

OVERVIEW

The use of resources frequently results in the production of wastes. A significant proportion of waste products generated in the District can be reduced, making better use of resources and avoiding adverse effects on the environment. The Council has in place a waste management strategy aimed at minimising the waste stream, recycling wastes where possible and phasing out and monitoring the solid waste landfills it operates or has operated in the past.

Any activity, which involves any hazardous substance also, has the potential to have a significant adverse effect on the environment and on the health of the community. While the Canterbury Regional Council takes an overall co-ordination, education and enforcement role in dealing with hazardous substances, the District Council has responsibility for the control of the use, development and protection of land to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects resulting from the use, storage, disposal and transportation of hazardous substances.

The management of hazardous substances has not been an issue of major significance in most of the Banks Peninsula District. Relatively small volumes are used and stored in the District, but potential problems associated with hazardous substances are considerable. The main categories of hazardous substances are those associated with agriculture, commercial, industrial and household wastes and fuel tanks.

The Council currently operates three landfills in the District, in Gollans Bay, Birdlings Flat and Onuku. Each of these is operated under a management plan. In addition, there are transfer stations located in Le Bons Bay, Little Akaloa, Okains Bay and Barrys Bay.

The level of waste production in the District is currently static because the population is increasing but per capita waste production is reducing as more material is being recycled or reused. However, the District is coming to the end of its existing landfill capacity and is examining alternative disposal options.

The Council has developed a comprehensive waste management strategy for the District up to the year 2000. Public input through meetings and submissions on the draft Akaroa/Wairewa strategy has been incorporated in this strategy. The strategy involves the closure of all the existing landfill sites and the replacement of these with an integrated solid waste management system which includes regional resource recovery, recycling, reuse of green waste, and a network of transfer stations with a single landfill outside the district serving the region. It also highlights the importance of waste minimisation and recycling as a means of reducing the pressure on solid waste disposal and the resulting need to find additional landfill sites. The strategy will form the basis of the Council's Waste Management Plan but is currently being reviewed in response to the Council's involvement in the regional Waste Working Party to develop a regional landfill.

Waste management issues with regards to liquid waste disposal, and the constraints on future development are covered in Chapter 11 'Waste Management'.

ISSUE 1	Waste management practices, including the poor location and management of disposal sites, can have significant adverse environmental effects and offend cultural values.
OBJECTIVE 1	To avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects on the environment resulting from waste management practices.

POLICIES

- 1A** Landfills, transfer stations and other waste disposal facilities are to be located and managed so that any adverse environmental effects are avoided, remedied or mitigated.
- 1B** Closed waste disposal sites shall be managed to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse environmental effects.
- 1C** The relationship of tangata whenua with the natural resources of the district should be recognised when managing the disposal of waste in the District.
- 1D** Future landfills and transfer stations should not be located in, in the Outstanding Natural Features and Landscape Protection Areas or Coastal the Protection Areas, in the Lakes Zone, or adjacent to any wetland, river or stream.

EXPLANATION AND REASONS

There are a range of adverse environmental effects which can result from poorly managed waste disposal measures. These include such effects as contamination of ground water and other water bodies by leachate and creation of health hazards and offensive odours.

The effects of the disposal of waste is a major issue for Maori and requires that cultural concerns are considered in providing facilities and in encouraging various methods of waste disposal. It will be important to consult with local runanga when decisions are made regarding waste management.

Most solid waste generated within the District is disposed of in landfills. Avoiding, remedying or mitigating the adverse effects of these landfills, such as leachate, is a key component of a sound waste management strategy. The Council's waste management strategy envisages that the existing landfills in the District will

eventually be closed and that the waste stream produced will be managed through a network of transfer stations. It is important that old landfills are decommissioned, and the land appropriately rehabilitated, so that any potential on-going environmental effects such as leachate and ground subsidence are properly managed.

ISSUE 2 **Waste generated in the District can be reduced to make better use of resources and avoid adverse effects on the environment.**

OBJECTIVE 2 **To reduce the amount of waste generated and, consequently, the need for landfill sites.**

POLICIES

2A Solid waste disposal methods should achieve waste minimisation.

2B To promote waste minimisation through the following hierarchy: reduction, reuse, recycling, recovery and residue management.

EXPLANATION AND REASONS

Banks Peninsula District Council will encourage resource users to take responsibility for reducing waste and to adopt this hierarchy of waste management practices. The Council will also adopt this hierarchy in its own practices. By monitoring levels of waste and how it is being managed, any weaknesses in the implementation of the waste management hierarchy can be identified and remedied.

ISSUE 3 **Hazardous substances can have significant and long-lasting adverse environmental and health effects by contaminating water and soil and other natural and physical resources of the District.**

OBJECTIVE 3 **To limit the risk of hazardous substances damaging the health of people and communities and contaminating the environment.**

POLICIES

3A To undertake the management of hazardous substances within the District in a manner which is consistent with the responsibilities of national and regional agencies.

- 3B** To identify hazardous substances and assess their potential risks to health and to the environment.
- 3C** To avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse environmental effects arising from the use, storage, disposal, transportation manufacture of hazardous substances.
- 3D** Hazardous substances facilities should be located, designed, constructed and managed to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects and unacceptable risks to the environment.
- 3E** Hazardous substances facilities should be located so they do not pose a risk to the environment.

EXPLANATION AND REASONS

Many substances which are used frequently but in minor quantities (ammonia for household use, for example) could be considered hazardous in larger quantities. The use of such substances in small quantities does not create a significant adverse effect on the environment, and the Plan does not seek to control their use.

However, rigorous control is necessary over the use, storage, disposal or transportation of hazardous substances in quantities greater than certain threshold limits because of the potential risks to public health and the environment. Therefore, every proposed activity involving hazardous substances above defined threshold quantities requires consent to a discretionary activity.

There may also be sites in the District within which hazardous substances have been used, stored or produced which contain residues which have contaminated the soils or other resources on the site to a level that make those sites unsuitable for human occupancy or use. Such sites need to be identified and investigated.

The regulatory system under which hazardous substances and new organisms are controlled is currently undergoing reform. While local, regional and central government all currently have responsibilities for the management of hazardous substances, the nature of those responsibilities is likely to change with the promulgation of new legislation.

In the transitional phase there will be a need to maintain close liaison between the agencies which have responsibility within the region.

In the meantime, any sites contaminated with hazardous substances that may have adverse effects on human health or the environment need to be addressed and advice and assistance provided to landowners where necessary. The Council will also use its powers under the Resource Management Act to manage hazardous substances and supplement this with education and advice to users.

The Council does not consider that any control is necessary on the transportation of hazardous substances in the District because of the existing legislation and New Zealand Standards. However, any activity proposing to use or store significant quantities of hazardous substances would be assessed as to how the hazardous substances would be delivered to or dispatched from a site.

METHODS TO IMPLEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

- Co-ordinating with other agencies with responsibilities for waste disposal and the management of hazardous substances.
- Use of powers available to the Council under other legislation to manage the disposal of wastes and control of hazardous substances.
- Investigation and identification of possible contaminated sites within the District.
- Implementing the Waste Management Strategy for Banks Peninsula.
- Implementing the Banks Peninsula Waste Minimisation Strategy.
- Promoting the development of codes of practice, guidelines and site management contingency plans.
- Providing information and advice on recycling, waste minimisation and the storage and handling of hazardous substances.
- Promoting alternatives to the use of products containing hazardous substances.
- Developing and implementing a detailed strategy for the safe decommissioning, rehabilitation and monitoring of closed waste disposal sites.
- Monitoring of old waste disposal sites and identifying suitable future land uses for these sites.
- Identifying and recording the location of closed landfill sites.
- Keeping a recorded of the types of material known to have been disposed of.
- Providing advice and assistance, as appropriate, to owners of any sites contaminated with hazardous substances that may have adverse effects on human health or the environment.
- District Plan rules, including standards aimed at controlling the environmental effects of hazardous substances.

(Note: these rules do not apply to the Lyttelton Port Zone or to the holder of an existing privilege under the Crown Minerals Act, provided that the holder is acting within the terms of the privilege.)

RULES

1. Permitted Activities

The following are permitted activities where they meet the standards specified:

- a) The use, storage, manufacture or disposal of any hazardous substance listed in the schedule in Appendix XV where the standards set out in Rule 5.1 (below) are met. The maximum quantities for permitted activities are set out in Column A of that schedule.
- b) The transportation of any hazardous substance.
- c) The use, storage, manufacture or disposal of hazardous substances listed in the schedule in Appendix XV in association with temporary military training activities where the assessment criteria set out in Rule 7.1 (below) are met.

2. Controlled Activities

The following are controlled activities where they meet the standards set out in Rule 5.1 (second and third bullet points):

- a) On sites containing existing service stations, the storage and retail sale of petrol (up to 100,000 litres storage in underground tanks) and diesel (up to 50,000 litres in underground tanks), provided that the 'Code of Practice for the Design, Installation and Operation of Underground Petroleum Storage Systems' (Department of Labour, 1992) is adhered to.
- b) The storage and sale of LPG (up to 6 tonnes, single vehicle storage) provided that the 'Australian Standard 1596:1989 'LP Gas Storage and Handling' is complied with.

Where quantities of these substances exceed the quantities (above) on any site containing an existing service station, the activity is a restricted discretionary activity and shall be assessed in accordance with the matters set out in the section 'Assessment Criteria' (below).

3. Restricted Discretionary Activities

The following are restricted discretionary activities where they meet the standards set out in Rule 5 (below):

- a) The use, storage, manufacture or disposal of any hazardous substance listed in the schedule in Appendix XV. The maximum quantities for discretionary activities are set out in Column B of that schedule.

4. Discretionary Activities

The following are discretionary activities where they meet the standards set out in Rule 5 (below):

- a) The establishment of any transfer station for the storage and management of waste.

5. Conditions for Permitted Activities and Standards for Controlled, Restricted Discretionary and Discretionary Activities

5.1 Containment

Those parts of any site where any discrete quantity of a hazardous substance (which is a permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary or discretionary activity in Rules 1, 2, 3 and 4) is kept for any purpose shall be designed constructed and managed so that:

- there is no contamination of any land and/or water by release or spillage of the hazardous substance; and
- there is no discharge of the hazardous substance into any stormwater drain or sewerage system contrary to the network operators rules unless permitted by the operator; and
- any stormwater originating from or collected on the site does not contaminate any land unless permitted by a resource consent.

6. Non-Complying Activities

- 6.1 Any activity, which is not a permitted, controlled, restricted discretionary or discretionary activity is a non-complying activity.

The following are also non-complying activities:

- 6.2 Any activity which involves the operation of transmitting equipment owned or operated by any network utility, in any zone, which causes exposures to radiofrequency radiation in places normally accessible to the public to exceed the limits for the general public prescribed in NZ6609 Part 1 (or any subsequent amendments). Initial assessment of likely exposure levels shall be by calculation, and shall take into account existing transmitters. Should preliminary calculations indicate that exposures in places normally accessible to the public may exceed 25% of the permitted limit then measurements of actual exposures should be undertaken once the facility is operational. These measurements should be in accordance with the procedures described in NZS Part 2 (and any subsequent amendments).

6.3 Any activity which would result in exposures to power frequency electric and magnetic fields produced by electrical utility equipment in areas normally accessible to the public exceeding the current guidelines specified for the general public by the International Commission on non-Ionising Radiation Protection.

7. Resource Consent Conditions – Controlled Activities and Restricted Activities

In granting a resource consent the Council shall restrict the exercise of its control to the following matters:

- Use, storage, manufacture and disposal of hazardous substances.
- Compliance with the “Code of Practice for the Design, Installation and Operation of Underground Petroleum Systems” Department of Labour 1992 (or any other subsequent replacement or amendments of this standard).
- Compliance with the “Australian/ New Zealand Standard 1956:1997 for Storage and Handling of LP Gas” (or any subsequent replacement or amendment of this).

CRITERIA FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF CONTROLLED AND DISCRETIONARY ACTIVITIES

Applications for discretionary activities will be assessed against the following:

- The objectives and policies for any relevant Zone.
- Any other objectives and policies of the Plan which are relevant to consideration of the application.
- Any relevant criteria set out in Chapter 30 (Resource Consent Procedures).
- The extent of compliance with the relevant code of practice introduced, or approved by, the Environmental Risk Management Authority; and pending these, any relevant codes applicable to hazardous substances.

In addition, the Waste Management Strategy for Banks Peninsula will be used as a guide.

ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS

The following environmental results are anticipated from the implementation of the objectives and policies relating to waste management and hazardous substances:

- Safe and culturally acceptable disposal of waste.

- Waste management in accordance with the hierarchy of waste management - waste reduced, reused, recycled, safely recovered or safely disposed of.
- Minimised adverse effects from landfills and other waste disposal facilities.
- The avoidance of environmental damage from hazardous substances.
- The safe storage and disposal of hazardous substances.
- Adequate responsiveness to emergencies and to the environmental restoration of contaminated sites to minimise adverse environmental effects.
- An increase in public awareness about the risks associated with using substances which may have an adverse effect on the environment.

