

Annual Plan Update 4

Waitomo District Landfill

Waste volumes into our landfill have continued to drop over the past few years and are likely to keep dropping. Domestic waste is reducing, however much of our waste comes from commercial companies or from out of district. A significant proportion of this waste stream has now stopped coming to our landfill.



Responsibility for sludge disposal from our Wastewater Treatment Plant will transition to Waikato Waters from 1 July 2026 and will be transferred to an external landfill.

Reduced waste volumes and increasing operating costs means that, transporting waste out of the district remains the cheaper option. Future forecast volumes don't support investing in the next waste cell. Council adopted this change in the 2025/26 Annual Plan. So, from July 2026 we will transport waste to Hampton Downs landfill, and our landfill will be capped and mothballed.

This means that if transport and disposal fees get too high, we could still decide to expand and open the new landfill 'cell', under the new resource consent.

What does this mean for the Te Kūiti Transfer Station (recycling and drop off site) ??

Essentially nothing will change, you will still come and drop off your rubbish and recycling as you do now. The waste will be transported to an external landfill at regular intervals.

There will be even more emphasis on minimising waste to reduce our transport and disposal costs. The reduced waste volumes and strict requirements for government part funding of an upgraded transfer station means it is no longer feasible to build an upgraded transfer station.

