



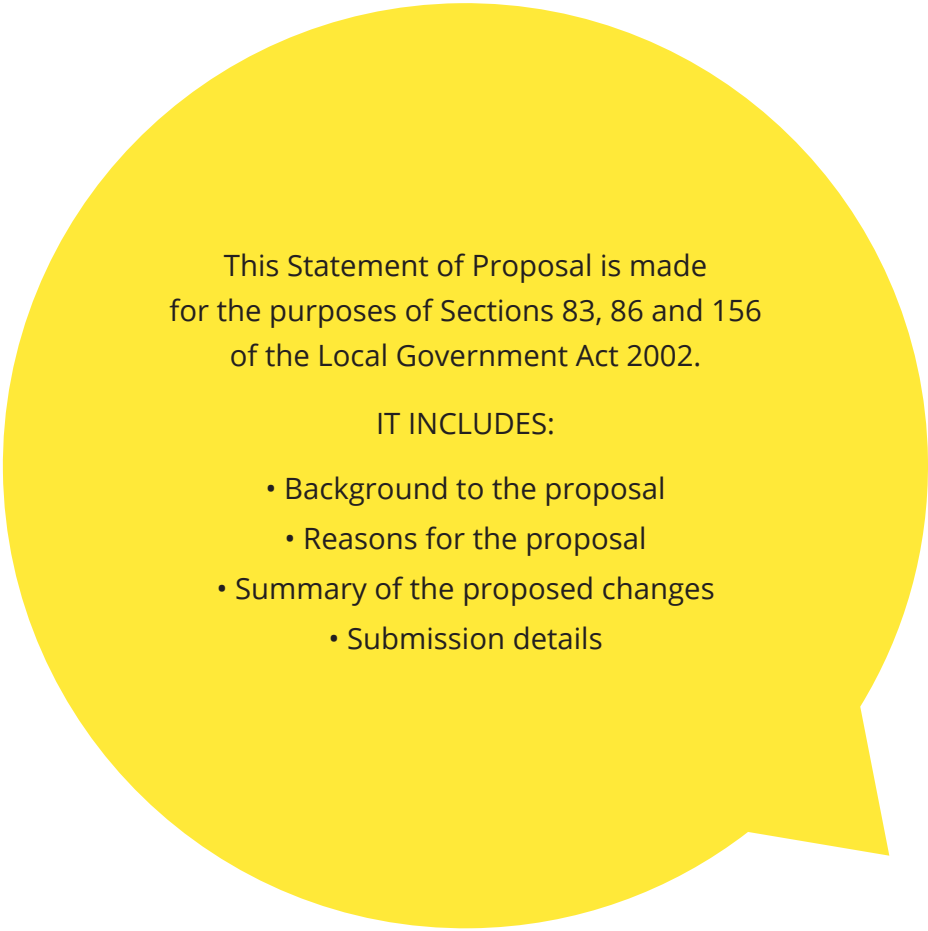
HAVE YOUR
SAY ON THE
LOCAL ALCOHOL
POLICY

STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL

DRAFT LOCAL ALCOHOL POLICY 2022

waikatodistrict.govt.nz

0800 492 452



This Statement of Proposal is made
for the purposes of Sections 83, 86 and 156
of the Local Government Act 2002.

IT INCLUDES:

- Background to the proposal
- Reasons for the proposal
- Summary of the proposed changes
- Submission details

BACKGROUND

In 2012, the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (Act) enabled local councils to develop and adopt a Local Alcohol Policy (policy).

Waikato District Council adopted its policy in 2016. It sets alcohol licensing criteria for when, where and how alcohol is sold in the district. Licensing bodies must consider the policy when they make decisions about alcohol licensing applications. It also provides a guide for those applying for an alcohol licence in the district.

The policy is now due for review and we would like your feedback on the proposed changes.

REASONS FOR PROPOSAL

Council is reviewing the policy as the Act requires it to be reviewed every six years. Consultation allows the community to have a say on:

- limiting the location of licences in particular areas or near certain types of facilities such as in specific neighbourhoods or near schools or churches;
- limiting the density of licences by specifying whether new licences or types of licences should be issued in a particular area;
- imposing conditions on groups of licences such as a 'one-way door' condition that would allow patrons to leave premises but not enter or re-enter after a certain time;
- restricting or extending the maximum opening hours set in the Act.

KEY CHANGES



Council believes that, on the whole, the policy is working well, however, acknowledges that some improvements can be made. Several changes are proposed including additional restrictions on standalone bottle stores. A summary of these changes is noted below:

1. A presumption against the issuing of new off-licences for standalone bottle stores has been proposed for Tuakau, Te Kauwhata, Huntly, Ngaruawahia and Raglan as well as other district localities where the deprivation level is 7 or higher. There is sufficient evidence to show a link between the density of off-licenses, social deprivation and alcohol related harm. Early engagement feedback also indicated the community supported restrictions on bottle stores in the district.
2. An additional discretionary condition for off-licences (clause 5.6.1.i) has been added prohibiting them from being able to offer 'buy now, pay later' schemes.
3. A definition of 'site' has been included to avoid any confusion as to what constitutes a site. A narrow definition has been taken namely, the physical premises that relates to the particular licence application.
4. Additional clarity has been provided where there is a requirement for there to be a certain distance between a proposed licensed premises and the existing facility or licensed premises. The policy now stipulates that the measurement should be between the closest boundary point of the proposed licensed premises and the existing facility or licensed premises (clauses 4.2.2, 4.3.2, 5.2.2 and 5.3.1).
5. For special licences, the provision noting that the one way door policy cannot apply earlier than two hours before the conclusion of the event has been removed (clause 7.3.1). This is due to the impact it could have on events such as the showing of Rugby World Cup games in the Northern Hemisphere. Instead, one-way door provisions would be left to the District Licensing Committee's discretion.
6. Two new clauses (5.5.2 and 5.7.1) related to remote sales have been added - when alcohol can be bought online and delivered and who receives the delivery of alcohol. This change acknowledges that online alcohol sales have increased since the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020.
7. Wording has been simplified where possible, for example, putting the definitions of each type of licence in the definition section, adding more definitions in for completeness, using abbreviations and shortening sentences.



OPTIONS

There are three options available regarding the future of the Local Alcohol Policy.

Option 1 - Council retains the current Local Alcohol Policy

Council retains the current policy.

Although the policy is, on the whole working well, the proposed changes to the policy will help prevent further harm from alcohol as well as provide more clarity for the community on what the policy states.

Option 2 - Council adopts the draft Local Alcohol Policy

Council adopts the draft policy including the recommended changes noted previously.

The proposed amendments will enable a greater consistency of rules across the district. This option also incorporates the feedback received through the early engagement period.

Option 3 - Council revokes the Local Alcohol Policy

Council revokes the policy.

Local Alcohol Policies are not mandatory. However, they allow communities to have a say on the sale and supply of alcohol in their district. Without the policy, licensing decisions would be made based on the default criteria in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act such as default maximum trading hours.



SUBMISSIONS

Anyone can make a submission to the review of the Local Alcohol Policy and we encourage you to let us know your views. This feedback will be used during the decision-making process.

PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION



The Local Government Act 2022 requires submissions to be made available to the public. Your details are collected:

- so the council can write and inform you of the decisions on your submission
- to arrange a hearing date and time for you to speak (if you choose to).

Your name will be publicly available. If you would like your name kept confidential, you need to inform us when you send in your submission.

You have the right to correct any errors in personal details contained in your submission. If you do not supply your name and address, the Council will formally receive your submission but will not be able to inform you of the outcome.

SUBMISSIONS

ONLINE:

www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/



POSTED:

Waikato District Council
Private Bag 544
Ngaruawahia 3742

DELIVERED:

Waikato District Council
Attn: Corporate Planner
15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia
3742



EMAILED:

consult@waidc.govt.nz
Subject heading should read:
'Local Alcohol Policy'

Huntly Office
142 Main Street, Huntly 3700

Raglan Office
7 Bow Street, Raglan 3225

Tuakau Office
2 Dominion Rd, Tuakau 2121

Te Kauwhata Office

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Council will acknowledge each submission received in writing, either by letter or email.

Following the closing of submissions on 11 September 2022, all submissions will be reviewed. Verbal submissions will be heard and all submissions formally considered at a meeting of the Policy & Regulatory Committee on 28 September 2022. This meeting is open to both submitters and the public to attend.

It is anticipated that the draft policy will be adopted in late 2022 and appeals will be open for anyone who submitted during the formal consultation.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

SUBMISSIONS OPEN – 10 August 2022

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE – 11 September 2022

HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS/DELIBERATIONS – 28 September 2022

If you have any further queries or would like further copies of the draft policy, please contact
Anthea Sayer via email at
consult@waidc.govt.nz.

