

## Why are we looking at options for redeveloping the compost facility?

Odour in the Bromley area has been an ongoing issue for many years. In March 2020 Environment Canterbury carried out a community-led pilot study to examine the sources of odour in the area. Environment Canterbury assessed that about 70 per cent of odour found in the Bromley area originated from the Organics Processing Plant or the Metro Place Transfer Station.

Over the last six months we've been working with our contractors on operational changes to reduce odour at the two facilities. This has proven successful at the transfer station, with Environment Canterbury confirming the changes have resulted in a significant odour reduction. At the composting facility we have focused on amending the compost 'recipe'. Analysis reveals the new recipe has shown signs of having less offensive odour than the previous blend.

We're committed to being a good neighbour, ensuring odour levels are well below the 'offensive and objectionable' threshold whilst continuing to carry out the vital city-wide service of organic waste collection and processing.

## What are you proposing to do at the compost facility?

We are recommending that the Council upgrade the composting tunnel technology to current industry-leading standards. Composting technology has progressed significantly since the facility was built a decade ago and there are a number of improvements that can be made. These include:

- Replacing the fans and aeration system to increase airflow
- Upgrading the floor with a new design to ensure better and more consistent airflow
- Installing new doors to create a better seal
- Improving the biofilter
- Purchasing a new, and more efficient, shredder
- Updating the irrigation, monitoring and central control systems

These upgrades will allow for the majority of the composting process to happen inside within the sealed tunnels. We have confidence this will reduce any potential odour to a level well below the threshold of 'offensive and objectionable'.

## How long will the changes take to make?

When carrying out any upgrade with significant costs, we need to ensure due diligence during the procurement process. This means we need to consider all factors when deciding who will be the best organisation/s to carry out the upgrade.

If elected members decide to support the upgrade at their Council meeting on Wednesday 9 December, this process will begin immediately but may take a number of months.

Once the formal tender process is completed we anticipate the construction time will be about five months. We'll be working with Living Earth to continue to implement operational changes throughout this process to minimise odour at the facility.

## How much is this going to cost?

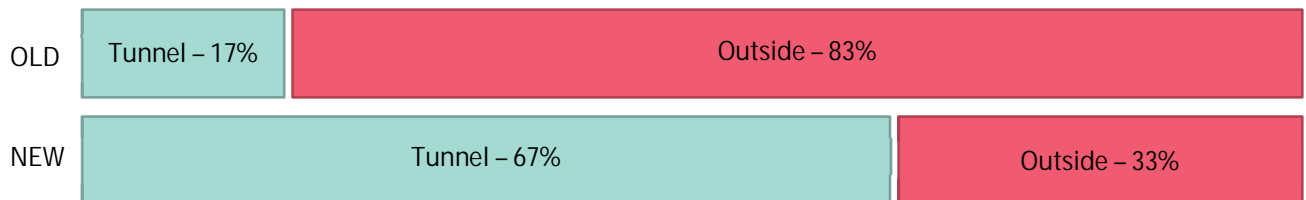
It is estimated the tunnel upgrades will cost \$17.5 million.

The money is accounted for in the Long Term Plan.

## How will these changes impact odour?

The upgrades will mean the facility is industry leading and helps create better quality compost. This impacts odour in three ways:

1. Reduces the proportion of the process that happens in open windrows from over 80 per cent to nearly 30 per cent.



2. Reduces the area required for outside processing by 90 per cent, moving from 30,000m<sup>2</sup> to 2000 m<sup>2</sup>.



3. The compost that does go outside will be significantly more mature.

