

Waipā's Local Alcohol Policy

We need your feedback to help guide the Draft Policy.

**Feedback is open until
Friday 29 March, 2024**

0800 WAIPADC (924 723)
[waipadc.govt.nz](https://www.waipadc.govt.nz)



Background

Every six years Council reviews its Local Alcohol Policy. This year we have upped the ante by combining this review with the review of the Public Places Alcohol Control Bylaw and the introduction of an Alcohol Fees Bylaw.

We have done this to make it easier for people to have their say on all the alcohol rules at the same time in our district. A lot is happening so watch this space!

For now, we are focusing on the Local Alcohol Policy. The Local Alcohol Policy is the most complex of the three. So, we've broken it down to make things a little easier.

What is a Local Alcohol Policy?

All councils can have a Local Alcohol Policy under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (Act). The purpose of a Local Alcohol Policy is to have local rules which apply to local communities. The rules must help achieve the aims of the Act, which tries to ensure the sale, supply, and consumption of alcohol is done safely and responsibly, and that alcohol-related harm is minimised.

Local Alcohol Policies do this by setting rules around where places that sell alcohol can be located, when they can open and how they can operate. If a council doesn't have a Local Alcohol Policy, the Act sets default maximum trading hours but no other restrictions about the location of a licensed premises.

Why is a Local Alcohol Policy important and why should you care?

Local Alcohol Policies ensure locals can have a say on the rules about alcohol in their area. We want the Local Alcohol Policy to work for everyone in the community as much as possible. If you don't get involved, you don't have a say!

So please keep reading and share your views.

Where we are up to in the process

Right now, we are pulling together a draft Local Alcohol Policy. We have already gathered research on people's drinking behaviours in Waipā. We're now building on that research by gathering feedback from those who deal with the Policy directly (like the police), and those who are most impacted by it (like those who run bars or sell alcohol).



In 2023 the appeal process was removed by parliament.

There are some points we'd also like your feedback on now, so when we release a draft for community discussion later this year, community views will be better reflected.

The nitty gritty

We'd love your thoughts on some specific questions. But first, just a bit of background...

Local Alcohol Policies deal with the sale, supply, and consumption of alcohol by breaking down the regulation of alcohol into two parts, (1) the licence, and (2) the premises.

There are four different kind of alcohol licences according to the Act:

- ❶ **On-licences** - Alcohol is allowed to be sold and supplied for consumption on the premises, like a bar or restaurant.
- ❷ **Off-licences** - Alcohol is allowed to be sold for consumption somewhere else, like a supermarket or bottle store.
- ❸ **Club licences** - Alcohol is allowed to be sold and supplied for consumption on the premises to a member of the club, a member's guest or an authorised visitor. This is the kind of licence held by sports clubs or an RSA for example.
- ❹ **Special licences** - Special licences are held for specific events described in the licence. There are two kinds of special licences: on-site special licences and off-site special licences. Special licences are used for things such as festivals, concerts, or weddings.

In relation to alcohol licences, a "premises" means the land, buildings or part of a building for which the licence was issued. A premises can have more than one kind of licence. For example, a tavern can have both an on-licence so you can drink there and an off-licence to buy alcohol to take away. A vehicle or other method of transport can also be included as a premises, for example, a cruise boat on a river.

A word about the District Licensing Committee

A District Licensing Committee is an impartial independent body that decides on applications for on-licences, off-licences, club and special licences within their local area. The District Licensing Committee is guided in those decisions by a Local Alcohol Policy (if there is one in place).

For more information about alcohol in Waipā, or about how alcohol licensing works, visit waipadc.govt.nz/lapreview

Give us your feedback

Off-licences are places where you can buy alcohol to take away like supermarkets and bottle stores. There is strong evidence in Waipā and around the country that off-licences are more likely to cause alcohol-related harm because of exposure to alcohol advertising. They also enable people to take alcohol away to drink on their own, meaning that people who suffer from alcohol-related harm can do so without possible help or supervision.

We need to find a balance between allowing people to buy alcohol, while making sure we do the best we can do to help reduce harm. Below are a couple of questions about how best to manage off-licences.

We'd love your thoughts either by:



Having your say online at:
waipadc.govt.nz/lapreview



Filling out the submission form below and drop it to:
Council offices or libraries

What's your view?

Your details

Full name:

Organisation/group: (if applicable)

Postal address:

Email:

Are you responding on behalf of a licensed premises in Waipā?

☐

Yes

☐

No

If yes what is the name of the licensed premises?

For each question, tick which option you prefer. Please only tick one option for each question.

1. How close should off-licences be to each other?

Currently the District Licensing Committee decides on a case-by-case basis how close off-licences should be to each other. There is evidence that the more off-licences there are, and the closer they are to each other, the more likely it is for adults and children to suffer from alcohol-related harm.

☐

(a) The District Licensing Committee should decide if this is relevant or not when they look at an individual application *(this is the current policy).*

☐

(b) 1 km apart

☐

(c) 500 m apart

☐

(d) 250 m apart

☐

(e) Other *(please explain over page)*



(e) Other (please explain here)

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

2. Should there be a limit on the number of off-licences in Waipā District?

Currently there is no limit on how many off-licences there can be in our District. Setting a limit on the number of off-licences may help minimise exposure and access to alcohol while still providing a reasonable number of places for people to buy and sell alcohol. Any sort of limit on the number of off-licences would need to be easy to comply with and keep in mind population growth.

☐ (a) No (this is the current policy).

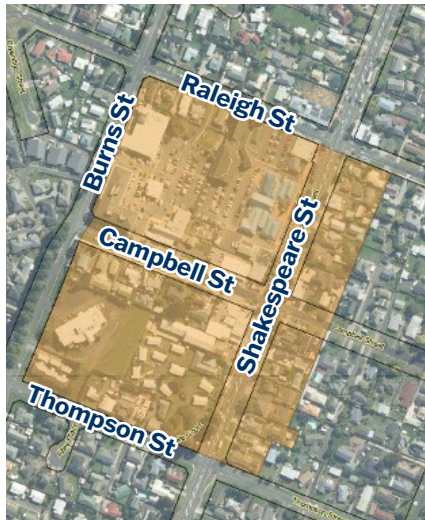
☐ (b) Yes - A total limit for all Waipā, it doesn't matter what town or village the off-licence is located in. This will most likely be the number of off-licences in operation when the Local Alcohol Policy is adopted.

☐ (c) Yes - A cap on the total number of off-licences for each of the main town centres. This will most likely be the number of off-licences in operation in the areas shown in the maps below. Some exceptions, such as manufacturers, might apply following feedback. For example, if the Local Alcohol Policy was adopted at the start of February 2024, for the next six years...

- Te Awamutu Central* would have 7 off-licences
- Te Awamutu Cambridge Road* would have 2 off-licences
- Kihikihi* would have 2 off-licences
- Cambridge Central* would have 8 off-licences
- Leamington Central* would have 4 off-licences
- Leamington North* would have 2 off-licences

**See maps below for areas indicated. The boundaries are indicative only and subject to change following feedback.*

☐ (d) Other (please explain)



* Leamington Central



* Leamington North



* Te Awamutu Central



* Kihikihi



* Cambridge Central



* Te Awamutu - Cambridge Road

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

3. What should the maximum trading hours be for off-licences?

There is evidence that off-licences with longer opening hours are more likely to contribute to alcohol-related harm. Reducing the hours when off-licences can sell alcohol may help reduce alcohol-related harm but still enable people to buy and sell alcohol.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (a) 7am until 10pm <i>(These are the current hours)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> (b) 7am until 9pm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (c) 8am until 10pm | <input type="checkbox"/> (d) Other <i>(please explain)</i> |

Are there any further comments you would like to make?

Privacy Statement

Your personal information will be used for the purpose of the engagement process, including informing you of the outcome of the consultation. All submissions (including names and contact details) may be provided in full to elected members and Council officers for this purpose. Submissions (including names but not contact details) may be made available to the public at our office and on our website. All information collected will be held by Waipā District Council, 101 Bank Street, Te Awamutu with submitters having the right to access, and request correction to, their personal information. You can read our full privacy statement at waipadc.govt.nz/privacy-statement.

Head Office 07 872 0030 • 101 Bank Street, Private Bag 2402, Te Awamutu 3840
Cambridge Office 07 823 3800 • 23 Wilson Street, Cambridge

0800 WAIPADC (924 723)
waipadc.govt.nz

 /WaipaDistrictCouncil  /Waipa_NZ

