1, 2, 4	Partner, Facilitator	Waste Levy	Ongoing
9	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Events led, Council supported waste management and minimisation</b> Continue to support effective waste management at events and support and assist event organisers to reduce waste and work towards a circular economy.</p>	2, 4	Partner	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing
10	Reduce, rethink, redesign	<p><b>Business led; Council supported waste audits</b> Investigate and implement waste audits that provide advice on waste reduction, recycling, carbon footprint and circular economy principles. Provide targeted, practical and resource-based support to aid businesses, NGOs and community</p>	2, 4, 6	Facilitator	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
		groups to become more sustainable and implement circular business models.				
<b>Reuse, repair, repurpose</b>						
11	Reuse, repair, repurpose	<b>Support groups that promote diversion from landfill</b> Work with and support community groups and the private sector to implement initiatives to support, promote and facilitate opportunities to divert materials and reusable items from landfill. Ensure initiatives are equipped to record material flow data to measure waste diverted from landfill.	3, 4, 6	Partner	Waste Levy Fees and Charges	Ongoing
12	Reuse, repair, repurpose	<b>Divert construction and demolition waste</b> Investigate, consider, trial and introduce solutions working with external parties to aid with the diversion of construction and demolition (C&D) waste. This could include audits of waste from C&D sites, working with planning teams to introduce site-specific waste management plans, embedding circular economy principles into planning policy, working with or providing C&D reuse sites regionally or locally.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Partner	General Rates Waste Levy Other	
<b>Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion</b>						
13	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	<b>Options for an organic processing facility</b> Investigate, and consider options for processing organic waste in the Wairarapa including community operated solutions, Wairarapa based or regional solutions. Consider working with external parties to implement.	1, 2, 4, 5	Partner	Waste Levy	2023 - 2024
14	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	<b>Investigate behaviour change systems for kerbside collections</b> Ensure consistency with kerbside recycling collections, provide information on standard items allowed and monitor with audits and inspections. Investigate options for a three-strikes system for those not using kerbside recycling bins correctly so as to prevent contamination and increase diversion.	1, 3, 4, 5, 6	Provider	General Rates	Ongoing
15	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	<b>Establish organic food collection service</b> Investigate, consider, trial and implement an organic kerbside collection for homes and businesses, also promote the	1, 3, 4	Provider	Waste Levy General Rates	By 2030

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
		benefits of home composting, and support community groups that are providing local solutions to food waste.				
16	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	<p><b>Improve waste diversion facilities at landfill transfer stations</b></p> <p>Investigate, consider, trial and implement changes to the transfer and recycling stations to improve the facilities for waste diversion to reuse and recycling and make landfill a last resort stop.</p>	1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9	Provider	General Rates Waste Levy	By 2026
17	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	<p><b>Improve data collection on diverted materials</b></p> <p>Record the amount of material diverted to recycling each year. Investigate, consider, trial and implement changes to improve data collection and analysis for all wastes collected, to include but not limited to organics, hazardous, C&amp;D. Investigate a licensing system in collaboration with other TA's and central government. Data collection could include SWAP analysis, waste assessments, audits of transfer stations, kerbside services.</p>	5, 6	Provider, Partner	Fees and Charges General Rates	Ongoing
18	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	<p><b>Enable better waste diversion and collection in rural and coastal areas</b></p> <p>Investigate, consider, trial and implement initiatives to achieve better waste diversion in rural and coastal areas. Initiatives could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing extra collections in holiday areas during the busy season. Providing recycling facilities for visitors.</li> <li>• Facilitating collection, transportation and disposal of hazardous wastes and providing information on management of such wastes.</li> <li>• Ensuring recycling facilities are accessible within a 20-minute drive for 95% of the community.</li> <li>• Investigating potential level of service changes. Exploring options for extra satellite recycling hubs in coastal and rural areas.</li> </ul>	3, 4, 5	Provider	General Rates Waste Levy	Ongoing
19	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	<p><b>Divert biosolids from landfill</b></p> <p>Work within the region and beyond to explore options to divert biosolids from landfill. Collaborate with mana whenua to find the best solution to biosolids.</p>	1, 9	Provider	General Rates	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
20	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	<b>Improve signage at landfill transfer stations</b> Improve signage at landfill transfer stations to enable clear and consistent instructions to users.	3, 4, 5	Provider	Waste Levy General Rates	2023 - 2024
<b>Dispose</b>						
21	Dispose	<b>Reduce litter and illegal dumping</b> Investigate ways to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduce litter and illegal dumping,</li> <li>• report on volume of litter and illegally dumped items to public, and</li> <li>• educate public on the harm litter causes to the environment.</li> </ul>	2, 9	Provider	Waste Levy General Rates	Ongoing
22	Dispose	<b>Monitoring and implementing landfill transfer station management plans</b> Develop and implement, comply and regularly revise management plans for each facility, prepare aftercare plan for closed landfills to include monitoring and testing as per resource consents.	9	Provider	General Rates	Ongoing



## Wellington City Action Plan

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
<b>Reduce, rethink, redesign</b>						
1	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Deliver the benefits of reuse, repair and waste prevention through active use of Council regulations, compliance activities and enforcement.	1, 2, 4	Provider, Regulator	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
2	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Deliver lasting behaviour change interventions by educating our community to understand the benefits of change and then helping them make that long term change easy as we work towards zero waste.	1, 2, 3, 5	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
3	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Work with mana whenua partners and other stakeholders to give individuals courage to make a change in the world and inspiring them to reduce waste and live a more sustainable life.	1, 2, 3, 4	Provider, Partner, Facilitator	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
4	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Work with central government agencies to inform and shape system changes. Advocate for policies and initiatives at central government level that will inform and shape positive outcomes for reuse and waste reduction initiatives.	2, 4, 5	Advocate	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
5	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Work with mana whenua partners and other stakeholders to transform Wellingtonians' relationship with packaging and reusables to align more closely to the waste hierarchy.	1, 2, 3, 4	Facilitator	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
6	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Work with mana whenua partners and other stakeholders to support the redesign of systems.	2, 3, 4, 5	Partner, Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
					Fees and Charges Other	
7	Reduce, rethink, redesign	Support and encourage businesses, social enterprises, community organisations and charities to provide services and create local and regional markets for waste products and materials.	2, 3, 4, 5	Facilitator, Provider, Advocate	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
<b>Reuse, repair, repurpose</b>						
8	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Support the provision of consistent, equitable and accessible collection services, drop off points and community zero waste hubs.	1, 3, 4, 5	Provider, Partner	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	2027 - 2028
9	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Support Wellington's reuse, repair and recycling capacity by acting as a catalyst for other investment.	1, 4, 5, 6	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
10	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Deliver value for money and effective waste services to Wellingtonians.	3, 4, 5, 6	Provider, Partner	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
11	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Deliver sustainable waste services to Wellingtonians.	3, 4, 5, 6	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
12	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Encourage innovation to support delivery of Wellington's transition to a zero waste future.	2, 3, 4, 5	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
					Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	
13	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Monitor and evaluate waste streams to support effective policy making and insights.	2, 6	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	2024-2025 and onwards
14	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Deliver lasting behaviour change interventions by making people understand the benefits of change and then help them make that long term change easy.	2, 3, 4, 5	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
15	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Work with central government agencies to inform and shape system changes.	2, 4	Advocate	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
16	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Promote and encourage the reuse of materials for the same purpose and recover materials so that they can be re-used throughout Wellington.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Partner	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
17	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Increase the amount of material that is recovered, reused and recycled to minimise waste and reduce the amount of virgin materials used in production.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Funder	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
18	Reuse, repair, repurpose	Work with mana whenua partners and other stakeholders to scale up interventions that support the citywide goal to be a leader in minimising the use of resources and maximising resource reuse and recovery.	2, 3, 4, 5	Facilitator, Provider, Regulator	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
<b>Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion, recover value</b>						
19	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion Recover value	Support the provision of consistent, equitable and accessible kerbside collection services, drop-off points and community zero waste hubs for Wellingtonians.	2, 3, 4, 5	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy User Charges Other	2026 - 2027
20	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion Recover value	Work together with households, producers, collectors and reprocessors to extract the maximum value possible from food that would otherwise be wasted.	1, 2, 3	Partner, Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing and implement by 2030
21	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion Recover value	Implement a complementary kerbside organic collection and processing service to produce nutrient rich products from organic waste that can be applied to soil and/or generate energy, depending on the technology selected.	1, 4, 5	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing and implement by 2030
22	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion Recover value	Promote and encourage the reuse of materials for the same purpose and recover materials so that they can be reused throughout Wellington.	1, 3, 4, 5	Partner	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
23	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion Recover value	Work with mana whenua partners and other stakeholders to scale up interventions to support the citywide goal to be a leader in minimising the use of resources and maximisation of reuse and recovery.	2, 3, 5	Partner	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
24	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion Recover value	Create a waste ecosystem that demands and influences the right behaviours for desired outcomes.	3, 4, 5	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
25	Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion Recover value	Support the creation of markets for secondary materials.	2, 3, 4, 6	Facilitator, Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
<b>Dispose</b>						
26	Dispose	Safely manage the treatment and disposal of sludge.	1, 4, 8, 9	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing and Implement by 2025 -2026
27	Dispose	Provide for and manage emergency waste.	6, 7, 8, 9	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
28	Dispose	Continue ongoing management of the Southern landfill and Wellington's closed landfills to support Wellington's transition to a zero-waste city.	1, 8, 9	Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges Other	Ongoing
29	Dispose	Work with mana whenua partners and other stakeholders to scale up interventions to recover and divert as much waste from landfill and ensure that any remaining waste is appropriately managed at Southern landfill to protect our environment.	2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9	Partner, Provider	General Rates Targeted rates Waste Levy Fees and Charges	Ongoing

#	Waste Hierarchy Level	Action	Alignment with Objectives	Primary Role of Council	Funding Options	Timeframe
					Other	

## 7 Te utu i tēnei WMMP | Funding this WMMP

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Section 43 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) requires that councils provide information about how they will fund the implementation of this WMMP. The actions set out in this WMMP will be funded using the suite of sources and options available to the Councils in the delivery of waste management and minimisation services and activities, including:

- **General Rates:** A charge paid by all ratepayers.
- **Targeted Rates:** Charges applied to properties receiving specific council services.
- **Fees and Charges:** Fees and charges for user-pays collections, gate fees at landfills and transfer stations and regulatory fees (e.g., licensing fees).
- **Waste Levy:** The Government currently redistributes 50% of the levy funds from the waste disposal levy on a per capita basis to councils for this to be used for waste minimisation activities<sup>24</sup>.
- **Other:** Councils can apply for funds from central government including the Waste Minimisation Fund or other funds related to reducing waste and waste related emissions. There may also be other funding mechanisms such as lease revenue, and private sector funding where the private sector may invest in, be part of a partnership or supply waste minimisation initiatives.

This WMMP identifies the potential funding sources for each action, as outlined in the Action Plan tables in **Section 6**.

Budgets to implement the actions outlined in **Section 6** will be carefully developed as part of the region's Annual Plan and Long-term Plan (LTP) processes. This approach aims to implement as many actions as possible while controlling costs and seeking cost savings where possible.

For the waste levy, each of the Councils currently receives a share from the Ministry for the Environment, based on a per capita basis. Prior to 2022, the rate was set at \$10 per tonne, but this has since increased to \$50 per tonne as of 1 July 2023. It is set for one further increase to \$60 per tonne by 1 July 2024.

The waste levy must be "*spent on matters to promote waste minimisation and in accordance with their WMMP*". Waste levy funds can be spent on ongoing waste minimisation services, new services, or an expansion of existing services. The funding can be used for education and communication, policy research and reporting, to provide grants, or as infrastructure capital, and other activities in this WMMP.

The Councils intend to predominantly use their waste levy funds for a range of waste minimisation activities and services. The Councils may also use other funds available to them, or they can make an application to central government funds such as the Ministry for the Environment's contestable Waste Minimisation Fund, either separately, collectively with other councils, or with another party. The contestable Waste Minimisation Fund provides additional funds for new initiatives, or a significant expansion of existing activities related to waste minimisation.

Section 47 of the WMA gives councils the ability to give grants to a person, organisation, or group to promote or achieve waste management and minimisation. Under this WMMP, individual councils within the Wellington region can continue to give grants at its discretion and on any terms or conditions it deems appropriate, provided there is an allocated and approved budget for that activity.

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<sup>24</sup> As discussed in section 3.1, central government is currently reviewing the distribution of the waste disposal levy in their reform of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and Litter Act 1979



## 8 Te ine i te anga whakamua | Measuring progress

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This WMMP is a key part of the Wellington region's move towards a circular economy, where we keep resources in use for as long as possible. This WMMP includes a set of detailed Regional and Local Action Plans for the Councils to achieve in collaboration with our partners and a wide range of stakeholders. To support these action plans, detailed implementation plans will be developed both locally and regionally and will provide detailed information on "how" the actions plans will be delivered, including projects and associated delivery timeframes.

Implementation plans enable Councils to provide greater detail to the Wellington Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Joint Committee (Joint Committee), their individual councils, and the Wellington region, on how the targets, objectives and actions will be achieved. For clarity, the implementation plans will contain the milestones, projects, initiatives, and timeframes that sit under the action plans in more granular detail. The plans will describe the necessary steps for executing the regional and/or each local action, including the teams and resources that will be required. While there is no one-size-fits all, the anticipated core components of the implementation plan that will be further developed to give effect to this WMMP will include success criteria measures, plan of project outputs, resourcing and milestones, key performance indicators (KPIs) and timelines.

Further, the targets set out in this WMMP are one of the ways that progress will be measured to achieve the vision and objectives and ensure accountability as part of delivering this WMMP. Milestones will be a critical component beneath the targets, to enable Councils to track, measure and report on progress against the targets. This is particularly important given possible regulatory changes being considered by central government (e.g., the introduction of nationwide kerbside collection of food scraps to all urban households by 2030 which is anticipated to require adequate enforcement resource to ensure compliance).

Collectively as a region, the Councils will monitor, evaluate, and report on progress against the targets and regional actions on an annual basis. Progress will be reported to Joint Committee overseeing this WMMP which will be made available to the public via Wellington City Council's website and/or via a joint website. The reporting will include a summary of progress and activities undertaken from the Regional Action Plan and will identify where unforeseen or emerging issues need to be addressed and where success has been achieved, through for example, project achievements. In addition to the annual reporting, a more comprehensive report reviewing progress towards the targets, objectives and vision of the WMMP will be provided to the Joint Committee in 2026. In addition, Councils will report progress against their respective local action plans to their individual committees at agreed time intervals, the results of which will also be made available to the public.

The Councils must also provide progress reports of expenditure of their waste levy funds to the Ministry for the Environment, alongside the waste diversion rates achieved as a result of this funding.

However, as highlighted in **Section 3.5** of this WMMP, the way the region's waste data is collected means that it is difficult to gain a complete picture due to the large number of private and public waste services and facilities across the Wellington region. This has historically resulted in inconsistent monitoring and reporting of waste data. For the purposes of measuring progress for the actions presented alongside this WMMP, the 2021/22 waste data from the WRWA will be used as a baseline, with the understanding that data accuracy is likely to improve over the duration of this WMMP.

Moving forward, the Councils will focus on their data collection, monitoring and reporting for the waste streams, services, and facilities that it can control. Councils will also work on obtaining information from activities in the upper levels of the waste hierarchy and waste generation so that progress towards objectives and targets can be determined. Data will be gathered through a variety of mechanisms including community satisfaction surveys, Wellington region records (e.g., call centre records, KPIs, etc.), licensing and data

requirements, contractors, and Solid Waste Assessment Protocol (SWAP). The Councils will also give effect to any national data collection and reporting requirements that are mandated by central government and engage with the upcoming National Waste Data Framework development process to represent the needs and priorities of the Councils, Wellington region businesses and communities.

## 9 Kuputaka Here me ōna whakapotonga | Glossary of terms and abbreviations

Terms	Definition
Action and Investment Plan (AIP)	An Action and Investment Plan is a supporting plan developed by the Government that will provide detail on what is needed to deliver on <i>Te rautaki para   Waste strategy</i> . <i>Te rautaki para   Waste strategy</i> and AIP governs planning and activity across central and local government. The Government prepares a new AIP roughly every five years.
Construction and demolition waste (C&D)	Waste generated from any building work (including construction, renovation, repair or demolition); and includes but is not limited to concrete, plasterboard, insulation, nails, wood, steel, brick, paper, roofing materials, wool/textiles, cardboard, metals, plastic or glass, as well as any waste originating from site preparation, such as dredging materials, tree stumps, asphalt and rubble. Abbreviated to C&D waste throughout this WWMP.
Circular economy	In a circular economy, waste and pollution is designed out, resources are kept in use for as long as possible, then recovered and regenerated into new products and materials at the end of their lifecycle. Protecting and regenerating natural systems is key to a circular economy, as is delivering equitable and inclusive outcomes.
Class 1 Landfill	A Class 1 landfill is a site that accepts domestic solid waste. A Class 1 landfill generally also accepts construction and demolition waste, some industrial wastes and contaminated soils.
Class 2 Landfill	A Class 2 landfill is a site that accepts non-putrescible wastes including constructions and demolition wastes, inert industrial wastes, managed fill material and clean fill material.
Cleanfill	A cleanfill (properly referred to as a Class 4 landfill) is any disposal facility that accepts only material that, when buried, will have no adverse environmental effect on people or the environment.
Councils	The eight city and district councils in the Wellington region who have produced this plan: Carterton District Council, Hutt City Council, Kāpiti Coast District Council, Porirua City Council, South Wairarapa District Council, Upper Hutt City Council and Wellington City Council.
Dispose or Disposal	The final (or more than short-term) deposit of waste into or onto land set apart for that purpose, or the incineration of waste.
Diverted material	As defined within the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, means 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.
Domestic waste	Waste consisting of refuse, recyclable material, or organic matter (food waste and/ or garden waste) originating from any household or from the cafeteria, lunchroom or canteen of any commercial enterprise but does not include, commercial or industrial waste, prohibited waste, hazardous waste, trade waste, liquid waste, or construction and demolition waste.
Emissions Trading Scheme	One of the government's tools for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Its purpose is to help meet international obligations under the Paris Agreement, and the 2050 target and emissions budgets for Aotearoa.
Food scraps	Any food scraps, such as from preparing meals, leftovers, scraps, and coffee grounds.

GWRC	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Green waste	Compostable plant material including lawn clippings, weeds, plants, and other soft vegetable matter, which by nature or condition, and being free of any contaminants will degenerate into compost. This does not include flax, bamboo, pampas, flowering gorse, palm trees or cabbage trees.
Hazardous waste	Waste that is reasonably likely to be or contain a substance that meets one or more of the classification criteria for substances with explosive, flammable, oxidising, toxic, corrosive or ecotoxic properties under the Hazardous Substances (Classification) Notice 2017. Hazardous waste does not include domestic waste, inorganic material, construction and demolition waste, or commercial or industrial waste.
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
Landfill	A disposal facility as defined in section 7 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, excluding incineration. Includes, by definition in the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 only those facilities that accept 'household waste'. Properly referred to as a Class 1 landfill.
LTP	Long-term Plan
Managed fill	A disposal site requiring a resource consent to accept well-defined types of non-household waste, e.g., low-level contaminated soils, or industrial by-products, such as sewage by-products. Properly referred to as a Class 3 landfill.
Ministry for the Environment	The Ministry for the Environment is the public service department of New Zealand charged with advising the New Zealand government on policies and issues affecting the environment, in addition to the relevant environmental laws and standards.
Materials Recovery Facility (MRF)	A Materials Recovery Facility receives, separates, and prepares recyclables such as plastics, paper, cardboard, aluminium, and tins to be sold to an end buyer. The Materials Recovery Facility uses a combination of equipment, machines, and manual labour to separate and prepare the materials.
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Organic waste	Organic waste is biodegradable matter, such as food scraps, garden cuttings, grass, and branches, that can be accepted at an organics processing facility or facilities. In the context of this WMMP, biosolids is excluded from this definition.
Recovery	As defined in the Waste Minimisation Act 2008: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Means extraction of materials or energy from waste or diverted material for further use or processing; and</li> <li>b) Includes making waste or diverted material into compost.</li> </ul>
Recycling	The reprocessing of waste or diverted material to produce new materials.
Reduction	As defined in the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Lessening waste generation, including by using products more efficiently or by redesigning products; and</li> <li>b) In relation to a product, lessening waste generation in relation to the product.</li> </ul>
Reuse	As defined in the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, means 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.
Resource recovery facility	A resource recovery facility is the co-location of infrastructure used for the easy separation and recovery of resources, including reuse and recycling. The extent to which there is any further onsite processing is a function of what if any

	activities could occur due to zooming and space constraints (e.g., recovery of furniture may be acceptable, but the establishment of a concrete crushing facility may not be acceptable).
Solid waste	Waste resulting from industrial, commercial, mining, and agricultural operations, and from domestic activities. Includes sludge from a wastewater treatment plant, water supply treatment plant and other discarded material.
Solid Waste Assessment Protocol (SWAP)	A classification and sampling technique to measure the quantity and composition of waste. Solid Waste Assessment Protocols (SWAP) can be carried out for kerbside collections or at transfer stations and landfills.
Te rautaki para   waste strategy	Te rautaki para   Waste strategy 2023 has been prepared by the Ministry for the Environment. It provides a high-level road map out to 2050 of how New Zealanders are tracking to transform how waste is generated and managed in Aotearoa.
TA	Territorial Authority
Transfer station	Where different types of waste can be deposited by the public or commercial operators to be sorted and transported for recycling, reprocessing or landfill.
Treatment	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 does not include the dilution of waste.
Waste	As defined in the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA), waste means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) anything disposed of or discarded; and</li> <li>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); and</li> </ul> to avoid doubt, includes any component or element of diverted material, if the component or element is disposed or discarded.
Wellington Region Waste Assessment 2023 (WRWA)	A document summarising the current situation of waste management in the Wellington region. Abbreviated to the WRWA throughout this WMMP.
Te pūnaha whakarōpū para   The waste hierarchy	A list of waste management options with decreasing priority – usually shown as ‘reduce, reuse, recycle, reprocess, treat, dispose’.
Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA)	An act administered by the Ministry for the Environment to encourage a reduction in the amount of waste we generate and dispose of in New Zealand. The aim is to reduce the environmental harm of waste and provide economic, social and cultural benefits for New Zealand. Referred to as the WMA.
Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP)	City and district councils are responsible for promoting effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within their district. The WMA requires councils to adopt a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan as defined by section 43 of the WMA, which must be reviewed every six years.
Zero waste	A philosophy for waste management, focusing on council/community partnerships, local economic development, and viewing waste as a resource. Zero waste may also be a target.
CRRC	Community Resource Recovery Centres

## 10 Kuputaka Māori | Glossary of Māori kupu

Terms	Definition
Hāpu	A tribe or sub-tribe, consisting of a number of whānau sharing descent from a common ancestor
Iwi	An extended tribe that is typically used to refer to a large group of people descended from a common ancestor and associated with a distinct territory
Mana whenua	Those who exercise customary authority or rangatiratanga over land or territory (chieftainship or decision-making rights).
Kaitiaki	Guardian/caregiver/steward
Kaitiakitanga	Guardianship/stewardship/protection of the environment
Mātauranga Māori	Māori knowledge or wisdom
Papatūānuku	The earth mother
Taiao	Earth, the natural environment
Te Ao Māori	The Māori world view
Te Tiriti o Waitangi	The Treaty of Waitangi
Tikanga	Customary values and practices