

3.10. WASTE

Both the Otago Regional Council and the Clutha District Council have waste management responsibilities under the Resource Management Act. The Regional Council has assumed primary responsibility for waste management and its co-ordination within Otago as a consequence of the matters contained in the Regional Policy Statement.

The Regional Council is responsible for the control and management of the effects of discharge or disposal of waste, as they are classed as a contaminant. In fulfilling that responsibility, the Regional Council considers applications for discharges of contaminants into water and air, and onto land. The Regional Council also provides advice and education on waste management issues and monitors the effects of waste treatment and disposal throughout Otago. As a consequence, it is able to provide an integrated regional overview of the management of the waste stream.

To achieve its aims, the Regional Council has produced a proposed Regional Policy Statement for Otago (notified in October 1993) and a "Proposed Regional Plan: Waste for Otago" publicly notified May 1994. The proposed Regional Policy Statement set out the Regional Council's objectives in relation to waste management as follows;

13.4.1. To protect Otago's communities and resources from the adverse effects of the waste stream including hazardous substances and wastes.

13.4.2. To encourage a relative reduction in the amount, range and type of waste generated in Otago.

13.4.3. To encourage an increase in re-use, recycling, and recovery of wastes.

These objectives are to be achieved by the policies outlined in the Regional Policy Statement and by the provisions contained in the Regional Waste Plan. The purpose of that plan is stated as follows:

- Reduce the quantity of waste that is produced in Otago.
- Adopt a regionally co-ordinated approach to waste management and outline responsibilities for Otago's waste management.
- Encourage waste minimisation as a key strategy in the management of Otago's wastes.
- Ensure that waste which cannot be reused or recycled is disposed of in such a way that adverse environmental and health impacts are minimised.
- Recognise cultural values in the management of wastes.
- Increase public awareness of Otago's waste issues, and
- Encourage on-going monitoring of Otago's waste issues and their management.

The primary role of the Clutha District Council in relation to waste management is the provision of facilities and services for the collection, recycling and disposal of wastes. In order to meet those responsibilities in terms of the Resource Management Act, the Clutha District Council has initiated the development of a Solid Waste Management Strategy. The aim of this strategy is to have a Waste Management Plan implemented by the start of 1995 which will comply with the requirements of the Resource Management Act. In working towards this aim, the waste management working group formed to achieve this goal, adopted the objectives of the former Clutha-Central Otago United Council's 1989 Regional Solid Waste Management Plan which were to provide for:

- cost effective services on a user-pays principle.
- integrated disposal for the full spectrum of waste.

- public involvement in planning and decision making
- recognition of the cultural values particularly those of the Treaty of Waitangi.
- public and environmental health protection and uses prevention.
- environmental protection
- natural water protection
- waste management and disposal in District and Regional Plans
- solid waste minimisation
- resource conservation and recovery
- the management of hazardous wastes

In light of the development of this Plan, and the Regional Council's Regional Waste Plan, it is considered unnecessary to repeat the objectives, policies and methods for waste management within the Clutha District in this District Plan.