

Submission: Draft Local Alcohol Policy 2014

North Harbour Business Association

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Date of submission: 16 July 2014

Please note: We do wish to speak to this submission.

Introduction:

North Harbour Business Association is an industrial BID area, representing over 2500 commercial property owners and businesses within the North Harbour area.

Our business comprise of a mix of Small Medium Enterprises (SME), multinational organisations representing sectors such as ICT, business services, specialist manufacturing and light – medium warehousing. We have on licence, off licence and club licenced premises. In addition to the businesses, we have key educational institutions such as Unitec, Pinehurst, Kristin and Albany Primary schools – plus additional vocational institutions, all within an industrial estate which is on average less than 20 years old. We also have leisure facilities with North Shore Golf Club and North Harbour Softball and Hockey fields within our BID area.

Our primary interests are those decisions within the Draft Local Alcohol Policy 2014 which:

- Impact on North Harbour Business Association members of the above mentioned policy relating to Broad Area B
- Impact on the commercial viability and competitiveness of business – across a short to medium timeframe
- Impact on economic development and the ability to leverage value from location
- The number of licences of each kind held for premises in the district, and the location and opening hours of each of the premises
- The nature and severity of the alcohol related problems arising in the district.

Feedback to proposed structure and processes:

NHBA and their members support the intent of Draft Local Alcohol Policy to tighten up the sale, supply and consumption of alcohol.

Question 8

We support Auckland Councils recommendations that the DLC and ARLA should issue and renew all on-licences in the Auckland Region subject to the conditions as set out on pages 45 – 49 of The Draft Auckland Council Local Alcohol Policy and summarised below

4.4 Discretionary conditions to be applied to all on-licences

- Prohibited persons 4.4.2
- Host responsibility 4.4.3 and 4.4.4
- Register of alcohol-related incidents 4.4.5, 4.4.6, 4.4.7, 4.4.8
- Display of information about safe transport 4.4.9, 4.4.10, 4.4.11
- Designation 4.4.12

4.5 Discretionary conditions to be applied to on-licences on a case-by-case basis.

- Restrictions on drinks prior to closing 4.5.2
- Queue management 4.5.3
- Security staff 4.5.4
- Manager for BYO restaurant 4.5.5
- Clean public area 4.5.6
- Designation of taverns 4.5.7

4.6 Additional matters to be considered for discretionary conditions

On-Licences in the NHBID

We have an interest in ensuring that businesses in the NH BID are not penalised, as they are located under the proposed Auckland Unitary Plan within the Light Industrial Base business zone. (Note: NHBA have submitted to change the base zone under the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan (PAUP) to predominantly General Businesses Zone). We have concerns regarding the close proximity of competing businesses who are located within a Metropolitan Base business zone under the PAUP and therefore have a wider range of commercial activities permitted.

We support 9:00 am to 3:00am in Broad area A, but raise some concerns in relation to bar patrons getting safely home from the City Centre or Town Centre to the Northshore. We

believe that there is a possibility of patrons being left at Northern Expressway Park n Rides with no ability to get home and the ability to engage in anti-social behaviour in the area which will impact our membership property and assets, within this area. Good public transport should be provided to balance the apparent mismatch with on one hand encouraging people to leave vehicles out of the city (I am talking about designated safety drivers) and the inability to travel home from the city when it is the only place that is open for the consumption of alcohol at a bar after 1:00am

Question 9b

No new off-licences for a two year period then very limited access to new licences. This appears to make it very difficult for any new subdivisions to get a new local off-licence business in their area. We would ask that consideration is given to fast growing new suburbs.

Question 12

The introduction on page 15 of The Draft Auckland Council Local Alcohol Policy states that the new National default maximum for Off-licence is 11pm.
Sec 5.4.1(b) of The Draft Auckland Council Local Alcohol Policy brings in a 10pm maximum which is lower than the national maximum.

We agree with the new maximum hours for off-licences **providing** all off licences comply with the same rules.

We agree with discretionary conditions as set out in 5.5, 5.6 and 5.7 on pages 53 – 54 of The Draft Auckland Council Local Alcohol Policy

Question 13

Off Licence, there is a strong feeling within the association that all off licence businesses have the ability to sell alcohol on a level playing field. Supermarkets should not get preferential treatment to be able to sell liquor after other off-licence businesses have had to close. Nor should other commercial enterprises due to their business activity zone within the PAUP.

Question 16

The NHBA has two Gentleman clubs as members of the NH BID, one has an alcohol licence and the other does not. The club with a licence is in a location away from any residential dwellings and schools would like to continue to operate its liquor licence until 3:00am as it does at present. We will be able to provide further information on this clubs interaction with the community during the hearing process. They will say that they are operating a model business in relation to alcohol sales.

Conclusion:

On behalf of our members, NHBA wishes to acknowledge Auckland City Council's commitment to public consultation with business.

We would expect NH BID on-licence businesses be given the opportunity to apply for a maximum hours extension to enable them to remain competitive with nearby businesses operating in a operators due to the nearby location in a Metropolitan zone. We recognise we are simply asking for the opportunity, as due to transport links and foot fall they may deem 1.00 am sufficient.

We will consult further with

- Education
- NZ Police
- Community groups members such as the Salvation Army
- Security patrols
- Hospitality trade

We will combine the feed back in our oral hearing presentation. If you require this ahead of the hearing please advise.