

Outline of proposed Resource Recovery Network concept for Auckland

A key initiative of Auckland Council's new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP)¹ is the development of a Resource Recovery Network (RRN). The original concept of a RRN was outlined in a 2005 report, 'Reclaiming Auckland's Resources'² now being updated to reflect the current situation in Auckland (including local government amalgamation, the introduction of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, and the intention of Auckland Council to phase out kerbside inorganic collections), and to include ideas and input from submissions made to the WMMP.

The overall objective of the RRN is to provide Auckland businesses and residents with the infrastructure required for maximum recovery of used goods and materials that would otherwise have been sent to landfill, in order to grow a sustainable economy and reduce the environmental impacts and economic costs of waste.

Although the concept is still under development, the RRN is likely to be comprised of a small number (possibly 3-5) of large Recycling Recovery Parks, linked with a larger number of small community recycling depots and drop off centres. Along with new facilities, existing facilities such as transfer stations, recycling operations and reuse and charity stores could participate in the RRN. A simplistic diagram of how the network might look is shown alongside³.

Making resource recovery and recycling accessible in every local community will increase the quantity of material available for reuse and recycling which will in turn increase the opportunities for existing and new businesses to grow and create new jobs.

Envision New Zealand has been contracted by Auckland Council to engage with businesses, charitable organisations, Maori/iwi groups and others that might be interested in participating in the RRN in some way, and to develop the RRN concept further.

Part of the project involves carrying out a survey to gain an understanding of the level of interest and waste diversion potential of those businesses and groups that might be interested in being part of the RRN. The survey will also start to identify the needs of participants and what degree of support or stimulus would be required to develop the RRN.

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How the **Resource Recovery Network** would operate - a trading system for used materials and products



This diagram is conceptual only and not intended to accurately display where facilities would be situated.



Transfer stations, charity re-use stores and second hand shops could be part of the Resource Recovery Network but are not shown.

¹ Downloadable from www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

² Report can be downloaded from www.envision-nz.com

³ Diagram from 'Reclaiming Auckland's Resources'