



## 10.1 Objectives

The Council will monitor:

- ▶ The "state of the environment" - i.e. the quality/quantity of resources.
- ▶ Its performance as a resource manager - i.e. the effectiveness of its policies and plans.
- ▶ Compliance with resource consents.

In addition, Section 67(i) of the RMA requires the Council to include in any Regional Plan, the procedures that will be used to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan in achieving the stated objectives and environmental results.

Procedures are required that will enable the Council to assess whether or not the objectives identified in this Plan are being achieved, and if not, why not. That is, procedures for monitoring and review must be capable of assessing whether the policies and methods of implementation specified in this Plan are appropriate over time, and/or whether they are not being implemented adequately.

## 10.2 Relationship with the Regional Policy Statement

The need to undertake monitoring as it affects waste management is stated throughout the Regional Policy Statement particularly in the Waste Management chapter.

The Council needs to develop and co-ordinate a programme of information and collection in order to describe changes and trends in environmental systems. However in addition to this Council needs to monitor directly the objectives, policies and methods of implementation outlined in this plan. A monitoring programme designed to provide this information is discussed in this section.

## **10.3 Monitoring Programme**

### **1. Objective**

To have sufficient information on the state of the environment, and the effects of the use of hazardous substances and the disposal of solid, liquid and hazardous wastes, to be able to achieve sustainable management of the District's resources.

### **2. Policy**

Within the scope of a "Monitoring Strategy", the Council will provide scientifically defensible information on the environment as a basis for the review of the objectives, policies and methods of implementation outlined in the Waste Management Section of the RPS and this Regional Plan, and as a basis for the issuing of resource consents.

### **3. Programme Components**

#### **3.1 Regional Monitoring Strategy**

The Council will develop and implement a monitoring programme which provides for environmental, impact and compliance monitoring, and for special investigations of particular issues and problems associated with waste management. This programme will be undertaken within the scope of an integrated "Monitoring Strategy".

#### **3.2 Environmental Monitoring**

Environmental monitoring of air quality and surface and groundwater quality in order to determine the effects associated with waste disposal will be undertaken, as part of ongoing region-wide monitoring programmes. This will include monitoring of leachate pollution from landfills; hazardous substances treatment/disposal facilities; areas of non-sewered domestic waste disposal; point source discharges (e.g. sewer and industrial outfalls); and any pollution events (spills or illegal discharges).

#### **3.3 Impact Monitoring**

"Self monitoring" of the environmental effects associated with specific discharges, and compliance with resource consent conditions will be undertaken by the consent holder (impact monitoring), and the results supplied to the Council as a condition of resource consents. More general impact monitoring of the overall effects of waste management on the environment will be determined as a result of the environmental monitoring programmes specified in a Monitoring Strategy.

#### **3.4 Special Investigations**

In addition, the Council may undertake a programme of investigation where the Council suspects there may be adverse effects associated with particular activities. These investigations may be in relation to specific locations or industry groups.

### **3.5 Compliance Monitoring**

The Council will monitor and enforce compliance with all rules specified within this Plan, and will establish a process for audit and review of all information and monitoring results received.

### **3.6 Performance Monitoring**

The Council will use the results of environmental and impact monitoring to determine whether the activities specified in this Plan as Discretionary, Controlled or Prohibited appropriately fall within these categories, and to determine whether activities permitted or not dealt with by this Plan do in fact need restricting in some manner because associated adverse effects.

The Council will also use the results of the above monitoring programme components to review the effectiveness of the policies and additional methods of implementation outlined in this Plan.

Surveys could also be used to gauge public understanding of issues and to measure behaviour. In particular they could be used to monitor the effectiveness of programmes designed to change behaviour associated with hazardous substances and waste management.

### **3.7 Regular Review of the Best Practicable Option (BPO)**

The Council will regularly review BPO to ensure that where these have been adopted, and that they remain the best options practicable available.

### **3.8 Review of Central Government Policy Development**

Regular review of central government policy development will be undertaken to ensure that the Council takes appropriate action as and when required.

## **4. Proposed Programme**

Where appropriate, the specific procedures for monitoring have been outlined below. However, it is important that within the scope of the above monitoring components, the Council retains the flexibility to adopt the most cost-effective methods of monitoring each part of the Plan. Procedures for each policy and method have therefore not been specified.

### **4.1 Waste Minimisation - Waste Reduction, Re-use, Recycling, Resource Recovery and Cleaner Production**

Method 2.1.2.1 states that the Council will continue to gather waste stream data. It will develop a database of wastes generated and disposed of within the district in a manner consistent with the National Waste Analysis Protocol.

The Council will utilise this information to assess changing patterns of waste production and disposal techniques in terms of:

- ▶ The quantity and characteristics of wastes entering a treatment or disposal facility.
- ▶ The quantity of solid waste generated in the District and consigned for disposal.
- ▶ The quantity of hazardous wastes generated in the District and consigned for direct disposal, or pre-treatment then disposal.

In addition, the Gisborne District Council will undertake a bi-annual survey, to determine the extent to which industry, businesses and local authorities are implementing waste minimisation initiatives (for example, waste and energy audits, cleaner production technologies).

#### **4.2 Residual Management of Solid Wastes**

Ongoing environmental monitoring of surface and groundwater is undertaken by the Council and will assist in determining the effects associated with the residual management of solid wastes. However, specific impact monitoring will also be required.

Landfills are different to most other activities in that environmental effects can be very slow to appear. For instance a drum of chemicals could take some time to corrode and release its contents, then further time to migrate to a point where a detrimental effect is observed.

The Council will therefore undertake monitoring of landfills and composting operations at three levels:

- i) Assessment of appropriate sites for proposed landfills and composting operations.
- ii) Monitoring of management practices to ensure compliance with management plans other resource consent conditions.
- iii) Monitoring of environmental effects.

This will involve the preparation, by the Council, of a register of operational and closed refuse disposal sites/landfills and composting facilities.

As well, the Council will implement a comprehensive compliance monitoring programme directed at landfill management practices, as well as an impact monitoring programme.

Specific impact monitoring of the effects associated with any landfill or composting facility will be included as a condition of the resource consent, and is therefore the responsibility of the landfill operator who may contract the Council to carry out some of this work.

This may include such things as monitoring of landfill gas. The Council will have an audit role.

The results of this impact monitoring can then be combined with the results of the Council environmental monitoring programmes.

However, by 1 April 1996, the Council will review, improve, extend, and where necessary, develop, landfill leachate monitoring throughout the District. (Refer Method 3.4.6 and 3.4.7).

#### **4.3 Hazardous Substances and Hazardous wastes Management**

The Council will maintain and report on, a "Pollution File", in which all hazardous substances spills, illegal discharges or other pollution events are recorded.

The Council will continue to monitor and keep abreast of technologies associated with hazardous substances use, cleaner production, resource recovery and waste treatment and disposal.

This information can then be used to establish and reassess the "best practicable option".

#### **4.4 Contaminated Sites**

The Council will prepare a database of contaminated sites. These sites will then be investigated and assessed to determine priority for future action, including the sampling and analysis of soils and/or surface and groundwater where this is considered necessary.

The Council will also monitor compliance with Chapters 4 and 5 of this Plan (relating to hazardous substances and hazardous wastes) to determine whether the risk of any further sites within the District becoming contaminated is in fact being minimised.

The effectiveness of the ANZECC guidelines relating to the clean up of contaminated sites will also be reviewed on an on-going basis.

#### **4.5 Liquid Waste**

Based on information associated with discharge permits and the annual returns required under Chapter 6, the Council will establish a system for recording and comparing the volumes of liquid effluent to be discharged into the environment. Information relating to individual consents as well as cumulative totals for the region as a whole, individual districts or sectors can then be generated.

The Council will also undertake audit monitoring of the effects associated with the disposal of trade wastes to the sewer to ensure that the constituent territorial authorities continue to enforce compliance with trade waste bylaws.

#### **4.6 Reporting**

It is intended to carry out an informal review every six months and a formal report on the state of the environment and the effectiveness of the plan in achieving its objectives and environmental results, annually.

## **10.4 Plan Review Procedures**

The Council will review this Plan no later than ten years after the Plan becomes operative (Section 79).

Having completed such a review, the Council will change or replace the Plan in accordance with the requirements set out in the First Schedule of the Act.

In addition to the review procedures, the Council may make changes to this Plan whilst it is operative.

Changes may be instigated by the Council itself or any person (Section 65), in the manner set out in the First Schedule. Changes must be made in accordance with the procedures set out in the First Schedule.