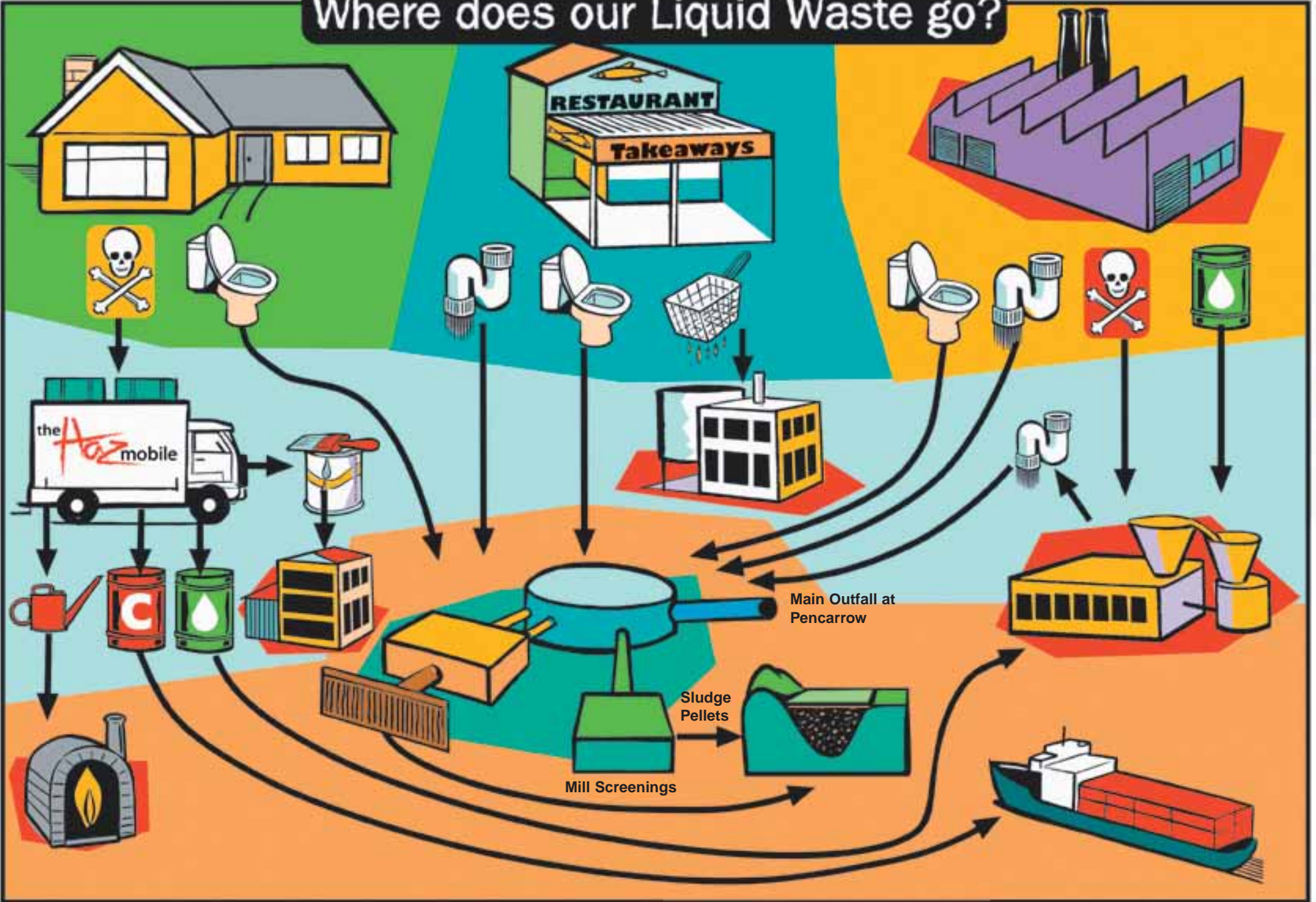


Figure 2.2.1

# Where does our Liquid Waste go?



## KEY



Residential Waste



Sewage



Residential Hazardous Waste



Council Hazmobile



Oil



Chemical Waste that cannot be treated in New Zealand



Hazardous Liquids



Paint



Paint Recycling Centre (Private Business)



Cement Kiln (Private Business)



Treatment Overseas



Restaurants/ Takeaways



Used Cooking Oil/Fat



Fat Recycling Plant (Private business)



Commercial/Industrial Waste



Process, Manufacturing and Wash Up Waste



Council Hutt Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant



Commercial Hazardous Waste Collection



Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility (Private Business)



Council Landfill



Public Services



Private Contractor Services



Council Services



*Sewage sludge drying drum*

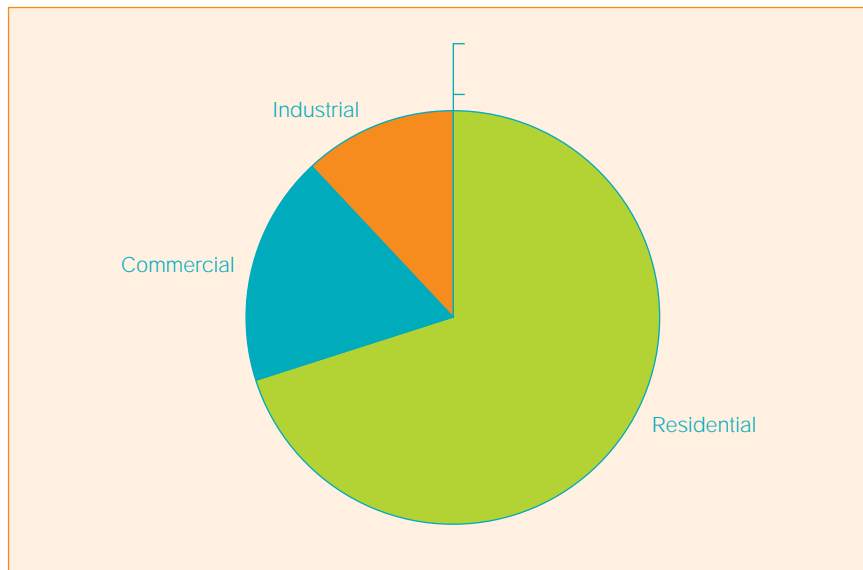
## 2.3 LIQUID WASTES

Hutt City and Upper Hutt City Councils jointly provide a wastewater system to collect and treat household and commercial (Trade Waste) effluent in a way that meets public health and environmental standards. The Seaview treatment plant has been operating since November 2001, and has resulted in a significant improvement to the quality of liquid waste discharged from the outfall at Pencarrow. The removal of the nutrient rich discharge from the Wainuiomata River has also led to a significant improvement in water quality.

### Liquid Waste Profile:

Figure 2.3.2

Influent Waste Stream to Seaview Treatment Plant



All domestic sewage, liquid industrial and commercial waste (collectively called 'wastewater') is conveyed to the Seaview Wastewater Treatment Plant. An increase in the system's pipe networks and treatment plant size allows for future growth in wastewater within the Hutt Valley.

### 2.3.1 What is Trade Waste?

Put simply, Trade Waste is any liquid discharged into the wastewater (sewer) system from trade premises during commercial or industrial processes. The nature and quantity of industrial waste can vary enormously, so Hutt City and Upper Hutt City Councils have implemented a special by-law – the Hutt Valley Trade Waste By-law 1997 – to set certain controls on the discharge of potentially harmful industrial waste which occurs in the two Councils' systems.

Any business (including food businesses) that discharges Trade Waste into the wastewater system must apply for a Trade Waste Discharge Consent from Hutt City Council, which manages Trade Waste on behalf of the two Councils.

### 2.3.2 What is the purpose of the Trade Waste By-law?

- To protect the health and safety of all people working in the wastewater system by applying strict standards for harmful substances.
- To protect the wastewater infrastructure from damage due to harmful substances from Trade Waste sources.
- To protect receiving waters from toxic substances originating from Trade Waste discharges.
- To assist the Councils in meeting relevant environmental and other regulations, including producing effluent and biosolids to a guaranteed quality.
- To encourage waste minimisation and cleaner production in the commercial and industrial sectors.

The cost recovery provisions associated with the by-law also encourage businesses to examine their processes and to implement waste minimisation programmes. Many industries will then financially benefit by either reducing input materials or reclaiming previously wasted materials.

### 2.3.3 What fees are involved?

Businesses discharging Trade Waste may incur the following charges:

- An annual consent fee: charges are set annually by the Councils and are scaled according to risk, taking into account the process control, storage, Trade Waste quality and discharge history of a business to establish its risk class. Higher risk classes require more involved monitoring and inspection, and therefore incur a higher charge.
- Conditional consent charges (if applicable).
- User charges, depending on the strength of the waste and the volume discharged (this reflects the costs incurred by the Councils in treating the wastewater).

Dischargers may need to pay an accredited laboratory for any required sampling and testing. Most businesses will not require this.

While the charging structure reflects the true costs of supply, operating and maintenance of the assets, it also provides an incentive for industry to minimise its discharged wastes to the Trade Waste sewers and so reduce their costs.

### 2.3.4 Private Waste Handling Companies

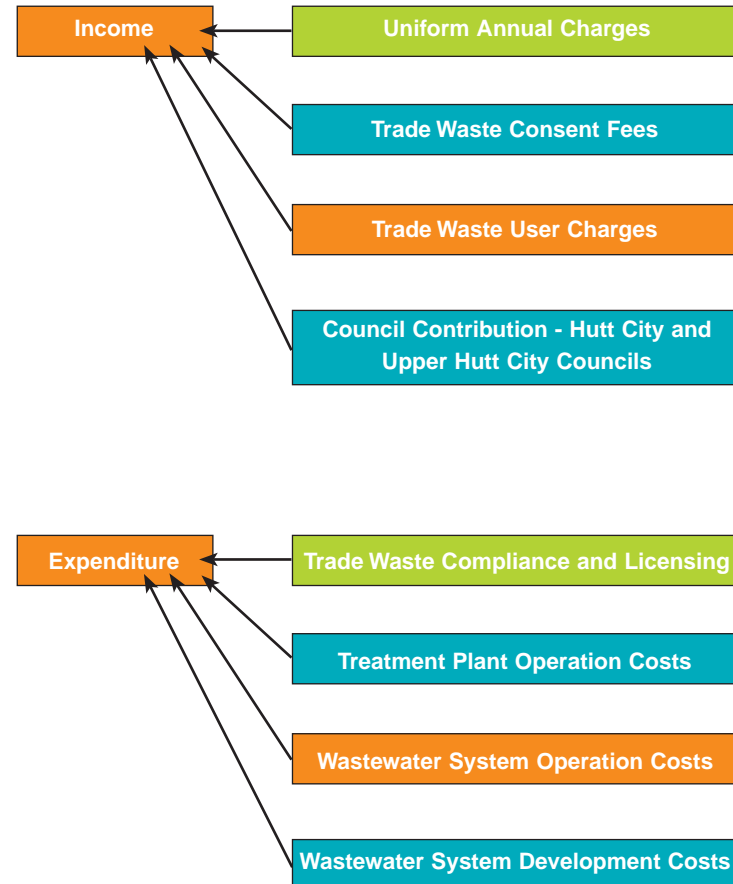
Some substances cannot be easily treated and so are collected by processing companies. This can occur on an individual contract basis with a number of privately owned and operated waste collection companies within the Hutt Valley.

### 2.3.5 Hazardous Domestic Waste (Liquid)

Council will ensure residents have a safe and cost effective means to dispose of household hazardous wastes. This is provided via an annual Hazardous Wastes collection run.

### 2.3.6 Cost/Funding Structure

Below is an income and expenditure summary of how the Hutt Valley wastewater system is funded.



### 2.3.7 Ongoing improvements

#### Infiltration and Inspection

In the 1990s infiltration and inspection work was completed on all wastewater reticulated properties in Upper Hutt and residents were required to fix any faults found. Upper Hutt City Council has a regular programme in place to CCTV a number of properties each year and property owners are required to repair any faults.

Infiltration and inspection work is an ongoing programme and has been carried out on approximately 20% of household properties in the Lower Hutt and Wainuiomata catchments. Numerous faults have been found, and have now been corrected. Future continuation of these works will assist the Councils in reducing high wastewater flows during storm events, and therefore reducing overflows.

The two Councils' combined expenditure on these activities has amounted to \$12.6 million over the last five years. A further \$11.4 million is programmed for the next five years.

#### Wastewater System improvements

As part of the ongoing programme of works it is proposed to construct a wet weather storage facility at Silverstream by June 2006. This will markedly reduce wet weather wastewater overflows to the Hutt River. Other improvements to the network have been implemented.

#### Metals in BioSolids

The metals currently discharged by Trade Waste consent holders must meet the conditions in the Hutt Valley Trade Wastes By-law 1997, which allow the setting of metal loading levels to ensure that limits are in place to reduce metals in biosolids. The consents are reviewed annually and ongoing improvements to business processes in the Hutt Valley will allow for continued improvements and reductions in Trade Waste at the Seaview treatment plant.

#### Controlling movement of waste between cities

There is concern over uncontrolled movement of liquid wastes between local authority boundaries. The Hutt Valley Trade Waste By-law will be reviewed by 30 June 2004. This will improve the consistency between the local authority by-laws in the Wellington region. This will allow greater control over the activities of the liquid waste producers and waste processing facilities.

#### Special wastes reduction partnership

A working group, which is part of the BusinessCare Business Sustainability Programme, is examining concerns about paint wastes in the Hutt Valley and is endeavoring to reduce overall waste through co-operative programmes. The group includes representatives from Greater Wellington/Wellington Regional Council and the Paint Manufacturers Association.



*Council's Wastewater Treatment Plant in Seaview*