



**Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Waste Advisory Group (WasteNet) will be held in the Gore District Council Chambers, Civic Administration Building, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore on Monday 10 June 2024, at 10.00 am.**

**Elected member representatives**

***Gore District Council***

**Cr Keith Hovell (Chairman)  
Mayor Mr Ben Bell (Deputy Chairman)  
Cr Glenys Dickson**

***Southland District Council***

**Mayor Mr Rob Scott  
Cr Christine Menzies**

***Invercargill City Council***

**Cr Ian Pottinger  
Cr Barry Stewart  
Cr Peter Kett (alternate)**

## Waste Advisory Group (WasteNet) - Public

10 June 2024 10:00 AM

<b>Agenda Topic</b>	<b>Page</b>
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6. Public Excluded Session	

**Public Excluded Session**

Moved , seconded that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- a) Minutes of the Public Excluded Session of Waste Advisory Group Meeting Held on Monday 8 April 2024
- b) Request For Funding – Recycle South: Optical Sorting Unit

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
a) Minutes of the Public Excluded Session of Waste Advisory Group Meeting Held on Monday 8 April 2024	<p><b>Section 7(2)(h)</b> Enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities</p> <p><b>Section 7(2)(i)</b> Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)</p>	<p><b>Section 48(1)(a)</b> That the public conduct of this item would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under Section 7</p>
b) Recycle South Request for Funding Deliberation Report	<p><b>Section 7(2)(b)(ii)</b> Protect the information where the making available of the information would be unlikely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplier or who is the subject of the information</p>	<p><b>Section 48(1)(a)</b> That the public conduct of this item would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under Section 7</p>



**Minutes of a meeting of the Waste Advisory Group (WasteNet), held in the Invercargill City Council Chambers, 101 Esk Street, Invercargill on Monday 8 April 2024, at 10.00am**

**Present**

**Gore District Council**

Cr Keith Hovell (Chair)  
Cr Neville Phillips  
Mayor Ben Bell

**Southland District Council**

Mayor Mr Rob Scott  
Cr Christine Menzies

**Invercargill City Council**

Deputy Mayor Tom Campbell  
Cr Barry Stewart

**In attendance**

Mr Jason Domigan	General Manager Critical Services, Gore District Council,
Ms Erin Moogan	Group Manager Infrastructure, Invercargill City Council,
Ms Fran Mikulicic	Group Manager Infrastructure and Capital Projects, Southland District Council
Mr Grant Isaacs	- Southland District Council
Ms Fiona Walker	- Director WasteNet
Ms Annie Benjamin	- Invercargill City Council
Ms Michele Broad	- Executive Support

**Apology**

Cr Ian Pottinger (Invercargill City Council) .

Moved Deputy Mayor Campbell, seconded Cr Stewart and **RESOLVED** that the apology be accepted.

**1. WELCOME**

Chairman Cr Hovell welcomed attendees to the meeting and introduced Ms Fiona Walker, newly appointed Director of WasteNet to the meeting. Ms Walker gave a brief introduction to the meeting, noting a background in environmental consulting and compliance prior to accepting the WasteNet role.

**2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Nil.

**3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Cr Hovell requested any feedback, noting that a number of matters dealt with in the minutes arise later

in the agenda and his comments could be made then.

Moved Cr Stewart, seconded Deputy Mayor Campbell and RESOLVED

1. that the minutes of the Waste Advisory Group meeting held on 29 February 2024, as presented, be confirmed as a true and complete record.

#### 4. WASTENET WASTE TO LANDFILL PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Cr Hovell requested any feedback. Deputy Mayor Campbell asked if there were any items which should be noted as he'd received the papers late. Chair noted continuation of lower levels of recycling, too early to reach conclusion on why, more data required.

Ms Erin Moogan, Group Manager - Infrastructure noted previous trend of both waste to landfill and recycling weights reducing as presented in previous reports. Waste to landfill trending up in this report, would historically see recycling trending up also, it is but not to the same extent. Noted could be lowering of contamination in recycling stream due to education, will continue to monitor. Cr Hovell noted the recycling figures in Invercargill and Southland, queried targeting wider Southland for compliance.

Recommendations that the Waste Advisory Group:

1. Receives the report "WasteNet Waste to Landfill Performance Update".
2. Note the waste to landfill data and trends.
3. Note the recycling data and trends.

**RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr Phillips seconded by Deputy Mayor Campbell **THAT** the report be received.

#### 5. WASTENET EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION UPDATE

Cr Stewart queried the reference to ducks in the document. Ms Moogan noted during duck shooting season a number of ducks are received in the recycling bins, and that receiving dead animals via the yellow bins is not uncommon and is distressing for staff at Recycle South.

Cr Hovell queried ability on the WasteNet website to be able to check what can go into bins, or where items can be disposed of. Ms Annie Benjamin noted in phase 2 of the website a search facility is being added, this will be available by the end of June. Also noted the Waste Free Wanda tour booked for May.

Recommendation that the Waste Advisory Group receive the report "WasteNet Education and Communication Activity Update".

Moved Deputy Mayor Campbell, seconded Cr Stewart and RESOLVED

1. that the report be received.

#### 6. WASTE ACTION PLAN (WAP) UPDATE

Cr Hovell noted no fires at landfill since battery recycling implemented.

Query from Mayor Scott regarding advertising for bin clips. Ms Benjamin noted advertising is taking place on NZME and Media Works, with limited stock available from ICC or SDC offices throughout the region.

A copy of the Waste Activity Plan including activity status updates had been circulated with the agenda.

Recommendation that the Waste Advisory Group receive the report "Waste Action Plan (WAP) Update".

Moved Mayor Scott, seconded Cr Stewart and **RESOLVED** that the report be received.

**7. PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION**

Resolved on the motion of Cr Hovell, seconded by Deputy Mayor Campbell, that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceeding of this meeting, namely the items as listed below.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing the resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<b>General subject matter</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Grounds under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
Public excluded minutes of the Waste Advisory Group 19 February 2024	Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations); and	Section 7 (2)(i) and (h)
Request for funding for an optical sorter – Recycle South	enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	

The meeting concluded at 10.51am

## WASTENET STRATEGIC PLAN FOR FY2024/25

**To:** Waste Advisory Group

**Meeting Date:** Monday 10 June 2024

**From:** WasteNet – Fiona Walker (Director)

**Open Agenda:** Yes

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### Purpose and Summary

The Waste Advisory Group (WAG) received a draft strategic plan for FY2024/25, presenting proposed work programmes to be completed by WasteNet for the coming 12 months.

The purpose of this report is to finalise and seek endorsement of the WasteNet 2024/25 Strategic Plan.

### Recommendations

That the Waste Advisory Group:

1. Receives the report "WasteNet Strategic Plan for FY2024/25".
2. Confirm any amendments required to the draft WasteNet 2024/25 Strategic Plan.
3. Approve implementation of the WasteNet FY2024/25 Strategic Plan.

### Background

During the May 2024 Waste Advisory Group (WAG) workshop, the draft WasteNet 2024/25 Strategic Plan was presented and discussed. During the workshop, feedback was sought from the WAG in relation to the proposed work programmes to be completed by WasteNet for the coming 12 months.

### Issues and Options

As an outcome of the May 2024 workshop minor amendments were made to the draft strategic plan, including clarification of the target condition, clarification of the

current condition, inclusion of additional items to the "Parking Lot". The revised draft WasteNet 2024/25 Strategic Plan is presented in Appendix 1.

### **Next Steps**

Upon finalisation and endorsement, WasteNet staff shall implement the WasteNet 2024/25 Strategic Plan. This includes routine reporting to WAG on progress with implementation and the status of various workstreams.

### **Attachments**

1. Draft WasteNet 2024/25 Strategic Plan





## WASTENET'S FINANCIAL STANDING AND PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY2024/25

**To:** Waste Advisory Group

**Meeting Date:** Monday 10 June 2024

**From:** WasteNet - Fiona Walker (Director)

**Open Agenda:** Yes

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### Purpose and Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on WasteNet's financial position to the members of the WasteNet Advisory Group including:

- The Financial Reports for FY2022/23 and for FY2023/24 (6-Months ending 31 December 2023),
- An overview of landfill fees, and
- An overview of WasteNet Reserves.

This report also presents the proposed WasteNet budget for FY2024/25 and alternative mechanisms to fund the proposed budget.

### Recommendation

That the Waste Advisory Group

- 1) Receive the report "WasteNet's Financial Standing and Proposed Budget for FY2024/25".
- 2) Approve the proposed budget for FY2024/25.
- 3) Approve the mechanism to fund the budget deficit, being either:
  - Option A: Increase of WasteNet administration fee only, with no draw on Reserves.

This option would increase the gate fee by \$8.05 to a total of \$222.75/T, with the WasteNet administration fee component increasing from \$17.27/T to \$25.32/T.
  - Option B: Marginally increase the WasteNet administration fee and allocate Reserves to fund specific strategic and waste minimisation and improvement activities.

This option would increase the gate fee by \$1.64 to a total of \$216.34/T, with the WasteNet administration fee component increasing from \$17.27/T to \$18.91/T. The remainder of the deficit would be funded by drawing \$375,000 from current Reserves.

- Option C: Maintain the current WasteNet administration fee and fully fund the deficit from Reserves.  
This option would not impose additional increases on the gate fee and draw \$471,000 from current Reserves.

## Background

The Agreement between the councils for the governance and management of WasteNet is provided for via the WasteNet Southland - Joint Waste Management Agreement, known as the Joint Agreement. The Joint Agreement includes several clauses relating to financial management and decision-making, specifically Clause 4.12.2, 4.12.10 and 6.36 – 6.41. Pursuant to Clause 6.38 of the Joint Agreement, all operational surpluses for any year shall, unless the parties agree otherwise, be retained by WasteNet as a WasteNet reserve to be carried forward to subsequent years operational requirements. Pursuant to Clause 6.39 of the Joint Agreement, any shortfall in WasteNet funding shall be funded by the WasteNet Councils in such proportions, to be set as at 1 July in each year, as the WAG shall agree and failing agreement shall be pro rata on the basis of the population of each WasteNet Council as at 1 July.

WasteNet expenses and revenue are driven by the following factors:

- Volumes to landfill
- Operating and administration expenses
- Government policy and emerging legislation

An annual budget for WasteNet is prepared each year and submitted to the Waste Advisory Group for approval, with progress updates reported thereafter during the financial year.

## Landfill Fees

Landfill fees are a major component of the WasteNet budget, both in terms of expenditure and revenue. Landfill fees are comprised of the:

- Permitted Waste charge set by the landfill provider,
- Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) tax unit costs,
- Waste Levy fees set by central government, and
- WasteNet administration fee.

The following table presents an overview of the changes in these components between 2022/23 and 2024/25:

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Waste Levy	\$30.00	\$50.00	\$60.00
ETS	\$84.43	\$62.31	\$62.31
WasteNet Admin Fee	\$13.68	\$17.27	<i>To be Confirmed</i>
Permitted Waste Charge	\$66.08	\$72.32	\$75.12
<b>Gate fee / tonne</b>	<b>\$194.19</b>	<b>\$201.90</b>	<b><i>To be Confirmed</i></b>

### WasteNet Reserves

WasteNet holds only cash (current) assets and no long-term investments/assets. In accordance with Clause 6.38 of the Joint Agreement, any operating surpluses are accumulated and held as Reserves.

WasteNet's operational reserve status, comprising accumulated funds and operational surplus, as at:

30 June 2023 (End of FY2022/23)	\$1,871,934
31 December 2023 (FY2023/24 midpoint)	\$1,932,847

### WasteNet Financial Performance

#### WASTENET STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

	31 Dec. 2023	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>			
Contracts	9,419,227	19,922,522	17,313,870
Interest	19,897	28,268	6,868
<b>Income Total</b>	<b>9,439,124</b>	<b>19,950,790</b>	<b>17,320,738</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Contracts	8,978,930	19,140,781	16,801,178
Operational	399,280	268,206	361,378
<b>Expenditure Total</b>	<b>9,378,210</b>	<b>19,408,987</b>	<b>17,162,556</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>60,914</b>	<b>541,803</b>	<b>158,182</b>

**WASTENET STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

	<b>As at 31 Dec. 2023 \$</b>	<b>30 June 2023 \$</b>	<b>30 June 2022 \$</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
Funds held by ICC	539,655	1,988,804	1,281,424
Debtors and accrued revenue	4,268,099	2,163,249	1,589,272
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>4,807,754</b>	<b>4,152,054</b>	<b>2,870,696</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors and accrued expenditure	2,874,907	2,280,120	1,540,566
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>2,874,907</b>	<b>2,280,120</b>	<b>1,540,566</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Accumulated funds - Balance at 1 July	1,871,934	1,330,131	1,171,949
Total surplus for the year	60,914	541,803	158,182
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>1,932,847</b>	<b>1,871,934</b>	<b>1,330,131</b>
<b>Total liabilities and equity</b>	<b>4,807,754</b>	<b>4,152,054</b>	<b>2,870,696</b>

**WasteNet Proposed Financial Budget FY2024/25**

The following budget is proposed for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 to undertake administration, waste minimisation projects and operations.

Waste Advisory Group (WasteNet) - Public - WasteNet Financial Overview & Proposed Budget FY 24-25 to WAG (A5347445)

WasteNet Budget	FY23/24 (\$'000) Approved Budget	FY24/25 (\$'000) Proposed Budget	Explanation
<b>Income</b>			
Contracts	<b>22,173</b>	<b>22,130</b>	
Rev Contract 550 (Bond)	8,050	8,038	Contract Income
Rev Contract 279 (Landfill)	14,123	14,091	Contract Income + Gate Fee
Interest	<b>9</b>	<b>28</b>	F25 based on F24 mid-year
<b>Income Total</b>	<b>22,182</b>	<b>22,158</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Contracts	<b>21,372</b>	<b>21,134</b>	
Exp Contract 550 (Bond)	8,050	8,038	Estimations based on current contract costs
Exp Contract 279 (Landfill)	13,322	13,096	Based on forecast waste volumes.
Communications And Education	<b>393</b>	<b>350</b>	As per Education and Communication Strategy.
Education Programme - Schools	57	37	Reduction in school education programme due to EnviroSchools being funded directly by Councils (previously budgeted \$10k/annum) and the 3-year contract with Kate Meads having now concluded (previously budgeted \$10k/annum).
Education Programme - Businesses	40	45	
Residential	166	268	Provision for bin audit resourcing, general media and communications (e.g. radio and fridge magnets), bin clips.
Industry Associations	10	-	Recorded within "Administration" line
Strategy And Policy	<b>191<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>430</b>	
New Legislation - Required by F25		15	Includes projects that address legislation changes (e.g. tyrewise implementation). Proposed to be funded from Reserve.
Strategy		260	Includes Joint Agreement review, Waste Management and Minimisation Plan Review, Bylaw, pathway to regional service contract renewals. Proposed to be funded from Reserve.
Waste Minimisation		100	Ongoing battery collection, organics business case, glass out & research for e-waste. Proposed to be funded from Reserve.
Community Programme - Grants		55	
Administration	<b>656</b>	<b>714</b>	
Staff Costs	579	669	Charge-out rates for Director 1.0 FTE, Contract Manager 0.9 FTE, Engagement 1.0 FTE & Contracts & Financial Admin 1.0 FTE as well as overheads, travel, training and industry memberships
Legal and Consultant Support	70	26	Legal and Consultant support
<b>Expenditure Total</b>	<b>22,612</b>	<b>22,629</b>	
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(430)</b>	<b>(471)</b>	F24: Gate fee increase of \$3.59/T for \$210k and remaining \$220k shortfall funded from WasteNet reserve.
Admin fee increase	<b>3.59</b>	<i>To be confirmed</i>	

<sup>1</sup> Breakdown not presented as workstreams vary between 2023/24 and 2024/25.

**The Financial Implications of this Budget are:**

- Provision for contract expenses in line with escalations provided for under each contract.
- A forecast budget deficit of \$471,000, driven primarily by:
  - An uplift in Strategy and Policy budget to progress regional framework including review of the WasteNet Joint Waste Management Agreement, a regional Waste Assessment, 6-yearly review of the regional Waste Management and Minimisation Plan and actions to support upcoming regional contract service contract renewals.
  - Maintenance of the 2023/24 education and communication budgets, noting that delivery of these workstreams is dependent upon resourcing, with the Engagement Co-ordinator role currently being vacant.
  - Forecast landfill volumes and thus revenue generated via the WasteNet administration fee component of landfill gate fees. The forecast 2024/25 landfill volumes are based on historic trends, although it is noted that the actual volumes disposed of during the 2023/24 year-to-date are lower than previously predicted and thus have not followed historic trends.

**Considerations for Deficit Funding Models**

- Option A: Increase of WasteNet administration fee only, with no draw on Reserves. This option will result in a significant and notable change in landfill fees, compounded by the increase in central government Waste Levy costs and the landfill provider's increase in Permitted Waste charges. This option is also considered to be inconsistent with the abovementioned clause of the Joint Agreement which specifies that Reserves shall be used for funding shortfalls.
- Option B: Marginally increase the WasteNet administration fee and allocate Reserves to fund specific strategic and waste minimisation and improvement activities. This option will result in a modest increase to landfill fees, aligning more with a "user-pays" model and therefore providing incentive to reduce landfill volumes. This funding model also reflects that operational and administrative costs will typically increase year-on-year, particularly in the setting of current inflation rates. This option is considered to be consistent with the abovementioned clause of the Joint Agreement which specifies that Reserves shall be used for funding shortfalls.
- Option C: Maintain the current WasteNet administration fee and fully fund the deficit from Reserves. This option will not impose additional increases to landfill fees, noting that overall the gate fee will still increase as a result of Waste Levy and service

provider fee increases. Therefore, a financial incentive to reduce landfill volumes will still be achieved.

This option is considered to be consistent with the abovementioned clause of the Joint Agreement which specifies that Reserves shall be used for funding shortfalls.

Consideration should be given to forecast future draws on the Reserves and implications which may arise should there be insufficient Reserves at that time. Activities which are likely to draw on Reserves include renewal of the WasteNet service contracts prior to 2027, activities to meet requirements of the proposed National Waste Strategy and waste minimisation activities.

## **Attachments**

None



## WASTENET KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS UPDATE

**To:** Waste Advisory Group

**Meeting Date:** Monday 10 June 2024

**From:** Annie Benjamin – Contracts and Commercial Manager

**Open Agenda:** Yes

**Public Excluded Agenda:** No

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### Purpose and Summary

The purpose of this report is to present data on key performance indicators, including:

- Materials discarded rate,
- Waste volumes to landfill, and
- Diversion rate and recycling data.

For the Southland region, the cumulative waste discarded through transfer stations to the landfill is currently tracking 6.2% (1,930.34 tonnes) less than the same period-to-date last year. The year-to-date average of contamination in recyclables is currently 18.2% down from 19.42% same period-to-date last year. The volume of diverted material has increased with a year-to-date average of 33.4% compared to 31.28 % same period-to-date last year.

### Recommendations

That the Waste Advisory Group:

1. Receives the report "WasteNet Key Performance Indicators Update".
2. Note the materials discarded, waste to landfill and diversion data and trends.

### Background

The WasteNet councils have a statutory obligation to promote effective and efficient waste minimisation and management within the Invercargill City (ICC), Southland District (SDC) and Gore District (GDC) under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

WasteNet is currently operating under the Joint Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2020-2026. Southland's Waste Minimisation and Management Plan sets a target that by 1 July 2026 Southland will have maintained a materials discarded figure of 650kg per person, comprising 40% diverted materials.

This report provides an update for Q3 of FY2023/24 to the Waste Advisory Group in relation to WasteNet's waste performance.

## Issues

### Regional Materials Discarded Rate

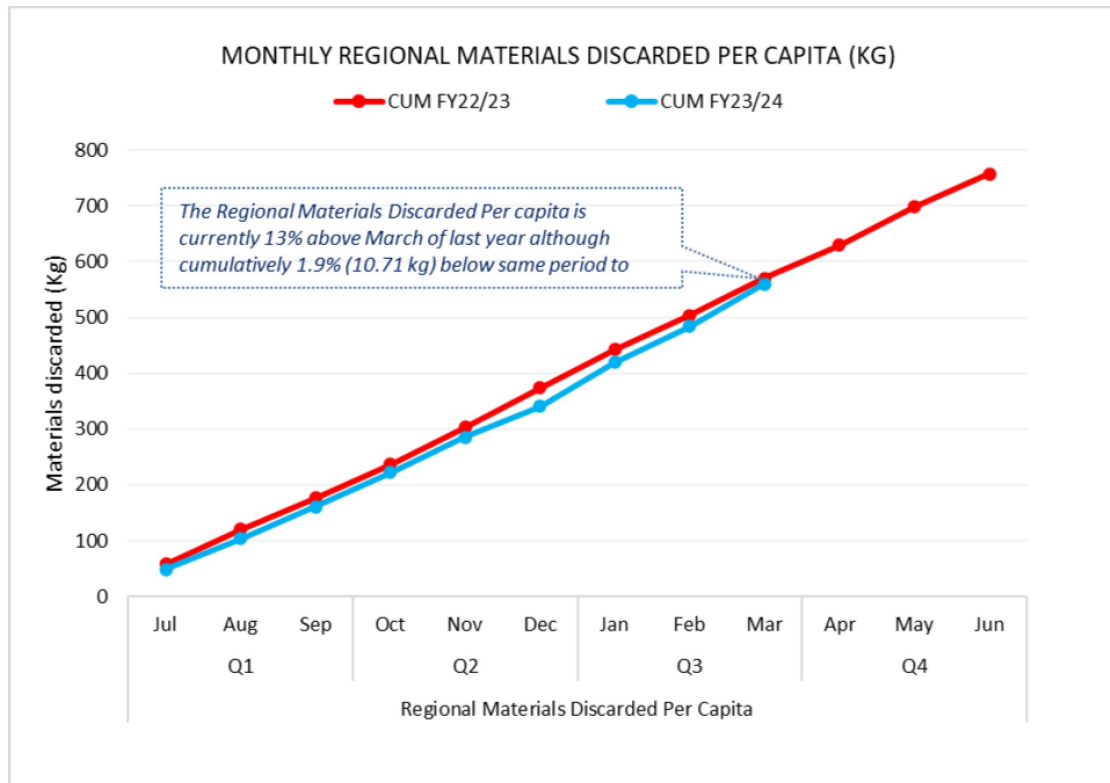


Figure 1: Southland Regional Materials Discarded Rate (Time Period)

### Waste Volumes to Landfill

- The total waste discarded through transfer stations to the landfill, all councils combined, in Q3 of FY2023/24 is 4.08% (379.73 tonnes) below Q3 of last financial year and 0.79% (70.78 tonnes) below the previous 5-year average.
- The total waste discarded to landfill including Authorised Users (going direct to landfill) in Q3 of FY2023/24 is 9.05% (1319.01 tonnes) above Q3 of last financial year and 9.58% (1388.68 tonnes) above the previous five year average. The increase can be attributed to the 32.3% (1,698.94 tonnes) increase in waste disposed of by Authorised Users to landfill in Q3 of FY2023/24. It is to be noted that Blue Cliffs landfill contributed to 51.6% (1900.58 tonnes) of the total waste disposed of by authorised users to the landfill.
- The cumulative waste to landfill this year to date is tracking 0.6% (273.63 tonnes) below the same period last year and 1.9% (858.48 tonnes) below the previous 5-year average.

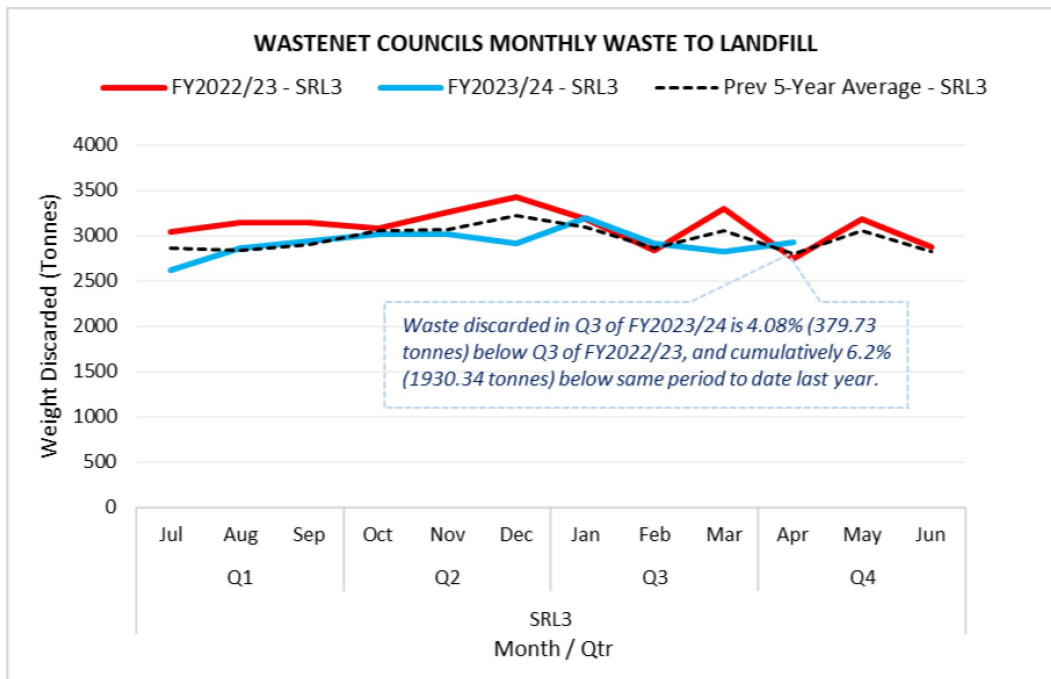


Figure 2: FY2023/24 WasteNet Monthly Waste to Landfill (excluding Authorised Users)

Table 1 - Total Kerbside Waste disposed to landfill – 2023/24 YTD in tonnes

<b>Kerbside Waste Disposed in Red Bins</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>YTD</b>
ICC	2488.00	2866.79	2,753.91		8108.7
SDC	1657.16	1933.22	2,006.27		5596.65
GDC	632.77	637.86	587.74		1858.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>4777.93</b>	<b>5437.87</b>	<b>5,347.92</b>		<b>15563.72</b>
<b>Contaminated Recyclables in Yellow Bins</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>YTD</b>
ICC	153.12	158.95	163.69		475.75
SDC	93.84	97.42	100.32		291.59
<b>Total</b>	<b>246.96</b>	<b>256.37</b>	<b>264.01</b>		<b>767.34</b>
<b>Total Residential Waste Discarded to Landfill</b>	<b>Q1</b>	<b>Q2</b>	<b>Q3</b>	<b>Q4</b>	<b>YTD</b>
ICC	2641.12	3025.74	2,917.60		8584.45
SDC	1751.00	2030.64	2,106.59		5888.24
GDC	632.77	637.86	587.74		1858.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>5024.89</b>	<b>5694.24</b>	<b>5,611.93</b>		<b>16331.06</b>

**Diversion Rate and Recycling Data**

A total volume of 1,3374.05 tonnes has been diverted from landfill at the end of Q3 of FY2023/24, equating to 33.4% for the year-to-date. This is 3.52% above Q3 of FY2022/23; however still below the WMMP target of 40%.

Table 2 - Total Materials Diverted from Landfill including Recyclables – 2023/24 YTD in tonnes

WASTE DIVERSION (tonnes)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
ICC - Cleanfill	95.85	124.40	172.91		393.16
GDC - Cleanfill	966.73	679.28	636.20		2282.21
ICC - Green Waste	792.01	1264.21	2564.82		4621.04
SDC - Green Waste	164.18	206.20	234.48		604.86
GDC - Green Waste	548.19	514.97	581.13		1644.29
ICC - Metal	27.64	27.52	28.37		83.53
SDC - Metal	16.94	16.87	17.39		51.20
GDC - Metal	11.63	15.29	13.27		40.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>2623.16</b>	<b>2848.73</b>	<b>4248.57</b>		<b>9720.47</b>
Plastics (Recyclables)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
ICC	53.23	59.66	60.65		173.54
SDC	32.63	36.57	37.17		106.36
<b>Total Plastics</b>	<b>85.86</b>	<b>96.22</b>	<b>97.82</b>		<b>279.90</b>
Fibre (Recyclables)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
ICC	237.59	327.70	283.89		849.17
SDC	145.62	200.85	174.00		520.46
<b>Total Fibre</b>	<b>383.21</b>	<b>528.54</b>	<b>457.89</b>		<b>1369.63</b>
Glass	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
ICC	291.38	329.53	379.62		1000.53
SDC	178.58	201.97	232.67		613.23
GDC	155.80	100.54	133.96		390.30
<b>Total Glass</b>	<b>625.76</b>	<b>632.04</b>	<b>746.25</b>		<b>2004.05</b>
TOTAL MATERIALS DIVERTED (tonnes)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD
ICC	1497.69	2133.01	3490.26	0.00	7120.96
SDC	537.95	662.44	695.71	0.00	1896.10
GDC	1682.35	1310.08	1364.56	0.00	4356.99
<b>Total Diverted all councils</b>	<b>3717.99</b>	<b>4105.54</b>	<b>5550.53</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>13374.05</b>

**Recycling Volumes Diverted:**

- Kerbside recycling volumes for ICC and SDC combined in Q3 of FY2023/24 is 3.09% (42.72 tonnes) below Q3 of FY2022/23.
- The total contamination sent to landfill from the recycling centre this financial year to date is 849.52 tonnes (averaging at 18.2%). The contamination average for this year to date is currently tracking 10.8% (102.3 tonnes) lower in terms of total weight than the same period to date last year, with a cumulative total of 951.82 tonnes sent to landfill (averaging at 19.4%).

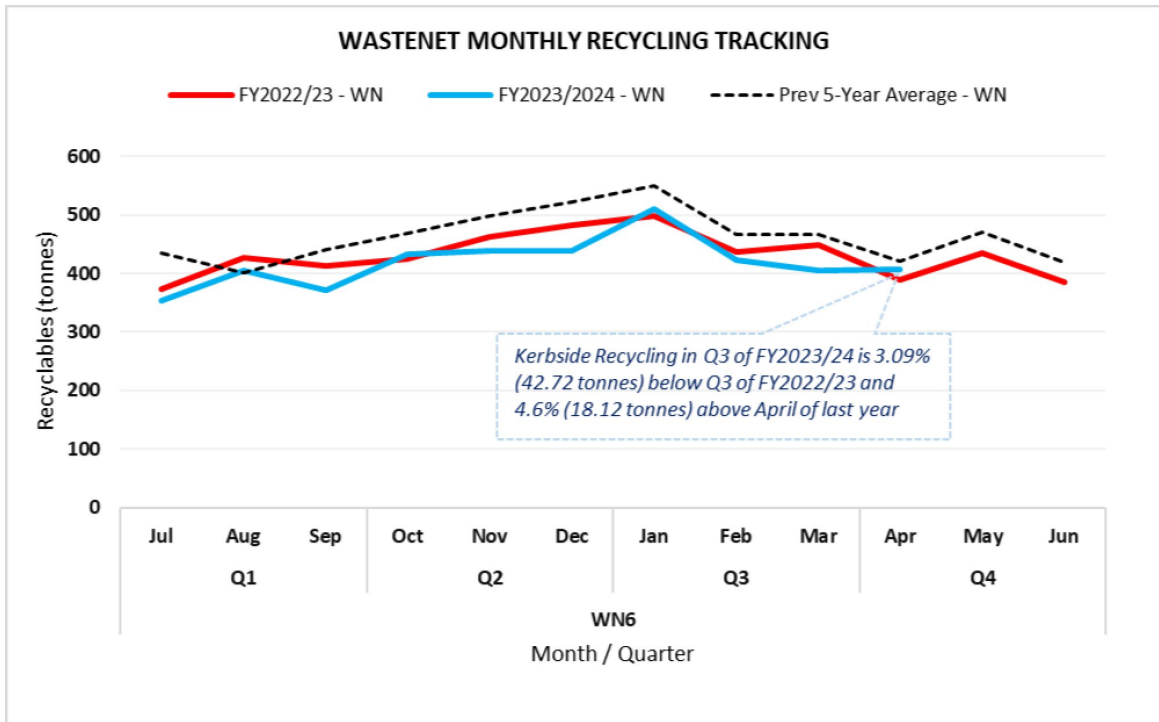


Figure 3: FY2023/24 WasteNet Monthly Recycling Tracking

**WasteNet End of Q3 KPI Update:**

WASTENET KPI FY 2023/2024	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Variance	End of Q3 ▲ ▼	ACTUALS (FY22/23)
Cumulative Quarterly Increase in Actual ICC and SDC Recycled	983.60	2,184.25	3,398.01	-	(258.01)	● (7.06%)	↑ 4,710.04
ICC and SDC Actual recycled rate per person per annum (Kg)	11.56	25.68	39.94	-	(3.03)	● (7.06%)	↑ 55.37
Cumulative Quarterly Increase in Kerbside Recycling	1,130.72	2,441.71	3,781.06	-	(183.27)	● (4.62%)	↑ 5,174.50
Cumulative Quarterly Decrease in Kerbside Rubbish Collection	4,777.93	10,215.80	15,563.72	-	159.43	● 1.01%	↓ 20,724.65
Kerbside rubbish collected rate per person per annum (Kg)	49.02	104.82	159.69	-	1.64	● 1.01%	↓ 212.64
Cumulative Quarterly Decrease in Solid Waste Discarded to landfill	8,411.43	17,344.78	26,273.27	-	2,113.82	● 7.45%	↓ 37,190.83
Cumulative Quarterly Increase in materials diverted from landfill	3608.53	7662.91	13,150.75	-	231.23	● 1.79%	↑ 17282.94
% Diverted from Landfill	30.0%	30.6%	33.36%	-	(0.07)	● (16.61%)	↑ 0.34
Regional waste to landfill rate per person per annum (kgs)	124.27	261.74	424.73	-	13.08	● 2.99%	↓ 576.81
Regional discarded materials rate per person per annum (kgs)	161.30	340.36	559.66	-	10.71	● 1.88%	↓ 650.00

## **Waste Trends Analysis**

### **Materials Discarded Rate**

Less waste has been going to the landfill this year due to an overall decrease in kerbside waste and commercial drop-off this financial year compared to same period to date last year. Overall, this is consistent with the trends we are seeing in the waste disposal patterns.

Forecasting demonstrates that the 2023/24 year-end Materials Discarded Rate will exceed the WMMP target of 650 kg per person per annum. WasteNet continues to invest in marketing and education programmes to drive behaviour change around waste minimisation however it is recognised that this will be a gradual process.

### **Waste Volumes to Landfill**

Kerbside rubbish generation has decreased in the Q3 relative to Q1 and Q2 of this year and Q3 of last year. Historic trends indicate that as we approach autumn and winter, waste generation is likely to decline. There has been a slight decrease in contamination of recyclables, which may have led to an increase in the amount of waste disposed of to landfill compared to Q1, **however this is unable to be specifically measured or quantified.**

### **Diversion Rate and Recycling Data**

Following a slower upward trend since the beginning of this financial year, the third quarter has seen a slight decrease in the amount of kerbside recycling. The total tonnage of recyclables has decreased compared to this time last year, which mirrors the trend of a general reduction in overall waste materials being generated in Q3 as described above.

Recycling weights are running slightly lower than the previous year. Additionally, there has been a decrease in the amount of contamination that is being disposed of to landfill from the recycling centre, which is a sign of improvement / progress in the recycling space. This could be considered a positive indication that both recycling and kerbside standardisation have started to move in the right direction. We will need more data from the coming months to firm up these conclusions.

The third quarter has seen a slight increase in the amount of green waste dropped off at the transfer station as the weather conditions are improving. WasteNet continues to focus on community engagement and education and we are starting to see some positive results.

## **Attachments**

1. WasteNet Activity Dashboard (A5392764)





## WASTENET EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY UPDATE

<b>To:</b>	Waste Advisory Group
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	Monday 10 June 2024
<b>From:</b>	WasteNet – Fiona Walker (Director)
<b>Open Agenda:</b>	Yes
<b>Public Excluded Agenda:</b>	No

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### Purpose and Summary

This report aims to update the Committee on the education and communication activities undertaken by WasteNet staff until the end of May 2024. The purpose of the education and communication activities is to deliver a collaborative education programme across the Southland region to change behaviour, minimise waste and increase awareness.

### Recommendations

That the Waste Advisory Group:

1. Receive the report "WasteNet Education and Communication Activity Update".
2. Endorse the 2024/25 Education and Engagement Activities.

### Background

Part of the WasteNet Business Plan is to deliver direct education to our target groups which are identified as schools, residential and businesses. The aim is that all residents, schools and businesses in the Southland region will have a better understanding of waste minimisation, take voluntary actions to minimise waste and progressively transition to a circular economy.

The following workstreams form the **2024/25 Education and Engagement Activities**:

Status	School Education Activities	Residential Education and Engagement Activities	Business Engagement Activities
<b>Underway</b>	Waste Free Wanda	Advertising via Radio, Social Media and Digital	Organics Feasibility Study
		WasteNet Website: Phase II	
		Flytipping – Data Collation	
		Love Food Hate Waste	
<b>Proposed</b>	Presence at ILT KidZone (July 2025)	-	Agri-waste drop-off scheme: Targeted engagement
<b>To be Scheduled</b>	-	General Media: Fridge magnets	-
		Plastic Free July Campaign	
		Bin Clips – Further distribution	
<b>Not Yet Initiated</b>	-	Flytipping – Targeted education	Business Waste Reduction Audit Toolkits
		Community Events / Fair	Waste Reduction Toolkits
		Bin Audits	Trade Shows / Events
		Engagement and Consultation regarding Waste Minimisation and Management Plan review	

## School Waste Education Activities Update

### Waste Free Wanda

Scope: Waste Free Wanda is an interactive stage show for primary-aged children, written and performed by award-winning singer/songwriter Anna van Riel. It helps school children learn how to reduce waste and discover tools that prevent us from relying solely on recycling to minimise waste.

Activity Status: Most recently, Waste Free Wanda completed the scheduled 2023/24 programme with a tour in May 2024. The tour ran mid-May 2024, reaching 1,081 tamariki and 114 kaiako (teachers) over nine shows. The list of schools visited included:

- Library show for 2 kindergartens
- Otautau School
- St Patrick's School
- Drummond (combined kindergarten show)
- Salford School
- Wallacetown School
- Winton School

In partnership with EnviroSchools, Waste Free Wanda also presented a half-day workshop at the EnviroSchools Hui on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May at Thornbury School, with students from Heddon Bush School also in attendance.

Appendix 1 presents a detailed report from Waste Free Wanda presenting the structure of the most recent activity, as well as participant feedback.

Waste Free Wanda's proposal for FY24/25 has been requested and an allocation has been pre-emptively included in the proposed 2024/25 WasteNet budget.

### Proposed Activities

It is proposed that WasteNet have a presence at the ILT KidZone Festival in July 2025. The ILT Kidzone Festival is a family-centred festival where 1,800 patrons daily get hands on designing,

building, riding, touching and creating. This is an opportunity for WasteNet to engage with children and families on the subject of zero waste in an interactive fashion. A presence at the ILT Kidzone Festival is also an opportunity to gain exposure of the WasteNet brand and could be used as a forum for collecting community feedback on the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

\$10,000 has been pre-emptively included in the draft FY2024/25 WasteNet budget for this activity in order to fund collateral and resources.

## **Residential Education and Community Engagement Update**

### **Advertising: Radio, Social Media and Digital Media**

Scope: Radio partners and digital marketing suppliers have been engaged to support with community education and engagement by delivering messaging relating to waste issues and to encourage our community to implement change one step at a time. Our advertising partners run the WasteNet advertisements and promotional campaigns. Digital media and digital advertising are used in conjunction with radio to reinforce messaging and broaden the target audience.

Social media marketing is also utilised to improve awareness and drive behaviour change through the WasteNet Facebook Page. Social media is a powerful tool that has the potential to reach a large proportion of the WasteNet population with relative ease.

Activity Status: Radio advertisements are currently being run to inform the public on the availability of bin clips that can be picked up from the ICC and SDC councils' front desk.

Radio and digital advertising proposals for FY24/25 have been requested from respective suppliers, with allowances included in the proposed budget for approval. Staff are working in collaboration with the radio and digital advertising partners on the production and delivery of the advertising and promotional campaigns. For the FY24/25 it is proposed that radio and digital advertising will continue to focus on recycling standardisation as well avenues for items which are not collected via kerbside recycling.

### **WasteNet Website**

Scope: The WasteNet website is being upgraded in two phases in order to provide information to the public on bin collection services, recycling guidelines and standards, and general information on waste minimisation. Phase I of the website upgrade was completed in 2023 and Phase II is due to be completed in 2024.

Activity Status: Phase II of the website's development commenced in March 2024, with this phase aimed at providing a resources page, along with an AI chatbot that users can interact with. The website designer is currently building an A-Z item search database based on information obtained from Hamilton City Council and Queenstown Lakes District Council. This will allow people to search for an item, showing whether it goes in the red or yellow bin or if an alternative disposal method is available (e.g. battery recycling facilities). This is planned to be integrated into the website after staff change the database information to match with the changes in kerbside standardisation, with a forecast completion date of early June 2024.

A secondary focus has been streamlining the interface for Landfill Authorised Users, in order to meet the operational needs of AB Lime, WasteNet and Authorised Users. This element is currently in progress and is due to be completed by the end of May 2024.

### **Flytipping: Data Collation**

Scope: WasteNet staff are collating Flytipping data for the region in order to identify trends and hotspots. This data will inform targeted education and improvement programmes intended to reduce flytipping events.

Activity Status: Data has been collated for the ICC area commencing 2023, with further information being collated from GDC and SDC. To support this process, work is being done with the roading contractors from respective councils to automate this data collection and reporting process. At present, sufficient data has not been amassed to inform a targeted education and improvement programme.

### **Business Waste Minimisation Education Update**

#### **Organics Feasibility Study**

Scope: WasteNet has commissioned a feasibility study to review organics collection and processing options for the Southland Region. This involves surveying and engaging with key stakeholders around current activities which produce and/or consume organics and potential options for recovering and/or processing organic material.

Activity Status: The organics feasibility study commenced in May 2024. The list of key stakeholders has been developed and provided to the feasibility study consultant, Tonkin + Taylor. Engagement is due to occur between June and August 2024.

#### **Proposed Activities**

Following on from the successful recycling project run in 2023 to collect and process plastic baleage wrap, it is proposed to engage directly with the agricultural sector to further encourage the collection and processing of baleage wrap. The 2023 scheme was run with involvement from AgRecovery, Between the Domes Catchment Group (Thriving Southland), and Recycle South.

## Appendix 1 – Waste Free Wanda: WasteNet Southland May 2024 Southland Schools Tour Report



### WasteNet Southland May 2024 Southland Schools Tour Report

In partnership with WasteNet Southland, Waste Free Wanda conducted a 5-day Southland school tour from May 6th-10th. The tour reached a total of 1,081 tamariki and 140 parents and teachers from 6 kindergartens and 8 schools. The tour also included a half-day day of workshops at the Enviroschools Hui held at Thornbury School on Wednesday 15th.

#### Partnership with Kindergarten South

I am delighted to share news of an unexpected and productive alliance with Kindergarten South, who are absolutely wrapped with the service offered by WasteNet.

Coordinator Wendy McLachlan is keeping a close track on which kindergartens have and have yet to receive a Waste Free Wanda preschool show.

On this recent tour, we delivered 2 shows at the Invercargill Library to 120 preschool tamariki, and to another 67 at Winton school, which incorporated 3 centres. Across all preschool shows 47 adults attended.

What we can glean from the feedback is that preschool tamariki have a significant amount of influence at home, amongst whanau and at kindy. They speak frankly about the issues at hand and remember the solutions which they are not afraid to dictate when they see a need to reshare their learnings or to amend poor practice around waste reduction.

My belief is that, by educating our littlest tamariki, we are setting up good practice for life and influencing the community that wraps around those tamariki. I would like to retain the model within each tour or a library day (2 shows with 60 tamariki at each show) and one rural show where we use a school hall in the morning and multiple kindergartens come along. The primary students then receive a show in the 2nd part of the day. This eliminates the need to find or rent a space to accommodate multiple kindergartens, and allows more than one centre to receive a show at once.



*-Tour liaison Sarah, Waste Free Wanda and Kindergarten South Leading Coordinator Wendy McLachlan.*

Te tamariki at our kindergartens engage in sustainable practices every day. Feedback from whānau is that their tamariki are very keen to share the knowledge they learn at kindergarten with their wider whānau. Kaiako mentioned that tamariki are developing a social consciousness around environmental issues. The Waste Free Wanda show supports the learning happening in our tamariki lives.

*-Wendy McLachlan- Kindergarten South Lead Coordinator*

**Making simple swaps - We can do this in class looking at our lunch boxes.**

*-Teacher, Salford School*

**Keep chatting about it, show interest in what their ideas might be.**

*-Teacher, Otautau School*





### Enviroschools Hui

Following the success of last year's Enviroschools Hui at Hedgehope School, we chose to deliver a similar event in partnership with Environment Southland, Waste Free Wanda and WasteNet during this recent tour.

The tour took place at Thornbury School and was attended by all of the school's 60 students, plus a further 10 seniors from Heddon Bush School. Intentions were to run the hui in the Thornbury hall, however upon arrival we discovered there was no key in the hall lockbox. Fortunately the principal of Thornbury School came to our rescue, graciously inviting us to hold the event on the school grounds, which turned out to be a happy accident. The school was an excellent space and showed us how we can incorporate this model into future hui.

All students received the Waste Free Wanda shows followed by 5 back-to-back workshops with a focus on Simple Swaps, effective recycling and understanding the numbers, microplastics, a creative critical-thinking station and a bag-making station utilising preloved t-shirts, with an emphasis on reducing textile waste.

The sessions were impactful with excellent feedback from students and teachers alike, leaving all participants as educated ambassadors for Papatuanuku and for their community on multiple levels.

Following the hui, Southland EnviroSchools leading coordinator, Josh Sullivan received a call from a parent with a child attending Salford School. Salford School did not participate in the hui, however this parent, not quite knowing who to call, phoned EnviroSchools and shared that her child had seen the Waste Free Wanda show. The child had come home and delivered a full waste audit on their home and family, emphasising a practice around 'Simple Swaps'. The mother felt impassioned and wanted to know if she could get support in delivering a beeswax wrap-making workshop for the community. Josh was able to assist here as EnviroSchools already had many of the resources and templates for this project. He also offered the support of his team in the delivery of the workshop. This story highlights the benefits achieved from combining strengths within networks and organisations offering similar services. The support of EnviroSchools has a positive flow-on effect for WasteNet, Waste Free Wanda and everyone involved. My hope is that we can continue to include the show/hui model within future tours.





### What we observed

Feedback was gathered from a staggering 77 teachers, parents and carers on this tour which offered some great data on how they felt the show inspired the potential for positive change around single-use waste in the home, classroom and community. The overall feedback was immensely positive with schools again reporting that the show triggered a flow-on effect with tamariki initiating school clean-ups, research projects on waste and microplastics, nude-food lunch box initiative and, most importantly, tamariki and teachers sharing cohesive messaging on how we reduce waste overall. The questions asked to parents, teachers and carers at every show, via a review form were:

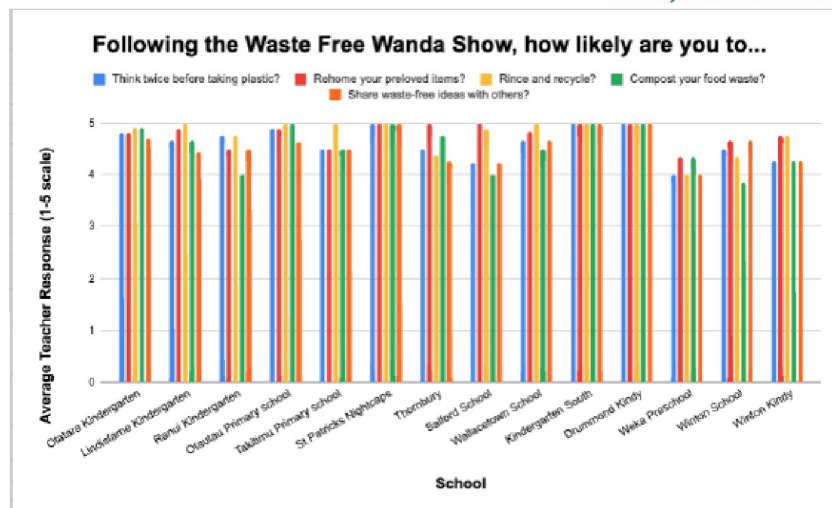
#### Following the Waste Free Wanda show...

1. How satisfied were you with the overall show and experience for your tamariki?
2. How engaged were the children while watching the show?
3. How likely are you to share waste-free ideas with others?
4. How likely are you to integrate waste-free philosophies into your classroom/home?
5. How likely are you to share waste-free ideas with others?

Teachers expressed confidence around sharing and integrating waste free ideas into their classrooms and in the community.

**I was shocked by how much plastic I use/have in my daily life and at home. I will reuse a lot more.**

- Teacher, Wallacetown School



### Where to next

I am incredibly grateful for my partnership with WasteNet Southland and, through the longevity of this project, it's becoming really clear that a cohesive message is being grasped across the region.

I have been surprised at the number of children who have seen the show, then shifted schools and end up seeing the Waste Free Wanda show again at their new school.

Because they are primed participants in the audience, having learned the songs and philosophies, these children lead by example both before, and during the show and help with the momentum afterwards. This tells us that repetition of the show concepts, aka seeing the show more than once, is a powerful tool for instigating positive change around waste reduction now and for the future.

Our next proposed WasteNet/Waste Free Wanda tour is July 22nd-26th.

**Repetition serves as a powerful tool for deepening understanding and mastery of subject matter. By revisiting and reapplying concepts over time, students develop a more comprehensive understanding of the topic.**

*-Barrie McDermid- Educator in children's literacy*

Wanda 🍌



## REVIEWS

Waste free Wanda taught te tamariki the concept of considering how they can make 'simple swaps' and about sharing the message 'Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Rehome, Recycle and Rot'.

The show was very interactive, with waiata, dancing, kōrero and a lot of fun. I received feedback from kaiako and whānau saying how well designed the show was for kindergarten-aged tamariki, and how enthusiastically the show was presented by Waste Free Wanda. I am very keen to have more of our kindergartens experience the show.

Statements from ECE tamariki:

"You can't put rubbish in the sea".

"You don't use straws or plastic cups coz Papatūānuku will get a sore tummy".

"You have to change your coffee cup to one you can use again and wash it".

*-Wendy McLachlan- Kindergarten South Lead Coordinator*

I'm going back to no cling wrap, no straws and using reusable cups.

*- Teacher, Salford School*

No straws, no plastic wrap. Simple swaps.

*- Teacher, Otautau School*

Anna, what a fantastic show! Both my 2 year old and 4 year old went home singing your songs. The simple swaps concept has been a great learning tool and we have been putting this in practice. Can't wait to catch you at the next show!

*- Anna Mulder, Parent*

Simple swaps, I like that language to use with kids.

*- Teacher, Thornbury School*

