



# Council Workshop: Otago Regional Submission for Waste Minimisation Act and Litter Act Amendments



**DUNEDIN** | kaunihera  
CITY COUNCIL | a-rohe o  
Otepoti



# Karakia

Tūtawa mai i runga  
Tūtawa mai i raro  
Tūtawa mai i roto  
Tūtawa mai i waho  
Kia tau a i te mauri tū  
Te mauri ora, Ki te katoa  
Haumi e, hui e, tāiki e

*Come forth from above,  
Below, within,  
And from the environment  
Vitality and wellbeing for all  
Strengthened in unity.*





# Agenda for Today

Purpose of today and background	5 minutes
Current Situation	20 minutes
Waste Min. Act 2008	10 minutes
Litter Act 1979	10 minutes
Proposed Changes by MFE	10 minutes
Draft Submission – Key areas	10 minutes
Input, questions	15 minutes





# Purpose of Today

- Ministry for Environment (MfE) is proposing changes to the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and Litter Act 1979. This is currently open for public consultation.
- These are key Acts that the Waste and Environmental Solutions team operates under.
- The consultation period closed on 1 June. A draft has been submitted as a placeholder.
- **We seek your input** on the draft submission for the changes to legislation proposed by the MfE.





# Background

- Ministry for Environment are proposing changes to key waste legislation
- The Otago Regional Waste Officer led the development of a draft regional submission with the Otago Waste Network.
- The submission reflects views of other Councils in Otago.







# Current Situation

- **Waste Minimisation Act 2008**
  - Directs central and local government activity in waste minimisation.
  - How the waste disposal levy can be used and
  - Product stewardship
- **Waste Disposal Levy**
  - A charge for sending waste to landfill This is to disincentivise waste, and incentivise alternatives.
  - Waste Levy has been increasing and expanding since 2009, and is expected to increase to \$75 per tonne in 2027.
  - The levy is used for waste minimisation, as prescribed by the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

	1 July 2024	1 July 2025	1 July 2026	1 July 2027
Municipal Landfill Class 1	\$60	\$65	\$70	\$75





# Current Situation

## Waste Minimisation Act 2008

- (1) The purpose of this Act is to encourage waste minimisation and a decrease in waste disposal in order to—
  - a) protect the environment from harm; and
  - b) provide environmental, social, economic, and cultural benefits.
  
- (2) The purpose of Part 3 is, in addition to the purpose specified in subsection (1), to enable a levy to be imposed on waste disposed of to—
  - (a) raise revenue to fund—
    - the promotion and achievement of waste minimisation; and
    - activities that reduce environmental harm or increase environmental benefits; and
    - local authorities to manage emergency waste and to repair or replace waste management and minimisation infrastructure damaged by an emergency; and
    - the Ministry to undertake its functions and duties, and exercise its powers, in relation to waste management and minimisation and hazardous substances; and
    - projects that provide for the remediation of contaminated sites; and
    - increase the cost of waste disposal to recognise that disposal imposes costs on the environment, society, and the economy.





# Current Situation

## Litter Act 1997

- Gives the ability to infringe for offences of litter and illegal dumping.
- However, we can only enforce the infringements through prosecution.
  - Not allowed to use vehicle registrations as evidence.
  - An offender must be identified to prosecute.
  - Currently too resource intensive to gather the evidence sufficient to prosecute.
  - Scale of resourcing required is not proportionate to the scale of offences.  
Not practical.
- Addresses litter on private land, but only if it is 'likely to escape' onto public land.







# Proposed Changes by MFE

- Creating a framework for extended producer responsibility
- Changes to how the waste levy is allocated to territorial authorities, and what they can spend the money on
- Clarifying roles and responsibilities for central government, local government and the waste sector
- Improving tools for compliance, monitoring, and enforcement
- Enabling efficient and effective controls for littering and other types of mismanaged waste.





# Key Areas of Draft Submission

- Waste Minimisation Act 2008
  - Territorial Authority Waste Disposal Levy – scope of use and distribution
    - Support changes in distribution but reservations about changes to scope of use.
  - Product stewardship/Environmental Producer Responsibility
    - Further considerations given in comments
  - Support combining the Litter Act 1979 with Waste Min. Act. 2008
  - Waste to Energy
    - Agree on applying waste levy to waste to energy, this form of disposal should be taxed. However, we don't want to normalize the activity.
- Litter Act 1979:
  - Tiered enforcement framework
    - Yes, support.
  - Ability to use surveillance powers and vehicle registrations for enforcing offences.
    - Yes, support.
- Regional Government role in waste
  - Seeks more clarity, responsibility, and resourcing for the role of regional government in mismanaged waste.





# Input and questions

## Next steps

- Submit final version of submission to MFE on Friday 6 June.
- The final submission will be provided to Council in June as a note.
- Submissions will be analysed by MFE, then recommendations made to cabinet, then a bill will potentially be introduced to Parliament.





# Karakia

Unuhia, unuhia  
Unuhia ki te uru tapu nui  
Kia wātea, kia māmā, te ngākau, te  
tinana, te wairua i te ara takatā  
Koia rā e Rongo, whakairia ake ki  
runga  
Kia tina! TINA! Hui e! TĀIKI E!

*Draw on, draw on,  
Draw on the supreme sacredness  
To clear, to free the heart, the body  
and the spirit of mankind  
Rongo, suspended high above us (i.e.  
in 'heaven')  
Draw together! Affirm!*



