

AUT Centre for Modern Writing

... at Shadbolt House, Titirangi

Proposal to Waitakere City Council

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & PROPOSAL

AUT proposes to locate a Centre for Modern Writing at Shadbolt House in Titirangi. The Centre will open its doors in early 2008 to a group of ten Masters students. Students will be exposed to a one year intense, master-class environment, in which a small staff in partnership with New Zealand's top fiction writers will work with students who have already demonstrated significant writing ability in their application portfolios.

The one-year course will result in a Masters in Creative Writing. After discussion with Mayor Bob Harvey and WCC managers, it is proposed to locate the Centre at Maurice Shadbolt House in Titirangi, a site of national cultural significance and currently in WCC ownership.

It is envisaged that Centre will form a hub of literary excellence, intersect with other Waitakere sites of national cultural importance (such as Colin McCahon House); develop outreach literary programmes (with Lopdell House) and a cultural tourism trail, and through connections with the Auckland literary community and the Going West Writers Festivals, generate national interest and host visits by international writers. The Centre has the strategic potential to significantly raise the national profile of AUT University and Waitakere City Council in the literary arts, and provide a model for similar innovative community-university partnerships.

A consultant town planner, architect and traffic engineer have been engaged by AUT. They have addressed the major concerns noted by WCC Resource Planner in a March 2007 report, principally parking arrangements, identified by WCC officers as an issue of concern. They have determined that *there are no resource management issues or adverse effects that cannot be resolved or mitigated by the proposed arrangements for the operation of the Centre. The consultants' reports are attached to this proposal and are ready to be expanded and formulated into a resource consent application.*

PROPOSAL TO WAITAKERE CITY COUNCIL

It is requested that:

- WCC supports the establishment by AUT University of the Centre for Modern Writing at Shadbolt House, Arapito Rd, Titirangi in a partnership of mutual benefit.
- That Waitakere City Council meet costs of work identified in its March 2007 report required to make the house safe, habitable and waterproof (\$64k plus GST).
- AUT will contribute additional capital expenditure to the site and structure required to conform to resource consents and other standards.
- Upon successful outcome of an application for resource consents, AUT negotiate a lease agreement with WCC at a nominal rent commensurate with the level of improvements contributed by AUT and for an initial, renewable term of three years

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2. BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

In 2003 a group of Auckland writers and publishers developed the concept of a national but Auckland-based graduate creative writing centre. The success of the Institute of Modern Letters at Victoria University of Wellington (VUW), which teaches an MA in Creative Writing, was the stimulus for this move. The VUW course had given rise to a highly successful new generation of published NZ fiction writers including, Elizabeth Knox, Emily Perkins, Damien Wilkins, Catherine Chidgey, Barbara Anderson, Kapka Kassabova and many others.

Despite expectations to the contrary, such a centre had never evolved in Auckland, and there was widespread support in the Auckland literary community for such an institution.

The consultation group consisted of the Managing Director of the publishing firm Random Century and Chair of the Auckland Writers Festival, Roger Hall playwright, Kapka Kassabova writer, and the Chair of the Auckland Society of Authors. The group was founded and chaired by John Cranna, a previous member of the Society of Authors National Council and a published novelist. In 2006, AUT University invited the group to develop the Centre under its auspices.

In early 2007, Dean Kathy Garden and Deputy Vice Chancellor Philip Sallis of AUT University discussed the issue with Mayor Bob Harvey, and subsequently met with the WCC Chief Executive, to propose the establishment of the Centre at the renowned and recently deceased author Maurice Shadbolt's House in Titirangi.

Shadbolt was part of a small group of NZ writers, including CK Stead, Janet Frame, Maurice Duggan, Maurice Gee, Kevin Ireland and Frank Sargeson who in the 1950s and 1960s gave rise to the first truly indigenous body of NZ literature.

Shadbolt's house was a gathering place for these writers and is a site of major literary importance brought now into the public domain through the vision of Waitakere City Councillors and staff. A number of international literary writers also stayed at the house. The house is situated next to a currently unused bush reserve and has panoramic views over the Manukau Harbour.

Subsequently Council managers and the AUT project manager, have had very initial discussions around a future additional dimension to the project, specifically a proposal for a writers commemorative park on the adjacent Council reserve, linking to a scenic coastal walkway. These additional elements could have the effect of increasing public and media interest in the overall project, thus assisting to secure the long-term viability of the project.

Waitakere City Council has a history of preserving and transforming sites of national cultural importance, such as the Colin McCahon House location. There is now a successful residency with national profile and significant cultural tourism value for Waitakere at McCahon House in French Bay, Titirangi.

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3. PARTNERSHIP PROPOSAL

3.1. *Proposal & Mission Statement*

To establish an innovative CENTRE OF MODERN WRITING (CMW) under an AUT / WAITAKERE CITY COUNCIL brand that is supported by other professional bodies including Auckland's mainstream publishers, Going West Writers and Books Festival, New Zealand Society of Authors. The intention is to deliver a blend of research and industry best practice that will:

- enhance the AUT/ WAITAKERE CITY COUNCIL **brand**;
- house the new AUT **Master of Creative Writing** degree
- provide a local vehicle to foster **community literary activity in West Auckland** through outreach programmes and liaison with local books events;
- understand **international best practice** and trends in creative writing;
- provide opportunities for **publication of fiction manuscripts**; and
- **generate revenue** streams that will fund the Centre's objectives.

3.2. *Analysis*

Academic and Institutional Context

The proposal has been developed in consultation with the publishing industry, literary organisations and prominent literary writers in New Zealand. Consultation has also been undertaken with the organisers of the major literary festivals and writer events in Auckland and Waitakere and the Lopdell House Committee. There has also been extensive consultation across the faculties at AUT who will be involved in supervision and delivery of the programme. There is strong support for an innovative and interdisciplinary cross-faculty Centre to house the postgraduate degree and offer a location for writers to cluster, work together with intention of developing publication quality work.

CUAP (Joint Universities) validation

The establishment of the new Masters in Creative Writing degree has been confirmed in July 2007 by the joint universities consultation process (CUAP).

Writer in Residence

It is planned to locate a writer in residence scheme at the Centre commencing 2009. AUT intends to provide funding for a half share of such a residency, in line with the 50:50 funded writer in residencies at other universities in New Zealand, paving the way for a potential co-funded residency to be located at Shadbolt House, or (possibly) in Shadbolt's studio at the bottom of the property in 2009. \$50,000 is provided for a year's writing project, together with dedicated office space. Residential accommodation is not provided. This proposal is in accord with the original WCC proposal to establish a Writer in Residence at Shadbolt House.

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Location of Centre at Shadbolt House

Shadbolt House is a four bedroom house in Titirangi, well suited to house a graduate school of this kind. Shadbolt's former writing studio is situated on the lower slopes of the property, and opens the possibility for a small museum to be located there. Some refurbishment is required to the property and extensive consultation has occurred with key Waitakere City Council managers to identify the scope and scale of this in preparation for a proposed commencement of programme first semester 2008.

The AUT Project Manager has now coordinated a team consisting of a conservation architect, traffic engineer, and planning consultant. Their reports are appended.

Deputy Vice Chancellor Philip Sallis has committed an initial sum towards upgrade of the house and it is hoped WCC will make a significant contribution of its own to ensure the structure is safe, waterproof and habitable after several years of neglect. Initial costings completed by the architects Burgess Treep suggest refurbishment costs to establish the Centre and meet compliance standards for a change of use will be in the region of \$150,000. The fit out and furnishing of the Centre will be an additional sum carried by AUT.

The location of the Centre and the inception of the Masters qualification has been warmly supported by the National President of the Society of Authors, and other national literary figures. (See full consultation list attached)

Promotions and Marketing

There is significant media interest in the Shadbolt House site, due to Maurice Shadbolt's historically pivotal role in the emergence of an indigenous NZ literature in the 1960s and 1970s. There was good media profiling of the purchase of the house by Waitakere City Council last year, and it is anticipated there would be excellent media opportunities around the innovative nature of the proposed partnership arrangement between AUT University and Waitakere City Council.

A major element of the Centre concept is the invitation to NZ's best known fiction writers to teach master-classes to students. This enhances the likelihood of national publicity in mainstream print and electronic media to accompany the launch of the school, and does so for relatively little cost.

There has been close consultation with the NZ Society of Authors during development of the project.

As was found with the launch of the similar Colin McCahon House project in Waitakere, there is major media interest in the launch of innovative artistic projects on sites of national cultural importance. In the case of the McCahon House, a significant proportion of the publicity generated for the refurbishment of the residence as a museum and painter's residency was generated *gratis* by the national print and electronic media.

As New Zealand generally and the Auckland region specifically develops its appreciation of the role of recent local contributors to our national cultural identity (Shadbolt, McCahon), media and public interest in these major figures has itself increased.

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The complementary concept of a future writers commemorative park on the adjacent bush reserve, linked to a scenic coastal walkway has the potential to attract major media interest in the overall 'package'.

3.3. Objectives

AUT/ WAITAKERE CITY COUNCIL brand

- to implement **international best practice** in the tuition of creative writing;
- to establish **national and international networks** through visiting writers

AUT Master of Creative Writing

- to enable students to achieve a high level of competence in creative writing through a sustained workshop and research programme of study culminating in the examination of a manuscript of a significant professional standard and an exegesis that establishes the critical contexts of that creative body of work
- to provide a research and learning environment with group support and constructive supervision writing exercises and the development of a critical exegesis
- to establish the programme of study as a small cohort with a strong sense of mutual support
- to attract students who wish to develop a stronger knowledge base in terms of critical reading skills, creative writing skills and innovation in relation to writing practices

Publishing industry

- to significantly strengthen productive relations between New Zealand publishing industries and the tertiary education sector
- to engage a range of respected published writers to catalyse creative writing processes
- to develop in creative practitioners a strong understanding of the legal and contractual obligations required in the field of publication

Publication and research

- to significantly advance the arenas of research and craft-based excellence in the discipline of creative writing

Financial objectives

- to achieve key budget and revenue generating targets (see below for performance measures.)

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3.4. Performance Measures / Milestones

Academic

- The attainment of a high level of excellence in academic and literary activity at the Centre.
- The successful completion by students of the Masters year and the conferring of the MA in Creative Writing
- The generation of publication quality, or near publication quality manuscripts in at least a proportion of the students
- The completion at the Centre of intense master-classes for students by recognised and well-established NZ fiction writers.

Community / Institutional

- the generation of a positive and nurturative *esprit de corps* environment at the Centre.
- the development of good relationships and high level of communication with Waitakere City stakeholders, including Lopdell House, McCahon House and other local arts focii
- the development of good relationships and high level of communication with Faculty and other stakeholders at AUT University

Financial

- the attainment of key financial targets (revenue flow, sponsorship revenue, end of year bottom lines)
- the formation of one or more sponsorship relationships providing significant co-funding for the Centre.

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4. STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS

4.1. Key Stakeholders and their Expectations

AUT Management (Corporate and Faculty)

- The reputation and profile of AUT will be enhanced by this centre
- The Centre for Modern Writing programme will become respected and valued by the literary community, publishing industry and the best prospective students
- AUT will contribute appropriate improvements to Shadbolt House to ensure an appropriate educational facility is established
- The Centre will at least be cost neutral and should bring net revenue gains in the medium to long term

Waitakere City Council

- The reputation and profile of Waitakere will be enhanced by this centre
- The location of the Centre at Shadbolt House will provide excellent use of Waitakere's recently purchased resource and helps support the purchase decision
- Waitakere is becoming a national leader in celebrating sites of cultural importance
- Waitakere will benefit from the influx of some of NZ's best known writers to run master-classes at the Centre.
- Community outreach programmes with Lopdell House will enhance community involvement with books and writers in West Auckland.
- Expectation that Waitakere will make appropriate landlord contribution to refurbishment

4.2. Stakeholder Consultation Strategy

A key success factor for this project will be the ongoing consultation with the diverse group of writers and industry professionals who originated and supported this plan. This intention of this ongoing consultation is to sustain the high level of support that has thus far been forthcoming from the literary world, develop opportunities for targetted sponsorship opportunities, such as possible bursaries (Auckland Society of Authors) and a first-refusal manuscript assessment sponsorship (Random House publishers).

In early 2007 the proposed Centre plan was presented to a full meeting of the Auckland Branch of the Society of Authors, where it was greeted warmly by both members and the executive committee. The National President of the Society of Authors was also consulted in early 2007, and gave his written support, as did other

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significant writers in the Auckland region. It is anticipated that consultation will be ongoing with these stakeholders.

4.3. Partnering & Consultation

Parties consulted; Centre of Modern Writing @ Shadbolt House

National President, Society of Authors, formal letter of support

Mayor Bob Harvey, statement of support, and consultation with other Councillors

Co-organiser, Going West Books and Writers Festival, Waitakere City, active ongoing involvement in development of Centre proposal at Shadbolt House

Lopdell House Committee, letter of support

Managing Director, Random House Publishers, confirmed sponsorship support and consultation over three years

Roger Hall, playwright, letter of support and consultation over two years

Sean Shadbolt, Maurice Shadbolt's son, consultation

Director, Victoria University of Wellington Master of Creative Writing Programme, advice, consultation

Current Auckland Branch Chair, Society of Authors, ongoing consultation

Auckland Branch Meeting, Society of Authors, formal presentation of programme plan and strong stated support

Past-Chairs, Auckland Society of Authors, active involvement in developing programme over three years

Chair, Auckland Writers Festival, ongoing consultation

Co-Director, Auckland Writers Festival, consultation and request for partnership

Senior Tutor, Auckland University Masters in Creative Writing Programme, full consultative involvement over three years

Two former Tutors, Auckland University Creative Writing Programme, consultation

Lecturer, Canterbury University creative writing programme, letter of support, plus consultation over two years

Lecturer, Massey University creative writing programme, participation in internal CUAP development, consultation and support

4.4. Staff & Operations

It is anticipated that the centre will be staffed by a Director, a half-time (.5 full-time equivalent) on-site Administrator / Secretary, and a part-time lecturer. There will also be budgetary allowance for visiting writers to hold master-classes. The focus of weekly tutorial activity will be the large front room with an attractive view out over the Manukau Harbour.

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The part-time Administrator will be located at the entrance office (see attached architects plans) and there will be two offices for teaching staff. In addition there will be some quiet study space available.

The students will be required to attend one three-hour group tutorial per week, and in addition to meet with their supervisor for at least one hour per week to assist in the development of their end of year portfolio and exegesis. Students will be required to present a seminar on a writing topic of their choice during the course of the year. In consultation with other academic and administrative staff, the Director and lecturer(s) will oversee seminars, tutorials, will manage the input of visiting writers from NZ and overseas who are running master-classes.

Operational and administrative coordination will occur through the part-time on-site administrator who will work with both the Director and appropriate city campus Faculty staff to ensure that the Centre is organised and run with efficiency and with a high level of effective communication to all key operational and Faculty staff.

The Director will have overall responsibility for the success and management of the Centre and will have accountability and reporting line to Dean level in the relevant Faculty(s).

5. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE ISSUES

5.1. Overview

The budget scenario is based on AUT managing the Centre and Waitakere City Council leasing the premises to AUT. At present this appears to be the most practical of several different scenarios; eg, Trusts, joint ventures, co-operatives.

Burgess Treep conservation architects have anticipated the refurbishment of the Centre prior to opening in February 2008 will require approx \$150k and when combined with estimates from Faculty managers for furnishings and equipment, this total will be approx \$194k. (See architects drawings and costings attached). This also permits compliance with a variety of building and resource consent standards appropriate to a small educational centre of this kind.

It is proposed that WCC meet refurbishment cost required to make the house safe, waterproof and habitable and that AUT meet costs over and above that required to establish the Centre.

5.2. Funding & Sponsorship

Sponsorship and funding opportunities exist, and are being canvassed by the Project Manager. These opportunities include:

- A variety of corporate, philanthropic and trust-based sponsors support innovative artistic and educational institutions of this kind. The models for these partnerships include: bursary funding for student scholarships and awards; specific facility sponsorship (e.g naming rights to parts of the physical location); one-off capital expenditure grants to the overall project; contribution to operating expenses.

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- A mainstream publisher (Random House) has indicated interest in a sponsorship arrangement based on a 'first refusal' arrangement for graduate manuscripts.

5.3. Resource Consents

The AUT Project Manager has met and consulted with WCC's Chief Resource Consents Manager, and his team, and canvassed these issues. AUT has taken on a senior planning consultant, Brian Putt, of Metro Planning; an independent traffic consultant, Philip Brown; and an experienced conservation architect, Graeme Burgess of Burgess Treep Architects. A surveyor's report of the property has also been commissioned. Burgess Treep were the conservation architects on the similar Colin McCahon House project in Titirangi. The consultants addressed the major concerns noted in a March 2007 report by the WCC Resource Planner, principally parking arrangements.

The consultants above have determined that there are no resource management issues, or adverse effects that cannot be resolved or mitigated by the proposed arrangements for the operation of the Centre. The consultants reports are attached and are ready to be expanded and formulated into a resource consent application.

6. REFERENCES & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Letter of support from National President NZ Society of Authors

Letter of support from Roger Hall, playwright

Letter of support from Lopdell House Committee.

Planning Consultants Draft Assessment of Environmental Effects

Architects Report and Site Plans

Traffic Engineers Report

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THE NEW ZEALAND
SOCIETY OF AUTHORS
THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF AUTHORS

Chris Else
7 Vista Grove
Kelson
Lower Hutt

14 February 2007

To Whom It May Concern

The New Zealand Society of Authors (PEN Inc) represents professional writers of books in this country. Most of the distinguished names in New Zealand Literature are or, until their deaths, have been members, including Janet Frame, Maurice Shadbolt, Michael King, Fiona Kidman, Maurice Gee, Witi Ihimaera and Margaret Mahy.

The society promotes the interests of NZ writers in a variety of spheres, and has a particular interest in new developments that provide support for writers who are near the beginning of their publishing careers.

A group of Auckland publishers and writers have been developing a plan to establish a Graduate Creative Writing School in Auckland. I understand that the School will be launched in the first semester of 2008, at AUT University. Simultaneous with the development is the launch at AUT University of a new undergraduate degree in creative writing. The success of the Auckland Writers Festival has shown that Auckland has come of age in its support for literature and it is hoped that a variety of community and literary partnerships will form around the School.

The development group for the school includes a wide spectrum of respected figures in the publishing world, and is a testament to successful cross-industry collaboration. Members include Michael Moynihan, Managing Director Random House publishers, Mike Johnson, immediate past-Chair of the Auckland Branch of the NZ Society of Authors, Kapka Kassabova, writer, John Cranna, writer and Lecturer at AUT University.

Mayor Bob Harvey of Waitakere City has offered to host the School at the late Maurice Shadbolt's house in Titirangi. This arrangement will honour Shadbolt's literary legacy, provide a quiet and conducive environment in an area with a rich literary history. Shadbolt's house is a particularly attractive location for a school of this nature.

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The School is intended to provide a high level teaching environment for writers who have already attained some skill but who would benefit from a one year intensive masters level course. The School will also provide a Writer in Residence scheme, which would include a one year stipend for a writer to work on an approved project in Shadbolt's House. The institution of the Writer in Residence is a key element in



THE NEW ZEALAND
SOCIETY OF AUTHORS
HE WHAKAHOI KAIHAKA KAIHAKA KAIHAKA

developing a centre of literary excellence around the School.

I am delighted to offer my support for this initiative. It is an excellent new development both for emerging Auckland writers and for the future of New Zealand literature as a whole.

Yours sincerely

Chris Elise
National President
NZ Society of Authors

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Lopdell House Society

The Chief Executive
Waitakere City Council
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23 July 2007

Dear Chief Executive,

I am writing as Chair of the Lopdell House Society to give my support, and the support of the Committee to the plan by AUT University to establish a graduate creative writing centre at Maurice Shadbolt House, Arapito Rd, Titirangi.

We have discussed the plan with the Project Manager employed by AUT and are of the view that the Centre would have immense benefits for the cultural and literary life of Titirangi specifically and Waitakere city more generally.

Currently Lopdell House provides a focus for a wide range of innovative arts activity, and we believe the Centre for Modern Writing has the potential to dovetail with Lopdell House activities, and through jointly organised outreach activities and literary events, to improve further the effectiveness of both institutions.

We understand Waitakere City Council is looking at a partnership with AUT University over this initiative and we would like to warmly support both the vision of Waitakere Councillors in the initial purchase of this site of national importance, and the subsequent move to establish a writing school to nurture the next generation of writers.

Yours sincerely



Dan Greig
Chair, Lopdell House Society

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14 February 2007

To Whom It May Concern

For several years a group of Auckland publishers and writers have been developing a plan to establish a Graduate Creative Writing School in Auckland. The School will be launched in the first semester of 2008, under the auspices of AUT University.

There has been a feeling in Auckland for some time that a graduate writing school is timely: the tremendous growth and success of the Auckland Writers Festival has shown that Auckland has come of age in its support for literature, and there exist significant opportunities for sponsorship of literature in the region.

The consultation group has included Michael Moynihan, Managing Director Random House publishers, Mike Johnson, immediate past-Chair Auckland Society of Authors, Kapka Kassabova, writer, John Cranna, writer and Lecturer at AUT University, and myself, Roger Hall, playwright.

The School is intended to provide advanced tuition to new writers who have already attained some level of proficiency but who would benefit from a one year intensive Masters level course similar in scope and structure to the highly successful Institute in Modern Letters at Victoria University.

The Manhire course began with a writing for the page stream (largely prose) and then developed a screen / stage writing stream subsequent to that. It is intended to follow a similar development path in the Auckland school.

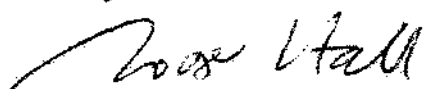
The proposal has attracted significant support from publishers and from professional groups such as the Society of Authors. In addition, Mayor Bob Harvey of Waitakere City has invited the development group and AUT University to establish the School at the late Maurice Shadbolt's house in Titirangi. Location of the School in this house will encourage the development of a school 'esprit' in beautiful natural surroundings, overlooking the Manukau Harbour.

This location will also provide a significant boost for the profile of the school, honour the memory of Maurice Shadbolt in an appropriate way, and provide an incubator environment for future generations of writers.

It is also intended to establish a Writer In Residence at the School. This would be part funded by AUT University.

I urge your support for this initiative, which is a significant step forward for literature in the Auckland region and an exciting new development in the support available to emerging writers.

Sincerely


Roger Hall, QSO, CNZM
Playwright

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Supplementary Submissions for Waitakere City Council for Select Committee on Waste Minimisation Bill.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Waitakere City Council (WCC) has provided separate written submissions on the Waste Minimisation (Solids) Bill (the Bill) including initial written submissions in support of oral submissions made on behalf of WCC, Auckland Regional Council and North Shore City Council before the Select Committee hearing on 26 April 2007 and supplementary submissions in support of container deposit legislation.
- 1.2 This further supplementary submission is made in response to the extended timeline for the Select Committee's consideration of the Bill and as an opportunity to comment on recent proceedings in the Court of Appeal which have raised a possible issue with the Bill in its current proposed form.

2 Regulation of Recyclable Material

- 2.1 Under the current provisions of the Bill, Waste Control Authorities (ostensibly Councils) have powers which include the ability to regulate the collection, transportation and disposal of waste and require waste volumes to be reported. Waste Control Authorities also have the ability to create bylaws. These powers are similar to those under existing local government legislation and are dependent on the regulated material being waste.
- 2.2 An appeal was recently heard by the Court of Appeal brought by Carter Holt Harvey against WCC, North Shore City Council and Rodney District Council where Carter Holt argued that its recyclable material is not waste, does not enter the waste stream because it is collected by way of private contractual arrangements and as such does not fall under the provisions of the local government legislation. (This same argument could be successful under the provisions of the Bill).
- 2.3 Clearly the Bill is intended to encompass **all** recyclable material. For this reason WCC recommend the inclusion of a further provision providing Councils as Waste Control Authorities with the power to regulate the transportation, collection and disposal of **all** recyclable material in the context of providing necessary information on recyclable material. Given the difficulties inherent in providing a comprehensive definition of waste, WCC consider it is better not to define waste but rather provide Councils with

the powers to monitor recyclable material in general. The purpose of such a provision is to enable Councils and other organisations to access information relating to the generation, transportation and disposal of recyclable material. Government and Councils will not be able to properly address waste avoidance and minimisation unless they have knowledge of accurate recyclable material waste generation volumes.

- 2.4 On that basis WCC propose the following wording as a new provision under section 23- Powers in Respect of Waste Minimisation and Management:

“Every Waste Control Authority may require information as to generation , collection, transportation or disposal of recyclable material whether by way of private or public collection”

- 2.5 In the alternative or in addition WCC propose the following new provisions under section 24- Bylaws

“Every Waste Control Authority making bylaws under section 23(1)(b) may do so for any or all of the following purposes:

Recording the source, destination of recyclable material collected and transported;

Recording the quantities and types of recyclable material collected, transported, processed, or disposed of whether by way of public or private contract.”

3 Waste Levy

- 3.1 WCC strongly supports the introduction of a waste levy. WCC also advocate for the splitting of funds received from a waste levy to be apportioned directly to Councils and then subsequently to a national contestable fund which fund would prioritise regional based waste minimisation initiatives.

- 3.2 This approach to waste levies was developed in significant consultation with Local Government New Zealand, the Ministry for the Environment and key members of the waste industry itself. This agreed approach is set out in our previous written submissions and those of fellow Councils, Rodney District Council and North Shore

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City Council. After significant consultation the group agreed on the apportionment of the waste levy and amount of the waste levy as set out in the table below:

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Levy	\$10/tonne	\$20/tonne	\$30/tonne	\$?	\$?
% TLA Component	100%	75%	50%	50%	50%
Contestable Fund %	0%*	25%*	50%	50%	50%
\$ TLA	\$10	\$15	\$15	\$	\$
\$ Fund	\$0*	\$5*	\$15	\$	\$
Indicative total revenue from landfills	\$32 Million	\$64 Million	\$96 Million	?	?

All amounts are GST inclusive.

* any unclaimed or unspent TLA funds to be directed back into the contestable fund.

- 3.3 It is imperative that Councils receive the majority of funds from any waste levy as set out in the table above in order for them to introduce and implement waste minimisation initiatives provided for in their Waste Management Plans. Under the Local Government Acts 1974 and 2002 and the proposed Bill, waste management responsibilities continue to fall heavily on Councils/Waste Control Authorities. In order for Councils to introduce and implement long term waste minimisation initiatives they need to be assured of sufficient long term funding. Many waste minimisation initiatives will require Councils to enter into long term waste management and minimisation contracts with third parties. This will only be possible if they have an assured source of funding as they cannot be expected to re-apply for the national contestable fund each year and run the risk of not receiving funding for that year.
- 3.4 Based on the agreed approach as set out in the table above it is proposed that in the first year, 98% of levy funds be distributed back to Councils to pay for waste minimisation initiatives provided for in their Waste Management Plans particularly in respect of those

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Councils who may not already have fully costed and comprehensive Waste Management Plans as this will enable them funding to produce those plans, costings and introduce some waste minimisation initiatives. The remaining 2% of levy funds would be used for administration costs of the Waste Minimisation Authority. In the second year only 75% of levy funds would be distributed to Councils and the remaining 23% would be available for the national contestable fund. In the third year Councils would receive 50% of levy funds with the remaining funds being allocated to the national contestable fund.

- 3.5 WCC further submit that Councils also have the opportunity to work together with fellow Councils and other organisations to have access to the national contestable fund and in particular that Regional Waste Plan initiatives should receive priority funding from the national contestable fund.

4 Extended Producer Responsibility

- 4.1 WCC strongly supports the concept of extended producer responsibility set out in the Bill.
- 4.2 WCC submit that any new legislation requiring a broader spectrum of packaging to be recycled will impact on local Councils kerbside collection services.
- 4.3 Whilst WCC welcome new legislation WCC ask that consideration be given to the collection and sorting processes that will be required should more packaging types be collected and recycled.
- 4.4 WCC submit that clear labelling be introduced to code recyclables, containers and packaging showing compliance for collection, sorting and processing.
- 4.5 In addition to concentrating solely on packaging, WCC submit that extended producer responsibility be extended to encompass all manufactured products that are not covered by separate licensing . WCC owns and operates one of the largest refuse transfer stations in New Zealand and as a consequence of that role WCC has seen the damage to the environment caused by products that are invariably broken and disposed of because of their inability to be recycled and short life cycle.
- 4.6 The volume of these inferior quality, short life manufactured products is increasing each year. WCC submit that a large proportion of these products are purchased without

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consumer awareness of their inferior quality, inability to be recycled and short life expectancy.

4.7 WCC propose that all products be subject to both a recycling and life expectancy code which would require products to be labelled indicating both the recyclability of the product (under the recycling code) and the expected life cycle of the product (under the life expectancy code) which information would be subject to investigation by various consumer protection agencies.

4.8 WCC submit that the manufacturers, importers or retailers be given the responsibility to assess and label their products accordingly.

4.9 The purpose behind this proposal is to arm consumers with knowledge of recyclability and life expectancy to give them the opportunity to purchase better quality products with a longer life expectancy cycle and therefore to encourage sustainability and to discourage unnecessary disposal. If the consumer is given an indication of recyclability and life expectancy (which may indicate quality) then the consumer is given the opportunity to make a better informed purchase decision. Such a proposal would also enhance the objectives of the Consumer Guarantees Act.

5 Contact

5.1 For further information in relation to this submission please contact Jon Roscoe, Waitakere City Council's solid waste business unit manager - phone 836 8505, 021 379 146.

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