



## Media Release

20 January 2010

### Submissions Still Wanted

It is now the final days for getting feedback to Council on the implementation plan for the Solid Waste Minimisation Strategy.

Several submissions have been received and have covered a range of topics from who should pay for disposal of rubbish, to community education, and ideas on how to reduce costs for households that actively reduce their waste.

The current annual cost of sending rubbish to the landfill at Victoria Flats is \$2.1 million. In order to reduce these costs, achieve better resource use and provide the alternatives to landfilling, it is proposed that an additional \$47 per tonne at the transfer station gate be charged and these funds be used exclusively for the alternative options, for example waste education programmes in schools, greenwaste mulching and community recycling services.

Waste Minimisation Officer Sophie Mander said, "All of the waste minimisation activities proposed are what the community asked Council to provide during the development of the waste minimisation strategy. The proposal out for consultation is simply identifying how these activities can be paid for".

The proposal be that a more user pays approach be adopted rather than subsidising large waste producers via general rates. The flip side of charging higher fees at the transfer station will be that general rates go down by \$27. (These figures are indicative only and would be confirmed in the annual plan process).

Ms Mander said, "Council is looking forward to hearing the communities' views and is hoping to introduce the new waste minimisation activities in the near future".

Submissions close on Friday 29 January. A copy of the full Statement of Proposal along with a submission form are available from Council offices or on its website.

For any further information contact:

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