

SUMMARY OF WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of the Waste Management Plan (WMP) is to address requirements of Part XXXI of the Local Government Act 1974. This requires every territorial authority to promote effective and efficient waste management within its territory and to prepare a WMP, which must make provision for the reduction, reuse, recycling, recovery, treatment and disposal of waste. Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002), Section 286 requires that the WMP must be in place no later than 30 June 2005.

At a higher level, the purpose is to fulfil certain obligations of all local authorities under the LGA 2002 and particularly “*to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities, in the present and for the future*”¹.

The WMP has been developed jointly by the territorial authorities of Southland (TAS) in collaboration with Environment Southland. However, Environment Southland is not seeking to adopt a WMP and is thus not seeking submissions to the WMP. The TAS and Environment Southland have already carried out some consultation while preparing the proposed WMP. However, in addition to this, the TAS are required to consult using the special consultative procedure when adopting, amending or revoking a WMP. The special consultative procedure is set out in the LGA 2002.

The objectives of the Waste Management Plan are:

- To ensure that waste management activities throughout the region are co-ordinated and integrated
- To ensure consistency of policy whilst recognising differences amongst the Councils and their associated communities
- To encompass the purpose and principles of the LGA 2002 and LGA 1974.
- To encompass the principles of the New Zealand Waste Strategy
- To encompass the concepts and practices of resource stewardship.

The Waste Management Plan includes:

- a **vision** of a sustainable Southland through the utilisation of the concepts of resource stewardship and waste minimisation. This is the overarching goal of the TAS with respect to waste management
- **guiding principles** of sustainable management, national and global citizenship, kaitiakitanga and stewardship, extended producer responsibility, full-cost pricing, life-cycle principle and precautionary principle. These are the key philosophies that will direct the TAS as they implement the adopted WMP (and other related policies)
- **objectives** as given in 2.4. These are the key objectives of the TAS with respect to the proposed WMP
- **action plans**, developed for the following waste management categories:
 - *Management Structures and Council Plans*: A holistic, integrated approach is needed to resource stewardship and waste minimisation and associated activities within Council as well as between local authorities in the Southland region

¹ LGA 2002, s10 (b)

- *Monitoring, Information Management and Reporting:* One of the basic tenets of resource stewardship and waste minimisation is that it is difficult to manage what you don't measure. There is currently good information available about how much solid waste we dispose of in Southland. Efficient and effective waste management requires further information about how much waste we generate, how much waste (other than solid waste) we dispose of, the effects of waste on the receiving environment and wastage
- *Waste Management Services:* A coordinated, integrated approach is needed to ensure the efficient and effective delivery of waste management services within Council, amongst local authorities in the Southland region and nationally
- *Resource Management:* Southland's natural and physical resources (including water, air, soil, land) need to be managed holistically to ensure that cross media effects are considered, resources are used efficiently and at a sustainable rate, and waste generation is minimised. Such management requires an understanding and knowledge of the region's resources. Energy sources and their use also needs to be managed to ensure that there is a secure, affordable energy supply for Southland whilst minimising adverse environmental impacts from energy production and use
- *Resource Stewardship and Waste Minimisation:* An understanding of the concepts and principles of resource stewardship and waste minimisation is needed within Council, industry and the wider communities in Southland
- *Education and Promotion:* General knowledge and understanding of broad waste management issues is needed within Councils, industry and the wider communities in Southland
- *Cost Recovery and Funding:* The environmental, social, cultural and economic costs and benefits of generating and disposing of waste needs to be considered when setting charges. Such a charging regime is likely to provide a driver to minimise waste generation and is fair to the wider community.

The Gore District Council is yet to complete an Activity Management Plan (AMP) for solid waste. The AMP will relate directly to how the actions will be carried out by the Council. A number of the actions are already being achieved, however the AMP will show directly how this is being done. It is intended to have the AMP completed by 30 June 2007. Please refer directly to the WMP for further details of the actions.

Su I have left a table below you might like to include – if not please delete. Cheers

Figure 3: Linkages Between Vision, Principles, WMP Objectives and Action Plans

