

RURAL WASTE MINIMISATION – TERRITORIAL AUTHORITY SURVEY ANALYSIS

In April, 2016 with support from WasteMINZ a survey was prepared and issued to Territorial Authorities throughout New Zealand to gather information for use within the New Zealand Rural Waste Minimisation project. The New Zealand Rural Waste Minimisation project is headed by Environment Canterbury and has received funding from the Ministry for the Environment's Waste Minimisation Fund as well as Waikato Regional Council, WasteMINZ, AgRecovery Foundation, Bay of Plenty Regional Council, 3R Group, Canterbury Waste Joint Committee and Synlait Milk.

The project's objectives are:

- To determine the impacts on and risks to New Zealand's natural resources (land, water and air), economy, and social and cultural wellbeings from current rural waste burning, burying and stockpiling practices.
- To identify new waste minimisation options for rural waste management and assess the technical and economic feasibility of these.
- To develop implementation plans with service providers for feasible waste minimisation options.

The purpose of this survey was to help build an understanding of what Territorial Authorities are currently doing and where they are wanting to take or support action in terms of rural waste minimisation.

The responses from the survey are summarised as follows:

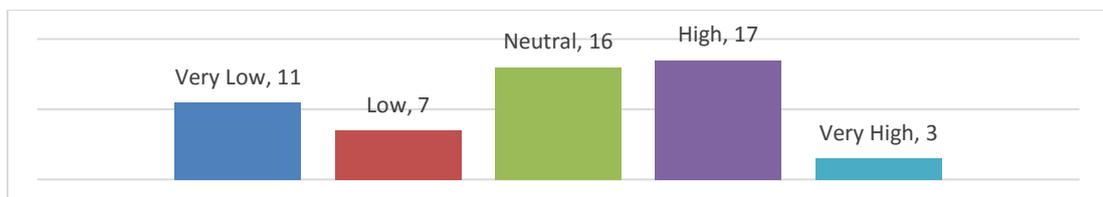
1. Which Territorial Authority do you represent?

- Responses were received from 53 TAs.

2. What is your job title?

- Most responses were from those whose job title included 'Solid Waste' or 'Waste Minimisation'.

3. How does your council prioritise rural waste as an issue to address?

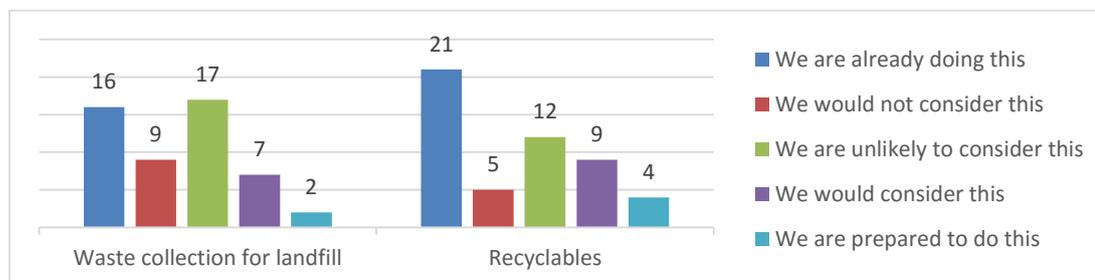


- 37% high or very high. 33% very low or low.
- Most of those TAs that rated this as a low priority did so because of a lack of rural properties in their locality.
- 5 TAs indicated this is an issue that is growing in priority for them.

4. What strategies or regulation have been put in place, or are being planned, to address rural waste in your area (e.g. district council plan, waste minimisation plan, district council bylaws)?

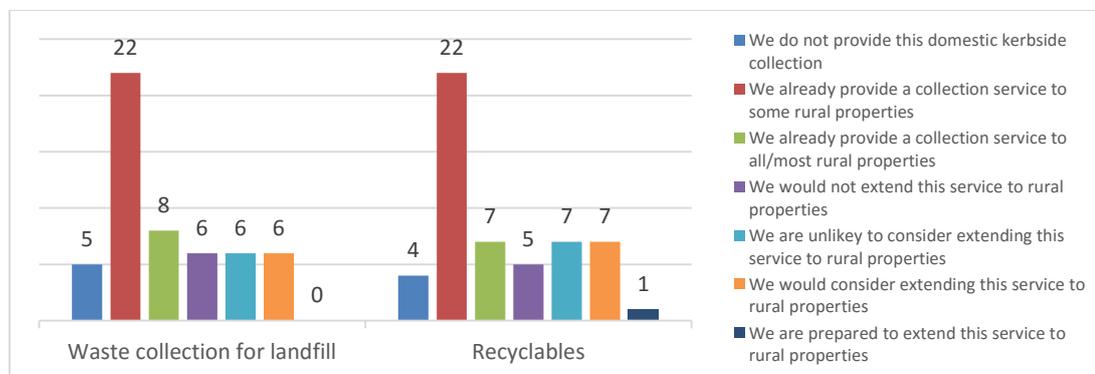
- Many TAs referenced Waste Management and Minimisation Plans in their responses, but most do not have specific rural waste strategies in place or planned.
- Plans tend to focus on domestic waste, rather than commercial waste off farms.
- A number of TAs do, or plan to, promote or support AgRecovery for agricultural collections.

5. Would your Council consider offering or subsidising rural waste collections?



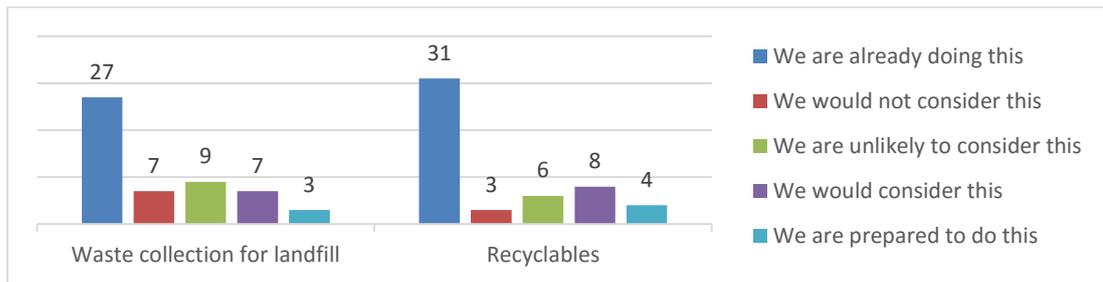
- 31% of respondents are **already collecting** waste for landfill and 41% of respondents are already collecting recyclables, although many indicate this is only for domestic waste.
- 51% of respondents **would not or are unlikely to consider** such services for landfill waste, while 41% of respondents feel similarly about recyclables.
- 18% of respondents **would consider or are prepared to offer** such services for landfill waste, while 25% of respondents feel similarly about recyclables.

6. Does your council operate a domestic kerbside waste and recycling collection service? If so, would your council consider extending this service to rural properties?



- 57% of respondents are **already providing** collection services to a proportion of rural properties for landfill waste and 55% of respondents are already doing so for recyclables.
- 53% of respondents **would not or are unlikely to consider** such services for landfill waste or recyclables.
- 11% of respondents **would consider or are prepared to offer** such services for landfill waste, while 15% of respondents feel similarly about recyclables.

7. Would your Council consider providing 'drop-off' points or 'local hubs' for rural waste?

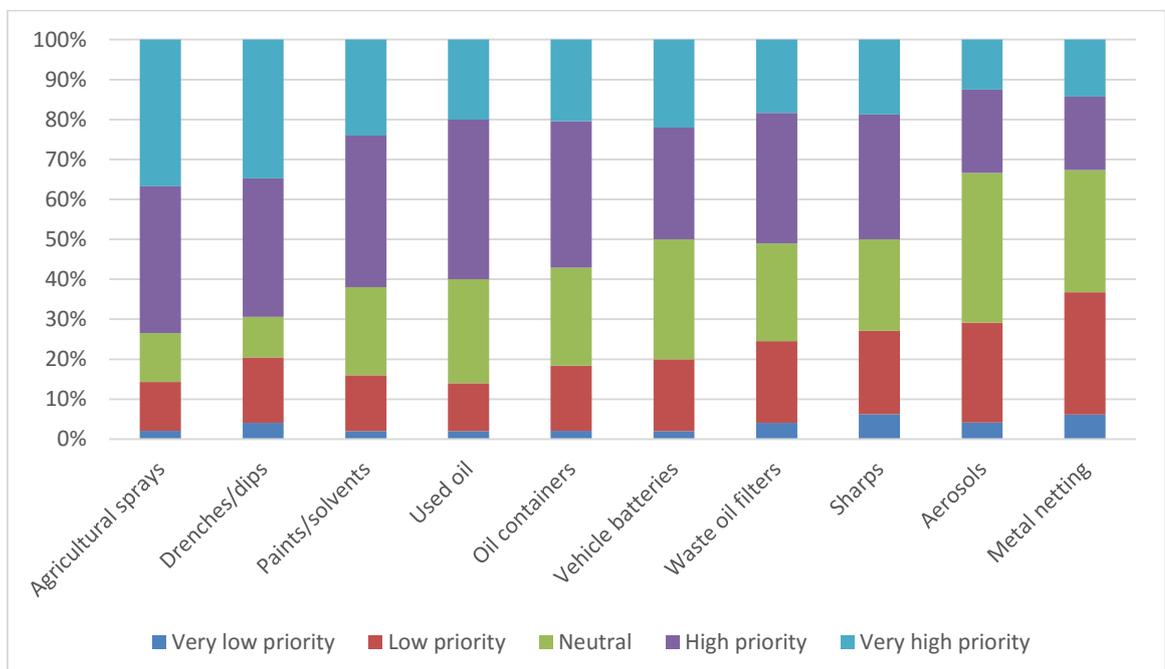


- 51% of respondents are **already providing** drop-off points for landfill waste and 60% of respondents are already doing so for recyclables.
- 30% of respondents **would not or are unlikely to consider** drop-off points for landfill waste, while 17% of respondents feel similarly about recyclables.
- 19% of respondents **would consider or are prepared to offer** drop-off points for landfill waste, while 53% of respondents feel similarly about recyclables.

8. Which, if any, commercial waste collection companies (such as EnviroWaste) provide waste collection services from local rural properties?

- 14 respondents noted that EnviroWaste provided such services in their area.
- 20 respondents noted that Waste Management provided such services in their area.
- 26 respondents noted that other local providers provided such services in their area.
- Only 5 respondents were not aware of any such service being offered in their area.

9. Listed below are the top ten rural wastes which cause the most environmental damage if burnt or buried on farm. Please indicate which ones you are most interested in seeing solutions for.



- The wastes are shown above in priority order. Agricultural sprays are the highest priority; metal netting is the lowest priority.
- Hazardous wastes are clearly the priority.

10. What are the best ways, in your view, that Territorial Authorities can contribute to the minimisation of rural waste?

Common responses included:

- Promote and raise awareness of existing solutions.
- Looking to stimulate or support product stewardship programmes.
- Work more closely with regional councils.
- Support waste collection initiatives.
- Increased regulation around burning rural waste.
- Provide drop-off facilities.

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