

AGENDA

RĀRANGI TAKE

NOTICE OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF

COUNCIL

to be held on **Thursday, 24 October 2024** commencing at **1 pm** in the Council Chambers,
36 Weld Street, Hokitika and via Zoom

Chairperson	Her Worship the Mayor
Deputy and Southern Ward Member:	Cr Cassin
Northern Ward Members:	Cr Neale, Cr Burden, Cr Phelps
Hokitika Ward Members:	Cr Baird, Cr Davidson, Cr Gillett
Southern Ward Members:	Cr Manera
Iwi Representatives:	Kw Madgwick, Kw Tumahai



In accordance with clause 25B of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, members may attend the meeting by audio or audio-visual link.

Council Vision

By investing in our people, caring for the environment, respecting the Mana Whenua Cultural heritage, and enabling investment, growth, and development we will enrich our district and the people that reside here.

Purpose

The Council is required to give effect to the purpose of local government as prescribed by section 10 of the Local Government Act 2002. That purpose is:

- (a) To enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities; and
- (b) To promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

1. KARAKIA TĪMATANGA OPENING KARAKIA

<i>Kia hora te marino Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana Hei hurahai mā tātou I te rangi nei Aroha atu, aroha mai Tātou i a tātou katoa Hui e! Tāiki e!</i>	<i>May peace be widespread May the sea be like greenstone A pathway for us all this day Give love, received love Let us show respect for each other Bind us all together!</i>
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2. NGĀ WHAKAPAAHA APOLOGIES

3. WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members need to stand aside from decision-making when a conflict arises between their role as a Member of the Council and any private or other external interest they might have. This note is provided as a reminder to Members to review the matters on the agenda and assess and identify where they may have a pecuniary or other conflict of interest, or where there may be a perception of a conflict of interest.

If a member feels they do have a conflict of interest, they should publicly declare that at the start of the meeting or of the relevant item of business and refrain from participating in the discussion or voting on that item. If a member thinks they may have a conflict of interest, they can seek advice from the Chief Executive or the Group Manager Corporate Services Risk and Assurance (preferably before the meeting). It is noted that while members can seek advice the final decision as to whether a conflict exists rests with the member.

4. NGĀ TAKE WHAWHATI TATA KĀORE I TE RĀRANGI TAKE URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Section 46A of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 states:

- (7) An item that is not on the agenda for a meeting may be dealt with at the meeting if –
 - (a) the local authority by resolution so decides, and
 - (b) the presiding member explains at the meeting at a time when it is open to the public, -
 - (i) the reason why the item is not on the agenda; and
 - (ii) the reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.
- (7A) Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting, -
 - (a) that item may be discussed at the meeting if –
 - (i) that item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
 - (ii) the presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but

(b) No resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion.

5. **NGĀ MENETI O TE HUI KAUNIHĒRA** **MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

Minutes circulated.

- **Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – 26 September 2024** (Pages 6 – 11)

6. **ACTION LIST** (Pages 12 – 13)

7. **NGĀ TĀPAETANGA** **PRESENTATIONS**

- **Westroads Ltd Annual Report**
Mark Rogers, Chairman, Westroads Ltd
- **Destination Westland Ltd Annual Report**
Marie-Louise Tacon, Director, Destination Westland Ltd

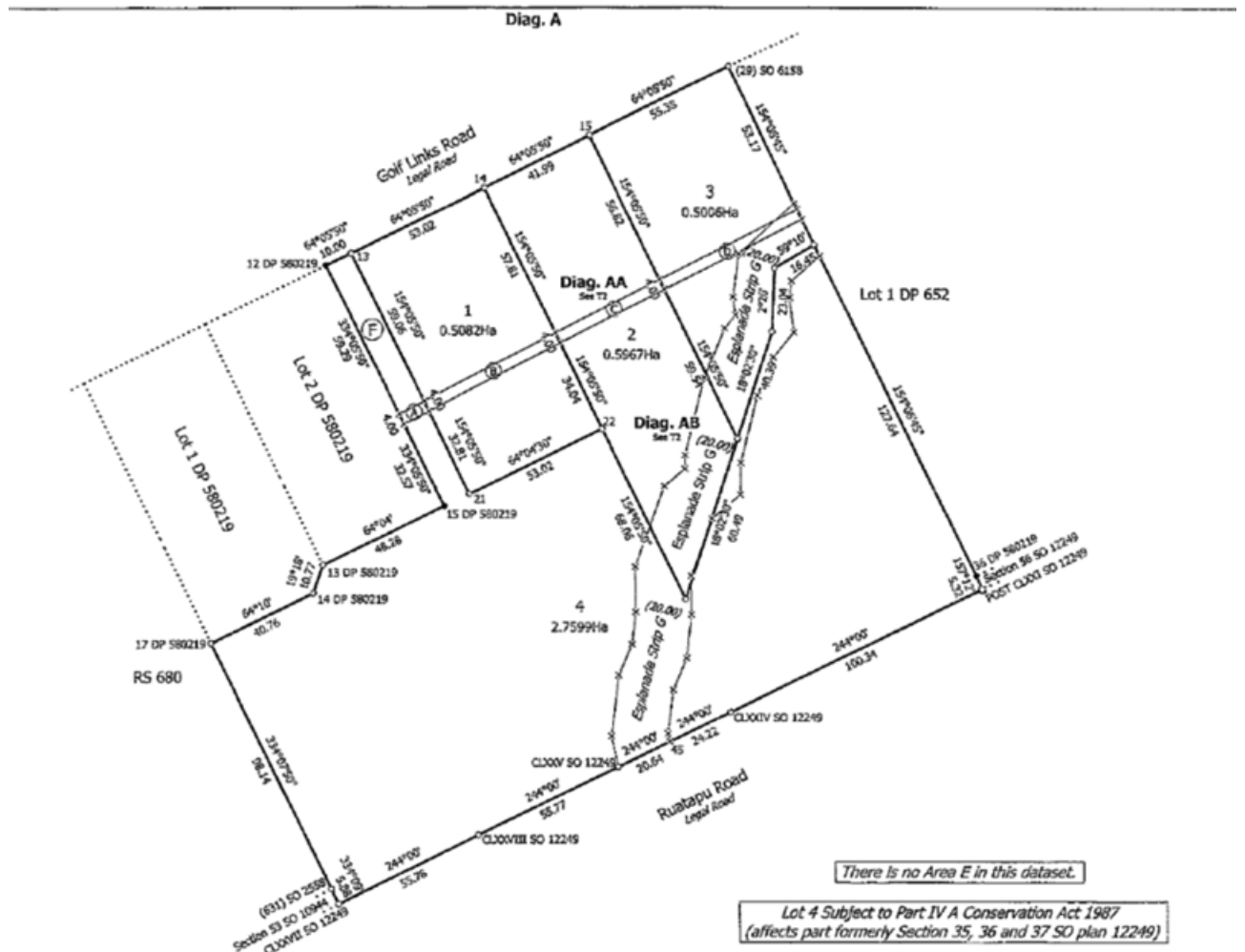
8. **PŪRONGO KAIMAHI** **STAFF REPORTS**

- **Financial Performance September 2024** (Pages 14 – 26)
Lynley Truman, Finance Manager
- **Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/2024** (Pages 27 – 34)
Vern Morris, Compliance Team Leader
- **Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw** (Pages 35 – 85)
Alicia Paulsen, Asset Strategy and Development Manager
- **Adoption of the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Statement of Proposal** (Pages 86 – 201)
Erle Bencich, Acting Group Manager District Assets
- **Regional Council Consultation on the Regional Infrastructure Fund Grant for the Waiho River Stop Banks** (Pages 202 – 210)
Scott Baxendale, Acting Chief Executive

9. **ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION**

Council is required to confirm its Seal being affixed to the following document:

- Instrument Creating Esplanade Strip, Sections 232 and 235, Resource Management Act 1991
ANA Investments (2002) Limited (Grantor) and Westland District Council (Grantee)
The Grantor creates in favour of the grantee an esplanade strip for the purposes of protection of conservation values as outlined below:



10. KA MATATAPU TE WHAKATAUNGA I TE TŪMATANUI RESOLUTION TO GO INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED

(to consider and adopt confidential items)

Resolutions to exclude the public: Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. The general subject of the matters to be considered while the public are excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of the resolution are as follows:

Item No.	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
1.	Confidential Minutes – 26 September 2024	Good reason to withhold exist under Section 7	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48(1)(a)
2.	Director Reappointment	Good reason to withhold exist under Section 7	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure

of information for which good reason for withholding exists.

Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on sections 48(1)(a) and (d) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests or interests protected by section 7 of that Act, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Item No.	Interest
1, 2	Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons (S. 7(2)(a))
1	Protect information where the making available of the information: (i) would disclose a trade secret; and (ii) would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information (S. 7(2)(b))
1	Avoid prejudice to measures that prevent to mitigate material loss to members of the public. (S. 7(2)(e))
1, 2	Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through: (i) The free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of any local authority, or any persons to whom section 2(5) applies, in the course of their duty; or (ii) The protection of such members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure of harassment (S. 7(2)(f))
1	Maintain legal professional privilege; or (S. 7(2)(g))
1	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; or (S. 7(2)(h))
1	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) (S. 7(2)(i))
1	Prevent the disclosure of use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage. (S. 7(2)(j))

**DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 28 NOVEMBER 2024
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM**



ORDINARY COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM ON THURSDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 2024 COMMENCING AT 1 PM

The Council Meeting was live-streamed to the Westland District Council YouTube Channel and presentations are made available on the council website.

A minute's silence was held in the Council Chambers to honour the life of previous Westland District Council Mayor, Bruce Smith. Bruce Smith was Mayor of Westland from 2016 to 2022. Her Worship the Mayor, Councillors and staff thank him for his service to the Westland District and for his many contributions to the wider community.

Her Worship the Mayor laid the Mayoral Chains on the table, followed by Cr Neale with red roses. All Councillors and staff attending wore red roses in honour of the life of Bruce Smith.

1. KARAKIA TĪMATANGA OPENING KARAKIA

The opening Karakia was read by Her Worship the Mayor and Cr Neale.

1. MEMBERS PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Chairperson	Her Worship the Mayor
Deputy and Southern Ward Member:	Cr Cassin
Northern Ward Members:	Cr Neale, Cr Burden
Hokitika Ward Members:	Cr Baird, Cr Gillett
Southern Ward Members:	Cr Manera
Iwi Representatives:	Kw Madgwick, Kw Tumahai

NGĀ WHAKAPAAHA APOLOGIES

Cr Phelps and Cr Davidson were an apology for the meeting as they were attending the funeral of ex-Mayor Bruce Smith.

Moved Deputy Mayor Cassin, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that the apologies from Cr Phelps and Cr Davidson be received and accepted.

STAFF PRESENT

S. Baxendale, Acting Chief Executive; L. Crichton, Group Manager Corporate Services and Risk Assurance; E. Bencich, Acting Group Manager District Assets; D. Maitland; Executive Assistant; E. Rae, Strategy and Communications Advisor (via Zoom); P. Coleman, Governance Administrator.

3. WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Interest Register had been circulated and the amendments noted from Deputy Mayor Cassin were as follows:

Removal of Versatile West Coast.

Addition of West Coast Treetop Walk and Tower Zipline

Addition of Destination Hokitika, committee member.

4. **NGĀ TAKE WHAWHATI TATA KĀORE I TE RĀRANGI TAKE URGENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

There were no urgent items of business not on the Council Agenda.

5. **NGĀ MENETI O TE HUI KAUNIHERA MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

The Minutes of the previous Meeting had been circulated.

- **Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes – 29 August 2024**

Moved Cr Burden, seconded Cr Gillett and **Resolved** that the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 29 August 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

The Chair **Approved** that their digital signature be added to the confirmed Council Meeting Minutes of 29 August 2024.

6. **ACTION LIST**

Scott Baxendale, Acting Chief Executive spoke to the Action List and provided the following updates:

- Pakiwaitara Building
 - The Geotech report was on the agenda at the August Council meeting. The building will be put forward for sale as part of Council's Long Term Plan.
- Council Headquarters Building
 - Staff are progressing with the rates affordability calculations.
- Hokitika Gorge Lower Swing Bridge
 - The successful tenderer for the project has signed the contract, and the project is on track.
- Community Housing Trust
 - A meeting had been held with Whare Iraia from Development West Coast. There is a lot more work to be done on this project before it can move forward. Clarification on this item will be required going forward. This item is to be removed from the action list.

Moved Deputy Mayor Cassin, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that:

1. The updated Action List from the Acting Chief Executive be received with the one item to be removed and ensure that the component stays with the housing forum group going forward.

7. **NGĀ TĀPAETANGA PRESENTATIONS**

- **Hokitika Museum**

Lauren Sadlier, Museum Director and Marcus Waters, Community Services Manager spoke to this presentation.

- The Kura Pounamu temporary exhibition will serve as a soft opening for the Museum.
 - A walk-through for Councillors will be held in November 2024. The Kura Pounamu temporary exhibition will open in December.
- The construction of the permanent exhibitions will begin in April 2025.

- Currently the budget for the permanent fitout will be \$210k.
- Entry fees to the Museum will be \$10 per visitor. Children under 16 and local residents will be free to enter.
- There will be an evolving renewing exhibition space, with a focus on locally based exhibitions that will renew every 6 months.
- The Museum currently has a lotteries funding application in for the value of \$300k.
- The Kura Pounamu temporary exhibition will give the Museum team a good opportunity to see how staffing will work for the Museum going forward

Moved Cr Gillett, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that:

1. The presentation from the Hokitika Museum be received.

Cr Burden asked the progress as to the formation of the Hokitika Museum Trust. This item will be reported back to the next Council meeting.

8. PŪRONGO KAIMAHI STAFF REPORTS

- **Financial Performance – August 2024**

Lynley Truman, Finance Manager spoke to this item and advised the purpose of this report was to provide an indication of Council's financial performance for the month to 30 August 2024.

- Rates debtors is slightly up, this is partially due to the increase in rates. This is not of concern at this point.

Moved Deputy Mayor Cassin, seconded Cr Gillett and **Resolved** that:

1. The Financial Performance Report to the 30 August 2024 be received.

- **Asset Management Policy**

Alicia Paulsen, Asset Strategy and Development Manager spoke to this item and advised the purpose of the report was to adopt the draft Asset Management Policy.

- Asset Management Planning is completed every 3 years, this policy is reviewed and adjusted as part of that 3-year cycle.
- There is a new system in place to keep track of Council Assets and how they are managed and recorded.

Moved Cr Baird, seconded Cr Neale and **Resolved** that:

1. The report be received.
2. Council adopts the Asset Management Policy.

- **Procurement Policy**

Alicia Paulsen, Asset Strategy and Development Manager spoke to this item and advised the purpose of the report was to adopt the draft Procurement Policy.

- The thresholds for procurement measures have been amended.
- Short form agreements and additional information has been included in the policy.
- This policy will be reviewed every 3 years.
- This policy was written with the help of an external procurement professional.

Moved Cr Baird, seconded Cr Gillett and **Resolved** that:

1. The report be received.
2. Council adopts the Procurement Policy.

- **Land Acquisition and Disposal Policy**

Alicia Paulsen, Asset Strategy and Development Manager spoke to this item and advised the purpose of the report was to adopt the draft Land Acquisition and Disposal Policy.

- The policy provides a strategic framework for Council regarding the sale or purchase of land.

Moved Deputy Mayor Cassin, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that:

1. The report be received.
2. Council adopts the Land Acquisition and Disposal Policy.
3. Council revokes the Sale of Property Policy as at today's date.

- **Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw**

Alicia Paulsen, Asset Strategy and Development Manager spoke to this item and advised the purpose of the report was to seek the adoption of the Statement of Proposal and Draft Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw allowing for public consultation to occur using the Special Consultative Procedure as per Section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

- Council must permit freedom camping unless there is a bylaw in place.
- Council cannot prohibit freedom camping across the entire Westland District.
- The bylaw ensures that people can be moved on if they are camping in an incorrect area.
- Management
 - There is no funding from the Government to manage this.
 - The regulatory department are working to gather information on enforcement costs. This information will be shared with Council once compiled.

Her Worship the Mayor requested that staff collaborate with DWC to make sure that the marketing of the West Coast includes requirements and expectations of visitors to Westland, along with educating visitors on the cultural and environmental significance of areas.

Her Worship the Mayor requested that elected members speak to their communities for feedback regarding freedom camping.

Moved Cr Gillett, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that:

1. The report be received.
2. A workshop be held regarding freedom camping in in October 2024.

- **Euphemia Brown Bequest Fund**

Lesley Crichton, Group Manager Corporate Services and Risk Assurance spoke to this item and advised the purpose of the report was to provide Council with information regarding the use of the Euphemia Brown Bequest Fund.

- The fund was left with the provisor that it be used each year to provide Christmas cheer or comforts for such poor orphan children, or poor aged and infirm person residing in and around the Borough of Hokitika.
- The recipient of this donation each year is at the Mayor's discretion.
- A media release will be prepared to get community support for the worthy cause.

Moved Cr Baird, seconded Deputy Mayor Cassin and **Resolved** that:

1. The report be received.
2. Council resolve to gift a total of \$1500 each year, and to be used annually going forward, to worthy causes at the Mayor's discretion in line with the Bequest Fund.

- **Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Verbal Update**

Erle Bencich, Acting Group Manager District Assets gave a verbal update on this item.

- The draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan has now been adopted by Buller and Grey District Councils.
- Consultation will close in early December 2024 and this item should come back to Council for final adoption in January 2025.
- There has been a lot of interest from contractors, and many will be attending site visits in early October 2024.
- Waste assessments have been undertaken, with tourism contributing 27% of waste going to landfill.
- A company has started collecting used tyres in Westland District to recycling and repurpose.

Moved Cr Gillett, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that:

1. The verbal update from the Acting Group Manager District Assets be received.

9. KA MATATAPU TE WHAKATAUNGA I TE TŪMATANUI

RESOLUTION TO GO INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED

(to consider and adopt confidential items)

Moved Cr Neale, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that Council confirm that the public were excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 at 2.50pm.

The general subject of the matters to be considered while the public are excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of the resolution are as follows:

Item No.	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
1.	Confidential Minutes – 29 August 2024	Good reasons to withhold exist under Section 7	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48(1)(a)
2.	Animal Control Verbal Update	Good reasons to withhold exist under Section 7	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists. Section 48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on sections 48(1)(a) and (d) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests or interests protected by section 7 of that Act, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Item No.	Interest
1	Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons (S. 7(2)(a))
1, 2	Protect information where the making available of the information: (i) would disclose a trade secret; and (ii) would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information (S. 7(2)(b))
1	Avoid prejudice to measures that prevent to mitigate material loss to members of the public. (S. 7(2)(e))
1	Maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through: (i) The protection of such members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure of harassment (S. 7(2)(f))
1	Maintain legal professional privilege; or (S. 7(2)(g))
1	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities; or (S. 7(2)(h))
1	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) (S. 7(2)(i))
1	Prevent the disclosure of use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage. (S. 7(2)(j))

Moved Cr Manera, seconded Cr Baird and **Resolved** that the business conducted in the ‘Public Excluded Section’ be confirmed and accordingly, the meeting went back to the open part of the meeting at 3.55pm.

**DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 24 OCTOBER 2024
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM**




MEETING CLOSED AT 4.02 PM


Confirmed by Council at their meeting held on 24 October 2024.

Mayor Helen Lash
Chair

Date

22.02.24 – COUNCIL MEETING ACTION LIST

Item No.	Date of Meeting	COMPLETED IN PROGRESS OVERDUE	Item	Action	Completion Target Date	Officer	Status
1	26.08.21		Pakiwaitara Building, 41 Weld Street Hokitika Council Headquarters, 36 Weld Street, Hokitika	Business case and scope of work to be brought to Council after the structural elements of the work have been identified, costed and timelines finalized.	June 24	CE	Pakiwaitara – Geotech reports have been presented to Council. The building will be put forward for sale as part of the LTP. Council HQ – Staff are progressing with the body of work regarding rates affordability calculations.
2	30.05.24		Hokitika Gorge Bridge	Replacement of the original swing bridge at the Hokitika Gorge.		CE	The successful tenderer has signed the contract for the project, this is on track.
3	26.09.24		Hokitika Museum Trust Board Formation	Information regarding the formation of a trust board		CE	Council requested information regarding the formation of the Hokitika Museum Trust Board. The Council resolved at their meeting on the 26 May 2022 as follows: a) That the report be received. b) That Council endorse the establishment of the Hokitika Museum Trust Board and following the adoption of the draft Terms of Reference as discussed in Council in seeking of expressions of interest / applications of suitable candidates. c) That the Selection and Appointments Committee comprise, the Mayor, Council’s Heritage Hokitika Committee representative, Representative of Poutini Ngai Tahu, the Chief Executive, and the Group Manager Regulatory and Community Services.

Item No.	Date of Meeting	COMPLETED IN PROGRESS OVERDUE	Item	Action	Completion Target Date	Officer	Status
							The Draft Terms of Reference and Draft Constitution have not been presented to Council for adoption.
4.	26.09.24		Department of Conservation Questions	Rubbish bins		CE	The department recently removed rubbish facilities from Goldsborough, Mahinapua and Lake Kaniere campgrounds. Rubbish facilities are not provided at any other camp sites within the Westland district.
				Feral Cats			There has been a feral cat programme in South Westland but not in the wider district.
				Hokitika Gorge Swing Bridge Ownership			Taking on the bridge was not approved in the DOC June capital planning. The Departments capital budget does not allow for DOC to consider taking on the bridge at this time.

Report to Council



DATE: 24 October 2024
TO: Mayor and Councillors
FROM: Finance Manager

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE – September 2024

1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide an indication of Council's financial performance for the month to 30 September 2024.
- 1.2. This issue arises from a requirement for sound financial governance and stewardship with regards to the financial performance and sustainability of a local authority.
- 1.3. Council seeks to meet its obligations under the Local Government Act 2002 and the achievement of the District Vision adopted by the Council in June 2024, which are set out in the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/2025. Refer page 2 of the agenda.
- 1.4. This report concludes by recommending that Council receive the financial performance report to 30 September 2024.

2. Background

- 2.1. Council receives monthly financial reporting so that it has current knowledge of its financial performance and position against budgets. A more detailed performance report is presented to the Risk and Assurance Committee (R&A Committee), on a quarterly basis which includes non-financial information against KPI's adopted through the Long Term Plan.

3. Current Situation

- 3.1. The information in the report is of a summarised nature, with only permanent variances over \$25,000 having comments. Temporary differences which are mainly budget phasing are not commented on as these will either approximate budget by the end of the financial year, or become a permanent variance which will be noted.
- 3.2. With the inclusion of the sustainability report, it is not necessary to include such detail to Council in the financial report, as the key business indicators are included in the sustainability report. A number of these indicators make up part of the covenants required to be reported half-yearly to the Local Government Funding Agency.

- 3.3. The financial performance report to 30 September 2024 is attached as **Appendix 1** and contains the following elements;
 - 3.3.1. Sustainability report
 - 3.3.2. Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense
 - 3.3.3. Notes to the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense
 - 3.3.4. Revenue and Expenditure Graphs
 - 3.3.5. Debtors
 - 3.3.6. Debt position
 - 3.3.7. Capital Report

4. Options

- 4.1. Option 1: That Council receives the Financial Performance Report to 30 September 2024.
- 4.2. Option 2: That Council does not receive the Financial Performance Report to 30 September 2024.

5. Risk Analysis

- 5.1. Risk has been considered and no risks have been identified in receiving the report, however if Council did not receive the report, it could be perceived that there was a lack of financial stewardship leading to reputational risk and conduct risk.

6. Health and Safety

- 6.1. Health and Safety has been considered and no items have been identified.

7. Significance and Engagement

- 7.1. The level of significance has been assessed as being low as the report is for information purposes only.
- 7.2. No public consultation is considered necessary

8. Assessment of Options (including Financial Considerations)

- 8.1. Option 1: The Council receives the report. This report is to inform Council on the monthly financial position and to encourage financial stewardship.
- 8.2. Option 2: If the Council does not receive the report there will be no oversight of the financial position of Council or whether the costs of Council are being managed in line with budgets.
- 8.3. There are no financial implications to these options.

9. Preferred Option(s) and Reasons

9.1. The preferred option is Option 1.

9.2. The reason that Option 1 has been identified as the preferred option is that the report is administrative in nature and to do nothing could create risks to council. Council would be carrying out its administrative stewardship in receiving the report.

10. Recommendation(s)

10.1. That the Financial Performance Report for 30 September 2024 be received.

Lynley Truman
Finance Manager

Appendix 1: Finance Performance Report for 30 September 2024

Appendix 1



Financial Performance Year to 30 September 2024

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Sustainability Report

Total revenue	Total expenditure	Total surplus/(deficit)
\$7.42M	\$10.33M	\$(2.90)M
Is 27.89% less than the total budget of \$10.3M	Is 12.72% more than the total budget of \$9.16M	Is 356.03% less than the total budget of \$1.13M

SUSTAINABILITY

Rates to operating revenue 73.87%

Rates Revenue	\$5.48M
Operating Revenue	\$7.42M

73.87% of operating revenue is derived from rates revenue. Rates revenue includes penalties, water supply by meter and is gross of remissions. Operating revenue excludes vested assets, and asset revaluation gains.

Balanced budget ratio 71.89%

Operating revenue	\$7.42M
Operating expenditure	\$10.33M

Operating revenue should be equal or more than operating expenditure. Operating revenue excludes vested assets and asset revaluation gains. Operating expenditure includes depreciation and excludes landfill liability and loss on asset revaluations. Year to date revenue is 71.89% of operating expenditure. Operating Revenue is less than Operating Expenditure for two main reasons: Grant timing, which is partially due to delays with the new transport funding agreement, and non-cash loss on swaps \$0.78M. Further explanation can be found in the Notes to Revenue and Expenditure.

Interest to rates revenue (LGFA Cov.) 2.78%

Net interest and finance	\$0.15M
Rates Revenue	\$5.48M

2.78% of rates revenue is paid in interest. Our set limit is 25% of rates revenue. Net interest is interest paid less interest received. 2.78% indicates that interest revenue is less than interest expense. Rates revenue includes penalties, water supply by meter and gross of remissions.

Interest to operating revenue **2.05%**

Net Interest and finance	\$0.15M
Operating revenue	\$7.42M

2.05% of operating revenue is paid in interest. Our set limit is 10% of operating revenue. Net interest is interest paid less interest received. 2.05% indicates that interest revenue is less than interest expense.

Liquidity Risk (LGFA Cov.) **124.00%**

Gross debt	\$34.32M
Undrawn committed facilities	\$3.98M
Cash and cash equivalents	\$6.72M

The liquidity risk policy requires us to maintain a minimum ratio of 110% which is also an LGFA covenant. Council's current liquidity risk is 124%.

Essential services ratio **14.38%**

Capital expenditure	\$0.24M
Depreciation	\$1.66M

Essential Services (ES) are Water Supply, Wastewater, Stormwater, and Roothing. Capital expenditure should be equal to or more than depreciation for essential services. Year to date capex is 14.38% of depreciation. 3 Water's spend is looking low as most active projects are at the scoping or design stages, or are yet to be started. Low spend in Roothing is due to timing - expenditure is expected to ramp up in the summer months, including a reseal project of approximately \$1M.

Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenditure

	Notes	Full Year Forecast (\$000)	Full Year Budget (\$000)	YTD Budget (\$000)	Actual YTD (\$000)	Variance YTD (\$000)	Var/Bud %
Revenue							
Rates	01	22,756	22,958	5,686	5,484	(202)	(3.55%)
Grants and subsidies	02	10,460	13,268	3,317	509	(2,808)	(84.65%)
Interest Revenue	03	1,210	1,121	280	370	90	31.97%
Fees and Charges	04	2,660	2,536	632	756	124	19.53%
Other revenue	05	1,602	1,678	381	305	(76)	(19.89%)
Total operating revenue		38,689	41,561	10,297	7,425	(2,872)	(27.89%)
Expenditure							
Employee Benefit expenses	06	7,299	7,152	1,788	1,935	147	8.22%
Finance Costs	07	1,842	1,760	440	522	82	18.68%
Depreciation	08	9,048	9,074	2,269	2,243	(26)	(1.13%)
Other expenses	09	20,589	19,626	4,666	5,628	962	20.62%
Total operating expenditure		38,779	37,613	9,163	10,328	1,166	12.72%
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)		(91)	3,948	1,134	(2,904)	(4,038)	(356%)

Notes to the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenditure

Comments are provided on permanent variances over \$25,000.

01 Rates

Variance is due to revenue from metered water charges being lower than forecast.

02 Grants and subsidies

The full year budget for this year includes \$1.56M relating to infrastructure for the Racecourse project, \$142k of this has been received.

Transport grants are \$2.73M below budget. No claims have been received to date due to delay in completion of NZTA funding agreement. Majority of claims are expected to be received during the summer months as this is when the majority of roading works is usually completed.

Tranche 1 for the Mayor's Task Force for Jobs has been received \$117k.

03 Interest Revenue

Not included in the budget was the interest to be recouped from our CCTOs for loans held on their behalf. \$96k of the interest revenue relates to this CCTO interest, which is offset by the interest expense accrued for these loans - see Note 07 below.

04 Fees and charges

Building and resource consent fees are over by \$65k and \$49k respectively due to higher consent numbers than anticipated as well as higher complexity (leading to more hours charged). This is offset by consent processing costs of \$51k. Waste disposal levy payments are \$25k over due to higher than expected tourist numbers and escalations.

05 Other Revenue

Non-cash gain on swaps have been budgeted, however the year has started with significant losses on swap value - see Note 09 for more detail.

06 Employee benefit expenses

No specific significant variances.

07 Finance Costs

As mentioned in Note 03, the variance relates to interest expense on loans held on behalf of our CCTOs. This is offset by the revenue from the CCTOs who bear the interest expense, plus a small margin.

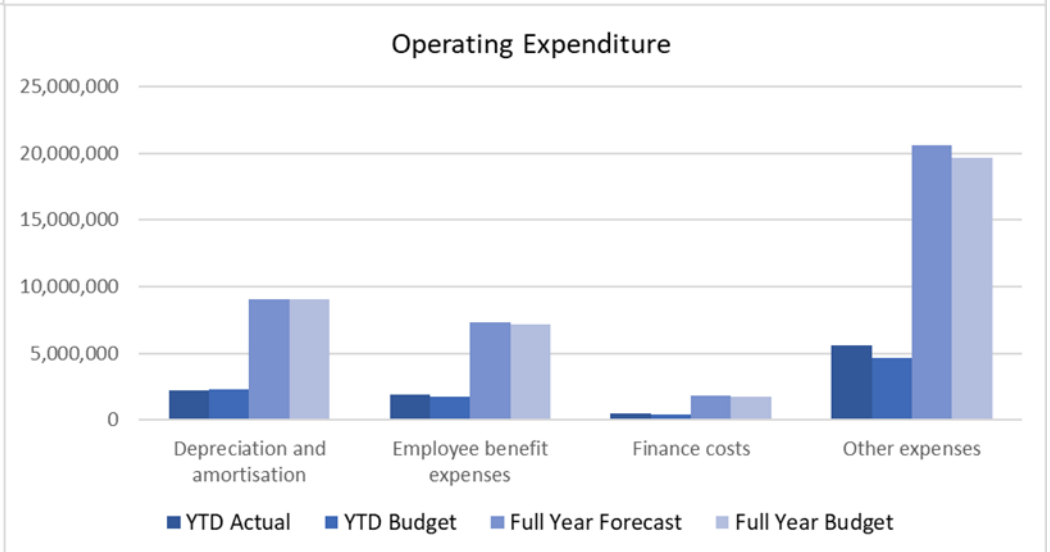
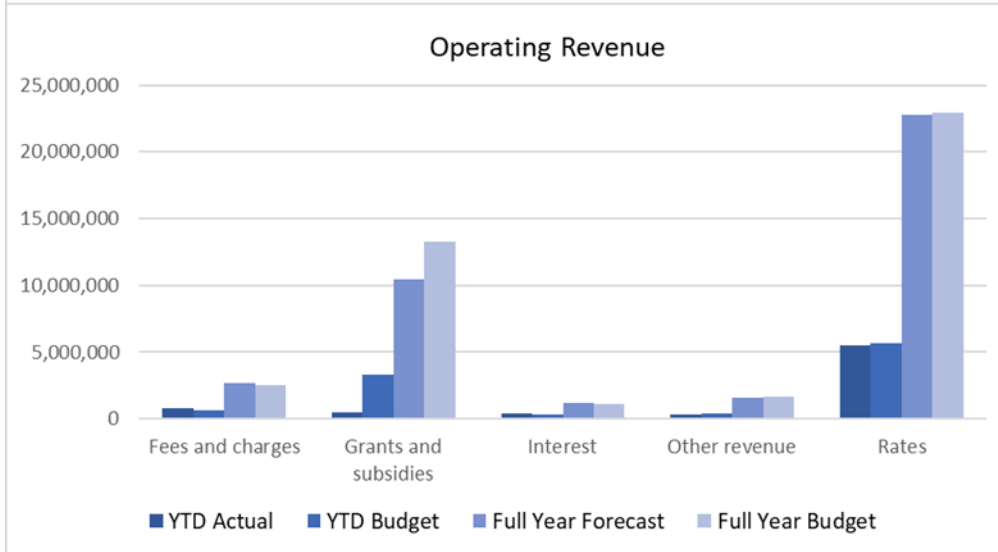
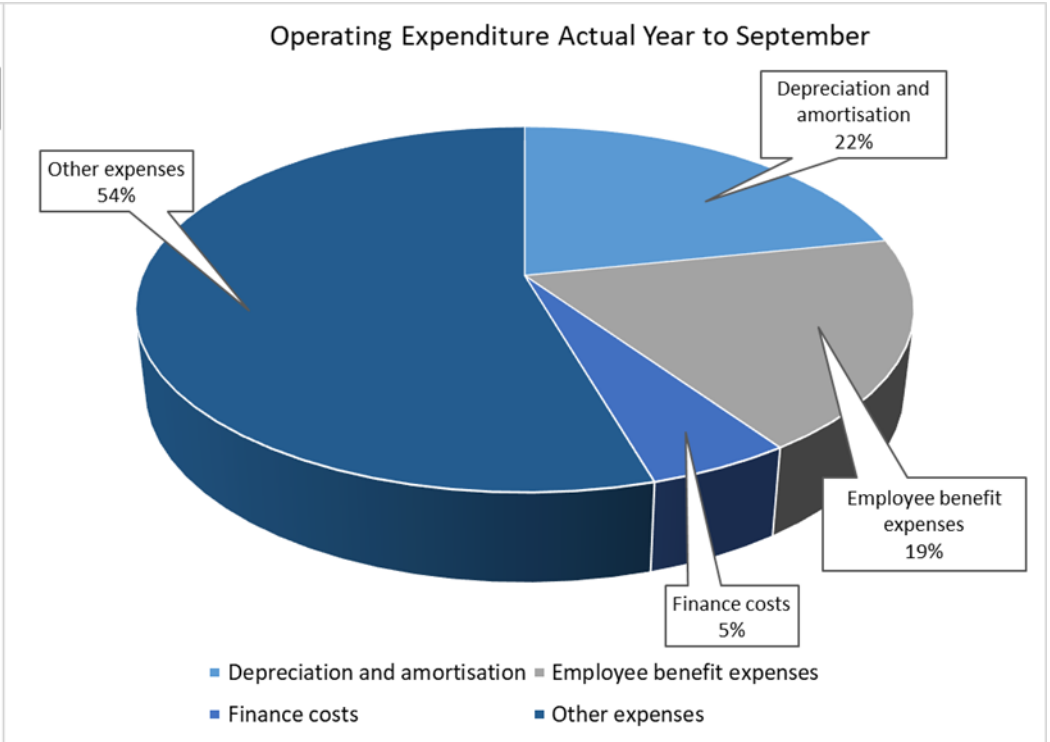
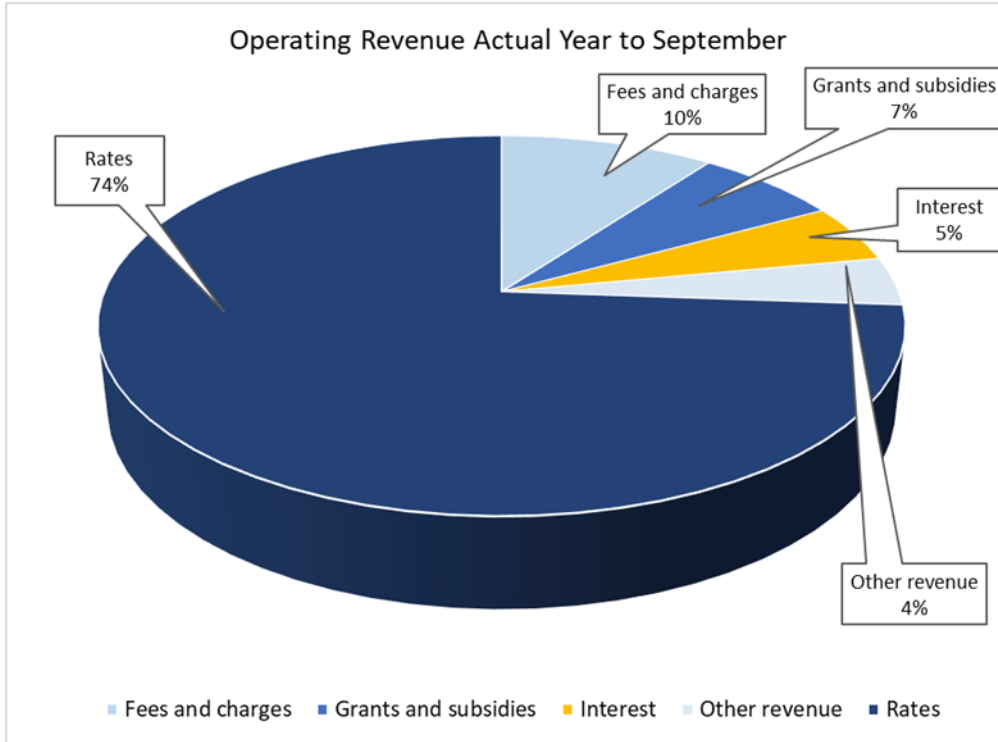
08 Depreciation

Depreciation is on track.

09 Other expenses

- Non-cash loss on swaps of \$774k has been recognized this year due to a significant drop in forecast interest rates.
- \$55k consultancy fees for the Local Water Done Well support package project - currently at preliminary stage.
- LTP audit costs of \$87k not budgeted for - The LTP audit for 2024-25 is currently at the interim stage.
- Refuse collection costs are over by \$43k due to pricing escalations.

Revenue & Expenditure Graphs



Debtors 30 September 2024

30/09/2024

Type	Over 90 Days	60-90 Days	30-60 Days	Current	Total (\$)
Building Consents	26,537	6,456	16,801	20,558	70,352
Building Warrants	1,615	-	7,922	16,105	25,642
Resource Consents	44,461	4,291	1,620	14,760	65,132
Sundry Debtors	106,525	4,380	26,362	67,031	204,298
Grant Debtors	110,829	-	276,981	97,137	484,947
Grand Total	289,967	15,128	329,686	215,590	850,371

30/09/2023

Type	Over 90 Days	60-90 Days	30-60 Days	Current	Total (\$)
Building Consents	51,945	12,705	20,961	33,327	118,938
Building Warrants	480	1,600	1,440	2,594	6,114
Resource Consents	13,630	3,200	5,091	24,375	46,296
Sundry Debtors	36,093	4,697	33,084	76,556	150,429
Grant Debtors	-	1,495,654	268,507	-	1,764,161
Grand Total	102,147	1,517,856	329,083	136,852	2,085,938

Grants outstanding as at 30/09/2024

Date Invoiced	Project	Total (\$)
20/12/2023	Better off Funding - Community Halls	91,647
22/02/2024	Custom House Restoration claim	19,182
29/08/2024	Better off Funding - Community Halls	122,381
29/08/2024	Better off Funding - Community Halls	154,600
4/09/2024	Better off Funding - Community Halls	97,137
		484,947

Rates Debtors 30 September 2024

Rates Debtors at 31 August 2024

1,064,788

Adjustments	(3,247)
Less payments received	(676,287)
Paid in advance change	253,480
Previous years write off's	(1,092)
Write off's	(2,367)
Penalties	(45)
Discounts	55
Court Cost	-
	(429,502)

Total Rates Debtors at 30 September 2024

635,286

Arrears included above at 30 September 2024	635,286
Arrears at 30 September 2023	390,142

Increase/(decrease) in arrears

245,144

Rates debtors reduced over September by 40.3%. Rates are invoiced quarterly and the majority of payments are due on the 20th month following the invoice date, however we're continuing to arrange more payment plans which spread the rates cost over the year.

Debt Position

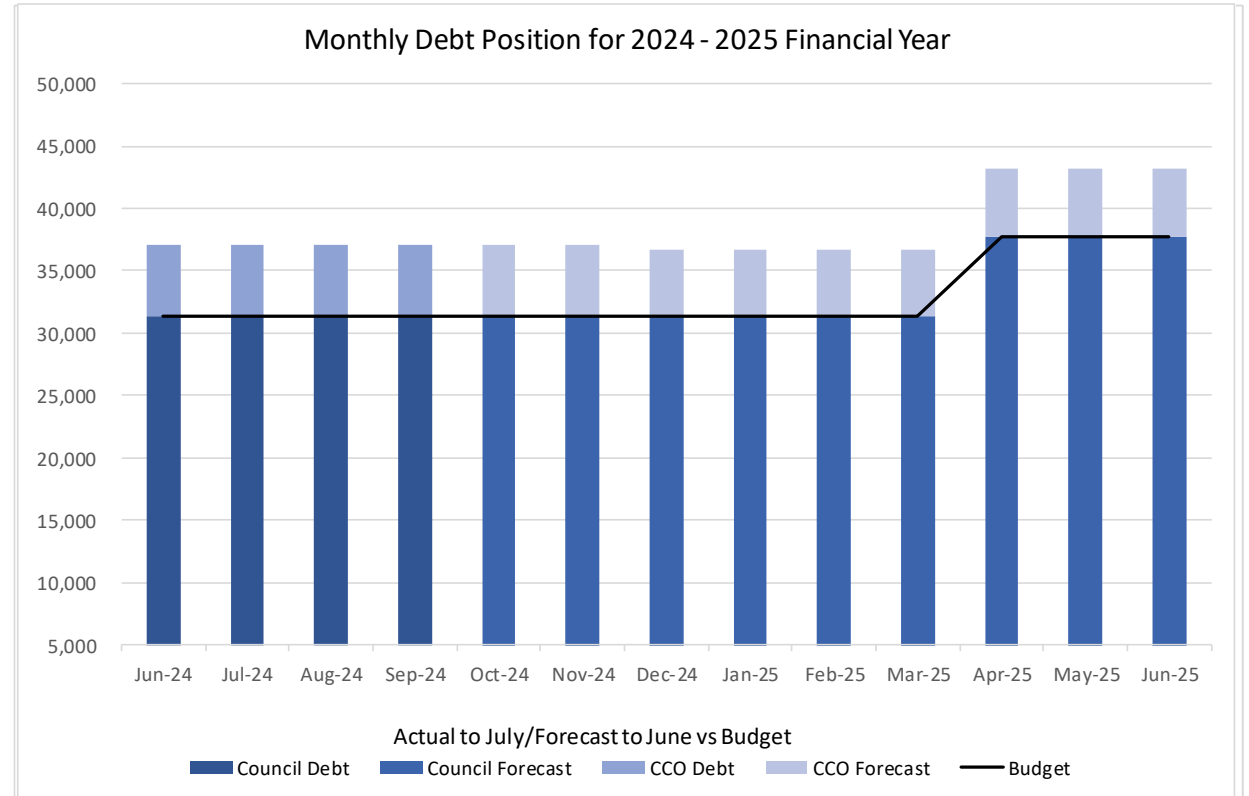
Debt Position 2024/2025 (\$000)

	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25
Actual Debt Position	37,044	37,044	37,044	37,044									
Budget	31,318	31,318	31,318	31,318	31,318	31,318	31,318	31,318	31,318	31,318	37,706	37,706	37,706
Forecast					37,044	37,044	36,744	36,744	36,744	36,744	43,132	43,132	43,132

Forecast Debt Position for 2024-2025 Financial Year

Forecast as at	Jun-24
Opening balance	37,044
Loan funded capex forecast	9,888
Forecast repayments	-3,800
Forecast balance June 2025	43,132

Figures include CCTO loans not originally budgeted for



Capital Expenditure

Capital Projects 2024/25 As at 30/09/2024			
Project / Activity	YtD Expenses	Annual Plan	Forecast
Leadership	32,688	577,291	577,291
Planning & Regulatory Services	0	186,939	186,939
Library & Museum	14,763	113,126	113,126
Water Supply	28,133	2,516,011	2,516,011
Waste Water	97,441	4,555,618	4,555,618
Solid waste	61,205	767,891	767,891
Storm water	5,601	1,392,340	1,392,340
Cemeteries	121	98,129	98,129
Swimming pools	0	635,249	635,249
Facilities & leisure services - other	293,564	2,611,444	2,611,444
Parks & reserves	33,745	1,036,786	1,036,786
Land transportation	104,444	9,240,974	9,240,974
Better Off Funded Projects	173,416	622,586	622,586
Less Operational Better Off Funding	(49,964)	(392,804)	(392,804)
Total Less Operational Better Off Funding	123,452	229,782	229,782
Unbudgeted capital expenditure	13,257	0	21,257
Funded Projects	0	0	0
Total	858,379	24,354,384	24,375,641
Total Less Operational Better Off Funding	808,414	23,961,580	23,982,837

For full details, please refer to report from District Assets.

Report to Council



DATE: 24 October 2024
TO: Mayor and Councillors
FROM: Compliance Team Leader

ANNUAL DOG CONTROL POLICY AND PRACTICES REPORT 2023/2024

1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to adopt the Annual Dog Control Policies and Practices Report for the year ending 30 June 2024.
- 1.2. There is a statutory requirement pursuant to Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996 to adopt and publish an Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report for the year ended 30 June 2024.
- 1.3. Council seeks to meet its obligations under the Local Government Act 2002, the Dog Control Act 1996, and the achievement of the District Vision adopted by the Council in June 2024, which are set out in the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/2025. Refer page 2 of the agenda.
- 1.4. This report concludes by recommending that Council receives the report and adopts the Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/2024, as attached in Appendix 1.

2. Background

- 2.1. The reason the report has come before the Council is due to the requirement of Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996, to report on the administration of Dog Control Policy and Practices for the year ending 30 June. Following adoption, Council must give public notice, as defined in section 5(1) of the Local Government Act 2002, of the report, notify the Secretary for Local Government, and make the report publicly available online.

3. Current Situation

- 3.1. The Annual Dog Control Policies and Practices Report 2023/2024 (Appendix 1) has been prepared in accordance with Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996. The Report provides information on:
 - The number of registered dogs.
 - Probationary and disqualified owners.
 - Dogs classified as dangerous or menacing.
 - Infringement notices.
 - Complaints received.
 - Prosecutions taken by the territorial authority.

4. Options

- 4.1. Option 1 – Council adopts the Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/2024.
- 4.2. Option 2 – Council does not adopt the Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/2024.

5. Risk Analysis

- 5.1. Risk has been considered and the following risk has been identified, subject to adoption of the annual report in accordance with section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996.
- 5.2. Failure to comply with Regulatory requirements is a reputational risk for council. Council must endeavour to meet all statutory requirements aligned to the activities council undertakes.

6. Health and Safety

- 6.1. Health and Safety has been improved with the purchase of new PPE cut resistant vests and a body camera for the Animal Control Officer. A new vehicle has also been purchased with significant improvements made to driver visibility, animal loading and unloading and the transportation of impounded animals.

7. Significance and Engagement

- 7.1. The adoption of the attached Annual Report is an administrative function required of Council under the Dog Control Act 1996 and is therefore of low significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
- 7.2. Public consultation is not required. It is a legislative requirement under the Dog Control Act 1996, and following adoption the Annual Report must be notified and made publicly available online.

8. Assessment of Options (including Financial Considerations)

- 8.1. Option 1 – To adopt the Annual Dog Control Policies and Practices Report for the year ending 30 June 2023.
 - 8.1.1. There is a legislative requirement for Council to adopt an Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report for the year ending 30 June and make the report publicly available by 31 October in the same year. This report is submitted for adoption in accordance with those legislative requirements.
 - 8.1.2. There are financial implications to Option 1 as there is a recommended increase in fees for dog owners.
 - 8.1.3. The suggested increase in fees is outlined in the attached document, Appendix 1.
- 8.2. Option 2 – To not adopt the Annual Dog Control Policies and Practices Report for the year ending 30 June 2023.
 - 8.2.1. Failure to accept this report will cause council to be in breach of statutory requirements according to the Dog Control Act 1996.
 - 8.2.2. There are no financial implications to this option.

9. Preferred Option(s) and Reasons

- 9.1. The preferred option is Option 1 - that Council adopts the Annual Dog Control Policies and Practices Report 2023/2024 to meet the legislative requirement within the Dog Control Act 1996.

10. Recommendations

- 10.1. That the report be received.
- 10.2. That Council adopt the Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/2024.
- 10.3. That the adopted Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/2024 is publicly notified and made publicly available on Council's website.
- 10.4. That the Secretary for Local Government is advised that the Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/2024 has been published in accordance with Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996, and Section 5(1) of the Local Government Act 2002.

Vern Morris
Compliance Team Leader

Appendix 1: Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/2024

Westland District Council Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report 2023/2024

1. The Dog Control Act 1996

The Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act) requires Territorial Authorities to publicly report on Dog Control Policies and Practices as outlined under Section 10A. This report contains information and statistics on the Westland District Council's Dog Control activity for the year 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

2. Dog Control Policy and Bylaw

There have been no reviews or amendments made to the Westland District Council Dog Control Bylaw or Dog Control Policy during this reporting period.

3. Administration

3.1. Personnel

Council employs one full-time Warranted Animal Control Officer (ACO). Rotational rostered after-hours, and annual / sick leave, cover, is carried out by Council's Health and Safety & Compliance Officer.

Two additional Warranted Compliance Personnel are available to be rostered to cover ACO functions when primary personnel are on leave.

3.2. Hours of Operation

The Animal Control Officer generally works from 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday to Friday and responds to appropriate animal complaints. ACO's respond to complaints 24 hours a day on rostered days, weekends, and statutory holidays, ensuring Council has appropriate cover to deliver service delivery expectations throughout the year.

3.3. Dog Pound

Council continues to manage three designated pound/kennels, one within the SPCA facility on Hau Hau Road, two kennels situated at the Haast Police Station, and one kennel situated at the Franz Josef Police Station. A rental is paid for the use of part of the SPCA building.

Council is responsible for the maintenance and management of its own pound assets and facilities, and the stewardship and feeding of any dogs coming into its care. The pound operates 24/7 with public access by appointment only via the on-duty ACO, to claim any dog/s under their ownership that have been impounded.

Access to the Pound facilities is restricted to Authorised Council personnel.

Dogs are only released to owners on full payment of due fees (registration and penalty fees), and the cost of microchipping if required.

Any dog not claimed within seven days, is deemed to be abandoned and is assessed for rehoming suitability.

All dogs are assessed by an ACO Officer, and if applicable, a suitable qualified officer of the SPCA or equivalent abandoned animal care facility, to determine suitability for rehoming.

4. Fees and Charges

The fees and criteria were set in 2019/2020 and have remained unchanged as part of the 2023/2024 fee setting process.

The following fees and charges were adopted by Council for the delivery of Animal Control services for the 2023/2024 year. There needs to be a modest annual increase in the fees to ensure that the animal control operations are close to cost neutral.

Animal Control	Fee (GST inclusive) 2023/2024
Urban Registration (Hokitika and Kaniere Township)	\$74
Registration other Areas	\$58
Responsible Dog Owners (RDO)	\$50 Inspection Fee – First Year \$50 Registration Fee – All Areas
Registration Dangerous Dog	Standard Registration Fee plus 50%
Late Registration – 1 August	Standard Registration Fee plus 50%
First Impounding Offence	\$82
Second Impounding Offence	\$164
Third Impounding offence	\$245
Feeding/Day	\$30
Call-out for Dog Reclaiming	\$150 per hour

5. Dog Population Analysis

A total of 2091 dogs and 1885 owners are recorded in the Council Database for the reporting period. It is unknown how many dogs are unregistered in Westland. A total of 1431 dogs are recorded in the rural zone with 660 in an urban zone.

6. Enforcement

The format for reporting of complaints, impounding, classification, infringements, and court proceedings was modified for the 2018/19 period and continues in use for this reporting period. Fees for prosecution have increased per the letter from MOJ, where applicable, generalised figures from previous years have been included in the tables below. “NR” identifies where specifics were ‘Not Recorded’ by category.

6.1. Complaints

A total of 202 complaints were received during the 2023/2024 reporting period compared to previous years as shown.

Complaints Received	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Dog Attack	19	5	6	4
Rushing/Threatening	11	2	1	0
Roaming	102	40	150	110
Barking	19	13	25	20
Welfare	26	0	4	8
General	3	5	40	60
Total	170	65	226	202

6.2. Impounding

33 dogs were impounded during the reporting period of which 29 were returned to their owners, and 1 re-homed. 3 dogs were euthanised during the reporting period. 16 dogs were surrendered.

6.3. Classification of Dog Owners

The Council did not classify any dog owners as ‘disqualified from owning a dog’ in the 2023/2024 year. There are no registered ‘disqualified’ or ‘probationary’ owners within the Westland District.

6.4. Classification of Dogs

Dogs can be classified in three different ways:

- Menacing classifications under Section 33A of the Act are applied to a dog which the Council considers may pose a threat to any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal or protected wildlife due to observed or reported behaviour; or any characteristic associated with the dog (their behaviour).
- Menacing classifications under Section 33C of the Act are applied to a dog which belongs wholly or predominantly to one or more breeds or types listed in Schedule 4 of the Act (their breed).
- Dangerous dogs under Section 31 of the Act are applied to a dog if the owner is convicted under 57A(2), if there is evidence that the dog is aggressive, or the owner admits that the dog is aggressive.

There are 33 dogs registered as ‘Menacing’ in the Westland District. For the reporting period 6 dogs were registered as ‘Menacing’ under Section 33A, none registered as ‘Menacing’ under Section 33C and 1 dog was registered as ‘Dangerous’.

Under Council’s Dog Control Policy, all dogs classified as menacing must be neutered, and muzzled when in a public area.

	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Menacing S 33A	0	6	6	6
Menacing S 33C	2	0	0	0
Dangerous S 31	0	2	1	1

6.5 Infringements

A total of 138 infringement notices were issued for the following offences:

Infringement Offence	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24
Fails to comply with any bylaw	12	0	16	20
Fails to comply with effects of classification	3	3	8	0
Fails to register dog	107	11	106	111
Fails to keep dog under control	4	4	3	5
Failure to provide proper care	0	0	0	0

Two other \$750 infringements were issued for falsely reporting that a dog had died

6.6. Court Proceedings

There were no court prosecutions undertaken for offences under the Act for the 2023/2024 reporting period.

7. Other Services

7.1. Multiple Dog Permits (3+ Dogs – Urban Zone)

A permit is required to keep more than two dogs on a property in an urban area. The issue of a permit is conditional on the suitability of an owner, their property and obtaining of approval from affected neighbours.

1 multiple dog permit was issued during this reporting period.

7.2. Responsible Dog Owner Policy (RDO) Status

RDO status provides a discounted rate of dog registration as an incentive to responsible dog owners.

To qualify for RDO status all dogs must be registered on or by 1st August of the current registration year, dog/s must be micro-chipped, there have been no justified complaints against, infringement, or impounding of any dog in the past two years, and the property has been inspected and approved in relation to appropriately fenced areas or kennel runs.

There are 101 approved Responsible Dog Owners recorded in the District.

8. Fees and finance

Animal control fees have not been adjusted for several years and there is a need to raise fees generally. Westland District Council fees are very low compared to other councils on the West Coast. This impacts adversely on the costs of the animal control budget which is being topped up by ratepayers. Revenue collected from dog owners does not cover costs.

The table below is a suggested reasonable increase for the forthcoming financial year. The proposed fee increases will be put forward for consideration as part of the Long Term Plan process.

Proposed increase in fees

Animal Control	Current Fee (GST inclusive) 2023/2024	Suggested New Fee for 2025/2026
Urban Registration (Hokitika and Kaniere Township)	\$74	\$80
Registration other Areas	\$58.00	\$80
Responsible Dog Owners (RDO)	\$50 Inspection Fee – First Year \$50 Registration Fee – All Areas	No Change
Registration Dangerous Dog	Standard Registration Fee plus 50%	No Change
Late Registration – 1 August	Standard Registration Fee plus 50%	No Change
First Impounding Offence	\$82	\$100
Second Impounding Offence	\$164	\$200
Third Impounding offence	\$245	\$250
Feeding/maintenance in Kennels per Day	\$30	No Change
Call-out for Dog Reclaiming after hours	\$150	No Change
Microchipping per dog	\$30	\$35
Bark collars	\$50 - Bond refundable on return undamaged.	No Change

Report to Council



DATE: 24 October 2024
TO: Mayor and Councillors
FROM: Asset Strategy and Development Manager

RESPONSIBLE FREEDOM CAMPING BYLAW

1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek that Council adopt the Statement of Proposal and Draft Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw allowing for public consultation to occur using the special consultative procedure as per Section 86 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 1.2. The issue arises from concern that without a bylaw, Council has no ability to manage freedom camping within the Westland District.
- 1.3. This new bylaw replaces the expired bylaw, Freedom Camping Bylaw 2018.
- 1.4. This report has come back to Council at their request following the requested workshop that was held on Wednesday 9th October 2024 in public session.
- 1.5. Council seeks to meet its obligations under the Local Government Act 2002 and the achievement of the District Vision adopted by the Council in June 2024, which are set out in the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/2025. Refer page 2 of the agenda.
- 1.6. This report concludes by recommending that Council adopt the Statement of Proposal and Draft Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw, attached as **Appendix 1** and **Appendix 2**.

2. Background

- 2.1 Westland District is a popular destination for campers; however, the district faces several challenges in balancing the needs of these visitors with the wellbeing of the communities that host them. The coastline, in particular, is a place of historical, cultural and environmental significance, home to important archaeological sites, unique ecosystems and biodiversity. It is also vulnerable to the impacts of severe weather, coastal erosion and climate change with infrastructure and access to remote communities at risk.
- 2.2 The broad geographical distribution of the district presents an additional challenge for enforcement and heightens concerns for health and safety of both visitors and local communities. Any regulation imposed by a freedom camping bylaw must reflect these challenges and regulations must be balanced with the corresponding expectation of enforcement from the community.
- 2.3 The Freedom Camping Act 2011 permits freedom camping in any local authority area (i.e. land controlled by the local council rather than private entities or central government), unless it is restricted or prohibited by a local bylaw or any other enactment.

2.4 Council can consider five ways to address matters related to freedom camping:

- i. Do nothing -
Under this, the Council maintains the status quo of having no bylaw and the Freedom Camping Act 2011 would apply. Under section 10 of that Act, freedom camping is generally permitted, subject to restrictions and prohibitions provided for in other legislation. A key area where such restrictions apply are in reserves, where the use of these areas for temporary accommodation, such as freedom camping, is restricted by section 44 of the Reserves Act 1977.
- ii. Make a bylaw under the Local Government Act 2002 -
This would restrict or prohibit freedom camping in some areas and, in accordance with section 10(b) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011, would be controlling freedom camping 'under any other enactment'.
- iii. Use reserve management plans -
This would permit freedom camping on some reserves, where it is appropriate to do so. Freedom camping would continue to be prohibited on all other reserves, but would be permitted on all other Council land, under the Freedom Camping Act 2011.
- iv. Add rules to the district plan -
Rules controlling freedom camping could be added to the Council's Proposed District Plan by using the plan change process set out in the Resource Management Act 1991.
- v. Make a bylaw under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 -
This would restrict or prohibit freedom camping in some areas, including allowing freedom camping with restrictions on some reserves, where it is appropriate to do so.

2.5 Council staff considered the above and given Council previously had a bylaw, concluded that creating a bylaw under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 would be the most reasonably practicable solution for addressing the issues caused by freedom camping.

3 Current Situation

3.1 Council is seeking to make a new bylaw under the Freedom Camping Act 2011, which carries over many of the provisions from the Freedom Camping Bylaw 2018. The new bylaw will be called the Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024.

3.2 The Council waited until after the Self-Contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023 was passed before progressing the formulation of the proposed Draft Bylaw. The reason for this is that the Self-Contained Motor Vehicles Legislation Act 2023 made changes to the Freedom Camping Act 2011 which in turn has led to several of the changes proposed in the Draft Bylaw.

3.3 Section 11(2) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 provides that the Council may only make a bylaw under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 if it is satisfied that:

The bylaw is necessary for one of more of the following purposes:

- i. To protect the relevant areas;
- ii. To protect the health and safety of people who may visit the relevant areas;
- iii. To protect access to the relevant areas; and

The bylaw is the most appropriate and proportionate way of addressing the perceived problem in relation to the relevant area; and the bylaw is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

3.4 An assessment against section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 has been completed and is attached to this report as **Appendix 3**. The assessment demonstrates that the proposed bylaw is needed.

- 3.5 A workshop was held on Wednesday 9th October 2024 with Councillors to discuss legislative requirements of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 and the recommendations in **Appendix 3**. These recommendations have subsequently been updated.
- 3.6 The Freedom Camping Act 2011 prescribes that a special consultative procedure must be used in forming a bylaw. Section 86 of the Local Government Act prescribes the steps that Council must take in carrying out a special consultative procedure.
- 3.7 The Statement of Proposal has been created based on requirements of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 and the Local Government Act 2002. If adopted the Statement of Proposal will be notified in accordance with Section 86, with members of the community given the opportunity to submit and speak to the proposal.
- 3.8 The proposal has been formulated in accordance with all relevant legislation. Adoption of the Statement of Proposal will result in a Bylaw enforceable by Council.

4. Options

- 4.1. Option 1: Adopt the Statement of Proposal pursuant to section 86 of the Local Government Act 2002 for use in the Special Consultative Procedure.
- 4.2. Option 2: Adopt the Statement of Proposal subject to changes pursuant to section 86 of the Local Government Act 2002 for use in the Special Consultative Procedure.
- 4.3. Option 3: Decline to adopt the Statement of Proposal pursuant to section 86 of the Local Government Act 2002 for use in the Special Consultative Procedure.

5. Risk Analysis

- 5.1. Risk has been considered and the following risks have been identified; Legislative and Compliance.
- 5.1.1. Without a bylaw there is a risk of people freedom camping in places that risk the protection of the area, the health and safety of the people who visit the area and protection of the access to the area.

6. Health and Safety

- 6.1. Health and Safety has been considered and no items have been identified.

7. Significance and Engagement

- 7.1. The level of significance has been assessed as being medium as it deals with a significant regulatory issue throughout the district, which has potential to impact on the districts visitors and residents.
- 7.1.1. Public consultation is considered necessary. In response to this, the proposal is subject to the Special Consultative Procedure as set-out by the Local Government Act 2002. This will provide the wider public the opportunity to engage with the process and have their views heard.

8. Assessment of Options (including Financial Considerations)

- 8.1. Option 1 – Adopt the Statement of Proposal pursuant to section 86 of the Local Government Act 2002 for use in the Special Consultative Procedure.
- 8.1.1. The following implications have been identified;
- If Council wishes to have an enforceable restriction on freedom camping anywhere in the district it must have a bylaw. A bylaw allows for instant infringements of \$400. Without a bylaw Council can only rely on education and suggestion.
 - It is considered that a bylaw is necessary to control freedom camping in the district for the purposes of protecting areas, the health and safety of visitors, and access to area.

- A bylaw similar, to that proposed, is considered to be “appropriate and proportionate” because it strikes a balance between allowing for responsible freedom camping and protecting health, safety and the environment.
- A bylaw will have financial implications due to the nature of enforcement. Enforcement options are currently being considered.

8.2. Option 2 – Adopt the Statement of Proposal subject to changes pursuant to section 86 of the Local Government Act 2002 for use in the Special Consultative Procedure.

8.2.1. The following implications have been identified;

- If Council wishes to have an enforceable restriction on freedom camping anywhere in the district it must have a bylaw. A bylaw allows for instant infringements of \$400. Without a bylaw Council can only rely on education and suggestion.
- It is considered, that a bylaw is necessary to control freedom camping in the district for the purposes of protecting areas, the health and safety of visitors, and access to area.
- A bylaw similar to that proposed, is considered to be “appropriate and proportionate” because it strikes a balance between allowing for responsible freedom camping and protecting health, safety and the environment.
- A bylaw will have financial implications due to the nature of enforcement. Enforcement options are currently being looked at.

8.3. Option 2 – Decline to adopt the Statement of Proposal pursuant to section 86 of the Local Government Act 2002 for use in the Special Consultative Procedure.

- Without a bylaw freedom camping will be permitted in any local authority area.
- There are risks that the consequences of freedom camping will have significant impacts on the residents and visitors to the district.
- The summer tourist season is fast approaching, and the reputation of Council is at risk without a bylaw in place.

9. Preferred Option(s) and Reasons

9.1. The preferred option is Option 1.

9.2. The reason that Option 1 has been identified as the preferred option is that Council cannot regulate freedom camping within the district without a current bylaw.

10. Recommendation(s)

10.1. That the report be received.

10.2. That Council determine under section 155(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 that the problem presented by freedom camping in the district is most appropriately and proportionately addressed by the way of a bylaw under the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

10.3. That in accordance with section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 Council adopt the proposed Statement of Proposal and Draft Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024 for public consultation using the special consultative procedure under section 86 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Alicia Paulsen
Asset Strategy and Development Manager

- Appendix 1:** Statement of Proposal
Appendix 2: Draft Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Appendix 3: Freedom Camping Act Section 11 Assessment
Appendix 4: Freedom Camping Bylaw 2018



Statement of Proposal
under Special Consultative Procedure as per
Section 86 of Local Government Act 2002:

Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024

THE PROPOSAL:

Westland District Council (the Council) is reviewing its regulatory approach to freedom camping. This statement of proposal details the Council's proposal to make a new Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw under Section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 (the Act). A draft of the Proposed Bylaw is attached to this statement of proposal.

Submissions open: 25th October 2024

Submissions close: 25th November 2024

Hearing date: 5th December 2024

Westland District Council (the Council) is reviewing its regulatory approach to freedom camping. This statement of proposal details the Council's proposal to make a new Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw under Section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011 (the Act). A draft of the Proposed Bylaw is attached to this statement of proposal.

We are seeking feedback on the proposed Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024. Consultation allows the community to have a say on the content, and changes to, the Proposed Bylaw. Council welcomes your feedback with consultation open from 25th October 2024 to 25th November 2024.

This statement of proposal has been made for the purposes of section 82, 84 and 86 of the Local Government Act 2002 and section 11B of the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

1. What is Freedom Camping

Camping as an activity is managed through a range of other plans, bylaws and legislation. The Council does not currently have a freedom camping bylaw, and as a result, cannot effectively regulate or enforce rules relating to freedom camping at any parks or other Council land that is not gazetted Reserve.

The Act is permissible by default, which means its starting point is to allow freedom camping on all Council controlled or managed land, unless prohibited under other legislation (such as the Reserves Act 1977). However, the Act does not recognise that some areas under control or management of councils may not be suitable for freedom camping and enables councils to make a bylaw to protect these areas. This includes protecting an area, protecting the health and safety of the people who may visit an area, and to protect access to an area.

Freedom camping bylaws can identify areas where freedom camping is prohibited and restricted to, manage how and where freedom camping can occur, and what additional conditions may be needed in some areas. Bylaws can also identify areas where freedom camping can occur in vehicles that are not self-contained.

Any restrictions or prohibitions on freedom camping must be consistent with the Act and can only be applied if the restrictions or prohibitions are proportionate, and within the scope of the criteria within section 11(5) of the Act. According to the Act, areas may only be prohibited or restricted for the following reasons:

- (i) to protect the area
- (ii) to protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area
- (iii) to protect access to the area

Areas must be assessed against these criteria before any restrictions or prohibitions are applied to ensure the Bylaw is appropriate, proportionate, consistent, and defensible.

A freedom camping bylaw made under the Act cannot address issues other than camping as defined by the Act. This definition does not include staying at a camping ground, temporary or short-term parking of a motor vehicle, day trips, or resting or sleeping at the roadside to avoid driver fatigue. It also explicitly excludes those experiencing homelessness who may be living in their vehicle. The land covered by the Act is also limited to those areas controlled or managed by Council, and does not include private land or Department of Conservation (DOC) reserves.

2. Changes to National Legislation

The Self-contained Motor Vehicles Act 2023 came into force in June 2023 and made amendments to the Freedom Camping Act 2011. A key change made by the amendment means that since June 2023, if a person is freedom camping on council controlled or managed land using a vehicle, they must be using a certified self-contained vehicle to freedom camp. The definition of self-contained has been updated to require a fixed toilet. These changes apply nation-wide, regardless of whether or not a Council has a bylaw. There is a transition period to allow people with current 'blue sticker' certifications (under the old certification requirement) time to move to the new 'green sticker' certification (where a fixed toilet will be required) over the next two years.

Changes were also made to the infringement fees and fines structure under the Act. The original infringement fee of \$200 has been replaced by a new tiered penalty system which came into force on 13 July 2023 and provides Councils with more options to apply fines proportionate to the breach of a freedom camping bylaw or the Act.

3. Options Considered

Westland District is a popular destination for campers, however, the District faces a number of challenges in balancing the needs of these visitors with the wellbeing of the communities that host them. The coastline, in particular, is a place of historical, cultural and environmental significance, home to important archaeological sites, unique ecosystems and biodiversity. It is also vulnerable to the impacts of severe weather, coastal erosion and climate change with infrastructure and access to remote communities at risk.

The broad geographical distribution of the District presents an additional challenge for enforcement and heightens concerns for health and safety of both visitors and local communities. Any regulation imposed by a freedom camping bylaw must reflect these challenges and regulations must be balanced with the corresponding expectation of enforcement from the community.

Council can consider five ways to address matters related to freedom camping:

- i. Do nothing –

Under this, the Council maintains the status quo of having no bylaw and the Freedom Camping Act 2011 would apply. Under section 10 of that Act, freedom camping is generally permitted, subject to restrictions and prohibitions provided for in other legislation. A key area where such restrictions apply are in reserves, where the use of these areas for temporary accommodation, such as freedom camping, is restricted by section 44 of the Reserves Act 1977.

- ii. Make a bylaw under the Local Government Act 2002 –

This would restrict or prohibit freedom camping in some areas and, in accordance with section 10(b) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011, would be controlling freedom camping 'under any other enactment'.

- iii. Use reserve management plans –

This would permit freedom camping on some reserves, where it is appropriate to do so. Freedom camping would continue to be prohibited on all other reserves, but would be permitted on all other Council land, under the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

- iv. Add rules to the district plan –

Rules controlling freedom camping could be added to the Council’s Proposed District Plan by using the plan change process set out in the Resource Management Act 1991.

- v. Make a bylaw under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 -

This would restrict or prohibit freedom camping in some areas, including allowing freedom camping with restrictions on some reserves, where it is appropriate to do so.

Council considered the above options and given Council previously had a bylaw, concluded that creating a bylaw under the Freedom Camping Act 2011 would be the most reasonably practicable solution for addressing the issues caused by freedom camping.

4. What is Council proposing?

The Proposed Bylaw includes rules for Freedom Camping across the district including identification of prohibited and restricted areas. The Proposed Bylaw seeks to protect areas, the health and safety of people using areas, and protecting access to areas, from negative impacts caused by freedom camping.

A summary of the Proposed Bylaw is detailed below. The Proposed Bylaw is also attached to this document in full.

General provisions

The Proposed Bylaw follows a similar form that other councils use, in order to better support freedom campers as they travel the country and seek to understand the different rules within each district. Where possible, the defined terms in the bylaw like ‘Self-contained’ and ‘Freedom Camping’ directly link back to the Act to limit any potential inconsistencies, however, the Proposed Bylaw includes copies of the relevant parts of the Act to make it easy for the meaning of those defined terms to be understood without needing to review the legislation.

The Proposed Bylaw provides Council with a tool to temporarily close an area to freedom camping if required to protect an area, protect the health and safety of the people who may visit an area, and to protect access to an area, and also provides a mechanism for an exemption to be granted if a person needs to freedom camp in a prohibited or restricted area, such as during an event.

The Proposed Bylaw does not specify District-wide rules in addition to those general requirements under the Act. Instead, the bylaw aims to formalise areas which are currently understood to be camping areas within the district, areas which experience problems associated with freedom camping, or areas which require additional protection. These areas are defined in the Schedules of the Proposed Bylaw and indicative maps of the areas are included as well.

Incorporation of NZ Standard by reference – Certified Self-contained

The Proposed Bylaw uses the definition of certified self-contained motor vehicle within the Act. To support and provide further information to this definition, the Proposed Bylaw also incorporates by reference the NZ Standard 5465:2001 Self containment of motor caravans and caravans which has further detail of the more technical requirements of certification.

As required by clause 1 of Schedule 2 of the Legislation Act 2019, this statement of proposal is public notice of the proposal to incorporate the NZ Standard in the Freedom Camping Bylaw. The NZ Standard

is incorporated by reference because it is impracticable to include its content in the bylaw. The NZ Standard is publicly available here where it can be viewed or printed once for free. We are seeking feedback on the incorporation of the NZ Standard in the Proposed Bylaw, particularly comments about whether:

- the Proposed Bylaw clearly identifies the material incorporated; and
- the means of making the NZ Standard publicly available is sufficient to enable people to find and obtain copies of it with reasonable ease; and
- it is otherwise appropriate.

The standard can be viewed or printed once for free at this link:

<https://www.standards.govt.nz/shop/nzs-54652001>

5. Specific Area Restrictions

Any potential areas for prohibition or restriction must be first assessed against the criteria in section 11(2) of the Act before being included in a freedom camping bylaw. This section states that councils can only prohibit or restrict freedom camping in an area if this is necessary to:

- (i) protect the area - to protect areas that are environmentally or culturally sensitive.
- (ii) protect health and safety - to keep freedom campers and other visitors to an area safe.
- (iii) protect access to the area - where the presence of freedom campers could block access or damage infrastructure.

The assessments were completed using a tool which is used by many New Zealand councils and is considered best practice by the sector. This assessment looks at each of the three elements outlined in section 11(2) of the Act to determine whether prohibiting or restricting freedom camping is appropriate in the area. The tool provides councils with a standardised and transparent way of applying the Act and demonstrates a clear line of sight between the criteria in the Act, and the bylaw.

Prohibitions and restrictions have been included in the bylaw to formalise areas for freedom camping as well as identifying areas which require protection through a bylaw under the Act. These prohibitions and restrictions are proposed with consideration for the enforcement challenges present in the District. Consideration has been given to ensure an appropriate and practical balance between the need for and benefits of protection and the ability for enforcement, with the understanding that there is a relationship between the complexity of regulation and the level of service expected by the community.

As a result of this assessment, the Proposed Bylaw includes the following prohibitions and restrictions.

Prohibitions

The Proposed Bylaw prohibits freedom camping in the following township areas:

- Kaniere
- Ruatapu
- Ross
- Harihari
- Okarito
- Fox Glacier
- Bruce Bay
- Hannahs Clearing

- Okuru
- Neils Beach
- Jacksons Bay

Specific Area Restrictions

The Proposed Bylaw places restrictions on freedom camping in the areas of:

- Kumara
- Hokitika
- Rimu/Woodstock
- Kakapotahi
- Franz Josef
- Paringa
- Haast

Freedom camping in these urban areas is restricted to certified self-contained and non self-contained (depending on the area) for a maximum of two nights in one location within a 30-day period. These restrictions ensure that freedom campers can visit and enjoy the townships' amenities while protecting access to these areas and the health and safety of residents and visitors alike, by ensuring short stays that will not adversely impact on any one location within the townships.

6. New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990

The Council must determine whether the bylaws made under the Local Government Act 2002 give rise to any implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

This bylaw is similar to bylaws used by other territorial local authorities, and there is no legislative commentary reviewed that would suggest Bill of Rights implications. The Proposed Bylaw content is considered to reflect a suitable balance between personal freedoms and community protection, and is not considered to have discriminatory effects.

KEY DATES

SUBMISSIONS OPEN: 9am 25th October 2024

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE: 5pm 25th November 2024

HEARING, DELIBERATION AND DECISION: 9am 5th December 2024

Revisions applied: The revisions will generally take effect the day after the decision is made by Council.

The Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024 can be found [here](#).

SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

IN PERSON You have the option to speak to Council during the hearing. If you have not provided a written submission either call or email us to discuss this option.

If you make a submission in writing you can tick the box on the online submission form to advise that you would like to speak at the hearing, or advise us in your email or letter and we will get in touch with you.

ONLINE You can make your submission online. Go to: <https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz/responsible-camping-bylaw/>

IN WRITING You can make a written submission by post or by sending us an email, or complete, scan and email the printable submission form.

POST: Westland District Council, 36 Weld Street, Hokitika 7811

EMAIL: infrastructure@westlanddc.govt.nz

OVER THE PHONE: If using the online submission form or sending an email is not an option, you can make a submission by calling Council on the number below:

PHONE: 03 756 9010

FREEPHONE: 0800 474 834

Please note, submissions will be publicly available on the council's website, through inclusion in council agendas, and/or retrievable by request under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. Contact details will redacted under the Privacy Act 2020.

If you have any questions about the Proposed Bylaw, or the submission process, please let us know. Call us on 03 756 9010 or 0800 474 834 and let our friendly Customer Services staff know you have a question about the Proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw or contact us via email at infrastructure@westlanddc.govt.nz.

WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL RESPONSIBLE FREEDOM CAMPING BYLAW 2024

1. TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT
2. APPLICATION OF BYLAW
3. PURPOSE
4. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION
5. AREAS WHERE FREEDOM CAMPING IS PERMITTED
6. PROHIBITED AREAS
7. RESTRICTED AREAS
8. LOCAL AUTHORITY AREAS WHERE FREEDOM CAMPING IS PERMITTED IN MOTOR VEHICLES THAT ARE NOT SELF-CONTAINED
9. PRIOR CONSENT FROM COUNCIL
10. CLOSURE OF FREEDOM CAMPING AREA
11. OFFENCES
12. PENALTIES
13. RELATIONSHIP OF THE BYLAW WITH THE NGAI TAHU CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT
1998

SCHEDULE ONE: PROHIBITED AREAS

SCHEDULE TWO: RESTRICTED AREAS

SCHEDULE THREE: PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED AREA MAPS

1. TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

- 1.1 This Bylaw is the Westland District Council Responsible Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024.
- 1.2 This Bylaw comes into force on [Date].
- 1.3 This Bylaw is due for review under section 13 of the Act by [Date].

2. APPLICATION OF BYLAW

- 2.1 This Bylaw applies to all Local Authority Areas in the Westland District.
- 2.2 Nothing in this Bylaw shall limit the application of any other enactments, rules or codes or regulations made under any other enactment.

3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Bylaw is to control freedom camping the Westland District in order to:

- (a) Protect local authority areas;
- (b) Protect the health and safety of people who may visit local authority areas; or
- (c) Protect access to local authority areas.

4. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

- 4.1 References to a repealed enactment include its replacement.
- 4.2 Unless the context otherwise requires, a term or expressions that is defined in the Act and used, but not defined, in this Bylaw has the meaning given by the Act.
- 4.3 Any headings, explanatory notes and attachments are for information purposes and do not form part of this Bylaw.
- 4.4 For the purpose of this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - (a) **Act** means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.
 - (b) **Camping ground** has the same meaning as in section 5(3) of the Act.
 - (c) **Chief Executive** means the chief executive appointed by the Council under section 42 of the Local Government Act 2002.
 - (d) **Council** means Westland District Council.

- (e) **District** means the district of the Council.
- (f) **Enforcement officer** means a person appointed as an enforcement officer under section 32 of the Act.
- (g) **Freedom camp** has the same meaning as in section 5 of the Act.
- (h) **Local authority area** has the same meaning as in section 6 of the Act.
- (i) **Non self-contained area** means an area identified in Schedule 2: Restricted Areas, in which freedom camping in a motor vehicle that is not self-contained is permitted subject to restrictions and conditions.
- (j) **Prohibited area** means an area identified in Schedule 1: Prohibited Areas, in which freedom camping is prohibited.
- (k) **Restricted area** means an area identified in Schedule 2: Restricted Areas, in which freedom camping is permitted subject to restrictions.
- (l) **Self-contained** –
 - a. during the Transitional period has the same meaning as in clause 1 of Schedule 1AA of the Act; and otherwise
 - b. has the same meaning as in section 4 of the Act.
- (m) **Transitional period** is defined in clause 1 of Schedule 1AA and means the period of time that—
 - a. starts on the commencement date [7 June 2023]; and
 - b. ends on the later of the following:
 - i. the day before the date that is 2 years after the commencement date [7 June 2025];
 - ii. the latest date specified as the end date of period 4 by an Order in Council made under clause 3 [of Schedule 1AA].

4.5 This bylaw contains explanatory notes, which are not part of the bylaw. The Council may add, amend or delete explanatory notes at any time without amending the bylaw.

5. AREAS WHERE FREEDOM CAMPING IS PERMITTED

5.1 Freedom camping using a tent or other temporary structure or a self-contained motor vehicle is permitted in any local authority area within the District unless it is prohibited or restricted in an area:

- (a) Under clause 6 or 7 of this Bylaw; or
- (b) Under any legislation; or
- (c) In the case of a self-contained motor vehicle, by the limit placed on the maximum number of people for which the vehicle is certified.

***Explanatory note:** Other relevant legislation includes the Reserves Act 1977, which generally prohibits camping in reserves (pursuant to section 44) and provides for infringement notices to be issued. The Council does not control freedom camping on reserves under this bylaw, which means any camping on reserves is prohibited under the Reserves Act 1977 unless otherwise expressly allowed by the Council.*

Compliance with this bylaw does not remove the need to comply with all other applicable laws, including not littering, and complying with the direction of enforcement officers.

- 5.2 Freedom camping using a motor vehicle that is not self-contained is permitted in a local authority area within the District, but only if;
- (a) It is used in a non self-contained area, and carried out in accordance with any restrictions and conditions imposed under clause 8 of this Bylaw; or
 - (b) It is otherwise permitted under other legislation.

***Explanatory note:** Examples of other legislation that may allow for non self-contained motor vehicles include: reserve management plans under the Reserves Act 1977, bylaws made under the Local Government Act 2002, or rules in a regional or district plan.*

6. PROHIBITED AREAS

- 6.1. A person must not freedom camp in any area identified in Schedule 1: Prohibited Area.
- 6.2. Freedom camping in a tent or other temporary structure on any local authority area in the district is prohibited.
- 6.3. Freedom Camping within 20 meters of a lake or seashore or beach frontage is prohibited unless permitted in Schedule 2: Restricted Areas.

- 6.4. Despite subclause (6.1), a person may freedom camp in any prohibited area if they have obtained the prior written consent of the Council, granted under clause 9(1) of this Bylaw, and complies with any conditions on the consent.

7. RESTRICTED AREAS

- 7.1. A person may freedom camp in any area identified in Schedule 2: Restricted Areas, but must comply with the restrictions listed below:

- (a) The freedom camping must only take place in a certified self-contained or non self-contained vehicle;
- (b) The maximum stay in any one location is two nights within a 30-day-period and the location must not be within 500 meters of a location where the person has previously freedom camped within a 30-day period;
- (c) All waste must either be removed or disposed of in the bins provided;
- (d) All wastewater (including human waste) must be disposed of in the dumpsites provided at:
 - a. Hokitika – Oxidations Ponds State Highway 6,
 - b. Franz Josef – Between Cron Street and State Highway 6; and
 - c. Haast – by the toilets on Marks Road.
- (e) Campsites must be kept clean and tidy;
- (f) Freedom campers must not prevent others from undertaking legitimate activities in the area or restrict access to any public area or private land;
- (g) No person may light fires;
- (h) No person may interfere with or damage any freedom camping area, flora, fauna or structure; and
- (i) Enforcement officers must be able to inspect any campsite and freedom campers must comply with any reasonable direction.

- 7.2. Schedule 2: Restricted Areas also places additional site specific restrictions on:

- (a) the number of vehicles permitted;
- (b) hours available; and
- (c) If a vehicle must be certified self-contained or non self-contained.

7.3. Despite subclause (7.1), a person may freedom camp in a Restricted Freedom Camping Area if they have obtained prior written consent of the Council, granted under clause 9 (1) of this Bylaw, and complies with any condition of that consent.

8. LOCAL AUTHORITY AREAS WHERE FREEDOM CAMPING IS PERMITTED IN MOTOR VEHICLES THAT ARE NOT SELF-CONTAINED

8.1 A person may freedom camp in a motor vehicle that is not self-contained in areas identified in Schedule 2: Restricted Areas, but must comply with the restrictions and conditions listed in clause 7(1) and Schedule 2.

8.2 Despite subclause (8.1), a person may freedom camp in a non self-contained area contrary to any restrictions or conditions listed for that area if they have obtained the prior written consent of the Council, granted under clause 9(1) of this Bylaw, and complied with any conditions of that consent.

9. PRIOR CONSENT FROM COUNCIL

9.1 The Council may grant consent to a person to freedom camp in any prohibited area, restricted area, or non self-contained area, contrary to any prohibition, restriction, or conditions that apply to that area under this Bylaw.

9.2 An application for consent must be made in writing to the Chief Executive at least two weeks in advance of the date planned for freedom camping in the area.

9.3 If the Council grants an application, it may impose any conditions it considers appropriate that are consistent with the purpose of this Bylaw.

9.4 If the Council refuses an application, Council must inform the applicant of the reasons for the decision.

9.5 An enforcement officer may revoke a consent given under subclause (9.1) if any person breaches the conditions specified in the consent or the freedom camping covered by the consent otherwise breaches this Bylaw or the Act.

10. CLOSURE OF FREEDOM CAMPING AREA

10.1 The Chief Executive may temporarily close or restrict entry to any overnight freedom camping area or part of any freedom camping area where such restriction is considered necessary by Council to:

- (a) Prevent damage to the local authority area or facilities in the area; or
- (b) Allow maintenance to the local authority area or facilities thereon; or
- (c) Protect the safety of persons or property; or
- (d) Allow or facilitate public access, including circumstances where events are planned for that area.

10.2 The Council will publicise a closure or restriction under clause 8(1) of this Bylaw in any manner it considers is appropriate to the reason for the closure or restriction. The publicity may occur before the closure or restriction, but only if that is reasonably practicable.

11. OFFENCES

11.1 Section 20(1) and 20C of the Act species the infringements offences applicable to local authority areas, which include that every person commits an offence who –

- (a) Freedom camps in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in this Bylaw that applies to the area; or
- (b) Makes preparations to freedom camp in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in this Bylaw that applies to the area.

11.2 For the purposes of section 20(1)(a) and (f) of the Act, any person who has obtained the prior written consent of the Council, granted under clause 8(1) of this Bylaw, and who complies with any conditions on the consent, is not acting in breach of any prohibition or restriction in this Bylaw.

12. PENALTIES

12.1 As specified in section 20E of the Act, every person who commits an infringement offence under the Act is liable to the infringement fine specified in regulations

made under the Act, or if no regulations have been made an infringement fee of \$400.

Explanatory note: The regulations made under section 43 that are in force at the time this bylaw was made provide for fines ranging from \$200 to \$800:

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2023/0136/latest/LMS853101.html>

13. RELATIONSHIP OF THE BYLAW WITH THE NGAI TAHU CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT 1998

13.1 This Bylaw does not limit or affect the rights in relation to nohoanga entitlements under the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

SCHEDULE 1: PROHIBITED AREAS

A person must not freedom camp in any prohibited area freedom camping area within the district identified in this Schedule without the prior written consent of Council.

Area Name	Description of Area	Map Reference
Kaniere	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 1
Ruatapu	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 2
Ross	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 3
Harihari	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 4
Okarito	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 5
Fox Glacier	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 6
Bruce Bay	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 7
Hannahs Clearing	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 8
Okuru	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 9
Neils Beach	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 10
Jackson Bay	Freedom camping is prohibited within the township and open spaces as shown by the red areas identified in the map.	Figure 11

Explanatory note: Reserves are controlled under the Reserves Act 1977, which generally prohibits camping in reserves (section 44) and provides for infringement notices to be issued. The Council does not control freedom camping on reserves

under this bylaw, which means any camping on reserves is prohibited under the Reserves Act 1977, unless provided for in a Reserve Management Plan or Council exercises its delegated ministerial consent.

SCHEDULE 2: RESTRICTED AREAS

Freedom camping in the areas described below is subject to the restrictions specified in clause 7 of this bylaw for each area.

Any restrictions must be complied with unless the prior written consent of the Council is obtained under clause 9 of this bylaw.

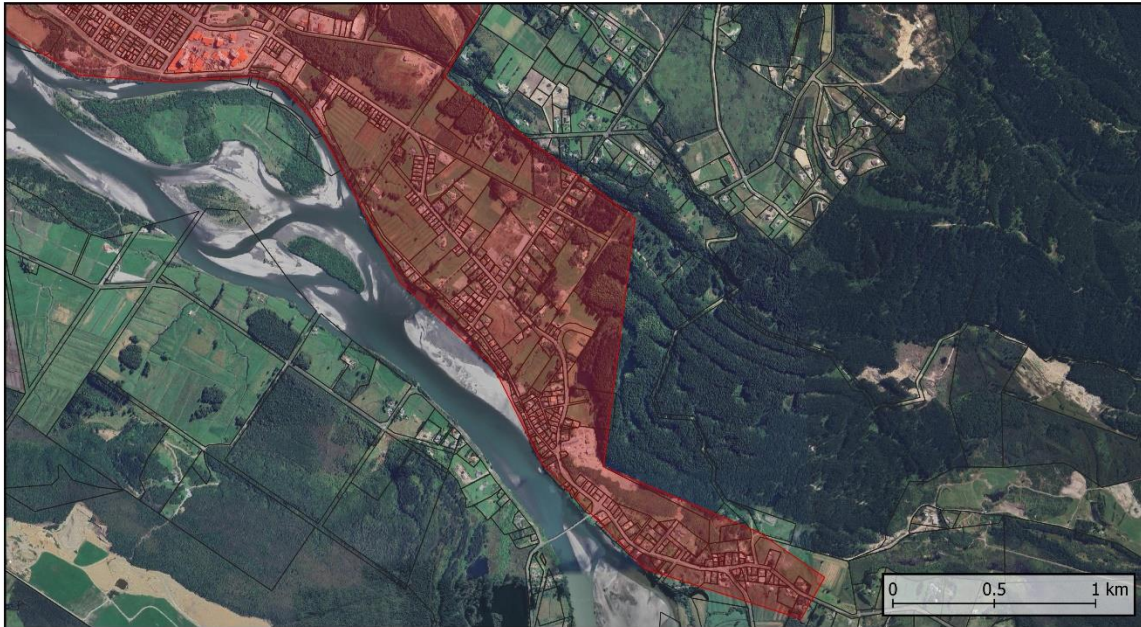
Area Name	Description of Area	Restriction	Map Reference
Kumara*	Kumara Domain, Seddon Street, Kumara.	Hours available: 8pm – 7am Parking available: Until allocated carpark is full. Vehicles that are not self-contained may be used for Freedom Camping, as well as certified Self-contained vehicles.	Figure 12 Figure 13
Hokitika	Freedom camping is restricted within the township to the areas of Sunset Point and the beach front.	Sunset Point Hours available: 8pm – 7am Parking available: Until allocated carpark is full, approximately 12 sites. Vehicles that are not self-contained may be used for Freedom Camping, as well as certified Self-contained vehicles Beachfront Hours available: 8pm – 7am Parking available: Until allocated carpark is full, approximately 12 sites. Vehicles that are not self-contained may be used for Freedom Camping, as well as certified Self-contained vehicles.	Figure 14 Figure 15 Figure 16 Figure 17
Rimu/Woodstock*	Woodstock Domain, 47 Back Creek Road.	Hours available: 8pm – 7am Parking available: Until allocated carpark is full Vehicles that are not self-contained may be used for	Figure 18 Figure 19

Area Name	Description of Area	Restriction	Map Reference
		Freedom Camping, as well as certified Self-contained vehicles.	
Kakapotahi	Kakapotahi Beach, End of Beach Road, Kakapotahi	Hours available: 8pm – 7am Parking available: Until allocated carpark is full A certified self-contained vehicle must be used.	Figure 20
Franz Josef	Franz Josef Heliport Carpark	Hours: 8pm – 7am Parking available: Until allocated carpark is full Vehicles that are not self-contained may be used for Freedom Camping, as well as certified Self-contained vehicles.	Figure 21 Figure 22
Paringa	Public toilet carpark area at Paringa Salmon Farm. 6156 Haast Highway, Paringa.	Hours available: 8pm – 7am Parking available: Until allocated carpark is full Vehicles that are not self-contained may be used for Freedom Camping, as well as certified Self-contained vehicles.	Figure 23
Haast	Haast Playground. Marks Road, Haast.	Hours available: 8pm – 7am Parking available: 10 sites Vehicles that are not self-contained may be used for Freedom Camping, as well as certified Self-contained vehicles.	Figure 24 Figure 25

**Camping is currently managed by the community at these two sites. Campers must abide by the rules set out by the community which includes a donation for using these facilities.*

SCHEDULE 3: PROHIBITED AND RESTRICTED AREA MAPS

Prohibited Areas



- Map Legend:**
- Restricted Area
 - Prohibited Area
 - Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Kaniere
Map is indicative only



Figure 1: Kaniere



Map Legend:
 Restricted Area
 Prohibited Area
 Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Ruatapu
 Map is indicative only



Figure 2: Ruatapu



Map Legend:
 Prohibited Area
 Restricted Area
 Land Parcels

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Ross
 Map is indicative only



Figure 3: Ross



- Map Legend:**
- Prohibited Area
 - Restricted Area
 - Land Parcels

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Harihari
 Map is indicative only



Figure 4: Harihari

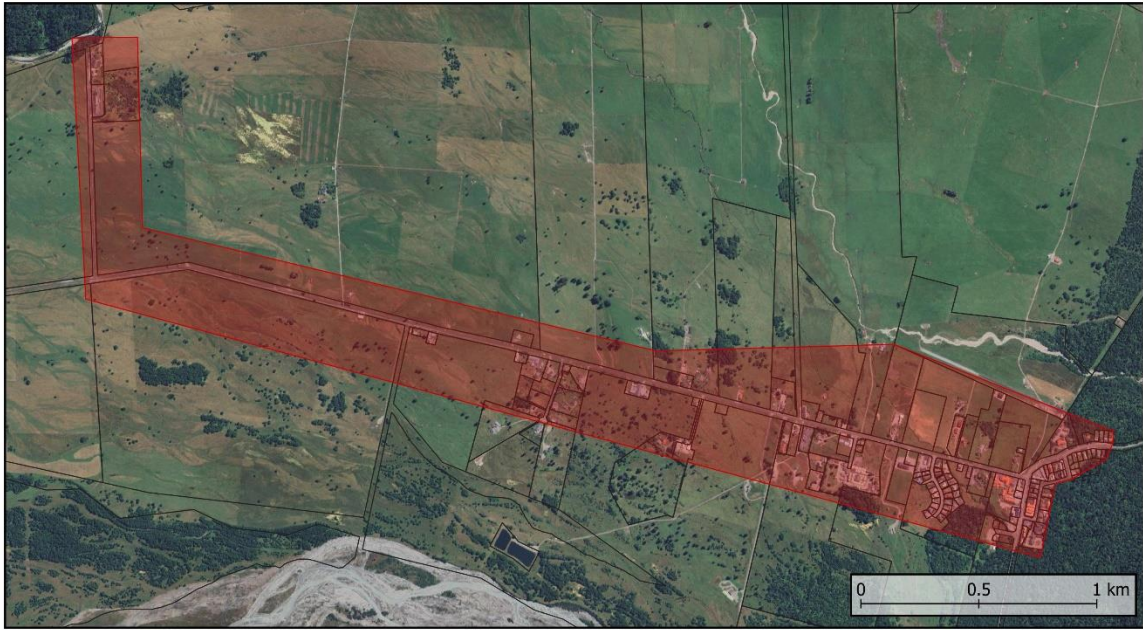


- Map Legend:**
- Restricted Area
 - Prohibited Area
 - Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Okarito
 Map is indicative only



Figure 5: Okarito



Map Legend:
 ■ Restricted Area
 ■ Prohibited Area
 □ Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Fox Glacier
 Map is indicative only



Figure 6: Fox Glacier



Map Legend:
 ■ Prohibited Area
 ■ Restricted Area
 □ Land Parcels

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Bruce Bay
 Map is indicative only



Figure 7: Bruce Bay



Map Legend:
 ■ Restricted Area
 ■ Prohibited Area
 □ Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Hannahs Clearing
 Map is indicative only



Figure 8: Hannahs Clearing



Map Legend:
 ■ Restricted Area
 ■ Prohibited Area
 □ Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Okuru
 Map is indicative only



Figure 9: Okuru



Map Legend:
 ■ Restricted Area
 ■ Prohibited Area
 □ Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024

Neils Beach

Map is indicative only



Figure 10: Neils Beach



Map Legend:
 ■ Restricted Area
 ■ Prohibited Area
 □ Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024

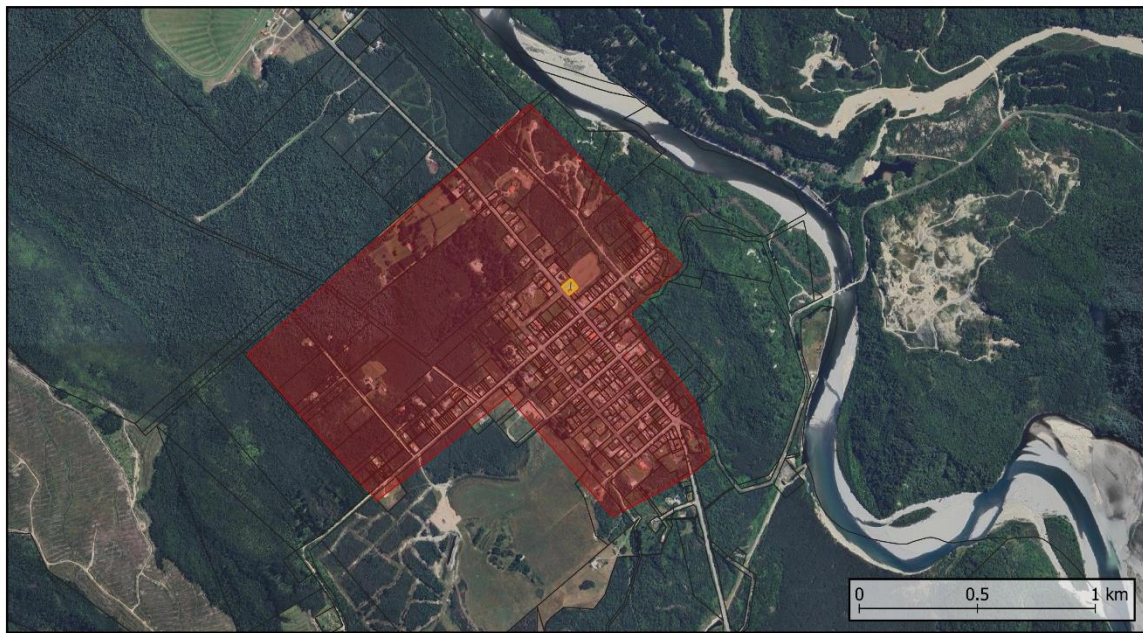
Jackson Bay

Map is indicative only



Figure 11: Jackson Bay

Restricted Areas



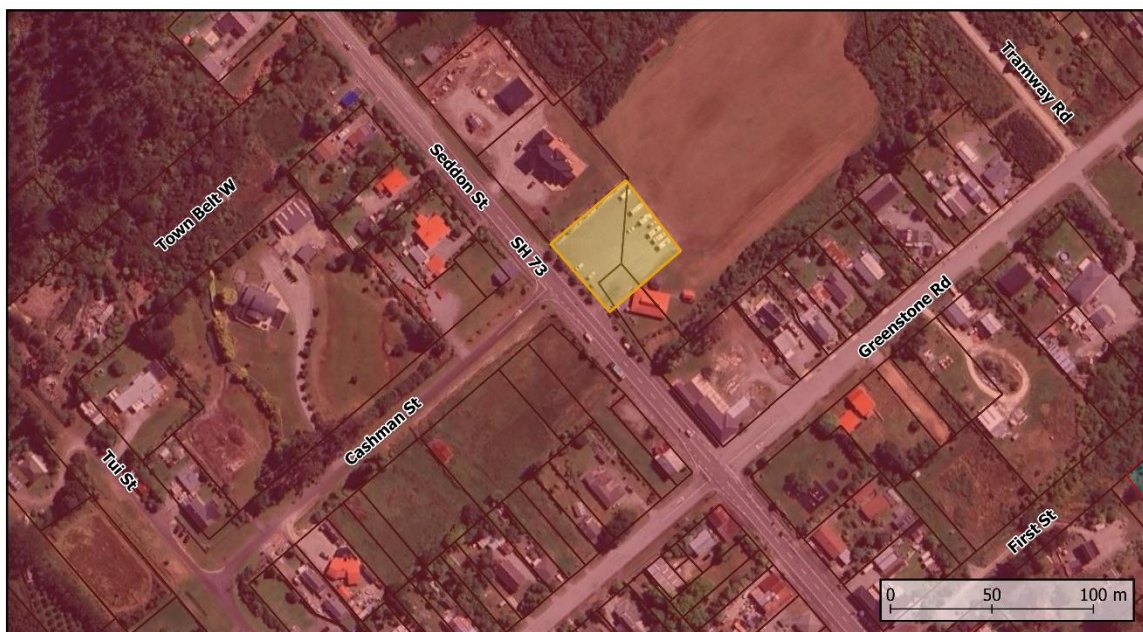
Map Legend:
 Restricted Area
 Prohibited Area
 Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024 Kumara

Map is indicative only



Figure 12: Kumara



Map Legend:
 Restricted Area
 Prohibited Area
 Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024 Kumara

Map is indicative only



Figure 13: Kumara (Zoomed)



- Map Legend:**
- Prohibited Area
 - Restricted Area
 - Land Parcels

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Hokitika & Kaniere
 Map is indicative only



Figure 14: Hokitika



- Map Legend:**
- Prohibited Area
 - Restricted Area
 - Land Parcels

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Hokitika
 Map is indicative only



Figure 15: Hokitika (Zoomed)



Map Legend:
 [Yellow Box] Restricted Area
 [Red Box] Prohibited Area
 [Black Line] Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024

Sunset Point - Hokitika

Map is indicative only



Figure 16: Sunset Point - Hokitika



Map Legend:
 [Yellow Box] Restricted Area
 [Red Box] Prohibited Area
 [Black Line] Parcel Boundary

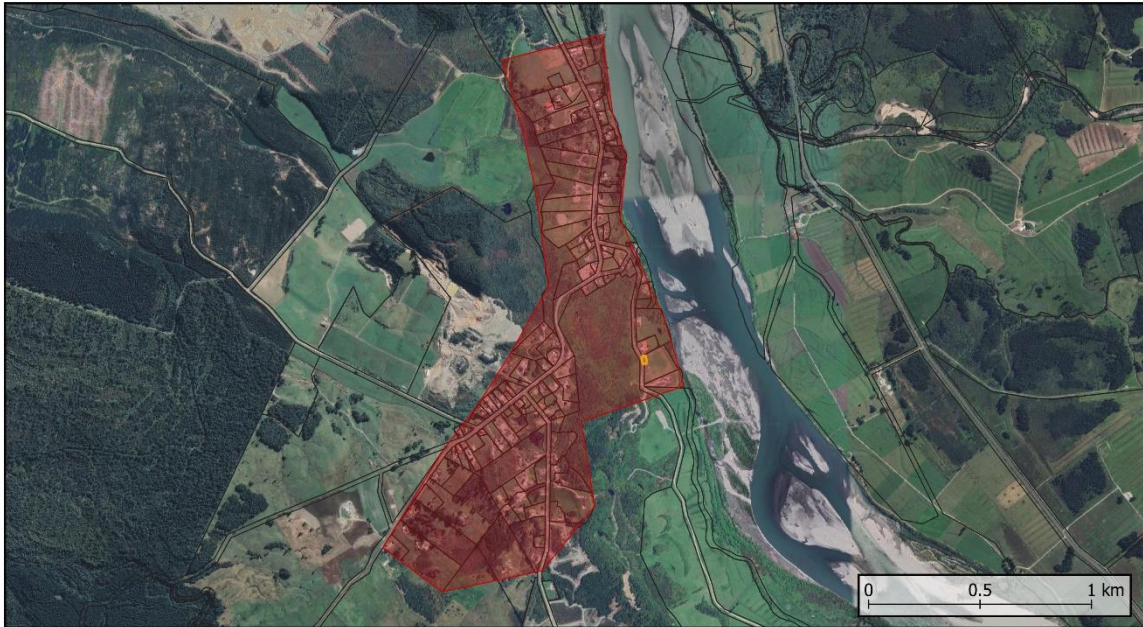
Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024

Beachfront - Hokitika

Map is indicative only



Figure 17: Beachfront - Hokitika



Map Legend:
 ■ Restricted Area
 ■ Prohibited Area
 □ Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Woodstock-Rimu
 Map is indicative only



Figure 18: Woodstock/Rimu



Map Legend:
 ■ Restricted Area
 ■ Prohibited Area
 □ Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Woodstock-Rimu
 Map is indicative only



Figure 19: Woodstock/Rimu(Zoomed)



- Map Legend:**
- Restricted Area
 - Prohibited Area
 - Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Kakapotahi
 Map is indicative only



Figure 20: Kakapotahi



- Map Legend:**
- Restricted Area
 - Prohibited Area
 - Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024
Franz Josef
 Map is indicative only



Figure 21: Franz Josef



Map Legend:

- Restricted Area
- Prohibited Area
- Parcel Boundary

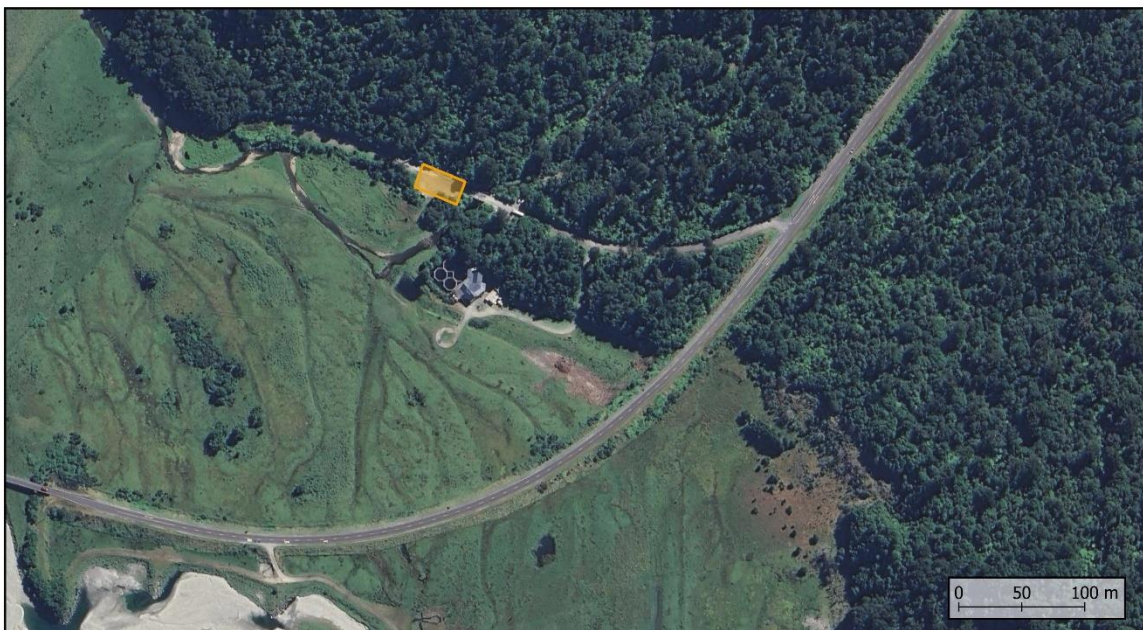
Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024

Franz Josef

Map is indicative only



Figure 22: Franz Josef (Zoomed)



Map Legend:

- Restricted Area
- Prohibited Area
- Parcel Boundary

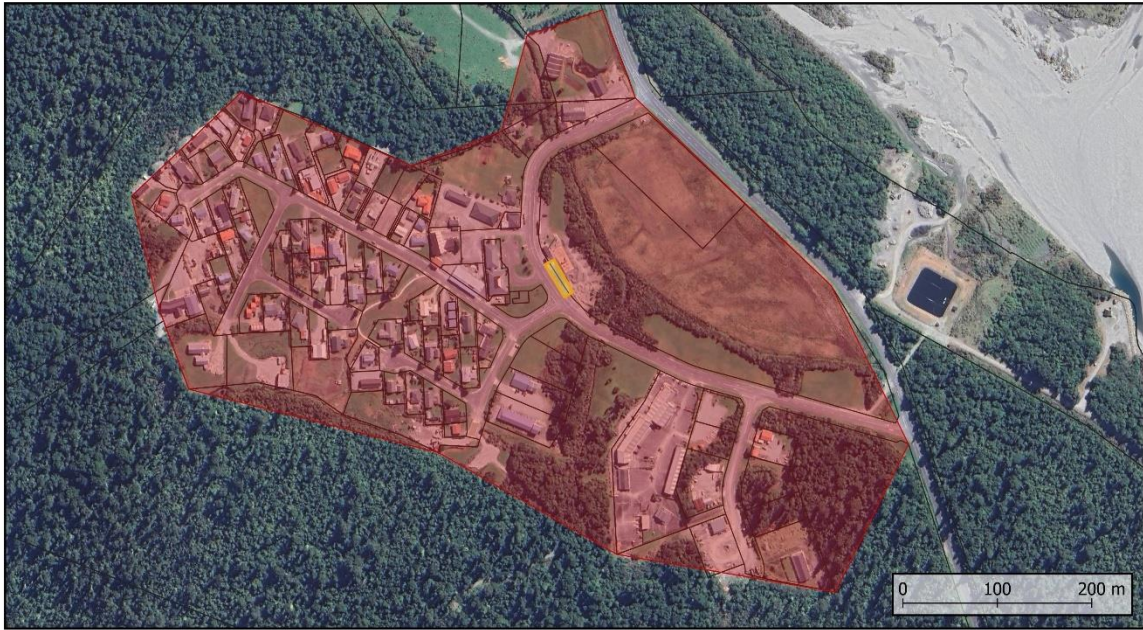
Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024

Paringa

Map is indicative only



Figure 23: Paringa



- Map Legend:**
- Restricted Area
 - Prohibited Area
 - Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024

Haast

Map is indicative only



Figure 24: Haast



- Map Legend:**
- Restricted Area
 - Prohibited Area
 - Parcel Boundary

Freedom Camping Bylaw 2024

Haast

Map is indicative only



Figure 25: Haast (Zoomed)

Summary of site assessments for informing proposed Freedom Camping Bylaw

Summary of site assessments against the criteria within the Freedom Camping Act 2011 to inform a proposed Westland District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw

Introduction

As part of the development of a Freedom Camping Bylaw, Westland District Council (WDC) has collated information on areas relevant to the proposed bylaw to inform where it may be appropriate to prohibit, restrict, or permit freedom camping. This document provides a summary of the full site assessment document developed for this purpose.

Freedom camping is currently permitted by the national legislation, the Freedom Camping Act 2011, using an assessment matrix considered best practice by the Local Government sector. The assessment matrix is used to inform where it may be necessary and appropriate to prohibit or restrict freedom camping according to the following criteria:

1. Protect the area - Consider cultural and historical significance and the natural environment;
2. Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area - Consider levels of vehicular traffic (car parks/lookout points), use for other activities (like sports grounds), and issues of persistent vandalism; and
3. Protect access to the area - Consider damage caused by vehicular access to flora and fauna and the impact that people accessing the site will have on other users of the area.

The sites included in this assessment are Local Authority Areas identified as where there is specific interest in managing freedom camping.

In completing the reviews, Council also considered sites where it may be suitable for freedom camping vehicles which are not self-contained or in tents. All sites included within the assessment fall within local authority areas, which is defined in section 6 (1) of the Act, and is land controlled or managed by or on behalf of Council.

Certain areas have been excluded from this assessment, such as:

- Private land;
- Crown land including conservation land, land managed by Waka Kotahi, and LINZ Land; and
- Inaccessible land.

Assessment of Sites

In total, 17 sites across the District were assessed. Table 1 outlines the freedom camping assessment matrix and Table 2 outlines the assessment of freedom camping sites.

Table 1. Freedom Camping Area Assessment Matrix

Protect the area Consider cultural and historical significance and the natural environment		Protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area Consider levels of vehicular traffic (car parks/lookout points), use for other activities (like sports grounds), and issues of persistent vandalism		Protect access to the area Consider damage caused by vehicular access to flora and fauna and the impact that people accessing the site will have on other users of the area	
Has historical, cultural, or environmental significance and requires full protection	5	Risk to health and safety is too great to allow access to the site, including no vehicle access to, or car parking on, the site	5	No access to the site and any vehicle access would cause significant damage	5
Contains some significant historical, cultural or environmental areas	4	Significant health and safety concerns	4	Restricted access to the site and any vehicle access would cause damage	4
Contains some areas that should be protected	3	Minimal health and safety concerns (risk for the elderly or children)	3	Moderate access to the site and any vehicle access would cause minimal damage	3
Low concerns about areas that need protecting	2	Low concerns regarding health and safety	2	Good access to the site, which would not cause damage	2
No significant area concerns	1	No health and safety concerns	1	Fully formed access to the site	1

Applying the assessment matrix

- Each area is given a score of 1-5 for each of the three criteria.
- If the total score of all three criteria is **9 or more**, restricting or prohibiting freedom camping in the area may be necessary. If the score **for any one of the three criteria is 5**, this also indicates a need to protect the area by prohibiting or restricting freedom camping.
- If the total score of all three criteria is **8 or less** the area is a reserve, and there is an indication that freedom camping may be permitted on the reserve. For the area that have a score of **8 or less**, the tool indicates that it is appropriate for freedom camping to remain permitted.

Table 2. Assessment of Sites

Area Assessed	Current Status	Score		Summary of assessment	Recommendation
Kumara Domain, Kumara	Public Carpark. No freedom camping restriction in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	3 1 1 1	The Kumara Domain is a suitable site for freedom camping with facilities such as waste bins, public toilets, and seating available.	It is recommended that the Kumara Domain be a registered freedom camping site in the Kumara township. It should be noted that the Domain is currently used by the local community as a campsite where donations are required.
Arahura Historic Bridge Reserve, Arahura	Public carpark, No freedom camping restrictions in place	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	8 5 2 1	The Arahura Historic Bridge Reserve is not a suitable site for freedom camping. The carpark is located off State Highway 6.	It is recommended that the Arahura Historic Bridge Reserve area is not allocated as a freedom camping site due to the cultural significance of the area.
Gibson Quay, Hokitika	Public Carpark. No freedom camping restriction in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	9 4 2 3	The Gibson Quay Western Carpark is not a suitable site for freedom camping.	It is recommended that the Gibson Quay area is not allocated as a freedom camping site due to the cultural significance of the area.
Cass Square, Hokitika	Public Carpark. No freedom camping restriction in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	9 4 4 1	The Cass Square South facing carpark is not a suitable site for freedom camping facilities although it has waste bins, public toilets and seating available.	It is recommended that Cass Square is not allocated as a freedom camping site due to the residential nature of the area.
Sunset Point, Hokitika	Public Carpark. No freedom camping restriction in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	7 2 3 2	The Sunset Point Northern carpark is a suitable site for freedom camping with facilities such as waste bins, public toilets and seating available.	It is recommended that the parking area north of the Sunset Point public toilets be a freedom camping site, approx. 12 parks. We recommend that freedom camping be restricted to the hours of 8pm – 7am.
Hokitika Beachfront, Hokitika	Public Carpark. No freedom camping restriction in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	3 1 1 1	The Hokitika Beachfront Southern car park is a suitable site for freedom camping with facilities such as waste bins, public toilets and seating nearby.	It is recommended that the Hokitika Beachfront Southern car park be an allocated site for freedom camping, approx. 12 parks. We recommend that freedom camping be restricted to the hours of 8pm – 7am.

Area Assessed	Current Status	Score	Summary of assessment	Recommendation
Rimu Lookout, Rimu	Public carpark for lookout, No freedom camping restrictions in place	Total: 9 Protect area: 2 Protect H&S: 4 Protect access: 3	The Rimu Lookout was highlighted as not being a suitable freedom camping site due to the small parking area and the dangerous vision entering and existing the lookout.	It is recommended that the Rimu Lookout be included in the restricted zone due to its small parking area and access to Woodstock Rimu Road.
Woodstock Domain, Woodstock	Carpark for Woodstock Domain. Maintained and operated camping site by local community.	Total: 3 Protect area: 1 Protect H&S: 1 Protect access: 1	The Woodstock Domain is a suitable site for freedom camping. It is currently a campground managed by the local community.	It is recommended that the Woodstock Domain be a registered freedom camping site. It should be noted that the Domain is currently used by the local community as campsite where visitors are charged.
Kaniere Domain, Kaniere	Public carpark located along Kaniere road on edge on Domain.	Total: 9 Protect area: 2 Protect H&S: 5 Protect access: 2	The Kaniere Domain carpark was highlighted as not being a suitable freedom camping site due to the level of traffic along Kaniere Road. No facilities such as toilets or waste bins are available.	It is recommended that the Kaniere Domain be included in the prohibited zone due to its location in proximity to Kaniere Road.
Miltown Shelter, Miltown	Public carpark located on West Coast Wilderness Trail	Total: 8 Protect area: 5 Protect H&S: 3 Protect access: 1	The Miltown shelter carpark is not a suitable site for freedom camping although it has public toilets and covered seating. It is located off Miltown Road.	It is recommended that the Miltown shelter carpark not be allocated as a freedom camping area due to the cultural significance of the site.
Ross Hall, Ross	Public carpark, No freedom camping restrictions currently in place.	Total: 9 Protect area: 2 Protect H&S: 3 Protect access: 4	The Ross Hall carpark is not a suitable site for freedom camping. It is located off State Highway 6 and is close to facilities such as waste bins and public toilets.	It is recommended that the Ross Hall carpark not be allocated as a freedom camping site due to the small carparking area and the hall is used for various activities.
Harihari Hall, Harihari	Public carpark next to domain. No freedom camping restrictions currently in place.	Total: 9 Protect area: 2 Protect H&S: 3 Protect access: 4	The Harihari hall carpark between the garden and State Highway 6 provides a small carparking area. This location is within close proximity to the public toilets	It is recommended that the Harihari Hall carpark not be allocated as a freedom camping area due to the small carparking area and the hall is used for various activities.

Area Assessed	Current Status	Score		Summary of assessment	Recommendation
				and waste bins. This is not a suitable freedom camping site.	
Kakapotahi Beach, Kakapotahi	Public carpark, Currently a popular freedom camping site. No restrictions in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	7 2 3 2	The Kakapotahi Beach carpark is a suitable site for freedom camping. It is located off the highway and provides a safe location for campers to park.	It is recommended that the Kakapotahi Beach carpark be a registered freedom camping site. We recommend that freedom camping be restricted to the hours of 8pm – 7am.
Franz Josef Heli Carpark, Franz Josef	Public paid carpark. No freedom camping restriction in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	3 1 1 1	The Franz Josef Heli carpark located off State Highway 6 provides a safe area for freedom campers to park. This location is within close proximity to the public toilets and waste bins.	It is recommended that the Franz Josef Heli carpark be a registered freedom camping site. We recommend that freedom camping be restricted to the hours of 8pm – 7am.
Paringa Salmon Farm, Paringa	Public carpark. Currently popular freedom camping site. No restrictions in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	3 1 1 1	The Paringa Salmon Farm carpark located off State Highway 6 provides a safe area for freedom campers to park. This location includes public toilets.	It is recommended that the Paringa Salmon Farm carpark be a registered freedom camping site. We recommend that freedom camping be restricted to the hours of 8pm – 7am.
Bruce Bay Beach, Bruce Bay	Road reserve, no freedom camping restriction in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	8 5 3 1	The Bruce Bay carpark at the northern end of Bruce Bay is not suitable for freedom camping. The carpark is located off State Highway 6.	It is recommended that the Bruce Bay car park area towards the northern end is not allocated as a freedom camping site due to the cultural significance of the area.
Haast Playground, Haast	Public carpark, No freedom camping restriction in place.	Total: Protect area: Protect H&S: Protect access:	5 1 3 1	The Haast playground carpark is a suitable site for freedom camping with facilities such as waste bins, public toilets and seating available.	It is recommended that the Haast playground carpark have ten allocated carparks to be a registered freedom camping site. We recommend that freedom camping be restricted to the hours of 8pm – 7am.



FREEDOM CAMPING BYLAW 2018

1. **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Westland District Council makes this Bylaw under section 11 of the Freedom Camping Act 2011. This Bylaw should therefore be read alongside the Freedom Camping Act.

This Bylaw should also be read in conjunction with the Westland District Council's Freedom Camping Policy.

2. **TITLE**

This Bylaw is the Westland District Council Freedom Camping Bylaw 2018.

3. **PROCEDURE AND COMMENCEMENT**

The initial resolution adopting a statement of proposal for this Bylaw was passed by the Westland District Council at an extraordinary meeting of the Council held on Thursday 11 October 2018 and, following consideration of submissions received during the special consultative procedure, this Bylaw was made by a resolution at a subsequent meeting of the Council on 29th November 2018.

The Bylaw comes into force on the day after its final approval 30th November 2018.

4. **DEFINITIONS**

In this Bylaw, unless the context requires otherwise:

Act means the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

Camping ground has the meaning given in section 5(3) of the Act.

Council means Westland District Council.

District means the district of the Council.

Enforcement Officer means a person warranted or authorised to act as an enforcement officer under the Act.

Freedom camp has the meaning in section 5(1) and (2) of the Act.

Local authority area has the meaning in section 6 of the Act.

Prohibited area means an area identified in Schedule 1: Prohibited Areas for Freedom Camping in which freedom camping is prohibited.

Restricted area means an area identified in Schedule 2: Restricted Areas for Freedom Camping in which freedom camping is permitted subject to restrictions.

5. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Bylaw is to control freedom camping in the Westland District in order to:

- (a) protect local authority areas;
- (b) protect the health and safety of people who may visit local authority areas;
or
- (c) protect access to local authority areas.

6. LOCAL AUTHORITY AREAS WHERE FREEDOM CAMPING PERMITTED

Freedom camping is permitted in any local authority area within the Westland District unless it is restricted or prohibited in an area:

- (a) in accordance with this Bylaw; or
- (b) under any other enactment.

7. PROHIBITED AREAS AS OUTLINED IN SCHEDULE 1

- (1) A person must not freedom camp in any prohibited area identified in Schedule 1: Prohibited Areas for Freedom Camping.
- (2) Despite subclause (1), a person may freedom camp in any prohibited area if he or she has obtained the prior written consent of the Council, granted under clause 9(1), and complies with any conditions on the consent.

8. RESTRICTED AREAS AS OUTLINED IN SCHEDULE 2

- (1) A person may freedom camp in any restricted area identified in Schedule 2: Restricted Areas for Freedom Camping, but must comply with the restrictions listed below and any additional restrictions listed for that area in Schedule 2:
 - (a) Freedom camping is limited to “Certified Self-Contained Vehicles” in accordance with NZS 5465:2001; and
 - (b) Freedom camping at any one location or within 500m of the same location is limited to no more than two consecutive nights, and no more than 10 nights per 30-day period.
 - (c) Non self-contained freedom camping is prohibited on all land owned and administered by the local authority. Camping is only permitted in areas designated as “Responsible Camping Sites” as provided in Schedule 3 of this Bylaw.
 - (d) Designated “Responsible Camping Sites” are provided free of charge for all persons wishing to freedom camp subject to compliance with Schedule 4, conditions of use.
- (2) Despite subclause (1), a person may freedom camp in any restricted area if he or she has obtained the prior written consent of the Council, granted under clause 9(1), and complies with any conditions on the consent.

9. PRIOR CONSENT FROM COUNCIL

- (1) The Council may grant consent to a person to freedom camp in a prohibited area or a restricted area, with or without conditions.
- (2) Consent must be applied for in writing to the Chief Executive Officer of the Council at least two weeks in advance of the date planned for freedom camping in the prohibited area or restricted area.

10. OFFENCES

- (1) As specified by section 20(1) of the Act, every person commits an offence who –
 - (a) freedom camps in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition, restriction or conditions in this Bylaw that applies to the area; or
 - (b) makes preparations to freedom camp in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition, restriction or conditions in this Bylaw that applies to the area.

- (3) In accordance with section 27 of the Act, an enforcement officer may issue an infringement notice to anyone who the enforcement officer believes on reasonable grounds has committed or is committing an infringement offence as set out in section 20(1) of the Act (A copy of which is included as information only in Schedule 5
- (4) Any person who has obtained the prior written consent of the Council, granted under clause 9(1), and who complies with any conditions on the consent, is not acting in breach of any prohibition or restriction in this Bylaw.

11. PENALTIES

- (1) As specified by section 23(1) of the Act, every person who commits an offence pursuant to section 20(1)(a) and (c) of the Act is liable to a fee of \$200 for each offence.
- (2) Subject to Section 24 of the Act a person who commits an offence may, in addition to, or instead of the penalty for the offence, be ordered to pay the costs incurred by the local authority in repairing any damage done to the local authority area as a result of the offence.

12. Amendment to restricted and prohibited areas.

- (1) The Council may by resolution, publicly notified, add to, amend or alter Schedules 1-4 (One through to four), to include any such area where it is satisfied the additions, amendments or alterations meet the requirements of S11(2) (a)-(c) of the Act

13. RELATIONSHIP OF BYLAW WITH THE NGAI TAHU CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT 1998

This Bylaw does not limit or affect the rights in relation to nohoanga entitlements under the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998.

THE COMMON SEAL of the WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL was affixed in the presence of:

Mayor

SCHEDULE 1: PROHIBITED AREAS FOR FREEDOM CAMPING

Location	Reason(s)
Legal road opposite 6440 Otira Highway, adjacent to Otira Hotel	Protection (kiwi habitat) and safety (link to railway sidings and rail corridor, natural hazards including flooding and landslips)
Serpentine Road and beach, Kumara Junction	Access and safety (narrow road and prone to coastal inundation)
One Mile Line Road, Hokitika	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
Three Mile Beach Access Road, Hokitika	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
Richards Drive west of Revell St, Hokitika	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
Unnamed road between 243 and 245 Revell St, Hokitika	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
Tudor Street beach access west of Revell St, Hokitika	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
Hampden Street beach access west of Revell St, Hokitika	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
Stafford Street west of Revell St, Hokitika	Access (high demand for locals and visitors)
Entirety of Beach Street, Hokitika	Access (high demand for locals and visitors)
Gibson Quay west of Beach Street, Hokitika	Access (high demand for locals and visitors)
Sunset Point, excluding an area yet to be developed to the left of the entry gate, Hokitika	Access (high demand for locals and visitors)
Lake Kaniere Road from the forks to Geologist Creek including Hans Bay and Sunny Bight, Lake Kaniere	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
South Spit Road, Hokitika	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
Shanghai Road beach access west of SH 6, Ruatapu	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)

Location	Reason(s)
Paiere Road, Ruatapu	Access and safety (narrow road, part of West Coast Wilderness Trail)
Butlers Road beach access west of SH6, Ruatapu	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
Ross Cemetery	Protection, access and safety (culturally sensitive site, with narrow, steep access road)
Ross Beach Road, Ross	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road)
Forks-Okarito Road and all of Okarito village except the Domain	Protection, access and safety (Environmentally sensitive site (kiwi habitat), with narrow access road)
SH 6 between McDonald's Creek and Docherty Creek Road	Access and safety (very busy road with poor visibility, uneven road, and flood risk)
Waiho Flat Road, Franz Josef	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road, and flood risk)
Docherty Creek Road, Franz Josef	Access and safety (narrow, uneven road, and flood risk)
Hunts Beach Road, Jacobs River	Protection, access and safety (culturally sensitive site, with narrow access road)
All beach access roads off Haast-Jackson Bay Road, between Haast Beach and Hannah's Clearing, including all roads in Okuru and the entirety of Haast-Jackson Bay Road between Neils Beach and Jackson Bay Wharf	Access and safety (narrow, uneven roads)

Refer to Appendix A for maps of the prohibited areas.

SCHEDULE 2: RESTRICTED AREAS FOR FREEDOM CAMPING

The entire district is subject to the restrictions listed in Section 8 of this bylaw, in order to protect public health and to preserve access by limiting the potential for permanent or semi-permanent occupation by any one vehicle in any particular location.

SCHEDULE 3: DESIGNATED RESPONSIBLE CAMPING SITES.

Location	Map Reference Number
Acre Creek	X 2354955 Y 5844554
Okuku	X 2366266 Y 5831380
Ross	X 2332054 Y 5809553
Beach Road	X 2319590 Y 5802990
Paringa	X 2227717 Y 5716074
Bruce Bay	X 2234882 Y 5727123
Hannahs Clearing	X 2176587 Y 5686913
Jackson Bay	X 2158205 Y 5683588

Refer to Appendix B for maps of the Responsible Camping Areas.

SCHEDULE 4: CONDITIONS OF USE.

All persons freedom camping in designated responsible camping sites provided by the local authority must comply with the following conditions of use;

All sign posted rules situated within the responsible camping sites must be adhered too at all times. This is to include.

- (1) All human waste and refuse must be disposed of in the appropriate manner and within the waste receptacles provided.
- (2) To ensure continued access and use of responsible camping sites, no person shall freedom camp for more than 2 consecutive nights in any one designated site shown in schedule 3
- (3) No person may freedom camp for more than 10 nights in any calendar month within any of the designated sites shown in schedule 3.
- (4) No person is to light any fires except at a fireplace specially provided, or in an appliance designed for outdoor cooking.
- (5) Dogs and our other animals must be restrained at all times and must not cause a disturbance to any other campers.
- (6) No vegetation is to be cut or destroyed.
- (7) The amenity value of all camp users must be respected at all times. This is to include noise and times of travel.

Failure to adhere to this rules may result in fines and removal from the area.

Schedule 5 : Infringement offences in section 20(1) of the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

(This does not form part of the bylaw but is included for information)

20 Offences

- (1) Every person commits an offence who--
 - (a) freedom camps in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in a bylaw made under section 11 that applies to the area; or
 - (b) while freedom camping in a local authority area,--
 - (i) interferes with or damages the area, its flora or fauna, or any structure in the area; or
 - (ii) deposits waste in or on the area (other than into an appropriate waste receptacle); or
 - (c) makes preparations to freedom camp in a local authority area in breach of any prohibition or restriction in a bylaw made under section 11 that applies to the area; or
 - (d) deposits waste, generated while freedom camping, in or on a local authority area other than into an appropriate waste receptacle; or fails or refuses to leave a local authority area when required to do so by an enforcement officer acting under section 36; or refuses to give information when required to do so by an enforcement officer under section 35 or gives false or misleading information;
- (2) In this section, **waste receptacle** means a receptacle or facility that is provided by a local authority or the Department for the purposes of disposing of waste (for example, a rubbish bin, public toilet, or bulk waste disposal unit).

- Appendix A for maps of the prohibited areas.
- Appendix B for maps of Responsible Camping Sites.

Report to Council



DATE: 24 October 2024
TO: Mayor and Councillors
FROM: Acting Group Manager District Assets

ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION PLAN STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL AND WEST COAST REGIONAL WASTE ASSESSMENT.

1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present, for adoption, the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Statement of Proposal and West Coast Regional Waste Assessment.
- 1.2. This issue arises from the requirement of ss 43, 44 and 50 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) for territorial authorities to adopt a waste management and minimisation plan and review it every six (6) years, using the special consultative procedure set out in s 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA).
- 1.3. Council seeks to meet its obligations under the Local Government Act 2002 and the achievement of the District Vision adopted by the Council in June 2024, which are set out in the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/2025. Refer page 2 of the agenda.
- 1.4. This report concludes by recommending that the Council adopt the Statement of Proposal for the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan inclusive of the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment and undertake public consultation under the Local Government Act.

2. Background

- 2.1 The reason the report has come before the Council is due to the Council's approval at the 27 June 2024 Council meeting of the s51 WMA Draft Waste assessment: subject to amending and updating the West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2018 and community consultation. The final version of the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment now includes the Medical Officer of Health's feedback which is a specific requirement to include (as attached in Appendix 2).
- 2.2 Territorial authorities are required by ss 43, 44 and 50 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 to adopt a waste management and minimisation plan and review it every six (6) years, using the special consultative procedure set out in s 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 2.3 The current WMMP was commissioned in 2018 and is due to expire at the end of this year, the new WMMP will be in place from February 2025 to February 2031.
- 2.4 During the past six years there have been significant changes at a national level with the release of Te Rautaki Para, the 2023 New Zealand Waste Strategy, which shows Central Government's commitment to transition to a circular economy. Amendments to the WMMP enables these changes to be reflected in the document.

2.5 Council has worked with Buller District Council and Grey District Council to review and make reverent changes to the plan in line with the legislative requirements in the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, and the New Zealand Waste Strategy.

3. Current Situation

3.1. The current situation is that Tonkin+Taylor have written a Statement of Proposal (SoP) for the draft WMMP and West Coast Regional Waste Assessment that meets the requirements of s 83 of the LGA (**Appendix 1**).

3.2. All three district Councils: Buller, Grey and Westland, will present the SoP to the public for consultation. Each Council will collect and analyse the submissions for their district and arrange any necessary public hearings.

3.3. The SoP has already been adopted by Grey District Council at their meeting on 23 September 2024. Buller District Council will adopt the Draft WMMP and SoP at their Council meeting later this month. All three Councils will use the same SoP to ensure consistent information is being presented to the public and that it meets the requirements of the WMA and LGA.

4. Options

4.1. Option 1: Adopt the Statement of Proposal for the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment, then undertake public consultation under the Local Government Act.

4.2. Option 2: Do not adopt the Statement of Proposal for the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and undertake public consultation under the Local Government Act.

5. Risk Analysis

5.1. Risk has been considered and the following risks have been identified:

5.1.1. Conduct and reputational risk if the Council does not follow legislative requirements.

6. Health and Safety

6.1. Health and Safety has been considered and no items have been identified.

7. Significance and Engagement

7.1. The level of significance has been assessed as being low. This is an administrative matter to begin the Special Consultative Procedure.

7.1.1. Public consultation is essential. If adopted, Consultation will take place from 18 November 2024 – 20 December 2024. All three Councils will undertake consultation at the same time using the same resources for consistency. There will be the opportunity for a public hearing in the new year if submitters request to speak to the Council.

8. Assessment of Options (including Financial Considerations)

8.1. Option 1 – Adopt the Statement of Proposal for the draft WMMP and West Coast Regional Waste Assessment and proceed to undertake public consultation under the Local Government Act.

Adopting the SoP and West Coast Regional Waste Assessment ensures that the same solutions are being discussed and implemented region wide. It will ensure consistency across districts and matches with the regional WMMP.

8.1.1. There are no financial implications to this option.

8.2. Option 2: Do not adopt the Statement of Proposal for the draft WMMP and undertake public consultation under the Local Government Act.

This is not recommended. Council must undertake a consultation process following the approval of the draft WMMP. The inclusion Statement of Proposal and West Coast Regional Waste Assessment allows for easier & clearer dissemination of information to the public.

8.2.1. There are no financial implications to this option.

9. Preferred Option(s) and Reasons

9.1. The preferred option is Option 1 – Adopt the Statement of Proposal for the draft WMMP and West Coast Regional Waste Assessment and proceed to public consultation under the Local Government Act.

9.2. The reason that Option 1 has been identified as the preferred option is that the SoP accurately summarises the information contained in the draft WMMP. This provides the public with an easy way to access the information and to make an informed decision. Inclusion of the West Coast Regional Waste Assessment in this process will provide relevant information so consultation is consistent regionally. Consulting in conjunction with Grey and Buller District Councils will allow the Councils to provide feedback to Tonkin+Taylor without ambiguity or inconsistencies across the districts.

10. Recommendation(s)

10.1. That the report be received.

10.2. Council adopt the Statement of Proposal for the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and West Coast Regional Waste Assessment document then proceed to public consultation.

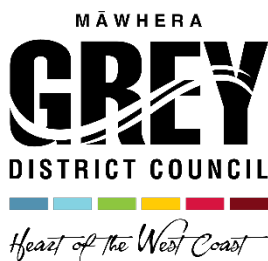
10.3. That the following engagement and consultation will be undertaken: The Statement of Proposal will be open for public submissions from 18 November – 20 December 2024.

Erle Benich

Acting Group Manager District Assets

Appendix 1: Statement of Proposal Draft West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan

Appendix 2: West Coast Regional Waste Assessment



PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Draft West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan

Issued	18 November 2024
Submissions close	20 December 2024

Statement of Proposal

All Councils are required under the Waste Minimisation Act (WMA) 2008 to consider the current situation with regards to waste minimisation and management in their area and set out how they will progress efficient and effective waste management and minimisation.

This process is documented in a **Waste Assessment** and future direction and actions are set out in a **Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (WMMP)**.

The last Waste Assessment for the West Coast region (covering all three districts) was carried out in 2018 and final WMMP was adopted by the Buller, Grey and Westland Districts in 2018 (following public consultation).

As per sections 43 and 44 of the Waste Minimisation Act (WMA) 2008 Waste Assessments and WMMPs are required to be reviewed and adopted every six years.

Why is this being proposed?

Requirements for Territorial Authorities

A joint WMMP is an efficient and effective way for Councils to complete strategic planning enabling a collaborative approach for Waste Minimisation and Management as a region. Continuing the approach adopted in 2018 Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils have elected to proceed with a regional approach for the required review.

The Waste Assessment prepared in 2018 evaluated current quantities and composition of waste and diverted materials in the district, existing services, future demand for services and practicable options for addressing the various waste and diverted materials streams. The 2024 Waste Assessment reviews and updates the 2018 analysis to reflect the changes that have occurred locally, regionally and nationally since 2018 and also to meet the requirements of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

A WMMP must contain a summary of Council's waste management and minimisation objectives, policies, methods and funding to achieve effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the district. The WMMP must also include a commitment to waste minimisation through consideration of the waste hierarchy and must have regard to the New Zealand Waste Strategy and the most recent Waste Assessment undertaken by the three district councils in the region. In addition, Councils must ensure the protection of public health, and that nuisance is not caused by the collection, transport and disposal of waste.

The **West Coast Regional Waste Assessment** describes the waste situation, sets out vision, goals objectives and targets for the Region and develops options for meeting future demand.

The draft **West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (WMMP)** summarises the information presented in the Waste Assessment and adds an action plan.

The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) outlines what Te rautaki para, the national Waste Strategy, means for the West Coast and proposes the region's approach to delivering waste management and minimisation services. The Plan has been designed to meet each Council's obligations to evaluate and plan for waste minimisation and management in their district under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

The Plan covers the whole of the West Coast and reflects a regional approach to minimising waste through regional collaboration. All solid waste whether it is landfilled or diverted material is considered in this Plan, which includes items being reused, recycled, or composted. Liquid and gas wastes are managed through other policies are not in the scope of this Plan.

Aotearoa New Zealand legislative influence

Legislation and policy surrounding waste management and minimisation continues to evolve in Aotearoa New Zealand with the aim to transition us to a circular economy where materials being sent to landfill are viewed as a valuable resource. Since the 2018 WMMP was published central government have published additional policy which influences the content of the West Coast Regional WMMP. An overview of these changes are detailed below:

Te rautaki para | Waste Strategy (2023)

Te rautaki para | Waste Strategy is the core policy document setting the future direction of waste management and minimisation in Aotearoa New Zealand. The vision of the strategy commits Aotearoa New Zealand to a low-emissions, low-waste, Circular Economy by 2050 with a set of guiding principles. The strategy provides an increased focus on:

- taking responsibility and providing equitable outcomes;
- The Circular Economy, and wider systems approaches (across sectors and beyond waste only);
- Reducing what waste is generated (all waste and recycling material that enters the waste system) and disposed (landfilled); and
- Reducing emissions from waste.

As a result of this strategy coming into effect the regions WMMP should reflect this direction through the actions established.

Kerbside standardisation (2023)

As part of the workplan/priorities laid out in Te rautaki para | Waste Strategy kerbside standardisation aims to ensure consistent waste and recycling services are offered across all districts in Aotearoa New Zealand. The transition to standardise services will also require all districts and regions provide a kerbside organics collection to households in urban areas by 2030 and establish minimum standards for diverting waste from landfill. As such these changes were required to be incorporated into the WMMP to establish an action plan for the region to meet these requirements.

Waste Levy Expansion

For every tonne of waste disposed to landfill, a levy is applied and collected by MfE. Since 1 July 2021, the landfill waste disposal levy has been progressively increased and expanded to include a wider range of disposal facilities with further increases scheduled through to 2027. With waste becoming more expensive to dispose of alternatives through reuse and recovery of materials are becoming increasingly attractive for households and businesses. Approaches to providing or enabling these alternatives are detailed as actions in the WMMP.

Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) (2022)

In May 2022 the national Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) was released. The ERP sets out the planned targets and objectives for climate action over the next 15 years. The plan aims to enable a transition to a low-emissions, climate resilient future for Aotearoa New Zealand. As the first of its kind, the Government is placing new requirements on the councils to reduce their emissions from waste with particular focus on

emissions from organic materials and landfill gas. A significant opportunity for local government to reduce emissions is to offer a food scraps collection service by 2030 in line with the kerbside standardisation programme of work. This is reflected in the proposed actions in the WMMP.

What is being proposed?

The 2024 Regional Waste Assessment has identified that over 19,000 tonnes of waste was generated in the West Coast Region in 2022. Around 60% of this waste was sent to landfill, with the remainder diverted, either by recycling or composting. This diversion occurs predominantly through recycling at kerbside and transfer stations and recovery of green waste for mulch or compost.

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

The Waste Assessment has identified a range of challenges and opportunities related to waste management and minimisation to be addressed through the WMMP. These include:

Challenge	Opportunity
Affordability of meeting the future national targets is an increasing challenge for the West Coast councils, partly due to low population density.	Explore options to collaborate with Iwi, community groups, industry and neighbouring regions.
Inconsistent waste data available across the region (e.g. contamination in kerbside recycling, illegal dumping incidents, reuse of materials).	Streamlining data collection across all Council services. Leveraging national policy change such as alignment with national standardisation of what is collected for recycling.
High quantities of waste are being sent to landfill from the region.	There is considerable opportunity to increase the capture of materials (specifically paper, plastic, metals, and organic materials) for diversion. Streamlining kerbside collections with all Councils offering the same service, and planning for new services as required, in line with the national kerbside standardisation.
Inconsistent information available across the three districts regarding waste services available, education and system performance.	Increasing the availability of information regarding waste diversion, infrastructure, and current performance to rate payers and members of the public online and in other methods to increase buy-in. Education and behaviour change are important to reduce the generation of materials, enhance the use of existing infrastructure, improve the capture of materials for recycling and recovery, address contamination in recycling and illegal dumping.
Engagement with high waste generating industries.	Focus on sectors likely to generate more waste in the future including: – Agricultural waste – ensuring farmers make informed decisions on waste management and appropriate services for their sector. – Mining waste – considering the increases in waste volumes and types from the industry.
Reporting of emissions associated with waste services and management does not currently take place. As part of the National Strategy	Establish a process and start to collect baseline data to inform decision making.

Challenge	Opportunity
tracking of this data will need to start taking place.	
Waste from tourism is expected to increase.	Work to support the procurement of goods and consumables from tourism providers and careful planning around communication and infrastructure available to tourists to encourage diversion of waste is essential to successful recovery in the region, in particular Westland.

The overall vision of the WMMP is:

“By 2030, our enabling systems are working well, and behaviour is changing.”

PROPOSED TARGETS

A series of waste minimisation and management targets, reflecting national targets where relevant, are proposed:

Target	Unit	2018	2022/23	Regional Target	
Waste generation	Reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	385.51	494	445 by 2030
Waste to landfill	Reduce the total waste tonnes per capita going to landfill by 30% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	299.76	402	282 by 2030
	Reduce the total waste tonnes per dwelling going to landfill from the Council kerbside collection by 30% per person by 2030*	kg per dwelling per annum	575.63	573	401
Diversion of waste	Increase the amount of household waste diverted to recycling (Council provided kerbside collection only, excludes green waste) *	% diversion from landfill	37%	33%	30% by July 2026 40% by July 2028 50% by July 2030
	Reduce contamination of Council provided kerbside recycling.	% contamination	N/A	31%	TBC
Waste emissions	Increase organics capture at transfer station and kerbside (%) * Organics capture includes food, garden, and timber waste streams.	% diversion from landfill	N/A	4%	30% capture of organic material by 2030
	Reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by 2030 (CO ₂ e) *	% reduction of biogenic methane	N/A	TBC ¹	30% reduction
Customer satisfaction	Percentage of community satisfied with the solid waste service.	% satisfaction	N/A	72 – 82%	> 85% satisfaction
	Total number of complaints received about the Council’s solid waste service	No. of complaints annually	N/A	N/A	< 50 complaints annually
Environmental health	Maintain 100 per cent compliance with resource consent conditions for Council-operated solid waste district facilities.	% compliance	100%	100%	100% compliance

¹ Councils are awaiting guidance from central government on the calculation of biogenic methane emissions from waste before a baseline is confirmed for the region.

and safety					
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PROPOSED ACTION PLAN

To address the challenges and opportunities identified and meet the targets, the three district councils in the region propose a range of actions. These actions are underpinned by policy, infrastructure and education. In all cases the focus is on enabling the West Coast community to reduce the waste generated before managing their waste according to the waste hierarchy, preferring reducing, rethinking and redesigning before reuse, repair and repurpose before 'conventional' waste management options are introduced (recycle, compost, recover, dispose).

The actions within the WMMP relate to both continuing and enhancing existing activities and starting new activities and initiatives.

All district councils have a role to play with the delivery of the actions in the WMMP. These range from advocating to central government and promoting services through to being an enabler for community and industry groups to collaborate for better outcomes for the West Coast.

The Action Plan includes actions focusing on waste minimisation and management infrastructure, education of the West Coast community and getting the right policy framework in place.

CREATING PARTNERSHIPS ACTIONS

Industry waste – Advocate and facilitate sector groups (e.g. C&D, Agricultural waste groups) to discuss problems and explore solutions. Utilise resources outside of the region and connect with other regional sector groups (e.g. Tradie Breakfast).

Contamination in kerbside – Collaborate with central government, local government, and non-government organisations to assess solutions to reduce contamination and explore opportunities for the West Coast to improve waste management. This could include joining nationwide forums e.g. WasteMINZ TAO Forum or connecting with the Sustainable Business Network.

Industry waste – Investigate and facilitate collaboration opportunities across the region with iwi, industry, businesses, community groups, utilising activities that are already established e.g., virtual/in person networking events, Council gardens etc.

COMMUNICATE AND SHARE CIRCULAR ECONOMY INITIATIVES ACTIONS

Reduce generation – Utilise council websites to link to existing resources to help plan and manage material management e.g. BRANZ and REBRI for the construction sector.

Contamination in kerbside – Develop an educational programme of work focusing on behaviour change and information sharing to the community.

Contamination in kerbside – Utilise and/or build on national waste and behaviour change campaigns and/or collateral to promote waste diversion.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS

Contamination in kerbside – Develop solid waste bylaw to strengthen enforcement.

Information and education – Investigate whether a grant for waste and resource recovery activities in the region can be developed between Councils.

Reduce generation – Tourism Levy implemented for those staying in the region to cover the costs of infrastructure including waste assets and management.

PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP ACTIONS

Information and education – Advocate for action and research promoting the top of the waste hierarchy (e.g. Product Stewardship Schemes, Right to Repair legislation, and research into recovery options for difficult to manage waste streams).

Industry waste – Investigate whether Council want to facilitate Product Stewardship Schemes at their transfer stations e.g. Tyrewise collection point when the programme opens, promoting the programmes to encourage uptake.

Reduce generation – Continue to support and promote product stewardship schemes through existing transfer stations where appropriate.

MAKING DIVERSION EASY ACTIONS

Streamline data collection – Align services available at transfer stations across the region.

Reduce generation – Investigate alternative options to manage waste streams/materials which take up most volume in the regions landfills and transfer stations.

Reduce generation – Review the results from C&D feasibility study to assess the best options for C&D recovery in the region (subject to feasibility study).

Reduce generation – Review the results from organics feasibility study to assess the best options for organic recovery in the region in line with central governments indicated direction.

Reduce generation – Investigate the volumes and impacts of waste from tourism, which can feed into a feasibility study for how to manage waste from tourism in the region.

RESILIENCE ACTIONS

Environmental impacts – Develop resilience plans for current waste infrastructure and services. This could include collaborating with Civil Defence and other organisations to develop a regional Disaster Waste Management Plan. This will ensure processes in place for managing waste associated with natural disasters, and waste from earthquake prone buildings.

Environmental impacts – Investigate the feasibility of a regional Disposal Facility/Landfill that could service the entire region.

Council will fund these actions through a combination of targeted rates, user pays fees and charges, waste levy funding and contestable funds.

The above actions are intended to provide a wide ranging approach to waste services in the West Coast Region to protect public health promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation.

Where to find more information

The draft Regional Waste Assessment and draft Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan (WMMP) can be collected from any of the Council's service and community Centres, from Council's main offices or downloaded from the each of the Council's websites.

Council	Westland District Council	Grey District Council	Buller District Council
Web address	www.westlanddc.govt.nz	www.greydc.govt.nz	www.bullerdc.govt.nz
Main office	36 Weld Street, Hokitika	105 Tainui St, Greymouth	6-8 Brougham St, Westport
Telephone	03 756 9010	03 769 8600	03 788 9111

How to have your say

We want to hear feedback from our communities on the draft West Coast Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan. **Key questions** include:

1. Do you agree with the Council's vision for waste minimisation and management?
2. Have the Councils set the right targets for waste minimisation and management?
3. Councils regularly consider a range of options for managing waste that cannot be reused or recycled. What are the key considerations Council should take into account?
4. The draft Regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan commits Councils to considering a range of additional activities. What would you support being introduced in the West Coast Region?

We want to hear from as many people as possible before a decision is made, so please have your say today.

All submissions must be in writing. Submissions can be made by completing the easy online **survey** or by filling out survey forms available from each Council. Refer to your Council website for full details.

You are welcome to speak in person in support of your submission – if you wish to do this, please clearly indicate this in your submission. Submissions will be heard and considered at a hearing in January 2025 – final date to be confirmed.

Submissions close at **5pm on Friday 20 December 2024**

Every submission made to the Council will be acknowledged in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002, copied and made available to the public.



West Coast Regional Waste Assessment

Prepared for: Buller District Council, Grey District Council, and Westland District Council

Prepared by: Tonkin & Taylor Ltd

Date: August 2024

Job Number:1003647.7000

Document Control

Title: Project Name					
Date	Version	Description	Prepared by:	Reviewed by:	Authorised by:
15/05/2024	1	First draft of Part 1 and Part 2 for Council review	Adrienne Kozlowski, Hannah Kelly	Chris Purchas	
04/06/2024	2	Second draft for Council review	Adrienne Kozlowski, Hannah Kelly	Chris Purchas	
05/08/2024	3	Addressing comments from Council and Councillors	Adrienne Kozlowski	Hannah Kelly	Chris Purchas

This report has been prepared for the exclusive use of our client Buller District Council, with respect to the particular brief given to us and it may not be relied upon in other contents or for any other purpose, or by any person other than our client, without our prior written agreement.

Contact details:

Website: www.tonkintaylor.co.nz

Address: Level 3, 161 Victoria Street, Wellington, 6011

Tonkin & Taylor Ltd

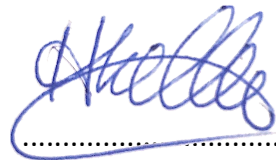
Environmental and Engineering Consultants

Report prepared by:



.....
Adrienne Kozlowski
Resource Recovery Consultant

Report prepared by:



.....
Hannah Kelly
Project Manager

Authorised for Tonkin & Taylor Ltd by:



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Chris Purchas
Project Director

Executive Summary

Current situation

2022/23 waste quantities (tonnes)			
	Landfill 	Recovery 	Regional recovery
Transfer station	10,887	1,085	9%
Kerbside	5,375	1,794	33%

Key legislation and policy

- Waste Strategy – Te rautaki para
- Waste Minimisation Act
- Emissions Reduction Plan

What is working well?

- Enviroschools campaign
- Kerbside collections
- Access to services

What required improvement?

- Understanding of waste from tourism sector
- Regional diversion from landfill
- Organic material recovery
- Alignment in services across the region
- Consistent data collection

Where do we want to be?

Vision:

“By 2030, our enabling systems are working well, and behaviour is changing”

Goal 1

The building blocks are in place to enable change.

Goal 2

More activity is circular, and we produce less waste.

Goal 3

Emissions and other environmental indicators are improving.

How do we get there?

- Creating partnership with iwi, industry, businesses and community groups.
- Making diversion easy by investing in recovery of organic materials (food, garden and timber waste).
- Supporting circular processes (product stewardship schemes).
- Advocating central government for change to encourage circular systems (keeping materials in cycle for as long as possible).
- Continue developing our behaviour change education.
- Working on the resilience of our waste services.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This Waste Assessment establishes the planning foundations for the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) that will be prepared for Buller District Council (BDC), Grey District Council (GDC) and Westland District Council (WDC), referred to herein as ‘the Councils.’

The Waste Assessment describes the current waste situation, sets the vision, goals, objectives, and targets for the districts, and develops options for meeting future demand. The outputs from this Waste Assessment will be summarised in the final regional WMMP.

It also positions the Councils to adequately protect public health by providing facilities for the safe recovery and disposal of waste. A statement from the Medical Officer of Health is provided at the conclusion of this document.

This Waste Assessment and the subsequent WMMP meet each Council’s obligations to evaluate and plan for waste minimisation and management in their district under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA).

While a WMMP must be reviewed every six years, this assessment takes a much longer-term view. This recognises local government long term planning approaches and that decisions on contracts for services (typically 10 years or more) and infrastructure investment (with a service life of 20-50 years) span many years.

This Waste Assessment covers solid waste generated within the boundaries of the Councils and will take a regional approach. The focus is on materials entering the waste management system (kerbside or transfer station collection, processing, and disposal).



1.2 Waste Assessment Structure

This waste assessment has three parts:

Part 1 – Where are we now?

This covers policy and legislative context, the current waste situation including waste flows, infrastructure, services and forecast of future demand. This will be summarised in the WMMP.

Part 2 – Where do we want to be?

This includes the vision, goals, objectives, and targets for the Waste Assessment, which will form part of the WMMP.

Part 3 – How are we going to get there?

This part identifies options and assesses the suitability of each option (as required by Section 51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008) and includes a summary of the outcome of consultation with the Medical Officer of Health. The preferred options from the Part 3 assessment will be presented in the WMMP.

1.3 What must a WMMP address?

A WMMP must contain a summary of the Councils' objectives, policies and targets for waste management and minimisation. The plan should clearly communicate how the Councils will deliver on these objectives.

Section 43 of the WMA states that a WMMP must provide for:

- Objectives and policies for achieving effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the territorial authority's district.
- Methods for achieving effective and efficient waste management and minimisation within the territorial authority's district, including:
 - collection, recovery, recycling, treatment, and disposal services for the district to meet its current and future waste management and minimisation needs (whether provided by the territorial authority or otherwise).
 - any waste management and minimisation facilities provided, or to be provided, by the territorial authority.
 - any waste management and minimisation activities, including any educational or public awareness activities, provided, or to be provided, by the territorial authority.
- How implementing the plan is to be funded; and
- If the territorial authority wishes to make grants or advances of money in accordance with Section 47, the framework for doing so.
- In addition, a WMMP must have regard to the waste hierarchy, the Waste Strategy, and a Council's most recent Waste Assessment (this document).

Part 1

The Current Situation

2 New Zealand legislative context

Legislation surrounding waste management and minimisation continues to evolve in New Zealand. This section offers a summary of relevant legislation, policy and central government activity in 2024. The dark squares in Figure 2.1 are covered in detail within this section, the lighter squares are important considerations for Councils and the main elements of these legislative requirements are further detailed in Appendix A.

Te rautaki para Waste Strategy 2023	Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (under review)	Local Government Act 2002
Climate Change Response Act 2002	Emissions Reduction Plan 2022	Resource Management Act 1991 (under review)
National Kerbside Standardisation	Waste Disposal Levy Expansion	District Bylaws
Product Stewardship	National Plastics Action Plan	Container Return Scheme

Figure 2.1: Relevant waste legislation, policy, and activity.

2.1 Te Rautaki Para | Waste Strategy 2023

Te Rautaki Para Waste Strategy (2023) is the Government’s core policy document concerning the future direction of waste management and minimisation in New Zealand. The vision of the Waste Strategy commits New Zealand to a low-emissions, low-waste, circular economy by 2050.

The strategy includes three national targets to achieve by 2030.

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

Alongside the targets, key parts of the strategy that the West Coast may need to plan for include:

- Implications from regulated product stewardship schemes.
- Data collection and reporting requirements.
- Resource recovery infrastructure network (local and national).
- Behaviour change programmes (local and national).
- Contaminated land and remediation.

The aspirations of Te Rautaki Para Waste Strategy are underpinned by several acts, including:

- Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (under review)
- Local Government Act 2002

- Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996
- Climate Change Response Act 1996
- Resource Management Act 1991 (under review)
- Litter Act 1979 (under review)

There is some uncertainty about what the future legislative framework will look like given a number of these acts are under review. This includes proposals relating to nationally coordinated investment in infrastructure, clearer obligations for producers of waste (households and businesses) and specified services such as food waste collection from households.

Section 44 of the Waste Minimisation Act requires councils to have regard to the waste strategy when preparing their WMMP.

2.2 Kerbside standardisation

Early in 2023, the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) announced a move to standardise kerbside recycling across the country as part of the workplan/priorities laid out in Te Rautaki Para. This announcement signalled:

- A **standardised set of recyclable materials** will be collected from households in urban areas (i.e., towns of 1000 people or more), this was implemented 1st February 2024.
- **Kerbside organics collections** be available to households in all urban areas by 2030.

- **Minimum standards for diverting waste from landfill** would apply to councils, with reporting requirements for private waste companies.
- Businesses would be required to separate food scraps from general waste by 2030.

The announcement was followed by a Gazette Notice released on 13 September 2023. The Gazette Notice sets out the first tranche of performance standards¹ related to standardisation of materials collected for recycling at the kerbside. The standard set of materials to be collected are:

- Glass bottles and jars
- Paper and cardboard
- Plastic bottles, trays, and containers 1, 2, and 5
- Aluminium and steel tins and cans

As of 1 February 2024, the collection of standard materials applies to all councils that collect kerbside recycling, food scraps or food and garden organics (FOGO) from households and that include such services in their Waste Minimisation and Management Plans (WMMPs).

The notice also applies to private waste companies that collect household kerbside recycling or organic waste on behalf of councils. The notice does not apply to transfer stations, community recycling centres, other drop-off recycling schemes or private waste

¹ Standard materials for kerbside collections Notice 2023 (Notice No. 1) [2023-go4222].

companies and social enterprises that operate collections independently of councils.

The Gazette Notice also signalled that further regulations under Section 48 of the Waste Minimisation Act will be developed and that these regulations would:

- Ensure kerbside recycling services are provided to households in urban areas by 2027.
- Make kerbside organics collection services available to households in all urban areas by 2030.

The need for businesses to also separate food scraps from general waste by 2030, as signalled in the original announcement, is likely to be considered as part of the broader waste legislation review process.

The lack of clarity regarding the timing of some of these proposals creates a degree of uncertainty for councils. However, Te Rautaki Para clearly sets out a pathway towards a more circular economy.

2.3 Waste Disposal Levy Expansion

For every tonne of waste disposed to landfill, a levy is applied and collected by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE). Since 1 July 2021, the landfill waste disposal levy has been progressively increased and expanded (Figure 2.2). Government signalled further increases in the 2024 Budget with the levy on Class 1 landfills increasing to \$75 by July 2027 through 3 \$5 increases. The same will apply to construction and demolition fill (\$45 by 2027) and

managed or control fill (\$20 by 2027). The waste disposal levy is equally shared between councils (city and district) and the waste minimisation fund.

The Government also announced changes to the way the waste disposal levy can be spent. Previously the funding allocated to councils was required be spent on promoting or achieving the waste minimisation activities set out in their waste management and minimisation plans.

The scope of projects which can now be funded through the Waste Disposal Levy will be expanded to include a wider range of projects supporting the environment and climate change mitigation and adaptation in addition to minimising waste. These projects can include costs associated with disposal of waste generated by an emergency such as a cyclone, and to clean up contaminated sites and landfills vulnerable to severe weather events – before they cause a problem.

Territorial authorities received waste levy refunds based on levy collected, levy refunded, and their district’s population.² The Waste Levy distribution over the last five quarters is shown in Section 4.

The increase in the Waste Disposal Levy provides an opportunity for the region to increase investment in waste minimisation and broader environmental protection activities. However, due to the review of the Waste Minimisation Act, and projected population decline for the region, there is uncertainty on how much levy revenue will be available to the region.

² [Territorial authorities and the waste disposal levy | Ministry for the Environment.](#)

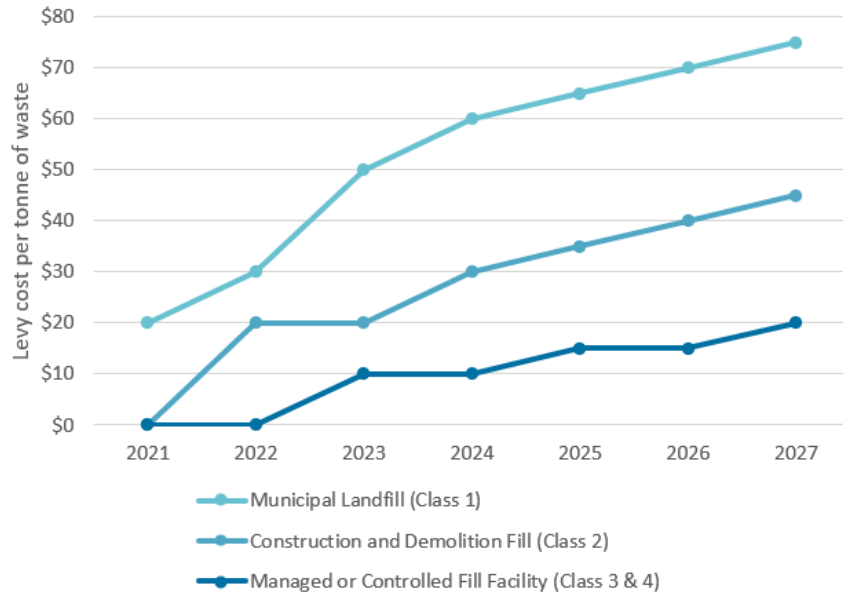


Figure 2.2: Waste Disposal Levy expansion.

2.4 Container Return Scheme

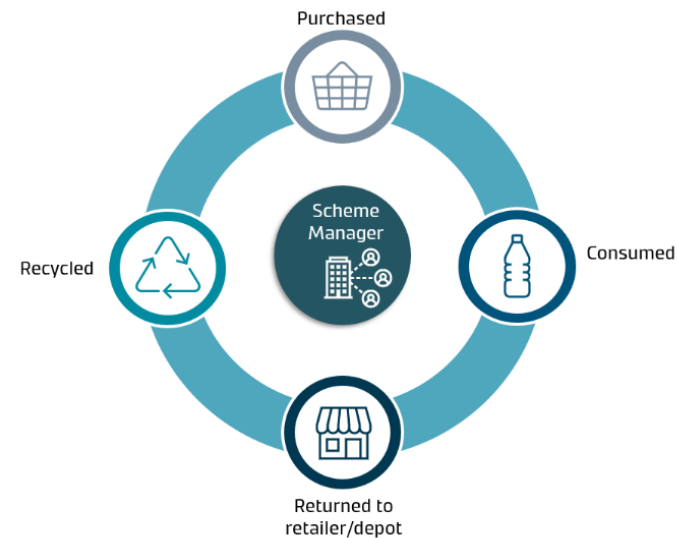


Figure 2.3: New Zealand Container Return Scheme model (figure adapted from Ministry for the Environment).

Alongside kerbside standardisation announcements in early 2023, the Government deferred the introduction of a **national beverage container return scheme (CRS)**. Container return schemes encourage consumers and businesses to return beverage containers (e.g., bottles, cans etc) for recycling and/or re-use. They do this by including a refundable deposit (e.g., 20-cents or more) in the price of purchase.

While the scheme has been deferred it has not been abandoned. Depending on design, any future CRS may have an impact on the

quantity of containers collected through kerbside recycling services and drop-off locations including transfer stations and may significantly increase the value of some collected materials. The current design of the deferred CRS is illustrated in Figure 2.3: New Zealand Container Return Scheme model (figure adapted from Ministry for the Environment)..

2.5 Emissions Reduction Plan

In May 2022, the national **Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP)** was released. The ERP sets out the planned targets and objectives with an initial focus on the period from 2022 to 2025. The plan aims to enable a transition to a low-emissions, climate resilient future for Aotearoa New Zealand. As the first of its kind, the government is placing new requirements on councils to reduce their emissions from waste with particular focus on emissions from organic materials and landfill gas. A significant action for local government to reduce emissions is to offer a food scraps collection service by 2030 in line with the kerbside standardisation program of work.

Planning is now underway on the second emissions reduction plan. This will cover the emission budget for the years 2026 to 2030.

2.6 International Commitments

New Zealand is party to the following key international agreements that are of relevance to waste minimisation and management:

- **Montreal Protocol** – to protect the ozone layer by phasing out the production of ozone-depleting substances.
- **Basel Convention** – to reduce the movement of hazardous wastes between nations.

- **Stockholm Convention** – to eliminate or restrict the production and use of persistent organic pollutants.
- **Waigani Convention** – bans export of hazardous or radioactive waste to Pacific Islands Forum countries.

New Zealand has also joined other countries in supporting the launch of negotiations towards a new treaty to combat plastic pollution. This legally binding treaty is expected to be negotiated by the end of 2024. After negotiation, countries will go through their own treaty-making processes to determine whether they will sign up to the treaty.

2.7 Impact for West Coast

As discussed earlier in this section, Te Rautaki Para clearly sets out a pathway towards a more circular economy and the legislation surrounding waste management are likely to reflect this. The key impacts of this shift that the West Coast will need to plan for are:

- Ensuring Council is positioned to align with kerbside standardisation regulations within the timeframes outlined by MfE.
- Planning for how the increase in waste levy funding will be allocated.
- Accounting for, and future proofing, waste management infrastructure to adapt to changes in material quantities resulting from any CRS or product stewardship.

3 Our region

3.1 Our region

This Waste Assessment and the resulting WMMP have been prepared within the unique local and regional context of the West Coast. The actions and objectives identified in the Waste Assessment and WMMP reflect, intersect with, and are expressed through other planning documents. Key planning documents and other factors influencing waste management and minimisation are discussed in this section.

The West Coast region spans approximately 23,245 km² of mainly rural land.

The region is made up of three districts (Buller District, Grey District and Westland District), with three key towns: Greymouth, Westport, and Hokitika. A summary of the population spread, and expected growth, is provided in Figure 3.1.

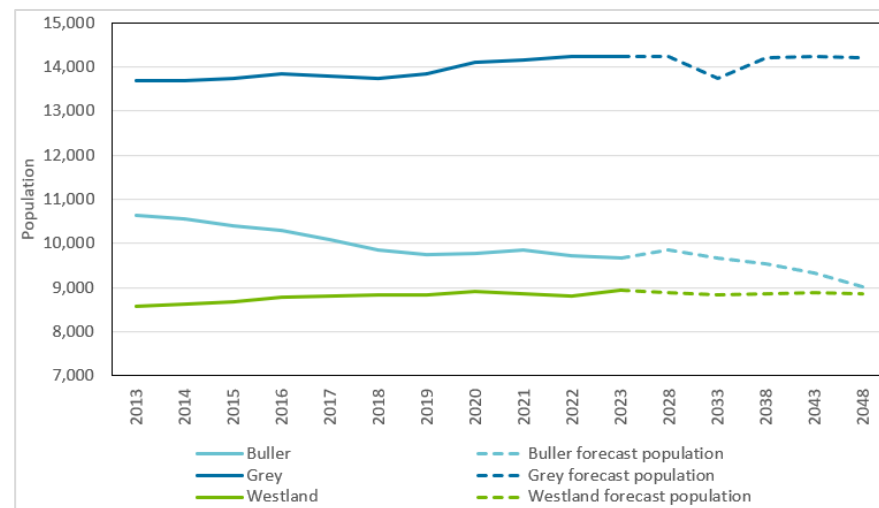


Figure 3.1: Population spread and expected growth in the West Coast.

Population

West Coast Region is home to a population of 32,700 (2023 estimate)³ making it the least populous region in Aotearoa. The population is projected to reduce to 30,000 by 2048.⁴

Looking at the population characteristics⁵, key areas to note are:

- West Coast's population tends to be older than the national average. The current median age across the region is 47.2 years.

³ <https://figure.nz/chart/qYPftr1JzsKFLy4b-SXfyuF28vKbvz5E9> data from Stats NZ.

⁴ <https://figure.nz/chart/qYPftr1JzsKFLy4b-SXfyuF28vKbvz5E9> data from Stats NZ, based on 2018 data.

⁵ <https://ecoprofile.infometrics.co.nz/West%20Coast%20Region/PDFProfile#h29>.

- The birth rate in the region is expected to decline by 7% on average year on year from current levels, with the death rate increasing by 9% on average year on year. This is leading to an aging population within the region.
- As seen in Figure 3.2, the region’s population is set to steadily decrease, meanwhile, visitor numbers are set to increase as discussed in the Tourism section below.

Marae/iwi

There are three iwi that span across the West Coast region: Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, and Ngāti Rārua. Ngāti Waewae, a sub-tribe of Ngāi Tahu, are mana whenua for Te Tai o Poutini from Kahurangi Point, to the north bank of the Hokitika River.⁶ Ngāi Tahu lands cover much of the South Island and are New Zealand’s largest single tribal territory.⁷

From 2018 Census data, 11.7% of the West Coast population identify as Māori.⁸

Each Council has Māori representation:

- Buller: Non-elected Māori Portfolio Councillor
- Grey: Iwi representative
- Westland: Two iwi representatives

⁶ [Mō Mātou | About Us | Ko Arahura te awa | Ngāti Waewae – Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae \(ngatiwaewae.org.nz\)](#).

⁷ [Ngāi Tahu – Te Ara Encyclopaedia of New Zealand](#).

⁸ [Place Summaries | West Coast Region | Stats NZ](#).

Industry

Key industries contributing to the West Coast’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) include electricity, gas, water, and waste services (14% of GDP, 2023), agriculture, forestry, and fishing (13.8% of GDP, 2023), and mining (8.4% of GDP, 2023).⁹

The top three farm types in the West Coast are dairy cattle farming, beef cattle farming and forestry. There are two locations for meat processing in the region – ANZCO Foods Kokiri, and Silver Ferns Farms Hokitika. Another significant driver of economic activity is Westland Milk Products, which has a new lactoferrin plant being constructed at a facility based in Hokitika.¹⁰ This new plant adds to powder and butter manufacturing at the site.

Mining is the key industry where the West Coast Region shows a strong comparative advantage.¹¹ The West Coast has a range of existing and potential mining projects, which includes projects recently consented near Westport, or working through the consent process north of Greymouth.

In early 2024, a number of mining consent applications have been submitted within the West Coast including a renewed application

⁹ [west-coast-region-economic-profile-2023.pdf](#) page 4.

¹⁰ <https://www.westland.co.nz/news/70m-west-coast-investment-to-secure-westland-as-global-dairy-leader/>.

¹¹ [west-coast-region-economic-profile-2023.pdf](#) page 8.

(since approved) for a mineral sands mine north of Greymouth¹² and a mineral sand mining application near Westport.¹³

With increasing growth in these industries, it is important for the region to consider management of waste resulting from mining activities including maintenance of heavy equipment, general consumables (PPE, packaging) and waste from supporting commercial activity alongside agricultural waste products. All of these waste streams will contribute to waste requiring recycling or landfill disposal.

Tourism

The West Coast is an ideal location for tourism and has an increasing number of tourists visiting every year, particularly between the months of November and April (as seen in Figure 3.2.¹⁴ In 2023, there was an average of 160,000 visitors to the region each month, which is greater than four times the number of residents passing through the region monthly.

Key hotspots for tourists include Greymouth, Westport, Hokitika, Fox Glacier, Franz Josef Glacier, and Reefton.¹⁵

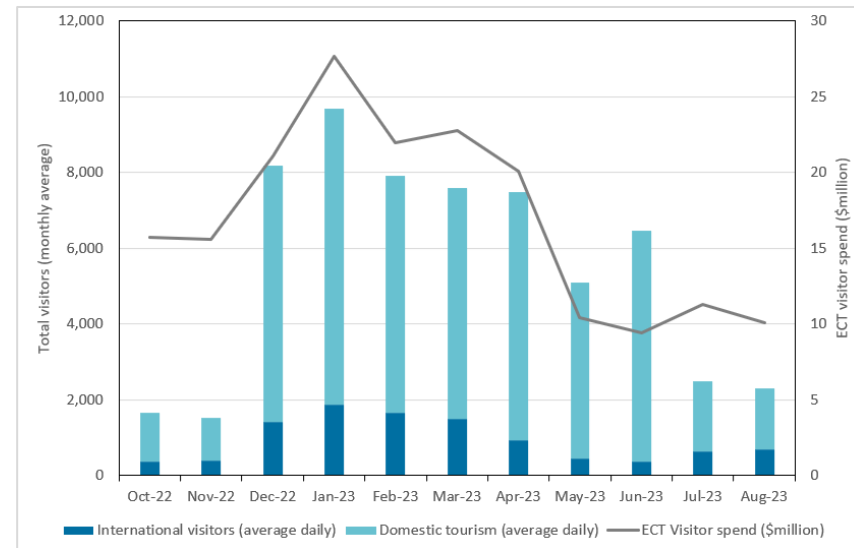


Figure 3.2: Tourism numbers and spend on the West Coast between October 2022 and August 2023.

Regional collaboration

The three district councils within the West Coast have a strong history of collaboration. The most recent Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (2018) was conducted regionally.

Grey and Westland District Council are also conducting a joint procurement for their waste services contracts, to come into place mid-2025. This aims to align services across the two districts as

¹² [West Coast mine proposal gets the green light \(1news.co.nz\)](https://www.1news.co.nz).

¹³ [Sand mining proposal for Buller goes to hearing | RNZ News](https://www.rnznews.co.nz).

¹⁴ Tourism data sheet graph.

¹⁵ [West Coast Visitor Trends August 2023 q77iv4P.pdf](https://www.westcoast.govt.nz/files/assets/westcoast.govt.nz/2023/08/West-Coast-Visitor-Trends-August-2023-q77iv4P.pdf).
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much as possible. The procurement documents are being drafted in a way to allow Buller to join at a later date, if they choose to.

3.2 Regional Policy

Alongside the 2018 Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan,¹⁶ the District Councils have a proposed combined District Plan: Te Tai o Poutini Plan.¹⁷ It sets out the objectives, policies, rules, and methods to manage land use activities and subdivision across the districts. The formal public submissions and hearing runs from 2022 – 2024.¹⁸ The existing District Plans for each Council remain in force (at least in part) until the combined District Plan comes fully into force.

3.3 Local Policy

West Coast waste management and minimisation documentation and relevant supporting policy is summarised in Table 3.1.

Long-Term Plans

All district councils within New Zealand must adopt a Long-Term Plan (LTP) as per Section 93 of the Local Government Act 2002. The LTP must be reviewed every three years and include information on activities, goods or services provided by Council, and specific funding and financial management policies and information.

Local authorities have been given the flexibility to defer the release of their 2024 – 2025 Long-Term Plans for one year whilst decisions

are made by the new government on the future of the 3 Waters Service. All three Councils have decided to defer the LTP and are developing an enhanced 2024/25 Annual Plan.

The waste management and minimisation outcomes from the three district councils current LTPs are summarised in Appendix B.

¹⁶ [West Coast Regional WMMP 2018](#).

¹⁷ [Te Tai o Poutini Plan](#).

¹⁸ <https://tppp.nz/timeline/>.

Table 3.1: Relevant waste management policy for Councils in the West Coast Region

Policy	Buller	Grey	Westland
Financial Planning documents	2023 – 2024 Annual Plan Fees and Charges	2023-2024 Annual Plan	2023 -2024 Draft Annual Plan
Statutory Planning documents			
Long term plan	2021 - 31	2021-31	2024 - 2034
Infrastructure Strategy	30 Year Infrastructure Strategy 2021 - 2051	30 Year Infrastructure Strategy 2021- 2051	Within 2021 – 31 LTP
Asset Management Planning documents	N/A	Draft AMP 2024	Draft AMP 2024
Landfill Management plans	Karamea and Maruia Landfills	McLeans Pit Landfill and Recycling Centre	Butlers Landfill Management Plan
Bylaws and Waste policies	Solid Waste General Model Bylaw	Solid Waste Bylaw 2012 Refuse & Recycling Kerbside Collection 2012	Refuse and Recycling Bylaw 1992

West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018

The West Coast Regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan was finalised in April 2018 and was adopted by all three Councils in the region in the same year.

The Plan (WMMP) covers all solid waste and diverted material (anything that is no longer required for its original purpose, but still has value through reuse or recycling is "diverted material" in the three districts, whether they are managed by Council or not) generated in the West Coast Region. This does not imply that the Councils are going to have direct involvement in the management of all waste - but there is a responsibility for the Councils to at least consider all waste in their districts, and to suggest areas where other groups, such as businesses or householders, could take action themselves.

The Plan’s vision is:

“To deliver community benefits and reduce waste. West Coast businesses and households will be provided with efficient and effective waste minimisation and management services.”

Goals include actively avoiding and reducing waste where possible, managing waste responsibly, and maximising community benefit. Further information on the associated objectives and targets are available in Section 8.1.

Waste bylaws

Table 3.1 describes the most recent Solid Waste Bylaws in the region. The Local Government Act 2002 explains that a local authority must review a bylaw no later than five years after the

date on which the bylaw was made. Therefore, each district council is overdue for a review of their solid waste bylaw.

3.4 Implications for the West Coast

Based on the factors described in this section, Council will need to plan for:

- Waste streams which are generated from an aging population (medical and sanitary waste).
- Management of varying waste volumes from peak tourism seasons and international tourists who may have less knowledge of New Zealand waste management systems.
- Management of material quantities from growing industries, particularly organic materials from forestry and the primary sector.
- In tourist hot spots, there is an opportunity for recovery of commercial food waste.
- Supporting Mana Whenua aspirations in regard to waste management and minimisation.
- Increased collaboration with other neighbouring regions, district councils and stakeholders in the waste sector.
- Increasing commercial waste as a result of increased economic activity (new mining activity, Westland Milk expansion).

4 Waste education, services, and infrastructure

Councils have a number of roles to play in regard to waste education, services, and infrastructure, depending on the level of influence they hold. At each level of the waste hierarchy, the council can have more or less influence.

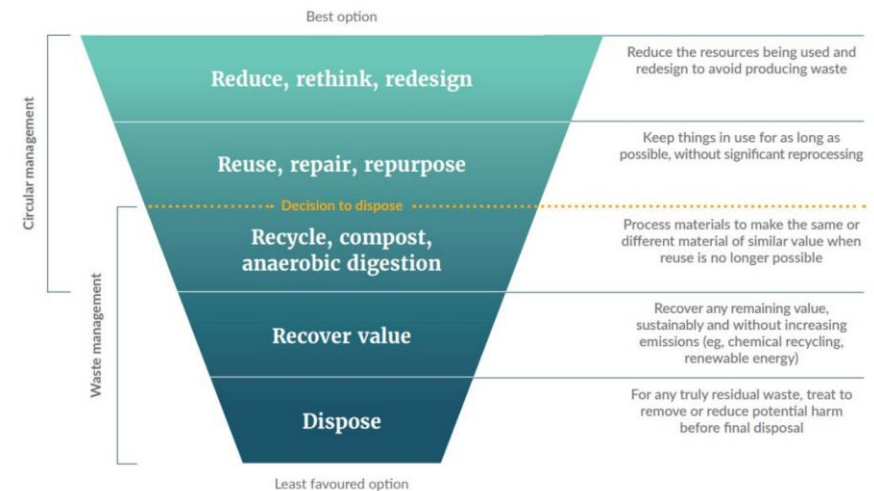


Figure 4.1: The Waste Hierarchy.

Table 4.1: Council’s role at each level of the waste hierarchy

Level of the waste hierarchy	Council’s role
Reduce, rethink, redesign	Collaborator/connector Advocate/promote
Reuse, repair, repurpose	Collaborator/connector Advocate/promote
Recycle, compost, anaerobic digestion	Service provider. Collaborator/connector Advocate/promote
Recover value	Service provider. Advocate/promote
Dispose	Service provider

4.1 Reduce, rethink, redesign

The ‘reduce, rethink and redesign’ stage of the hierarchy aims to reduce the resources being used and redesign to avoid producing waste.

Outside of sharing educational and informative information on their website, Councils have minimal influence in this space. Therefore, their role becomes that of collaborator/connector, and to advocate/promote.

Education and behaviour change

The importance of effective education, communication and behaviour change in waste minimisation and material recovery is widely accepted. This is an underlying need at all levels of the waste hierarchy.

Targeted communication campaigns with clear, concise messages developed using behaviour change principles can have a strong impact on behaviour – whether this be about reducing or rethinking waste that is in individual control (i.e., a takeaway coffee cup) or behaviour at disposal (i.e., disposing of batteries at a drop-off location rather than putting them into landfill).

Enviroschools

There are 20 Enviroschools within the West Coast Region, including five Eco early childhood education centres and 15 schools. All Enviroschools engage in a wide range of actions for sustainability – one of these actions is 100% zero waste, showing that waste minimisation is a core part of the programme.

Regional partners include Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils and the Department of Conservation (DOC). Regional collaborators in the West Coast are Conservation Volunteers New Zealand, Sustainable Coastlines Charitable Trust, West Coast Penguin Trust, and West REAP (Rural Education Activities Programmes).

4.2 Reuse, repair, repurpose

The ‘Reuse, Repair, and Repurpose’ stage of the hierarchy aims to keep things in use for as long as possible, without significant reprocessing.

Councils have influence in this area through three key avenues:

- 1 Education: providing resources online promoting ideas on how to reuse or repurpose common items, or directing to community groups or businesses that can repair.

- 2 By supporting and/or creating a space for people to learn how to repair items (i.e., holding a repair café, or supporting a community group to do so).
- 3 By supporting, sharing, and lobbying for consumer’s right to repair.

Right to repair

Although Councils do not have jurisdiction to require producers to repair their goods, Councils can get involved in lobbying for central government to take some action. In April 2024, The Consumers Guarantees (Right to Repair) Amendment Bill was introduced to Parliament. The aim of this bill is to require manufacturers to make items repairable, new parts accessible and information available to consumers.

4.3 Recycling and recovering value

Where we are unable to keep materials in use without significant reprocessing New Zealand’s nationwide recycling infrastructure (e.g. transfer stations, processing plants) is vital to process these materials to make the same or different material of similar value.

Transfer stations, recycling, and resource recovery centres

The West Coast region has a range of facilities to manage waste (Table 4.2).

In Buller District, recyclable materials are captured at Westport and Reefton Transfer Stations, Maruia Recycling Centre, and Karamea Resource Centre where they are sorted before being sent to end markets out of the region (Table 4.5).

In Grey District, there are Resource Centres at Blackball, Moana and Nelson Creek, and Preston Road Recycling Centre in Blaketown. Recyclables are consolidated at these sites and sent to McLean’s Pit Recycling centre for sorting, before being sent out of the region to end markets.

Westland District have a number of transfer stations located at Kumara, Hokitika, Ross, Harihari, Whataroa, Franz Josef, Fox Glacier and Haast. These Transfer Stations are used to consolidate waste streams. Recyclable materials are sent to Hokitika Transfer Station for sorting before being sent out of the region to end markets.

There are currently three Material Recovery Facilities in the region located at Westport Transfer Station, McLeans Pit Recycling Centre, and Hokitika Transfer Station (Table 4.2).

Due to the low population density across the three districts, a Council-provided kerbside waste collection service is not available for all residents. There are some private kerbside collection services available for residents in Hokitika, Greymouth and surrounding areas, however these boundaries are similar to the Council-offered services. Therefore, households commonly drop their waste directly at transfer stations across the region.

Organics processing

Central government have signalled a potential future requirement for territorial authorities to provide kerbside organics collection services. There are currently no commercial composting / organics processing operations of any scale in the West Coast Region.

At the time of writing, an organics feasibility study is being undertaken within the region.

4.4 Disposal

Disposal should be viewed as the final option for materials where reuse, repair, recycling and recovering value are not viable options. To help manage these residual materials which are generated landfills are utilised as specially designed assets to control the disposal of waste.

Landfills

There are seven operating landfills in the Region as shown in Figure 4.3), five are Council-owned and two are privately owned.

With no large-scale landfill in the Buller District, the majority of landfill waste generated (circa 90%) is collected at Westport and Reefton Transfer Stations and transported to York Valley Landfill in Nelson. Landfill waste from Karamea and Maruia townships is disposed of at their small local landfills which continue to operate to avoid transporting landfill waste long distances. Consent conditions for the Karamea and Maruia sites limit the volume of waste which can be received as these facilities are primarily for local use. Due to the low capacity of these sites, Buller District is reliant on transporting the remaining landfill waste to York Valley Landfill in Nelson.

Landfill waste which is generated in Grey District and Westland District remain within the districts. All landfill waste in Grey is sent to McLean's Pit Landfill which is 6 km outside of Greymouth, and all landfill waste in Westland is sent to Butlers Landfill outside of Hokitika.

At the time of writing this report there are also two private landfills in the region - Taylorville Resource Park in Grey District and Rosco Contractors in Buller District.

The cost to dispose of landfill waste in the West Coast Region is significantly higher than neighbouring districts and districts of a similar context. Disposal fees in the 2023/24 financial year range from \$441 per tonne in Grey District to \$595 per tonne in Westland District. This is on average \$180 greater than districts of a similar context (Figure 4.2).

These disposal costs reflect several factors that include small scale disposal facilities (Grey, Westland) and the need to transport materials significant distances (Buller, Westland).

Disposal fees are set to continue to increase in line operational costs (including transport), capital investment and ongoing increases in waste levy and emissions trading scheme costs. This means that affordability and access is likely to be an ongoing challenge. The increasing costs may make alternatives such as reuse, recycling, and recovery more attractive for many materials.

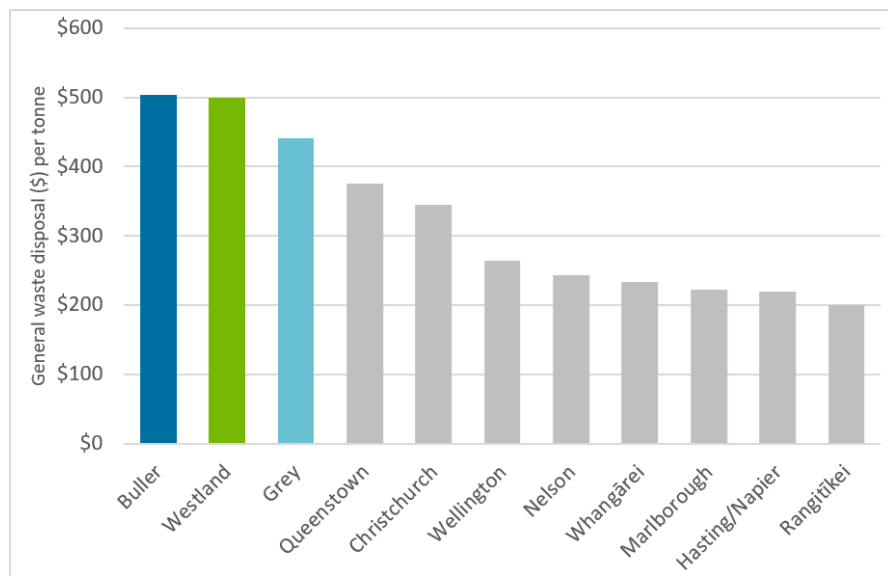


Figure 4.2: Waste disposal costs comparison.

Table 4.2: Facilities for managing landfill waste and recycling

District	Facility name	Landfill waste accepted	Recycling accepted	Weighbridge	Notes
Buller	Westport Transfer Station	Yes	Standard recyclables, scrap metal, tyres, batteries, e-waste, used oil and paints.	Yes	All kerbside landfill waste and recycling is transported to the Westport Transfer Station. Landfill waste is packed for transport and sent to Nelson's York Valley Landfill. There is a material recovery facility (MRF) on-site to sort and bale the recyclables. Recycling is checked, sorted, and compacted before being sent to processing plants (end markets) outside of the region.
	Reefton Transfer Station	Yes	Standard recyclables, scrap metal, tyres, batteries, e-waste, Agrochemical containers, oil, and paint.	Yes	Domestic drop off only.
	Karamea Resource Centre	Yes	Plastics (1,2, and 5), cans, scrap metal, tyres are received as recycling.	Yes	Glass and fibres are accepted but currently disposed as landfill waste. Recycling is sent to Westport for sorting.
	Maruia Recycling Centre	Yes	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, and sorted glass (by colour).	No	Recycling is sent to Westport MRF for sorting.
Grey	McLean's Pit Landfill and Recycling Centre	Yes, including hazardous waste	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, glasses, and green waste.	Yes	There is a MRF on-site to sort and bale the recyclables.
	Blackball Resource Centre	Yes	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, and glass.	No	Landfill waste is sent to McLean's Pit Landfill for disposal. Recycling is sent to McLean's Pit Landfill for sorting.
	Nelson Creek Resource Centre			No	
	Moana Resource Centre			No	
	Preston Road Recycling Centre			No	

District	Facility name	Landfill waste accepted	Recycling accepted	Weighbridge	Notes
	Mitchells Refuse Site	Yes	No	No	This site is for the disposal of Landfill waste only and is transferred to McLean's Pit Landfill for disposal.
Westland	Butlers Landfill	Yes	No	No	Closed to the public. All waste entering Butlers are weighed at Hokitika Transfer Station prior to arriving at Butlers.
	Hokitika Transfer Station	Yes	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, glass, garden waste, and e-waste	Yes	Materials are sorted at Hokitika into different categories and stockpiled, then transported to Canterbury (EnviroNZ) where it is run through an automated sorting facility. Glass is sorted into 1.5 m3 bins then sent to Visy in Auckland (via Canterbury). Landfill waste is sent to Butlers Landfill.
	Kumara, Ross, and Harihari Transfer Station	Yes, including gas bottles, whiteware and tyres.	Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, and green waste.	No	Landfill waste is sent to Butlers Landfill. Recycling is sent to Hokitika Transfer Station where it is stockpiled and transported to EnviroNZ in Canterbury to run through an automated sorting facility.
	Whataroa, Franz Josef and Fox Glacier Transfer Station		Plastics (1,2, and 5), paper/cardboard, cans, and uncompacted green waste.	No	
	Haast Transfer Station (replaced Haast Landfill upon closure at the end of 2024).			No	Haast Landfill is due to close in December 2024, and at this point it will become a Transfer Station.

Waste Infrastructure

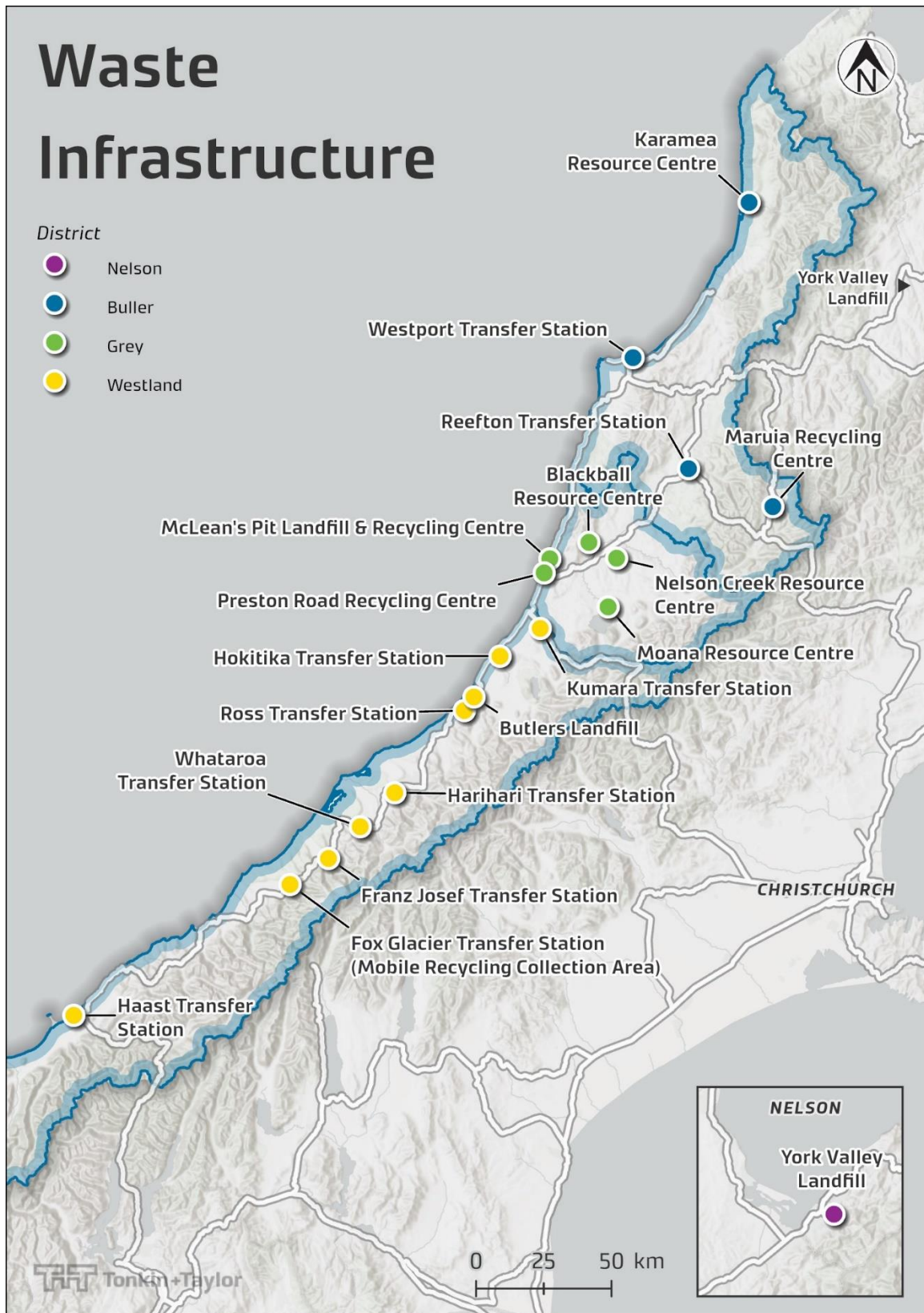


Figure 4.3: West Coast region waste infrastructure locations.

Appropriate disposal of material

During the period, this Waste Assessment has been written, Taylorville Resource Park, located in Greymouth has received an abatement notice from the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) regarding discharge of contaminated water from the site. At the time of writing investigations are ongoing.

Closed and historic landfills

West Coast District has 26 closed landfills (Table 4.3). Each District Council provides the aftercare and monitors groundwater quality at these sites as required under resource consent conditions.¹⁹ Where there are events that expose historic landfill sites, potentially hazardous material may contaminate public spaces such as beaches, which creates a risk to public health.

There have been numerous events in the past six years where Councils have been forced to manage the impacts of climate change at historic landfill sites.²⁰ In 2018, Cyclone Fehi exposed Cobden Closed Landfill which required \$3.2 million investment to fix the site and construct a barrier to prevent reoccurrence. This cyclone event also caused erosion at Hector Legacy Landfill, exposing potentially hazardous materials such as asbestos.²¹ As such the region needs to have greater consideration of the resilience of historic assets including landfills.

¹⁹ <https://bullerdc.govt.nz/media/e0mlqxhr/buller-district-infrastructure-strategy-2021-2051-final-for-ltp-adoption.pdf> p 126 (Buller only, check others).

²⁰ <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/393917/rubbish-dumps-near-waterways-in-spotlight-after-fox-river-pollution>.

The most significant historic landfill in the region is Fox River located near Fox Glacier. Following a storm event in March 2019 which brought heavy rainfall and flooding to the region the Fox River Landfill became exposed through erosion resulting in waste washing out to the surrounding environment. After the event took place Westland District Council worked to move the bulk of Fox River Landfill by extraction and trucking. Westland District Council then partnered with the Department of Conservation and the Defence Force to clean up the waste in the river basin. A total of 15,750 tonnes of material from the landfill was collected and disposed of at Butlers Landfill.

This event sparked a nationwide review from Councils of where there were high risk sites which could face similar events. As a result, more Councils are considering the resilience of their waste management infrastructure and its impact on the environment.

²¹ <https://www.wcrc.govt.nz/council/news-and-announcements?item=id:25585fxh017q9s4dsct5>.

Table 4.3: Closed landfills in the West Coast

Buller	Grey	Westland
Birchfield Legacy Landfill	Blackball*	Hannah's Clearing
Hector Legacy Landfill	Cobden	Neil's Beach
Inangahua	Dobson	Harihari Old Landfill
Reefton ²²	Moana	Fox River Landfill [^]
Ikamatua	Nelson Creek*	Sunset Point Landfill
Mawheraiti	Ngahere	Ross*
Springs Junction	Runanga	Kumara*
Charleston		Harihari*
Westport*		Whataroa*
		Hokitika*
		Canavans Knob

* Now site for transfer station or resource centre.

[^] Closed Landfill Site no longer in existence (waste relocated due to 2019 event).

Public place litter bins

Litter bins are provided in the urban centres and popular visitors spots including nominated free camping locations throughout the region. Litter bin collection is undertaken by contractors with some cross over between Councils and Department of Conservation (DoC) staff with servicing of heavily used DoC locations.

²² Note: this is not the same site as the Reefton Transfer Station.

Table 4.4: Numbers of bins and servicing contract

Buller	Grey	Westland
39 urban bins are serviced by Smart Environmental. 36 parks and reserves bins are managed by WestReef.	170 litter bins are serviced by Smart Environmental	39 town landfill waste and recycling bins are serviced by Mt Drums in the northern district and South Westland Rubbish Removal service in the south of the district.

Other waste streams which are:

- Soft plastics recycling scheme
- Soft plastics recycling scheme collection points are not currently available in the West Coast Region.

4.5 Other waste streams

Outside of the waste streams which are generated typically generated by residents and small commercial organisations there are specific waste streams which the region must also consider how to manage.

Disaster waste

Extreme weather events are becoming increasingly common in the West Coast, so more attention may need to be given to how disaster waste is managed. Currently, it is common practice for disaster waste to be sent to key landfills such as Butlers Landfill, but continuing this will decrease the lifespan of these facilities.

Buller’s LTP connects climate change issues with the Civil Defence activity that is budgeted for by Council’s funding for emergency preparedness.²³ As part of Grey’s Environmental Services in their LTP, they aim to provide effective emergency preparedness and activated emergency activities for the safety of the community, as well as enabling communities to be prepared for these events.

Construction and demolition waste

Reducing construction and demolition (C&D) waste is a growing focus area in resource recovery, as it makes up an estimated 40-50% of Aotearoa’s total waste to landfill.²⁴ In lieu of recovery systems, the region must build awareness of what types of C&D waste emerges from this sector. In particular, understanding what hazardous waste is produced, such as asbestos from older buildings seen recently with the demolition of Te Nikau Hospital in Grey District²⁵, will allow councils to prepare to dispose of this waste appropriately.

Earthquake prone buildings are also an important consideration as this has potential to create significant amounts of demolition waste. The West Coast Region has 201 earthquake-prone buildings on the natural hazards register.²⁶

²³ [21-31-ltp-final-with-audit-report.pdf \(bullerdc.govt.nz\)](https://www.bullerdc.govt.nz/21-31-ltp-final-with-audit-report.pdf) page 59.

²⁴ <https://www.level.org.nz/material-use/minimising-waste/>.

²⁵ <https://www.kirkroberts.co.nz/case-studies/greymouth-hospital-west-coast/>.

Medical waste

According to New Zealand’s clinical waste disposal regulations, there are only a very limited number of circumstances where medical waste can go straight to landfill, without prior treatment.²⁷

Medical waste is predominantly disposed of through local medical centres. Councils receive small quantities of medical waste that has been incorrectly disposed of at its facilities.

Both Buller and Grey Districts have hospitals, but Westland medical waste is predominantly from aged care homes and General Practice (GPs).

A significant proportion of in-home medical waste is currently disposed of through general waste systems, which has potential to have health and safety risks for collection and processing staff. There is opportunity for councils to work with Te Whatu Ora, Te Tai o Poutini Hospital and medical waste service providers to promote the safe and appropriate disposal of domestic medical waste.

Hazardous materials

Large quantities of hazardous waste are not permitted to be disposed of in Council landfills, however Grey District Council does accept domestic quantities of hazardous waste at McLeans Pit Landfill for storage in a secure bunded area until such time as it is collected by a suitably qualified contractor for appropriate safe

²⁶ [Register of earthquake-prone buildings \(EPB Register\)](https://www.epb.govt.nz/register-of-earthquake-prone-buildings/).

²⁷ Standards New Zealand. (2002). *Management of Healthcare Waste* (NZS 4304:2002). Hutcheson, Dowman & Stewart/Standards New Zealand. Page 31. <https://www.standards.govt.nz/shop/nzs-43042002/>.

- Reuse and recovery shops at McLeans Pit, Hokitika Transfer Station (Magpies Nest re-use shop), and opshops throughout the region.

4.6 Infrastructure outside of the West Coast Region

Recyclable materials collected at the waste transfer stations are transported out of the region for recycling and reprocessing. The facilities and processing providers used by Council are detailed in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5: End market providers for recycling and reprocessing

Material processed	Facility/ organisation	Processed
Council kerbside recyclable streams		
Glass	Visy Glass, Auckland	Recycled into new glass
Plastics, paper & cardboard, and Aluminium cans & tin cans	Smart Environmental, Nelson	Materials are either traded for processing NZ or exported.
	EnviroNZ, Christchurch	
Council transfer station recyclable streams		
Tyres	Tyrewise	Tyre recycling in progress
Agricultural plastics	AgRecovery, nationwide	Agrecovery has a collection container at Reefton and Hokitika Transfer Stations, and Westport and Greymouth Farmlands.
E-waste	TechCollect, Auckland	E-waste processing

Material processed	Facility/ organisation	Processed
Household batteries	Upcycle, Auckland	Received household batteries
Metal	Sims Metals, Nelson	Scrap metal
	Metalcorp, Christchurch	Receives scrap metal
Private waste recyclable schemes		
Polystyrene	Expol, Christchurch	Polystyrene for recycling collected at Mitre10
Lightbulbs, plant pots	Mitre 10, nationwide	Lightbulbs, plant pots recycling

4.7 Council service providers

The district councils within the West Coast engage several contractors to provide kerbside collection services, along with the management of Transfer Stations and Resource Centres. Refinement and alignment of these procurement services in the region is being explored.

Table 4.6: Service providers

Council	Service	Provider
Buller	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zone 1³⁷ kerbside collection • Westport Transfer Station • Reefton Transfer Station 	Smart Environmental Ltd
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karamea Landfill and Recycling Centre 	WestReef
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maruia Landfill and Recycling Centre 	Buller District Council
Grey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McLeans Pit Landfill • Landfill waste collection. • Kerbside collection • Litter bin servicing. • Transfer of recyclables and landfill waste from resource centres 	Smart Environment Ltd
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackball Resource Centre • Nelson Creek Resource centre • Moana resource centre 	WestRoads Ltd
Westland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kerbside collection in Northern Westland • Hokitika Transfer Station & Recycling Centre • Kumera Transfer Station • Ross Transfer Station • Harihari Transfer Station. • Transfer of recyclables and landfill waste from Transfer Stations 	EnviroNZ

Council	Service	Provider
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No kerbside collection is provided in South Westland • Whataroa Transfer Station • Franz Josef Transfer Station • Fox Glacier Transfer Station • Haast Landfill 	South Westland Rubbish Removal
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Butlers Landfill 	WestRoads

4.8 Collection

Council provided residential collection

The Councils provide kerbside collection services across specific townships in their districts for landfill waste and recyclables (Table 4.7).

³⁷ For information on Buller's zoning system, please see Section 4.8.

Table 4.7: Current kerbside collection services provided by West Coast District Councils

Service	BDC – Zone 1 only	GDC*	WDC
Landfill waste	60 L Council bag ³⁸ , weekly collection	120 L bin, fortnightly collection on alternate weeks to recycling*.	120 L bin, fortnightly collection on alternate weeks to recycling
Recycling	Recycling 240 L bin, fortnightly collection Glass 45 L crate, fortnightly collection	Recycling 240 L bin, fortnightly collection. Glass 45 L crate, fortnightly collection.	Recycling 240 L bin, fortnightly collection This does not include glass.

* For Greymouth CBD, collection frequency is weekly for landfill waste and recycling.

Buller District has been divided into three zones. Zone 1 has a kerbside collection service available, detailed in Table 4.8.

Table 4.8: Current kerbside collection service areas in the West Coast

District	Service area
Buller District	Zone 1: Westport, the areas from Westport to the Mōkihinui Bridge, Westport to Punakaiki, Westport to Reefton including Blacks Point, and Reefton to Ikamatua.
Grey District	Greater Greymouth, Greater Greymouth (residential), and CBD.

³⁸ It is challenging to find this information online.

District	Service area
Westland	Kaniere Road to Ross, north side of Hampden Street to north side of Hokitika township, south side of Hampden Street, south side of Hokitika township, Brickfield and Blue Spur Roads to Arahura bridge, Kumara Junction to Stafford Loop Road, and Kumara township to Taramakau bridge (return).

Kerbside landfill waste in Grey District is collected and disposed of at McLean’s Pit Landfill near Greymouth. Households in Grey District have a fortnightly landfill waste collection service and fortnightly co-mingled recycling and glass recycling collection.

Westland kerbside landfill waste and recycling (excluding glass) is collected and transported to be disposed at Butlers Landfill. This service is provided in Hokitika, Kumara and Ross. Landfill waste and recycling (excluding glass) are collected on alternating weeks. Ratepayers may opt to receive a second sets of bins for an additional rating charge.³⁹ Glass can be dropped off at transfer stations and sorted by colour.

Commercial and/or industrial collection

Councils offer commercial and industrial organisations the same landfill waste and recycling kerbside collections service as households, consistent with

³⁹ Draft AMP Westland.

Table 4.7 and Table 4.8. This collection service is tailored to households. If organisations generate more waste, then they can fit in their bin set, the following options are offered:

- Request an additional set of bins, up to a maximum to 2 bin sets (Buller + Westland).
- Drop-off any excess landfill waste and recycling that does not fit in their bin sets at a local transfer station.
- Purchase official landfill waste bags as required (Buller only).
- Arrange a collection service with private contractor.

4.9 Litter and illegal dumping

The West Coast Region has historically had issues with litter and illegal dumping. There are high costs to removing illegally dumped waste, which could be better spent on opportunities higher up in the waste hierarchy. The relative remoteness of the region makes it easy to find locations to dump material if businesses or households want to avoid disposal charges.

Councils are taking action where possible, including investigating littering and illegal dumping occurrences, and charging fines of \$400 to persons who commit the offence.

Website information and education

Councils also make clear and concise information available on their Council website, particularly for how to best use the collection and Transfer Station services shown in Table 4.9.

Table 4.9: Education provided on Council websites

Topic	Buller	Grey	Westland
Bin collection	✓	✓	✓
What can I recycle?	✓	✓	✓
Where to go?	✓	✓	✓
Recycling resources	✓	✓	✓
Composting guidance	x	✓	✓
Hazardous materials	x	✓	✓
Agrecovery	✓	x	✓
Battery recycling	✓	x	✓
E-waste	✓	x	✓
Event waste management and minimisation	✓	x	x
Business waste management and recycling	✓	x	x

⁴⁰ <https://bullerdc.govt.nz/media/z0udrkyb/21-31-ltp-final-with-audit-report.pdf> p 85.

4.10 Costs for waste management and minimisation

Funding approach

The 2021 – 31 Long-Term Plans set the budget for solid waste operational activity with provision to make amendments if required through the Annual Plan process. The funding allocations are depicted in Figure 4.2.

Funding for operations is through general rates, targeted rates, and user charges. The targeted rates fund kerbside collection services and are detailed through to 2025/26 in Table 4.10.

Table 4.10: Targeted rates for waste management

District	Targeted rate 2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Buller District Council ⁴⁰ (inclusive GST)	Zone 1: \$178 Zone 2: \$253 Zone 3: \$123	Zone 1: \$199 Zone 2: \$257 Zone 3: \$131	TBC
Grey District Council	Residential: \$362.14 Commercial: \$684.46	Residential: \$411.57 Commercial: \$777.89 ⁴¹	TBC
Westland District Council	\$294 bin collection cost only	\$294 bin collection cost only	\$294 bin collection cost only

⁴¹ Based on current draft of the enhanced annual plan 2024/25, noting this is yet to be formally approved so is subject to change.

Waste levy received

Due to the increase in the Waste Disposal Levy charged per tonne of waste disposed to landfill between 2021 and 2024, the amount of the levy revenue that the Councils have received has increased (Figure 4.5), creating additional funding opportunities locally for waste minimisation activities. Levy revenue is expected to continue to rise with increases announced through to 2027. With the forecasted decrease in population, the proportion of Waste Levy received by Councils may also decrease in the future.

The amount through to 2027 will likely increase each Council's funding by 20% or more. This will depend on the total quantity of material disposed of to various landfill types across New Zealand.

Other relevant funding sources

- \$900,000 has been awarded from the Waste Minimisation Contestable Fund to investigate Construction and Demolition material reprocessing across the region.
- \$75,000 has been awarded to the three district councils from the Waste Minimisation Contestable Fund to investigate the feasibility of Regional Organic processing solutions.

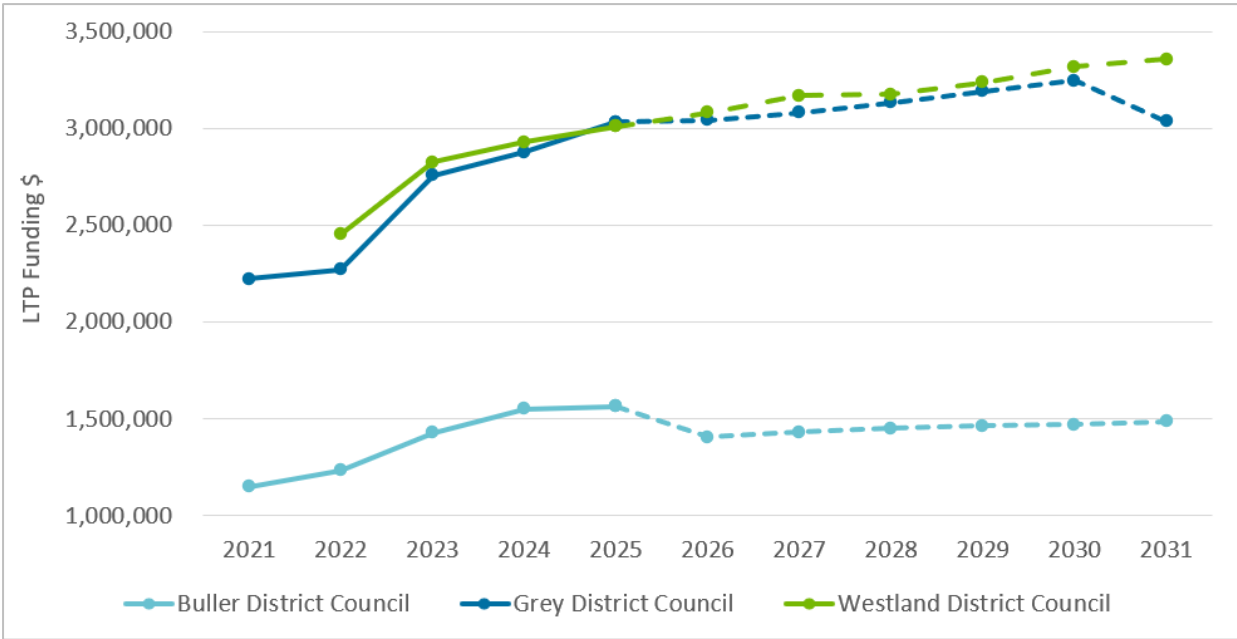


Figure 4.4: Solid Waste Operations funding forecast
 Note: dotted line after 2024/25 in graph shows funding forecast.

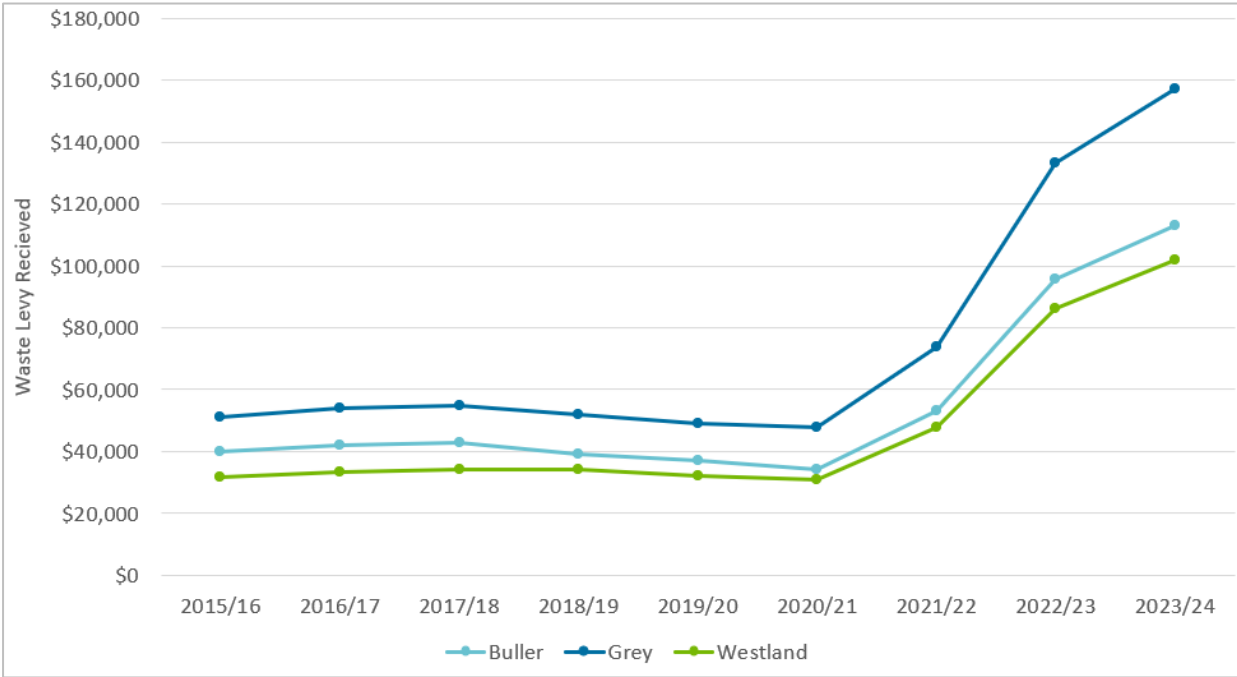


Figure 4.5: Waste Levy Received in West Coast, by district.⁴²

⁴²<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fenvironment.govt.nz%2Fassets%2Fta-payments-as-at-jan-24-work-spreadsheet-with-graphs.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>.

5 Waste quantities and composition

This section describes the material quantities and composition resulting from the waste management system described in Section 4.

5.1 Timeframe

This document focuses primarily on data for the period between FY 2018/19 and 2022/23, as this data has been collected most consistently across all districts allowing for more accurate comparison. Waste quantities, composition and flows prior to this period are detailed in the 2018 regional Waste Assessment and WMMP.

5.2 Data availability

The information presented in this Waste Assessment informs the strategic approach and specific actions presented later in the document. The data availability for this Waste Assessment shows where there is opportunity for improvement, creating potential actions around data capture and collection.

Data received from the waste service contractors has had varying levels of detail for each district. This is particularly relevant for Westland, where they have two separate contractors in the North and South of the district. Once Haast Landfill closes all waste will be entering Butlers Landfill which will streamline the reporting for the district.

There are two private waste facilities in the region, Taylorville Recovery Park, and Rosco's Hole, both of which have very limited information publicly available on their infrastructure, services, and waste data.

During a waste levy audit conducted by MfE in 2023, it became clear that there was an error in the process for weighing recoverable material entering Grey District Council's McLeans Pit Recycling Centre. The recoverable material which was destined to be recycled was not weighed into the facility, only upon leaving McLean's Pit Recycling Centre to go to the processing facility. Therefore, the weight of some recoverable material which did not go for recovery (due to contamination levels) has not been recorded. This has resulted in some discrepancies in the data from Grey District. For the purpose of this Waste Assessment, we have used the data available from the weighbridge, acknowledging there may be a small margin of error in the recycling data for Grey District.

5.3 Waste quantities

A summary of all material disposed of across the West Coast Region is detailed in Figure 5.1. The data shows that regional waste and recycling volumes are steadily increasing.

There was a significant peak in waste disposal during 2020/21 due to the relocation of 15,750 tonnes of material from Fox River Landfill to Butlers Landfill⁴³.

As shown in Figure 5.1, diversion rates currently being achieved across all facilities in the region has averaged 19% over the past five financial years. The data demonstrates a dip in recovery in 2020/21 which can be attributed to a few factors.

- 1 Firstly, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, during nationwide lockdowns some recovery services were temporarily stopped, as a result households were required to dispose of recycling alongside general waste or stockpile it until the facilities started to accept the material again.
- 2 The second reason for the dip is due to a fire which took place at McLean’s Pit Resource Centre in late 2020. This resulted in the facility closing to repair the damage to the site which was therefore unable to accept and process recyclable waste streams. The facility reopened in early 2022.
- 3 With a natural increase in landfill waste generation from 2018/19 to 2022/23 the diversion rate has naturally decreased. The amount of recyclable waste (including glass) generated in the region as a whole remains consistent at around 2,700 tonnes per year.
- 4 Two major flooding events took place in Buller District during July 2021 and February 2022 which increased the total quantity of waste to landfill by around 750 tonnes compared

to previous years. As more waste was sent to landfill in the district a lower recovery rate was achieved.

⁴³ [Fox Glacier Landfill Remediation Complete | Westland District Council \(westlanddc.govt.nz\)](https://www.westlanddc.govt.nz).

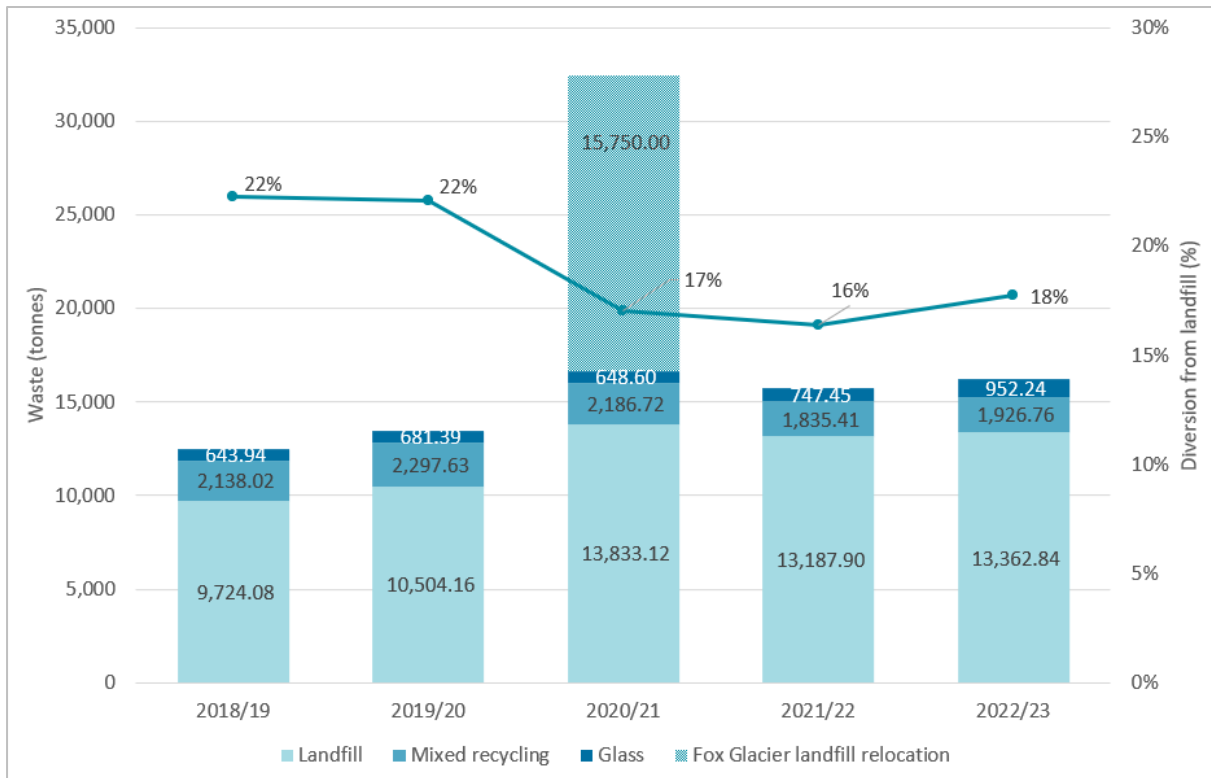


Figure 5.1: Regional waste volumes and diversion rates achieved (including kerbside).

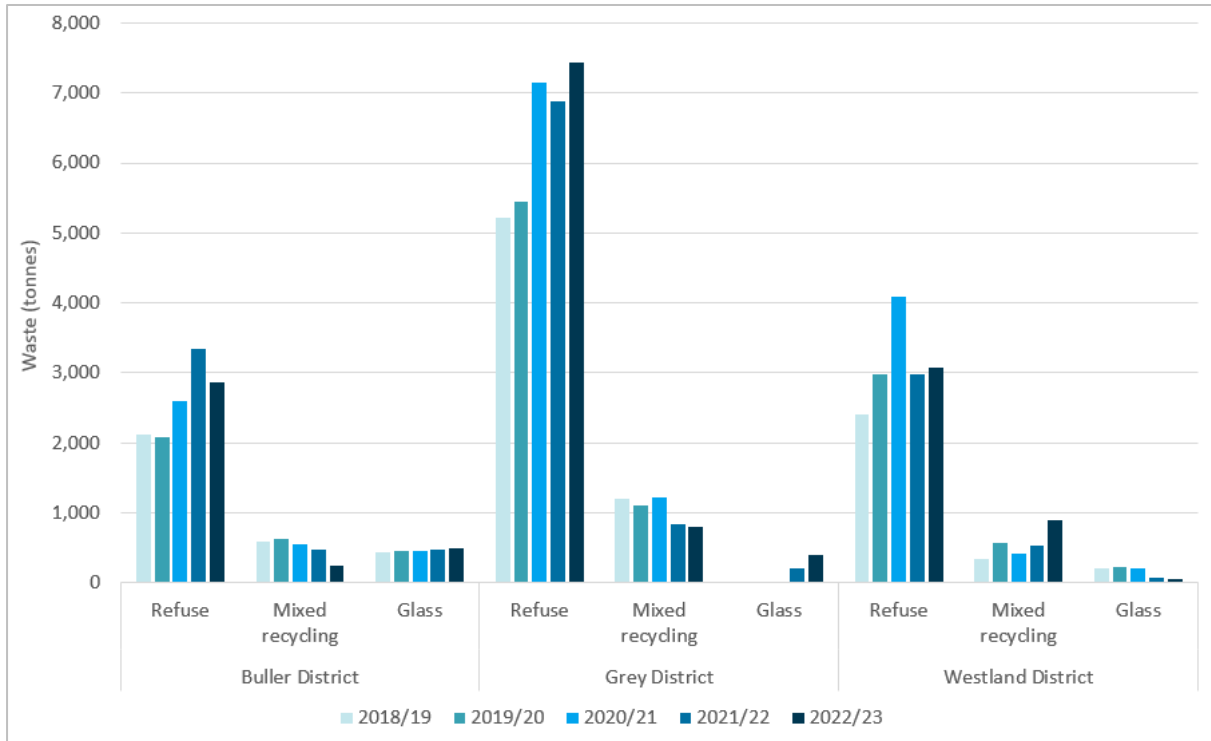


Figure 5.2: All regional waste by district.

Kerbside waste quantities and composition

Figure 5.3 provides a summary of the waste collected from the kerbside across the West Coast Region. Kerbside collection tonnages remain consistent across the period shown, with kerbside landfill waste contributing around 25% of the overall waste in the region. Of the total kerbside waste (including recycling) collected during 2018/19 to 2022/23, on average, 34% is being recovered through co-mingled recycling or glass collections.

Composition of Waste Study (SWAP)⁴⁴ data, collected at Westport Transfer Station in 2017, has been used to assess the composition of residential landfill waste collected at the kerbside. The data shows that 70% of the landfill waste generated by households in the region is paper, plastic, putrescible (food and garden waste), metals and glass - most of which is potentially recoverable (Figure 5.4).

In 2014, Buller District Council implemented a kerbside glass collection which increased the district's diversion of waste from landfill from 14% to an average of 40% per annum (2013/14 to 2022/23).

The total quantity of material generated by each district is detailed in Figure 5.2. The quantity of waste is reflective of the population in each district with Grey generating the largest. The data demonstrates on average 81% by weight of all waste generated is sent to landfill.

We have used the general waste SWAP data collected at Westport Transfer station in 2017, to quantify current and potential material capture based on 2022/23 data. As the West Coast Region has not undertaken a SWAP study to investigate the composition of mixed recycling entering the transfer stations in the region, this assessment has used the SWAP data available from another district council of similar context to analyse the recovery which may currently be taking place.

The data shown in Table 5.1 and Figure 5.5 demonstrates the greatest ability to increase capture is through focusing efforts on organics (food and garden waste), plastics and paper/cardboard.

⁴⁴Composition of Waste Study: Westport Transfer Station 11 – 17 December 2017. C. Abernathy, JBL Environmental Ltd.

Table 5.1: Potentially recoverable material from kerbside waste

Material	Current recovery (2022/23)		Potential recovery		Total increase	
	%	tonnes	%	tonnes	%	tonnes
Paper	66%	918	75%	1,038	9%	120
Plastic	20%	159	50%	388	30%	229
Organics (food and garden)	0%	-	60%	628	60%	628
Ferrous metal	44%	56	75%	96	31%	40
Non-ferrous metal	45%	29	75%	49	30%	20
Glass	80%	632	90%	714	10.3%	82
Total	33%	1,794	54%	2,913	21%	1,118

Notes: The above calculations assume 90% capture of glass, 75% capture of paper, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, 60% capture of organics and 50% capture of plastic.

Kerbside waste quantities summary

Figure 5.5 illustrates the data presented in Table 5.1 in graphical form showing current and potential future capture of recyclable and recoverable materials. This is based on the estimate composition, current recovery rates and achievable capture rates for specific material streams. Key points to note include:

- **Paper and cardboard** capture is good (estimated at 67%), with potential to increase this to around 75% with strong education and information for households.

- **Plastic** capture is relatively low but with many plastics not recyclable in New Zealand only plastics 1, 2 and 5 could be targeted through kerbside collections. This can be improved through education and information for households.
- **Organic** capture of 50-60% is considered achievable for kerbside. To achieve this for the West Coast Region a kerbside organics collection will need to be implemented alongside education and information for households.
- **Ferrous and non-ferrous metal** capture is relatively low, this may reflect materials which are not suitable for kerbside recycling i.e. not cans being disposed of through the landfill waste collections. There may be potential to increase this to around 75% for both metals with strong education and information for households on putting aside bulky metals for recycling at transfer station and targeting cans and tins for recycling.
- **Glass** capture at kerbside very good achieving 80% diversion from landfill. Initially for Grey this was not the case as previously glass was included in the mixed recycling collection, therefore users of the kerbside service were required to break this habit. This was successfully changed through effective communication. Many districts of a similar context achieve 90% capture or higher and this should be achievable once the Westland kerbside glass recycling system is in place.
- If the kerbside recovery rates anticipated are achieved this could result in over 50% recovery rate at kerbside. Key contributors to the increased recovery are organic materials (requiring a new collection), paper/card and plastics.

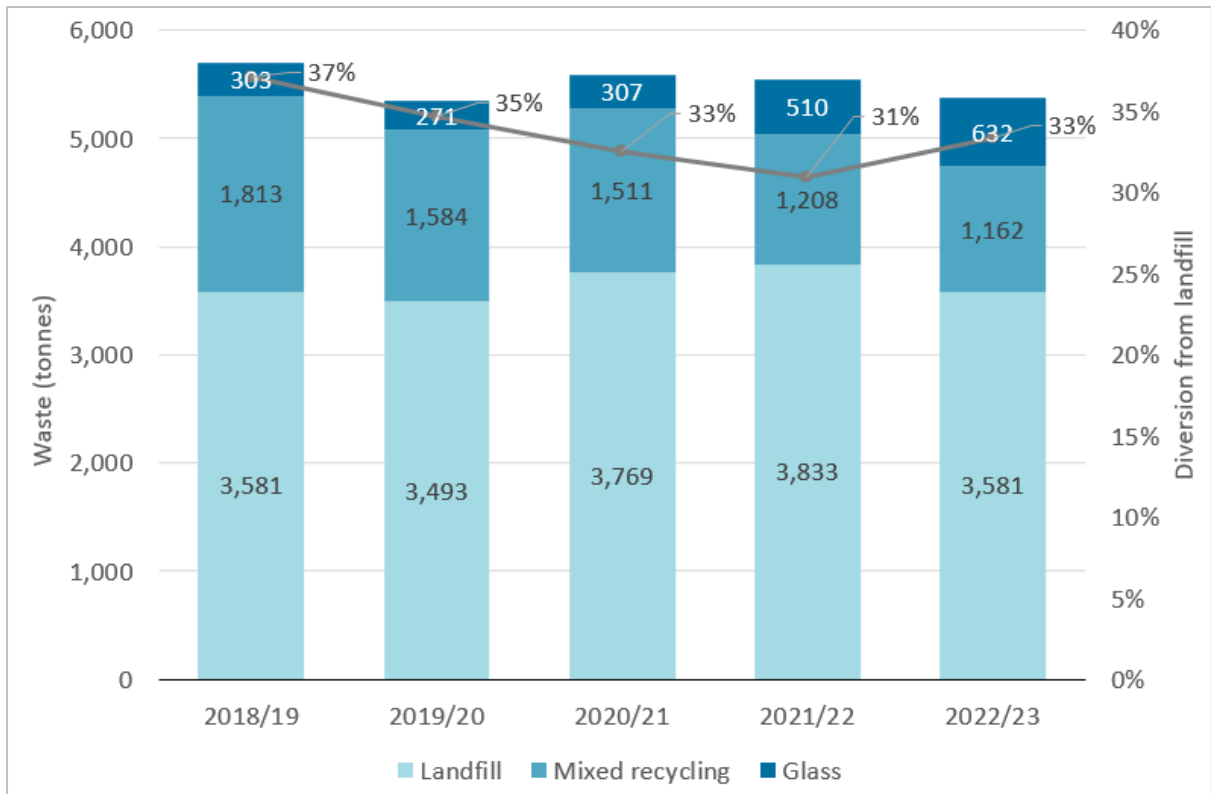


Figure 5.3: Regional kerbside waste and diversion.

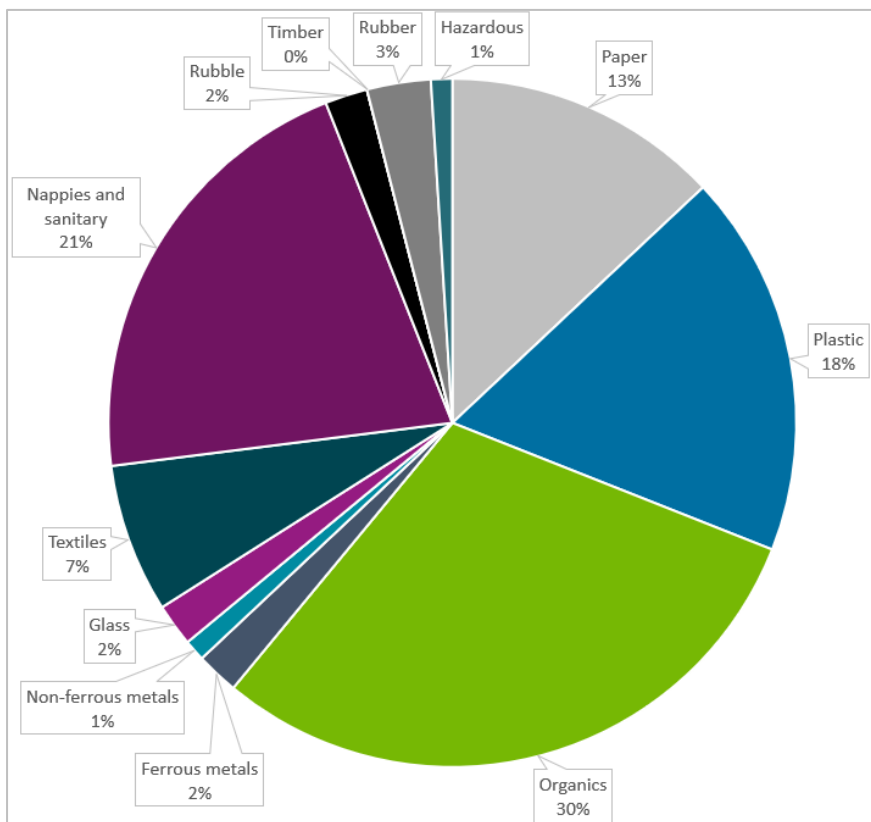


Figure 5.4: Kerbside landfill waste composition (2017 SWAP data from Westport Transfer Station).

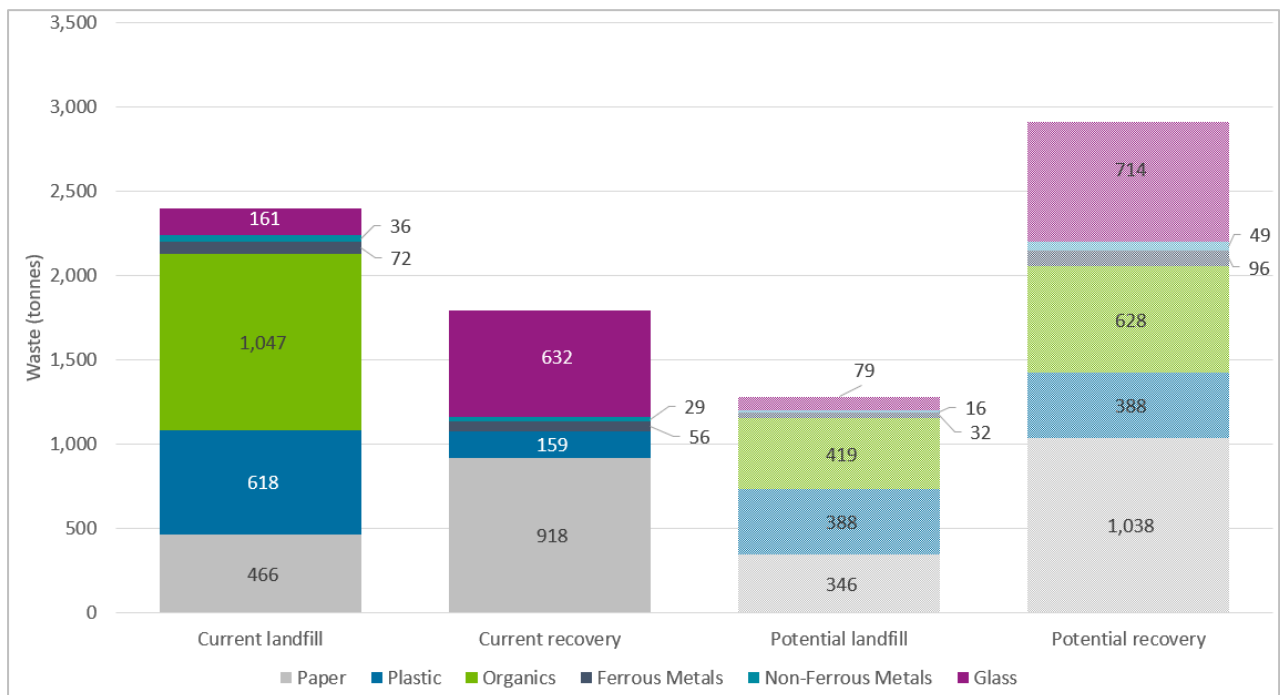


Figure 5.5: Current and potential kerbside material capture.

Transfer Station

As discussed in Section 4 waste is consolidated in multiple facilities across each district before being transported to the primary facility in each district for either disposal to landfill or recovery through markets in New Zealand and internationally. Figure 5.6 demonstrates the total final quantities each facility receives.

The West Coast Region has not undertaken a SWAP study to investigate the composition of mixed recycling entering the transfer stations in the region. Therefore, this assessment has used the SWAP data available from another district council of similar context to analyse the recovery which may currently be taking place.

Waste entering the system through direct drop off at the Transfer Stations and Resource Recovery Centres across the region shows a similar picture to the kerbside diversion. The waste streams which have no current option for diversion at kerbside (organics – food and garden and glass in Westland) demonstrate greater diversion at transfer station. The data (shown in Table 5.2 and Figure 5.7) demonstrates the greatest ability to increase capture is through focusing efforts on plastics, paper/cardboard, organics (food and garden) and glass.

Figure 5.7 illustrates the data presented in Table 5.2 in graphical form showing current and potential future capture of recyclable and recoverable materials. This is based on the estimate composition, current recovery rates and achievable capture rates for specific material streams.

Table 5.2: Potentially recoverable material from transfer station waste

Material	Current recovery (2022/23)		Potential recovery		Total increase	
	%	tonnes	%	tonnes	%	tonnes
Paper	15%	325	50%	1,097	35%	772
Plastic	2%	56	60%	1,607	58%	1,550
Organics (food and garden)	14%	267	60%	1,111	46%	844
Ferrous metal	7%	31	50%	216	43%	185
Non-ferrous metal	6%	10	50%	83	44%	73
Glass	31%	285	50%	465	19%	180
Total	9%	974	43%	4,579	34%	3,605

Notes: The above calculations assume 60% capture for organics and plastics and 50% capture for paper, metals, and glass.

Transfer station waste quantities summary

Key points to note include:

- **Paper and cardboard** capture is relatively low, with potential to increase this to around 50% with strong education and information for households. It should be noted that much of the paper and cardboard entering the transfer stations will be contaminated therefore unable to be captured.
- **Plastic** capture is very low, and improvements should be possible including targeting materials not collected at

kerbside and 'clean' commercial streams such as agricultural plastics.

- **Organic** capture is low with potential to target an increase in green waste captured at transfer stations. There may be potential to increase this to around 60% with strong education and information for households.
- **Ferrous and non-ferrous metal** capture is relatively low, there should be potential to increase this to as much as 50% for both metal types with strong education and information for households on separating bulky metals for recycling. For metals, given their value as commodities, there may be potential to offer incentives alongside education for separating materials - for example free drop off supporting by transfer station staff.
- **Glass** capture is relatively low, there should be potential to increase this to as much as 50% with strong education and information for households on separating flat glass in particular for recycling.
- If the recovery rates anticipated are achieved this could result in over 30% recovery rate at across kerbside and other streams. Key contributors to the increased recovery are organic materials (requiring an increased focus on capture), paper/card and plastics.

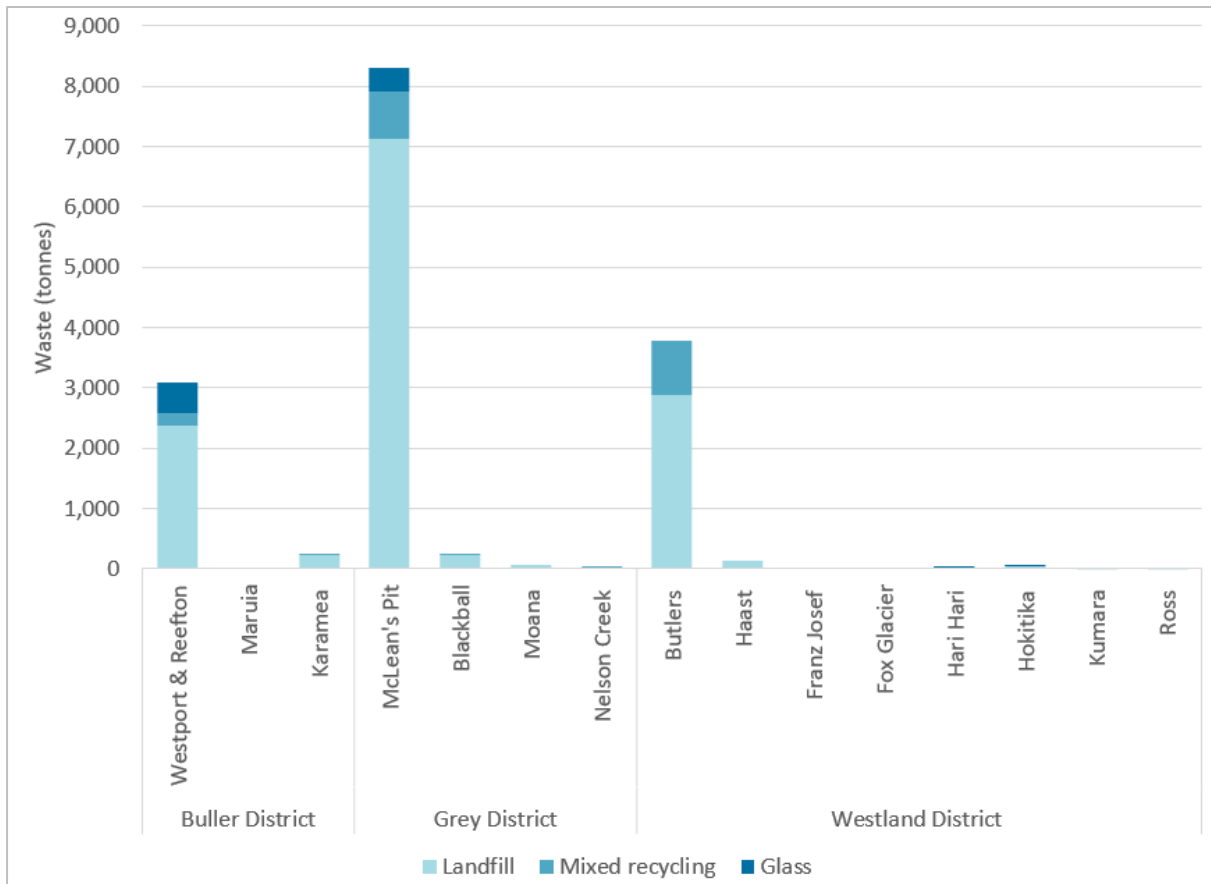


Figure 5.6: Regional waste volumes and diversion by district facility (2022/23).

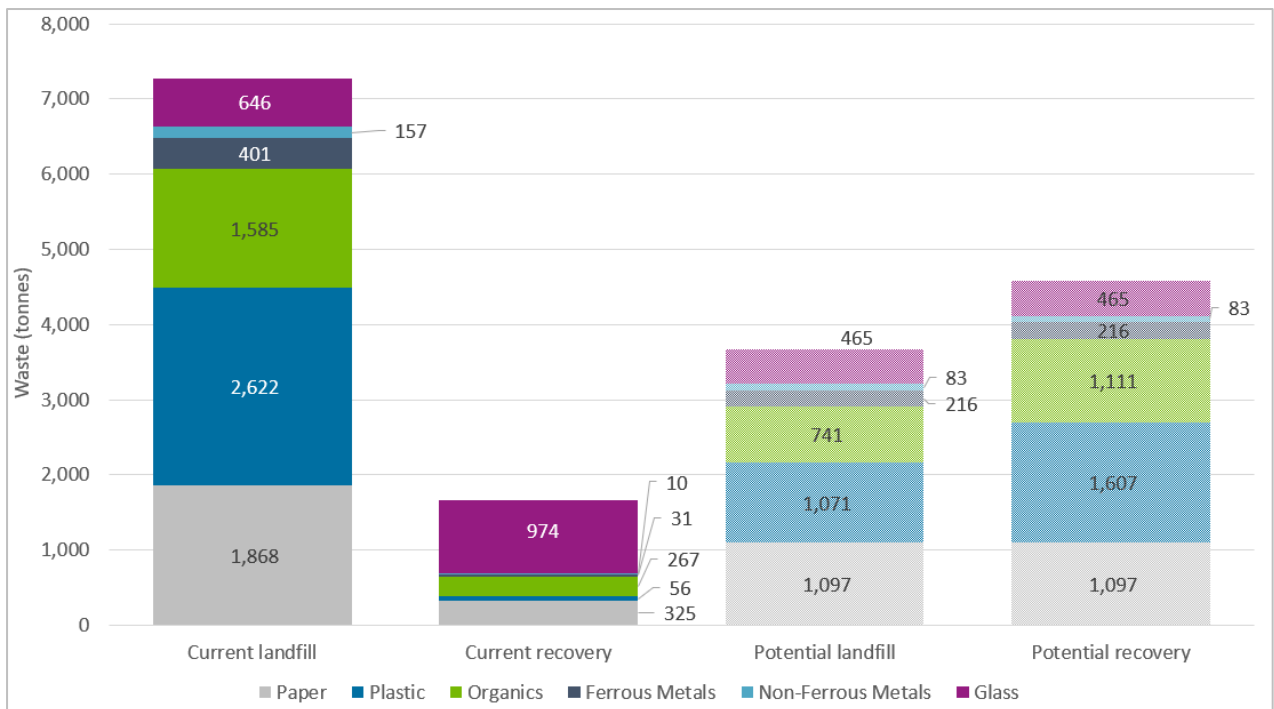


Figure 5.7: Current and potential transfer station material capture.

Tourism waste

As detailed in Section 3.1, the West Coast receives on average 160,000 visitors transiting through the region monthly which is four times greater than the population of the region. Therefore, it is important that the regional waste data explores the contribution from visitors to the West Coast.

Although there is limited data regarding waste from tourism in New Zealand, a study on the implications of increasing demand on infrastructure in Westland as a result of tourism was conducted in 2001 by Lincoln University. The study found that 3 tonnes of solid waste is generated per 1,000 visitor nights in Westland (3kg of waste per visitor per night). It is assumed that this is a combination of food waste within the hospitality sector and general waste from consumption of goods and services whilst travelling.

Due to greater general awareness of waste management through education and communication campaigns in New Zealand, we have reduced this value to 2 tonnes of solid waste per 1,000 nights (2 kg of waste per visitor per night). Applying this theory, it is estimated that visitors contribute to ~26% of total waste per year (Table 5.3).

Table 5.3: Visitor waste per year

Year	Visitor numbers	Estimated waste generation (tonnes)	% of total waste from region
2021/22	1,970,659	4,012	26%
2022/23	2,172,595	4,382	27%

As tourism within the region significantly contributes to the consumption of goods and services it is important to account for the waste generation from visitors in the region alongside residents. By applying the regional diversion rates to the visitor waste data for 2021/22 and 2022/23 we can see a more accurate representation of residential waste generation compared to visitor waste generation (Figure 5.8).

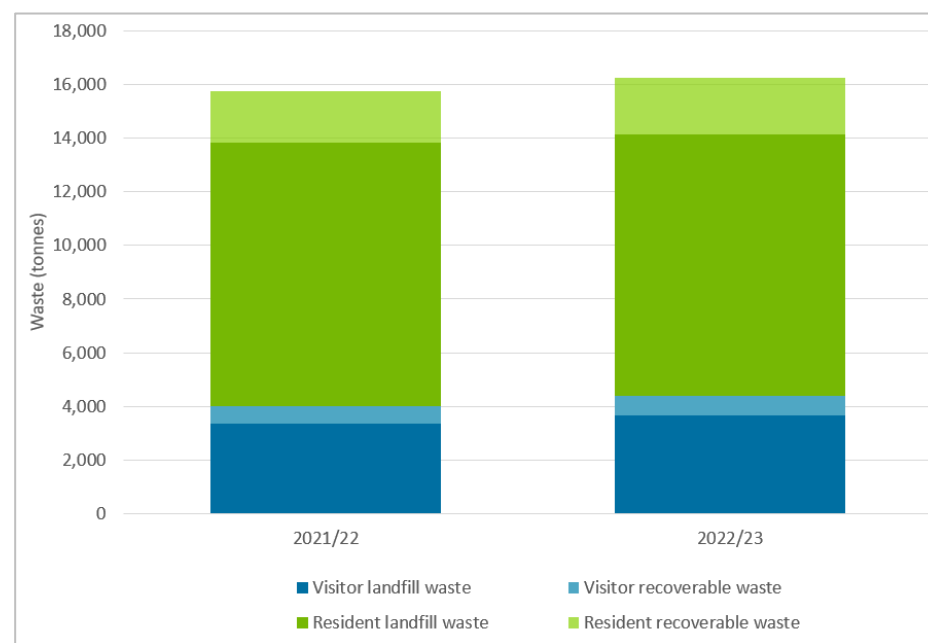


Figure 5.8: Visitor and residential waste generation.

6 System performance

This section provides a range of indicators that can be used as a benchmark for the performance of the West Coast’s waste management system.

Since 2018/19 waste disposed of to landfill per person in the West Coast has increased by 102 kg but appears to have remained around 540 kg per person for the last three years (Figure 6.1). When removing the visitor waste data from this assessment the total disposal and recovery per capita decreases to 400 kg per person (this is further detailed in Figure 7.2).

When comparing the West Coast as a region to other district councils of similar context (Figure 6.2) the recovery rate is at the lower end of the range for New Zealand. This reflects a reliance on kerbside recycling (no organic materials collection) and lower end capture rates for recyclable or recoverable materials at transfer stations.

This may be due to the greater space availability in urban areas (larger sections than other urban areas) allowing households to be managing some of their waste onsite by composting, burying, or burning their waste. This, alongside some gaps in the data, may mean the actual waste per capita is higher than the current data shows.

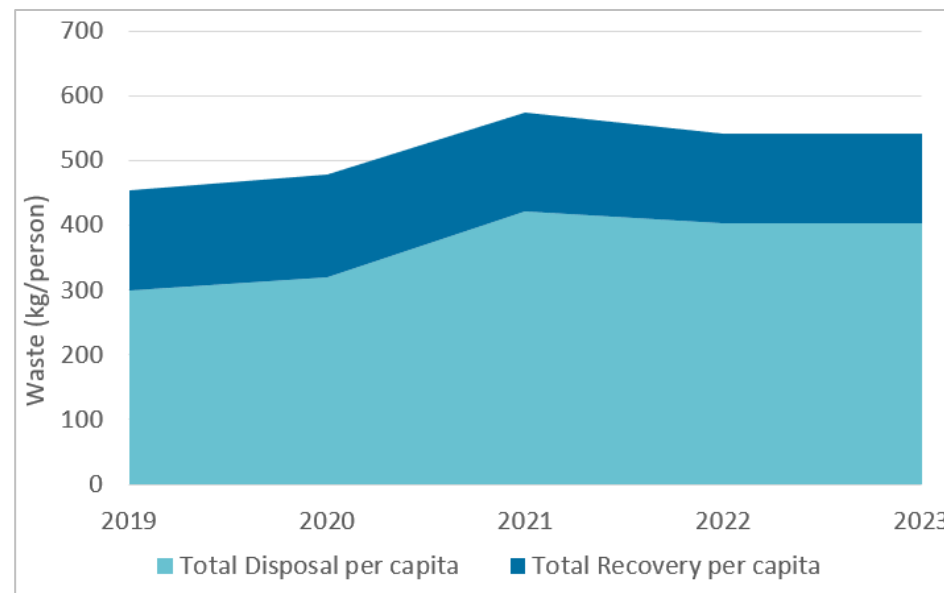


Figure 6.1: Regional waste and recovery per capita.

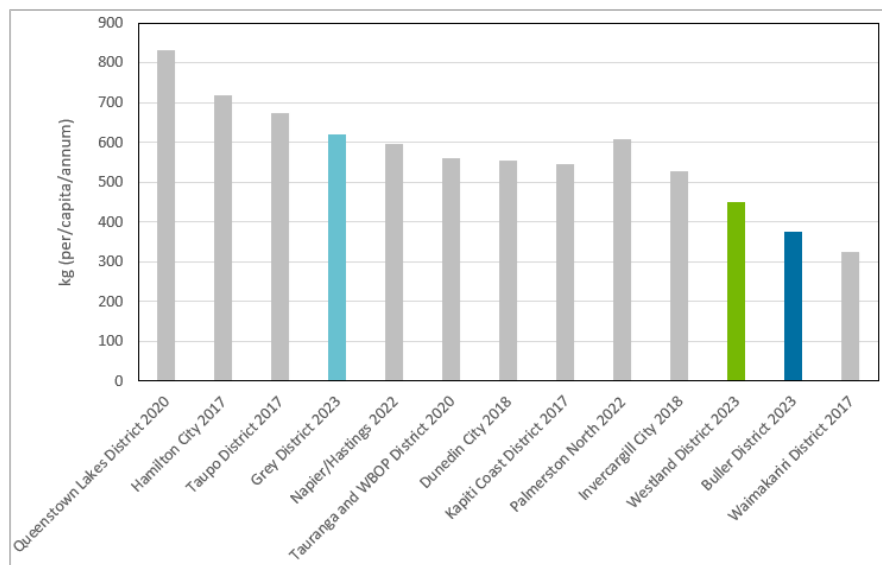


Figure 6.2: Waste per capita relative to other Councils.

6.1 Household waste composition

Comparing the composition of household waste in the West Coast with similar councils (Table 6.1), the following insights are apparent:

- 1 Households in the West Coast dispose of relatively less organic materials in landfill compared to similar districts.
- 2 Recycling quantities in household rubbish are relatively higher (paper, plastic, metals, and glass).
- 3 The quantities of building and industrial materials (rubble, concrete, timber, and rubber) are relatively higher than other Councils.

Table 6.1: Household kerbside material composition relative to similar Councils

Material	Buller District Council *	Ōpōtiki District Council	Manawatū District Council	Central Hawkes Bay District Council
Paper	13%	14%	13.9%	9.0%
Plastics	18%	12%	14.5%	12.1%
Putrescibles	30%	50%	45.1%	53.1%
Ferrous metals	0.4%	2%	2.7%	2.6%
Non-ferrous metals	0.2%	9%	2%	1%
Glass	2%	3%	3%	5.4%
Textiles	7%	4%	5%	4.8%
Nappies and Sanitary	21%	1%	8%	6.0%
Rubble, concrete, etc.	2%	2%	2%	2.9%
Timber	0%	1%	2%	1.0%
Rubber	3%	0%	1%	0.2%
Potentially hazardous	1%	1%	1%	1.2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100.0%

(*) It is assumed that Buller kerbside material composition is representative of all West Coast District Councils kerbside waste compositions. This data is from the 2017 SWAP conducted at Westport Transfer Station.

6.2 Contamination

Contamination of collected recyclables with non-recyclable items is an ongoing issue across the region. Buller District has been tracking contamination in the kerbside recycling bins since 2021 which demonstrates an average level of contamination to be 30%. A similar situation is expected to be the case in Grey and Westland. Contamination levels increased for Grey as the district transitioned from mixed recycling which included glass to a single source glass collection in 2021/22.

Limited data is available on contamination which makes it difficult to track progress. However, the region recognises the issue and currently focus efforts on communication of good recycling practices in an effort to decrease the contamination rates.

6.3 Review of the 2018 WMMP

The last WMMP for West Coast Region was prepared in 2018. The WMA requires that each Waste Assessment include a review of the last WMMP, including an assessment of data, key issues from the last WMMP, any other issues not addressed, and progress on the action plan from the last WMMP.

The 2018 WMMP has a vision to deliver community benefits and reduce waste.

There are three overarching goals, to:

- Avoid and reduce waste where we can.
- Manage waste responsibly.
- Maximise community benefit.

Under these goals there are seven objectives and 10 targets. Table 6.2 shows progress against these targets over the past WMMP period.

Key issues

The key issues identified in the 2018 WMMP are summarised in the table below. It is helpful to consider progress against these issues, as not all were carried forward into targets within the 2018 WMMP. Key issues in the current period are discuss in Section 7.2.

Table 6.2: Progress against key issues in the 2018 WMMP

Issue/opportunity (2018 WMMP)	Comment on progress (from 2018 to present)
Waste Infrastructure	
Transfer stations - there are variable services across the Region.	There continue to be variation in services provided.
There is a lack of consistency in services for visitors to the Region.	Some services have since been removed – educational services are now the focus.
There are three MRFs in the Region sorting similar materials.	There are three MRFs which are referred to as Transfer Stations and Recycling Centres in the Region (Westport, McLean’s Recycling Centre and Hokitika).
The two major landfills in the Region are close to each other.	This continues to be true; McLeans Pit is located 65 km from Butlers Landfill.
Disposal costs are relatively high, but likely reasonable in light of scale and transport distances.	This continues to be true. The cost of disposal at the landfills are detailed in Appendix C.

Issue/opportunity (2018 WMMP)	Comment on progress (from 2018 to present)
There are limited services for commercial and construction waste, with limited information available regarding diversion activity focussed on these waste streams.	Feasibility studies for recovery of construction and demolition waste and organics material are underway.
Lack of collections for glass in Westland District and issues with glass contamination in Grey District.	A new waste services contract will provide for glass collection in Westland District in 2025. Glass contamination is no longer a key issue for Grey District.
Waste data	
There is a mix of volume-based estimates and measured weights.	<p>Since the 2018 WMMP, some sites have had weighbridges installed so data collection has significantly improved, but still has room for more improvement.</p> <p>Waste data consistency and data collection can be addressed through waste contractors.</p> <p>Waste services contracts are being reviewed in all districts and will incorporate the provision of quality and accurate data and reporting in line with expectations of central government.</p>
The source of waste is not always clear.	
There is limited data on service areas, set out rate or participation rates for kerbside collection.	
The data regarding quantity of waste collected or processed is not complete.	

Targets

As discussed earlier, the Regional WMMP (2018) set out a range of objectives and targets outlined in Appendix A.

This section looks at the progress the region has made against these targets. The shading for each council shows the current achievement status; green is achieved/on track, orange is partially achieved, and grey is not progressed/decision not to continue.

Table 6.3: Progress on 2018 WMMP targets

Target	Indicator	2018 WMMP target	2022/23 progress			
			Buller	Grey	Westland	West Coast Region
1.1 To maintain or reduce the total quantity of waste disposed of to landfill from the West Coast on a per capita basis	Waste disposed to landfill <300 kg per person each year.	340	295	522	344	402
2.1 Increase in the proportion of material captured for recycling at kerbside and transfer stations.	Kerbside recycling > 35% by 2025	29%	40%	27%	19%	29%
	Recycling at Transfer stations > 50% by 2025	27%	22%	13%	24%	18%
2.2 Establish simple and effective recycling services for visitors to the West Coast Region.	Establish five landfill waste and recycling depots at key visitor locations on the West Coast by 2022. Pilot with two facilities in Buller District followed by the remainder of the Region.	N/A	Three facilities established in 2019, two of these have been removed due to high levels of contamination.	Preston Road Recycling Centre was established and is operational and well utilised by the community.	N/A	N/A

Target	Indicator	2018 WMMP target	2022/23 progress			
			Buller	Grey	Westland	West Coast Region
3.1 Satisfaction with kerbside collection and transfer station services.	% resident and visitor satisfaction	> 85%	Transfer station customer survey takes place. The results of the 2021 survey show that 78% of respondents think the ease of use for the site is 'very good' or 'fairly good'. An overall satisfaction question has not been asked.	Resident satisfaction is tracked via Grey Annual Reports. The 2022/23 results show 80% residents' satisfaction. Visitor satisfaction is not currently tracked.	Latest survey results (2022) show 72% overall satisfaction of kerbside collection service. Note: Visitor satisfaction is not currently tracked.	There is room for improvement to ensure questions are consistent with that of Grey and Westland, and to track each year.
4.1 Reduction in illegal dumping incidents and quantity of material illegally dumped in the West Coast Region.	Reduced quantity of illegally dumped waste. Reduced number of incidents of illegal dumping.	Quantity of illegally dumped waste < 2016/17 figure.	No data has been collected.	161 complaints of illegal dumping received from January 2020 to January 2024. The data is not consistently tracked over time.	Annually, approximately 15 incidents are reported to Council. This is tracked through Council's Customer Service Request system.	Illegal dumping continues to be an issue for the region. There is a lack of data detailing how large the issue is in each district.
5.1 To publish a summary of available data on waste generation and management with each annual report.	Summary data published in Annual Report.	N/A	Waste data is not published in the Annual Reports.	% of waste diversion from landfill is reported in the Annual Reports.	Volumes of waste to landfill is reported in the Annual Reports.	N/A
	To create a grant scheme to support new initiatives to reduce waste.	N/A	Buller District Council has Community Grants and Community-Led Volunteer Revitalisation Funds	Grey District Council has information on their website of external grant schemes. There is currently no Council	Westland District Council has information on their website of external grant schemes. There is currently no	N/A

Target	Indicator	2018 WMMP target	2022/23 progress			
			Buller	Grey	Westland	West Coast Region
			available. It is not clear whether either of these funds have been used for solid waste projects.	funded grant for solid waste activities.	Council funded grant for solid waste activities.	
6.1 Schools programmes supported by Council	Support the Enviroschools programme each year.	N/A	Seven Enviroschools events are run annually.	Five Enviroschools events are run annually.	Eight Enviroschools events are run annually. Supports Paper4Trees.	N/A
6.2 Council (or contractors) promote waste minimisation at events in the Region.	Councils promote waste minimisation at > five events in the Region each year.	N/A	Councils are promoting waste minimisation at local events. There is room for improvement as there is not a system for tracking how many events each Council is attending or supporting.			
6.3 Inform and support West Coast residents and businesses on waste minimisation opportunities.	Information made available and regularly updated on Council websites.	N/A	There is room for improvement to ensure information is consistent across all waste webpages, and regionally where appropriate.			
7.1 Work with others to influence national policy and action on waste minimisation and management.	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation in WasteMINZ events and TAO forum Working within LGNZ forums 			

7 Forecast of future demand

There are a range of drivers that mean methods and priorities for waste management are likely to continue to evolve, with an increasing emphasis on diversion of waste from landfill and recovery of material value. These drivers include:

- Increasing costs of waste disposal to landfill resulting from the waste levy expansion and emissions trading scheme.
- Changes resulting from Te Rautaki Para including potential changes to the WMA, and requirements for territorial authorities.
- The introduction of product stewardship schemes.
- Activities and policy resulting from the second emissions reduction plan.
- Changes to forestry slash removal requirements resulting from Cyclone Gabrielle.
- Increased private sector capacity to recycle and reprocess materials.
- Changes to markets for materials.
- Economic development in the region.

7.1 Forward projections

Forecasts of waste ‘generated’ have been developed using population projections, annual visitor data, historic waste

quantities and the specific factors relevant to the district (Figure 7.1).

As discussed in Section 6, waste per capita in the region is steadily increasing. Using the current percentage increases in landfill waste and recovery volumes year on year with no changes to the current waste services and behaviours in the region, landfill waste per capita is set to increase by 5% per year and recovery is set to increase by 6% per year.

Based on these figures (removing visitor waste data) waste generation per person is likely to exceed 450 kg by 2043 (Figure 7.2). With a projected population of 32,490 in 2043⁴⁵, and similar visitor numbers, the total waste generated (landfill waste and recycling) will exceed 20,000 tonnes per year.

Alongside Council giving their best efforts on waste minimisation and recovery initiatives, to see additional gains it is important for partnerships with private sector and the community to be built and utilised to reach and impact waste streams which Council has little to no influence or control over.

There are several factors which create significant uncertainty in the forecasts and these need to be considered in any decisions made. For example, unknown quantities of waste are generated on rural properties in the region and are assumed to be dealt with by farm dumps and burning farm waste. With the current (regional and national) focus on responsible rural waste management it is possible there will be an increase in commercial quantities of rural

⁴⁵ Population data taken from District Council Long Term Plans (LTPs).

waste such as plastic wrap, chemical containers and domestic waste being disposed of at the transfer stations. Other factors impacting future waste generation include:

- The impact of kerbside standardisation on waste disposed of via the transfer station network.
- The impact of varying economic activity in the region including mining and agriculture (dairy farming).

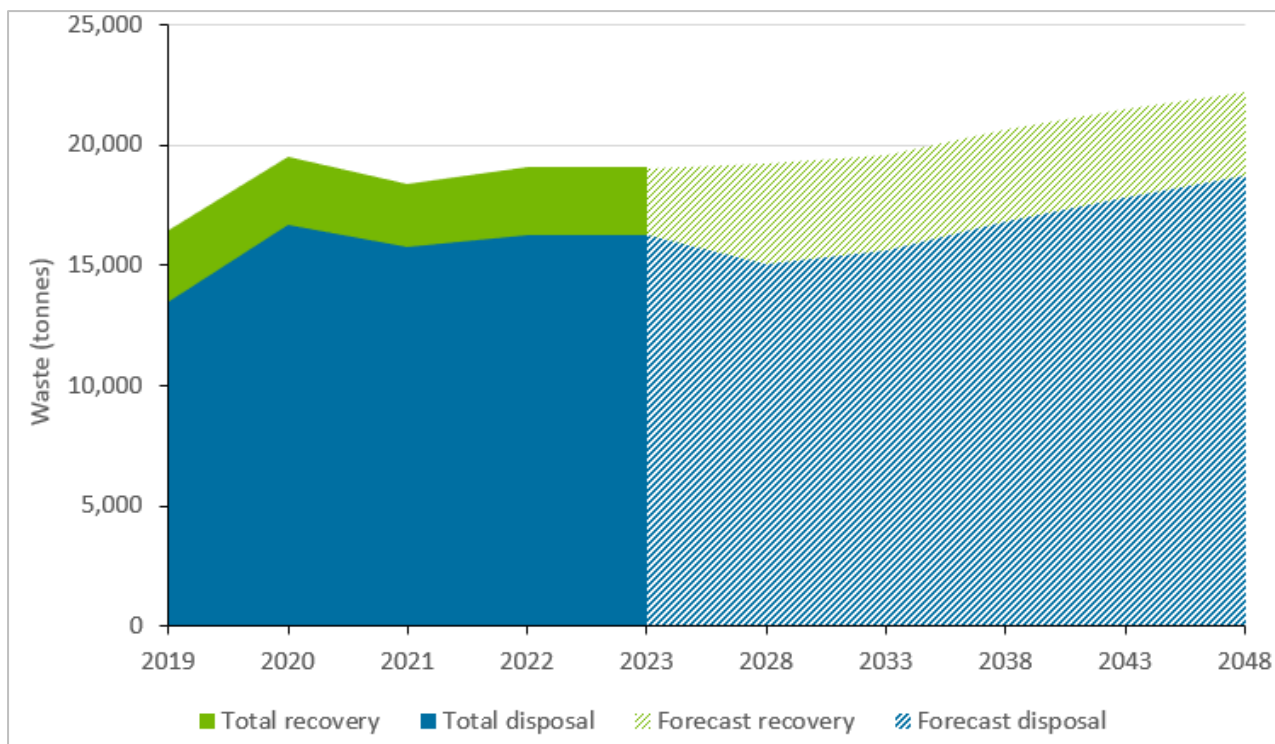


Figure 7.1: Future forecast waste generation based on population forecast.

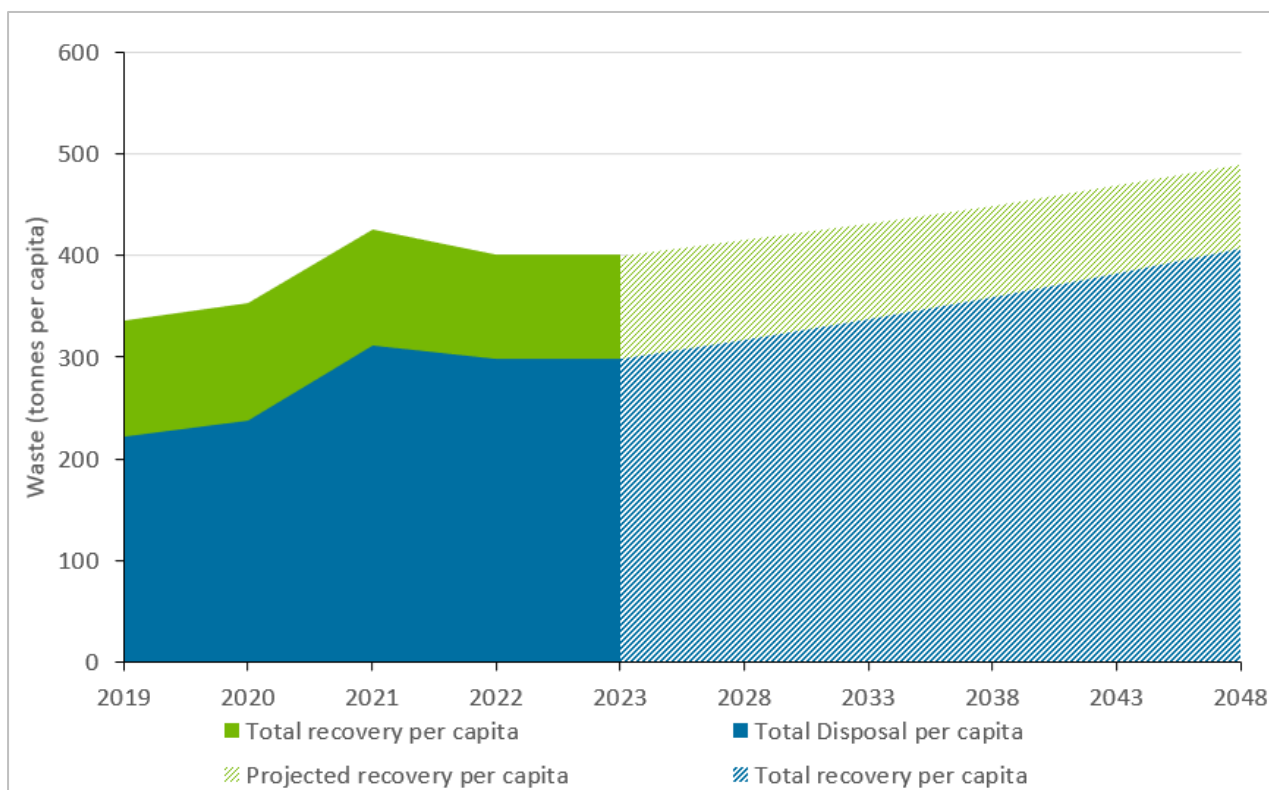


Figure 7.2: Future forecast waste generation per capita based on population forecast (visitor waste estimations excluded).

7.2 Challenges and opportunities

The aim of waste planning at a territorial authority level is to achieve effective and efficient waste management and minimisation. Using the available information, the key waste issues which should be addressed in the WMMP are listed below. These can be compared with the 2018 challenges and opportunities faced in Table 7.1.

- Continued, or enhanced, regional collaboration creates an opportunity to boost economies of scale and support a lot of the following opportunities/challenges.
 - Affordability of meeting the future national targets is an increasing challenge for the West Coast councils, partly due to low population density.
 - Streamlining data collection across all Council services.
 - There is considerable opportunity to increase the capture of materials (specifically paper, plastic, metals, and organic materials) for diversion.
 - Streamlining kerbside collections with all Councils offering the same service, and planning for new services as required, in line with the national kerbside standardisation. We recognise that work is currently underway to increase recovery from kerbside through the combined procurement work with Grey and Westland.
 - Increasing the availability of information regarding waste diversion, infrastructure, and current performance to rate payers and members of the public online and in other methods to increase buy-in.
- Focus on sectors likely to generate more waste in the future including:
 - Agricultural waste – ensuring farmers make informed decisions on waste management and appropriate services for their sector.
 - Mining waste – considering the increases in waste volumes and types from the industry.
 - Reporting of emissions associated with waste services and management does not currently take place. As part of the National Strategy tracking of this data will need to start taking place.
 - Education and behaviour change are important to reduce the generation of materials, enhance the use of existing infrastructure, improve the capture of materials for recycling and recovery, address contamination in recycling and illegal dumping.
 - There is currently limited information available on contamination in kerbside recycling which makes it difficult to track progress. Work is required to record this data and understand underlying barriers to recycling well, alongside leveraging national policy change such as alignment with national standardisation of what is collected for recycling.
 - Waste from tourism is expected to increase therefore work to support the procurement of goods and consumables from tourism providers and careful planning around communication and infrastructure available to tourists to encourage diversion of waste is essential to successful recovery in the region, in particular Westland.

- There is no disposal facility (landfill) in Buller District which creates a challenge as landfill waste is transported out of region to Nelson. There is also a lack of hardfill and hazardous waste facilities in Buller District.

Table 7.1: Challenges, opportunities, and possible solutions from 2018 WMMP

Challenge	Opportunity
Data collection is misaligned and patchy in some waste areas.	To streamline data collection across all contractors, Council, and sites – aim for consistency and alignment across the region.
Significant amounts of Divertible Material are being sent to landfill.	Potential to increase the capture of materials (household recyclables, C&D waste, and organic materials) for diversion.
Lack of information available for ratepayers/members of the public on waste diversion, infrastructure, and current performance.	Opportunity to increase public engagement and awareness of resources that are available resulting in changes to behaviour.
Lack of focus on industrial waste.	Opportunity to engage different industry groups in the region to ensure recovery of waste streams at an industrial scale.
Emissions reporting for waste services and management is not currently taking place.	Opportunity to begin the conversation now to take residents and organisations on the journey.

Challenge	Opportunity
In some districts there are high amounts of contamination in kerbside recycling. Limited data is available on contamination which makes it difficult to track progress.	Approach contamination, and other issues, through an educational and behaviour change lens. Strengthen these skills within Council. Improve data collection in this area.
Tourism waste is anticipated to increase.	Opportunity to forward plan for this increase and target communication campaigns in tourism hotspots. This may include additional Levy returns for projects, or a potential dispensation for tourism numbers.

Part 2

Where do we want to be?

8 Background

This section introduces the vision, goals, objectives, and targets (strategic framework) for waste management and minimisation in the West Coast. Together, the vision, goals, objectives, and targets establish the planning foundations for the waste management and minimisation plan (WMMP).

The relationship between Vision, Goals and Objectives is illustrated in Figure 8.1.



Figure 8.1: Vision, goals, objectives, and targets⁴⁶.

⁴⁶ Figure adapted from Waste Assessments and Waste Management and Minimisation Planning – A Guide for Territorial Authorities, MfE 2015.

8.1 Draft vision, goals, objectives, and targets

The West Coast Councils have aligned, in the context of their region, to the vision, goals, and objectives with that of the National Waste Strategy. This ensures the WMMP will be future proofed, and the region will be well positioned to adapt to national direction.

The vision, goals and objectives were drafted in a workshop with Council staff. The National Waste Strategy wording was used as a baseline, and amendments were made to ensure they reflect the West Coast. Particular attention was given to framing each element to ensure they would be easily understood.

Figure 8.2 outlines the vision, three goals and eight objectives which Buller, Grey and Westland District Councils have adopted.

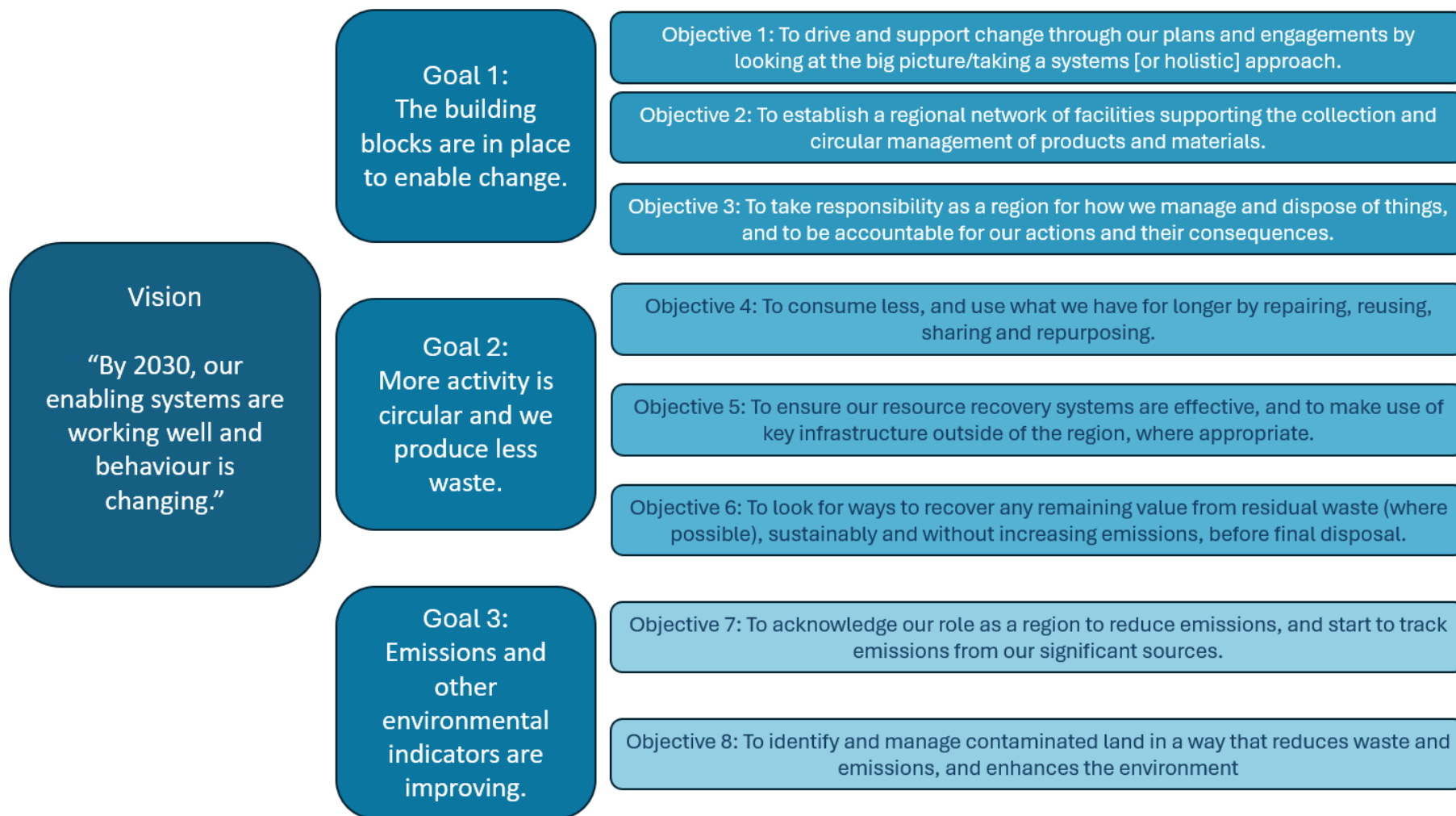


Figure 8.2: Vision, goals and objectives for the WMMP .

8.2 Proposed targets

The Councils set out targets in the 2018 WMMP, as outlined in Table 6.3. The decided approach was to review these targets, align under the appropriate updated goal and objective, and keep them similar where possible.

Where Councils had undertaken action on the target, regardless of whether this had been partially or fully met, the target was amended to take the next intuitive step.

As discussed in Section 8.1, the Councils have decided to align with the Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy. The Strategy has the following national targets that the West Coast, alongside the rest of the country, must aim to achieving by 2030:

- Waste Generation: reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10 per cent per person.
- Waste Disposal: reduce the amount of material that needs final disposal by 30 per cent per person; and
- Waste Emissions: reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by at least 30 per cent.

Performance standards, specific to national kerbside standardisation, have also been set by Central Government, which the Councils must aim to achieve. Of the total household waste placed at kerbside, Councils will need to divert:

- 30 per cent by 2026.
- 40 per cent by 2028; and
- 50 per cent by 2030.

In addition, targets should also align with Councils' Long Term Plan performance measures and Asset Management Plan key performance indicators. The targets in Table 8.1 align with these, and the expected performance of proposed priority actions outlined in Section 9.6 of this Waste Assessment.

It is important to recognise the challenges that the region will face in meeting the national targets, primarily due to the significant levels of transient visitors that travel through the region annually (as discussed in Section 5.3).

Waste Generation: reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10 per cent per person

As discussed in Section 4, Councils have a limited amount of influence in the top levels of the waste hierarchy. Therefore, efforts may need to be focused on building partnerships and lobbying for action by central government.

Waste Disposal: reduce the amount of material that needs final disposal by 30 per cent per person

As discussed in Section 7, to meet this target Council must give their best efforts to waste minimisation and recovery initiatives, alongside building and fostering effective partnerships with private sector and the community to reach waste streams where Council has little to no influence or control over.

Waste Emissions: reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by at least 30 per cent

In 2022, 93.3 per cent of waste emissions were biogenic methane – largely generated by the decomposition of organic waste (such as

food, garden, wood, and paper waste). While waste contributes a small percentage of our total emissions, biogenic methane has a warming effect 28 times greater than carbon dioxide. As such national governments have a focus for District Councils to reduce the volume of organic waste entering landfills.

As not all landfills in New Zealand have the infrastructure to actively capture gases from waste, emissions are not currently measured. In this instance, Councils can estimate the emissions from their landfills through evidence-based estimations. Utilising landfill specific composition data (SWAP data) or combined national level Class 1 landfill data alongside the MfE emission factors for waste a high-level emission figure can be developed for the landfills in the West Coast. This will create a baseline for tracking progress against the 30% reduction target.

Table 8.1: Proposed targets

Target		Unit	2018	2022/23	Regional Target
Waste generation	Reduce the amount of material entering the waste management system by 10% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	385.51	494	445 by 2030
Waste to landfill	Reduce the total waste tonnes per capita going to landfill by 30% per person by 2030*	kg per capita per annum	299.76	402	282 by 2030
	Reduce the total waste tonnes per dwelling going to landfill from the Council kerbside collection by 30% per person by 2030*	kg per dwelling per annum	575.63	573	401
Diversion of waste	Increase the amount of household waste diverted to recycling (Council provided kerbside collection only, excludes green waste) *	% diversion from landfill	37%	33%	30% by July 2026 40% by July 2028 50% by July 2030
	Reduce contamination of Council provided kerbside recycling.	% contamination	N/A	31%	TBC
Waste emissions	Increase organics capture at transfer station and kerbside (%) * <i>Organics capture includes food, garden, and timber waste streams.</i>	% diversion from landfill	N/A	4%	30% capture of organic material by 2030
	Reduce the biogenic methane emissions from waste by 2030 (CO ₂ e) *	% reduction of biogenic methane	N/A	TBC ⁴⁷	30% reduction
Customer satisfaction	Percentage of community satisfied with the solid waste service.	% satisfaction	N/A	72 – 82%	> 85% satisfaction
	Total number of complaints received about the Council’s solid waste service	No. of complaints annually	N/A	N/A	> 50 complaints annually
Environmental health and safety	Maintain 100 per cent compliance with resource consent conditions for Council-operated solid waste district facilities.	% compliance	100%	100%	100% compliance

Note: targets marked with an (*) asterisk are requirements from Central Government.

⁴⁷ Councils are awaiting guidance from central government on the calculation of biogenic methane emissions from waste before a baseline is confirmed for the region.

Part 3

How are we going to get there?

9 Options identified

9.1 Introduction

Section 51 of the WMA requires that the Waste Assessment contains a statement of options available to meet the forecast demands of the region with an assessment of the suitability of each option.

This section summarises the identification and evaluation of options to meet the forecast demands of the region and to meet the goals and targets set out in Section 8. The process started by identifying a wide range of possible options, or ‘possibilities,’ and agreeing on a set of evaluation criteria. The list of ‘possibilities’ have then been evaluated against the criteria to identify priority options. The priority options from this assessment will be incorporated into the draft WMMP Action Plan.

For the West Coast region, the total quantity of waste generated is forecast to increase over the life of this plan as more residents utilise the council waste services offered and economic activity in the region increases. Actions which feed into the WMMP need to take account of these factors, while driving a reduction in total waste generated (whether recovered or landfilled) and a reduction waste disposed to landfill.

9.2 Identifying options

There are a wide range of possible approaches that could be adopted in the West Coast to achieve, or work towards, their vision and goals. A useful way to consider how to make effective change is whether the option addresses infrastructure (including collection), education/information and regulation/policy. These are supported by having the right data to inform strategic and operational decision making.

Ensuring the West Coast is in a good place to transition to a circular economy involves considering materials through their entire life cycle, through production, product design, use and disposal. Maximising the value of materials recovered through waste minimisation and management activities, and actively collaborating with the community and private sector, are important when making this transition. Figure 9.1 details the components of council’s contribution to a circular economy with multiple elements in place to set strong foundations for success.

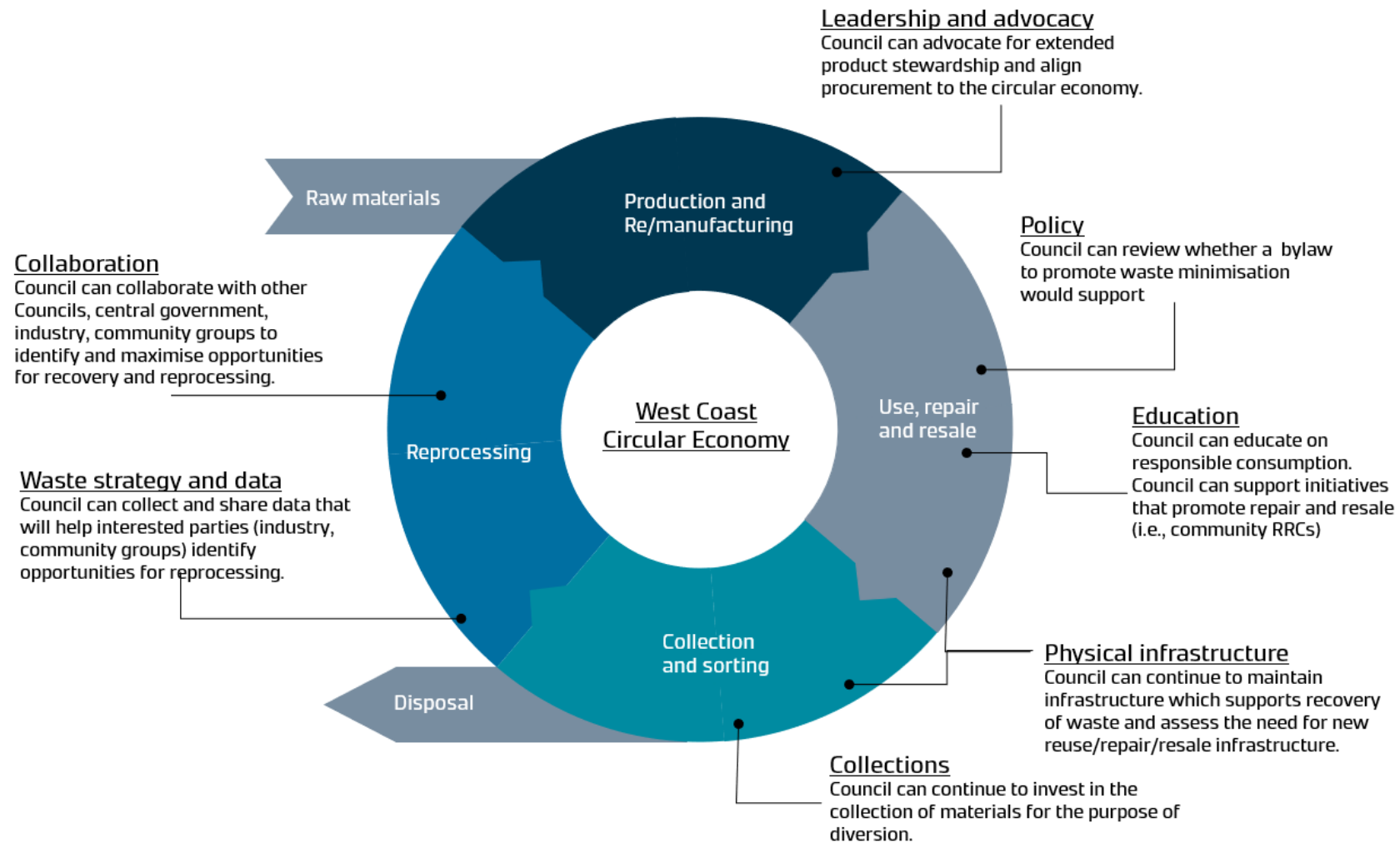


Figure 9.1: Components of Councils contribution to a circular economy in the West Coast.

9.3 Possibilities for the West Coast

From the assessment of Part One of this document, the Current Situation, key opportunities have been identified and could be implemented in a number of ways. This document refers to these as the Possibilities. These Possibilities build on existing, and already planned, activities.

To develop pathways for circularity in the West Coast and achieve effective change in each of the Focus Areas (Table 9.1), there would ideally be a combination of Possibilities covering:

- Policy (e.g., Central Government policy, district bylaws),
- Infrastructure (e.g., regional disposal facility, transfer stations, kerbside collection, signage) and
- Education (e.g. targeted education and behaviour change programmes)

The influence of national policy, local policy, infrastructure, and education sit across different areas of the circular economy (Figure 9.2).

Table 9.1: Possible options development in line with current and planned activities sets out a list of Possibilities, using this approach, with consideration is given to:

- The current activities in place.
- Planned changes still to be implemented; and
- Possibilities - future options not currently planned.

The list of Possibilities is tested against the applicability to the West Coast Region using the Evaluation Criteria in Section 9.4. This evaluation determines whether it will be a Priority Option.

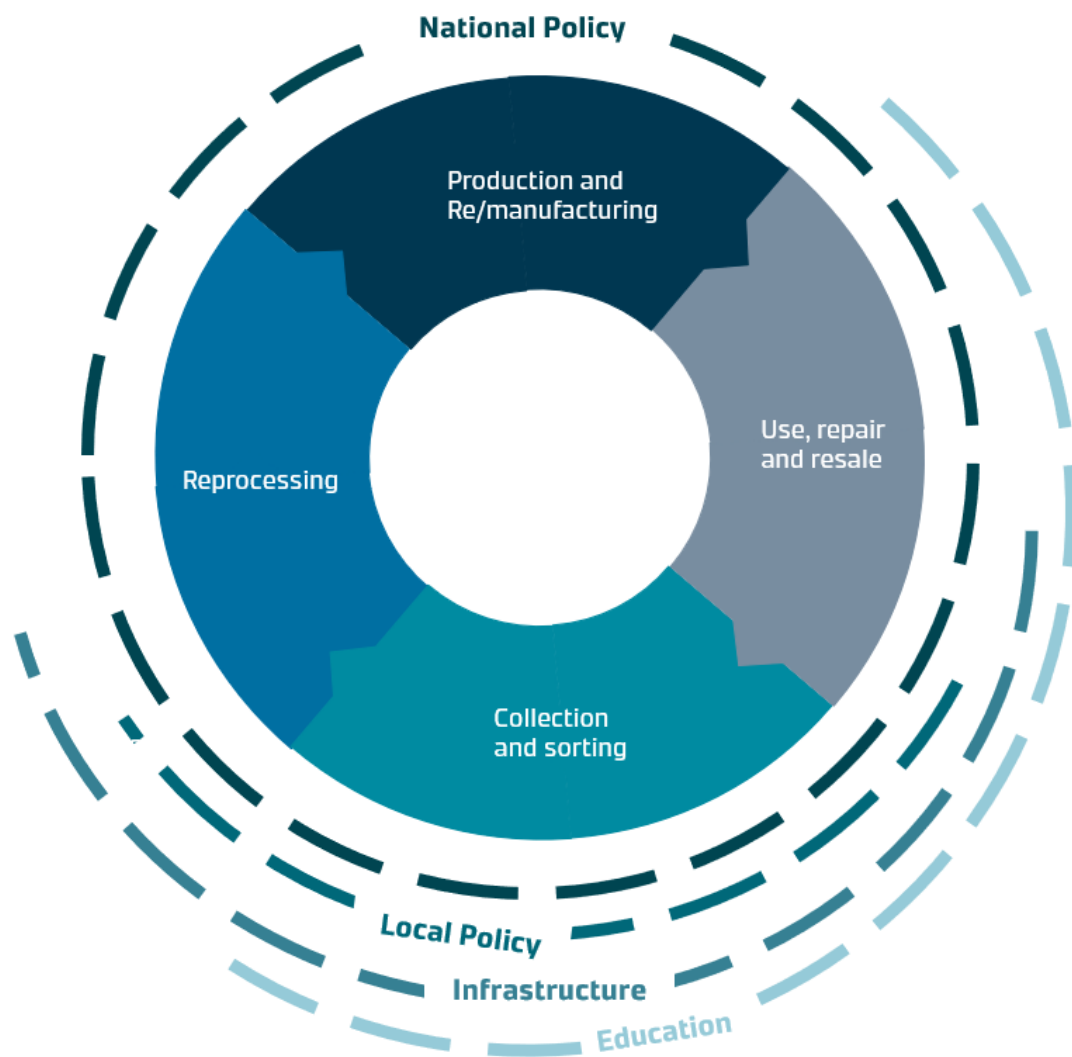


























Figure 9.2: Level of influence of change levers in the circular economy framework.

Table 9.1: Possible options development in line with current and planned activities

Focus area / Key opportunity	Intervention	Current What is happening? (Nationally and regionally)	Planned future What is planned to happen? (Nationally and regionally)	Possibilities What opportunities are there to improve? (Possibilities in bold address multiple focus areas)
Contamination in kerbside recycling	Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National standardisation for what is accepted for recycling at kerbside. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Proposed National Waste Data Framework will require more reporting on domestic kerbside contamination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with local industry/organisations to establish hubs for collection of difficult materials/common contaminators of recycling e.g. Supermarkets. Undertake a study on contamination in kerbside and public litter bins to establish problematic materials, causes for contamination and possible options to prevent contamination, these could include a demerit points system or RFID tags on bins to monitor repeat offenders. Develop/update solid waste bylaw to strengthen enforcement.
	Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kerbside recycling bin audits (through an app for Buller and Grey) and random spot checks by kerbside contractors (Buller and Westland). MRF contamination data collected in Buller. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate options to prevent contamination of glass colours (Westland). Investigate solutions for high contamination in kerbside comingled recycling in Grey District Council. Require that kerbside waste contractors to complete random spot checks on recycling bin compliance.
	Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing to public on contamination levels in kerbside bins. Kerbside recycling bin audits with stickers for non-compliance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kerbside recycling bin audit process plan in place through app in Grey. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with central government, local government, and non-government organisations to assess solutions to reduce contamination and explore opportunities for the West Coast to improve waste management. This could include joining nationwide forums e.g. WasteMINZ TAO Forum or connecting with the Sustainable Business Network. Identify learnings from bin audits undertaken (by Council and contractors to Council) to identify materials which cause contamination. Develop an educational programme of work focusing on behaviour change and information sharing to the community. Utilise and/or build on national waste and behaviour change campaigns and/or collateral to promote waste diversion.
Environmental impacts – Reducing emissions and other environmental impacts associated with waste generation	Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of closed landfills in line with consent requirements. Councils working with Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora, Te Tai o Poutini Hospital and Specialist Services to offer medical waste services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remediation plan for Birchfield and Westport legacy Landfills (Buller). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the most efficient way for Councils to report consistently on emissions associated with waste generation and management across the region. Councils to continue to work with Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora, Te Tai o Poutini Hospital and Specialist Services to ensure medical waste is disposed of appropriately.
	Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigations into which Council owned closed/historic landfill sites require a remediation plan. Develop resilience plans for current waste infrastructure and services. This could include collaborating with Civil Defence and other organisations to develop a regional Disaster Waste Management Plan. This will ensure processes in place for managing waste associated with natural disasters, and waste from earthquake prone buildings. Investigate feasible landfill gas management options for McLeans and Butlers Landfills. Partner with organisations promoting emissions tracking e.g. Development West Coast, West Coast Climate Action Support. Investigate the feasibility of a regional Disposal Facility/Landfill that could service the entire region.
	Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and share existing tools, case studies and resources to support organisations in calculating their waste related emissions.

Focus area / Key opportunity	Intervention	Current What is happening? (Nationally and regionally)	Planned future What is planned to happen? (Nationally and regionally)	Possibilities What opportunities are there to improve? (Possibilities in bold address multiple focus areas)
Illegal dumping	Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grey District has a schedule of offences and fees that apply for littering or dumping. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Litter Act legislation review. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate within Council (internally), across Councils (regionally), and with organisations/industry (externally) to actively track illegal dumping and record data through existing processes, such as Request for Service system. Investigate developing a financial assistance programme and penalty system to manage illegal dumping. This could include rebates/discounts for current resource recovery infrastructure or tracking in illegal dumping hotspots for penalties.
	Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councils actively address illegal dumping activity including where possible identifying perpetrators and if required undertaking clean-up activity. Residents report incidents of illegal dumping with Councils utilising services to collect and responsibly dispose of illegal dumped waste. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued collection of illegal waste dumping when notified of occurrence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate whether Council provide or partner to provide a bookable bulky waste collection service (e.g. for whiteware).
	Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councils have illegal dumping web pages with information on the issue and education around this. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and education on the impacts of illegal dumping and options for unwanted materials - charity shops, reuse, Trade Me.
Industry waste management and uptake in schemes	Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific policy on waste minimisation for construction sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Building Act amendments to include mandatory waste minimisation plans for all construction and demolition projects. The Emissions Reduction Plan actions on construction waste (15.3.1). Waste Strategy focus on organic material recovery, including timber from construction and demolition. Landfill levy increase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and facilitate collaboration opportunities across the region with iwi, industry, businesses, community groups, utilising activities that are already established e.g., virtual/in person networking events, Council gardens etc. Establish needs and barriers from industry to support waste reduction. This can be done through connecting with industry at existing events run by industry or Council. Advocate and facilitate sector groups (e.g. C and D, Agricultural waste groups) to discuss problems and explore solutions. Utilise resources outside of the region and connect with other regional sector groups (e.g. Tradie breakfast).
	Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agrecovery services are available across the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the process of setting up a Tyrewise collection point when the programme opens (September 2024), and promoting to encourage uptake (Westland and Buller) WMF funded construction of C&D recovery arrangements at transfer stations across the region and coordinated management of construction waste materials. Starting discussion for setting up soft plastics programme and agricultural plastics (Buller only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect and investigate low uptake of existing product stewardship schemes in the region including Agrecovery, to apply learnings for new opportunities that emerge. Investigate options for recovering high volumes of industry waste, with consideration of landfill longevity. <p>Investigate whether Council want to facilitate additional Product Stewardship Schemes at their transfer stations.</p>
	Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational resources available through private (commercial and not for profit) and public (council) organisations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional C&D waste engagement and education programme, with key audience as construction sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Information and education – available to rate payers and members of the public	Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align survey questions across districts in resident satisfaction survey to allow for year-on-year and cross district comparison. Conduct a resident satisfaction survey within Buller. Consistently share waste recovery and diversion information in Councils Annual Reports.
	Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate whether a grant for waste and resource recovery activities in the region can be developed between Councils (draft criteria for grant funding has been drafted). Explore whether the community would like Councils to offer services or guidance such as waste audits to help organisations understand their waste generation better.

Focus area / Key opportunity	Intervention	Current What is happening? (Nationally and regionally)	Planned future What is planned to happen? (Nationally and regionally)	Possibilities What opportunities are there to improve? (Possibilities in bold address multiple focus areas)
	Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on waste and recycling services in the region are available through the Council's websites and Facebook pages. School education programmes supporting existing environmental education activities for schools, homes, and businesses. Composting workshops take place in Buller. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align information available on council websites regarding waste services, education, and policy where possible. For example, share good news stories in a consistent and regular manner, share activities from Enviroschools through Annual Reports, ensure the information on waste services available is up to date, consistent and easy to find online. Collaborate with industry and community to create West Coast A-Z recycling & recovery directory to highlight circular services in the region. Assess whether a regional Waste Minimisation / Behaviour Change role could be developed for the region. Advocate for action and research promoting the top of the waste hierarchy (e.g. Product Stewardship Schemes, Right to Repair legislation and research into recovery options for difficult to manage waste streams).
Reduce generation – waste volumes decrease and increase in material recovery	Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event waste management and minimisation plan for events (Buller). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulated product stewardship with six priority products. Additional funding available through waste levy increases Organic kerbside collection to become mandatory nationally by 2030. The Proposed National Waste Data Framework will require more reporting on domestic kerbside and commercial organics. Landfill levy increase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate alternative options to manage waste streams / materials which take up most volume in the regions landfills and transfer stations. Tourism Levy implemented for those staying in the region to cover the costs of infrastructure including waste assets and management.
	Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversion trials e.g. Techcollect partnership (E-waste), small appliance recycling. Diversion drop-offs: Polystyrene drop-off Mitre 10, Expol), household battery, plan pots. Trialed recycle/waste stations at tourism hotspots across the West Coast – trial the approach in Buller District (North Beach, Punakaiki) and then roll out to other locations. Reviewing the results from C&D feasibility study to assess the best options for C&D recovery in the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C&D feasibility study – construction of facilities based on study recommendations. Organics feasibility study. Continued support for diversion partnerships. Continue to support and promote product stewardship schemes through existing transfer stations where appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement Resource Recovery Shops in the region's main transfer stations (Westport, McLean's Pit and Hokitika). Review access to services e.g. rural residents, review transfer station openings times/days to assess whether they meet the needs of locals, visitors. Investigate opportunities to provide cost-effective services for those not receiving a kerbside collection e.g. mobile solution etc. Investigate consolidating MRF operations and options for glass (local processing and beneficial use). Review the results from organics feasibility study to assess the best options for organic recovery in the region in line with central governments indicated direction. Collaboratively investigate with the community and industry groups what potential reuse, share and repair services would be beneficial for the region, and the role of councils in this i.e., collaboration, support, encouragement. Map out existing resource recovery work that is happening in the region including community-led initiatives and share and promote publicly.
	Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information available on all three district council websites to encourage waste reduction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue behavioural change plan and programme set to continue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilise council websites to link to existing resources to help plan and manage material management e.g. BRANZ and REBRI for the construction sector. Investigate the volumes and impacts of waste from tourism, which can feed into a feasibility study for how to manage waste from tourism in the region.
Streamline data collection across all contractors, Council, and sites	Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint waste services contract outlines data collection consistent with requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate / support data collection on waste diversion through other sources e.g., reuse shops, food banks etc
	Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contractors are collecting data from kerbside and waste facilities (landfills and Resource Centres). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standardisation across kerbside delivery (regional approach) – joint waste services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align services available at transfer stations across the region.

Focus area / Key opportunity	Intervention	Current What is happening? (Nationally and regionally)	Planned future What is planned to happen? (Nationally and regionally)	Possibilities What opportunities are there to improve? (Possibilities in bold address multiple focus areas)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From 1 July 2024 all waste facility operators are required to collect data and report on the source of the waste they receive through MfE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a template for reporting consistency across the region for data which is currently collected but not mandated therefore has no set template and lacks consistency across the region (e.g. contamination, emissions reporting). Investigate data collection from difficult waste streams often managed by private contractors (e.g. hazardous, EOL vehicles, medical) Collect tonnage data at Transfer stations from residential drop off and commercial drop off from different sectors to help track trends for future analysis.
	Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Streamline kerbside collections - all councils to offer the same service in line MfE's kerbside standardisation	Policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standardisation of kerbside services nationwide implemented 1st February 2024. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All councils to have the same waste contractor which reports at district level streamlining data capture.
	Infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weighbridges are installed at Westport, Reefton, and Hokitika Transfer Station, and Karamea and McLeans Pit Landfills to collect waste data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standardisation across kerbside delivery (regional approach) – consistent waste services. Possible organic materials collection as per kerbside standardisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigation into combining Grey District and northern Westland District refuse disposal in the medium term (as cells at Butlers and/or McLean's Landfills are completed). <i>Option carried from 2018 WMMP.</i>
	Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated activity on contamination (linked into national action and information)

9.4 Prioritising options

Workshop with Council Staff

To assess the feasibility of the Possibilities listed in Table 9.1, a workshop took place with Council Staff representing the waste and resource recovery teams for each district. The focus areas were reviewed to ensure the key themes were correct with the challenges and opportunities the region currently faces. The current and planned activities under each focus area was then reviewed to ensure all the work to date had been captured. A review of the Possibilities then took place by focus area, with Council Staff amending specific actions required by the Possibility and adding additional options where required.

Evaluation criteria

As not all the Possibilities can be implemented within budget and resource constraints, nine Evaluation Criteria (explained in Appendix D) have been developed to assist Councils' decision making on priority areas for investment and confirm what actions can be proposed in the draft Regional WMMP. The criteria have been developed to align with the West Coast's vision and goals and have been equally weighted for this analysis.

The Evaluation Criteria include:

- 1 Cost to Council (economically viable)
- 2 Accessibility and affordability
- 3 Impact on the wider environment
- 4 Social/cultural outcomes

- 5 Partnership and collaboration
- 6 Recovery and markets
- 7 Responsible consumption
- 8 Appropriate for West Coast/regional lens
- 9 Technical risk

Each Possibility is rated as either high, medium, or low as per the outcomes which can be achieved for each criterion (Table 9.2). They are colour-coded using a traffic light system (i.e., 'low' is red, 'medium' is orange and 'high' is green) with a weighting applied to advice which of the possibilities are in line with the West Coast's vision and goals.

Those which rate higher (17+) show greater alignment with the vision and goals and therefore, is recommended to be considered as an option for action in the WMMP (Table 9.3).

Table 9.2: Rating and weighting key

Colour	Rating	Weighting
	High	3
	Medium	2
	Low	1

Table 9.3: Overall prioritisation guide

Colour	Overall score	Priority
	22 to 27	Option recommended to be taken forward as priority option in the WMMP.
	17 to 21	Options to be considered to be taken forward into WMMP.
	9 to 16	Options may not be taken forward into the next WMMP but may be considered for future WMMPs or after the priority actions have been achieved.

9.5 Evaluation

The evaluation of all ‘possibilities’ from Table Appendix E.1 are detailed in Appendix E.

9.6 Priority options and actions

Once the list of Possibilities was evaluated (Appendix E), a list of Priority Options emerged. Priority Options were defined as those with a score >17 which demonstrate strong alignment with the region’s objectives and goals.

The Shortlist Assessment details the Option Theme (where the options complement or align with other options these have been grouped), Focus Area (initial issue or challenge identified in 7.2) and

the Option (which will further support these activities, and ultimately lead towards circular outcomes for the region).

The objectives which the Priority Options are assessed against during the Shortlist Assessment include:

- Objective 1 (OB 1): To drive and support change through our plans and engagements by looking at the big picture/taking a systems [or holistic] approach.
- Objective 2 (OB 2): To establish a regional network of facilities supporting the collection and circular management of products and materials.
- Objective 3 (OB 3): To take responsibility as a region for how we manage and dispose of things, and to be accountable for our actions and their consequences.
- Objective 4 (OB 4): To consume less, and use what we have for longer by repairing, reusing, sharing, and repurposing.
- Objective 5 (OB 5): To ensure our resource recovery systems are effective, and to make use of key infrastructure outside of the region, where appropriate.
- Objective 6 (OB 6): To look for ways to recover any remaining value from residual waste (where possible), sustainably and without increasing emission, before final disposal.
- Objective 7 (OB 7): To acknowledge our role as a region to reduce emissions and start to track emissions from our significant sources.

- Objective 8 (OB 8): To identify and manage contaminated land in a way that reduces waste and emissions and enhances the environment.

Council's intended role is also detailed in the Shortlist Assessment.

These roles include:

- Advocate/promote – To Central Government, community, or industry for change.
- Regulator – to direct / govern the region / district.
- Service provider – To host the service (infrastructure, programme, service).
- Collaborator/connector – To be the connecting party between groups.
- Enabler – to guide and assist along with collect information to assist in decision making.
- Advisor – To support community groups, Iwi, residents, industry and other.

Table 9.4: Shortlist Assessment (priority options)

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
Top Options	Creating partnerships	Industry waste	Advocate and facilitate sector groups (e.g. C&D, Agricultural waste groups) to discuss problems and explore solutions. Utilise resources outside of the region and connect with other regional sector groups (e.g. Tradie breakfast)	R	OB1, OB3	Advocate/promote Enable Advisor
		Contamination in kerbside	Collaborate with central government, local government, and non-government organisations to assess solutions to reduce contamination and explore opportunities for the West Coast to improve waste management. This could include joining nationwide forums e.g. WasteMINZ TAO Forum or connecting with the Sustainable Business Network.	R	OB1, OB3, OB5	Advocate/promote Enable Advisor
		Industry waste	Investigate and facilitate collaboration opportunities across the region with iwi, industry, businesses, community groups, utilising activities that are already established e.g., virtual/in person networking events, Council gardens etc.	R	OB1, OB3, OB5	Collaborator/connector Enabler
	Communicate and share circular economy initiatives	Reduce generation	Utilise council websites to link to existing resources to help plan and manage material management e.g. BRANZ and REBRI for the construction sector.	R	OB3, OB6	Service provider Advisor

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
		Contamination in kerbside	Develop an educational programme of work focusing on behaviour change and information sharing to the community.	R	OB1, OB3, OB6	Service provider Advisor
		Contamination in kerbside	Utilise and/or build on national waste and behaviour change campaigns and/or collateral to promote waste diversion.	R	OB3, OB6	Service provider Advisor
	Policy development	Contamination in kerbside	Develop solid waste bylaw to strengthen enforcement.	R	OB1, OB3, OB4, OB6, OB7	Regulator
		Information and education	Investigate whether a grant for waste and resource recovery activities in the region can be developed between Councils.	R	OB3, OB4	Regulator
		Reduce generation	Tourism Levy implemented for those staying in the region to cover the costs of infrastructure including waste assets and management.	R	OB5, OB6	Advocate Regulator Advisor
	Product Stewardship	Information and education	Advocate for action and research promoting the top of the waste hierarchy (e.g. Product Stewardship Schemes, Right to Repair legislation and research into recovery options for difficult to manage waste streams).	R	OB2, OB3, OB6	Advocate/promote Enable Collaborator/connector
		Industry waste	Investigate whether Council want to facilitate Product Stewardship Schemes at their transfer stations e.g. Tyrewise collection point when the programme opens, promoting the programmes to encourage uptake.	R	OB2, OB3, OB6	Enable Advisor

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
		Reduce generation	Continue to support and promote product stewardship schemes through existing transfer stations where appropriate.	R	OB2, OB3, OB6	Advocate/promote Enable Collaborator/connector
	Making diversion easy	Streamline data collection	Align services available at transfer stations across the region.	R	OB2, OB5	Service provider Enabler
		Reduce generation	Investigate alternative options to manage waste streams / materials which take up most volume in the regions landfills and transfer stations.	R	OB1, OB2, OB5	Advisor
		Reduce generation	Review the results from C&D feasibility study to assess the best options for C&D recovery in the region (subject to feasibility study)	R	OB2, OB3, OB4, OB6, OB7	Enable Advisor
		Reduce generation	Review the results from organics feasibility study to assess the best options for organic recovery in the region in line with central governments indicated direction.	R	OB2, OB3, OB4, OB6, OB7	Enable Advisor
		Reduce generation	Investigate the volumes and impacts of waste from tourism, which can feed into a feasibility study for how to manage waste from tourism in the region.	R	OB1, OB2, OB3, OB5	Enable Advisor
	Resilience	Environmental impacts	Develop resilience plans for current waste infrastructure and services. This could include collaborating with Civil Defence and other organisations to develop a regional Disaster Waste Management Plan. This will ensure processes in place for managing	R	OB1, OB3, OB5, OB8	Enable Advisor Collaborator/Connector

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
			waste associated with natural disasters, and waste from earthquake prone buildings.			
		Environmental impacts	Investigate the feasibility of a regional Disposal Facility/Landfill that could service the entire region.	R	OB3, OB5, OB8	Service provider. Enabler
Other shortlisted options for consideration	Making diversion easy	Contamination in kerbside	Investigate options to prevent contamination of glass colours (Westland).	WDC	OB3, OB5	Enable Advisor
		Contamination in kerbside	Investigate solutions for high contamination in kerbside comingled recycling in Grey District Council.	GDC	OB3, OB5, OB6	Enable Advisor
		Contamination in kerbside	Collaborate with local industry/organisations to establish hubs for collection of difficult materials/common contaminants of recycling e.g. Supermarkets	R	OB3, OB5, OB6	Enable Advisor
		Illegal dumping	Investigate developing a financial assistance programme and penalty system to manage illegal dumping. This could include rebates/discounts for current resource recovery infrastructure or tracking in illegal dumping hotspots for penalties.	R	OB1, OB2	Enable Advisor
	Creating partnerships	Illegal dumping	Collaborate within Council (internally), across Councils (regionally), and with organisations/industry (externally) to actively track illegal dumping and record data through existing processes, such as Request for Service system.	R	OB2, OB5, OB6	Collaborator/Connector

	Option theme	Focus area	Options	Regional (R) or district specific (BDC, GDC, WDC)	Alignment with objectives	Councils intended role(s)
	Communicate and share circular economy initiatives	Reduce generation	Map out existing resource recovery work that is happening in the region including community-led initiatives and share and promote publicly.	R	OB3, OB5, OB6	Service provider Advisor
		Information and education	Align information available on council websites regarding waste services, education, and policy where possible. For example, share good news stories in a consistent and regular manner, share activities from EnviroSchools through Annual Reports, ensure the information on waste services available is consistent, up to date and easy to find online.	R	OB3, OB5, OB6	Service provider Advisor
		Information and education	Collaborate with industry and community to create West Coast A-Z recycling & recovery directory to highlight circular services in the region.	R	OB3, OB5, OB6	Service provider Advisor
	Improving data collection	Streamline data collection	Establish a template for reporting consistency from each District Council and Regional Council (waste data, emissions data) including waste streams reported on, total tonnage, diversion, contamination - align to new national requirements 01 July 2024 onwards.	R	OB1, OB7	Enabler
		Streamline data collection	Investigate/support data collection on waste diversion through other sources e.g., reuse shops, food banks etc	R	OB1, OB7	Enabler Advisor

9.7 Evaluating the impact of priority actions

Following the prioritisation of the options the associated spend and outcome are presented below. The intent of each action is to increase the capture of materials for recovery (reduce waste to landfill) and decrease emissions.

Material capture

Figure 9.3 presents the material capture for recycling or recovery of the tangible infrastructure options which are included in the priority options. Assumptions have been made regarding the timeline of implementation of these options in line with Central Government targets.

The figure shows that the greatest wins for diversion of material from landfill is to focus on organic materials (food and garden waste) and commercial waste including that of the construction sector. The values within the green section of the figure detail the potential recovery which can be achieved from each of the tangible infrastructure options.

Supporting initiatives

There are multiple actions that are not directly related to target waste streams or infrastructure but are critical in supporting capital and operational activities. This lack of quantifiable link makes it difficult to present the potential savings (waste reduction and emissions) of these supporting initiatives. It is more helpful to consider these options as underpinning the increased capture and reduced emissions delivered by the capital investments. The capital and operational activities will have limited impact without the

supporting activities and the supporting activities will have limited impact without the infrastructure and ongoing services.

With the planned increases to the waste levy along with LTP funding the regions indicative funding expected towards solid waste management is detailed in (Figure 9.4). It is important to note that funding through other central government sources is expected to be more difficult to obtain.

A high-level assessment of the cost of implementing the prioritised activities across the region suggests a total budget of over \$850,000 each year for operational expenditure (with capital expenditure varying depending on the option). These activities are ongoing, largely regional and could be introduced over an extended period drawing on increasing LTP budgets and/or waste levy funding. The breakdown of estimated costs for each of the tangible infrastructure options are detailed in Appendix F.

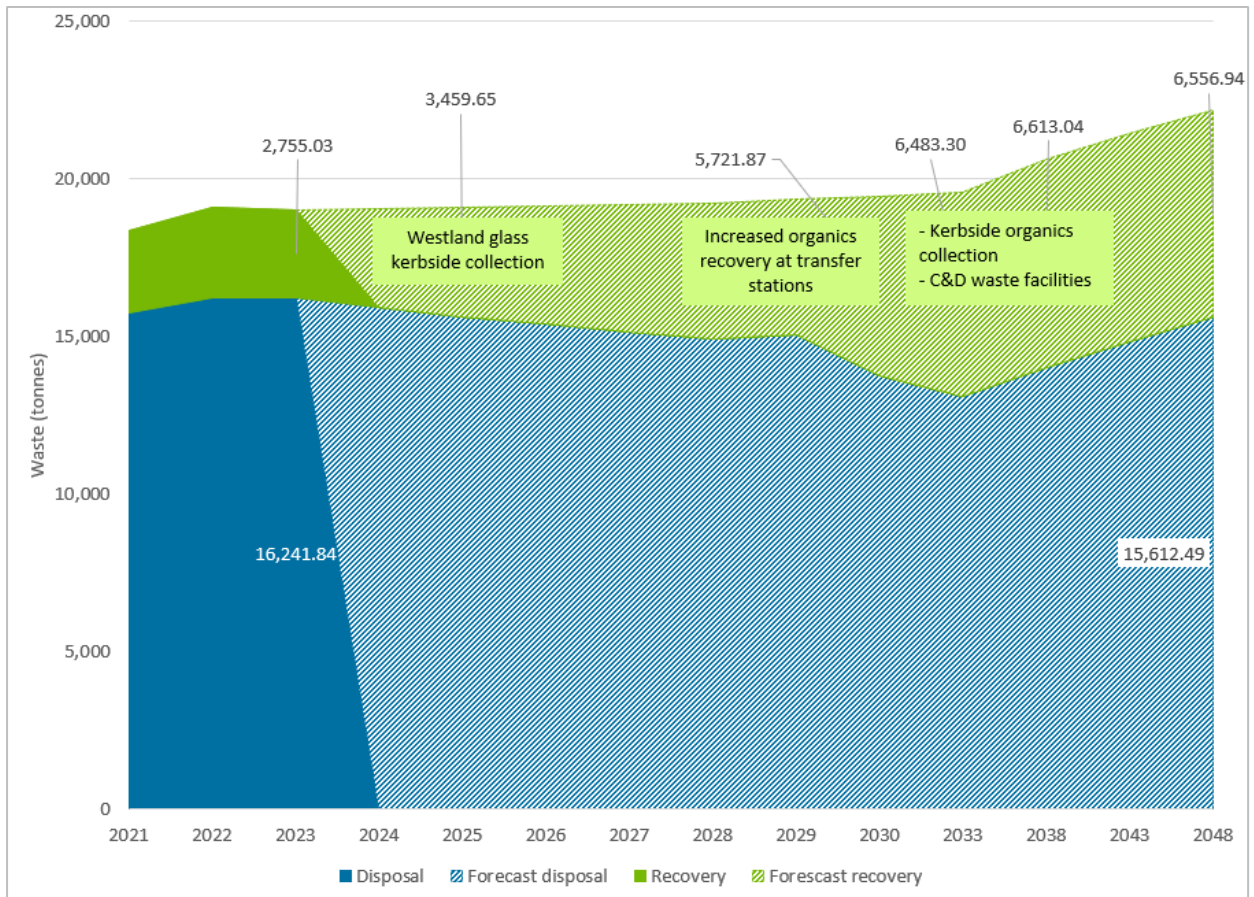


Figure 9.3: Material capture for new activities (priority options).

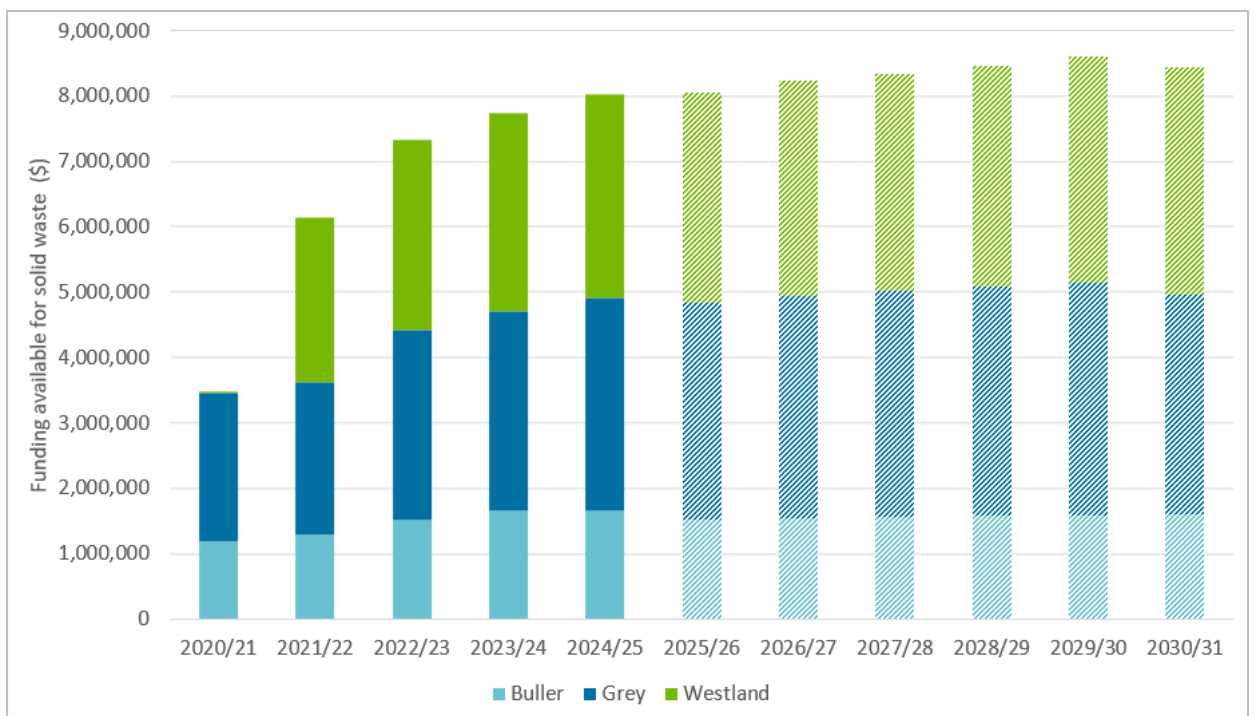


Figure 9.4: Indicative funding expected.

10 Statement of proposal

Drawing on the Possibilities, Evaluation, Priority Options, and the Councils' intended roles in meeting future demand, the Councils must:

- Include a statement of their proposal for meeting the forecast demands including proposals for new or replacement infrastructure.
 - A statement about the extent to which the proposals will:
 - Ensure that public health is adequately protected.
 - Promote effective and efficient waste management and minimisation.
- 1 This document has identified that over 16,000 tonnes of waste was generated in the West Coast Region in 2022/23 with 83% being sent to landfill and the remainder diverted via recycling. Diversion occurs predominantly through recycling at kerbside and transfer stations. The diversion of waste from landfill currently being achieved at kerbside is 30% which demonstrates the success of rolling out kerbside recycling services.
 - 2 Table 9.4: Shortlist Assessment (priority options) summarises the Priority Options the councils propose for meeting and managing the forecast demands on waste in the district (subject to consultation). These Options have been aligned to the strategic framework including goals, and objectives set out in Part 2 – Where do we want to be? Current waste minimisation services and activities provide a good

foundation and will continue to be delivered and built on to ensure:

- 1 The West Coast is set up to respond to future national policy changes.
- 2 Improved data collection and reporting to improve for planning and transparency.
- 3 Councils can tackle specific waste streams and improve the capture of materials.
- 4 Support and increase the focus on circular economy activities.

10.1 Councils' intended role in meeting the forecast demand

The next six years

The councils currently provide waste services in the district via a contracts for kerbside collection (to those in eligible areas), transfer station services, and resource recovery facilities. This ensures public health is adequately protected by providing facilities for the safe recovery and disposal of waste. The councils also provide information specific to disposal options and educational resources to encourage recovery and waste minimisation.

However, councils cannot achieve a waste minimisation and progress towards a circular economy alone. The updated regional vision focuses on ensuring systems are set up to enable successful recovery of waste and change in mindset towards consumption and the generation of waste. Over the next six years, through the proposed objectives in Part 2 – Where do we want to be? councils will continue to improve the delivery of waste services and facilities

including a more on supporting and enabling the community to contribute through:

- Developing partnerships and collaboration with industry and community groups.
- Developing behaviour change and education programmes.
- Providing leadership to industry, the community, and residents.
- Ensuring council owned services and facilities are consistent across the region.

Longer range forecast

The Aotearoa New Zealand Waste Strategy envisions a low waste, low emissions circular economy by 2050 and provides a high-level roadmap to achieve this. Over the next 27 years or four Waste Management and Minimisation Plans, a significant reduction in waste to landfill will need to be achieved. Alongside this, total material entering the waste system (waste generated) also needs to reduce.

11 Medical Officer of Health statement

The Medical Office of Health for the National Public Health Service – West Coast provided a statement regarding this Waste Assessment. This statement is included in Appendix G.

Appendix A Relevant policy for waste in the West Coast region

Table Appendix A.1 : National, regional, and district waste policy

National	Regional	District Council specific
Statutory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (currently under review) Health Act 1956 Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996 Resource Management Act 1991 Local Government Act 2002 Litter Act 1979 (under review) Climate Change Response Act 2002 Non-Statutory Emissions Reduction Plan 2022 Te Rautaki Para Waste Strategy 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018 Combined West Coast District Plan 	Annual Plan 2023/24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buller Annual Plan Grey Annual Plan Westland Annual Plan
		Long-Term Plan 2021/31 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buller LTP Grey LTP Westland LTP
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change: Buller climate change adaptation planning

Table Appendix A.2 : Goals and targets from the 2018 WMMP

Goals	Objectives	Targets	Indicators
Avoid and reduce waste where we can	1. To avoid creating waste	1.1 To maintain or reduce the total quantity of waste disposed of to landfill from the West Coast on a per capita basis.	The current figure is 340 kg per person. Waste disposed to landfill < 300 kg per person each year
Manage waste responsibly	2. To make it easy to recycle	2.1 Increase in the proportion of material captured for recycling at kerbside and transfer stations.	The current figures are 29% and 27%, respectively. Kerbside recycling > 35% by 2025 Recycling at Transfer stations > 50% by 2025

Goals	Objectives	Targets	Indicators	
		2.2 Establish simple and effective recycling services for visitors to the West Coast Region.	Establish 5 landfill waste and recycling depots at key visitor locations on the West Coast by 2022. Pilot with 2 facilities in Buller District followed by the remainder of the Region.	
Maximise community benefit	3. To ensure visitors, households and businesses have access to safe disposal of residual waste	3.1 Satisfaction with kerbside collection and transfer station services.	Resident and visitor satisfaction > 85% Establish 5 landfill waste and recycling depots at key visitor locations on the West Coast by 2022	
	4. To reduce illegal dumping and litter	4.1 Reduction in illegal dumping incidents and quantity of material illegally dumped in the West Coast Region. (Establishing landfill waste and recycle stations).	Quantity of illegally dumped waste < 2016/17 figure the number of illegal dumping incidents is < 2016/17 figure.	
	5. To create opportunities for West Coast – community partnerships, jobs, innovation, and efficient business	5.1 To publish a summary of available data on waste generation and management with each annual report.	Summary data published in Annual Report To create a grant scheme to support new initiatives to reduce waste	
	6. To improve community understanding of issues and opportunities for waste management on the West Coast	6.1 School programmes supported by Council Support the EnviroSchools programme each year.		
		6.2 Council (or contractors) promote waste minimisation at events in the Region.	Councils promote waste minimisation at > five events in the Region each year.	
		6.3 Inform and support West Coast residents and businesses on waste minimisation opportunities.	Information made available and regularly updated on Council websites.	
	7. Councils work with others to improve waste minimisation and management in New Zealand	7.1 Work with others to influence national policy and action on waste minimisation and management.		

Appendix B Long Term Plan overview

Table Appendix B.1 : 2021 – 31 Long-term plan overviews

Buller District Council		
Activity	Community outcome/sustainable solution	Council role
Solid waste – collection, transfer and final disposal of waste materials generated by households and businesses within the district.	<p>Affordability - The District has a means of safely disposing of its landfill waste.</p> <p>Prosperity - Commercial needs for dealing with waste are met.</p> <p>Culture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes are provided to schools and the community on waste care and reduction. • There is continued public education around composting, food waste reduction strategies and recycling opportunities. • Environment • Landfill waste is collected and disposed of in a safe, efficient, and sustainable manner, minimising the risk of waste being inappropriately or dangerously disposed of. • Waste minimisation is encouraged. 	<p>Council provides ethical, economical, and efficient waste management services, where the concepts of sustainability and social responsibility are equally valued alongside cost.</p> <p>Change behaviours to Solid waste leading to a decrease in the quantity of waste generated per person and divert Solid waste from landfills.</p>
<p>Long Term Plan 2021-2031</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste management and minimisation are listed as key aspects for achieving the community’s goal of a ‘Sustainable Environment’. • Council is committed to this goal through the facilitation of the collection and disposal of landfill waste in a safe, efficient, and sustainable manner, and encouraging and educating the community around waste care and minimisation. However, there is nothing specific about C&D waste. • Council states their desire to move towards a more circular economy, and away from landfills. • Capital funding has been allowed in the Plan for replacement of existing assets over the life of the Plan. No specific detail is provided on specific assets. 		
Grey District Council		
Activity	Community outcome/ sustainable solution	Council role

Buller District Council		
Activity	Community outcome/sustainable solution	Council role
Solid waste – landfill waste collection, recovery of recyclable materials, management of landfill and cleanfill and resource recovery centres, management of minor quantities of hazardous waste, Litter Bin management, waste minimisation, environmental monitoring.	<p>Economic wellbeing (strong, sustainable) – Efficient and responsible management of solid waste is integral to providing for a strong and sustainable economy.</p> <p>Social wellbeing (safe) – Efficient and responsible management of solid waste is fundamental to the health and safety of people within the community.</p> <p>Environmental wellbeing (practical, resilient, strategic) – Effective, strategic, and responsible management of solid waste provides for resiliency of the environment.</p>	<p>Providing solid waste infrastructure – McLeans Landfill and Recycling Centre</p> <p>Council services provide the following – kerbside recycling for the CBD and urban area of greater Greymouth, landfill waste collection, and litter bins.</p>
<p>Long Term Plan 2031-2031</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key contributions in terms of waste management are stated as being the provision of waste and recycling collection, storage, and disposal (including management of the McLean’s Landfill and McLean’s Recycling Centre), the provision of waste minimisation processes and education, and the provision of litter management services and education. • Four key issues for waste management are identified for the district including the need for ongoing development at McLean’s Landfill. The need for increased waste minimisation, the financial impact of the ETS, and increasing volumes of demolition waste from the demolishing of earthquake prone buildings. <p>Options for addressing these key issues are outlined in the plan, along with funding projections to provide for them.</p>		
Westland District Council		
Activity	Community outcome/ sustainable solution	Council role
Solid Waste – manage across Westland District, including waste and recycling collection (pick-up) in the northern and southern parts of the district, the provision of transfer stations and disposal sites serving all townships, and responsible camping waste stations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainably Managed Environment • Solid waste is managed appropriately. • Maximised recycling efficiency 	Council is responsible for encouraging efficient and sustainable management of solid waste.
<p>Our Way Forward - Council’s Long-Term Plan 2031-2031</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key issues associated with solid waste management are identified as waste minimisation, waste charges, reducing waste tonnage to landfill, communication with the community, and transfer station opening hours. Closed landfill capping projects and legislation changes are also identified as key issues. 		

Buller District Council
Activity
Community outcome/sustainable solution
Council role

- Funding has been allocated for several capital projects including works at the closed landfill at Hokitika, and capping and new cell construction at Butlers and Haast landfills.
- The Plan states that Council are strict with illegal dumpers of waste by using infringements.
- There are no specific references to C&D waste due to early stages of this project.

Appendix C District waste disposal costs 2023/24

Table Appendix C.1 : Buller district – Westport and Reefton Transfer Stations disposal costs

Waste	Unit	Cost
General waste	Per bag	\$9.10
	Per tonne	\$503.70
	30 Kg	\$15.90
	50 Kg	\$25.20
	100 Kg	\$50.40
	Polystyrene per m3	\$327.20
Green waste	Car boot	\$10
	Truck (over 500 Kg) per tonne	\$143.30
	Single axle trailer	\$11.20
	Tandem axle trailer	\$16.80
Other items	Whiteware (except refrigeration)	\$10
	Tyres – car (each)	\$9.60
	Car bodies	\$56.20
	Gas bottles (each)	\$10
	Paint 10 L pail (each)	\$7.80
	Waste oil (4 L)	\$2.20
	Waste oil (20 L)	\$4.50

Table Appendix C.2 : Grey district disposal costs

Waste	Unit	Cost
McLean's Pit Landfill		
General waste	Per tonne	\$441
	Refuse Bag with Council issued tie	Free
	Refuse Bag without Council issued tie	\$6.30
Tyres	Car, motorbike and 4WD	\$10.60
	Truck	\$19.00
	Tractor	\$19.70
	Specialist Industrial	\$43.70
Other	Unprepared car bodies (per car)	\$83.20
	Paint/solvents (per litre)	\$4.10
McLean's Pit Recycling Centre		
Commercial Recycling	Per tonne	\$141.00
Plastic, paper, cardboard, aluminium cans. Tin cans, glass, light scrap metal, heavy scrap metal, recyclable whiteware, empty LPG bottles, prepared car bodies		free
Green waste	Commercial trailer (per load)	\$184.00
	Car boot	\$18.40
	Single axle trailer	\$23.90
	Tandem Trailer	\$31.80
	Small Truck (1.5 m ³ Max)	\$55.20
	Large Truck	\$184.00
Resource Centres (Moana/Blackball/Nelson Creek)		

Waste	Unit	Cost
General waste	Refuse Bag with Council issued tie	free
	Refuse Bag without Council issued tie	\$6.30
	Car Boot	\$39.10
	Station wagon	\$59.10
	Utility vehicle/van	\$59.10
	Single axle trailer	\$77.80
	Tandem Trailer	\$127.30
	Truck under 5 m, uncompacted general waste	\$278.80
	Truck under 5 m, compacted general waste or dense material such as building waste.	\$441.20

Table Appendix C.3 : Westland district – Hokitika Transfer Station disposal costs

Waste	Unit	Cost
General waste	Per tonne	\$595.00
	60 L bag	\$6.00
Green waste	Per tonne	\$55.00
	60 L bag	\$0.75
Other items	Whiteware (degassed) – per item	\$16.50
	Tyres (each)	\$10.00
	Gas bottle disposal	\$15.00
	Cars (prepared)	\$150.00

Appendix D Evaluation Criteria

Table Appendix D.1 : Evaluation Criteria

Measures	Description	Rating		
		Low	Medium	High
Cost to Council (economically viable)	The level of capital and operational expenditure and resourcing required by Council to deliver the option, noting the potential for funding from outside source(s). This criterion covers affordability for Councils.	The option commits Council to a high degree of financial and resource investment.	The option requires financial and/or resource investment from Council.	This option allows Council to experience benefits without the need for significant financial and/or resource investment.
Accessibility and affordability	Solutions delivered which are equally accessible to all in the community. This includes physical access, affordability, consistency in materials accepted, accessibility of information etc.	Access to facilities, services and information does not improve from what is currently available in the region.	Most residents have access to affordable waste/material management facilities, services, and information.	All residents and community groups have access to affordable waste/material management facilities, services, and information.
Impact on the wider environment	Options that minimise negative impacts of waste management and enhance the environment.	Impacts to the environment are consistent with current activities.	Some indirect/unknown positive impacts to the environment.	Positive impacts to the environment are generated or the environment is enhanced.
Social/cultural outcomes	The ability of an option to enable better social, financial, environmental, and cultural benefits for members of the community including Mana Whenua.	No additional outcomes are provided to the region.	Outcomes provided to small/specific group within the community.	Outcomes which benefit multiple groups within the region.
Partnership and collaboration	Options that allow collaboration across stakeholder groups (Mana Whenua, community, businesses, and industry) to ensure all aspects of the circular economy can be implemented.	No collaboration taking place.	Collaboration between existing groups, industries, and Councils.	Cross collaboration between community groups, industries and Mana Whenua with Council acting as a facilitator or connector (little/no Council involvement).

Measures	Description	Rating		
		Low	Medium	High
Recovery and markets	The level of confidence in recovery of the material and viable markets for the output(s) from the solution. Along with consideration from future markets which may become available in the West Coast and New Zealand.	No recovery or markets currently available in New Zealand.	Recovery is currently taking place and markets available in New Zealand with future markets emerging.	Recovery and markets currently available within New Zealand which are available to the West Coast.
Responsible consumption	Encourages and educates residents and visitors to make choices in line with the waste hierarchy	Option does not address behaviour change.	The option considers positive behaviour change.	The option actively promotes positive behaviour change.
Appropriate for West Coast/regional lens	Assessment of how appropriate and resilient the option is for the West Coast, noting seasonal visitor numbers and resilient to a changing waste environment in Aotearoa (including policy direction, market conditions and technical guidance).	Option not practical in the West Coast due to scale, funding requirements or other factor(s).	Option has been implemented in other New Zealand regions of similar context.	Option is likely to be successful in the West Coast or has been in other regions in New Zealand of similar context.
Technical risk	The share of and likelihood of risk taken on by Council to deliver an option.	Council is exposed to a high or unknown level of risk.	Council is exposed to an acceptable level of risk.	Council is exposed to risks which can be effectively mitigated.

Appendix E Possibilities assessment

Table Appendix E.1 : Evaluation of Possibilities options for West Coast

Focus Area	Possible Option	Cost to Council (economically viable)	Accessibility and affordability	Impact on the wider environment	Social/cultural outcomes	Partnership and collaboration	Recovery and markets	Responsible consumption	Appropriate for West Coast / regional lens	Technical risk	Score
Contamination in kerbside	Develop solid waste bylaw to strengthen enforcement.	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Orange	Green	24
	Collaborate with central government, local government, and non-government organisations to assess solutions to reduce contamination and explore opportunities for the West Coast to improve waste management. This could include joining nationwide forums e.g. WasteMINZ TAO Forum or connecting with the Sustainable Business Network.	Green	Red	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Green	22
	Develop an educational programme of work focusing on behaviour change and information sharing to the community.	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Orange	22
	Utilise and/or build on national waste and behaviour change campaigns and/or collateral to promote waste diversion.	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Green	22
	Investigate options to prevent contamination of glass colours (Westland).	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Red	Green	Orange	Green	Green	21
	Investigate solutions for high contamination in kerbside comingled recycling in Grey District Council.	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Red	Green	Orange	Green	Green	21
	Identify learnings from bin audits undertaken (by Council and contractors to Council) to identify materials which cause contamination.	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Orange	Green	21
	Collaborate with local industry/organisations to establish hubs for collection of difficult materials/common contaminants of recycling e.g. Supermarkets	Orange	Orange	Green	Green	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange	21
	Advocate to central government to implement rules for product producer and retailers to take ownership for packaging and offer take back schemes.	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	20
	Request kerbside waste contractors to complete random spot checks on recycling bin compliance.	Green	Red	Orange	Red	Red	Green	Green	Green	Orange	19
Undertake a study on contamination in kerbside and public litter bins to establish problematic materials, causes for contamination and possible options to prevent contamination, these could include a demerit points system or RFID tags on bins to monitor repeat offenders.	Orange	Red	Orange	Red	Red	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	15	
Environmental impacts	Investigations into which Council owned closed/historic landfill sites require a remediation plan.	Red	Green	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Orange	20
	Develop resilience plans for current waste infrastructure and services. This could include collaborating with Civil Defence and other organisations to develop a regional Disaster Waste Management Plan. This will ensure processes in place for managing waste associated with natural disasters, and waste from earthquake prone buildings.	Orange	Orange	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange	20

Focus Area	Possible Option	Cost to Council (economically viable)	Accessibility and affordability	Impact on the wider environment	Social/cultural outcomes	Partnership and collaboration	Recovery and markets	Responsible consumption	Appropriate for West Coast / regional lens	Technical risk	Score
	Promote and share existing tools, case studies and resources to support organisations in calculating their waste related emissions.										19
	Investigate the feasibility of a regional Disposal Facility/Landfill that could service the entire region.										17
	Investigate whether landfill gas capture is required and feasible for McLeans Pit and Butlers Landfills.										17
	Investigate the most efficient way for councils to report consistently on emissions associated with waste generation and management across the region.										15
	Partner with organisations promoting emissions tracking e.g. Development West Coast, West Coast Climate Action Support.										15
Illegal dumping	Investigate developing a financial assistance programme and penalty system to manage illegal dumping. This could include rebates/discounts for current resource recovery infrastructure or tracking in illegal dumping hotspots for penalties.										21
	Collaborate within Council (internally), across Councils (regionally), and with organisations/industry (externally) to actively track illegal dumping and record data through existing processes, such as Request for Service system.										20
	Investigate whether Council provide or partner to provide a bookable bulky waste collection service (e.g. for whiteware).										18
Industry waste	Advocate and facilitate sector groups (e.g. C & D, Agricultural waste groups) to discuss problems and explore solutions. Utilise resources outside of the region and connect with other regional sector groups (e.g. Tradie breakfast)										26
	Investigate whether Council want to facilitate Product Stewardship Schemes at their transfer stations e.g. Tyrewise collection point when the programme opens, promoting the programmes to encourage uptake.										21
	Investigate and facilitate collaboration opportunities across the region with iwi, industry, businesses, community groups, utilising activities that are already established e.g., virtual/in person networking events, Council gardens etc.										21
	Investigate options for recovering high volumes of industry waste, with consideration of landfill longevity.										20
	Establish needs and barriers from industry to support waste reduction. This can be done through connecting with industry at existing events run by industry or Council.										18
	Reflect and investigate low uptake of existing product stewardship schemes in the region including AgRecovery, to apply learnings for new opportunities that emerge.										13

Focus Area	Possible Option	Cost to Council (economically viable)	Accessibility and affordability	Impact on the wider environment	Social/cultural outcomes	Partnership and collaboration	Recovery and markets	Responsible consumption	Appropriate for West Coast / regional lens	Technical risk	Score	
Information and education	Advocate for action and research promoting the top of the waste hierarchy (e.g. Product Stewardship Schemes, Right to Repair legislation and research into recovery options for difficult to manage waste streams).										24	
	Investigate whether a grant for waste and resource recovery activities in the region can be developed between Councils.										22	
	Align survey questions across districts in resident satisfaction survey to allow for year-on-year and cross district comparison.										21	
	Assess whether a regional Waste Minimisation/Behaviour Change role could be developed for the region.										20	
	Consistently share waste recovery and diversion information in Councils Annual Reports.										18	
	Align information available on council websites regarding waste services, education, and policy where possible. For example, share good news stories in a consistent and regular manner, share activities from Enviroschools through Annual Reports, ensure the information on waste services available is consistent and ensure information on Butlers Landfill is easy to find online (Westland).											18
	Conduct a resident satisfaction survey within Buller.											18
	Collaborate with industry and community to create West Coast A-Z recycling and recovery directory to highlight circular services in the region.											18
	Explore whether the community would like Councils to offer services or guidance such as waste audits to help organisations understand their waste generation better.											18
Reduce generation	Utilise council websites to link to existing resources to help plan and manage material management e.g. BRANZ and REBRI for the construction sector.										25	
	Investigate alternative options to manage waste streams / materials which take up most volume in the regions landfills and transfer stations.										22	
	Tourism Levy implemented for those staying in the region to cover the costs of infrastructure including waste assets and management.										22	
	Implement Resource Recovery Shops in the regions' main transfer stations (Westport, McLean's Pit, and Hokitika).										21	
	Review the results from C&D feasibility study to assess the best options for C&D recovery in the region (subject to feasibility study)										21	
	Continue to support and promote product stewardship schemes through existing transfer stations where appropriate.										21	
	Review the results from organics feasibility study to assess the best options for organic recovery in the region in line with central governments indicated direction.										20	

Focus Area	Possible Option	Cost to Council (economically viable)	Accessibility and affordability	Impact on the wider environment	Social/cultural outcomes	Partnership and collaboration	Recovery and markets	Responsible consumption	Appropriate for West Coast / regional lens	Technical risk	Score
	Review access to services e.g. rural residents, review transfer station openings times/days to assess whether they meet the needs of locals, visitors.										19
	Investigate opportunities to provide cost-effective services for those not receiving a kerbside collection e.g. mobile solution, etc.										19
	Map out existing resource recovery work that is happening in the region including community-led initiatives and share and promote publicly.										19
	Investigate consolidating MRF operations and options for glass (local processing and beneficial use).										18
	Collaboratively investigate with the community and industry groups what potential reuse, share and repair services would be beneficial for the region, and the role of councils in this i.e., collaboration, support, encouragement.										16
	Investigate the volumes and impacts of waste from tourism, which can feed into a feasibility study for how to manage waste from tourism in the region.										16
Streamline data collection	Align services available at transfer stations across the region.										23
	Establish a template for reporting consistency from each district Council and Regional Council (waste data, emissions data) including waste streams reported on, total tonnage, diversion, contamination - align to new national requirements 1 July 2024 onwards.										19
	Investigate/support data collection on waste diversion through other sources e.g., reuse shops, food banks, etc										19
	Investigate data collection from difficult waste streams often managed by private contractors (e.g. hazardous, EOL vehicles, medical)										18
	Collect tonnage data at Transfer stations from residential drop-off and commercial drop off from different sectors to help track trends for future analysis.										16
Streamline kerbside	All councils to have the same waste contractor which reports at district level streamlining data capture.										15

Appendix F Priority options fundings

Table Appendix F.1 : Priority options funding estimates

Option	Requirement	Capex (\$)	Requirement	Opex (\$)
Glass diversion Westland kerbside	Fleet (<i>assuming one vehicle</i>)	120,000	Contractor	150,000
	Procurement	80,000	Facility maintenance	25,000
	Total	200,000	Total	175,000
Behaviour change/education programme	N/A	N/A	Council time	50,000
			Providers	15,000
			Marketing	20,000
			Total	85,000
Organics recovery kerbside	Fleet (<i>assuming two vehicles</i>)	240,000	Contractor	150,000
	Procurement	80,000	Facility maintenance	70,000
	Total	320,000	Total	220,000
Organics recovery Transfer Station	Facility development/upgrades	200,000	Contractor	150,000
	Procurement process	40,000	Facility maintenance	120,000
	Total	240,000	Total	270,000
C&D recovery	Facility development/upgrades	200,000	Contractor	50,000
	Procurement process	40,000	Facility maintenance	50,000
	Total	240,000	Total	100,000

Appendix G Medical Officer of Health review

17 July 2024

Hannah Kelly
Environmental Scientist
Tonkin & Taylor
PO Box 2083
Wellington

Dear Hannah

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 requires that each Territorial Local Authority (TLA) must review its Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) every 6 years. In doing so, it must make a waste assessment before conducting the review (s50 (2)).

A waste assessment must contain, amongst other things (s1(f)(i)) a statement about the extent to which the proposals contained in it will ensure that public health is adequately protected. The TLA must consider the following methods of waste management and minimisation; reduction, reuse, recycling, recovery, treatment and disposal (s44).

The feedback below is provided by the Medical Officer of Health on the Draft Waste Assessment, June 2024, prepared by Tonkin & Taylor on behalf of the Buller (BDC), Grey (GDC) and Westland District Councils (WDC). This feedback meets the requirement in S51 (5) (b) *In making a waste assessment the TLA must consult the Medical Officer of Health.*

Key Public Health Issues in Waste Management

The Medical Officer of Health considers the Draft West Coast Waste Management Assessment to be a reasonable assessment of the current situation in terms of West Coast household waste collection. It is disappointing that there has been no significant progress towards achieving the 2018 WMMP targets, as outlined in Table 6.3 of this assessment.

The significant issues likely to be of concern in terms of public health include:

- **Identification of the various types of wastes and collection/disposal methods.** The Assessment seems to be reasonable for the waste collected by the three West Coast district councils but the document's authors have identified a lack of consistent data, and also acknowledges that the assessment does not cover private sector landfill operations.
- **Satisfactory collection and disposal of waste so that public health risks are controlled and mitigated.** This issue is not well covered by this Assessment. This is an important omission, given that there have been major issues with a new private landfill (Taylorville Resource Park) where inappropriate mixing of wastes has generated potentially toxic compounds, including hydrogen sulphide. This has created a significant workplace hazard and caused significant odour nuisance to local residents.
- **Addressing the issue of hazardous waste, including medical wastes, asbestos waste and electronic waste (e-waste).** There have been two major demolition projects in the recent past involving hospitals in Greymouth and Westport. Each of these generated significant volumes of waste, including asbestos contaminated materials, and there is no information in the Assessment about where and how these demolition wastes were disposed of.

As noted above, there are very serious public health concerns regarding the consenting and management of at least one private sector landfill facility on the West Coast (Taylorville Resource Park) that are not referred to in this Assessment. The serious issues that have occurred at the Taylorville Resource Park are a matter of public record and have been widely reported in national and local media. The facility has been accepting waste (including hazardous waste and organic waste) from outside the West Coast region. It is the subject of a WorkSafe investigation after a workplace incident involving serious harm, and an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) investigation. From a public health perspective, the risks arising from this one site have the potential to undermine progress towards waste minimisation for the West Coast, as well as exacerbating risks of natural hazards on critical infrastructure (the Greymouth water treatment plant).

Other specific issues of relevance to public health are discussed in the next sections.

Assessment of Waste Quantities and Composition

The Draft Waste Assessment recommends improvements to data collection to more accurately assess waste quantities and composition. It is disappointing to see that the proportion of waste-flows sent to landfill has not decreased since 2018.

The Medical Officer of Health recommends that West Coast district councils plan to continue to conduct regular standardised data collection and analysis of the composition and volume of the waste stream generated across the three districts in order to enable better waste management over the long term.

Collection Services

It is positive to see the continuation of kerbside collection in the West Coast service areas detailed in Table 4.7.

A regular waste collection service reduces the likelihood of illegal dumping and prevents the accumulation of waste that may attract pests and create unpleasant odours, in turn leading to improved public health outcomes.

Food Scraps and Garden Organics Scheme

It is disappointing that there is no food waste or green waste collection service in any of the West Coast service areas. However, the Medical Officer of Health is aware that all three district councils are currently consulting their communities about options for food and green waste collection and this is a very pleasing development.

The predominant source of greenhouse gas emissions from waste disposal is the decomposition of organic wastes such as food scraps and organic waste in the anaerobic environment of a landfill that create leachate and methane, both being deleterious to public health. The health impacts of climate change and the contribution that effective waste management and waste minimisation can make to reduction in greenhouse gas emissions are both very important and relevant to the communities of the West Coast.

The Medical Officer of Health encourages the three district councils to provide a universal scheme for collection of food and green waste in order to further enable reduction of the organic component of the waste stream sent to landfill. If such a scheme involves collaboration between the districts, this offers potential economies of scale for beneficial reuse, such as larger scale composting.

Medical Waste

A significant proportion of in-home medical waste is currently disposed of through general waste systems and this could result in significant health and safety concerns for the collection and processing staff. The councils are encouraged to work with Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora, Te Tai o Poutini Hospital and Specialist Services and medical waste service providers to ensure appropriate measures are put in place to protect staff involved in the collection and processing of domestic medical waste.

Diverted Waste Streams

Diversion of reusable materials from waste streams and the provision of public collection points for product stewardship schemes are both positive actions that promote environmental protection which in turn supports good public health outcomes.

It is pleasing to see in Table 9.4 of the Assessment a commitment to identifying and engaging in opportunities in this space. However, the Medical Officer of Health cautions that diverted and collected materials that are stockpiled in the absence of a comprehensive management pathway can themselves constitute public health hazards if not carefully managed. For example, large fires occurring in stockpiles of used tyres in sites in Canterbury have resulted in widespread deposition of toxic airborne particulates and threatened water supplies, crops and livestock. This is in addition to such stockpiles creating potential habitats for exotic mosquitoes which may spread disease.

Consolidation/bulking services must minimise fire, vermin, odour and other risks associated with stockpiled materials. Circular resource networks require careful assessment for true circularity prior to initiation, lest the receptive capacity be misaligned with input demand, resulting in the formation of unwieldy stockpiles which can quickly become public health threats.

Management of Historic Waste Disposal Sites

Between them, the three councils manage 26 closed landfills across the West Coast. The Waste Assessment also notes that on-farm waste burial is a practice that has been (and may still be) used in the region.

There are significant public health risks associated with scouring events involving closed landfills. The Medical Officer of Health is encouraged to see that the waste material on the Fox Glacier closed landfill has been moved to Butlers Landfill, and that this will eliminate the risk of further waster erosion events from that closed landfill.

However, the Medical Officer of Health is also aware that there are other closed landfills on the West Coast that have had reported waste scouring events since 2010, including Cobden closed landfill, Hector closed landfill (both due to Cyclone Ita), and Reefton closed land fill during at least one flood event. These events have not been mentioned in this Assessment.

The Medical Officer of Health encourages the district councils to consider how hazards to public health from these sites, such as leachate contamination of groundwater, are identified, monitored and managed. While these hazards are not themselves solid wastes, they are a consequence of solid waste disposal.

Waste Education and Minimisation Programmes

The Medical Officer of Health commends the proposals in Table 9.4 to improve communication and education initiatives to reduce waste. Education is an important part of empowering individuals and communities in making informed decisions and changing behaviours that in turn support the aim of waste minimisation. However, education alone will not change behaviour and it is also important that the other prioritised waste minimisation measures from the Assessment are progressed.

Under the Option Themes 'Creating partnerships' and 'Communicate and share circular economy initiatives' in Table 9.4, there are good opportunities for the councils to improve engagement with their communities. The Medical Officer of Health supports bi-directional engagement with the public, with specific strategies developed for ensuring Māori, as well as other groups' aspirations, priorities, and needs are understood and provided for.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft West Coast Regional Waste Assessment.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Cheryl Brunton
Medical Officer of Health
National Public Health Service
Te Tai o Poutini - West Coast

Report to Council



DATE: 24.10.24
TO: Mayor and Councillors
FROM: Acting Chief Executive

REGIONAL COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON THE REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND GRANT FOR THE WAIHO RIVER STOP BANKS

1. Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the consultation letter received from West Coast Regional Council (WCRC) regarding the Waiho river stop banks at Franz Josef, following an allocation of \$6m funding from Government as part of a \$10m Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) bid, and seek direction on the Westland District Council (WDC) response to the Regional Council. A response to Regional Council is required by 8th November 2024.
- 1.2. This issue arises from the WCRC obtaining \$6m of RIF money from Government to invest in the upgrade of stop banks on the Waiho River at Franz Josef. A further \$4m will be required from the Franz Josef Rating District as match funding, bringing the total investment to \$10m. The \$4m would be borrowed on behalf of the rating district by WCRC. There is currently \$1.8m still available from stage 1.
- 1.3. Council seeks to meet its obligations under the Local Government Act 2002 and the achievement of the District Vision adopted by the Council in June 2024, which are set out in the Enhanced Annual Plan 2024/2025. Refer page 2 of the agenda.
- 1.4. This report concludes by recommending that Council (WDC) notes the report and gives guidance on the response to WCRC.

2. Background

- 2.1 The reason the report has come before Council (WDC) is due to the consultation letter received from WCRC regarding the RIF grant from Government of \$6m towards upgrading the stop banks at the Waiho river in Franz Josef. Council is being consulted as a member of the Franz Josef Rating District with assets in Franz Josef. However, WDC also has a wider interest as this impacts on the Franz Josef community and has financial, economic and wellbeing implications.
- 2.2 Council is aware of the risks of flooding to the North and Southside of the Waiho river at Franz Josef. The river is aggrading at an accelerated rate and existing stop banks require upgrading to protect the area for a period of 10 years.
- 2.3 WCRC commissioned a report from a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). The Group reported in 2023 recommending that the southside of the Waiho river should be allowed to flood out, which would alleviate pressure on the northside of the river but would have serious consequences for the residents on the

southside. The proposal contained within this consultation letter from WCRC is regarding funding for the Wiaho River Southside Protection Stopbank and Northside Havill Wall Stopbank Extension.

3. Current Situation

- 3.1. The current situation is that WCRC has contacted WDC in its capacity as a member of the Franz Josef Rating District to consult on the proposal to accept RIF funding from Government of \$6m with a requirement to match fund a further \$4m from the Franz Josef Rating District, which would be borrowed by WCRC on behalf of the rating group. A copy of the letter is attached as **appendix 1**
- 3.2. At the West Coast regional Growth Summit in Greymouth on 2nd October 2024, Minister Shane Jones outlined that the RIF deal put forward by Government for Franz Josef is a grant, not a loan, and as such is a good deal for the region in the current economic climate. If not accepted, it is unlikely that there would be further Government funding available to mitigate the threat of flooding from the Waiho river in the near future.
- 3.3. Contained within the WCRC Consultation letter is a table which outlines the financial impact of the investment in stop banks. The table is enclosed below.

Examples of impact of loan terms on rates												
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	Total paid over 10 Years of asset life	Outstanding loan balance
Rating impact per \$100k CV												
10 year	\$264.69	\$255.58	\$246.47	\$237.35	\$228.24	\$219.13	\$210.02	\$200.91	\$191.79	\$182.68	\$2,236.86	0
15 year	\$206.84	\$200.76	\$194.69	\$188.61	\$182.54	\$176.46	\$170.39	\$164.31	\$158.24	\$152.16	\$1,794.98	\$1,600,000
25 year	\$160.55	\$156.91	\$153.26	\$149.62	\$145.97	\$142.33	\$138.68	\$135.04	\$131.39	\$127.75	\$1,441.48	\$2,560,000
Rating impact per \$400k CV												
10 year	\$1,058.77	\$1,022.32	\$985.87	\$949.42	\$912.97	\$876.52	\$840.07	\$803.62	\$767.17	\$730.72	\$8,947.44	0
15 year	\$827.34	\$803.04	\$778.74	\$754.44	\$730.14	\$705.84	\$681.54	\$657.24	\$632.95	\$608.65	\$7,179.94	\$1,600,000
25 year	\$642.20	\$627.62	\$613.04	\$598.46	\$583.88	\$569.30	\$554.72	\$540.14	\$525.56	\$510.98	\$5,765.93	\$2,560,000
Rating impact per \$800k CV												
10 year	\$2,117.53	\$2,044.63	\$1,971.73	\$1,898.84	\$1,825.94	\$1,753.04	\$1,680.14	\$1,607.24	\$1,534.34	\$1,461.44	\$17,894.88	0
15 year	\$1,654.68	\$1,606.08	\$1,557.49	\$1,508.89	\$1,460.29	\$1,411.69	\$1,363.09	\$1,314.49	\$1,265.89	\$1,217.29	\$14,359.87	\$1,600,000
25 year	\$1,284.40	\$1,255.25	\$1,226.09	\$1,196.93	\$1,167.77	\$1,138.61	\$1,109.45	\$1,080.29	\$1,051.13	\$1,021.97	\$11,531.87	\$2,560,000

NB: Does not show maintenance costs

3.4 The table outlines a range of rating impacts based upon a spread of valuations and loan terms. The table is an outline giving indicative rating impacts. WDC's Group Manager for Corporate Services and Risk Assurance has examined the table and has indicated that it would benefit from further detail to flesh out the whole life cost and financial impact for ratepayers. The information provided by WCRC does not provide enough financial information to make an informed decision. Areas to be clarified would include:

- Whether taking out loans for a period beyond the lifespan of the asset is prudent.
- Do the figures include interest and service charges?
- Is the interest fixed or floating?
- How will the asset be depreciated and is that contained within the figures?
- What will be the maintenance cost over the period?

3.5 WCRC have indicated verbally that the \$1.8m remaining funding from stage 1 has not been allocated to a specific part of the stage 2 project. If this funding is used to support the Franz Josef Rating District contribution it would significantly reduce the financial burden on ratepayers.

3.6 Franz Josef is an important community within the Westland district. It is economically vibrant and significantly contributes to the ambience of the region. Residents from the North and the South sides of the river each bring their contributions to the town which make it a great place to live and visit. There is concern that the funding model for this proposal could divide the community.

3.7 Government has been generous in allocating \$6m of funding and Minister Jones has been very supportive of the project. The contribution from the Franz Josef Rating District, as it stands at \$4m, will create affordability issues in the community and further financial analysis on costs should be provided before the Rating District formally votes on a proposal.

3.8 A copy of the correspondence issued by Regional Council is enclosed in appendix 1.

4. Options

4.1. Option 1: To receive the report and provide direction on the response to WCRC.

4.2. Option 2: Not to Receive the report or provide direction on the response to WCRC.

5. Risk Analysis

5.1. Risk has been considered and the following risks have been identified. If the proposal put forward by WCRC is rejected, the \$6m Government funding will be lost. The underlying requirement to protect the community from the flooding of the Waiho river will not go away and the opportunity to mitigate cost is lost for the foreseeable future.

5.2. If the proposal put forward by WCRC is accepted, then there will be a significant impact on the rates which will create affordability issues to varying degrees across the community.

5.3. Whichever choice is made it has the potential to divide the community depending on who are seen to be the beneficiaries in relation to who will be paying the increased rate charge.

5.4. If nothing is done and the river floods there are risks to people, property and livelihoods.

6. Health and Safety

6.1. Health and Safety has been considered and the following items have been identified:

6.1.1. If the investment in the river protection work is not undertaken then there is a risk of flooding and its consequential impacts on people, property and livelihoods.

7. Significance and Engagement

7.1. The level of significance has been assessed as being high

7.1.1. Public consultation is considered necessary.

8. Assessment of Options (including Financial Considerations)

8.1. Option 1 – To receive the report and provide direction on the response to WCRC.

8.1.1. The following financial implications have been identified. As a member of the rating group accepting the proposal from WCRC will mean that WDC, as a member of the Franz Josef Rating District will have an as yet unquantified increase in rates to cover Council's contribution towards the \$4m loan. This is

because Council owns assets which will be required to be rated as part of the Franz Josef Rating District, this cost is then further passed on to ratepayers.

8.2. Option 2 - Not to Receive the report or provide direction on the response to West Coast Regional Council

8.2.1. The following financial implications have been identified. Whatever choice Council makes the Franz Josef Rating Group could vote in favour of the proposal. In which case Council as a member of the Franz Josef Rating District will have an as yet unquantified increase in rates to cover Council's contribution towards the \$4m loan.

9. Preferred Option(s) and Reasons

9.1. The preferred option is Option 1. Council should receive the report and provide direction on the response to West Coast Regional Council.

9.2. The reason that Option 1 has been identified as the preferred option is that the decision to be made regarding the flood protection at Franz Josef is of vital importance to the community with lasting impacts.

10. Recommendation(s)

10.1. That the report be received.

10.2. Council provide direction on the response to West Coast Regional Council

Scott Baxendale
Acting Chief Executive

Appendix 1: Waiho River Southside Protection Stopbank and Northside Havell Wall Stopbank loan consultation document from WCRC

Westland District Council - RATES
Private Bag 704
HOKITIKA 7842

388 Main South Rd, PO Box 66, Greymouth 7840
Freephone: 0508 800 118 **Phone:** 0508 800 118
Email: franzjosefconsultation@wrc.govt.nz

wrc.govt.nz

Assessment Number: 683987

26 September 2024

Waiho River Southside Protection Stopbank and Northside Havill Wall Stopbank loan consultation

Dear Westland District Council - RATES

I am writing to you about the recently announced Government funding for the Waiho River Southside Protection Stopbank and Northside Havill Wall Stopbank Extension.

The funding is through the Regional Development Ministerial Group which has established a \$1.2 billion Regional Infrastructure Fund to invest in, and improve, New Zealand's regional infrastructure.

What this means to you, right now

There is a significant and increasing flood risk in Franz Josef. We have the opportunity right now to participate in the Government's regional infrastructure fund.

The estimated cost of works needed to provide protection for the next 10 years is \$10 million. If we take this opportunity, 60% (\$6 million) of that cost will be paid by central government, reducing the cost to you for this essential work.

In this consultation letter we're asking you, as a member of the Franz Josef Rating District, whether you recommend to West Coast Regional Council it should proceed with funding the 40% share. This would be financed by Council taking out a loan on behalf of the Franz Josef Rating District.

How we got here

As a rating district member you know how much work the community and Council has done together to get us to this point.

To recap on most recent activity: in 2020 \$12.3 million of funding was approved through the previous Government's Provincial Growth Fund for the first stage of the Franz Josef resilience infrastructure project. \$9 million came from the Regional Economic Development and Investment Unit (Kanoa) with the rest from Council and affected ratepayers.

This first stage included the upgrade of the northern stopbanks to protect Franz Josef township from the Waiho River. These works began in 2023 and are scheduled for completion later this year.

A pre-condition of the 2020 funding was that the West Coast Regional Council merge the two existing rating districts, as well as extending the boundaries. This was done through the establishment of the Franz Josef Special Rating District that year. In terms of work on the south side of the Waiho in 2023 the Government requested a detailed plan be developed before funding was awarded.

To meet this requirement Council engaged independent experts in hydrology, engineering and river modelling to form a Technical Advisory Group (TAG). The TAG wrote the report *Future Management of the Waiho River*, a 10 year strategy for managing the river. This has been endorsed by central government.



If we don't uplift this money and agree this grant the opportunity will be lost forever to have central government contribute to flood protection at Franz Josef".

Peter Haddock,
West Coast Regional
Council Chair

What is the new funding for?

The documents which accompanied the announcement of the new funding in August 2024 detailed that the funding was for: "Waiho River Northside Havill Wall Stopbank Extension and Southside Protection Stopbank Construction of new stopbanks, and strengthening of existing stopbanks along the southside of the Waiho River to protect land, assets, and people against flood damage. Allows time for community to plan long-term land use solutions."

Simply put the \$10 million enables the first stage of execution of the *Future Management of the Waiho* strategy to go ahead.

As well as for essential south side works identified in the TAG report the funding will be used to extend the Havill Wall to hold the line and to provide protection for the Franz Josef township oxidation ponds and the township itself. The Tartare Stream avulsion is already making its way up to the oxidation ponds and will erode them which will mean the end of Franz Josef township's sewage system if no action is taken.

There is \$1.8 million remaining from Stage 1 which is currently assigned to the link stopbank.

Uplifting the funding and using it to execute the *Future Management of the Waiho* strategy will ultimately protect the north side of the Waiho and save Franz Josef from flooding. The crux of the matter is that if West Coast Regional Council does not uplift the central government money, by way of raising a loan for co-financing the local share, the TAG strategy cannot be executed. The table below shows examples of the impact of the different loan options for future rating.

It is essential the community gives us direction on taking out the loan. Please complete the voting paper form included and return as shown by 12 noon Friday 8 November 2024.



Peter Haddock
West Coast Regional Council Chair

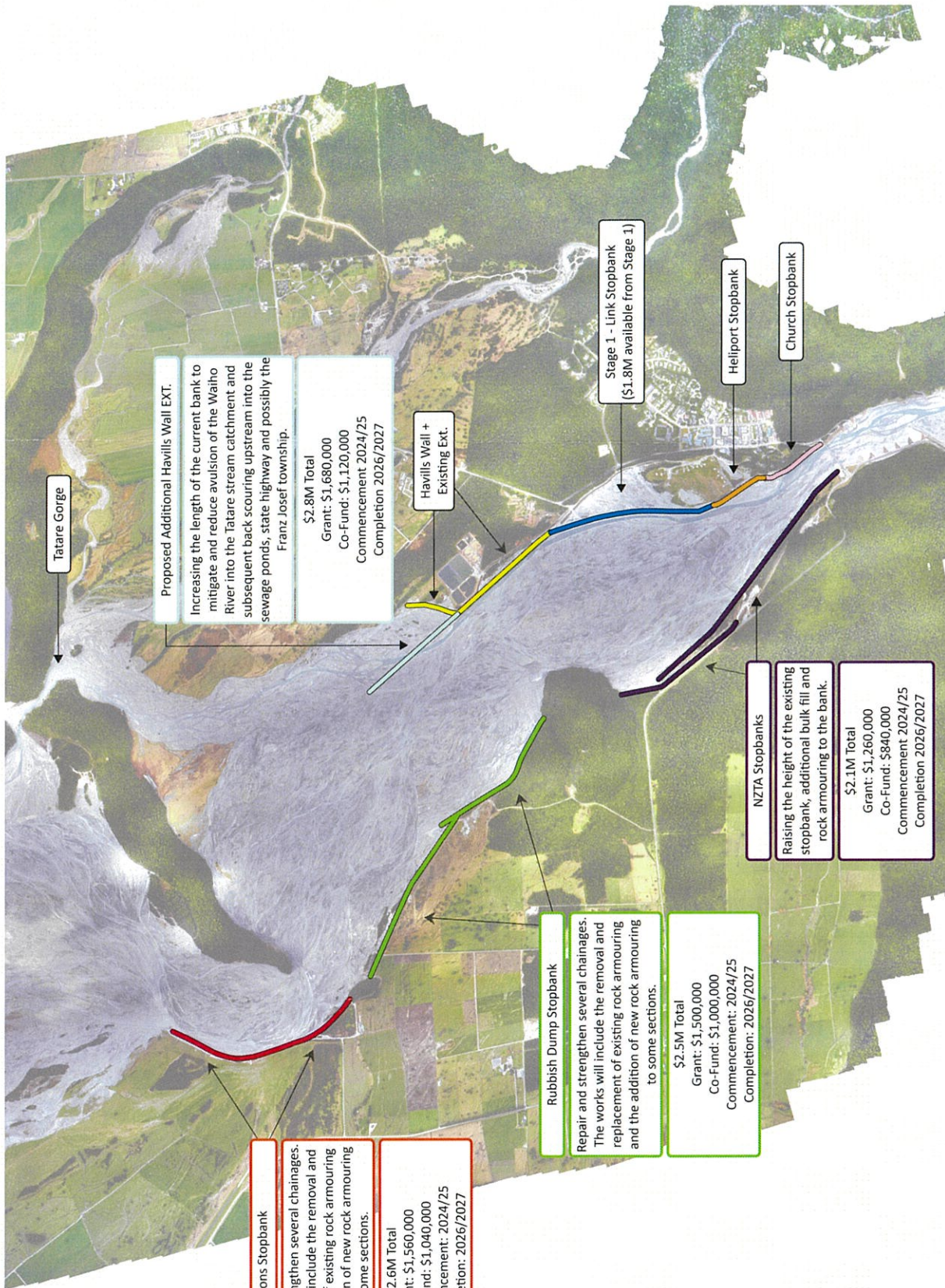
**Have
your
say!**

**Please complete the voting paper
included and return as shown by
12 noon Friday 8 November 2024**

Examples of impact of loan terms on rates

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NB: Does not show maintenance costs



Tatare Gorge

Proposed Additional Havills Wall EXT.
 Increasing the length of the current bank to mitigate and reduce avulsion of the Waiho River into the Tatare stream catchment and subsequent back scouring upstream into the sewage ponds, state highway and possibly the Franz Josef township.
 \$2.8M Total
 Grant: \$1,680,000
 Co-Fund: \$1,120,000
 Commencement 2024/25
 Completion 2026/2027

Havills Wall + Existing Ext.

Stage 1 - Link Stopbank (\$1.8M available from Stage 1)

Heliport Stopbank

Church Stopbank

NZTA Stopbanks
 Raising the height of the existing stopbank, additional bulk fill and rock armouring to the bank.
 \$2.1M Total
 Grant: \$1,260,000
 Co-Fund: \$840,000
 Commencement 2024/25
 Completion 2026/2027

Rubbish Dump Stopbank
 Repair and strengthen several chainages. The works will include the removal and replacement of existing rock armouring and the addition of new rock armouring to some sections.
 \$2.5M Total
 Grant: \$1,500,000
 Co-Fund: \$1,000,000
 Commencement: 2024/25
 Completion: 2026/2027

Milton's Stopbank
 Repair and strengthen several chainages. The works will include the removal and replacement of existing rock armouring and the addition of new rock armouring to some sections.
 \$2.6M Total
 Grant: \$1,560,000
 Co-Fund: \$1,040,000
 Commencement: 2024/25
 Completion: 2026/2027

- Legend**
- Havills Wall (WDC)
 - Link Bank
 - Church Bank
 - Heliport Bank
 - Stage 2 - Rubbish Dump Bank
 - Stage 2 - Milton & Others Bank
 - Stage 2 - Havills Ext.
 - Stage 2 - NZTA Banks

0 405 810 1,620
Metres

Date created: 20/09/2024, 1414
 Author: oliver rose
 Scale: A3: 1:20,000
 Coordinate System: NZGD 2000 New Zealand Transverse Mercator
 Datum: NZGD 2000
 Units: Meter

Franz Josef Stage 2 Upgrade



Franz Josef Special Rating District

Waiho River Southside Protection Stopbank and Northside Havill Wall Stopbank

Loan consultation

Westland District Council - RATES
Private Bag 704
HOKITIKA 7842

Assessment Number: 683979

Have
your
say!

► Your feedback

Should West Coast Regional Council enter into agreement with the Government for a 60%/40% split cost to complete the Waiho River Southside Protection Stopbank and Northside Havill Wall Stopbank Extension?

- Yes
 No

If you have indicated Yes to the question above please tick the box below which shows the loan term you support:

- 10 years
 15 years
 25 years

If you would like to make further comment please use the back page of this paper.

► How to vote

After you have indicated your preferences above please drop this form into the voting box at **Franz Josef Four Square** OR scan this form and return it by email to: franzjosefconsultation@wrc.govt.nz

Votes must be received by 12 noon Friday 8 November 2024.



WEST COAST
REGIONAL COUNCIL

388 Main South Rd, Paroa, PO Box 66, Greymouth 7840

Freephone: 0508 800 118 **Phone:** 03 768 0466

Email: franzjosefconsultation@wrc.govt.nz

wrc.govt.nz  

