

Support for development of a zero waste resource recovery operation plan for Aotea

The community led zero waste steering group have received a proposal from the Zero Waste Network Aotearoa (ZWN), attached. The proposal will provide a plan that may be used to develop specifications for the tender process for waste services on Aotea. We request funding support from the Local Board for stage one of the proposal:

“Stage 1 Development of a business plan

- a. Overall vision for the zero waste resource recovery operation
- b. Description of how each of the major waste streams could be processed in line with best practice Zero Waste¹ and site opportunities and constraints
- c. Estimates on the financial costs of development and operation”

¹Best practice zero waste’ referred to in the ZWN proposal is about using the waste hierarchy to ensure focus goes on minimising waste rather than managing waste. It is also about local solutions that add value to the community rather than linear systems that send product to market with no real benefits to local community

We believe it best at this stage to only seek funding for and undertake Stage 1 and once we have received and reviewed the plan, to make a decision on stages 2 and 3 (below):

“Stage 2 Governance of the programme,

- a. Supporting the steering group with identifying the most suitable governance structure/s/partnerships to manage the programme
- b. Supporting the establishment of the governance structure, possible legal entity, key roles and high level organisational operating procedures¹ and/or partnership agreements between entities.

Stage 3 Funding applications

- c. Hold initial discussions with Ministry for the Environment staff on suitability of the project for funding through the Waste Minimisation Fund and complete application if suitable
- d. Investigate other central and local government funding options”

It may be that different people need to be involved with these parts of the proposal.

Currently the on island steering group consists of Joanne O’Reilly (waste wise facilitator) - as facilitator and administrator, Angela Wright, Sean McCarthy (AoteaOra), Sarah Harrison, and Sue Warwick (Barrier Cartage). We hope to have a member of the Local Board- potentially either Sue or Luke, and have some other people who have expressed interest after we advertised to the wider community.

Funding

Auckland Council Waste Services are supportive of this project and have offered to match fund the project.

The approximate cost for Stage 1 is \$14,000 plus GST.

Therefore we request support from Local Board to the value of \$7000 for stage 1 of the proposal.

Additional Notes

The steering group for this stage of the project will be:

- People with the time to commit to review proposals and information from Zero Waste Network and come together to network and brainstorm
- People with a passion to see the best solutions for waste management for Aotea, and who are reasonably well informed
- It needn't be people who are involved with the business of waste on Aotea currently
- It needn't be people who wish to be involved with the business of waste on Aotea in the future
- In our small community, many of us have various interests and there may be conflicts- these will be declared and recognised and all on the group to agree to work together openly and honestly
- A current contractor may have no more conflict than a future potential one
- Ngati Rehua Ngatiwai ki Aotea have are supportive of this community work but are not in a position to be involved currently. They will be kept in the loop.

The steering group agreed:

- That stage one of the proposal was desirable and will inform what is possible and most desirable to do with various waste streams, including can waste energy be used to fuel another part of the waste stream e.g. compactor, glass crusher? What parts of the waste stream can we use on island?, What parts can we stop coming to the island and what parts is there a national solution being developed for that may affect what we do here, etc? It will incorporate local knowledge with national experience and expertise.
- There is a wealth of knowledge on Aotea, including with existing contractors.
- There is a desire to see better processes for managing our waste coming to the island and already on island.
- Aotea has a landfill that is old school and potentially damaging to the environment, and it is reaching the end of its life. There is the potential to run it/fill it more efficiently. There is no plan to build a new landfill on Aotea.
- It is important to ensure that our rubbish does not further degrade our environment.
- There is benefit in all parts of Aotea waste management running cooperatively towards a Zero Waste Aotea.
- Mentoring/support and assistance is required to assist in putting together a workable plan and structure. The Zero Waste Network there will provide access to a range of knowledge, skills and expertise from their membership base.
- It is desirable to have Rick Thorpe as our key contact.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Joanne O'Reilly

WasteWise Aotea

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Envirokiwi

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PO BOX 61 Okiwi,

Great Barrier Island

Proposal: How the Zero Waste Network can assist in the establishment of community-led zero waste programme on Aotea Great Barrier

14th February 2018

Community Steering Group
Zero Waste Aotea
c/- Jo O'Reilly
Waste Wise
Great Barrier Island

Dear Jo,

Thank you for considering this proposal on how the Zero Waste Network could support your collective of individuals and organisations to establish a community-led zero waste programme on Aotea Great Barrier.

In preparing this proposal we have noted the strong mandate the community has for acting to minimise waste to landfill, including:

- **Environmental**
 - Methane emissions from previous, current and future waste in Claris Landfill
 - Carbon emissions from transporting waste to mainland once the Claris Landfill is full
 - Wasted embedded energy from items disposed to landfill
 - Waste generated from importation of goods from off island

- **Social**
 - Community desire to increase employment opportunities
 - Local resiliency, e.g. within two hours of the Kaikoura Earthquakes, the local community recycling centre was open and distributing warm clothing, despite it being 3am!
 - Increased service delivery to residents in disposing of unwanted material, and procuring wanted items e.g., timber for DIY projects

- **Political**
 - The Local Government Act from central government requires local authorities to reduce waste to landfill
 - Central government have indicated that they wish to see 'a large reduction in waste to landfill by 2020'
 - The coalition agreement between Labour and NZ First included a requirement to introduce a stewardship fund for tyres and there is growing support for central government to require the introduction of a mandatory container deposit scheme
 - The Ministry for the Environment have indicated they will be more intentional in investing in circular economy initiatives

- **Economic**

- Once the Claris Landfill is full, residual waste is likely to be transported off island at an estimated cost of \$2.17mil per annum to ratepayers
- Community-led resource recovery enterprises require an initial investment but have been shown to require consistently reducing levels of subsidy year on year in many cases

We also note the large number of reports, analysis and learning already completed which establish the need for a radical change in how waste is dealt with on Aotea, for examples, estimates of just 5 – 7 years capacity remaining at the Claris Landfill.

We believe a Zero Waste approach will minimise the need for material to be landfilled on or off Aotea, provides sustainable solutions for all waste streams including; green, organic, construction and demolition, hazardous, sewerage and residual waste, while also creating further opportunities for local employment, empowerment and economic development.

Proposed stages

There are three main ways in which the Zero Waste Network can assist in the development of a community-led zero waste programme for Aotea:

Stage 1 Development of a business plan

- a. Overall vision for the zero waste resource recovery operation
- b. Description of how each of the major waste streams could be processed in line with best practice Zero Waste and site opportunities and constraints
- c. Estimates on the financial costs of development and operation

Stage 2 Governance of the programme,

- d. Supporting the steering group with identifying the most suitable governance structure/s/partnerships to manage the programme
- e. Supporting the establishment of the governance structure, possible legal entity, key roles and high level organisational operating procedures¹ and/or partnership agreements between entities.

Stage 3 Funding applications

- f. Hold initial discussions with Ministry for the Environment staff on suitability of the project for funding through the Waste Minimisation Fund and complete application if suitable
- g. Investigate other central and local government funding options

Approach

The Zero Waste Network employs a community development approach when assisting in the development of community enterprises. This means we are led by what the community wants, and seek to upskill community members throughout the process.

Establishing a community enterprise requires good will and partnership between many stakeholders including local authorities, mana whenua, private enterprise, and the local community. Effective partnerships require building on, re-establishing, or initiating relationships between people. That can take time, but in our experience, it is vital for the success of any community enterprise long term and therefore is something we invest heavily in when involved in a project such as this.

¹ Please note that the steering group is encouraged to access professional legal and accounting services in relation to this stage. While the Zero Waste Network can provide examples of what other community groups have done we are unable to accept any liability in the decisions and actions your group take.

The goal is that by mid-2019 sustainable community-led resource recovery operations are established on Aotea in that not only result in high rates of diversion from landfill, but also maintain the community’s values of local empowerment, employment and economic development.

Why us?

The Zero Waste Network is a membership organisation and there are two key advantages to using us for this work.

Firstly, we can draw on the expertise and experience of our executive and members throughout the country to the benefit of this project. Our members include; community recycling centre operators, resource recovery social enterprises, consultants, private enterprises, local and central government.

Secondly, by giving the Zero Waste Network your business you are supporting the development of community-led resource recovery throughout the country, by helping us help others. While individuals involved in this work receive fair payment, the Zero Waste Network retains a percentage to fund ongoing sector advocacy, member support and waste minimisation work.

If our proposal is accepted, Rick Thorpe would be the project lead on behalf of the Zero Waste Network. As well as being a co-founder, and executive team member, of the Zero Waste Network, Rick is also co-founder and manager of Xtreme Zero Waste in Raglan and co-founder and Director of Waiuku Zero Waste.

Xtreme Zero Waste is a community recycling centre established over 15 years ago. The operation is now the second largest employer in Raglan and handles; green, organic, hazardous, residual waste as well as having recyclable commodities drop off and kerbside collection, food waste collection, on-site composting facility, baling operation, upcycling workshop and reuse shop and yards.

Deliverables

Project deliverable are as follows:

1. Written report outlining the business plan, including vision, budget, process, outcomes
2. Powerpoint presentation providing an engaging and accessible summary of the business plan
3. Assistance in scoping options for governance
4. Application to MfE submitted
5. Applications to at least two philanthropic organisations submitted
6. Information on additional financing options provided

Estimated cost

The following estimate of costs is based on a standard hourly rate of **\$120/hr + gst**. Disbursements such as travel and accommodation are charged at cost, and travel time is **\$42/hr + gst** (35% of standard rate).

Where possible, we encourage local people to undertake as much of the work as they can to both reduce the overall cost and to build local skills in completing this type of work. As such we are only able to provide an estimate of costs rather than a firm quotation.

The following table provides an indication of the hours we estimate it will take to complete each stage outlined in this proposal, and the indicative cost based on the above rate. Please note the costs are GST exclusive:

Item	Quantity	Rate	Cost
Development of business plan	116	\$120/hr	\$13,920

Establishment of a legal entity	44	\$120/hr	\$5,280
Investigation and funding applications	30	\$120/hr	\$3,600
Meetings (Steering group, funders, business, etc.)	4	\$480/meeting (avg.)	\$1,920
Rick's travel (Raglan – Aotea return including; time, mileage, flights)	3	\$850/return trip	\$2,550
Mileage (Auckland)	150kms	\$0.73/km	\$109.50
Indicative cost			\$27,379.50 + gst

Please note: This estimate does not include any incidental costs related to establishing a legal entity such as lawyer, accountant or registration fees.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this proposal and please feel free to get in touch with any questions or comments.

Kind regards,

Dorte Wray
Executive Manager
Zero Waste Network