

**OVERVIEW**

The basic services of sewage, stormwater and solid waste disposal are fundamental to the health and welfare of the residents of the District and are a critical constraint upon future development and the growth of settlements. Amenities and resources can be adversely affected when proper provision has not been made for the disposal of wastes. For example, leachate from poorly managed landfills can contaminate surrounding water, and soil and effluent from reticulated systems and poorly managed septic tank systems can degrade water quality and contaminate supplies of drinking water.

Provision for effluent disposal is an important consideration in providing for future residential development in the District. The boundaries of the residential areas of Lyttelton and Akaroa are, in part, defined by the extent of the reticulated systems servicing those areas. While small-scale reticulated systems can be a cost-effective solution for servicing smaller and more isolated settlements, these are not appropriate for isolated dwellings in the rural areas. In those circumstances, options for on-site treatment and disposal systems will require investigation. Where there is a need to ensure that individual land use activities and developments are based upon conventional on-site sewage disposal systems, opportunities are provided for alternatives to be implemented.

Solid waste management on the Peninsula is also of concern to the community. 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 pattern of scattered and isolated small settlements has resulted in a number of rubbish disposal sites being established, some of which may have adverse impact on the environment. Sites of concern near the coast include Barry's Bay, Onuku, Le Bons, Akaroa Landfill, Gollans Bay and Birdlings Flat.

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. 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, re-use 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.

<b>ISSUE 1</b>	<b>Disposal of solid wastes and sewage can adversely affect environmental quality and public health, and can constrain future development opportunities.</b>
<b>OBJECTIVE 1</b>	<b>To ensure that waste disposal services meet the needs of the community, and that the adverse environmental and public health effects associated with waste disposal are avoided, remedied or mitigated.</b>

## **POLICIES**

- 1A** All future development shall be required to be serviced with liquid waste disposal facilities which avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on natural and physical resources.
- 1B** Methods of waste disposal shall ensure that adverse environmental effects can be contained within the site or avoided, remedied or mitigated.
- 1C** All future development of the built environment shall be required to have solid waste management facilities which avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on natural and physical resources.
- 1D** The relationship of tangata whenua with the natural resources of the district should be recognised when managing the disposal of waste in the District.
- 1E** Future landfills and transfer stations should not be located in the Outstanding Natural Feature and Landscapes Protection Areas or Coastal Protection Areas, in the Lakes Zone, or adjacent to any wetland, river or stream.

## **EXPLANATION AND REASONS**

'Liquid waste' refers to stormwater and trade waste, as well as sewage. Poorly managed treatment and disposal of sewage can result in a range of adverse effects. These include the contamination of water and the creation of health hazards and offensive odours. Where on-site systems of effluent disposal such as septic tanks are used there is the potential for contamination of ground, surface and coastal waters. Poorly managed stormwater disposal can cause rill and gully erosion of soils.

Liquid waste treatment and disposal is also an issue for Maori and requires that cultural concerns be heeded when liquid waste disposal options are considered. Contamination of water resources is of special concern to tangata whenua. Not only in that surface and coastal waters are important as mahinga kai (food sources), but because purity of water resources is of special spiritual and cultural significance.

In addition there are a range of adverse environmental effects which can result from poorly managed solid 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 are also 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.

### **METHODS TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

- Implementing the Waste Management Strategy/Plan for Banks Peninsula, which includes:
  - Implementing the Banks Peninsula Waste Minimisation Strategy.
  - Developing and implementing a detailed strategy for the safe decommissioning of old waste disposal sites and restoring sites to a condition that is compatible with surrounding land uses.
  - 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 record of the types of material known to have been disposed of.
- Ensuring that the residential areas of Akaroa and Lyttelton can be served by reticulated sewerage systems.
- Providing advice and information on the maintenance of domestic effluent disposal systems.
- Providing information about the location of facilities for discharging campervan and caravan effluent.
- District Plan rules to control subdivision sizes in areas which use on-site sewage treatment and disposal facilities.
- Ensuring a close liaison is maintained with the Canterbury Regional Council on matters relating to the disposal of solid and liquid wastes.
- 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.

## **CHAPTER 11            WASTE MANAGEMENT**

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- Promoting the development of codes of practice, guidelines and site management contingency plans.
- Providing information and advice on recycling and waste minimisation and the storage and handling of hazardous substances.
- Assisting in the distribution of information from other agencies.
- Provision of information about what can and what cannot be discharged to stormwater drains to avoid adverse down stream effects.

### **ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS**

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

- Reduction in the amount of solid and liquid wastes requiring disposal (measurable from the operative date of the Plan).
- Reduced effects of solid and liquid wastes on the environment (measurable from the operative date of the Plan).
- 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.