



Waste Free TAIRĀWHITI



Tairāwhiti

**Draft Waste Management and
Minimisation Plan**

2025 - 2031



Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Mihi Acknowledgements

Ki ngā ringa manaaki maha kua tākoha mai ō rātau māramatanga, hei āwhina, hei tohutohu, hei tautoko i tēnei mahere. E kore e mutu ngā mihi ki a koutou katoa.

To the many generous hands who have offered their understanding to help, advise and support this plan.
We cannot thank you enough.

Contents

Executive summary	2
What this plan sets out	2
What will change over the next six years	2
How we'll work together	3
1. Introduction	6
Who this plan is for	6
2. What is a WMMP and why it matters	7
The Government's waste and resource efficiency strategy	7
The waste hierarchy	8
Who is part of the plan	8
How evidence shapes this plan	8
Tairāwhiti stats	10
3. Where we are today	11
What our whenua and our people are showing us	11
4. Our vision and our values	12
How we move together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti	11
Our values guide how we move toward that future	11
5. Our focus	12
Objectives	12
6. What will change over the next six years	14
7. What this plan means for you	14
8. How we will deliver and fund this plan	16
Funding approach	16
Contracts, performance and licensing	16
Capability and governance	16
9. How we'll track progress, learn and adapt	16
10. The action plan	17
How to read the action plan	17
Action plan tables	18-29

Executive summary

Tairāwhiti is a region where people and place are woven together. How we deal with waste shapes that connection – the health of our whenua, awa and moana, the wellbeing of our whānau and the legacy we hand to those who come after us.

Right now, our waste system isn't keeping pace with what our region needs. Waste to landfill has increased while recovery has declined and illegal dumping has risen sharply over recent years. Most of our rubbish and recycling still travels out of the region to be sorted or disposed of, which adds cost and emissions, and makes us vulnerable when transport routes are disrupted. Legacy landfills continue to need monitoring and remediation, with priority decisions ahead for sites such as Waiapu and Tokomaru Bay. Rural communities face extra barriers – distance, fewer options and the real cost of doing the right thing.

Across Tairāwhiti, people are already showing what a waste-free future can look like. Marae, kura, community groups and local businesses are running composting workshops, repair and reuse initiatives and local salvage efforts. Our job is to support and join up this mahi, making the right thing the easy thing – at the kerbside, at the gate and at every transfer station across the region.



What this plan sets out

This plan brings together what we know, what our communities have told us and what our whenua is showing us. It sets a clear direction for the next six years – guided by kaitiakitanga and by the need to protect the health of our whenua, waterways and communities.

A Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) is required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, but in our region it also represents a collective shift – from managing waste at the end of the line to preventing it in the first place, recovering what still has value, reusing where possible and reducing the long term impacts on people and place.



This plan explains where we are now, where we want to be by 2031 and the actions we will take to get there. It outlines how Council, mana whenua, communities, local businesses and waste operators will work together to make practical, lasting change across the rohe.

This plan also sits within the national direction, with our focus areas and actions aligning with the Government's waste and resource efficiency strategy and its five national outcomes.

What will change over the next six years

Over the next six years, this plan will help reshape how we deal with waste in Tairāwhiti – in practical ways that reflect care for people, place and future generations.

The first changes will be about clarity and confidence. Information about waste and recycling will become simpler, more consistent and accessible, helping people trust they're doing the right thing. Waste services will become easier to use, easier to understand and more aligned across the region.

Emphasis will shift to reuse, recycling and recovery, and less to disposal. Materials that still hold value will be better supported to stay in circulation, reducing what goes to landfill and strengthening local resource recovery over time.

There will be a stronger, more coordinated response to illegal dumping. Alongside cleaning up affected sites, the approach will focus on preventing dumping in the first place – improving access to services, providing clear pathways and responding earlier where issues emerge. Education, enforcement and community action will work together to protect whenua, waterways and shared spaces.

Across the region, new ways of reducing waste will be explored and tested. This will build on the leadership already shown by marae, kura, community groups and businesses, recognising that many of the solutions already exist here. What works best for Tairāwhiti will guide what grows.

Rural communities will be better supported, acknowledging the extra challenges distance, access and transport create. Longer term planning will also look to reduce reliance on out-of-region disposal and strengthen the resilience of the waste system, especially during major weather events and disruptions.

Progress will be tracked and shared as the plan moves forward. By 2031, our region will be diverting more, wasting less and protecting the health and mauri of our whenua and waterways. Together, these changes will add up to a waste system that is easier to use, fairer across rural and urban areas, and aligned with the values of Tairāwhiti.

How we'll work together

Reducing waste in Tairāwhiti is a shared responsibility and lasting change will only happen if we work together – across communities and generations.

This plan is guided by values that are deeply rooted in Tairāwhiti:

Kaitiakitanga – protecting the mauri of our whenua, awa and moana

Manaakitanga – designing respectful, safe and accessible services

Whanaungatanga – building strong relationships and shared responsibility

Kotahitanga – aligning effort across Tairāwhiti

Pono – acting transparently and reporting honestly

These values shape not only what we do, but how we do it. They remind us that caring for our whenua, awa and moana is inseparable from caring for our people, and the choices we make today shape the legacy we leave behind.

Council will continue to provide core services, invest waste levy funding, support education and compliance and plan for the future. Mana whenua will help guide the design and delivery of solutions, bringing mātauranga Māori and place-based knowledge into how waste is managed across the rohe.

Communities, marae, kura and local organisations will continue to lead action on the ground – reducing waste, recovering resources and supporting behaviour change in ways that reflect local realities. Businesses and waste operators will work alongside Council and communities to reduce waste at source, support reuse, improve recovery and deliver services that are efficient, safe and environmentally responsible.

We'll work in the open, sharing progress and learning as we go. Some changes will happen quickly, while others will take time to design and deliver well. Throughout, we'll pilot, adapt and build on what works, keeping our community informed and involved.

By working together in this way, we can move steadily toward a waste-free system that reflects the values of Tairāwhiti – one that strengthens community, protects the environment and supports a more resilient future for those who call this place home. Together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti.





1. Introduction

To the many hands and hearts who care for Tairāwhiti, who uphold the wellbeing of our people and whenua, this plan is written with you and for you.

Our region stretches far and feels the distance. We are shaped by our coastlines, rivers and mountains, and by the people whose lives are woven into them. This plan acknowledges the responsibility we carry together – to care for Tairāwhiti, to reduce harm and to protect the mauri of our whenua for those who will come after us.

Who this plan is for

This plan is for everyone. It's for households and whānau, for marae, schools and kura, for community groups and local organisations, for businesses and industry, for waste operators and service providers, and for Council staff whose choices and actions shape our system every day. It's written in plain language so everyone can see themselves in the path forward – knowing where they fit, what they can expect and how they can contribute.



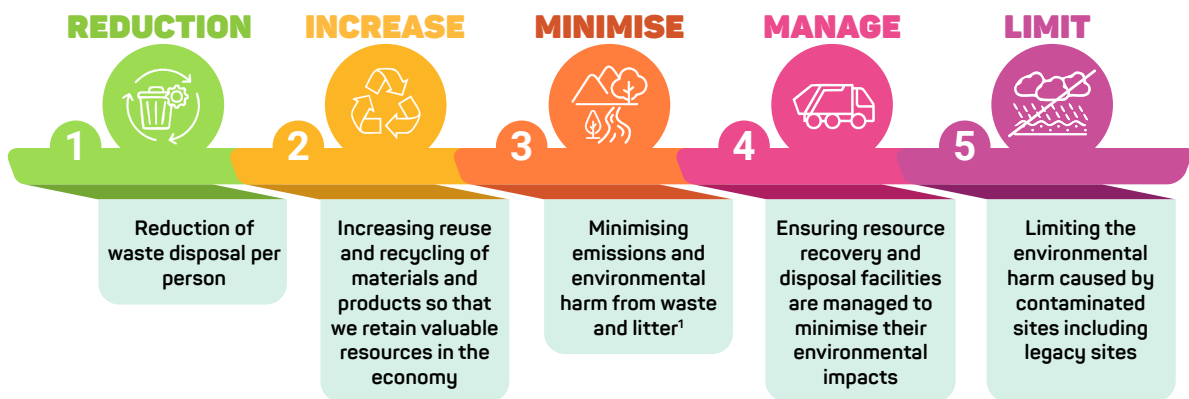
2. What is a WMMP and why it matters

A Waste Management and Minimisation Plan is required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, which asks every council to reduce the harm caused by waste and to use resources more efficiently.

In Tairāwhiti, this plan is also a commitment to kaitiakitanga – caring for the mauri of our whenua, awa and moana – and to the relationships that connect people and place. A clear plan helps us send fewer useful materials to landfill, keep costs steadier over time, lower the risks when natural disasters or road closures hit, and better protect our environment and communities.

The Government's waste and resource efficiency strategy

The Government's waste and resource efficiency strategy sets the national direction for how Aotearoa reduces waste, keeps resources in use and minimises harm to people and the environment. It outlines five outcomes for the motu:



These outcomes shape the system we work within. Our WMMP aligns with this strategy by focusing on practical changes that reduce waste, lift recovery, return organics to the whenua, improve site management and reduce the harm caused by illegal dumping and legacy landfills. Our action plan shows how our local priorities contribute to these national goals.



The waste hierarchy

The waste hierarchy is a nationally recognised framework that guides how waste should be managed. It asks us to avoid waste where we can, extend the life of what we already have, return materials to circulation and only as a last resort dispose of what cannot be recovered or reused.



Who is part of the plan

This plan belongs to all of us. Mana whenua and hapū guide how it's shaped and delivered, bringing mātauranga Māori and tikanga into the decisions that affect our whenua, awa and moana. Across the rohe, communities, marae and kura are already leading para kore initiatives, composting, repair and reuse programmes, and local education – showing what a waste-free future can look like in practice.

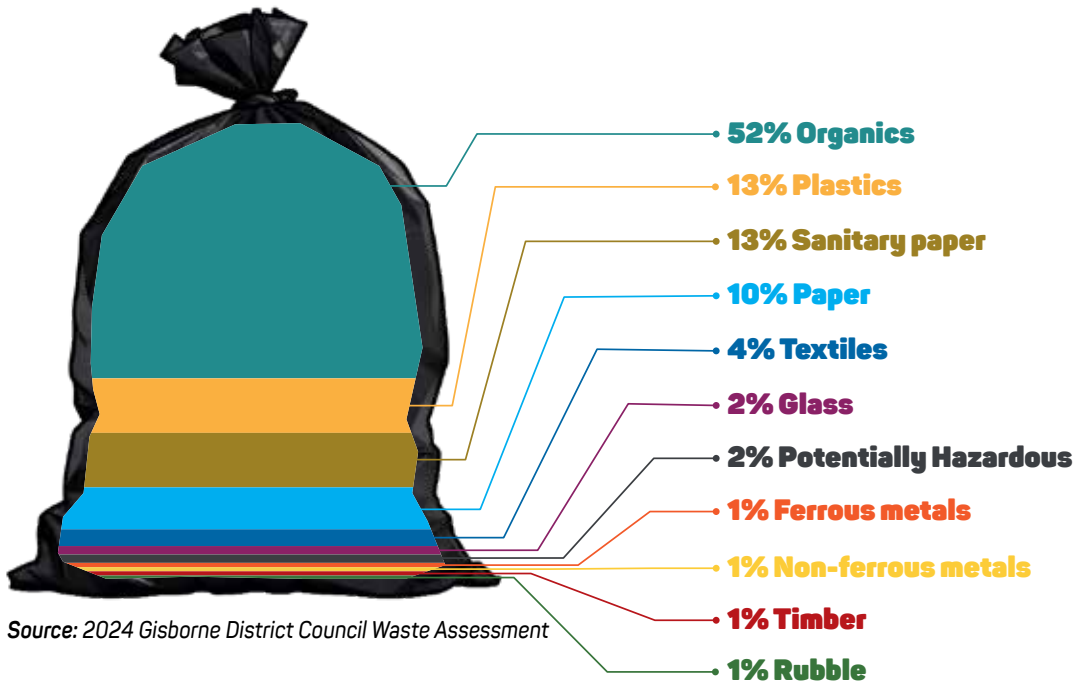
Businesses and industry, including the high volume construction and demolition sector, play an essential role in reducing waste at its source and keeping valuable materials in circulation. Waste operators provide the everyday services our region relies on and work alongside Council to reduce contamination and improve recovery.

As Council, we bring these threads together – providing core services such as kerbside recycling and refuse collection for households in Gisborne and Ruatorea, overseeing nine rural transfer stations, monitoring and maintaining legacy landfills, and supporting the safe disposal of wastewater treatment sludge. We invest waste levy funding, set clear standards through contracts and bylaws, and plan for the future so the whole system moves in the same direction. Central government agencies, including the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) and the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), set the national direction and regulatory settings we work within and offer funding opportunities to support innovation.

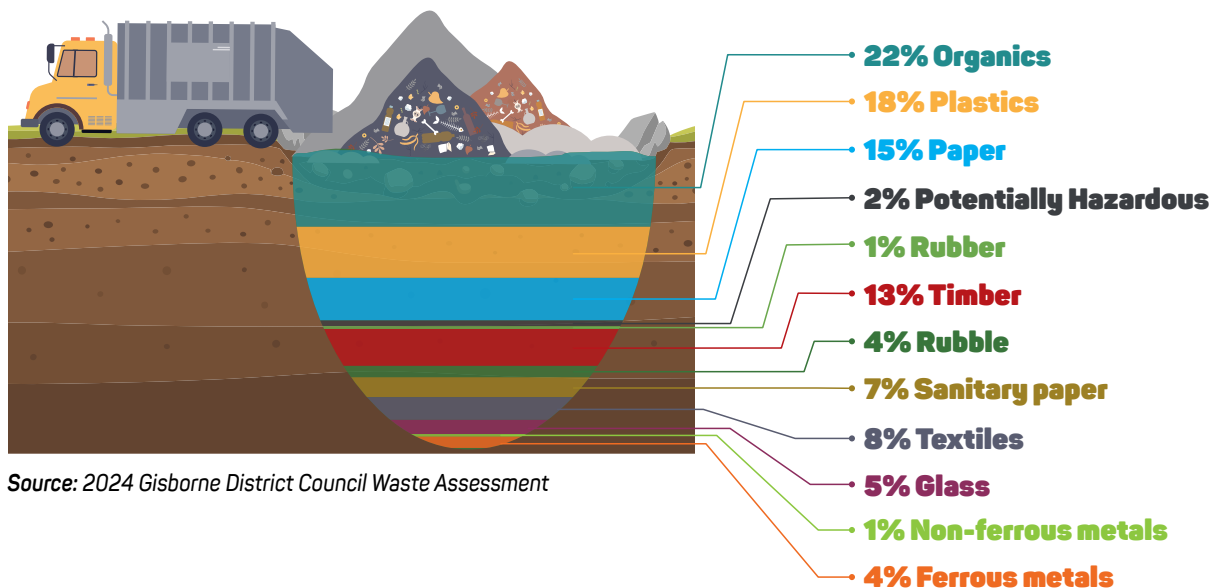
How evidence shapes this plan

This WMMP is grounded in our Waste Assessment – prepared in accordance with sections 50 and 51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 – which analysed our region’s waste system and highlighted the trends and challenges we need to address. Increased volume of waste to landfill, declining recovery, a sharp increase in illegal dumping and clear opportunities for processing and disposal of organics and construction materials all point to where our effort is most needed and guide the mahi ahead.

What’s in our kerbside rubbish?



What are we sending to landfill?



What the whole assessment told us...



20,000 tonnes

Tairāwhiti sends around 20,000 tonnes of waste to Class 1 landfill each year



356km

to landfill

Our waste travels about 356 km to reach Tirohia Landfill



60%

divertible

About 60% of a typical rubbish bag could be kept out of landfill



383kg

per person

Our landfill waste per person is lower than the national average of 685 kg



22.5%

organics

Nearly a quarter of landfill waste is food and garden material



1175 tonnes

Illegal dumping has jumped from 44 tonnes in 2018 to 1175 tonnes in 2025

56%

business waste

Businesses generate over half of the general waste in our region



17.9%

plastics

Plastics make up 17.9% of waste going to landfill



38%

recycling

Recycling makes up 38% of what's collected at kerbside



9 rural

transfer stations

Council manages nine rural transfer stations and 26 legacy landfills

3. Where we are today

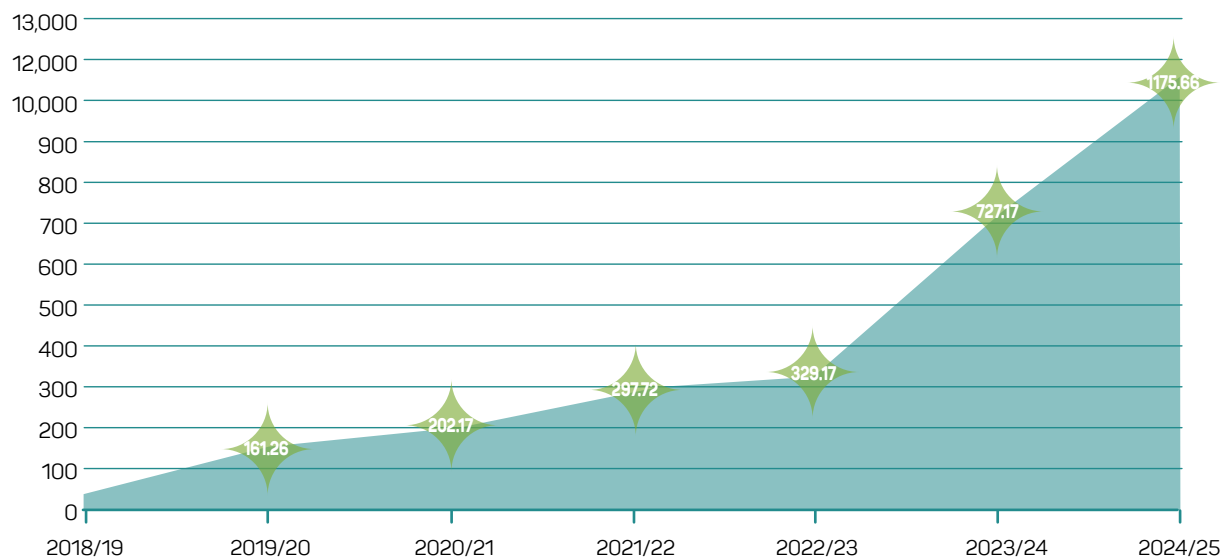
What our whenua and our people are showing us

The system we rely on has not kept pace with what our region needs.

Most kerbside and transfer station materials are consolidated locally, then transported out of Tairāwhiti for sorting or disposal. Those long journeys add cost and emissions and make us dependent on open roads. When severe weather closes routes, the whole system is placed under pressure. Recent severe weather events have shown how important it is to have clear, agreed pathways for managing disaster and emergency waste, so recovery can happen quickly and with less harm to people, whenua and waterways.

Over recent years, waste to landfill has increased, recovery has declined and illegal dumping has risen sharply – from 44 tonnes in 2018 to 1175 tonnes in 2025. These trends tell us we must change course. A large amount of what we send to landfill still holds value – in our kerbside rubbish, nearly 40% is organics by weight.

Tonnes of illegal dumping sent to landfill



We also carry responsibilities from our past. Confirmed and suspected legacy landfills and historic waste sites across the rohe require ongoing monitoring, maintenance and in some cases, remediation. Decisions lie ahead for priority sites like Paokahu and Waiapu, and there is planned remediation work at Tokomaru Bay for the legacy landfill beneath the transfer station. This mahi is about preventing further harm.

Even with these challenges, the direction ahead is already being modelled in our own communities. Across the rohe, marae, kura, community groups and local operators are running composting programmes, repair and reuse initiatives, salvage efforts and other practical ways of keeping resources in circulation. Local businesses are also trialling new approaches that reduce waste and lower costs. Our role now is to connect and strengthen this mahi – making the right choice the easy choice at the kerbside, at the gate and at every transfer station across Tairāwhiti.

4. Our vision and our values

How we move together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti

We are working together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti – a circular way of living where we prevent waste at the start, keep resources in use and return organics to the whenua.

This is not an overnight shift, but a direction we commit to, a set of everyday choices and a standard we hold ourselves to as kaitiaki of this place.

Our values guide how we move towards that future:

Kaitiakitanga asks us to protect the mauri of our whenua, awa and moana – so every major decision and contract considers environmental and cultural impacts, not just cost.

Manaakitanga calls us to design services that are safe, respectful and fit for how people actually live – in town and across our rural communities.

Whanaungatanga reminds us to engage early and well, co designing with mana whenua, marae, kura and local leaders so solutions are built together.

Kotahitanga is aligning effort across Council, communities, operators and industry so we pull in the same direction.

Pono is our commitment to openness – reporting progress each year and adjusting when something isn't working.



5. Our focus

To turn intent into action, we will focus on seven clear objectives. They reflect the values beside and provide the organising spine of this plan. Every action we take sits within these objectives.

OBJECTIVE 1

– Build local solutions that keep valuable resources circulating and reduce harm

We will develop practical options that stop useful materials becoming waste.

Early focus areas are organics (food scraps and garden waste) and construction and demolition materials – both large contributors to what we send to landfill and both suited to local recovery. A regional transfer station and resource recovery facility, designed and delivered with partners, will act as a hub that strengthens local networks, encourages reuse, diversion and reduces reliance on long haul disposal.

OBJECTIVE 2

– Make reuse and recovery the easiest choice at every site and service

People should not have to second guess the system. Transfer stations will be designed so reuse and recovery come first, disposal last. Kerbside and drop off services will be managed for reliability and low contamination, with clear expectations and audits embedded in contracts. Product stewardship programmes will be supported to lift recovery of key materials across the rohe.

OBJECTIVE 3

– Heal and protect our whenua through responsible care of past and present sites

We will monitor, maintain and, where needed, remediate legacy landfills and other historic waste sites to prevent harm – making clear decisions on priority sites and reporting progress to the community. Sites will be managed in ways that protect environmental and cultural values.

OBJECTIVE 4

– Know our numbers and tell our story openly

Good decisions need good information. We will improve data collection and reporting on volumes, material types and contamination. We will measure what matters and publish snapshots that people can follow. Cultural and technical indicators will be co developed with mana whenua so the picture we report matches what people value.

OBJECTIVE 5

– Back our people to lead change

Change happens when people can see themselves in it. We will support marae, kura, businesses and community groups with education, small grants and practical help to reduce waste at source and champion local solutions. We will make space for co-design and co-delivery and share stories of what works so good ideas spread.

OBJECTIVE 6

– Be ready when disruption hits

When Tairāwhiti is hit, it's hit hard. We will define clear pathways for emergency response and disruption waste, including stockpiling contingencies during transport outages. This reduces harm during events and speeds up recovery.

OBJECTIVE 7

– Educate well and enforce fairly

We will invest in plain language education that people can trust and act on, and we will support it with fair, visible enforcement where needed. The focus is on preventing problems, not just responding to them.

6. What will change over the next six years

Change will happen in stages over the life of this plan – starting with getting the basics right and strengthening the information and partnerships people rely on, then progressing to rural service upgrades and local recovery options as readiness and investment allow.

As this plan is delivered, people will notice simple, consistent information about what goes where – and why it matters. Transfer stations will be laid out so recovery is the easy, obvious choice. Rural communities will see upgrades and new recovery initiatives designed together with local leaders. The approach to illegal dumping will become more coordinated and preventive, backed by early intervention where harm is occurring. Local options for organics and construction and demolition will be piloted and scaled, building confidence and capability across the rohe. Each year we will publish a clear, plain language update showing progress and where we will adjust – including cultural indicators developed with mana whenua alongside technical measures.

7. What this plan means for you

A waste-free future depends on all of us and this plan sets out what you can expect – in your home, your community and your mahi – as we move together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti.

Households and whānau

Clearer kerbside information and easier access to do the right thing. As organics options develop, more can return to the whenua instead of going to landfill.

Marae, kura and community groups

Support to run para kore, composting and repair programmes – with practical help and access to small grants so local solutions can grow.

Rural communities

Upgrades to transfer stations and new recovery initiatives co-designed with local leaders so doing the right thing is practical and fair across the rohe.

Businesses and industry

Targeted support to reduce waste at source, lower costs and keep valuable materials in circulation through recovery networks and product stewardship.

Waste operators

Clear service expectations, contamination auditing, and implementing a licensing framework to recognise good practice and lift consistency.



8. How we will deliver and fund this plan

Funding approach

Delivery will be supported by a mix of waste levy funding, rates and user charges, and external grants for larger projects. We will continue an annual contestable community fund that supports local projects to prevent, reduce or divert waste, with simple reporting that shows results. Investment will be phased so early wins happen while larger pieces – such as infrastructure and licensing – are designed, tested and assessed.

Contracts, performance and licensing

Contracts will reflect recovery first design and clear performance expectations, with audits and contamination tracking built in. Licensing of operators and collectors through developing a solid waste bylaw will lift visibility and encourage consistent, safe practice across the system. We will publish service reliability, diversion and contamination trends each year so people can see how the system is performing.

Capability and governance

Inside Council, we will build capability and align this plan with the organisation's climate response, reviewing resourcing each year so delivery keeps pace with the plan. Cross council collaboration will support emissions reduction from waste handling and disposal.

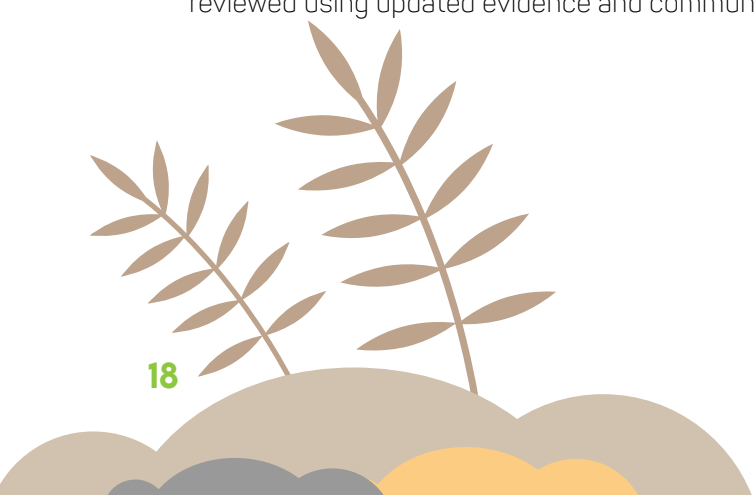
9. How we'll track progress, learn and adapt

Each year we will publish a plain-language, community-focused update – a simple dashboard and short narrative showing what has changed, where improvements are being felt and what we need to adjust.

We will report on:

- Tonnes to landfill and tonnes recovered
- Kerbside contamination rates
- Illegal dumping trends and hotspot interventions
- Access and participation across rural and urban communities
- Progress on legacy landfill and contaminated site management
- Cultural indicators developed with mana whenua alongside technical measures

We will complete a mid cycle check in Years 3–4 to refine sequencing and investment based on what is working. In accordance with the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, this WMMP will be reviewed using updated evidence and community input before the end of the cycle.



10. The action plan

This action plan sets out the specific steps we will take, who is involved, how progress will be measured and when each action will happen.

It includes work that is already underway, work that will start early in the plan and work that will follow once pilots prove effective.

Our action plan also aligns with the Government's waste and resource efficiency strategy, and we will track our progress against its five national outcomes as part of our annual reporting.

How to read the action plan

The action plan sets out the practical mahi we'll carry out over the next six years. Each row describes a piece of work, and the columns show how it connects to the direction of this plan and how it will be delivered.

Action – what we'll do and what success looks like.

Objective – which of our seven focus areas the action supports. These numbers refer to Objectives 1–7, which set the direction for how we will reduce waste, recover more, protect our whenua and support community led change.

Government outcome – how the action aligns with the national waste and resource efficiency strategy. These reflect the five national outcomes: reduce, increase, minimise, manage and limit.

Council role – the part we'll play in delivering the work.

Funding option – how the work may be funded.

Years – when the work will begin and whether it continues across the life of the plan.

Together, these columns show how each action supports our direction and plays its part in working together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti.



Action plan...



Action plan...

Action 1

Establish and maintain collaborative partnerships with mana whenua, community groups, social enterprises, businesses, industry and local providers to deliver locally led waste minimisation, recovery and education initiatives that move material up the waste hierarchy.

Measure: number of education sessions delivered annually, annual diversion tonnes, number of active partnerships and number of marae/hapū engaged annually.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
5		Co-ordinate and support	Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 2

Engage with and educate high non-household waste-generating sectors (e.g., industry, construction and demolition, retail and service sectors) to reduce waste at source and increase diversion from landfill.

Measure: annual tonnes diverted.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 5		Co-ordinate and support	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Introduce Years 1-3 Ongoing

Action 3

Plan, deliver and evaluate targeted education and engagement initiatives in partnership with key community stakeholders to increase participation in waste reduction and recycling best practice.

Measure: participation rates and diversion outcomes.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
5, 7		Lead in partnership with key community stakeholders	Levy	Introduce Years 1-4 Ongoing

Action 4

Continue to support waste reduction education and initiatives in schools (e.g., via EnviroSchools and other community and Council-led initiatives).

Measure: Number of schools participating in EnviroSchools and annual diversion projects completed.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
5, 7		Lead and support in conjunction with other waste reduction educators	Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 5

Monitor, evaluate and publicly report on the progress towards the seven objectives.

Measure: annual report released.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
4		Annually assess and report on WMMP objectives	Rates Levy	Years 1-6

Action 6

Co-plan and develop a regional resource recovery facility in partnership with relevant stakeholders to support improved resource recovery outcomes and act as a central hub for Council's rural waste network.

Measure: new facility operating, number of rural sites integrated.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1		Collectively lead, design and manage in partnership with key stakeholders and wider community.	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-3 complete plan. Development ongoing

Action 7

Continue to provide Council recycling services at kerbside and drop-off locations.

Measure: service reliability, tonnes collected, contamination and diversion rates.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2		Deliver via contracts	Rates Levy	Years 1-6

Action 8

Continue to provide Council service for refuse at kerbside and/or via transfer stations as part of Council's core refuse disposal services.

Measure: service reliability and total refuse tonnes.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2		Deliver via contractor	Rates	Ongoing

Action 9

Audit kerbside recycling contamination and bulking loss with contractors and report results six-monthly in Years 1-2, then annually.

Measure: contamination percentage, bulking loss percentage and corrective actions.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2, 4		Lead audits and work with kerbside recycling contractors	Rates Levy	Ongoing annually

Action 10

Increase recovery of key materials via established product stewardship programmes that provide design-to-disposal support and education.

Measure: programme enrolments and tonnes recovered.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 2		Co-ordinate and support	Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 11

Provide annual contestable grants to promote or achieve waste diversion, minimisation and/or elimination.

Measure: number of projects funded annually, total funds distributed annually, estimated tonnes of waste prevented, reduced or diverted as reported by funded projects.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
5		Administer and oversee funding allocations and outcomes. Report outcomes to wider community.	Levy	Years 1-6

Action 12

Deliver targeted engagement, monitoring and enforcement to prevent and reduce illegal dumping.

Measure: number of enforcement actions, number of hotspot interventions and tonnes of illegally dumped waste collected.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
3, 7		Engagement and monitoring	Rates	Years 1-6

Action 13

Investigate, manage and take action to remediate priority legacy landfills, contaminated sites and closed landfills. This includes landfill closure activities in accordance with Council records for identified and priority locations – ensuring active monitoring and management plans are in place.

Measure: number of sites assessed and compliance with consents/management plans.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
3		Lead with ongoing community engagement and input from key stakeholders.	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 14

Implement a kerbside collection service incorporating wheelie bins, with provision to introduce an organic collection service where feasible.

Measure: kerbside wheelie bin service implemented.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 2		Review options leading to service establishment.	Rates Levy	Initiate Years 4-6

Action 15

Increase monitoring and surveying of regional waste streams (e.g., quantities, material types and diversion rates).

Measure: annual survey delivered to 2031 and published KPIs.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
4		Council to work with waste operators, local community and contractors.	Rates Levy	Annually

Action 16

Work with internal and external partners to integrate sustainability goals, waste minimisation practices and efficient waste services into the planning and design of new multi-unit/ inner city and commercial developments.

Measure: guidelines developed.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1		Council to lead cross-team collaboration and engagement with key stakeholders and relevant sectors.	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 17

Provide recovery/disposal pathways for wastewater treatment plant solids via contractor.

Measure: annual tonnes recovered/disposed and compliance with standards.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
3		Deliver via contractor	Rates	Years 1-6

Action 18

Establish collaborative relationships with rural communities to deliver upgrades to rural waste services/facilities and implement a minimum of two rural resource recovery initiatives that increase waste diversion.

Measure: number of initiatives delivered, number of rural service or facility upgrades completed, rural diversion tonnes.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 2, 5		Guide and support in partnership	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 19

Monitor and analyse rural waste streams on a regular basis to track trends, inform service planning and measure progress towards diversion and minimisation objectives.

Measure: Biennial monitoring and reports, KPI trend analysis through 2031.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
4		Lead with support from waste operators, local community and contractors	Rates Levy	Track and report on two yearly rotation

Action 20

Audit Council offices/sites every two years and implement interventions to eliminate, reduce and divert waste.

Measure: actions completed and diversion tonnes.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 4		Cross-Council collaboration, engagement, monitoring and reporting.	Levy	Site audits on two-yearly rotation

Action 21

Investigate and develop options and protocols for problematic materials and emergency wastes (disaster debris, woody, hazardous, spills, water-based recovery).

Measure: protocols approved and incidents managed per protocol.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
6		Lead with support from key stakeholders (including Civil Defence and Emergency Management) and community engagement	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-3

Action 22

Ensure Council waste management and minimisation service contracts are effectively managed, monitored, audited and reviewed to meet performance and compliance requirements.

Measure: number of audits completed and KPI compliance.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2, 4	REDUCTION  INCREASE  MINIMISE  MANAGE  LIMIT 	Lead and maintain via ongoing scheduling and reporting	Rates	Years 1-6

Action 23

Collaborate with cross-council stakeholders to reduce emissions from waste handling/disposal per Council's Emissions Reduction Plan.

Measure: emissions KPI trend and actions delivered.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 3	REDUCTION  INCREASE  MINIMISE  MANAGE  LIMIT 	Cross-Council collaboration	Rates Levy	Ongoing

Action 24

Build and strengthen inter-regional relationships to align waste reduction initiatives and pursue collaborative opportunities with other councils.

Measure: number of joint initiatives implemented and shared standards adopted.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 5	REDUCTION  INCREASE  MINIMISE  MANAGE  LIMIT 	Seek multi-council collaboration and ongoing commitment	Rates Levy	Start Year 2 Ongoing

Action 25

Investigate and assess short, medium and long-term regional waste disposal and minimisation options as part of a whole-of-system approach to waste management and minimisation – incorporating emerging technologies and innovative practices.

Measure: strategy completed and milestones set by Year 6.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 6		Lead in partnership with key stakeholders and wider community	Rates	Years 4-6

Action 26

Implement waste licensing for operators and collectors as part of bylaw implementation.

Measure: Waste licensing framework implemented through solid waste bylaw, number of waste operators and collectors licensed annually.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2, 7		Lead	Rates Licensing fees	Years 1-3

Action 27

Regularly review Council's capability and capacity for waste minimisation and management functions to align with sector and regional changes. This includes providing professional development, ongoing subscriptions, sector memberships, participation in national policy and legislative processes and participation in relevant conferences.

Measure: annual capacity review.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
4, 5		Undertake reviews of waste team capability	Rates Levy	Ongoing



Action 28

Develop and implement a long term residual waste disposal and resilience strategy that secures appropriate in-region and out-of-region landfill access, manages transport and cost risk, and evaluates future regional disposal options.

Measure:

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 6	MANAGE LIMIT	Lead	Rates Levy	Years 1-3 develop strategy Ongoing review

Ngā mihi
Thank you

Whatungarongaro te tangata, toitū te whenua
People come and go but land remains.





Tairāwhiti

Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025 - 2031



-  PO Box 747
Gisborne 4040 NZ
-  15 Fitzherbert Street Gisborne
4746 Waipapa Road, Te Puia Springs
-  06 867 2049
0800 653 800
-  service@gdc.govt.nz
-  www.gdc.govt.nz
-  [@Gisborne DC](https://www.facebook.com/GisborneDC)
-  Antenna app

