

Transitional Plan Update #4 – Organics Processing Plant

12 July 2021 – 25 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.

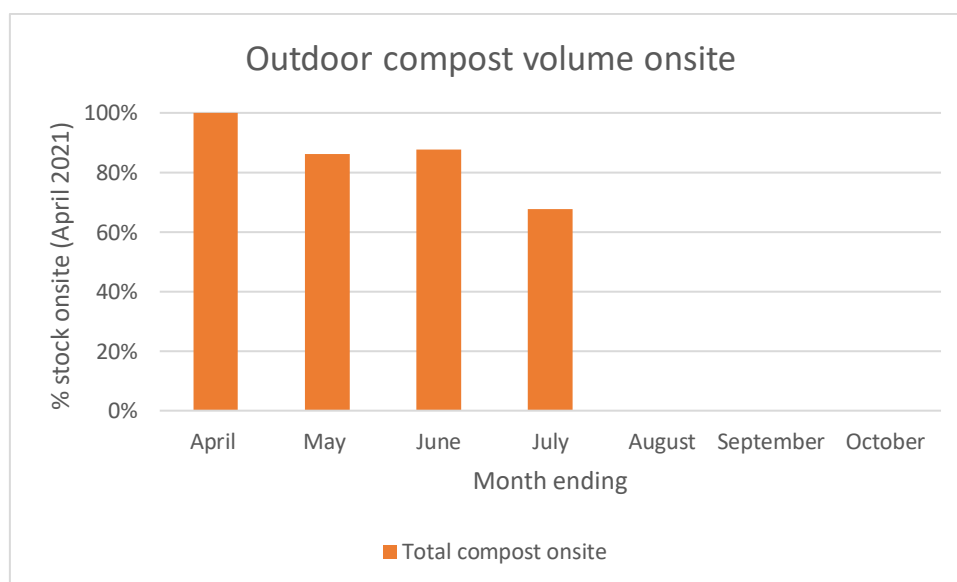
1. Stop receiving pre-consumer food organics.

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
12/07/21 – 25/07/21	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 represented about 50 per cent of the material onsite as of April 2021. As of 28 July 2021 total material onsite has reduced by 32 per cent, shown in the graph below.



*July data is up to 28 July 2021 rather than month end.

Over recent weeks more than 7000 tonnes of compost has been used at the Waste Water Treatment Plant oxidation ponds for soil improvement ahead of native tree planting. You can read more at [NEWSLINE](#). The demand for finished compost remains high, with consistent sales supporting the further reduction of materials onsite.

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 18 May 2021 compared to 28 July 2021.

Before:



Now:



3. Maintain effective treatment of processing air, including maintenance of bio filter.

As reported previously, the bio filter upgrade was completed in May 2021. Replacing the bio filter material reduces backpressure and helps improve airflow in the composting tunnels. Since these works were completed, the improved backpressure and airflow rates have been sustained.

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

We're looking at additional plantings in the reserve to the South of the composting facility, with the goal to provide an additional natural buffer around the site. Work is underway on the planting plan and schedule. Initial assessments have been completed, with plans finalised in coming days. This land is currently leased so we'll need to obtain agreement from the lease-holder prior to starting any planting.

5. Maximise stability of compost onsite.

Living Earth has initiated a trial of a probiotic additive to the compost. The trial is testing whether this amendment to the feedstock will accelerate the composting process. The trial started on 14 July 2021 and the outcome will likely be known in the coming months.

6. 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.

7. Organics plant upgrade project update

The elected Council has committed to investing \$21.5 million into upgrading the organics processing plant.

Work is continuing on analysing tender submissions for the redevelopment of the organics processing plant. We are currently working through the tenders received. At this stage we are expecting to be able to announce a preferred contractor in August. We understand this is slightly later than previously indicated, however this is a complex multi-million dollar project and it's essential that we have all details confirmed before progressing.