

Transitional Plan Update #12 – Organics Processing Plant

1 November 2021 – 14 November 2021

Actions in this plan cover a transitional period until proposed upgrades can be completed at the Christchurch City Council composting facility located in Metro Place, Bromley. Please find below an update on each of the key objectives outlined in the Transitional Plan.

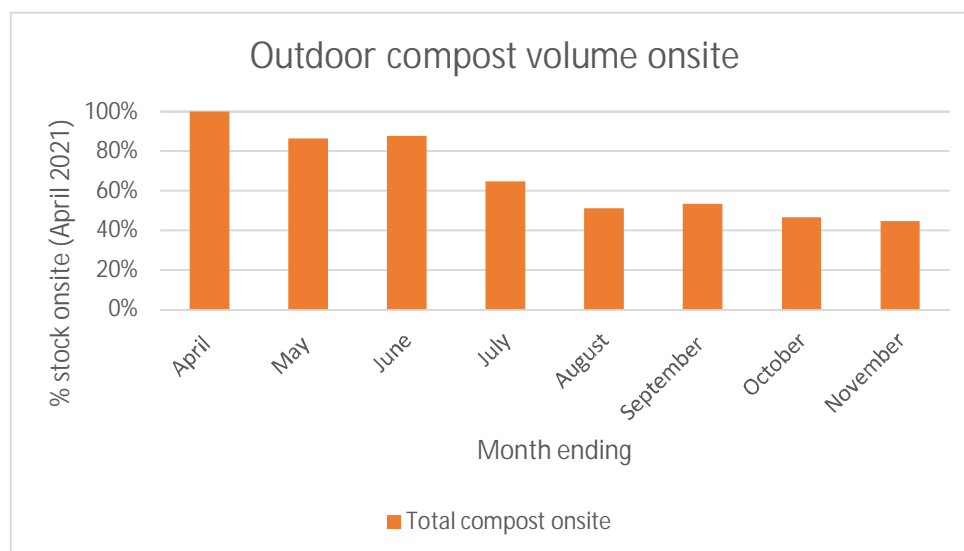
1. Stop receiving pre-consumer food organics.

Pre-consumer food organics have not been accepted at the Organics Processing Plant since 23 December 2020.

Date	Tonnes of pre-consumer food waste received
12/07/21 – 25/07/21	0
26/07/21 – 08/08/21	0
09/08/21 – 22/08/21	0
23/08/21 – 05/09/21	0
06/09/21 – 19/09/21	0
20/09/21 – 17/09/21	0
18/09/21 – 31/10/21	0
01/11/21 – 14/11/21	0

2. Minimise the onsite storage of finished compost by prioritising the screening and removal of finished product from the site.

Living Earth is currently removing the majority of stockpiled material from the site. As of 14 November 2021, the total material onsite had reduced by 55%, shown in the graph below. The next phase of the process will entail removing all outside processing of material.



Outdoor compost volume onsite

**Figures up to 31 October.*

3. Install a time-lapse camera so that residents can see the reduction in outdoor storage

The camera has been regularly recording time-lapse data which is regularly updated on the website. See below the image from 18 May 2021 compared to 31 October 2021.

Before:



Now:



The existing compost onsite is currently being shifted from the boundary edges towards the front of the maturation pad (near the camera to the front of the concrete) for quicker access for removal. There are times it will appear there is more on the concrete pad from previous photos, but it is the consolidation of the compost from the edges being pushed to the middle of the site. This allows for the permanent removal of the compost more efficiently and quickly to meet the deadline of the end of January for the abatement notice.

1. Maintain effective treatment of processing air, including maintenance of bio filter.

The biofilter is working well since work was completed in May and the improved backpressure and airflow rates have been sustained. Temperature and back pressure is being monitored. New cover for the screening shed is in place to reduce odours from the screening process.

2. Investigate additional buffering, including boundary plantings, along the southern site boundary.

Additional plantings are planned around the boundary of the composting facility to provide an additional natural buffer around the site. This includes plantings on land to the south of the facility that is currently leased so agreement from the lease-holder will be obtained.

The Parks Team has provided a list of appropriate species for the area and we are now developing a broad plan for planting at the organics plant and neighbouring transfer station.

3. Maximise stability of compost onsite.

Living Earth initiated a trial of a probiotic additive to the compost. The trial was to establish if this additive will accelerate the composting process. The trial was successful and we are looking at using the probiotic as a permanent part of the process going forward.

4. Address community concerns and keep the community informed via regular community meetings and an information newsletter.

Communication with the community happens regularly via newsletters, fortnightly website updates, and community meetings. The regular community meeting was held on 16 November 2021. There were two elected members and six community members in attendance. Helen Beaumont presented on the recent Waste Water Treatment Plant fire and the subsequent actions taken. The New LE Plant Manager Jaco Kleinhans presented the LE report and provided information on the Transition Plan to address the abatement notice. The group have decided to continue with the wider Bromley odour liaison group and not the OPP consent focused CLG. Work is in place to secure a new facilitator going forward.

5. Organics plant upgrade project update

After the Council meeting on 9 September 2021, officers have commissioned a feasibility study to investigate building a new facility at another location. This is currently underway and will be reported back to Council in March next year. This will include upgrading the existing site as an option if no other site is viable.

6. Other odour issues

The fire at the Wastewater Treatment Plant on Tuesday 2 November 2021 has been extinguished. This fire has contributed to odour issues in the community, but these odours will continue to reduce over the coming weeks. A recovery plan is currently under development. This is a separate project from the Organics Plant and is being managed by our Three Waters unit. Read the latest information at <https://newsline.ccc.govt.nz/news/story/wastewater-treatment-plant-fire-extinguished>

18 November 2021