

## TA Forum

**Date:** Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015

**Time:** 1pm – 3pm

**Location:** **teleconference**

**Present:** Alec McNeil (Marlborough District Council); Brent Aitken (Taupo District Council);  
Dominic Salmon (Hastings District Council); Donna Peterson (Invercargill City Council); Nienke Itjeshorst (Kāpiti Coast District Council);  
Sophie Mander (Central Otago District Council)

**Facilitator:** **Jenny Marshall (WasteMINZ)**

**Apologies:** Ian Stupple (Auckland Council);

No.	Action point	Person responsible	Deadline	Status
1.	<b>Welcome, introductions and apologies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gavin Sole has left Selwyn District Council to go and work for Jacobs as a Senior Environmental Engineer.</li><li>• Sophie Mander from Central Otago District Council has been seconded on to the committee.</li></ul>			
2.	<b>Minutes of Last Meeting</b>			
3.	<b>Public safety at Council Refuse Transfer Stations</b>  Hastings District Council had an incident at our refuse transfer			

	<p>station on Friday which resulted in a member of the public falling into the refuse pit which is 1.5 metres and sustaining a number of injuries and Worksafe closing us down for the day. Worksafe closed the site immediately and issued an embatement notice. We have had to erect a fall from heights wooden framing 400m to 900m but the heights are not conducive to unloading waste. This is our 4<sup>th</sup> incident in the past 13 months. Worksafe hasn't provided a solution. One of the embatement notices issued is around employing an extra staff member which would add an increased cost of \$4-5 tonnes. We have had 4 incident reports in the last nine days for strains and sprains from staff, due to having to help people to tip their rubbish in, as the temporary scaffolding installed presents people from tipping.</p> <p><b>Invercargill:</b> We had an elderly lady fall in about 18 months ago. We had no CCTV footage, but suspect the driver of the vehicle was to blame and accidently ran into her. We have had scaffolding barriers installed since then, so no one has fallen in but some people have head butted the barriers by accident. We have had an ergonomics expert come in to see if any changes can be made, but it's still not working for us. The emptying of wool sacks is the biggest issue for us as people want to empty the bags and take them home. We trialed having someone to assist members of the public and advise them how to tip their waste safely, but they received a lot of verbal abuse. Our barrier has now been raised in height to 1,400.</p> <p><b>Kapiti:</b> we have had barriers put in at knee height and neck height and one staff member available at all time. But we only accept general waste not green waste. The public have a different perception of safety depending on the type of waste –They seem to take greater precautions tipping rubbish than green waste. All green waste is tipped next door on the flat. If people have a</p>			
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	<p>tipping trailer, they can empty from the side without leaving their vehicle. There is also a stop bar as well.</p> <p><b>Marlborough:</b> We are trialing an adjustable gate. We have a three metre drop with just a chain and signage. We tried a barrier but the public climbed up it as a ladder. - A new barrier is being constructed and will be trialed during March / April.</p> <p><b>Timaru:</b> uses Scarlett’s tipping wells, which are \$40,000 each. They found that they put barriers in, but people scrambled underneath.</p> <p><b>Taupo:</b> has installed a gate barrier to stop people falling into the pit. With bags of green waste they can tip out onto the ground and then they push out under the barrier into the pit. The gate starts at about waist height.</p> <p>The committee agreed that there should be a library of photos showing successful barriers and that it would be useful to see the plans of anyone who is designing a new transfer station layout to see what the latest design thinking is. Best practice guideline – for designing barriers and solutions on how to make tipping rubbish safer would also be useful.</p> <p>The Health and Safety Committee is also investigating this issue.</p>			
4.	<p><b>Update on Levy Review Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been no further progress as Ministry of the Environment staff have yet to meet with the Minister.</li> </ul>			
5.				

	<p><b>Tyre Industry Conference</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brent Aitken represented local government on the tyre working group.</li> <li>• That group is organizing a workshop/ conference and is asking for sponsorship from the TA's.</li> <li>• The aim of the conference is to get key players from the tyre industry around the table to progress product stewardship.</li> <li>• Brent received an email enquiring whether councils could sponsor the workshop.</li> <li>• Brent will email the funding proposal round to the steering committee.</li> </ul>			
6.	<p><b>Updating WMMP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ministry has put together a working party of TA's to feed into updating WMMP's.</li> <li>• One issue identified is the need to have some flexibility around introducing new initiatives in between plans.</li> <li>• Other issues discussed included:</li> <li>• The structure and layout of the template for WMMP's could be made more user friendly as there was a lot of repetition.</li> <li>• There should be an opportunity to explain the population demographics and trends in your region as this can shape</li> </ul>			

	<p>the long term service delivery plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Should there be requirements for benchmarking? Only if councils are reporting data using consistent definitions and measurements. The Waste Data Framework would assist with this.</li> <li>• Marlborough has redone their waste plan after working with Jess Henderson from the Ministry of the Environment on a one on one basis. - Copies of their current WMMP can be viewed at <a href="http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/Services/Refuse/Waste-Management-Minimisation-Plan.aspx">http://www.marlborough.govt.nz/Services/Refuse/Waste-Management-Minimisation-Plan.aspx</a></li> <li>• The committee commented this could be a session for a WasteMINZ conference.</li> </ul>			
7.	<p>Asbestos Aware – see information below from Kitty Waghorn <b>Send out a link in enews</b></p>			
8.	<p><b>Update on the National Food Waste Prevention Project</b></p> <p>60 councils are taking part in the media launch which is planned for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015.</p>			
9.	<p><b>Bins for Businesses – query from South Taranaki Council</b></p> <p><i>“We are currently looking at developing a policy that would better define our solid waste service restrictions and assist us with deciding whether we provide businesses with additional sets of bins (rubbish and recycling) should they request it. What are the different policies councils have dealing with the</i></p>			

	<p><i>number of bins available to businesses and/or households?</i></p> <p><i>We are currently considering options such as:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Escalation of price for a second set of bins, new escalation of price for a third set of bins, etc.</i></li> <li>• <i>Redirecting businesses to local contractors for additional sets of bins.”</i></li> <li>• Once you hand your business waste over to a commercial business you lose control of the waste stream, and unless you license you may not be able to capture data on that waste stream. To license you would need to create a waste bylaw to do that. A number of councils have done that already but it is a lengthy process.</li> <li>• In Taupo all service providers are licensed under a Waste Bylaw that sets out what services they can provide.</li> <li>• It is easy to predict the volume of waste that comes out from an average household but much harder to predict the volume from a business so you would need a differential in your rating program to allow for extra volumes out of business. Taupo charges 1.5 times for businesses.</li> <li>• In Central Otago District Council households and businesses receive the same number. If businesses want more they can and they pay the same rate.</li> <li>• In Invercargill businesses get the same number as households. If they need more, they have to go to commercial providers whereas Southland District will provide a 3<sup>rd</sup> bin at half price.</li> </ul>			
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Kapiti businesses are excluded from council recycling services. They go into a commercial recycling contract.</li> </ul>			
10.	<p><b>Update on Waste Data Framework</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Milestone 2: development of a draft framework has been completed. It has gone to the Ministry of the Environment for Feedback.</li> <li>Milestone 3: consultation on the draft framework.</li> <li>There will be workshops in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch and an online workshop that people can dial into as well as a session at the Round Up in April.</li> <li>We will also hold a workshop specifically for waste management companies in Auckland.</li> </ul>			
11.	<p><b>Update on Ewaste Product Stewardship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paul Evans attended the Ewaste workshop two weeks ago in Auckland.</li> <li>The workshop worked through the feedback that had been received on the first report. The report had incorporated feedback from the TA forum.</li> <li>The report was favouring product stewardship for Ewaste and was considering a broader rather than narrower definition of what products would be included. The industry reps who attended weren't so enthused by this.</li> <li>There were a few community recyclers there who also</li> </ul>			

	<p>weren't that keen on having a broader range of items included as it could impact their revenue streams e.g. whiteware is a category where more goods are being dropped off and community recyclers can generate some income from these.</p>			
12.	<p><b>Land Disposal Guidelines</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The peer review was received Wednesday last week.</li> <li>• There are no fundamental changes. The feedback was mainly on structure and content.</li> <li>• We would expect to have the guidelines available for release within the next 6- 8 weeks.</li> <li>• A key audience for this is regional councils. We have an agreed communications strategy around the launch with the Ministry of the Environment.</li> </ul>			
13.	<p><b>WasteMINZ strategic investment fund</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WasteMINZ has \$20,000 to distribute. Grants are expected to be in the vicinity of \$1,000 - \$5,000.</li> <li>• WasteMINZ can't be the sole funder, there must be other partners.</li> <li>• The process would be chat to Paul Evans in the first place about the idea. He can then give you some suggestion as to how likely it would be for the idea to get accepted.</li> <li>• Then there is a simple application form.</li> <li>• The deadline for applying is 22<sup>nd</sup> of March</li> </ul>			



14.	<p><b>Container Deposit Legislation</b></p> <p>NSW in Australia is about to enact this. Warren Snow is writing a paper about Container Deposit Legislation in New Zealand.</p>			
15.	<p>The TA Forum Steering Committee would like to thank Carole Inglis for all her hard work and effort over the past 19 years and wishes her all the best for her retirement.</p>			