

Transitional Plan Update #3 – Organics Processing Plant

28 June 2021 – 11 July 2021

Actions in this plan cover a transitional period until proposed upgrades can be completed at the Christchurch City Council composting facility located in Metro Place, Bromley. Please find below an update on each of the key objectives outlined in the Transitional Plan.

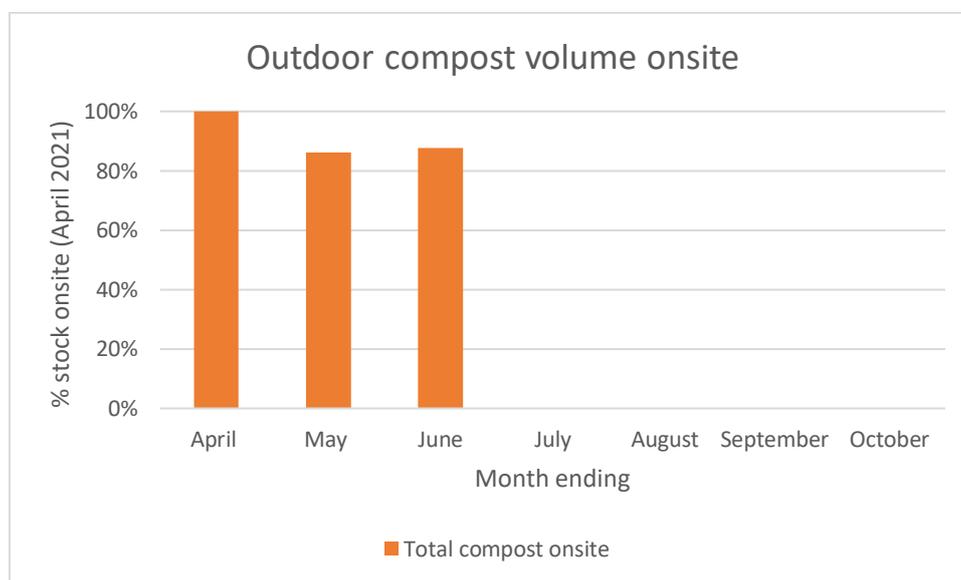
1. Stop receiving pre-consumer food organics.

Pre-consumer food organics have not been accepted at the Organics Processing Plant since 23 December 2020.

Date	Tonnes of pre-consumer food waste received
31/05/21 – 13/06/21	0
14/06/21 – 27/06/21	0
28/06/21 – 11/07/21	0

2. Minimise the onsite storage of finished compost by prioritising the screening and removal of finished product from the site.

Living Earth is currently removing the majority of stockpiled material from the site. Under the preferred scenario the only material onsite will be maturing compost, which represents 30 to 50 per cent of the material onsite as of April 2021. Since May over 7,000 tonnes of finished compost has been removed from site.



The movement of material during the month of June was significantly impacted by the heavy rain event in Canterbury at the end of May. The wet weather made many paddocks around the oxidation ponds inaccessible and also resulted in a decline in other commercial sales. Daily removal of material has now resumed as accessibility has improved.

The use of compost to enhance the soil conditions around the Waste Water Treatment Plant oxidation ponds is ongoing, with over 6,000 tonnes of compost being used so far. See the photo below of the compost being spread, ahead of the native tree planting.



3. Install a time-lapse camera so that residents can see the reduction in outdoor storage.

This camera has been installed and we will upload the next time-lapse on our webpage along with this update. See below image from 4 June 2021 compared to 14 July 2021.

Before:



Now:



4. Maintain effective treatment of processing air, including maintenance of biofilter.

As reported previously, the biofilter material change has been completed. Replacing the biofilter material results in backpressure reducing and helps improve airflow in the composting tunnel. As expected, the backpressure remains reduced following the change.

5. Investigate additional buffering, including boundary plantings, along the Southern site boundary.

We're exploring whether additional plantings can be installed on the reserve adjacent to the composting facility. This will provide a further natural buffer around the site. Our Parks Team are finalising a planting plan for this area, expected to be complete by the end of July. This land is currently leased so we'll need to obtain agreement from the lease-holder prior to starting any planting.

6. Maximise stability of compost onsite.

Living Earth is exploring the use of a probiotic additive which may accelerate the composting process. Trials started on 14 July 2021 and the outcome will likely be known in the coming months.

7. Address community concerns and keep the community informed via regular community meetings and an information newsletter.

We are continuing to communicate with the community regularly via newsletters. A public meeting was held on 18 May 2021 with the next meeting scheduled for 17 August 2021.

8. Organics plant upgrade project update

The elected Council has committed to investing \$21.5 million into upgrading the organics processing plant. The upgrade project was approved in December 2020 and is currently in the final stages of the procurement phase.

16 July 2021

The Council have reviewed all proposals submitted by tenderers and are finalising the procurement process. We expect this process to be completed with a contract in place by the end of July 2021.

Once a contractor is confirmed we will have a clear understanding of the final upgrade design and expected timeframes for the required works. We will update Environment Canterbury and the local community at this time.