
SECTION 1: Introduction

1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS PLAN

This Proposed Waste Management Plan for Gisborne District has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1974 and the Local Government Act 2002.

The Local Government Act 1974 requires that Gisborne District Council adopt a Waste Management Plan which makes provision for the collection and reduction, reuse, recycling, recovery, treatment or disposal of waste in the district. While the term *waste* is not defined in the Act, it includes all forms of solid, liquid and gaseous waste.

The Waste Management Plan must be developed after consideration of the hierarchy of disposal options listed in the Act from the most desirable to the least desirable (reduction; reuse; recycling; recovery; treatment and disposal). It must provide for its own effective and efficient implementation, or for activities considered appropriate for that purpose to be undertaken by, or under contract to, the Council. Furthermore, in adopting the Waste Management Plan, Council must have regard to environmental and economic costs and benefits for the district and ensure the management of waste does not cause a nuisance or be injurious to health.

Over recent years, the Gisborne District Council has adopted a Solid Waste Management Strategy; a Gisborne City Wastewater Strategy; and several proposed plans under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) - the Proposed Combined Regional Land and District Plan; the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan; the Proposed Regional Plan for Discharges to Land and Water; and the Proposed Regional Air Quality Management Plan. All of these existing strategies and plans have provisions that relate to the requirements outlined above for a Waste Management Plan under the Local Government Act 1974. Council has also carried out assessments of sewage disposal and stormwater drainage services within the District, as required by the Local Government Act 2002. These assessments are part of the *3 Waters Project* that also includes assessment of drinking water services. Relevant provisions of the strategies, plans and assessments referred to above, have been incorporated into this Waste Management Plan for the Gisborne District.

1.2 CONTENT

This Proposed Waste Management Plan for Gisborne District comprises this introduction and three sections on Liquid Waste, Solid Waste and Gaseous Waste:

Section 2: The Liquid Waste Strategy reproduces provisions from the Proposed Combined Regional Land and District Plan, proposed Regional Coastal Environmental Plan, Proposed Regional Plan for Discharges to Land and Water; and the Gisborne City Wastewater Strategy; and other existing policy documents.

Aspects or topics that are not covered by existing strategies, plans or assessments have been identified as "gaps" for which new provisions will need to be developed over time.

The main gaps are specific monitoring requirements and specific methods to achieve broader implementation of objectives and policies. These should be developed over the next 3-5 years, to be incorporated into a review of this Waste Management Plan by 2010 (see below). Some additional measures may be able to be included in the next Long Term Council Community Plan (in 2006).

Section 3: The Solid Waste Section reproduces the Gisborne District Council Solid Waste Management Strategy. That Strategy identifies a number of solid waste management issues and provides a set of policies and actions for implementation.

Council approved the Solid Waste Management Strategy in February 2000. Preparation of that strategy included wide community consultation, discussion and research. It has been substantially implemented successfully since its adoption. Brief progress reports have been added.

Section 4: The Gaseous Waste Section reproduces provisions from the Proposed Regional Air Quality Management Plan.

This Section covers waste disposal by burning, which can include incinerators, open burning relating to residential, agricultural or pastoral activities, stock burning or disposal of human body parts by incineration, and industrial incineration of waste including the burning of waste to create energy. In the future, this section may need to incorporate provisions covering the burning of non-solid materials.

It is important to note that while many plan provisions have been included in the solid, liquid and gaseous sections, there will also be rules in RMA plans relating to air, land or water management that may have some impact in particular circumstances but have not been included in this Waste Management Plan.

1.3 LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

Council has obligations under different legislation to promote and encourage efficient waste management, and to promote the sustainable management of the environment, including people and communities. The main Acts, which deal with these matters are the Local Government Act 1974, the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), and the Health Act 1956.

Under the RMA Council is required to make decisions, which promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. The RMA also requires Councils to prepare plans (District and Regional), which identify the resource management issues for the region (Regional Policy Statement), and allow the management of land, air and water resources.

Importantly regional and district plans can contain controls or rules on activities or discharges to the environment, in order to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects.

In terms of solid waste management, the rules in these plans may be one means of achieving some of the goals or aims of the Strategy. These documents link to the Strategy but do not form part of it.

The Health Act places a duty on every local authority to promote and conserve public health, including providing for solid waste collection and disposal and remedying public health nuisance. Other legislation including the Litter Act 1979 and the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 also provide controls, which impact on the overall management of solid waste resources.

As well as the statutory framework above, there are other plans and documents the Council has prepared and is implementing to satisfy the LGA 2002. These include a solid waste asset management plan, the Long-term Council Community Plan and annual plans. All these plans impact on waste management issues.

1.4 REVIEW

The Solid Waste Management Strategy is due for review in 2010. In order to achieve a fully integrated Waste Management Plan, this five-year period will allow for current review and appeal processes associated with the RMA plans to be completed, and sufficient time to develop provisions to address the identified gaps mentioned above. It would be timely, therefore, for a review of this Waste Management Plan 2005 to be undertaken in 2010.

1.5 VISION STATEMENT

The Gisborne District Council document 'Towards 2020' is a non-statutory plan detailing what the Council will endeavour to achieve on behalf of its community. It is a 'vision' statement that sets directions for the future development of the Region.

The Council's Mission Statement was updated in 1999 for the Annual Plan. It identifies a long-term commitment by the Council.

Mission Statement

To manage and enhance the district's physical, social, cultural and economic wellbeing efficiently, effectively and equitably.

Te Kupu Tataki

Kia aata whakaaro, me te tiaki ano hoki i nga kura taonga a Papatuanuku me ona ao, kia whakapumau hei painga mo nga whakatupuranga katoa.

Me te tautoko ano i nga tikanga totika hei whai oranga hei whakapakari i te tinana me te wairua kia noho pai tatou ki a tatou.

Within the Vision document are a number of principles relevant to this Strategy under the headings: Vision Statement Directions; Physical Infrastructure Directions; and Cultural Directions. These can be summarised as:

- ▶ Encourage the adoption of programmes for the minimisation and reuse of waste products, including assistance to commercially based recycling and composting schemes.
- ▶ Ensure appropriate facilities for safe disposal of septic tank effluent and solid waste are provided and that these are operated efficiently and in an environmentally acceptable way.
- ▶ Ensure the provision of an appropriate system for collection, storage and safe disposal of hazardous wastes.
- ▶ Recognise alternative cultures in Council processes and planning.

1.6 LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2004-2014

The LTCCP adopted by Council in 2004 presents six community outcomes for Gisborne District. Community outcomes express the "desired state of affairs" for Gisborne District in the future. The community outcomes are:

- ▶ Vibrant Communities
- ▶ Connected Communities
- ▶ Prosperous Communities
- ▶ Safe and Healthy Haven
- ▶ Positive Leadership
- ▶ Fair and Active Democracy

While waste management in the District is relevant to all of these outcomes to varying degrees, it contributes primarily to the aims of Outcome 4 – the District being a safe and healthy haven.

SAFE and HEALTHY HAVEN

- 4.4 Freedom from health risks and harm
- 4.5 Guardianship of our environment for future generations

Measures relevant to waste management listed in the LTCCP for reporting progress on achieving these aims are:

- ▶ Refuse disposed to landfill
- ▶ Household waste collected
- ▶ Recycling
- ▶ Satisfaction with rubbish collection

This waste management plan provides a much broader statement of how Council will seek to manage waste and operate waste disposal services within the District.