



Councillor workshop

Waste Minimisation Grants

Review for 26/27

Purpose

Council Action (30 April 2025) - Hearings Committee Recommendations on Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025

Moved (Cr Jim O'Malley/Cr Mandy Mayhem):

That the Council:

a) **Adopts** the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025 as amended.

b) **Approves** a review of the Waste Minimisation Grants Framework to be completed in time for the 2026/27 Financial Year.

c) **Notes** the Summary of Results from Submissions and the Summary of Recommendations from the Hearings Committee.

d) **Notes** that the Hearings Committee has heard and considered submissions on the Draft WMMP 2025.

e) **Notes** the minutes of the Hearings Committee.

Motion carried (CNL/2025/100) with Cr Vandervis recording his vote against.



Agenda

- Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025
 - WMMP Grants Framework
- Waste Minimisation Grants overview:
 - Types of grants (current)
 - WM Grants 2019 – early 2025
- Proposed changes:
 - Stakeholder Feedback
 - *New Non-Contestable Agreements*

Questions



Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025

- Waste Minimisation Act 2008 requires WMMPs
- New WMMP 2025 adopted by Council April 2025
- Waste levy may be used:
 - on matters to promote or achieve waste minimisation; and
 - in accordance with the waste management and minimisation plan.
- If a Territorial Authority wishes to provide waste minimisation grants (using waste levy funding), they must have a framework for this in their WMMP.
- WMMP 2025 contains a new framework for these grants.



WMMP Grants Framework

New funding priorities

Decisions on the award of grants will be based on the following priorities:

1. Top of the waste hierarchy - enable residents or businesses to avoid waste, reuse, or repair items.
2. Waste streams - alignment with the material diversion targets in this Plan and the Zero Carbon Plan 2030.
3. Delivery - the applicant's ability to deliver their project, expand local capability, and achieve strong waste minimisation outcomes.
4. Expand opportunities for diversion – increase the variety of sustainable waste minimisation solutions available and develop new capabilities in Ōtepoti Dunedin.
5. Scale - The quantity and volume of material that will be minimised from reaching landfill by an applicant's project.

The DCC's Grants Management Policy also applies to the management of waste minimisation grants.



Grants Framework

Other considerations:

- Collaborative and joint applications (i.e. between businesses or between community organisations).
- Creates equity for Māori, Pasifika, and new migrant communities.
- Contributes towards social, economic, environmental, and cultural outcomes.
- Local organisation.
- Health and safety planning will be required where appropriate, such as for public events.

Types of Grants (current)

Small Waste Minimisation Project Grants

- To enable 'quick wins'
- Up to \$500 (\$10,000 per annum)
- For registered not-for profits (e.g., social enterprise, charities, schools).
- **Delegation?**

Waste Minimisation Community Grants

- Two funding rounds each year, March and September (\$60,000 - \$30,000 per round)
- Up to \$5,000
- **20% contribution (reduced from 30%)**
- For registered not-for profits (e.g. social enterprise, charities).
- **Delegation?**

Types of Grants (current)

Waste Minimisation Commercial Grants

- One funding round each year, September (\$70,000 available)
- Up to \$70,000
- 30% contribution
- For registered New Zealand businesses
- **Emphasis on resource recovery, infrastructure, new capability.**
- ***Delegation?***



WM Grant rounds from 2019 to early 2025

Waste Minimisation Community Grants 2019 to March 2025 (13)					
Applied	Successful	Applied amount	Awarded amount	Average applied	Average awarded
97	92	\$452,796	\$370,560	\$4,668	\$4,028
			\$390,000 available		
13 Community rounds – Underspend – 5, Bang on (about \$4k) – 4, Oversubscribed – 4.					



Waste Minimisation Commercial Grants 2019 to March 2025 (
Applied	Successful	Applied amount	Awarded amount	Average applied	Average awarded
52	34	\$1,153,315	\$448,552	\$22,179	\$13,192
			\$519,000 available		
8 Commercial rounds – Underspend – 1, Bang on (about \$10k) – 1, Oversubscribed – 6.					





WM Grants Community Feedback

Question	Yes	No
Do you support increasing the WM Community Grants fund from \$60k pa to \$120K pa (\$60 per round)?	22	0
Do you support increasing the maximum amount an applicant can apply for from \$5,000 to \$7,500?	20	2





Community Commentary

Theme	# of comments
Positive to the recommended changes	12
Positive but amount application maximum too low	5
Suggest maximum to \$10,000	4
Will all the money be spent?	2
Widen Community application criteria	2



Proposal for stakeholder engagement

Waste Minimisation Small Projects	Recommended from FY 26/27
<p>Current</p> <p>\$10,000 p.a. (all year round, each FY)</p> <p>\$500 maximum</p> <p>Open to Community groups only</p>	<p>No change</p>
Minimisation Community Grants	Recommended from FY 26/27
<p>Current</p> <p>\$60,000 p.a. (2 application rounds, \$30,000 each, per FY)</p> <p>\$5,000 maximum</p> <p>Open to Community groups only</p>	<p>Increase to</p> <p>\$120,000 p.a.</p> <p>(2 application rounds \$60,000 each, per FY)</p> <p>\$7,500 application maximum</p>



Commercial Commentary

Theme	# of comments
Grant should specify areas of specific waste per round	1
Make reporting condition of grant	1
Reduced amount made it hard to implement fully (previous recipient who did not receive requested amount)	1
No application maximum - may limit project	1
Spread funding to different organisations	1
Change focus to circular economy – designing out waste	1
Not enough information in the survey	1





Commercial Feedback

Question	Yes	No	Maybe
Should the DCC raise the grant funding pool from the current \$70,000pa up to \$100,000pa for the 2026-27 financial year?	11	0	2
Should there be a cap of \$20,000 for any one grant application?	5	5	3



Proposal for stakeholder engagement

Waste Minimisation Commercial Grants	Recommended from FY 26/27
Current \$70,000 p.a. (1 application round, per FY) No minimum or maximum Open to Commercial businesses only	Increase to \$100,000 p.a. (1 application round, \$100,000 per FY) \$20,000 application maximum
New	Recommended from FY 26/27
Service Level Agreements (multi-year funding e.g. 2 or 3 year) No current allocation or maximum funding set. Open to Community groups and Commercial businesses (including Incorporated Societies)	Allocate \$200,000 p.a. No maximum, dependent on proposal request Available all year round (funds dependant) Any additional funding requests could still be considered by Council should Waste Levy funds be available and proposals have merit



New Non-Contestable Agreements

The new WMMP 2025 grants framework includes **Non-Contested** Waste Minimisation **Service Agreements**.

In order:

“To provide more certainty and better support to well established organisations (community or commercial) for a project, service, or waste minimisation infrastructure that cannot be provided by other organisations in Ōtepoti Dunedin.”

This additional funding category has been created as part of the process to clearly identify waste grants separately from the wider DCC grants framework (i.e. **Community Service Level Agreements**).

Draft criteria has been created, but the application and approvals process is still under development.





New Non-Contestable Agreements

This non-contested funding is available to provide more certainty and better support to well established organisations (community or commercial) for a project, service, or waste minimisation infrastructure that cannot be provided by other organisations in Ōtepoti Dunedin.

Eligibility

- For registered groups/organisations (including incorporated societies).
- For proven and successful initiatives only, by way of a formal proposal to DCC (where the council, at its discretion, accepts that an initiative is achievable and proven). e.g. surplus food collection for distribution, bicycle refurbishment for reuse.
- The DCC may seek Registrations of Interest in alignment with DCC Procurement and Contract Management Policy.
- For projects that take place within the DCC administrative boundary.
- Meets some or all WMMP objectives.
- Able to commit to an agreement of up to three years.





New Non-Contestable Agreements

Requirements

- Quarterly reports which provide quantitative and qualitative information for the preceding three-month period and other relevant project deliverables.
- Apply for particular aspects of the operating programme – e.g., wages for one or more main employees, or operating costs – premises rental, or recycling or other material processing costs.
- Provides an opportunity that can't be or isn't being covered by others – i.e., a unique service.



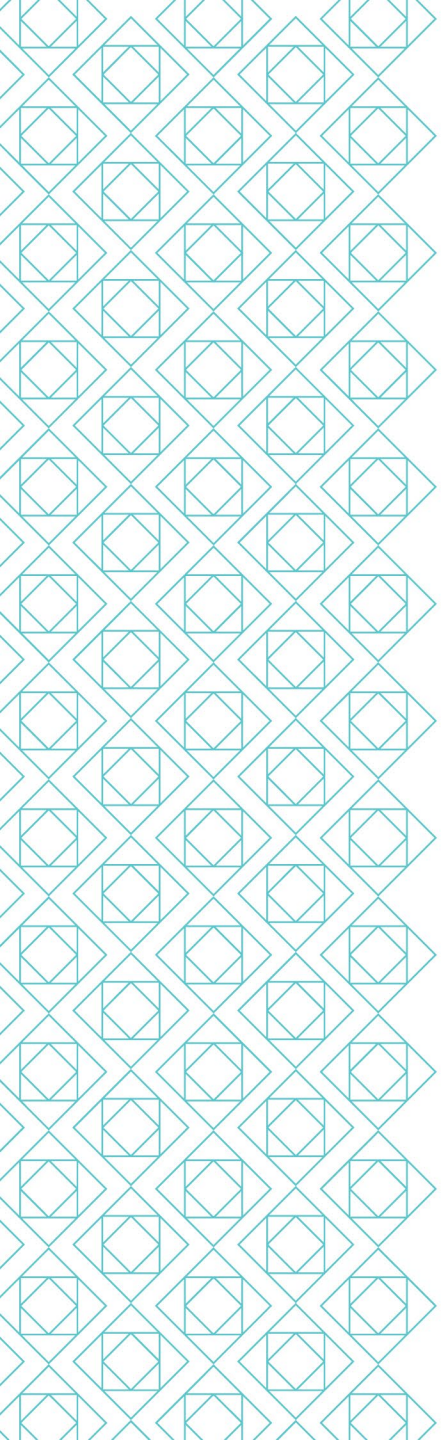


New Non-Contestable Agreements

Potential funding considerations

- Whose waste/resources are being covered and are they contributing? For example, KiwiHarvest collecting from large supermarkets – for profit businesses who would be having to pay for the disposal otherwise. Compared with those collecting household/individual goods.
- What other funding mechanisms – and what do they cover? (Can funds go to where the need is greatest – e.g., wages.)
- How scope for rising costs, changes in service, are reflected – annual review?
- Consistent approach in review based on KPI's achieved, aspects not achieved, and consequences (obviously to be worked through with good communication.) Organisations need to know what the funding means.
- Maximum available per application (e.g. \$50,000 p.a.)





Questions

