

## Response ID ANON-3QYT-HCAE-2

Submitted to Questions for DLC Annual Reports 2023-2024

Submitted on 2024-09-05 14:58:34

### Questions relating to the make up of your DLC

1 Please provide the name of your District Licensing Committee and a generic email address to which general correspondence will be certain of a response.

generic email:

DLCSecretary@tasman.govt.nz  
regulatory.admin@tasman.govt.nz

2 Please provide the name, email and contact number of your Committee's Secretary.

generic email:

Melanie Welch  
melanie.welch@tasman.govt.nz  
035438441

3 Please name each of your Licensing Inspectors and provide their email and contact number.

generic email:

Tracy Waddington  
tracy.waddington@tasman.govt.nz  
0272460285

Deirdre O'Grady  
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(03)5437243

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(03)543508

### New Licences 2023-2024

4 a) How many applications for new on-licences did your committee grant?

report:

13

4 b) How many applications for new on-licences did your committee refuse?

report:

0

4 c) How many applications for new off-licences did your committee grant?

report:

10

4 d) How many applications for new off-licences did your committee refuse?

report:

2

4 e) How many applications for new club licences did your committee grant?

report:

1

4 f) How many applications for new club licences did your committee refuse?

report:

0

#### Managers' Certificates 2023-2024

5 a) How many applications for new manager's certificates did your committee grant?

report:

125

5 b) How many applications for new manager's certificates did your committee refuse?

report:

0

#### Renewals 2023-2024

6 a) How many applications for the renewal of licences did your committee grant?

report:

70

6 b) How many applications for the renewal of licences did your committee refuse?

report:

0

6 c) How many applications for the renewal of manager's certificates did your committee grant?

report:

169

6 d) How many applications for the renewals of manager's certificates did your committee refuse?

report:

0

#### Total Number of Licences (new and existing) at 30 June 2024

7 a) What is the total number of on-licences in your licensing district?

report:

106

7 b) What is the total number of off-licences in your licensing district?

report:

92

7 c) What is the total number of club licences in your licensing district?

report:

30

#### Questions

8 Please comment on any changes or trends in the committee's workload in 2023-2024.

report:

Public interest regarding new off-license applications has been high in the Waimea/Moutere Ward of the Tasman District, with specific public concern from Mapua and Brightwater settlements particularly relating to increased harm and proposed locations proximity to sensitive community sites.

There is a sense that the recent community participation amendments will continue to see a rise in community interest regarding liquor licensing.

It is pleasing to see that Agencies and the licensing inspectors through their respective reports are evidencing conversations with applicants at renewal regarding requested hours of operating compared to actual current opening hours for both on and off license holders, and where agreement can be made reflecting this in their recommendations to the DLC.

In terms of workload, the flow is managed very well by an experienced and competent DLC Secretary and the team surrounding her. The information and support provided to the DLC is first-class.

9 Please comment on any new initiatives the committee has developed/adopted in 2023-2024.

report:

The DLC has recently appointed two additional commissioners and is planning to network with our adjacent (Nelson City) DLC to find synergies and share insights on applications across our combined districts. This is seen as important considering the many joint activities that our two Councils already engage in.

The Chair and Deputy Chair of the Tasman DLC have a close working relationship and means that in the absence of the Chair, the Deputy is fully prepared to step in, she has chaired a DLC hearing. This has been a key focus as has the appointment of two additional commissioners to ensure hearing can be scheduled in a timely manner and so as more emphasis can be put on meeting the needs of the community and applicants.

The DLC Chair and Deputy Chair have met with agencies this year to again focus on expectations about timeliness, clarification of roles and to foster the ongoing professional relationship between agencies and the DLC.

A current area of focus is reviewing how more publicity, through existing Council communication streams, can be given to notifications for licensing.

## LAPs

10 Has your committee developed a Local Alcohol Policy? (LAP)

Yes

If the answer is yes, at what stage is your LAP?

In Force

11 If the answer to 10 is 'in force', what effect do you consider your LAP is having?

report:

The main effect the LAP has is in restricting licence hours for on-licences (8am to 2am) and off-licences (7am to 10pm)

12 If the answer to 10 is 'in force', when is your LAP due for review - date?

report:

The LAP was reviewed in 2020 and adopted without change. It is due for renewal in 2026.

## Operations

13 Please comment on the ways in which you believe the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 is, or is not, achieving its objective. Note: the object of the Act is: a) The sale, supply, and consumption of alcohol should be undertaken safely and responsibly; and b) The harm caused by the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol should be minimised.

report:

While the objectives of the Act are being partially met, there are notable omissions that, if addressed, could significantly enhance its effectiveness. These omissions include the implementation of minimum pricing per unit of alcohol and the restriction of alcohol advertising and sponsorship. Additionally, the Act would benefit from a clear definition of excessive and inappropriate consumption to guide decision-making.

Emerging research indicates that even low levels of alcohol consumption are associated with harm. However, this is not widely acknowledged or understood by the public, necessitating case-by-case litigation to address such issues

14 What changes or trends in licensing have you seen since the Act came into force?

report:

There is a growing community interest regarding alcohol licensing. This is resulting in a growing confidence among communities to lodge objections for new on/off licensed applications, particularly for bottle stores. This trend may be attributed to the successful hearing in Mapua in 2023, where the community and tri-agencies objected to an off-licence bottle store, resulting in the application being declined by the DLC. The fact that objectors can no longer be cross-examined by a lawyer at hearings has also bolstered community confidence in lodging these objections.

Additionally, there is an increase in winery cellar door off-licences shifting to remote sales only, driven by the rising cost of living and the lower risk rating and cost associated with remote sale licenses.

Furthermore, there has been an increase in existing licences not being renewed in our area, which may also be influenced by the increased cost of living and the current economic climate.

15 What changes to practices and procedures under the Act (if any) would you find beneficial?

report:

A revision of the fees regulations is urgently needed. Since the introduction of the Act and Regulations in 2012 and 2013, fees have remained unchanged, while the costs of providing licensing and compliance functions for Councils have continued to rise. Currently, licensing is subsidised by up to 50% from ratepayer funding, which is both inequitable and unsustainable.

Additionally, there should be a mechanism to charge applicants for the costs of holding public hearings. Currently, these costs are borne by the community through rates, rather than a user-pays system similar to that under the Resource Management legislation.

Last Step