

Contact Energy Waste Management Programme

Contact is committed to improving how waste and materials are managed across our generation operations, construction projects and asset lifecycles. This Waste Management Programme establishes a framework to improve waste performance, increase resource recovery, and support the transition towards more circular resource use across the business.

Scope

Over the coming years, alongside our existing waste reduction initiatives, we're rolling out our Waste Management Programme across our operational sites, construction projects and offices. Implementation is prioritised using a materiality-based approach, initially focusing on locations and waste streams with the greatest opportunity for impact. Our approach is guided by the waste hierarchy, prioritising waste prevention and reduction before opportunities to reuse, recycle and recover remaining materials.

The programme is reviewed on an annual basis, using evidence from site audits, waste reporting and operational experience to ensure it remains effective and reflects changes in our operations, projects and waste profile.

Waste Management Programme

Our Waste Management Programme provides a framework for improving how waste and materials are managed across our operations and projects. It focuses on strengthening governance, improving waste data and reporting, supporting operational and project decision-making, and increasing resource recovery and diversion from landfill. Together, these foundations help identify opportunities to reduce waste, improve material efficiency, and keep resources in use for longer.



Impacts and opportunities

Our generation operations, construction, offices, and our value chain, produce different types of waste, such as general office waste, scrap metal, plastic, wood and cardboard packaging, waste oil, solvents and green waste.

We recognise that waste can have impacts on people, the economy, and the environment. These may include greenhouse gas emissions from disposal, loss of valuable materials, unnecessary use of natural resources, land and water contamination risks, and financial costs associated with waste disposal.

At the same time, improving how we manage materials and waste creates opportunities to recover more resources, improve operational efficiency and supply chain resilience, reduce material costs, support local employment through resource recovery activities, and contribute to circular economy outcomes.

Education and Training

During the development of our Waste Management Programme, we engaged employees involved across our operations through site assessments and workshops to better understand current practices and opportunities for improvement. This included introducing the waste hierarchy and exploring practical waste reduction actions across our operations and projects. As part of the programme, we'll continue to build capability through training, guidance and awareness initiatives that support better waste management outcomes across Contact.

Innovation to minimise waste

Contact works in collaboration with specialist partners to investigate new recovery pathways for unique waste streams associated with our assets.

During the Roxburgh transformer decommissioning project, Contact collaborated with Phoenix Recycling on a trial to recover porcelain transformer bushings. This was the first time this component had been recycled in New Zealand. The project achieved an overall 99.75% recycling rate across five transformers at end of life and provided insights into alternative end-of-life pathways for complex operational assets.

Actions to reduce our waste

As we roll out our waste management programme, we're building on a strong baseline of waste reduction initiatives across our sites. Examples of initiatives currently used across selected Contact offices, projects and operational sites include:

Development projects:

- Avoiding unnecessary waste through smarter supply ordering and delivery practices.
- Reusing or returning wooden delivery pallets where possible.
- Considering waste and material efficiency opportunities during relevant procurement and project planning.

Operational sites:

- Reusing waste textiles as cleaning and maintenance rags to reduce the use of single-use products.
- Repairing personal protective equipment where appropriate to extend its useful life, partnering with workwear recycled to find a new use for PPE at end of life.
- Filtering and reusing oils where operationally appropriate.
- Recycling transformer oil, batteries, scrap metals and other suitable operational materials through specialist recovery pathways.

Offices:

- Milk delivery in reusable glass bottles and kegs at our key operational site offices, saving 500 plastic milk bottles a year at our Clyde site alone.
- Trialling improved waste and recycling systems at our Wellington office and Levin contact centre to support waste diversion and behaviour change.
- Providing opportunities for staff to repurpose green waste and coffee grounds, with some sites operating on-site composting facilities.

As our understanding of waste across the business improves, we will continue to identify opportunities to reduce waste generation, strengthen resource recovery and support more efficient use of materials across the lifecycle of our assets.