

# 9

## Monitoring



## 9.1 Introduction

Under Section 35 of the Resource Management Act the Otago Regional Council has the responsibility to monitor:

- The state of the regional environment to the extent that is appropriate to enable the Otago Regional Council to effectively carry out its functions (baseline monitoring);
- The suitability and effectiveness of any policy statement or plan for the region (process monitoring); and
- Compliance of resource consents (compliance monitoring).

This monitoring will be undertaken in terms of the framework set out in the Regional Policy Statement for Otago. Section 67(1)(i) of the Resource Management Act also requires the Otago Regional Council to monitor the effectiveness of this Plan in achieving the stated objectives and policies.

These requirements give rise to a number of matters which are appropriate to monitor as part of this Plan. These are set out in the following section.

## 9.2 Monitoring programme for this Plan

In order to meet the objectives and policies of the Regional Policy Statement for Otago and this Plan, it will be necessary to monitor the following factors:

### 9.2.1 Waste minimisation

- 1 The quantity and make-up of refuse being disposed of at landfills within the region. (Policies 4.4.2 - 4.4.4; Method 4.5.3) Generally, consent holders will be required to supply this information to the Otago Regional Council for aggregation and assessment;
- 2 The frequency and type of requests received by the Otago Regional Council for information and technical assistance. (Method 4.5.1);
- 3 The frequency and type of territorial authority, industry and public internal waste audits. (Method 4.5.5);
- 4 Action taken by the Otago Regional Council to promote waste minimisation, including:
  - (a) Publicity, Otago Regional Council publication reports and advertising. (Methods 4.5.4, 4.5.8);

- (b) Education and information dissemination. (Method 4.5.2);
  - (c) Advocacy to central government. (Methods 4.5.6, 4.5.7);
  - (d) Community initiatives. (Method 4.5.10); and
- 5 Degree of consultation with Kai Tahu. (Policy 4.4.1; Method 4.5.9).

### 9.2.2 Contaminated sites

In order to determine the effectiveness of the policies of this Plan relating to site contamination, and to enable an assessment of action taken by the Otago Regional Council, the following matters will be monitored:

- 1 Numbers of contaminated sites located and investigated. (Policies 5.4.2, 5.4.7; Methods 5.5.1, 5.5.2);
- 2 Action taken in response to contamination of sites. (Policies 5.4.3 - 5.4.5; Methods 5.5.1 - 5.5.3 );
- 3 Numbers of applications submitted for contaminated sites, including their outcome. (Method 5.5.5);
- 4 The environmental effects arising from contaminated sites. Generally consent holders will be required to supply this information to the Otago Regional Council for aggregation and assessment;
- 5 Action taken by Otago Regional Council, including:
  - (a) Submissions to territorial authorities on provisions included in district plans. (Method 5.5.4);
  - (b) Involvement with the preparation of codes of practice. (Method 5.5.6);
  - (c) Inclusion of objectives, policies and methods in other regional plans in relation to contaminated sites. (Method 5.5.5);
  - (d) Any enforcement action taken; and
- 6 Degree of consultation with Kai Tahu. (Policy 5.4.1; Method 5.5.8).

### 9.2.3 Hazardous substances and hazardous wastes

- 1 Numbers of applications submitted in relation to hazardous waste discharges including their outcome. (Policy 6.4.11; Methods 6.5.15, 6.5.16, 6.5.18, 6.5.23, 6.5.25);
- 2 Action taken by the Otago Regional Council, including:
  - (a) Publicity, Otago Regional Council publications, reports and advertising. (Policies 6.4.1 - 6.4.8, 6.4.10; Methods 6.5.1 - 6.5.5, 6.5.7, 6.5.12, 6.5.17);
  - (b) Preparation of a hazardous spills response strategy. (Policy 6.4.9; Method 6.5.20);
  - (c) Submissions to territorial authorities on provisions included in district plans. (Policy 6.4.12, Methods 6.5.10, 6.5.17);
  - (d) Advocacy to central government. (Method 6.5.6);
  - (e) Action on registers of storing significant quantities of hazardous substances and contaminated sites. (Method 6.5.13);
  - (f) Any collection of hazardous substances. (Method 6.5.6, 6.5.11);
  - (g) Inclusion of objectives, policies and methods in other regional plans in relation to hazardous substances and hazardous wastes. (Method 6.5.19);
  - (h) The outcome following the preparation of a regional strategy for the storage and disposal of hazardous substances. (Method 6.5.20);
  - (i) Any enforcement action taken and emergency works. (Method 6.5.21);
  - (j) Encouraging action by territorial authorities or industry groups. (Methods 6.5.8, 6.5.9, 6.5.11, 6.5.22); and
- 3 Degree of consultation with Kai Tahu. (Policy 6.4.12; Method 6.5.24).

### 9.2.4 Landfills

- 1 Numbers of applications submitted for landfills, discharges from silage production and composting, including their outcome. (Policies 7.4.3 - 7.4.10; Methods 7.5.5 - 7.5.11);
- 2 Location of any farm landfill or any offal pit on a factory farm. (Policy 7.4.5);
- 3 Location of past community landfills. (Method 7.5.16);

- 4 Results from audit monitoring of landfills, discharges from silage production and composting. (Method 7.5.10);
- 5 Action taken by the Otago Regional Council, including:
  - (a) Publicity, Otago Regional Council publication reports and advertising. (Policy 7.4.8; Method 7.5.12);
  - (b) Investigations and research. (Method 7.5.12);
  - (c) Education and information dissemination. (Method 4.5.2);
  - (d) Advocacy to territorial authorities. (Methods 7.5.2 - 7.5.4);
  - (e) Advocacy to central government. (Methods 4.5.6, 4.5.7);
  - (f) Inclusion of objectives, policies and methods in the Regional Plan: Air for Otago in relation to landfills, composting and silage production discharges. (Method 7.5.15); and
- 6 Degree of consultation with Kai Tahu. (Policy 7.4.1; Method 7.5.1); and
- 7 Enforcement and other offences. (Policy 7.4.2; Method 7.5.14).

### 9.2.5 Other monitoring

In addition to the above the Otago Regional Council will need to also monitor changes in:

- (a) **Technology**  
As new technology becomes available, particularly with regard to new methods of disposing of waste, the Otago Regional Council will need to consider these to determine whether they are methods that should be promoted within Otago.
- (b) **Knowledge**  
While the understanding of waste practices, for example the depositing of hazardous waste into the ground, has been extended considerably in the past twenty years, it would be unwise to assume that there is full understanding of the environmental effects of all aspects of waste management. The Otago Regional Council, will need to assess new information that becomes available in order to determine whether changes are required to waste management practices within the region or to this Plan.

(c) **Legislation**

Changes to legislation, such as that relating to hazardous substances and new organisms, may have a considerable impact upon:

- (i) the roles and responsibilities of the statutory agencies involved in waste management; and
- (ii) the manner in which waste management is administered, with the possibility of new recording and monitoring systems being put in place.

Other legislative amendments may also necessitate changes to this Plan, and for that reason they will need to be monitored closely.

### **9.3 Biennial waste monitoring report**

Each second year, in preparing its Annual Report, the Otago Regional Council will consider a Biennial Waste Monitoring Report, setting out the matters referred to in Section 9.2 of this Plan, together with an assessment of any action that may be warranted.

The Biennial Waste Monitoring Report will be prepared in consultation with Kai Tahu.

A copy of the Biennial Waste Monitoring Report will be made available to the public.