

OIR: 2425/1182

19 November 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED],

Request for Information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) (the LGOIMA)

Thank you for your email of **5 November 2024** requesting the following information:

- 1. How many off-licences were operating in your territorial authority boundaries as at 30 June 2024 (if you cannot confirm at that specific date, how many off-licences do you currently have operating in your territorial authority boundaries? Please confirm which date you have used)***

Approximately 49, as of 12 November 2024.

- 2. What are your current recruitment criteria and qualification requirements for appointing DLC Members and Chairs?***

In line with guidance issued by the Health Promotion Agency on *Selecting and Appointing District Licencing Committees*, Council's current recruitment advertisement criteria include: knowledge of alcohol licensing and legal frameworks associated with it; an understanding of the impact of alcohol related harm on communities; an understanding of local Māori communities and the cultural and ethnic make-up of local communities, including their aspirations, concerns and expectations about alcohol and alcohol-related harm; experience applying legislative and regulatory frameworks; knowledge of and familiarity with the conduct of public hearings; and excellent verbal and written skills and the highest standard of professional and personal integrity.

- 3. What procedures have you implemented to give effect to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act (Community Participation) Bill Amendments?***

No hearings have been taken place under the amended provisions (enforced in 2024) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 to date. The Chair and list members have been sent training opportunities through the DLC Network on

Please note that any information provided in response to your request may be published on the Council website, with your personal details removed.

the amendments and new process documentation has been drafted to ensure the Chair and list members are guided through the specific changes and aware of their obligations.

4. *What tikanga protocols have you implemented to give effect to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act (Community Participation) Bill Amendments?*

No hearings have been taken place under the amended provisions (enforced in 2024) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 to date. The Chair and list members have been sent training opportunities through the DLC Network on the amendments and new process documentation has been drafted to ensure the Chair and list members are guided through the specific changes and aware of their obligations in relation to Tikanga Māori protocols and Te Reo Māori.

5. *Have you seen any notable changes in community participation since implementation of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act (Community Participation) Bill?*

As our overall number of hearings this triennium is low (only 7 held since 2022) we have not had much time to see if there are any notable trends since the Act changes took effect on 31 May 2024.

However notably, we had a large number of public objections on one recent occasion to a new Off Licence application.

What is notable, is the mechanism to submit an objection, was facilitated by way of a Jotform. This has allowed the objectors to select options relevant to criteria of the Act and provide further comment. We anticipate this may happen more frequently as digital tools reach a far wider audience (including those outside of the district) are easier to use and can gain traction in social media space.

We have not held any hearings implementing the other new changes, relating to the new hearing format as of yet.

Ngā mihi,



Brendan Owens

Group Manager Customer and Community
Kaiwhakahaere Rōpū - Kiritaki me te Hapori