

Development Application Summary

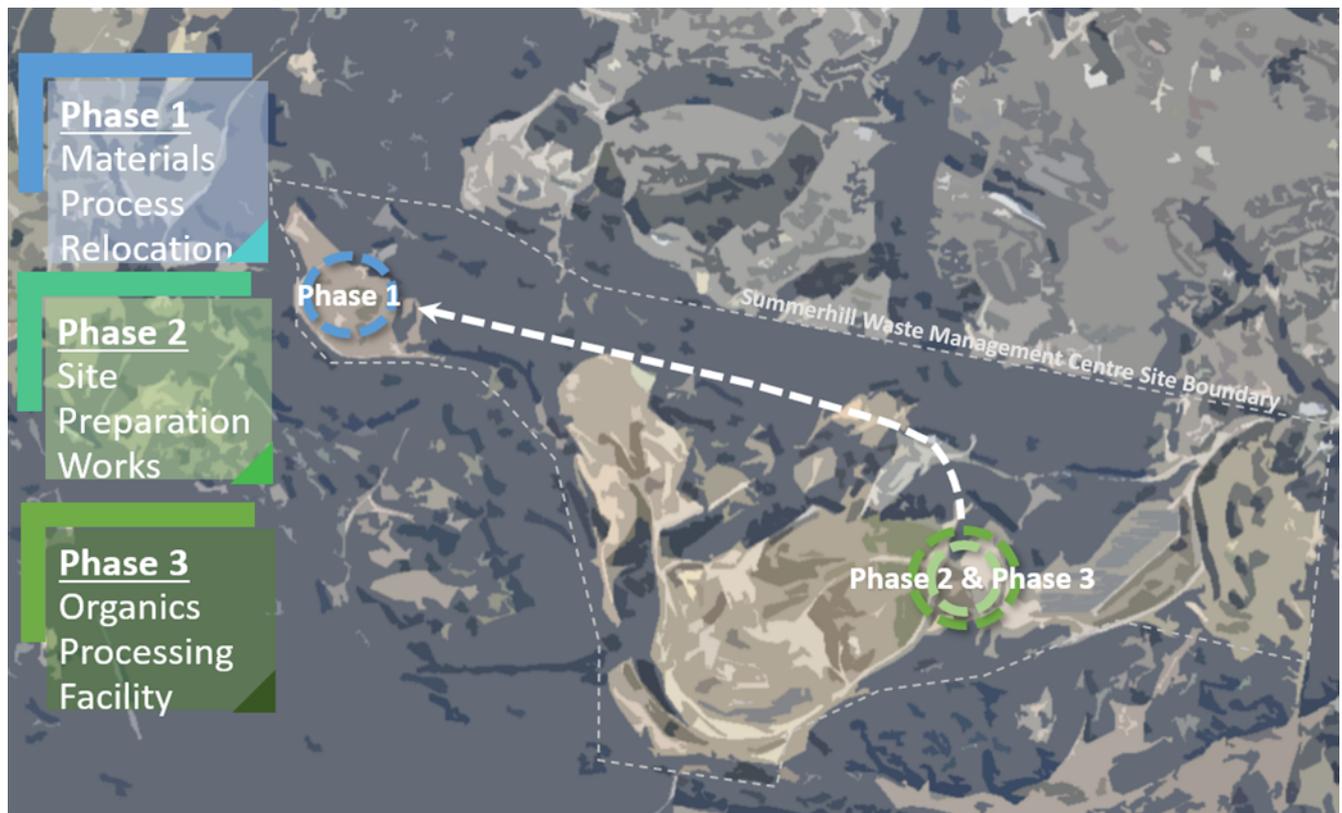
Proposed organics processing facility at Summerhill Waste Management Centre

City of Newcastle and the Summerhill Waste Management Centre (SWMC) is committed to reusing resources and reducing the volume of green waste heading to landfill. SWMC's strategy to reduce landfill includes the construction of an Organics Processing Facility (OPF) which will introduce new technologies to sustainably process food and garden organics and convert the waste to mulch for reuse. The facility will have capacity to process 50,000 tonnes of organic waste per annum and service the entire Newcastle Local Government Area (LGA). Site preparation works will precede delivery of the OPF to expedite its delivery.

Delivering of the OPF will occur through three phases/development applications:

- Phase 1: Site preparation and relocation of the existing materials processing operations to the northwest portion of SWMC.
- Phase 2: Bulk earthworks to prepare, remediate and ready the site for the OPF.
- Phase 3: construction and operation of the OPF.

These development applications may be submitted concurrently.



Phase 1 Materials Process Relocation

The first phase of the project is the temporary relocation of the materials processing operations from the proposed OPF site. The materials processing operations involve small-scale kerbside recycled materials, cardboard / paper metal, timber and garden organic sorting and temporary storage. These materials are then transported off site for recycling and repurposing.

The metal, timber and garden organic materials will be relocated to the northern end of the existing site.

Kerbside recycled materials and cardboard / paper will be relocated to the new area in the northwest of SWMC, which is an inactive non-putrescible waste storage area and has since been capped with uncontaminated fill. The area is lined to manage any contaminants moving to other areas within the site.

During the approval process, it will be demonstrated that temporary materials processing operations will not have any significant on nearby sensitive receivers. The temporary operations are forecast to conclude once the OPF and future Materials Recovery Facility are operational.

Phase 2 Site Preparation Works

The second phase of the project includes bulk earthworks, mine grouting, civil infrastructure, and vegetation removal to prepare the site for the new OPF.

The bulk earthworks will include cut and fill to level the site to facilitate the proposed built form of the OPF. Mine grouting has been recommended to the reduce risk of subsidence on the site. The civil works include stormwater infrastructure in the form of stormwater drains, a catchment pond, and rock lining for erosion and sediment control. Any vegetation needing to be removed will be considered under the appropriate mechanisms established within the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 No 63.

The works proposed as part of Phase 2 allow for the preparation of the site prior to the construction of the new facility to streamline the process and avoid any unnecessary delays. Once Phase 2 is complete, the site will be ready for the construction of the OPF.

Phase 3 Organics Processing Facility

The third and final phase of the project is the design and construction of the OPF. The facility is identified as a Regionally Significant Designated Development and requires an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements have been obtained from the Department of Planning, Infrastructure and Environment. The facility will use new technology to process organic waste into mulch for reuse.

The facility is significant for the Newcastle LGA as it will have capacity to process 50,000 tonnes of organic waste per annum, creating an opportunity to reduce waste and encourage a more suitable waste resource management on a local level.

Overall, the proposal broadens the capacity of SWMC and transitions the facility into a regionally significant development with a focus on sustainable waste management practices.