



## WASTE - Summary of Community Feedback

### Issues

- There was strong support for the establishment of regional organic/green waste recycling facilities.

Many people were concerned about the amount of organic waste currently being deposited at the regional landfill as it was seen as a valuable resource that could be reused.

Several comments also noted composting should also be encouraged at a 'backyard' level.

- Concern about farm landfills was another common theme.

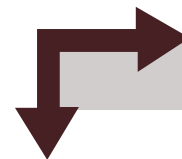
The unregulated nature of these landfills and lack of information on the types and amounts of waste being deposited in them were key concerns. However, the importance of farm landfills for the safe and efficient disposal of farm waste was also noted.

- Another common theme was a need for councils to take a more proactive approach towards hazardous waste issues.

Education on hazardous waste issues, including clear advice on where hazardous wastes could be safely disposed of, was seen as desirable.

Some argued the requirements of the HSNO Act already dealt adequately with issues relating to hazardous substances.

- Illegal dumping of waste was another issue that was highlighted and this problem was linked by some to the accessibility and affordability of approved waste disposal facilities.
- There was strong support for recycling and waste minimisation initiatives and also for the investigation and remediation of contaminated sites.



*Please see the reverse side of this card for Waste options and Councils' commentaries.*



## WASTE - Summary of Community Feedback

### Options

- The establishment of regional organic/green waste recycling facilities and initiatives encouraging composting at all levels.
- Provision of additional recycling facilities throughout the Southland region, particularly for smaller urban areas and rural areas without facilities at present.
- *Support for other non-regulatory approaches including:*
  - Council-organised agrichemical collections, as many people noted the success of these collections in the past.
  - Education and guidance from councils on where and how hazardous substances, such as agrichemicals, can be safely disposed of.
  - Waste minimisation initiatives.
  - Use of economic incentives.
  - Research and identification of problem wastes.
  - Monitoring of farm landfills.
  - Research, education and advocacy on farm landfills.
- *Support for regulatory approaches including:*
  - Enforcement and monitoring of illegal waste disposal activity.
  - Regulation of farm landfills.

### Councils' Commentary

Environment Southland and the Southland District Council recognise waste management is an integral part of the sustainable management of the Southland region.

It is recommended that both councils continue to work collaboratively with other Southland councils on waste management and this regional approach is recognised in the revised planning documents.

It is also recommended that regional initiatives relating to organic/green waste disposal facilities, recycling and waste minimisation continue to be developed.

Both councils should take a collaborative approach to concerns about farm landfills. This would involve firstly working with landowners to undertake research and/or surveys aimed at establishing some base information on the environmental effects.

This would be followed by the development of an education-based response, which could include the development of best management practice guidelines.

It is recommended that both councils continue to develop interagency processes for the identification and mapping

of historical waste disposal sites, contaminated land and land known to or suspected of containing hazardous waste. Interagency processes for the investigation and remediation of contaminated sites should also be developed.

Council hazard maps and hazardous substance information should continue to be updated whenever councils receive new information and these maps should be accessible to the public. This is supported by a recent Ombudsman's decision.

Continued recording of known contaminated land and hazardous sites on property files and listing of this information on Land Information Memoranda (LIMs) is also recommended.

The hazardous substances provisions of the Regional Policy Statement for Southland and the Southland District Plan should be updated to reflect current best practice and new national guidance, policy and legislation, including the HSNO Act 1996.

