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WASTEMINZ  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE +  
EXPO

9—12  
JUNE  
2025

TE PAE  
CHRISTCHURCH  
CONVENTION  
CENTRE

PRELIMINARY  
PROGRAMME

## OUR SPONSORS

PLATINUM PARTNER



SILVER + CONTAMINATED LAND  
MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

SILVER



BRONZE + LANYARD



BRONZE



CONFERENCE APP

LOUNGE

RECYCLING STATION

AWARDS FOR  
EXCELLENCE



NETWORKING EVENT

SESSION

OPENING KEYNOTE

WINE FOR  
SPEAKER GIFTS



MC



## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



### Dr Jackie Wright

Jackie Wright is the Director/Principal of Environmental Risk Sciences Pty Ltd. She has more than 30 years' experience in human health and environmental risk assessment in Australia. Experience includes the conduct of numerous risk assessments of varying complexity, leading and developing a national risk practice group for a major consultancy, providing professional training and direction, developing technical standards and guidance, developing appropriate risk models as well as providing peer-review and expert evidence.

Jackie's expertise includes the following: human health and ecological risk assessment; health impact assessment; toxicological review and assessment; assessment of fate and transport of chemicals; vapour intrusion and vapour mitigation; indoor air quality and air dispersion modelling; public health exposures and risks related to clandestine drug manufacture and use; occupational exposures; chemicals management; risk communication; promotion/education of science and risk based approaches; chemicals management; peer-review; audit support; expert evidence; technical writing and editing.

Jackie has been heavily involved in the development of national guidance and investigation levels as presented in the National Environment Protection Measure (NEPM) for Site Contamination (2013), CRC CARE Technical Guidance on Petroleum Vapour Intrusion and Silica-Gel Cleanup, Australian Crime Commission Assessment and Remediation of Clandestine Drug Laboratories (2011) and Australian Voluntary Code of Practice, Assessment, Remediation and Validation: Former clandestine drug laboratories and other methamphetamine contaminated properties.

#### MONDAY 9 JUNE

##### **Making risk assessment work for you**

While not many sites in New Zealand involve the conduct of detailed assessments of risks to human health and the environment, many do not realise that the standards and other tier 1 guidelines used in site assessment, are based on a risk assessment. We use standards and guidelines in many ways often without realising that these are risk based, and as a result they come with underlying assumptions. It is important to understand what sits behind these numbers so they can be properly applied so that human and environmental health is protected.

But what happens when a more detailed assessment of risk is required? There are a range of tools that can be used to address risks to human health and the environment to refine a tier 1 assessment. These tools are commonly used internationally and focus assessments on key chemicals, media and exposure pathways. This approach can provide for savings on remediation costs and efficient use of resources. However, such approaches require good communication with clients and regulators to ensure a good outcome.

Dr Jackie Wright's talk will take you through the key aspects of setting standards and guidelines, how to ensure that you select the right guidelines for a site, what risk assessment tools are available to refine assessments and how these can be implemented to protect health and the environment in a cost-efficient manner.



## Lisa O'Neill

Having worked in multiple industries, Lisa is obsessed with helping people to be better - better leaders, better employees and better entrepreneurs. She understands the tricky balance of being all things to all people running several businesses and being a mother of four children. Lisa is guaranteed to leave you inspired, energised and ready to change the way you think about life. Passionate about inspiring action and helping people get out of their own way, Lisa has the unique ability to deliver heavy messages in a light and relatable way. After more than a decade on stage, Lisa is consistently top-rated in conference evaluations. Participants love her straight-talking, refreshing wisdom and infectious laughter. She's written seven books, with her latest focussed on energy, bringing awareness to the importance of getting, guarding and giving energy.

### TUESDAY 10 JUNE

#### Being BOLD!

Being bold is the result of believing in yourself, owning your energy, living on purpose and deciding what you want to do, be and have in your world.

Lisa has been living large for over 25 years! Specialising in energy mastery and business transformation, Lisa teaches people to take responsibility for their energy and step into their potential. Through vivid storytelling and humorous insights, Lisa demonstrates how to blend authenticity and achievement. Integrating our needs as humans with the demands of work. Learn how to know your worth and have confidence in your abilities. To understand what we can and cannot control. To be bold and make a difference.



## Hon. Penny Simmonds, CNZM

Penny Simmonds is the Member of Parliament for Invercargill, elected in 2020. At the 2023 General Election, Penny retained the seat of Invercargill. She is the Minister for the Environment, Vocational Education as well as the Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment. Penny is a member of the Cabinet Economic Policy Committee and the Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee.

Prior to her election to MP, Penny was Chief Executive of Southern Institute of Technology (SIT) from 1997–2020. Penny was an Advisory Board Member of Venture Southland, and has been involved in the Southland Regional Development Strategy since its inception and was on the Shareholders Advisory Board of the newly formed Economic Development Agency for Southland. She was a Trustee of Community Trust South from 2012 to 2019, and Chair from 2018 to 2019, and Director of Southern Lakes English College. She was Chair of Hockey Southland for 10 years finishing that role in 2017 when she also completed two years as President of New Zealand Hockey. Penny is also a former Director of the Southland Museum and Art Gallery and former Board Member of the Southland District Health Board and Southland disAbilities Services. Penny was a recipient of the Woolf Fisher Fellowship in 2000.

Penny was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2016 New Years' Honours list.

Penny is married with three adult daughters and five grandchildren.

### TUESDAY 10 JUNE

#### Keynote Hon. Penny Simmonds Minister for the Environment





## Professor Brett Robinson

Professor Brett Robinson — School of Physical & Chemical Sciences, University of Canterbury — seeks to create economic and environmental value from biowastes by ensuring that biowastes and the nutrients they contain improve our soils rather than degrade our waters. While the programme is based on Environmental Chemistry, it requires significant contributions from ecologists, ecotoxicologists, microbiologists, experts in land management, social scientists and Māori knowledge.

Confidence in New Zealand's food products and the marketing of NZ as “100% pure” rely on our land-based industries combining a high level of production while minimising the entry of contaminants into foods or local environments. Biowastes (wastes of biological origin) are arguably the most important contributor to the degradation of New Zealand's economy and environment when they enter waterways, contaminate high-value land, or require costly disposal. Biowastes in the form of nutrient-rich animal and human wastes currently contaminate rivers, lakes, and harbours. Most of New Zealand's biosolids go to landfills — at great expense.

### TUESDAY 10 JUNE

#### The beneficial reuse of biowastes to improve contaminated soils

The strategic reuse of biowastes offers a transformative solution for rehabilitating contaminated and degraded soils while reducing the negative environmental effects associated with biowaste disposal. Potentially, much of New Zealand's biowastes, derived from municipal and agricultural sources, could be used to not only increase the fertility of degraded soils, but also immobilise inorganic contaminants and, in some cases, accelerate the degradation of organic contaminants.

Biowaste-amended soils could be returned to agricultural use or used to support valuable NZ-native vegetation. Biowaste-derived soil conditioners such as composts and biochar, improve the physicochemical properties by increasing water-holding capacity, reducing surface crusting, and promoting nutrient cycling in contaminated soils that are often low in organic matter. Blending high-carbon biowastes (e.g., wood waste) with nutrient-rich materials moderates nutrient release, minimising weed competition while supporting native plant establishment.

Many NZ-native species such as mānuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*) and kānuka (*Kunzea robusta*) thrive in biowaste-amended soils, promoting the die-off of pathogens. Critical to success is balancing nutrient availability with contaminant risks. Some biowastes may introduce heavy metals or organic contaminants, but these may be less important in heavily-contaminated soil or mine spoil. Economic and environmental co-benefits are significant. Diverting biowastes from landfill could significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions while offsetting imported phosphate fertilisers and enhancing soil carbon stocks. By aligning biowaste reuse with circular economy principles, this approach offers a scalable model for global soil remediation, combining ecological restoration with climate resilience.



## Dr Lucy Hone

Dr Lucy Hone is a world-leading authority on resilience, blending academic expertise with personal experience. As director of the New Zealand Institute of Wellbeing & Resilience and a Psychology Today blogger, she has helped thousands globally develop practical resilience strategies. Her TED Talk, Three Secrets of Resilient People, has been viewed over nine million times.

Lucy's expertise is grounded in research—she holds a master's degree in resilience psychology from the University of Pennsylvania and a PhD in wellbeing science from AUT University. Her work is widely published in peer-reviewed journals and cited internationally. As a self-described "pracademic," she bridges the gap between research and real-world application, making resilience science accessible and actionable.

Her bestselling book, Resilient Grieving, offers a powerful framework for navigating loss, shaped by personal tragedy. She also co-authored The Educator's Guide to Whole-School Wellbeing, supporting schools in fostering resilience. Featured in The Guardian, The Washington Post, and the BBC, Lucy is committed to helping individuals and organisations overcome adversity and embrace fulfilling lives, proving that resilience is not just possible—it's teachable.

### WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE

#### Thriving through uncertainty and change: lessons from science and life

How can we navigate ongoing stress and disruption, and continue to perform at our best while still looking after ourselves and each other? This is the question that's driven Dr Lucy's work in resilience psychology for well over a decade. Given we hear so much about 'burnout' and 'resilience' Dr Lucy is joining us to unpack these words and leave us with some practical, no-cost tips you can use immediately to benefit both your own and your teams' wellbeing and resilience.

A best-selling author, globally respected thought leader, and blogger for Psychology Today, Dr Lucy offers a one-of-kind perspective on what it takes to navigate change. Part inspirational speaker, part 'pracademic', Dr Lucy is known as a beautiful story teller and for her real-world application of science.



## Holly Bennett

Holly (Te Arawa, Ngāti Whakaue, Ngāti Pikiao) is the managing director of lobbying firm Awhi, and founder of government relations training organisation Engage. She is driven by a keen desire to ensure the government relations industry is accessible to all. Holly was named Young Business Person of the Year at the Newmarket Business Awards in 2022, while Awhi won the People and Capability Category at the MWDI Māori Business Women Awards. In 2023 Holly was named in the University of Auckland's 40 Under 40 list. She is a lawyer by trade, and a former columnist for National Business Review and Newsroom.

### WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE

#### **Lobbying: Evil, or just misunderstood?**

For too long lobbying has been viewed as a practice that takes place in the shadows of Parliamentary corridors between “mates” and “comrades”, with dramatised representations of lobbying across film and television doing little to help.

But lobbying is an important tool for everyone's engagement toolkit and when done well, it can be the difference between your proposals getting a lukewarm “maybe” and an enthusiastic “hell yeah!”

So how much do you really know about the industry in New Zealand? Are you missing out on unseen opportunities? Could lobbying transform the way in which your own organisation undertakes its engagement? Holly Bennett will unpack these questions and more, as she breaks down the good, better and best practice of one of the most underrated—and under-utilised—engagement tools in Aotearoa.

An outspoken advocate for improved transparency in the government relations industry, in this keynote Holly will also explain how she has adopted a bold approach to lobby for improved accountability in the sector. Plus walk away with practical advice for the waste, resource recovery and contaminated land sectors, as she takes a look at Budget 2025 live from the conference with you.



## Jon Duffy

Jon has made a career of fighting for consumers. He has a deep interest in sustainability and the environmental impacts of consumption, data ethics and promoting equity. Jon was previously the Assistant Privacy Commissioner, Head of Trust & Safety at Trade Me and worked as a Senior Investigator at the Commerce Commission.

### WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE

#### **Advocacy in the NGO space: Representing the public interest in an unequal system**

Public interest groups often lack the financial backing or access to decision-makers as industry lobby groups. This makes advocacy work pretty tough at times. Even when access to decision makers is available, the resources available to analyse issues and prepare a compelling case are regularly stretched.

Concerningly, this means people are often left without a voice. Or that voice struggles to be heard on the same terms as corporate interests.

In this keynote, Jon will reflect on five years as CEO of Consumer NZ, his experiences working with different governments on major issues and discuss the power imbalance many organisations in New Zealand face when advocating on behalf of citizens.

Using insights from Consumer's research and investigations in the greenwashing, energy and right to repair space, Jon will share how the Consumer team has used those findings to advocate for change and a fairer society for all New Zealanders.



## Dr Jess Berentson-Shaw

Jess is a public narrative researcher and advisor. She gained her PhD in Health Psychology from Victoria University in 2003. In roles across government and the not-for-profit sectors she has focused on placing best knowledge and equity at the heart of decision-making. Since 2017 Jess has been researching and implementing narrative strategies that engage, deepen people's thinking, and improve decision-making with regard to our big social and environmental challenges. Jess is author of *A Matter of Fact. Talking Truth in a Post-truth World* (2018). A BWB text. As well as being the co-founder of The Workshop, Jess is the Director of Narrative and Strategy.

### THURSDAY 12 JUNE

#### **Effective Science Communication**

Our sectors are full of great data, reports, insights, and experiences, but are we communicating this information in the best way to inform and influence our audiences? Join Dr Jess Berentson-Shaw from The Workshop for an interactive session to learn how to:

- Frame your communication to get your audience to see the issues as relevant to them
- Influence government policy through communities – get constituents to advocate on your behalf
- Collaborate and be strategic with who you work with
- Discover ways that your current communication may be undermining your objectives.

This session is designed to be practical and engaging, and you will come away with tools that you can apply to your work, regardless of your role or subject area.



**MC**



## Nicola Turner

Nicola Turner is a speaker, best-selling author and the driving force behind Mainstream Green. After 15 years in the global consumer goods industry—where she learnt far too much about how we all behave in the supermarket—she shifted gears. Now, she's on a mission to rethink consumption and make sustainability easy, normal, and feel good.

Drawing on her deep understanding of human behaviour and real-world sustainability experience, Nic empowers individuals, organisations, and communities to embrace sustainability in a way that works for them. In practical and doable ways, she inspires action that creates meaningful change.

## PANEL DISCUSSIONS

**TUESDAY 10 JUNE  
11.00-12.30**

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### **AI in waste – Just because we can, should we?**

Much is made from AI and its place in the future of the workplace in Aotearoa. But even though AI solutions exist, they cannot operate in a vacuum and other solutions may still deliver better outcomes. The panel will discuss how AI can be used in the waste industry to improve outcomes, what organisations should be aware of as they move into the AI space – especially in regards to privacy, policy, and ethical considerations, how to take staff and leadership on the journey to upskill on the use of AI, and the pitfalls that everyone needs to be aware of.

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**TUESDAY 10 JUNE  
11.00-12.30**

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### **Biosolids**

Come and join us for a panel session that delves into the multifaceted world of biosolids – the nutrient-rich organic materials produced through wastewater treatment processes. As society increasingly focuses on sustainability, biosolids are gaining attention for their potential to be repurposed in agriculture, energy production, and land reclamation. The panel will feature leading experts from environmental science, wastewater management, and policy-making, who will share their perspectives on the current state of biosolid management, the benefits of recycling biosolids, and the challenges faced in their safe and efficient use.

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**TUESDAY 10 JUNE  
13.30-15.00**

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### **CRS - The ultimate goal or a step on the road to a circular packaging approach?**

With recent government announcements that the review of the Waste Minimisation Act will enable the delivery of a Container Return Scheme (CRS) in New Zealand, CRS is back on the hot topics list. With everyone in agreement that we want to improve packaging recovery and recycling rates and reduce leakage to the environment, is CRS the magic answer? Discussions on why we should have a CRS in New Zealand and how it should be implemented, have been ongoing for years, but should we be thinking about CRS in isolation, or rather considering whether it will help or hinder moving New Zealand to a more circular economy for packaging? Our panellists will discuss how a CRS can change public attitudes from a ratepayer to user pays model for lifecycle management, whether it will support a move up the waste hierarchy by enabling better reuse options, and any unintended consequences that could occur from implementing a CRS.

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**TUESDAY 10 JUNE  
15.30-16.30**

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### **Political panel**

**WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE  
11.00-12.30**

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### **Is waste infrastructure at a crossroads? Funding, ownership and what it means to plan for the future**

New Zealand's waste infrastructure deficit has been estimated at between \$2–3 billion, but what does this mean? What are the real gaps, how should they be filled, and what outcomes are we trying to achieve—and for whom? With waste infrastructure owned and operated by a mix of local councils, private companies, and community enterprises, investment decisions sometimes seem fragmented, and long-term planning remains elusive. Without a national vision or clear regulatory direction, is the sector being driven by short-term fixes rather than strategic solutions? How do we ensure waste infrastructure is fit for purpose, future-ready, and aligned with our broader environmental and economic goals?

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**WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE  
15.30-16.30**

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### **Engagement with mana whenua**

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WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE  
**15.30-16.30**

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#### **Delivering on client expectations - panel discussion**

During this panel discussion, industry experts will address the common challenges faced by both clients and consultants when ensuring that reports align with the defined drivers, problem statements, and objectives. Often, misalignment arises from an unclear scope, communication challenges, and differing interpretations, all resulting in reports that are complex, unclear, or fail to effectively link solutions to the identified problem. Panellists will share insights and real-world examples, exploring how to improve scope definition, enhance collaboration at each project phase, and ensure that findings are communicated clearly and cohesively.

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THURSDAY 12 JUNE  
**11.00-12.30**

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#### **The economic value of our sectors**

Earlier this year WasteMINZ commissioned NZIER to identify the impact our sectors have on the New Zealand economy. This work will be completed in late May and presented by NZIER at the conference, in the same session as this panel. Panellists will discuss the key results and insights in this panel.

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## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE  
**15.30-16.30**

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#### **Collaborative session - Setting up the waste and resource recovery industry for a bold future**

The current government is focussed on implementing new rules and regulations for the development and implementation of infrastructure with a clear message for industry to “get on with it”. During this interactive session we will discuss what we as a sector want to see in the regulations, what the blockers are for our industry, and develop some actions for us to “get on with it”. The discussion tables will cover the following topics:

- Review of the Technical Guidelines for Disposal to Land
  - Review of the Waste Minimisation Act and Litter Act
  - Planning Act – what do we want to see as a sector in the 30-year Infrastructure Plan
  - Managing emissions from waste
- 

## **WORKSHOP**

THURSDAY 12 JUNE  
**9.00-10.30**

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#### **Effective science communication with The Workshop**

Our sectors are full of great data, reports, insights, and experiences, but are we communicating this information in the best way to inform and influence our audiences? Join Dr Jess Berentson-Shaw from The Workshop for an interactive session to learn how to:

- frame your communication to get your audience to see the issues as relevant to them
- influence government policy through communities – get constituents to advocate on your behalf
- collaborate and be strategic with who you work with
- discover ways that your current communication may be undermining your objectives.

This session is designed to be practical and engaging, and you will come away with tools that you can apply to your work, regardless of your role or subject area.

Please note – to make this session interactive, **places will be limited to 72 participants**. A registration process will be confirmed shortly, and there is no additional charge for this session.

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## CLM WORKSHOP - BALANCING RISKS AND VALUES: PRAGMATIC APPROACHES TO CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 9.30-10.00  | <b>REGISTRATION &amp; COFFEE</b>  |
|             | DOBSON 4  |
| 10.00-10.15 | <b>Stephen Thomson WSP</b><br><b>Welcome and setting the scene</b>  |
| 10.15-10.45 | <b>KEYNOTE Jackie Wright Environmental Risk Sciences Pty</b><br><b>Making risk assessment work for you</b>  |
| 10.45-11.10 | <b>Stephen Thomson WSP</b><br><b>Tier 1 numbers and how they are generated</b>  |
| 11.10-11.35 | <b>Andrew Rumsby EHS Support</b><br><b>Chronic risk versus acute risk and how risk changes risk assessment</b>  |
| 11.35-12.00 | <b>Andrew Hart WSP</b><br><b>What do results/exceedances mean and what do they represent. How this feeds into the CSM</b>   |
| 12.00-12.45 | <b>LUNCH</b>  |
| 12.45-13.10 | <b>Dave Bull HAIL Environmental</b><br><b>Bioavailability and how that feeds into risk assessment</b>   |
| 13.10-13.35 | <b>Anna Lukey SLR Consulting</b><br><b>Data quality and risk assessment</b>   |
| 13.35-14.00 | <b>Jo Cavanagh Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research</b><br><b>What are we really protecting in our current management of contaminated land?</b>   |
| 14.00-14.45 | <b>Panel discussion on the role of risk assessment</b><br>Introduction by <b>Michelle Begbie Waikato Regional Council</b><br>Panellists: <b>Jackie Wright Environmental Risk Sciences Pty, Stephen Thomson WSP, Andrew Rumsby EHS Support, Andrew Hart WSP, Dave Bull HAIL Environmental, Anna Lukey SLR Consulting, Jo Cavanagh Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research</b><br>Facilitator: <b>Michelle Begbie Waikato Regional Council</b> |
| 14.45-15.15 | <b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>  |
| 15.15-15.45 | <b>Jackie Wright Environmental Risk Sciences Pty</b><br><b>Risk assessment from an overseas perspective</b>   |
| 15.45-17.00 | <b>From theory to practice: Workshop on risk assessment scenarios</b>   |
| from 17.30  | <b>NETWORKING DRINKS   OFF SITE</b>   |

# DAY 1 MONDAY 9 JUNE

## TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES' OFFICERS FORUM

Exclusively for WasteMINZ Territorial Authorities' Officers Forum members

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 9.30-10.00  | <b>REGISTRATION &amp; COFFEE</b><br>DOBSON 1  |
| 10.00-10.05 | <b>Morgan Harrison</b> <i>Chair TAO Forum</i><br><b>Karakia tīmatanga &amp; welcome</b>   |
| 10.05-10.50 | <b>Icebreaker</b>   |
| 10.50-11.10 | <b>Morgan Harrison</b> <i>Chair TAO Forum</i><br><b>Update from TAO Forum Steering Committee</b>  |
| 11.10-12.00 | <b>Table discussion of common challenges TAs are facing and how they are dealing with these</b><br>(the programme will be updated with these common challenges shortly)<br>Facilitator: <b>Morgan Harrison</b> <i>Chair TAO Forum</i>   |
| 12.00-12.45 | <b>LUNCH</b>  |
| 12.45-13.40 | <b>Regional case studies</b><br>1. The community-based social enterprise that could – wrangling construction and demolition waste recovery in Kāpiti <b>Robbie Stillwell</b> <i>Kāpiti Coast District Council</i><br>2. Beyond waste 'business as usual': including reuse in waste assessments and waste minimisation planning <b>Hannah Blumhardt</b> <i>Reuse Aotearoa</i><br>3. Tackling the issue of farm waste in East Otago through a collaborative workshop approach <b>Anna Robinson</b> <i>Dunedin City Council</i><br>Q+A   |
| 13.40-14.00 | <b>Collaborative fund</b><br>Review and discussion of current process, proposed changes and where to from here with the fund  |
| 14.00-14.45 | <b>MfE's work programme update</b> <i>Ministry for the Environment</i>  |
| 14.45-15.15 | <b>AFTERNOON TEA</b>  |
| 15.15-15.45 | <b>Sophie Wolland</b> <i>Love Food Hate Waste</i><br><b>Driving change: How LFHW NZ is reducing household food waste across Aotearoa</b><br>Get ready for an inspiring session highlighting how LFHW NZ is leading the charge in reducing household food waste nationwide. Hear from fellow TAOs as they share real-world examples and insights on how they're leveraging LFHW's resources to build lasting connections and drive meaningful change in their communities.   |
| 15.45-16.40 | <b>Panel discussion - What you've always wanted to know but never felt bold enough to ask</b><br>Navigating the challenges of the current climate of unexpected changes, economic belt tightening, managing unintended consequences and surviving an election year.<br>Panellists: <b>Alice Grace</b> <i>Morrison Low</i> , <b>Michelle Kazor</b> <i>Versity</i> , <b>Chris Purchas</b> <i>Tonkin + Taylor</i> , <b>Brent Aitken</b> <i>Taupō District Council</i> & <b>Natasha Hickmott</b> <i>Palmerston North City Council</i><br>Facilitator: <b>Sophie Mander</b> <i>Queenstown Lakes District Council</i> |
| 16.40-16.55 | <b>Final Q+A, wrap up</b>   |
| 16.55-17.00 | <b>Morgan Harrison</b> <i>Chair TAO Forum</i><br><b>Closeout and karakia ki te mūtunga to whakamūtunga</b>  |
| from 17.30  | <b>NETWORKING DRINKS   OFF SITE</b>   |



## DAY 2 TUESDAY 10 JUNE

7.30-8.30 **REGISTRATION**

### \\ SESSION ONE

RIVERS ROOM

8.30-10.30 **MIHI WHAKATAU & OPENING PLENARY**

The Mihi Whakatau will be led by Te Taumata Tapu o Ngāi Tūāhuriri, of Tuahiwi, whose takiwā (boundaries) include the area known as Ōtautahi on which Te Pae now sits

**WELCOME** Parul Sood *WasteMINZ Chair*

**WELCOME** Pauline Cotter *Christchurch City Council Deputy Mayor*

**KEYNOTE** Lisa O'Neill

**Being BOLD!**

Interactive session: Workshopping a wall of dangerous ideas

**KEYNOTE** Hon. Penny Simmonds *Minister for the Environment*

10.30-11.00 MORNING TEA | EXPO HALL

### \\ SESSION TWO

RIVERS ROOM

**AI IN WASTE MANAGEMENT, IS IT OUR FUTURE?**

BEALEY 4+5

**BUILDING A FUTURE WITH LESS WASTE**

DOBSON 1+2

**FROM DATA TO DUTY: INNOVATING WASTE MANAGEMENT THROUGH TRACEABILITY, SMARTER SYSTEMS & PARTNERSHIPS**

DOBSON 3+4

**RECYCLING THE EARTH: THE POWER OF BIOSOLIDS**

11.00-12.30 **Cole Armstrong** *NeuroSpot*  
– Behaviour Change  
& **Marcus Braithwaite**  
*Auckland Council*  
**Behaviour change meets technology: Tackling recycling contamination**

**Felicity Johnson** *Auckland Council* & **Simon Wilkinson**  
*Wilkinson Environmental*  
**I don't have time for that**

**Terry Widdowson** *AECOM*  
**Advancing waste management services: Opportunities for duty of care in New Zealand**

**KEYNOTE** Professor Brett Robinson *University of Canterbury*  
**The beneficial reuse of biowastes to improve contaminated soils**

**Shane Burke** *Enviro NZ* & **Brent Sutton**  
*Learning Teams INC*  
**AI and worker engagement. Improving safety outcomes in sites with dynamic risk**

**Rosie Dawson-Hewes**  
*3R Group* & **Julie Roberts** *Mitre 10*  
**Building construction's sustainability toolbox**

**Rebecca Berendt**  
*GS1 New Zealand*  
**Collecting and connecting data with digital standards**

**PANEL DISCUSSION Biosolids**  
Panellists: **Professor Brett Robinson** *University of Canterbury*, **Dave Bull** *HAIL Environmental*, **Rob Tinholt** *Watercare*, **Jonathan Caldwell** *Waikato Regional Council* & **Jo Cavanagh** *Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research*  
Additional panel members to be confirmed  
Facilitator: **Chris Purchas** *Tonkin + Taylor*

**PANEL DISCUSSION AI in waste - Just because we can, should we?**  
Panellists: **Lisa Eve** *Eunomia*, **Marcus Braithwaite** *Auckland Council*, **Shane Burke** *Enviro NZ*  
Additional panel members to be confirmed  
Facilitator: **Katie Buller** *Auckland Council*

**Mark Roberts** *Auckland Council*  
**Construction polystyrene, what's it doing out there?**  
**Hannah Kelly** *Tonkin + Taylor* & **Gareth Salisbury** *Naylor Love*  
**Timber waste: Uncovering the scale of the issue**

**Stefan Borowy** *Morrison Low*  
**In, out..... license it all about!**  
**Daniel Yallop** *Re.Group Pty*  
**A bold new approach for the Auckland Council Materials Recovery Facility**

12.30-13.30 LUNCH | EXPO HALL

## DAY 2 TUESDAY 10 JUNE

### \\ SESSION THREE

|             | RIVERS ROOM   | BEALEY 4+5  | DOBSON 1+2   | DOBSON 3+4   |
|-------------|---|---|--|--|
| 13.30-15.00 | <b>CLOSING THE LOOP</b><br><br><b>Andrew McCarthy</b> <i>Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment</i><br><b>Material flows in NZ economy</b>  | <b>SHOCKING WASTE, THE PROBLEM WITH BATTERIES</b><br><br><b>Lyndon Collie</b> <i>Auckland Council</i><br><b>Lithium-ion batteries and their dangers in the waste industry</b> | <b>LET'S GET TECHNICAL</b><br><br><b>Daniel Su Ming Tan</b> <i>Tonkin + Taylor &amp; Darren Hoskins</i> <i>Wellington City Council</i><br><b>Southern Landfill Extension Piggyback Option (SLEPO) - An innovative 'cradle' landfill design</b>         | <b>UNLEASHING RESOURCES: TURNING OLD SOIL INTO NEW OPPORTUNITIES</b><br><br><b>Sarah Ensoll &amp; Nigel Mather</b> <i>SLR Consulting</i><br><b>Smart soil strategies: A Brownfield development fable</b>   |
|             | <b>Sandy Botterill</b> <i>Foodstuffs NZ</i><br><b>The circular economy in Aotearoa - from dream to reality</b>  | <b>Anthony Dixon</b> <i>GHD &amp; Nathan Clarke</i> <i>Nelson City and Tasman District Councils</i><br><b>Landfill facility fires and the importance of being prepared</b>    | <b>Judah Lebow</b> <i>SLR Consulting</i><br><b>Dangerous fugitives</b>   | <b>Bridget Derham</b> <i>Fulton Hogan</i><br><b>An unpalatable cocktail of PFAS and asbestos</b>   |
|             | <b>PANEL DISCUSSION</b><br><b>CRS - The ultimate goal or a step on the road to a circular packaging approach?</b><br>Panellists: <b>Sue Coutts</b> <i>Zero Waste Network</i> , <b>Alec McNeil</b> <i>Christchurch City Council</i> , <b>Garth Lamb</b> <i>Re.Group</i> , <b>Markus Fraval</b> <i>TOMRA</i> , <b>Clarke Truscott</b> <i>Coca-Cola Europacific Partners</i><br>Facilitator: <b>Karen Titulaer</b> | <b>Hilary West-Reeve &amp; Jasmine Faulkner</b> <i>Phoenix Recycling Group</i><br><b>Recycling for our future</b>   | <b>Gavin Hedley</b> <i>University of Canterbury</i><br><b>Unlocking the potential of landfill gas</b><br><br><b>Nicolas Franco</b> <i>Riley Consultants</i><br><b>Unmasking carbon dioxide sources: A data-driven approach for safer redevelopment</b> | <b>Lucie Kibblewhite</b> <i>Bay of Plenty Regional Council</i><br><b>Soil management during a nationwide electric vehicle roll out</b><br><br><b>Graham Aveyard</b><br><b>Navigating the path to sustainable soil remediation: Reflections and learnings from the overseas</b><br><br><b>Joint Q+A</b> |
| 15.00-15.30 | AFTERNOON TEA   EXPO HALL   |   |  |  |

### \\ SESSION FOUR

|             | RIVERS ROOM  |
|-------------|--|
| 15.30-16.30 | <b>POLITICAL PANEL</b><br><br>Panellists: <b>Hon. Rachel Brooking</b> <i>NZ Labour Party</i> , <b>Simon Court</b> <i>ACT Party</i> , <b>Kahurangi Carter</b> <i>Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand</i> , and <b>(representative TBC)</b> <i>NZ National Party</i><br>Facilitator: <b>Paul Evans</b> <i>WasteMINZ Board Deputy Chair</i> |
| 16.30-16.45 | Break for attendees prior to the Awards for Excellence   |
| 16.45-17.30 | AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE   RIVERS ROOM  |
| 17.30-19.30 | NETWORKING DRINKS   EXPO HALL  |

## DAY 3 WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE

8.00-8.30 **REGISTRATION**

### \\ SESSION ONE

RIVERS ROOM

#### PLENARY

8.30-10.30 **KEYNOTE** Dr Lucy Hone

**Thriving through uncertainty and change: lessons from science and life**

**MfE work programme update** *Ministry for the Environment*

10.30-11.00 MORNING TEA | EXPO HALL

### \\ SESSION TWO

|             | RIVERS ROOM  | BEALEY 4+5  | DOBSON 1+2  | DOBSON 3+4   |
|-------------|--|---|---|--|
|             | <b>THE BIG PICTURE</b>   | <b>HE RAU RINGA E OTI AI, MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK</b>  | <b>LESSONS LEARNT, TURNING WASTE TO WISDOM</b>  | <b>BURIED RISKS: A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO CLOSED LANDFILLS</b>  |
| 11.00-12.30 | <b>Jeffrey Clarke</b> <i>GasNZ</i><br><b>Harvesting low-hanging fruit: Anaerobic digestion</b>   | <b>Georgie Ferrari</b> <i>Sustainability Trust &amp; Shelali Shetty</i> <i>Wellington City Council</i><br><b>The bold and the beautiful: The partnership behind Te Aro Zero Waste</b> | <b>Presenter TBC</b><br><b>Engaging with mana whenua case study</b>   | <b>Terry Widdowson &amp; Charlotte Rayner</b> <i>AECOM</i><br><b>Closed landfill monitoring – compliance or complacency?</b>   |
|             | <b>Darren Tiddy</b> <i>Morrison Low</i><br><b>Waste not, want not: Efficient infrastructure planning and delivery</b>  | <b>Adrienne Kozlowski</b> <i>Tonkin + Taylor</i><br><b>The wins and challenges of collaboration in waste management</b>   | <b>Kate Fenwick</b> <i>Waste-Ed with Kate</i><br><b>TikTok, reels, the “algorithm”, and behaviour change!</b>   | <b>Andrea Tuohy</b> <i>Tonkin + Taylor &amp; Alec McNeil</i> <i>Christchurch City Council</i><br><b>Closed landfill portfolio management – progress towards a proactive adaptive management tool for strategic prioritisation of sites</b> |
|             | <b>PANEL DISCUSSION</b><br><b>Is waste infrastructure at a crossroads? Funding, ownership and what it means to plan for the future</b><br>Panellists: <b>Paul Evans</b> <i>Localised</i> , <b>Darren Tiddy</b> <i>Morrison Low</i> , <b>Barney Irvine</b> <i>Waste &amp; Recycling Industry Forum</i> , <b>Nick Leggett</b> <i>Infrastructure New Zealand</i> & <b>Angela Atkins</b> <i>Hastings District Council</i><br>Facilitator: <b>Michelle Kazor</b> <i>Versity</i> | <b>Matthew Luxon &amp; Carla van Walen</b> <i>Localised</i><br><b>6 years of partnerships - the ups and downs</b>   | <b>Jenny Elliott</b> <i>Wellington City Council</i><br><b>Transforming adversaries into allies: The journey of a city landfill project from vision to reality</b> | <b>Barton Bauzon</b> <i>Auckland Council</i><br><b>Resilience in legacy landfills aftercare management (and it's not just about climate change!)</b>   |
|             |  |   |   | <b>Joint Q+A</b>   |
| 12.30-13.30 | LUNCH   EXPO HALL  |   |   |  |

## DAY 3 WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE

### \\ SESSION THREE

RIVERS ROOM

#### PLENARY

13.30-15.00 **KEYNOTE** Holly Bennett *Awhi*

**Lobbying: Evil, or just misunderstood?**

**KEYNOTE** Jon Duffy *Consumer NZ*

**Advocacy in the NGO space: Representing the public interest in an unequal system**

15.00-15.30 AFTERNOON TEA | EXPO HALL

### \\ SESSION FOUR

RIVERS ROOM

BEALEY 4+5

DOBSON 1+2

DOBSON 3+4

15.30-16.30

#### COLLABORATIVE SESSION

#### REUSE AND REFILL

#### CLEANING UP THE CHAOS FROM DISASTER

#### TOGETHER FOR IMPACT: FOSTERING COLLABORATION

**Setting up the waste and resource recovery industry for a bold future**

During this interactive session we will discuss what we as a sector want to see in the regulations, what the blockers are for our industry, and develop some actions for us to "get on with it". The discussion tables will cover the following topics:

- Review of the Technical Guidelines for Disposal to Land
- Review of the Waste Minimisation Act and Litter Act
- Planning Act – what do we want to see as a sector in the 30-year Infrastructure Plan
- Managing emissions from waste

Facilitator: **Jo Ferry**  
*Tonkin + Taylor*

**Gradon Diprose** *Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research & Hannah Blumhardt* *Reuse Aotearoa*  
**Reusable packaging in the grocery sector: Understanding impacts and outcomes**

**Debra Goulding** *Foodstuffs NZ*  
**Is a returnable container system scalable across NZ retail grocery?**

**Cameron Burton** *Stradegy Planning*  
**Does it all need to go there? Pre-planning disaster waste journeys using geospatial analysis**

**Connor Wilson** *University of Canterbury & Jack Grinsted* *Environment Canterbury*  
**Estimation of disaster waste and debris across the Canterbury region**

**Michael LeRoy-Dyson** *Rocat Consulting & Claude Dewerse* *EMENZ*  
**Maximising resource recovery in Auckland's post-disaster housing relocation**

**PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**Engagement with mana whenua**  
Panellists: TBC  
Facilitator: TBC

**PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**Delivering on client expectations**  
Panellists: **Courtney Armstrong** *Auckland Council*, **Rachel Rait** *Department of Conservation*, **Tess Brothersen** *Stantec & Chris Hillman* *Tonkin + Taylor*  
Facilitator: **James Corbett** *Auckland Council*

18.00-19.00 PRE-GALA DINNER DRINKS | EXPO HALL

19.00-00.00 GALA DINNER | RIVERS ROOM

# DAY 4 THURSDAY 12 JUNE

8.30-9.00 **REGISTRATION**

## \\ SESSION ONE

|            | DOBSON 1  | DOBSON 2+3  | BEALEY 4+5   | DOBSON 4   |
|------------|---|---|--|--|
| 9.00-10.30 | <b>EFFECTIVE SCIENCE COMMUNICATION</b><br><br><b>Dr Jess Berentson-Shaw</b> <i>The Workshop</i><br>Our sectors are full of great data, reports, insights, and experiences, but are we communicating this information in the best way to inform and influence our audiences? This session is designed to be practical and engaging, and you will come away with tools that you can apply to your work, regardless of your role or subject area.<br><br>Limited to 72 participants. Registration process to be confirmed shortly. | <b>WASTE WORLD TOUR: SNAPSHOTS</b><br><br><b>Sue Coutts</b> <i>Zero Waste Network Aotearoa</i><br><b>So, what's the latest with the incinerator proposals</b><br><b>Wayne Gazley</b> <i>Keep New Zealand Beautiful</i><br><b>Back from the brink</b><br><b>Andrew Boyd</b> <i>Selwyn District Council</i><br><b>Project Reconnect: People – Resources – Environment</b><br><b>Cam Edwards &amp; Adele Rose</b> <i>3R Group</i><br><b>Tyres: from zero to (tracking) millions</b><br><b>Janine Brinsdon</b> <i>Cool-Safe</i><br><b>Cool-Safe - New Zealand's Product Stewardship Scheme for refrigerants</b><br><b>Julia Barton</b> <i>Porirua City Council</i><br><b>Repurposing, one polo at a time...</b><br><b>Amanda Robinson</b> <i>The Lightfoot Initiative Charitable Trust &amp; Emma Brockie</i> <i>Queenstown Lakes District Council</i><br><b>Crunching waste: A collaborative approach to bicycle waste reduction</b> | <b>FROM THEORY TO IMPACT</b><br><br><b>Kimberley Hope</b> <i>Tonkin + Taylor</i><br><b>Theory vs reality – did what we think would happen, actually happen?</b><br><br><b>Helena Ruffell</b> <i>University of Canterbury</i><br><b>The waste in our waste: microplastics contaminate organic wastes destined for land application</b><br><br><b>Kapish Gobindlal</b> <i>Environmental Decontamination (NZ)</i><br><b>Mechanochemistry and waste management</b> | <b>DIGGING DEEPER: UNCOVERING STORIES IN CONTAMINATED LAND MANAGEMENT</b><br><br><b>Adrian Roberts</b> <i>GHD</i><br><b>Leachate management during catastrophic weather conditions: What can we do when the abnormal becomes business as usual?</b><br><br><b>Steve Clarke</b> <i>Waitaki District Council &amp; Helen Ramsay Morrison Low</i><br><b>Project Reclaim – excellence in collaboration to deliver positive environmental outcomes</b><br><br><b>Ben Waterhouse &amp; Jessica Green</b> <i>Beca</i><br><b>The Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor Regeneration Project</b><br><br><b>Jonathan Caldwell</b> <i>Waikato Regional Council</i><br><b>When the river runs orange</b><br><br><b>Joint Q+A</b> |

10.30-11.00 MORNING TEA | EXPO HALL

## \\ SESSION TWO

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
|             | DOBSON 2+3+4   |
| 11.00-12.30 | <b>CLOSING PLENARY</b><br><br><b>KEYNOTE</b> <b>Roshen Kalwant</b> <i>NZIER</i><br><b>The economic value of the waste, resource recovery and contaminated land management sectors</b><br><br><b>PANEL DISCUSSION</b><br><b>The economic value of our sectors</b><br>Panellists: <b>Roshen Kalwant</b> <i>NZIER</i> , <b>Chris Purchas</b> <i>Tonkin + Taylor</i> , <b>David Tikao</b> <i>Ngāi Tahu Holdings</i><br>Additional panel members to be confirmed<br>Facilitator: <b>TBC</b><br><br><b>CLOSING WORDS</b> <b>Nic Quilty</b> <i>Chief Executive, WasteMINZ</i> |
| 13.00-16.00 | <b>Site visits for those who have registered for them</b>  |



## 2025 REGISTRATION FEES

### CONFERENCE + EXPO

Three day registration **10, 11+12 JUNE 2025** – includes the Awards for Excellence and Networking Event on **TUESDAY 10 JUNE** + Gala Dinner **WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE**

|  | <b>SUPER SAVER</b><br>register & pay before<br><b>17.04.25</b> | <b>EARLY BIRD</b><br>register & pay before<br><b>15.05.25</b> | <b>LAST MINUTE</b><br>registration from<br><b>16.05.25</b> |
|--|--|---|--|
| One day – <b>TUESDAY 10 JUNE</b>   | 1620   | 1880  | 2080   |
| One day – <b>WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE</b>   | 645  | 750   | 780  |
| One day – <b>THURSDAY 12 JUNE</b>  | 645  | 750   | 780  |
| Gala Dinner only – <b>WEDNESDAY 11 JUNE</b> [included in three day registration]   | 210  | 210   | 210  |
| Territorial Authorities' Officers Forum – <b>MONDAY 9 JUNE</b>   | 465  | 540   | 645  |
| CLM Workshop – <b>MONDAY 9 JUNE</b>  | 200  | 230   | 260  |
| CLM Workshop [with any main registration] – <b>MONDAY 9 JUNE</b>   | 420  | 490   | 555  |
| CLM Workshop [with any main registration] – <b>MONDAY 9 JUNE</b>   | 240  | 280   | 310  |
| Group Rate <sup>1</sup> [3 or more]. Rate is per person  | 1458   | 1692  | 1872   |
| Site visits – <b>THURSDAY 12 JUNE<sup>2</sup></b><br>Inner City Tour (EcoShop, EcoSort and University of Canterbury Library Repair Space)<br>OR<br>Kate Valley Landfill (Christchurch outskirts) | 50   | 60  | 70   |

- 1 Group rates are only for the full three day conference. A group rate is equal to three [3] or more people from the same or different organisation, but must have one billing address.
- 2 Both site tours will leave from Te Pae on Thursday at 12.45pm with a packed lunch and will return at approximately 4pm. It will only be possible to register for one tour.

#### PRICES EXCLUDE GST

The prices stated are available exclusively to WasteMINZ members. For non-members, 50% will be added to the relevant registration fee. To discuss membership, contact [nadja@wasteminz.org.nz](mailto:nadja@wasteminz.org.nz)

## CPD POINTS

- Monday's CLM workshop – **7 points**
- Tuesday's CLM stream sessions – **6 points**
- Wednesday's CLM stream sessions – **5 points**
- Thursday's CLM stream session – **3 points**
- Thursday's site visit Inner City Tour – **2.5 points**
- Thursday's site visit Kate Valley Landfill – **3 points**

The final programme will be released 22 May 2025.

Speaker and session updates to this preliminary programme will be added to WasteMINZ's dedicated Conference 2025 website.

New versions of the preliminary programme will also be periodically released, which will incorporate these updates.

WasteMINZ in its sole discretion reserves the right to alter, change, amend or remove portions of the conference programme. Such alterations are not grounds for cancellation of attendance.

**[wasteminz.org.nz/conference](https://wasteminz.org.nz/conference)**

## SITE TOURS

We are offering two different site visits to choose from at the end of the main conference programme. These will both be held at the same time, after sessions finish on Thursday, 12 June - leaving from Te Pae at 12.45pm and arriving back to the venue at approximately 4.30pm. A packed lunch will be provided to all participants.

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### TOUR 1

#### **Kate Valley Landfill and Gareth James Energy Park**

The Kate Valley Landfill and Gareth James Energy Park is an outstanding example of a world-class, modern engineered landfill, designed to the highest international standards and operated to ensure the environmental impacts are managed and mitigated. Gas from the landfill is used to generate electricity, enough to power more than 2,000 homes in 2023, and up to potentially 8,000 households in the future.

Kate Valley is also home to Tiromoana Bush, Canterbury's free to access 407-hectare regenerating lowland native forest.

### TOUR 2

#### **Inner City Tour - EcoShop, EcoSort and University of Canterbury Library Repair Space**

**EcoShop & Ecosort - part of EcoCentral**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Christchurch City Holdings Limited, a council controlled trading organisation owned by Christchurch City Council.

EcoCentral is a reuse, refuse and recycling contractor who provide services to a number of councils and large customers, including Christchurch City Council.

#### **EcoShop**

The EcoShop on Blenheim Road is where unwanted goods are given a second life. The shop receives reusable, re-purposable and recyclable product from our resource recovery centres, commercial and other sources. After checking and testing, the team offer these goods up for a new home at EcoShop. The EcoShop team is immensely proud of the diversion and reuse activity that our EcoShop and RRC enable.

#### **EcoSort**

This Material Recovery Facility (MRF) processes kerbside recycling from Christchurch City Council, a number of other councils in the area as well commercial material. The semi-automated plant was upgraded in 2022 as part of the Covid Relief Recovery Fund and sorts all commodities to a minimum quality standard of 99.5% purity. The sorted commodities are sold on the open market for preprocessing and overall support of circularity. They are delighted to own and operate this highly capable and productive facility.

#### **University of Canterbury libraries makerspace**

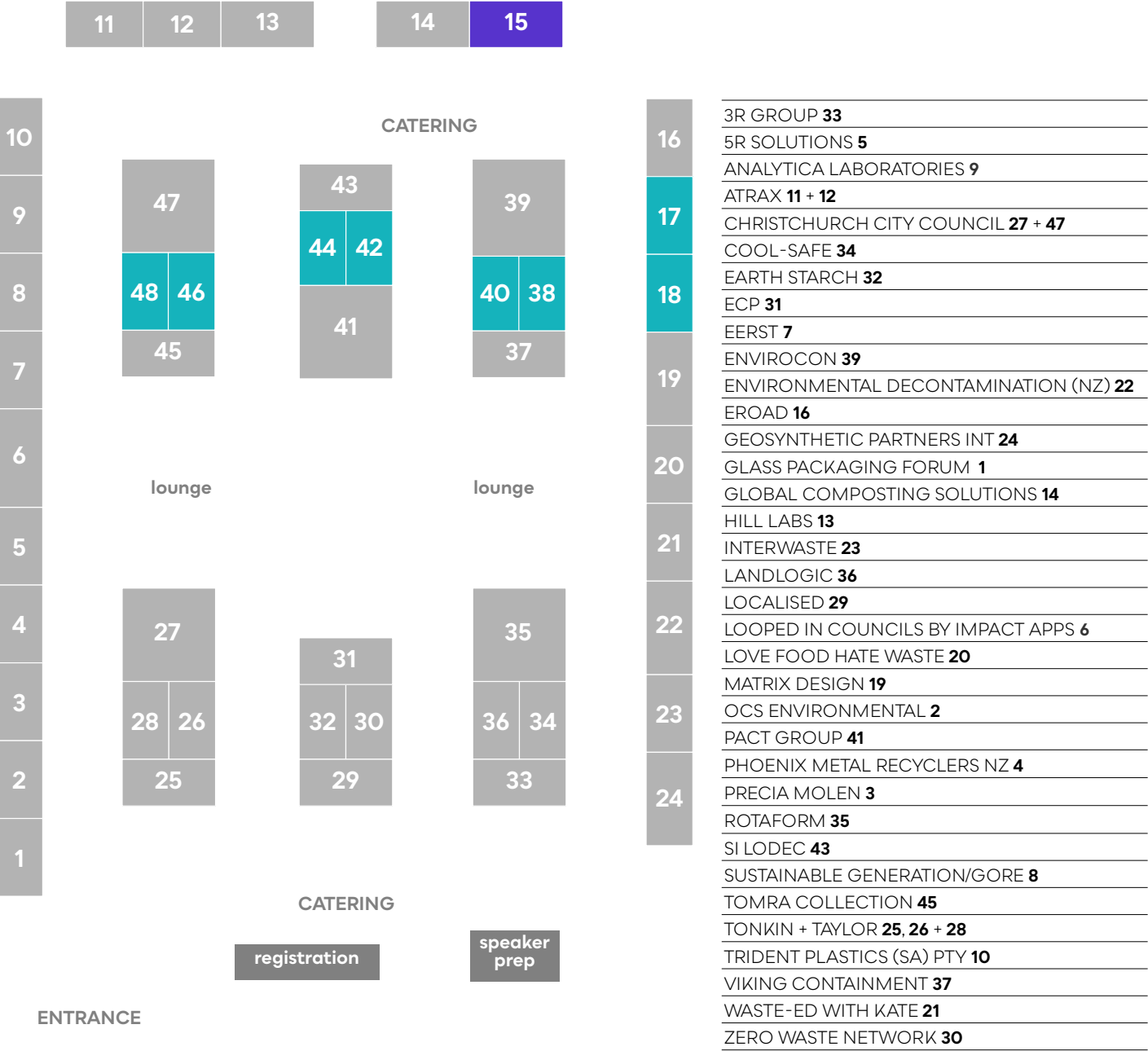
Te Rua makerspace promotes repair, re-use and upcycling.

The makerspace team collaborates with groups and support student clubs to host events that use waste streams.

They host regular repair cafés, as well as many workshops training university students on how to use machines and equipment to undertake repair, reuse and upcycling.

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# expo plan



**Sponsorship & Exhibitor enquiries**  
Please refer to Nadja Hirzel [nadja@wasteminz.org.nz](mailto:nadja@wasteminz.org.nz)

**SUPER PREMIUM** 3.6 x 3.6M  
**PREMIUM** 3.6 x 1.8M  
**STANDARD** 3 x 1.8M  
**SOLD**