Kōrero mai | Let's talk

Te Mahere Whakahaerenga Para
Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026

Consultation document

Tell us what you think by 3 August 2026.

letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/wasteplan2026

Christchurch City Council

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We're committed to our vision of reduced waste to landfill through our **reduce**, **reuse**, and **repurpose** approach.

Our draft plan for waste management and minimisation for the next six years suggests some changes to the way we do things, and we need your feedback.

We're planning now for a growing city, with waste services that can adapt to changing needs over time.

Under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, councils must review their waste management and minimisation plans every six years. To prepare this draft plan, we've reviewed our 2020 plan and related policies and completed a waste assessment. We've worked with others involved in waste management and minimisation at a regional and national level, to understand the challenges and develop our response.

We recognise that as well as improving our services, the efforts of individuals, businesses, regional partners and central government are critical to our plan's success.

Along with the key improvements outlined here, several significant milestones will be reached during the six years of this plan. These include:

Transfer station redevelopment begins by July 2027.

Organics processing moves to the new Ecogas plant in Hornby by 2028.

Retender and award our kerbside service contracts by March 2028.

Key facts about our waste

Waste management accounts for an average of

6% of our total rates

with **$549 million** budgeted in our Long Term Plan from 2024 to 2034.

In 2024/25, we processed

103,534 tonnes of material

31,231 tonnes of recycling and
72,303 tonnes of organics.

In 2024/25, we sent

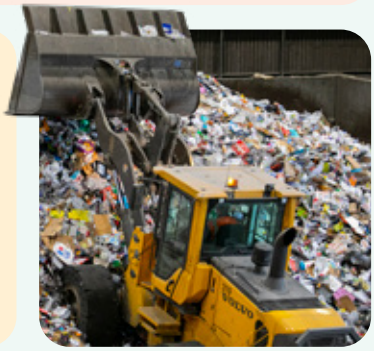
118,735 tonnes of waste to landfill

an equivalent of

286 kilograms per person

In 2024/25, kerbside rubbish bins contained material that **could have been diverted** from landfill, including

organics (33%), plastics (17%) and paper (14.7%)



Over the 2024/25 financial year,

2501 people

participated in our waste management Learning Through Action programmes.

Each year, about

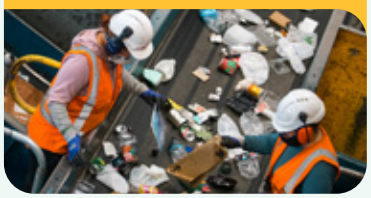
37% of our general waste

sent to the Kate Valley Landfill is from our **kerbside collection**. The rest is a combination of household and commercial general waste from transfer stations.

What happens to our waste?

Waste from across Christchurch and Banks Peninsula is

recycled,



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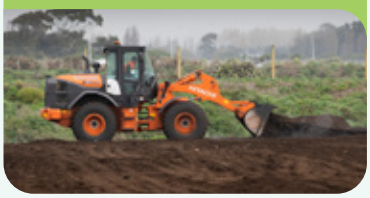

or sent to landfill.

Where our waste comes from

Kerbside collection

Our three-bin system (550,000 bins) is funded by rates. Of all kerbside waste, 65% is processed as recycling or organics.

Community collection points

These are dedicated drop-off sites for rural households not on our kerbside network.

Public transfer stations

We have **three sites in Christchurch and one on Banks Peninsula**. Recycling can be dropped off for free, while there is a charge for organics (garden waste) and rubbish.

Where our waste goes

Recycling

Kerbside recycling is sent to the Material Recovery Facility on Parkhouse Road where it is sorted and separated (cardboard, paper, glass bottles and jars, plastics and cans).

These materials are then sold and reprocessed overseas for use in manufacturing new products or packaging.

Rubbish

Rubbish is sent to the Kate Valley landfill for disposal. This includes rubbish from kerbside red bins, rubbish that has been separated at the Material Recovery Facility, and all other general rubbish dropped at our transfer stations.

Organics

Kerbside green bin organics are processed at the Organics Processing Plant and converted into compost.

Greenwaste

Greenwaste is the garden and other organic waste dropped at our transfer stations. It is processed at the Organics Processing Plant and by local compost producers.

The new Ecogas facility in Hornby will open in 2027/28, and it will process all organics and greenwaste to produce biogas, biomass fuel, and liquid fertiliser to be sold throughout the South Island.

Our Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan

The Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026 sets the strategic direction for waste management in Christchurch and Banks Peninsula over the next six years. It outlines how we plan to address key challenges and reduce our reliance on landfill.

The plan is structured in two phases. During the investigative phase (years one to three), we will scope and research identified options and present these to the elected Council for consideration. In the implementation phase (years four to six) approved initiatives will be delivered, monitored, and reviewed.

If you want more detail, please refer to the full plan online or view a copy at one of our libraries or service centres.

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Key challenges

The improvements we suggest in this plan aim to address the following future waste challenges:

- **Service contracts:** New waste management and minimisation service contracts need to be in place by 2029.
- **Contamination:** End markets for recycling require products that are not contaminated.
- **Littering and dumping:** Illegal dumping and littering affects our neighbourhoods and increases costs.
- **Landfill overuse:** Household goods in reusable condition continue to be sent to landfill.
- **Organics processing:** Where and how we process organics will change during the life of this plan.

Goals we continue working towards

Most things outlined in the draft plan reflect our business as usual and won't change, although we always strive to improve.

Under this plan, we will continue to:

1

Improve accessibility to waste and recycling services.

Prioritise equitable access to waste and recycling services.

The aim is to ensure that every household, regardless of location or circumstance, can participate in sustainable waste management. We need collection systems that are fit for purpose, so we will improve our transfer stations, community collection points for those not on the kerbside network, and hazardous waste disposal options for items such as batteries.

2

Optimise domestic waste and recycling collection.

Identify and implement improvements that reduce contamination, lower emissions and maximise our overall efforts to divert waste from landfill.

Data will be used to plan smarter collection routes, implement new performance standards for recycling providers, and encourage better source separation of recyclables and organics. The focus is on making services more efficient, and better for the environment.

3

Develop mechanisms to repurpose and extend the use of inorganic materials.

Work with government, industry, and communities to support reuse.

This is key to creating markets for recycled, upcycled, and repurposed products. These efforts not only reduce environmental harm but also unlock economic opportunities as they transform waste into valuable resources. We'll support the efforts of residents through clear public education and messaging.

Some things may change

While most of the things we do will continue, some things may change.

Our draft plan proposes a separate collection for glass bottles and jars and the development of a new system to better manage material that often ends up in the landfill but could be recycled or repurposed. It also proposes a new Litter and Illegal Dumping Policy, which would enable the establishment of a dedicated team to focus on litter and illegal dumping (sometimes referred to as fly tipping). These are the things we're particularly interested to get your feedback on.

A hearings panel will consider all the written and oral feedback we receive and make a recommendation to the mayor and councillors. The elected Council will then make the final decisions on which proposals to include in our Waste Management and Minimisation Plan for the next six years.

Changes we propose

1. Investigate separate glass collection and processing (bottles and jars only)

What we do now

We collect glass through the kerbside yellow recycling bin. The bin contents are processed at the EcoSort Material Recovery Facility on Parkhouse Road, Christchurch. Glass bottles and jars are extracted during sorting to be used as an ingredient in roading aggregate.

What we propose

Investigate introducing an additional kerbside bin for separate collection of glass bottles and jars during the term of this plan. The bin would be the same size as our small green organics bin (80 litres) and would be collected fortnightly. To deliver this service, we would need to increase the collection fleet.

To process glass, we would also need to secure a glass processing facility to pre-sort the glass before it can be transferred to end markets to be recycled back into glass or glass products.

Our motivation

Separating glass bottles and jars from other recycling opens up new opportunities for it to be recycled back into glass products, which is a purer form of recycling.

Cost

Our provisional assessment is that this new service would cost ratepayers $65 to $75 per household per year.

You can find out more about these proposed changes in sections 4.3.8, 6.1 and B 4.1.8, and Appendix E in the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026.

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2. Develop ways to repurpose and extend the use of unwanted household goods

What we do now

Unwanted household goods are often illegally dumped – on streets, outside charity shops, or in parks and other public places. Our staff and contractors remove these but it costs ratepayers up to $2 million each year. This is a significant issue for the not-for-profit sector, as many charity shops face storage and resource challenges when items are left outside their premises.

While transfer stations accept unwanted household goods, not everyone has access to transport or the ability to move larger items, which can contribute to illegal dumping.

What we propose

Investigate a new service to collect, store, repurpose and redistribute unwanted household goods, in partnership with other service providers. The aim would be to support existing collections at transfer stations and complement the efforts of charities and community organisations which run reuse shops.

The new service would:

- Collect: Coordinate pickup of unwanted household goods from residential properties and businesses.
- Store: Provide warehousing for items not suitable for immediate display in reuse shops.
- Repurpose: Where possible, fix items for a second life, or rehome goods without modification.
- Redistribute: Supply stored items to reuse shops or directly to the community.

Our motivation

Some residents, especially those without private transport, find it difficult to dispose of unwanted household goods. This contributes to ongoing costs for ratepayers and becomes an issue for us and for non-government organisations. We need a collaborative solution that will reduce the amount of unwanted household items going to the landfill, specifically those items that could be reused or repurposed.

Cost

Our provisional assessment is that this service would cost ratepayers $25 per household per year.

You can find out more about these proposed changes in sections 4.3.4, 4.3.14, 6.1, B 4.1.4, B 4.1.14, and Appendix E in the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026.

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3. Introduce a Litter and Illegal Dumping Policy and a dedicated Litter Team

Litter and illegal dumping have a negative effect on the appearance of neighbourhoods and public outdoor spaces, present a risk to public health and safety, and have ongoing costs to ratepayers.

What we do now

Litter and illegally dumped items are picked up by contractors working for our Transport Unit or Park Rangers, depending where they have been left. Illegal dumping costs ratepayers up to $2 million a year.

What we propose

Introduce a new policy to support the prevention of litter and illegal dumping and identify how best to respond when incidents occur. The policy provides for education and engagement with the community, services to both reduce and prevent littering and illegal dumping, compliance monitoring and enforcement, as well as implementation funding.

In practice, we propose to establish a Litter Team. This team of five would respond to incidents of littering or illegal dumping, bolster our investigation and enforcement work, and promote behaviour change. They would also support retailers to recover abandoned shopping trolleys.

Our motivation

Litter and illegally dumped items give our streets and parks an uncared-for appearance. They are a hazard to pedestrians and encourage vermin. We know residents and ratepayers want us to do better. In 2025, the collection and disposal of these unwanted items cost ratepayers up to $2 million.

Cost

A Litter Team of five, employed by us, would have an estimated cost to ratepayers of $4 per household per year.

You can find out more about these proposed changes in sections 4.3.15, 4.3.16, 6.1, B 4.1.15 and B 4.1.16 in the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026. You can also read the draft policy on:

letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/wasteplan2026

Our action plan

Our action plan details all current and newly proposed actions and activities to address key challenges and reduce our reliance on landfill. They fall into the three key focus areas:

- Waste information and education
- Waste collection
- Landfill waste processing management

You can find out more in the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026 – Part B: Action Plan.

Our funding

Waste management is an essential service that accounts, on average, for six percent of our rates spending, with $549 million budgeted for this in the Long Term Plan 2024 to 2034. Our resource recovery services (recycling and organics) are funded through rates, fees and charges, and a central government waste disposal levy pay-back scheme.

Rates

- Uniform annual general rate charge
- Waste minimisation targeted rate

Fees and charges

We have a user-pays system for recycling and rubbish bags and collection in the inner city.

We also charge by weight for dropping off green waste and rubbish at our transfer stations.

Central government levy

Under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, central government applies a $70-levy to every tonne of waste sent to class 1 landfills. The Ministry for the Environment returns half of this levy to local councils to promote waste minimisation.

The amount each council receives is based on their area's population. We receive about $8 million through this levy. The levy is scheduled to progressively increase to $75 per tonne in 2027.

Contestable fund

Canterbury councils formed the Canterbury Waste Joint Committee to coordinate regional collaboration for waste. The committee has an annual contestable fund of about $120,000, which funds grants for innovative projects that reduce waste.

Draft Community Waste Disposal Policy 2026

Community groups and non-profit organisations make an important contribution to removing waste from our environment, but they operate on limited funding and rely on volunteers.

We'd like your feedback on our Draft Community Waste Disposal Policy.

This policy will replace the Free Waste Dumping Policy 2003, which is no longer fit for purpose.

The Draft Community Waste Disposal Policy addresses the cost community groups and non-profit organisations face in disposing of the waste they collect by enabling us to reduce our transfer station fees for eligible applicants.

You can find out more about this policy and tell us what you think on:

letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/wasteplan2026

How to have your say about our waste future

We would like your feedback on how best to meet the current and future challenges for resource recovery.

Submissions can be made from Friday 3 July 2026 until 11.59pm on Monday 3 August 2026.

There are several ways you can give feedback:

- Online: **letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/wasteplan2026**
- Email: **letstalk@ccc.govt.nz**
- Fill out a submission form at your nearest library or service centre and hand it to staff.
- Post a letter to:
  Freepost 178 (no stamp required)
  Waste plan and policies submissions
  Christchurch City Council
  PO Box 73016
  Christchurch 8154
- Deliver to Te Hononga Civic Offices at 53 Hereford Street. To ensure we receive last-minute submissions on time, please hand-deliver them to the Civic Offices.

Regardless of the method you use to give feedback, your submission must include your **full name, email address and/or postal address.** If you wish to speak to your submission at the public hearings, please also provide a daytime phone number.

If your submission is on behalf of a group or organisation, you must include your organisation's name and your role in the organisation.

Talk to the team

If there is a community meeting you would like us to attend, please let us know. You can also phone any time to speak with us directly about the project.

Swantje Bubritzki
Senior Engagement Advisor
03 941 8728

Hearings

We expect public hearings to be held in mid-September 2026 (specific hearings dates to be confirmed).

letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/wasteplan2026

Submissions are public information

Anonymous submissions will not be accepted. Contact details are provided to elected members with your feedback to be considered when making their decision. We will also contact you with updates about the decision.

Submissions, including names, are published on our website, so please do not include any personal information you would prefer to keep private.

While contact details will not be published, if requested through the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, these must be supplied. If there are good reasons why your personal details and/or feedback should be kept confidential, contact our Engagement Manager 941 8999 (0800 800 169).

View our privacy statement at **ccc.govt.nz/privacy**

Christchurch City Council

Submission form

We'd like your feedback on the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026 and the proposed changes we outlined in our consultation document. We'd also like your feedback on the Draft Community Waste Disposal Policy and Draft Litter and Illegal Dumping Policy.

Tell us what you think by Monday 3 August 2026.

More information about the Draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan 2026, the Waste Assessment 2025 and the action plan is available on **letstalk.ccc.govt.nz/wasteplan2026**. You can also view a printed copy of this document and the Draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan 2026 at any of our libraries and service centres, or at our Civic Offices, 53 Hereford Street.

Your details

First name*

Last name*

Email*

Street name and number*

Suburb

Town/City

Postcode

Name required, plus either email **or street name and number*

We expect hearings to be held in mid-September 2026 (specific dates are to be confirmed).

☐ I would like to speak to the hearings panel about my feedback.

Please provide a phone number so we can arrange a speaking time:

If you are responding on behalf of a recognised organisation, please provide:

Name of organisation

Your role

Before we get started we'd like to ask a few questions about you. This helps us better understand who we are hearing from.

Age:

- ☐ Under 18 years
- ☐ 18–24 years
- ☐ 25–34 years
- ☐ 35–49 years
- ☐ 50–64 years
- ☐ 65–79 years
- ☐ 80 years and over

Do you have difficulty with any of the following: seeing (even if wearing glasses), hearing (even if using a hearing aid), walking or climbing steps, remembering or concentrating, self-care such as washing or dressing, communicating, understanding, or being understood (even when using your usual language)?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Ethnicity (please select all groups that you identify with):

- ☐ New Zealand European
- ☐ Māori
- ☐ Pacific Peoples
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Middle Eastern/ Latin American/African
- ☐ Other European
- ☐ Other
- ☐ Prefer not to say

Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026 and proposed changes

Separate glass kerbside collection (bottles and jars only)

We propose to investigate the introduction of an additional kerbside bin for glass bottles and jars. To process glass, we would need a dedicated local glass processor to assess the material for quality and grade it for end markets. This new service would cost ratepayers $65 to $75 per household per year (based on a provisional assessment).

Do you support the introduction of a separate glass kerbside collection?

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Not sure**

Develop ways to repurpose and extend the use of inorganic materials (unwanted household goods)

We propose to investigate a new service to collect, store, repurpose and redistribute unwanted household goods, in partnership with other service providers, which would cost ratepayers $25 per household per year (based on a provisional assessment).

Do you support the introduction of a service that improves how we manage unwanted household goods?

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Not sure**

Litter Team

We propose to establish a Litter Team, subject to adoption of the Litter and Illegal Dumping Policy. This team of five, employed by us, would respond to incidents of littering or illegal dumping, bolster our investigation and enforcement work, promote behaviour change, and support retailers to recover abandoned shopping trolleys. This would have an estimated cost to ratepayers of $4 per household per year.

Do you support the introduction of a Litter Team?

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Not sure**

Do you have any comments about our Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026 and the changes we're proposing?

Draft policies

Draft Litter and Illegal Dumping Policy 2026

Do you support the introduction of the Draft Litter and Illegal Dumping Policy?

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Not sure**

Do you have any comments about the Draft Litter and Illegal Dumping Policy?

Draft Community Waste Disposal Policy 2026

Do you support the Draft Community Waste Disposal Policy?

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Not sure**

Do you have any comments about the Draft Community Waste Disposal Policy?

INF8602 June 2026

Christchurch City Council