

STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

PROPOSED CHANGES FOR THE WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION PLAN 2025

MAHERE WHAKAHAERE ME TE WHAKAMŌTIO PARA 2025

INTRODUCTION

KUPU WHAKATAKI

The Dunedin City Council (DCC) would like to know what you think about the proposed, amended Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025 (WMMP 2025).

This statement of proposal sets out:

- Background information
- What is being proposed, reasons for the proposal
- How submissions on the proposal can be made
- How long the consultation period will run for.

The statement of proposal has been prepared as part of the Special Consultative Procedure in accordance with *section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002*, and *Part 4 - Responsibilities of Territorial Authorities in relation to Waste Management and Minimisation* in the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

BACKGROUND

The Otago Regional Waste Assessment 2023¹ (Waste Assessment 2023) is a supporting document to the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. It provides an analysis of our situation in waste and options for addressing key waste issues informed by a forecast of future demand.

- The Waste Assessment 2023 sets the context of where we are now, provides a stocktake of known waste services and facilities in Ōtepoti Dunedin and, evaluates a range of options for meeting future demand for collection, recovery, recycling, treatment, and disposal whether provided by council or otherwise.
- The Waste Assessment 2023 takes a regional approach and recommends how the DCC and district Councils in Otago may be able to work together to enhance waste minimisation and management across the region.

The WMMP 2025 is a guiding document which outlines Ōtepoti Dunedin's aspirations and approach:

- The WMMP 2025 provides the strategic context; sets out the Vision, Guiding Principles and Targets.
- The WMMP presents a vision for where we want to end up as a city, objectives for achieving this vision, and an Action Plan including implementation and funding methods.

¹ Otago Regional Waste Assessment (2023) URL:

https://infocouncil.dunedin.govt.nz/Open/2023/08/ISC_20230815_ATT_2224_EXCLUDED_WEB.htm

The DCC has a statutory responsibility to: *promote effective and efficient waste minimisation*, and for this purpose, to *adopt a waste management and minimisation plan*. This requires a review of the current WMMP under *Section 50 - Review of Waste Management and Minimisation Plans of the WMA*. I.e., before undertaking the review, Council must prepare a new Waste Assessment.

The DCC has reviewed its current WMMP 2020 and has decided to amend its WMMP in accordance with *Section 44 Requirements when Preparing, Amending, or Revoking Plans of the WMA*.

Waste Assessment 2023

Every effort was made to make a full and balanced assessment of waste and resource recovery education, services, and facilities in Ōtepoti Dunedin, including analysing existing data and undertaking audits, talking with community groups, and requesting information and data from commercial waste service providers in the city.

The DCC's draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025 was informed by the Waste Assessment 2023, Dunedin's Zero Carbon Plan 2030 and engagement with key sectors and stakeholders.

Why is the DCC proposing an amended WMMP?

The waste and resource recovery sector is in a time of rapid change and growth. The issues and demands of the future mean that there will need to be more planning and investment in services and infrastructure across New Zealand to deal with the challenges ahead, build resilience, and support a circular economy.

In addition to the DCC's role, Ōtepoti Dunedin's people and industries are integral to the success of this WMMP 2025.

WHAT WE'RE PROPOSING

HE AHA KĀ PANONIHAKA E WHAKATAKOTORIA AI E MĀTAU?

Changing the title of the plan

Previously, the name put Waste Minimisation ahead of Waste Management, to reflect the waste hierarchy i.e. reduce, re-use, recycle, resource recovery, treatment, and disposal. However, through the process of reviewing the WMMP 2020, it was decided to keep the name consistent with legislation (WMA) and change its name to the: 'Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025'.

Protecting Public Health

Consultation with Manatū Hauora, Ministry of Health, was done as part of the Waste Assessment 2023 (as required by WMA s51(5)(b)). The statement of impact on public health is included in Appendix 1 of the Waste Assessment 2023.

The Waste Assessment 2023 identified issues that are likely to be of concern in terms of public health. The risk of key waste management issues will be managed adequately by: providing waste services, appropriate performance standards for waste service contracts, ensuring performance is monitored and reported on, and that there are appropriate structures within contracts for addressing issues when they arise.

Alignment with the Treaty of Waitangi and te ao Māori (the Māori Worldview)

The proposed Plan has been developed to have a stronger alignment with the Treaty of Waitangi (the Treaty) and te ao Māori (the Māori Worldview). The WMMP 2025 has been prepared and developed alongside mana whenua within the WMMP Steering Group. Therefore, the contents and direction of the WMMP 2025 embody Article 2 of the Treaty in not only that mana whenua maintain tino rangatiratanga (self-determination) in governmental affairs, but do so over a great taonga (property, goods or effects that are treasured or prized, including socially or culturally valuable objects, resources, ideas and techniques) within te ao Māori - te taiao (the environment)².

The environment is of paramount importance in te ao Māori. It provides food, drinking water, as well as shelter. As a result, protecting and causing limited harm to our environment is of high priority to mana whenua in Ōtepoti Dunedin and across the country. By actively involving mana whenua in the Steering Group, this uplifts the mana of man whenua and recognises their whakapapa connecting to the whenua of Ōtepoti Dunedin. Furthermore, the WMMP 2025 utilises mātauraka (knowledge) from of mana whenua for the benefit of the environment, which in turn uplifts the mauri of Ōtepoti Dunedin and recognises the balance of tapu and noa in keeping residents safe in the waste space.

Te Takiharuru – the Māori Strategic Framework

Te Takiharuru is a framework based in the values of mana whenua in Ōtepoti Dunedin. It was formally adopted by Council in September 2023. The WMMP 2025 reflects the needs of mana whenua by aligning with several key directions within Te Takiharuru. There is a particular focus across all four pou, within: the environmental wellbeing; the cultural wellbeing across the Autūroa and Autakata pou; as well as the social wellbeing across the Autaketake and Autakata pou. Ensuring the WMMP 2025 is aligned with Te Takiharuru shows strong acknowledgement and partnership with mana whenua, while ensuring plans and actions moving forward are made in conjunction with, and using the mātauraka of mana whenua.

Our Vision for the future has been updated to reflect changes within the waste sector and people's attitudes towards waste; it communicates that a more holistic approach will be taken. The target year has been removed because the vision is an aspirational statement that paints a picture. Achieving the vision by a particular year would require a more specific, measurable statement.

Ōtepoti Dunedin is actively committed to preventing waste, reducing emissions, and building a circular economy to respect and protect people and the natural environment's mauri.

Updating our Targets: The DCC's plan complements the focus and level of ambition in Te Rautaki Para, the New Zealand Waste Strategy (2023) by using the following targets:

- *Target 1: Waste generation: Reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system, by 10 per cent per person by 2030.*
- *Target 2: Waste disposal: Reduce the amount of material that needs final disposal, by 30 per cent per person by 2030.*
- *Target 3: Waste emissions: reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste, by at least 30 per cent.*

² The DCC supports using Kāi Tahu mita when spelling words in te reo Māori - such as using 'kā' instead of 'ngā.' In this case, 'tino rangatiratanga' and 'taonga' have not been changed into Kāi Tahu mita as they're in reference to the wording of the Māori text in the Treaty of Waitangi (te Tiriti o Waitangi).

OTHER PROPOSED CHANGES

Measuring Success:

The WMMP 2020 set out goals; however, these were difficult to measure against. Territorial Authorities are not required in legislation to set goals in the WMMP. Therefore, to simplify measuring, monitoring, and reporting, the proposed WMMP 2025 does not contain goals; instead, it has updated actions and targets which are better suited for measuring progress against.

Updated Objectives: The objectives in the proposed plan have been drafted based on recurring themes that arose from external engagement workshops during preparation of the WMMP 2025. The key themes that arose were supporting a circular economy, infrastructure and services, networking and collaboration, education and communication, advocacy, incentives, and regulation, and data.

Updated Action Table

The actions in the proposed WMMP 2025 have been updated to reflect feedback gathered in the preparation of the WMMP through external engagement workshops. They also reflect the options to address key waste management and minimisation issues that were identified in the Waste Assessment 2023, and incorporate actions from the Zero Carbon Implementation Plan 2030.

Adding a Grants Framework for Waste Minimisation Funding

The proposed WMMP 2025 has a new grants framework. This is because the DCC's Waste Minimisation grants are funded by waste levy, which, under section 32, 43, and section 47 of the WMA, must be spent in accordance with the WMMP. Therefore, the way grants are awarded must be set out in our WMMP.

The new framework also aims to give more clarity and achieve better consistency in how waste minimisation grants are awarded. This will build better outcomes for the WMMP, such as prioritising certainty of delivery, the scale of materials being addressed, diversifying solutions in Ōtepoti Dunedin, and encouraging collaboration through allowing joint applications.

How will the DCC Implement the Plan?

The proposed new Action Plan addresses the key issues identified in the Waste Assessment 2023, and reflects actions requested through external engagement workshops. An implementation method and a funding mechanism is indicated against each action. Implementation of the actions will involve DCC, community organisations, residents, and businesses.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Your feedback will help shape the proposed WMMP 2025. Public consultation will be open from Thursday 30 January – Friday 28 February 2025.

HOW TO GIVE FEEDBACK

Submissions can be made online or in writing.

- Webpage www.dunedin.govt.nz/consultation
- Email: wmmp.submissions@dcc.govt.nz

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Feedback received by the DCC through the public consultation is considered by the Council and fed into the final WMMP 2025.

- The submission period is from Thursday 30th January – Friday 28th February 2025.
- Waste and Environmental Solutions staff will review feedback and adjust the draft WMMP 2025.

Please note: Your name and submission will be made public as part of the DCC's decision-making process. This information will be included in papers available to the public and the media but will only be used for the WMMP 2025 consultation.

Late submissions may not be accepted.

Thank you for your submission.