

Food scraps collections

Requirements, how to get
started and best practice



The webinar will begin at 10am, 10 May 2023

Karakia timatatanga

Tuia i runga,

Tuia i raro,

Tuia i roto,

Tuia i waho

Tuia i te here tangata

Ka rongo te pō

Ka rongo te ao

Haumi ē, hui ē, tāiki ē!

Let us connect to the heavens above

Let us connect to the earth below

Let us connect within

Let us connect externally

Let us connect to the essence of humanity

Exploring the unknown (night) connection

Realising the potential (day) of connection

Uniting as one, Uniting!

Today's session

A new era for New Zealand's waste system

- Food scraps collection requirements
- How to get started
- Tips for best practice

Webinar housekeeping

- If you would like to ask a question, please type it into the **Q&A panel** at the bottom of your screen.
- The chat box is only for technical questions (eg, if you can't hear the presenter).
- This webinar will be **recorded** so those who can't attend the session today can view it and the **PowerPoint slides** on our website.
- For any questions after the session, email transformingrecycling@mfe.govt.nz

Why are food scraps changes needed?

Greenhouse gas emissions

Food waste sent to landfill

Nutrients lost from the food
system



Food scraps collections in urban areas

By 2030, all district and city councils are to provide food scraps (or food and garden waste) collections to households in urban areas of 1000 people or more.

Councils with organics processing facilities nearby provide a food waste service **by 2027**.

Once councils start collecting food scraps (or food and garden waste), these services must only collect food scraps and garden waste.



Separation of business food waste

- agreed in principal
- relies on the new waste legislation, which is likely to be released in 2025

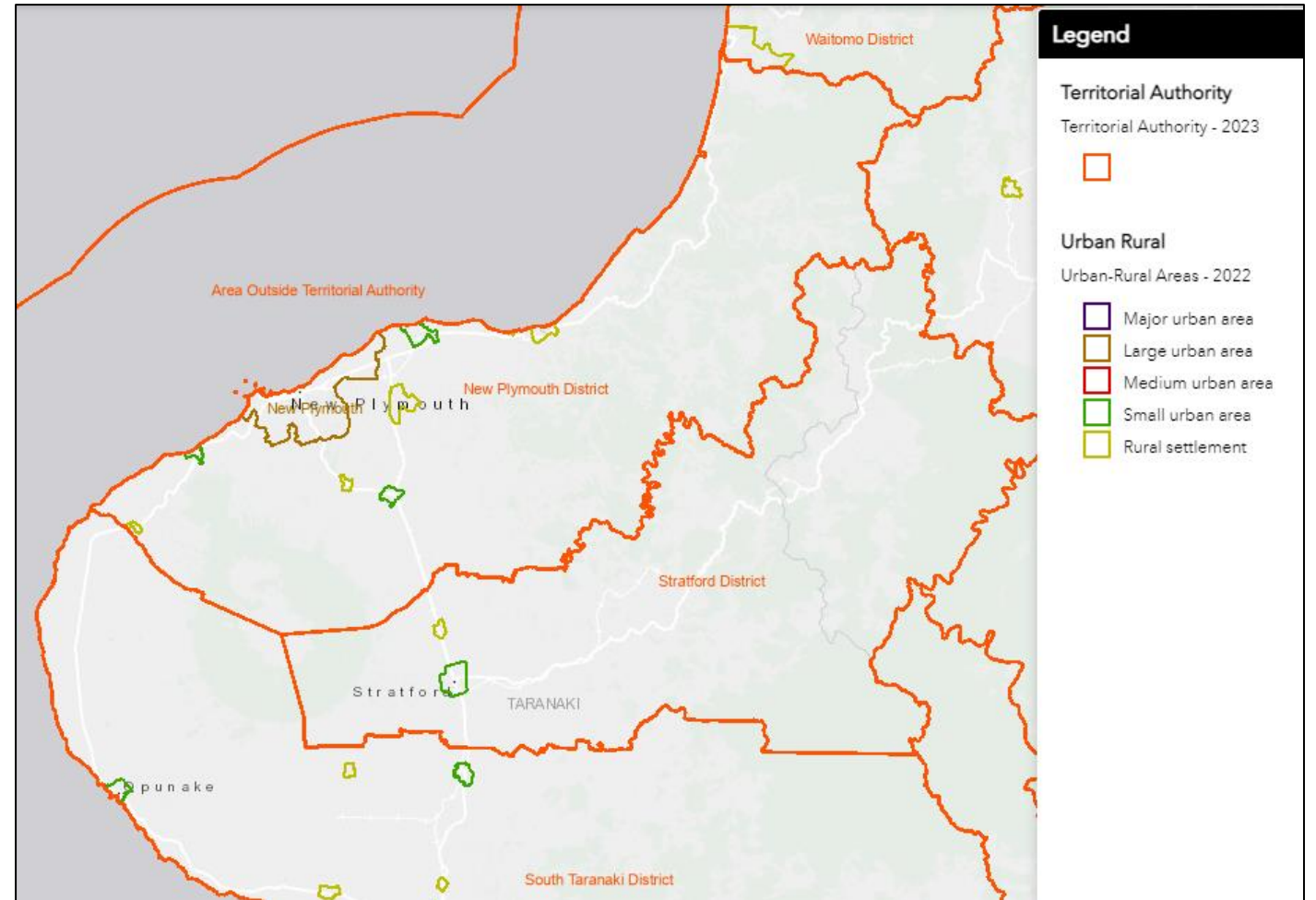


Defining an urban area

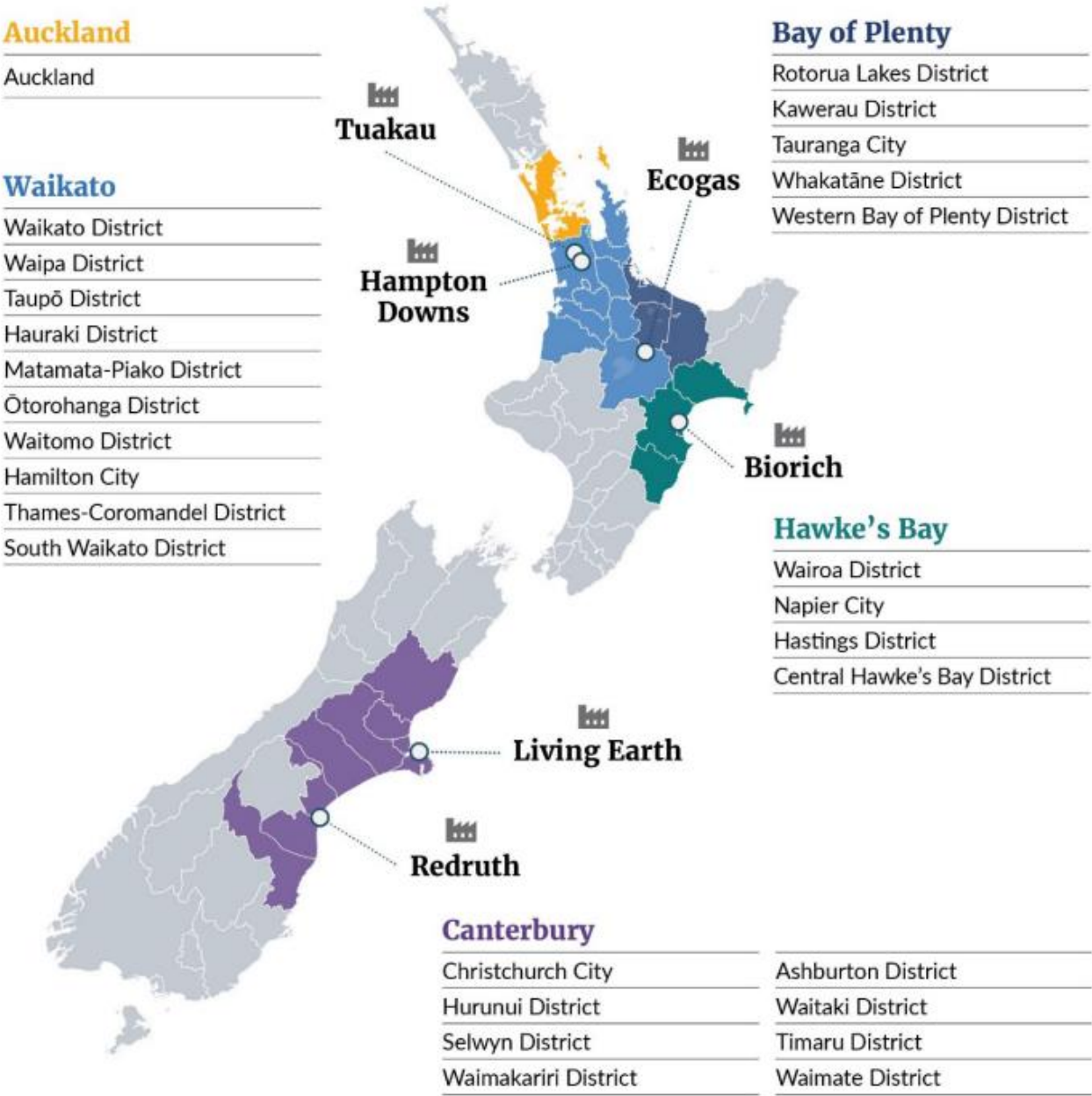
To check whether your towns meet this threshold to be defined as an "urban area" use the [Stats NZ Geographic Boundary Viewer \(for the 2022 year\)](#).

In the Layer List, tick 'Urban Rural', untick the layer 'Urban-Rural areas 2023' and tick the 2022 layer instead. Turn on the legend to see the colours for types of areas. Rural settlements are not considered urban areas.

The smallest urban areas (those with between 1000 and 2000 people) will be included in the regulation for clarity.



2027 and 2030 service deadlines



Excluded, discretionary, and pending items

Food scraps and FOGO

Excluded items	Discretionary items	Status to be listed in forthcoming guidance document
Compostable packaging	Compostable bin liners	Tea bags
Paper and cardboard	Fibrous plants, weedy plants, and thick branches	
Animal droppings		
Treated saw dust		

Processing technologies

- Each TA will have full discretion over the organics processing technology used.
- MfE is technology neutral.
- Processing systems that are already established, and that we expect to grow, include: anaerobic digestion, composting (large and community scale), and vermicomposting.
- The OMPCSA has published research outlining the different technology options. [OPMSCA web explainer](#).
- New South Wales has released [food waste emissions factsheets](#).



Markets research

- Developing quality standards for digestate for different classes of digestate.
- Contaminate thresholds and their market impact for various organic materials markets.
- Research into investigating the impacts of compostable products on soils.
- MfE [position statement](#) on compostable products.
- Funding to research local solutions for processing options.



When are these changes happening?



\$\$ Funding

Always open



Waste Minimisation Fund

- \$120M – June 2024
 - Organics
 - Council packages: feasibility, rollout, collaboration

Plastics Innovation Fund

- \$50M – June 2025
 - Soft plastics (till June 2023)

All active and past waste investments are searchable through the online dashboard

Council Roll out Snapshot

- Already implemented: **12** (9 within 150km)
- 2023/2024 Roll out: **4** (3 within 150km)
- 2024/2025 Roll out: **6*** (2 within 150km)
- 2025/2026 Roll out: **11*** (5 within 150km)
- Feasibility study: **28*** (8** within 150km)
- Unknown: **6**** (none within 150km)

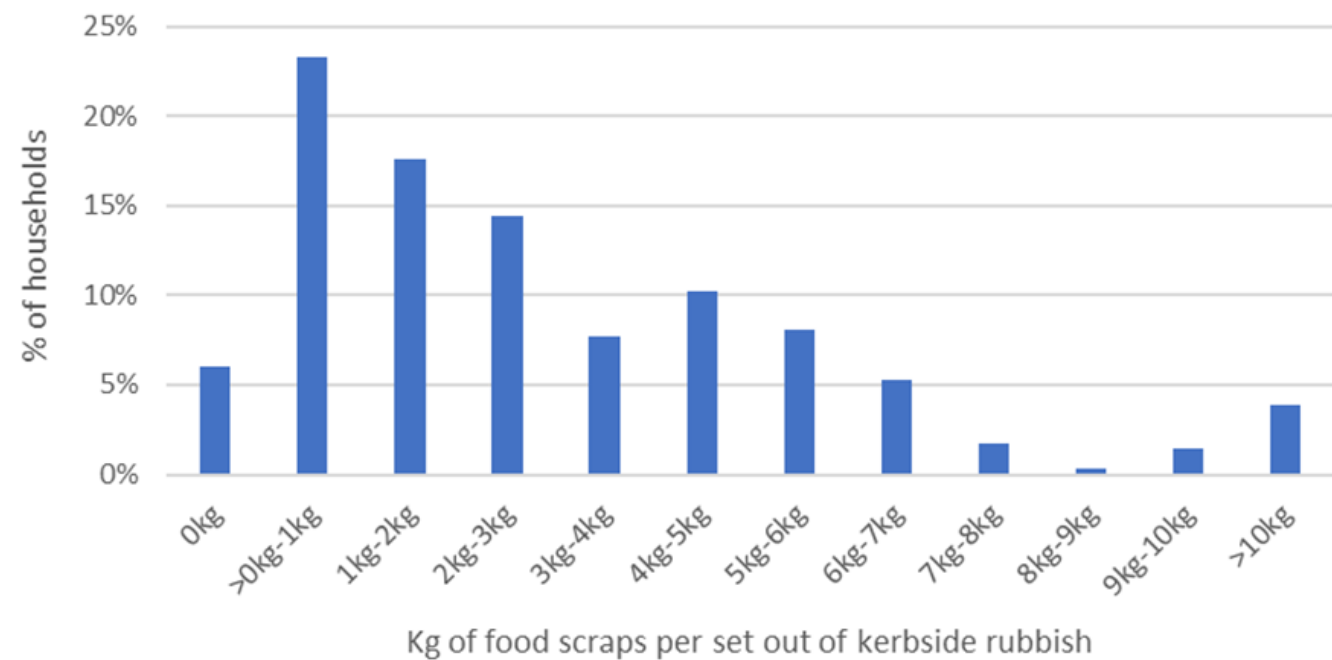
Research to understand participation in food scraps collections

- **Participation survey** – who's not using the food scraps collection?
- **Attitudinal survey** – why are they not using it?
- **Waste audit** – how much food waste are they throwing out?
- **Focus group** – what are the barriers to their use of the food scraps collection?



Topline results

- 53% of households think they throw out a small amount of food waste, and 17% think they don't throw out any food waste.
- Only 20% of people claimed to use the rubbish bin to dispose of food scraps.
- Only 6% of people who don't use the food scraps collection have zero food waste in their rubbish bin, despite many people saying they home compost.
- People who don't use the collection are less aware that you can put meat, bones, dairy and cooked food in the collection.
- So encouraging people who home compost to use the food scraps bin for items they don't want to home compost is key.



Types of food scraps	% of households with item type in kerbside rubbish
Fresh vegetables	62%
Fresh fruits	60%
Meat and fish	58%
Bakery	44%
Homemade food	31%
Dairy	30%



This is 280 grams of food scraps

Communications testing

We will be developing a toolkit containing all the communications resources a council is likely to need to roll out a food scraps or food and garden waste collection

Messages to support the food scraps collection service-ALL



	Clear, and simple, visually appealing and easy to interpret for children and adults.
	While busy, the additional information listed on what not to include in the food scrap bin was <u>helpful</u> Ticks and crosses reinforce what was in and what was out
	Separate list from food images meant some could just look at the list, appealed most to older participants

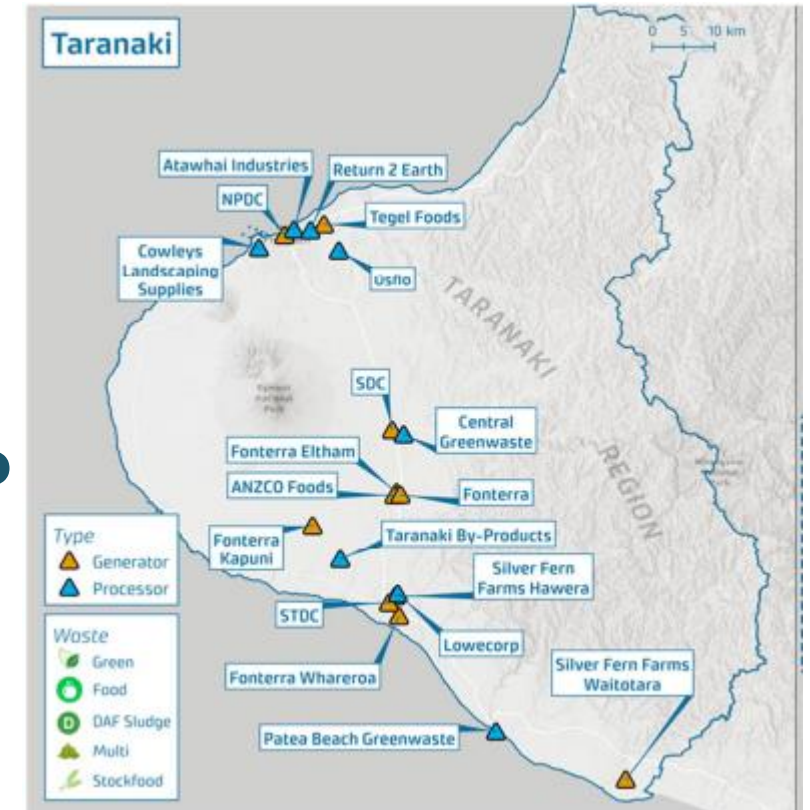
Download the research [here](#)

Implementation: for councils that have until 2027

1. Contact your neighbouring councils. Rolling out collections jointly will save you time and money.
2. Contact the WMF team to find out what funding packages are available for you.
3. Advise the WMF team if you are happy for your contact details to be shared with any organisations who might be planning to set up new facilities in your vicinity.
4. Contact any similar councils to you that have already rolled out collections and find out their key learnings / useful reports / research etc.

Implementation: for councils that have until 2030

1. Contact your neighbouring councils. If your region has yet to do a regional stocktake, consider applying for funding to do one.
2. Advise the WMF team if you are happy for your contact details to be shared with any organisations who might be planning to set up new facilities in your vicinity.
3. Brief your Mayor, elected members and CE on the new requirements.
4. Contact the WMF team if you need to apply for funding to do a business case.



What can I do in the meantime, if my council is not ready to engage?

1. Identify where the proposed collection route for food scraps could go in your region and which settlements may not receive the service. Look to set up community composting or home composting programmes for residents of those communities
2. Run events and programmes focusing on reducing food waste
3. Encourage those that are home composting to compost as much as possible. Consider promoting bokashi or working with Predator Free New Zealand to supply rat traps



Pātai | Questions?



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao



Further information

Take a look at our [webpage](#) for further details.

Email us at transformingrecycling@mfe.govt.nz with any outstanding questions or to be added to our mailing list.

Karakia whakakapi

Kia whakairia te tapu

Kia wātea ai te ara

Kia turuki whakataha ai

Haumi ē. Hui ē. Tāiki ē!

Restrictions are moved aside

So the pathway is clear

To return to everyday activities

Enriched, unified, and blessed



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