



Lawrie Road and Rustybrook Road Waste Services

**Closing the Loop: Feedback to Participants on the
Community Engagement Process and Next Steps**

December 2018

Parul Sood and Jenny Chilcott

Waste Solutions Department

Purpose

- To provide feedback on the findings of the community engagement process undertaken to better understand the range of issues and opportunities regarding the transfer stations in Warkworth (Lawrie Road) and Wellsford (Rustybrook Road)



Lawrie Road



Rustybrook Road

Background: Current Waste Services for Warkworth and Wellsford

Council provides:

- Fortnightly kerbside recycling collection
- Annual on-property inorganic collection (since 2016)
- Emptying of public litter bins

Background: Current Waste Services for Warkworth and Wellsford

Private industry provides:

- Weekly kerbside refuse collections
- Transfer station refuse operations at Lawrie Road and Rustybrook Road
- Skip bin hire service
- Commercial waste services to local businesses and organisations

Background Information: Transfer Stations at Lawrie Road and Rustybrook Road

- Council-owned sites, on closed landfill.
- A 20 year lease agreement was in place for private use of Lawrie Road and Rustybrook Road transfer sites – due to expire in September 2018.
- In 2017, Council began a procurement process for delivery of waste services from these two sites.
- In July 2018, the procurement process was cancelled

Background Information: remediation work required

- Site investigations showed substantial remediation required on both sites, taking up to two years.
- Remediation is required to stop:
 - damage to the environment (e.g. leachate into the waterways), and
 - for safety reasons.
- October 2018 – nine month extension given to Northland Lease to continue operation on both sites to avoid service disruption for local residents.
- Council working on provision of transitional waste and resource recovery services for local residents / small businesses during the remediation period.

Community Engagement

24 groups/individuals over October/November 2018, including attendance at Snell's Beach R&R (65 attendees)

- Resident and Ratepayer Groups
- Warkworth Area Liaison Group
- Business Groups – Wellsford Plus and One Warkworth
- Forest & Bird representatives
- Matakana Market representative
- Individual residents
- 2 Social Service Organisations
- Neighbours of Lawrie Road Site
- Builders (x2)
- Zero Waste Matakana
- Matakana Community Group
- Mana whenua

The Broader Context:

*Our community is interested in dealing with the reality of waste in a forward thinking way**

The following issues were raised by participants through the Engagement Process:

- Planned increase from 4,500 to 20,000 houses in the next 20 years
- Increasing number of young families coming into the community that are environmentally aware and *kids are hot on environmental issues*
- Increasing number of visitors – this is a big tourism area
- Differences in needs between rural- and town-based residents
- Proposed landfill at Dome Valley
- Local facilities are important due to increased cost of petrol and increased traffic on main roads

* Direct quote from a resident

Community responses: How are the sites currently used?

- Lawrie Road open 7 days per week and Rustybrook 2 days per week for limited hours
- Householders use sites for DIY, spring-cleans, and green waste (kerbside services deal adequately with most day-to-day waste)
- Builders
 - some builders take trailer loads to the sites
 - others use skip bins on building sites

Community responses: How are the sites currently used?

- Many renters regularly take 'rubbish' to the transfer sites
- Some provision for recycling is available at Lawrie Road, but not at Rustybrook Road
- Perception that most waste goes to landfill
- Sites are well-used by local residents

Community responses: What is important in the short-term while remediation being undertaken (approx. two years)?

- Provision of uninterrupted waste services
- Need to provide services for mixed waste (including e-waste)
- Make it easy and accessible for people to do the right thing
- Greater focus on recovering/recycling materials:
 - e.g. providing an area for builders to drop off timber

Community responses: What is important in the short-term while remediation being undertaken (approx. two years)?

- Particular interest from Matakana and Whangateau to have a Community Recycling Centre (like Helensville)
- On-site green composting / ability to compost invasive weeds
- Greater transparency about what happens to recycled waste:
 - Where does it go?
 - How is it used?

Community responses: What is important in the short-term while remediation being undertaken (approx. two years)? (cont.)

- Costs:
 - concern of increased costs if sites not local
 - keep costs affordable – particularly an issue in Wellsford
 - concern of impact on ratepayers if council provides services - *when council gets involved costs can increase*
- Neighbours – concern about:
 - noise levels at Lawrie Road
 - dead trees, and
 - rats

Community responses: What is important in the short-term while remediation being undertaken (approx. two years)? (cont.)

- Education:
 - people want to do the right thing but don't always know what that is
 - we need an education programme for builders
- Better communication by Council about:
 - what is happening?
 - the process
 - what can be expected?

Mana Whenua Interests

- Local sites must be provided during remediation process
- Supportive of recycling and resource recovery
- Understanding the environmental impacts and issues with the current sites
- Proper iwi consultation process for landfill remediation work
- Any tender process to consider wider environmental, cultural, and kaitiaki issues
- Education
 - particularly over the summer season with the influx of visitors, and
 - resources for local groups to deliver this
- Zero Waste kaupapa

Community responses: what is required in the longer term* (after remediation completed)?

- A modern, future-proof facility that focuses on recycling and reuse
- Commercial compost facility for:
 - green and food waste
 - compostable packaging
- If we all reduce our own waste to landfill, we won't need a Dome Valley
- A Zero Waste Learning Centre (similar to what is at Waitakere)

*Direct quotes from interviews through the engagement process

Proposed Next Steps:

- Secure an operator to deliver transitional waste services for residents and small businesses
- Seek consents for transitional and long-term activities on sites
- Manage health and safety risks
- Secure an area at each site for transitional services
- Provide resources for increased waste minimisation education and engagement

Objectives for transitional services:

- Provide mixed waste services for residents / small businesses (within the limitations of the sites)
- Maximise diversion from landfill
- Maximise community benefits
- Deliver a cost effective service to achieve outcomes
- Provide waste minimisation education to residents and wider community
- Gather information to inform future use of sites