



LOCAL GOVERNMENT WASTE MANAGEMENT MANIFESTO 2023 UPDATE

THE TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES'
OFFICERS (TAO) FORUM OF THE
WASTE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE OF
NEW ZEALAND

SUMMARY POINTS

PROGRESS THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT **WASTE WORK PROGRAMME¹** WITH A FOCUS ON DELIVERY OF THE 2023: TE RAUTAKI PARA | NEW ZEALAND WASTE STRATEGY. THIS, TOGETHER WITH THE ACTION & INVESTMENT PLAN, MUST PROVIDE DIRECTION TO ACHIEVE THE REQUIRED SYSTEMS CHANGE.

INCREASE THE WASTE DISPOSAL LEVY ABOVE \$60 PER TONNE. THIS WILL PROVIDE ESSENTIAL FUNDING FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENABLE THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY.

ALLOCATE 50% OF WASTE LEVY FUNDS TO LOCAL COUNCILS. COUNCILS ARE KEY TO DELIVERY OF THE WASTE STRATEGY AND REQUIRE SUPPORT FOR ACTION IN THEIR LOCAL COMMUNITIES.

INTRODUCE THE CONTAINER RETURN SCHEME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ALONGSIDE OTHER PRODUCT POLICIES LIKE **PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP**. THIS WILL HELP SHIFT THE COST OF DISPOSAL FROM RATEPAYERS TO PRODUCERS, MANUFACTURERS AND CONSUMERS.

¹ Government waste work programme | Ministry for the Environment

About the TAO Forum

The Territorial Authorities' Officers (TAO) Forum is a Sector Group of the Waste Management Institute New Zealand (WasteMINZ). The TAO Forum was established to create consistency and efficiency of service amongst territorial authorities through sharing knowledge and best practice.

Acknowledgements

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INTRODUCTION

In 2018, and again in 2020, the Territorial Authorities' Officers (TAO) Forum, a sector group of the Waste Management Institute of New Zealand, released a "Local Government Waste Management Manifesto" (Manifesto). The Manifesto spells out the key priorities for Local Government in the area of waste management at that time. The key actions that the Manifesto sought in 2020 were:

Continue to make progress on work already begun including introducing a **container return scheme**, expanding and increasing the **waste disposal levy** and implementing mandatory or co-designed product stewardship schemes for **tyres, e-waste, agrichemicals and farm plastics**.

Review the NZ **Waste Strategy** to set a clear programme and targets for action.

Officially adopt the Waste Data Framework and oversee its implementation to enable better planning and monitoring.

Invest in onshore and local infrastructure for processing of recovered materials - in particular plastics, paper, organics and building materials.

Standardise household rubbish and recycling **collection** systems to improve the quality of material collected and the types of materials that are collected.

Take action on **plastics and packaging** to reduce pollution and make sure all packaging used and made in NZ can be reused or recycled.

The purpose of the Manifesto is to clearly articulate and communicate Government actions that would make a real difference to territorial authorities' ability to effectively manage and minimise waste in line with Government objectives.

Taking further action on waste minimisation will have a range of community and environmental benefits for Aotearoa New Zealand including:

More efficient industries and services that use less materials in the first place - improving New Zealand's competitiveness.

Reduced greenhouse gas emissions through reduced virgin resource use, as well as less emissions from landfill.

Improved soil quality from use of organic waste, improving our farm productivity, and improving water quality as a result of better soil moisture retention and the need to use less fertilisers.

More efficient and effective investment in facilities and services that will provide more comprehensive coverage, greater resilience, and help close the loop in the circular economy.

A reduced reliance on importing materials and on fluctuating commodity markets.

An increase in economic activity and jobs as a result of materials being diverted from landfill to productive local industries.

Reduced risk of harm to humans and the environment from waste with direct, bio accumulative or yet unknown effects.

Improved relationships between local government and their communities by directly addressing public concern related to waste.

Households can save money through reusing and repairing goods and participating in a sharing economy.

Reduced litter and pollution.

WHY WE NEED AN UPDATE

There has been significant change in the sector in the three years since the previous Manifesto was released. The most significant change has been an extensive work programme being undertaken by the Ministry for the Environment. Many of these work programme elements address priorities identified in the previous manifesto.

The Territorial Authorities' Officers (TAO) Forum is supportive of the progress made since the previous Manifesto, and strongly advocates for continuing to implement Te rautaki para, The New Zealand Waste Strategy. The strategy is designed to progressively shift the responsibility and costs for waste from ratepayer to the producers, manufacturers, and consumers. The systems change that is required to implement the strategy requires the current work programme to continue to ensure national policy supports local government to drive effective change and reduce costs to rate payers in the long term. Councils play a key role in this change and therefore need to be resourced and supported to enable delivery.

Specific initiatives and how they affect territorial authorities are addressed in this updated Manifesto.

Other drivers that are currently impacting the sector include:

Economic conditions. There have been a number of notable changes in the economic conditions, globally and in Aotearoa, that are continuing to have an impact on the sector. These include economic pressures such as inflation, which is impacting the cost of living, labour shortages, and supply chain constraints. These are having multiple effects. Most obviously it is resulting in higher costs and increased pressures on service delivery and council rates.

Waste to Energy (WtE). There is increased interest in the application of WtE solutions (such as incineration) for the treatment and disposal of residual waste in New Zealand. If these facilities proceed it will mean that there will be competing demand for feedstock. This could provide an outlet other than landfill disposal for mixed waste but could, by the same token, reduce incentive to reduce waste at source or separate and recover materials for higher value.

Natural disasters. Recent floods in some areas of the country, the impact of the pandemic, and the potential for more frequent disruptions as a result of climate change, have highlighted the importance of waste services and infrastructure being able to respond quickly and operate under these circumstances.

PRIORITIES

TE RAUTAKI PARA | NEW ZEALAND WASTE STRATEGY & ACTION & INVESTMENT PLAN

Why this is important

A clear, focused, waste strategy is vital for setting the priorities for action and giving certainty to the sector. It enables operators and councils to plan and invest appropriately. It provides the programme for action that underpins and provides cohesion to all of the other key actions noted in this Manifesto. Councils have a vital role in delivery of the strategy outcomes.

Progress

In March 2023 the Ministry for the Environment released *Te rautaki para | The New Zealand Waste Strategy*.² The strategy puts forward a vision that by 2050, Aotearoa New Zealand is a low-emissions, low-waste society, built upon a circular economy. It sets a target of 10% reduction in waste generation by 2030 and a 30% reduction in waste to landfill by 2030. Local councils will continue to have a role in this through provision of services and infrastructure, although the strategy proposes that this be done in a more coordinated and cohesive fashion.

There is also an Action and Investment Plan (AIP) under development. The AIP needs to set out the actions to be undertaken to deliver on the high-level goals of the strategy. It will detail the immediate priorities for the next five years.

What still needs to be done

Complete and release the AIP. While the strategy provides a high-level direction that broadly aligns with the TA sector expectations, it is light on specifics. It is expected that the AIP will fill this gap, and this will be vital in providing a clear work programme for the next five years. Central government should work closely with territorial authorities on regional investment.

Continue to work with Government and other agencies on the circular economy and climate change. Waste is generated across all human activities, and closing the loop on material use is an integral part of delivering on circular economy and climate change goals. The TAO Forum supports a joined-up approach across Government agencies and sectors to ensure continued progress and would like to contribute to the process to ensure outcomes for our local communities.

² Ministry for the Environment. 2023. *Te rautaki para | Waste strategy*. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment.

PRIORITIES

REVIEW OF THE WASTE MINIMISATION ACT

Why this is important

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 no longer provides an adequate legislative framework and the tools necessary to implement the waste strategy. In working with the 2008 Act, a number of shortcomings have also become clear, such as definitions, uses of levy funds, enforcement abilities, and regulatory powers relating to product stewardship.

Progress

In March 2023 Cabinet agreed that the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and Litter Act 1970 be repealed and replaced with one new piece of legislation. The working title for the Act will be the "Responsibility for Reducing Waste Act". The proposed timetable will see drafting instructions issued in this term and the legislation enacted in 2025.³

The proposed content of the new Act covers a wide range of issues. Ones of direct relevance to the territorial authorities' role include:

Maintaining the primary roles for territorial authorities in waste management including providing domestic waste and recycling services, making bylaws for the local control of waste practices, local compliance and monitoring, and behaviour change.

Removing powers for local licensing of operators and a shift to national licensing of operators; national licensing will avoid duplication of processes and ensure uniform standards and coverage.

Moving the timeframe for reviewing local Waste Management and Minimisation Plans (WMMPs) from six years to five years; this

will better align WMMPs with the Action and Investment Plan and NZ Waste Strategy review timelines.

Shifting the focus of WMMPs from local goals and priorities to local delivery of national goals and priorities; this is intended to provide clearer consistent direction, while retaining autonomy for councils to determine how goals are met.

Removing the requirement to undertake a waste assessment when reviewing WMMPs, as well as the requirement for statutory public consultation; waste assessments may still be undertaken but removing the requirement will reduce the administrative burden when reviewing WMMPs where this is not necessary.

What still needs to be done

The TAO Forum is broadly comfortable with the roles indicated for territorial authorities, which are largely unchanged in proposals. The review and replacement of the Waste Minimisation Act and Litter Act should be prioritised and expedited.

There are some minor reservations, however. While the intent of the new legislation appears to be to create a more standardised and cohesive approach across councils, the removal of the requirement to undertake waste assessments may result in a divergence of approaches. Some councils may continue to have a high level of engagement and activity, while others may choose a minimal compliance option. Delivery of Waste Strategy outcomes will require increased resourcing for territorial authorities. Additional resourcing will be challenging for many councils unless funding is forthcoming from central government (such as through allocation of waste disposal levy money).

³ <https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/cabinet-papers-and-regulatory-impact-statements/cabinet-papers-seeking-policy-decisions-on-the-content-of-new-waste-legislation/>

PRIORITIES

WASTE DISPOSAL LEVY

Why this is important

Evidence is clear that extending the levy to all types of disposal, and raising the rate of the levy, can generate substantial reduction in waste to landfill and will significantly increase the available funds to invest in the waste minimisation sector.⁴ The levy is probably the single most powerful tool available to Government to reduce waste and improve resource efficiency and recovery. Research suggests that to be most effective, the waste disposal levy should be over \$100 per tonne.⁵ This is in line with rates in Australia, the UK and Europe.

Progress

The Government has enacted provisions to increase the Waste Disposal Levy. It currently sits at \$50 per tonne for waste to Class 1 landfills, \$20 per tonne for waste to Class 2 landfills, and \$10 per tonne for Class 3 and Class 4 landfills. The levy rates are set to escalate to a top rate of \$60 for Class 1 landfill and \$30 for Class 2 landfills on 1 July 2024.

Currently 50% of levy funds are allocated to territorial authorities on a per capita basis. Proposals in the replacement for the Waste Minimisation Act could see this allocation reduced, but the proposed allocation levels have not yet been made public.

What still needs to be done

Continue to escalate the levy beyond \$60. The Government should continue to raise the levy over the next five years. There should be a clear timeline that allows adequate planning and budgeting.

Allocate funds fairly. Councils have responsibilities that will remain largely unchanged under the proposed new Act. Councils will therefore be key to delivery of the NZ Waste Strategy at a local level. It will be crucial to ensure that the allocation of waste levy funds to territorial authorities remains at the current 50% of the levy and thereafter increases as the levy income increases to support their assigned waste management and minimisation responsibilities. If funding is reduced this will impact on TA's ability to deliver on waste management and minimisation goals and targets. Territorial authorities have already budgeted for levy funding based on existing allocations, often to cover new infrastructure and services required by central government.

⁴ Ministry for the Environment. 2019. *Reducing waste: a more effective landfill levy - consultation document*. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment.

⁵ Eunomia Research & Consulting (2017) *THE NEW ZEALAND WASTE DISPOSAL LEVY Potential Impacts of Adjustments to the Current Levy Rate and Structure*. Available from: <https://eunomia.co.nz/waste-disposal-levy-research/>

PRIORITIES

KERBSIDE STANDARDISATION

Why this is important

There has been notable variation across territorial authority areas about what recycling and recoverable materials are collected, and how this is communicated. This leads to confusion amongst residents about what can and cannot be recycled. Standardising kerbside collections is expected to help reduce contamination and improve recycling rates.

Progress

Following public consultation, in March 2023 the Ministry for the Environment announced new requirements for standardisation of kerbside collections. These include:

From February 2024 all kerbside recycling collections will have to collect the same standard range of materials.

Changes to the items to be accepted in the organics bins.

By 2030 all households in urban areas to be able to access a kerbside food scraps collection (2027 for areas in proximity to an existing processing facility).

All councils will need to meet an increasing minimum standard for the amount of household waste diverted from landfill. Of the total household waste placed at kerbside councils will need to divert:

- 30% by 2026
- 40% by 2028
- 50% by 2030.

From July 2024, all private waste companies that provide regular household waste collections (e.g., weekly or fortnightly) record tonnes of rubbish, recycling, food and garden waste collected, and contamination rates.

Funding support is available to help councils introduce new services.

Residents will still need to follow the direction of their local authority as to the collection methodology available to them (e.g. separate or co-mingled glass collections).

What still needs to be done

Clarify how private collections contribute to targets. The targets include rubbish and recycling that is collected by private operators outside of council control. This presents some issues as councils have limited ability to influence the private sector to meet minimum standards, and multi-unit developments for example can opt out. This could impede the ability of some councils to meet the targets. Private service providers should be expected to meet the same standards as council services.

Clarify consequences of not meeting targets. The sanction under the WMA is that the Secretary for the Environment can withhold levy funds if a TA fails to meet the performance standard. There is concern that many councils will not be in full control of this, and that withholding of levy funds will further diminish a council's ability to meet performance standards.

Support. While funding support is welcome, support in terms of knowledge and guidance on implementing systems and achieving high performance will be necessary for many councils.

PRIORITIES

INFRASTRUCTURE & INVESTMENT

Why this is important

To date Aotearoa has had an ad-hoc approach to development and delivery of investment in resource recovery and waste treatment and disposal infrastructure. Individual territorial authorities or private businesses develop facilities that suit their own needs. This has resulted in gaps, duplication, and a lack of planning to meet future demand consistent with a circular economy.⁶

A coordinated, planned approach to infrastructure investment in the waste and resource recovery sector will:

Improve the efficiency and value of investment.

Promote greater resilience in the sector to market fluctuations, natural disaster and other disruptions.

Result in more consistent service provision.

Drive down the price of recovery.

Reduce the impact on council rates for funding of infrastructure.

Better enable community participation including in service delivery.

Support positive behaviour change through consistent messaging and standards.

Improve resource recovery rates.

Improve the quality of material recovered and facilitate circular economy practices.

Progress

An infrastructure and services stocktake has been completed.

Plans to develop an infrastructure investment strategy have been shelved with proposed actions to be outlined in the Ministry for the Environment's upcoming Action and Investment Plan.

What still needs to be done

Implement a 'circular resource network'. The TAO Forum supports proposals to develop a circular resource network.⁷ Increased coordination is required to ensure that local and regional efforts to develop resource recovery parks and networks will be consistent and aligned. At a minimum the following should be initiated:

- Establish a central agency or taskforce to coordinate development of regional circular resource networks and improve transport logistics.
- Provide targeted funding for circular resource network projects.
- Work with regions that are proactive in this space to establish models and templates and disseminate learnings.
- Establish standards for circular resource networks similar to kerbside standardisation.

A circular resource network will provide a platform for coordinated activity by councils, central government, the community sector, iwi, as well as the private sector. It will also provide a mechanism for developing end markets.

^{6 + 7} Eunomia Research & Consulting (2023) *Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure and Services Stocktake and Gap Analysis*. Report for the Ministry for the Environment

Recognise waste infrastructure as 'critical infrastructure'. The recent disruptions due to Covid-19 and floods have highlighted the importance of including waste infrastructure and services as critical to effective responses and need funding support from central government where this exceeds local government capacity.

Invest in onshore processing and developing end-markets. Coordinated investment will be vital for creating resilient economically and environmentally sustainable markets for recovered materials - in particular plastics, paper, organics and building materials. Investment needs to support smaller local processes in addition to centralised ones.

Establish a clear position on Waste to Energy. There has been increasing interest, particularly by private entities, in developing waste to energy facilities. It is difficult for local councils to adequately assess and respond to these proposals. There is a need for a clear national position, that is aligned with the stated circular economy and climate change goals, and that is adequately reflected in the planning provisions (nominally the Natural and Built Environment Bill).

Provide for legacy waste. Coastal and river erosion and inundation have exposed old landfills and led to pollution. There will be an ongoing need to secure and/or remediate these sites. Separate national provision should be made for vulnerable closed landfill remediation.

PRIORITIES

PRODUCT POLICY

Why this is important

'Product policy' refers to the range of policy tools that are available to influence or control what products are placed on the market and how they are managed. This includes things like product bans (for example plastic bags), product stewardship schemes, container return schemes, right to repair, labelling etc.

Product policies are of vital interest to territorial authorities. Product policies impact on the quantities and types of materials in the system, their recycling, waste management and contamination, how services are funded and on the amount of litter and illegal dumping. However, councils have little control over products at the local level.

New Zealand has taken a piecemeal approach to the use of product policies to date. It will be necessary, moving forward, to ensure that product policies are comprehensive and integrated with one another. Territorial authorities will have an active role in delivery and there should be strong collaboration between central and local government and appropriate funding.

Progress

Container return scheme. A container return scheme incentivises consumers and businesses to return beverage containers for recycling and/or refilling, by including a refundable deposit in the price of the purchase. The refund is provided when consumers return their empty container(s) to a drop-off point. Work had commenced on the scheme design, but this was put on hold in March 2023 by the Government.⁸

⁸ <https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/areas-of-work/waste/container-return-scheme/#:~:text=In%20March%202023%20the%20Prime,scheme%20for%20Aotearoa%20New%20Zealand.>

Product bans. The Government has enacted bans on plastic bags, polystyrene takeaway containers, single use drink stirrers, single use plastic cotton buds, expanded polystyrene food and beverage packaging, certain PVC food trays and containers, oxy and photo-degradable plastics, plastic produce bags, plastic plates, bowls and cutlery, plastic straws, and plastic produce labels. From mid-2025 all other PVC and polystyrene food and drink packaging will be banned.⁹

Product stewardship schemes. In July 2020, the Government declared six products as 'priority products'. This requires that regulated product stewardship schemes be established for these products. The products are:

- Plastic packaging.
- Tyres.
- Electrical and electronic products (e-waste including large batteries).
- Agrichemicals and their containers.
- Refrigerants and other synthetic greenhouse gases.
- Farm plastics.

To date, the Tyrewise product stewardship scheme has been accredited, and scheme designs for large batteries, agricultural chemicals and their container, refrigerants and synthetic greenhouse gases and farm plastics have been completed. Design work is in progress on plastic packaging, and e-waste.

⁹ <https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/areas-of-work/waste/plastic-phase-out/>

What still needs to be done

Take a strategic approach to product policy.

A more strategic approach would take into account:

- Coordinating product policies across different policy tools (bans, product stewardship, labelling and environmental claims, right to repair).
- A more balanced approach to product stewardship scheme design with government (local and central), industry and community representation all actively involved, instead of the current industry-led approach.
- The greenhouse gas emissions profile of products.
- Incentivising reduction rather than end of life management.
- Coordinating return centres across product types (for example by using the circular resource network to provide collection points and logistics).

Container return scheme. Recommence work on the implementation of a container return scheme. A container return scheme will help shift the cost of collecting recycling away from the ratepayers to the consumers.

Packaging. Take a coordinated approach across all types of packaging. Only plastic packaging is covered by the priority product declaration. Other types of packaging (e.g. paper, glass, metal) are not covered. A focus on just one material type could result in a shift towards other packaging types even though they may not be better environmental options.

Require product stewardship for other problematic wastes.

These include treated timber, textiles, end of life vehicles, mattresses, and plasterboard. These are items that present issues in their end of life management, such as high volumes, problems in landfill, illegal dumping or difficult or costly to recover.

Right to repair. Initiate right to repair legislation. This would put measures in place to ensure that products such as appliances that are placed on the market in NZ are designed to be repairable, and that producers/distributors must make parts and technical support available for a reasonable period.

Reuse. Invest in reuse networks as part of a circular resource network), including washing infrastructure for reusable containers.

PRIORITIES

WASTE DATA & MONITORING

Why this is important

It is widely acknowledged that NZ lacks comprehensive, reliable waste data.¹⁰ Better waste data will allow benchmarking of performance, identify performance improvements, and enable effective planning and better monitoring and reporting.

Progress

Class 2-5 disposal facilities are now required to report quantities of material accepted and diverted.

New regulation is proposed to require additional record-keeping and reporting for territorial authorities, landfills, and transfer stations. This would include reporting on the activity that generated the waste.

Proposed new legislation (the Responsibility for Waste Bill) will introduce licensing for operators across the sector including processing facilities, importers and exporters and transporters. It will also require 'relevant waste holders' to track and report specified types of waste through the economy. This will be applied to hazardous wastes initially.¹¹

Reviews of the National Waste Data Framework and the Solid Waste Analysis Protocol have been undertaken.

What still needs to be done

Implement the Waste Data Framework. The Waste Data Framework sets out standard protocols for collecting and reporting waste data. Standardising waste data will facilitate data sharing and enable benchmarking.

Licensing and data provisions. Current data proposals will not provide district level data for territorial authorities. This is because reporting on the geographic source of waste is not included in current proposals. This will ultimately mean that it will not be possible for territorial authorities to know what waste they have in their district and therefore enable local planning to implement the national strategy. The Ministry for the Environment needs to ensure that the data needs of territorial authorities are adequately provided for.

Rural waste. There is very poor data and understanding on the quantity and composition of rural waste disposed of in uncontrolled fills. Estimates suggest it could make up approximately 13% of waste disposed of in Aotearoa.¹² The TAO Forum would like to see controls established to provide greater monitoring of rural waste in uncontrolled fills.

¹⁰ Ministry for the Environment (2017) *Review of the Effectiveness of the Waste Disposal Levy 2017*. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment

¹¹ <https://environment.govt.nz/what-government-is-doing/cabinet-papers-and-regulatory-impact-statements/cabinet-papers-seeking-policy-decisions-on-the-content-of-new-waste-legislation/>

¹² Ministry for the Environment. 2019. *Reducing waste: a more effective landfill levy - consultation document*. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment

PRIORITIES

PROGRAMME DELIVERY

Why this is important

There is significant breadth and complexity in terms of the initiatives underway and the issues that must be dealt with by territorial authorities. This means that there is a need for coordinated cohesive programme delivery, and support for territorial authorities, operators and other stakeholders.

Progress

The TAO Forum and many submitters on the New Zealand Waste Strategy supported the creation of a Crown entity with responsibility for delivery of waste programmes. Similar entities exist in places like England, Scotland and Australia.¹³

What still needs to be done

Establish a delivery-focused department or taskforce. Regardless of the formal entity that has responsibility, there is a need for a sector focused agency or division within the Ministry to coordinate and deliver these programmes including training, resourcing, communications and education, contract templates, and territorial authority, and community sector support programmes.

National education and communication programme. With councils required to provide standardised kerbside services and having to meet targets, a national education and communication campaign will be a vital part of the communications mix alongside local face to face delivery of campaigns.

¹³ Examples include EECA for energy efficiency in NZ, WRAP or Zero Waste Scotland in the UK, and Sustainability Victoria in Australia.

SUMMARY

The Government has made substantial progress on the issues identified in the 2018 and 2020 Local Government Waste Management Manifestos. However, there is still much to be done to get these initiatives up and running and get the right programmes and tools in place to achieve the goals of NZ's waste strategy.

To support territorial authorities in the waste sector, the Government should:

IMPLEMENT THE NZ WASTE STRATEGY BY **COMPLETING AND RELEASING THE ACTION AND INVESTMENT PLAN** AND WORKING WITH OTHER AGENCIES TO **COORDINATE ACTIONS ON THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND CLIMATE CHANGE**.

PRIORITISE THE REVIEW OF THE **WASTE MINIMISATION ACT** AND **LITTER ACT**.

CONTINUE TO **INCREASE THE WASTE DISPOSAL LEVY ABOVE \$60** PER TONNE FOR CLASS 1 LANDFILLS.

ALLOCATE 50% OF LEVY FUNDS TO TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE ACT.

CLARIFY HOW **PRIVATE COLLECTIONS CONTRIBUTE TO PERFORMANCE TARGETS**

COORDINATE INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF WASTE **INFRASTRUCTURE** BY IMPLEMENTING THE '**CIRCULAR RESOURCE NETWORK**', RECOGNISING WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE AS **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**, INVESTING IN **ONSHORE PROCESSING**

OF RECOVERED MATERIALS - IN PARTICULAR PLASTICS, PAPER, ORGANICS AND BUILDING MATERIALS, ESTABLISHING A CLEAR POSITION ON **WASTE TO ENERGY** THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH CLIMATE CHANGE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY GOALS, AND MAKE PROVISION FOR **LEGACY WASTE**.

RECOMMENCE WORK ON A **CONTAINER RETURN SCHEME** AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, WITH IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN THREE YEARS.

TAKE A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO **PRODUCT POLICY** THAT **COORDINATES** DIFFERENT PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP SCHEMES AND TOOLS SUCH AS PRODUCT BANS, INITIATE A PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP SCHEME FOR **ALL PACKAGING TYPES**, AS WELL AS OTHER PROBLEMATIC WASTE SUCH AS **BUILDING WASTE** (INCLUDING **TREATED TIMBER**) AND **TEXTILES**. INITIATE **RIGHT TO REPAIR** LEGISLATION AND INVEST IN **REUSE** INFRASTRUCTURE AND SYSTEMS.

OFFICIALLY ADOPT THE **WASTE DATA FRAMEWORK** AND OVERSEE ITS IMPLEMENTATION TO ENABLE BETTER PLANNING AND MONITORING. ENSURE **WASTE OPERATOR LICENSING** MEETS THE NEEDS OF TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES AND ESTABLISH MONITORING OF **RURAL WASTE** DISPOSAL.

ESTABLISH A **DELIVERY-FOCUSED** DEPARTMENT OR TASKFORCE THAT COORDINATES PROGRAMMES INCLUDING LOCAL AUTHORITY **SUPPORT**, AND **COMMUNICATION** AND EDUCATION PROGRAMMES.