

# Bromley Odour mitigation

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During the month of March 2020, Environment Canterbury completed a pilot study to investigate the ongoing and long-standing issue of unexplained, offensive and chronic odour in the Bromley area.

As part of this study two Council-owned facilities, the Bromley EcoDrop transfer station operated by EcoCentral, and the Organics Processing Plant operated by Living Earth, were identified as significant odour contributors, among other odour-producing businesses in the area.

In response to the findings presented by Environment Canterbury, we have been working with EcoCentral and Living Earth to develop an action plan outlining potential short, medium and long-term options to mitigate odour.

## What we're planning to do

Our plan falls into two key phases – short-term operational changes and medium to long-term redevelopment options. Some of the short-term options include:

EcoCentral:

- When we receive material with a significant odour, it will be put into containers before regular loading.
- Moving waste into containers as quick as possible. Containers are then shipped to the Kate Valley Landfill.
- Maintaining a clear pit floor overnight.

Living Earth:

- Looking at the odour treatment they use, as well as how and when it's applied.
- Using additional odour misters, which help to suppress odour.
- Changing the “compost recipe”.

Composting at the site takes up to three months to mature, so we need this timeframe to see if the changes are working. After this time, we should be able to determine how effective these measures are.

Our contractors are carrying out trials, along with increased monitoring of odour levels and data collection, to determine what options are the most effective. Independent experts will review the data and onsite activities to provide further recommendations.

All operational changes and trials that our contractors are doing will be completed by the end of August 2020. At that time, we'll be working with them, and Environment Canterbury, to determine how effective the changes have been. Any redevelopment options that may be required (e.g. upgrading tunnels at the Living Earth organics processing plant, covering more of the site or relocating high-risk activities) will be put to the Council for consideration by the end of November 2020.

## How can you help?

Over the next three months while the trials are underway, the odour may be stronger or weaker on different days. We appreciate all the feedback the Bromley community have provided to date, and it would be really helpful if this could continue through to the end of August.

The best way to inform us of odours is via the Smelt-It application. We encourage anyone who smells odour in the area, strong or weak, to let us know. This will help us measure the progress of the trials.

The wellbeing and quality of life of our residents is our priority. We want to be part of the wider solution around minimising odour in Bromley and we're committed to working with Environment Canterbury and our operators to achieve this.