Kapiti Coast District Council Class 4 Gambling & TAB Venue Gambling Policy 2026

1. Policy Validation

1.1 The Kapiti Coast District Council Class 4 Gambling & TAB Venue Gambling Policy 2023 was approved at a meeting of the Kapiti Coast District Council (Council) held on 14 December 2023, after completion of a public consultation process. It was further amended through a Council resolution on 26 September 2024. It was readopted on 20 October 2026.

1.2 This Policy has been made pursuant to section 101 of the Gambling Act 2003 (the Gambling Act) and section 96 of the Racing Industry Act 2020 (the Racing Industry Act) and reviewed in accordance with the requirements of section 102 of the Gambling Act and section 97 of the Racing Industry Act.

2. Interpretation

2.1 In this Policy, unless the context requires otherwise:

Class 4 gambling	means it meets the definition under section 30 of the Gambling Act which in summary is gambling that satisfies the following criteria: i. the net proceeds are distributed for authorised purposes; and ii. no commission is paid for conducting the gambling; or the only commission that is paid is to a venue operator that complies with regulations made under the Gambling Act; and iii. there are game rules for the gambling; and iv. the gambling satisfies relevant game rules; and v. either the Secretary for Internal Affairs categorises the gambling as Class 4 gambling, or the gambling utilises or involves a gaming machine.
Class 4 gambling venue	means a place at which Class 4 gaming machines (also known as pokies) are located, or for the purposes of application, at which it is proposed that gaming machines be located.
Gaming machine	means a gaming machine as defined under section 4 of the Gambling Act, which in summary, is a device, whether totally or partly mechanically or electronically operated, that is adapted or designed and constructed for gambling; and is played by the insertion of money. It is also commonly known as a “pokie” machine.
Harm	means harm or distress of any kind arising from, or caused or exacerbated by, a person’s gambling; and includes personal, social, or economic harm suffered— i. by the person; or ii. by the person’s spouse, civil union partner, de facto partner, family, iii. whanau, or wider community; or iv. in the workplace; or v. by society at large
Relocation/relocating	means where a new venue replaces an existing venue in a different location.
TAB venue	means premises owned or leased by TAB NZ and where the main business carried on at the premises is providing racing betting, sports betting, or other racing or sports betting services under the Racing Industry Act.

3. Objectives of the Policy

3.1 To minimise harm to Kapiti Coast District communities caused by Class 4 gambling and TAB venue gambling to the extent this can be reasonably done through a gambling policy.

3.2 To use a sinking lid[1] approach to:

3.2.1 ensure no additional Class 4 gambling venues and gaming machines are established in the Kapiti Coast Council District (the District).

3.2.2 ensure no Class 4 gambling venues relocate within the District.

3.2.3 ensure no Class 4 gambling club venues merge within the District.

3.2.4 ensure no new TAB venues are established in the District.

3.3 To ensure that Council and its communities have involvement in decisions about the provision of Class 4 gambling venues and TAB venues in the District.

4. Rules Regarding Existing Class 4 Gambling Venues

4.1 The Gambling Act imposes a number of restrictions on gaming machines including:

4.1.1 section 92 provides that venues that held a licence on 17 October 2001 are restricted to a maximum of 18 gaming machines.

4.1.2 section 93 provides that venues that did not hold a licence on 17 October 2001 are restricted to a maximum of nine gaming machines.

4.2. The primary activity of all Class 4 gambling venues must not be the operating of gaming machines.

5. Where Class 4 Gambling Venues may be Established

5.1 No additional Class 4 gambling venues are to be established in any part of the District without Council consent.

6. Relocation of Class 4 Gambling Venues

6.1 Class 4 gambling venue licences cannot be transferred to a new location in the District without Council consent.

7. Merging of Class 4 Gambling Club Venues

7.1 No Class 4 club venues are to merge in any part of the District without Council consent.

[1] A sinking lid approach means when a venue closes, loses its licence or looks to relocate, no consent will be issued for any new or re-establishing venue.

8. Numbers of Class 4 Gaming Machines

8.1 No increase in Class 4 gaming machine numbers at Class 4 gambling venues in any part of the District is permitted without Council consent.

9. Where TAB venues may be established

9.1 No new TAB venues are to be established in any part of the District without Council consent[2].

10. Applications and Fees for Consents

10.1 Any consent applications will be reviewed in line with this Policy and processed in accordance with the Environmental Compliance Officer hourly rate for extraordinary activities as set in the current Annual Plan.

11. Next Policy Review

11.1 In accordance with section 102 of the Gambling Act and section 97 of the Racing Industry Act, this Policy will be reviewed by Council in 2029.

Document Control:

Policy Version	Description	Approval date
1	New Policy	14 December 2023
2	Technical amendment	26 September 2024
3	Policy reviewed	20 October 2026

[2] For the avoidance of doubt, this Policy only applies to TAB venues as defined in this Policy. It does not cover TAB betting services in premises not owned or leased by TAB NZ (such as in bars and clubs).