



*caring about you & your environment*

**Report 02.437**

10 July 2002

File: ENV/15/2/3

Env Comm Report 02.437.FP.IY.sw

Report to Environment Committee  
From Councillor Irvine Yardley

## **Update on Wellington Regional Environment Agency**

### **1. Purpose**

To inform the Committee about the WREA meeting held on 10 May 2002 at the KCDC office.

### **2. Discussion**

This report provides a summary of the issues discussed at this meeting.

As you will recall from the last Committee Report recycling of used tyres was discussed. This issue was raised again and discussed at length. The disposal of used tyres to landfill is an ongoing problem throughout New Zealand. A few Councils have chosen to ban whole tyres going to landfill.

Statistics reported back through the committee from MFE show that 1 tyre per year per person is generated. Using these figures we have approximately 3.85 million tyres generated per year of which only 1 million is currently being recycled.

Phillip Hancock reported back that there are two organisations involved in tyre recycling in New Zealand. It was agreed that discussions with our local tyre company in Upper Hutt, South Pacific Tyres, should continue with an aim to establishing a tyre recycling plant for the Wellington Region.

It was discussed whether WREA should promote the banning of tyres to landfill in the Wellington region. While it is recognised that this is a major problem it was decided that such a course of action shouldn't be followed without being able to provide alternative solutions. MFE are currently investigating the disposal of tyres as part of "special waste" identified in the Waste Strategy.

Also discussed at the meeting was the continuation of Enviromart. A request was made to invite Council staff to be more involved. Everyone agreed that Enviromart

was valuable recycling resource and a commitment made for a staff member from each Council to be involved.

A statement of the WREA financial accounts was accepted by the Committee.

3. **Recommendations**

*It is recommended that the Committee:*

(1) *receives the report; and*

(2) *notes the contents.*

Report prepared by:

Cr IRVINE YARDLEY  
Deputy Chair, Environment Committee