



Social Impact Assessment

Research and evidence prepared to inform the review of the
Local Alcohol Policy

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Introduction

Alcohol plays a significant role in the social, economic, and cultural life of communities across the Tasman District. It contributes to employment, hospitality, tourism, and local events, while also being associated with a range of harms affecting individuals, whānau, and neighbourhoods. The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 enables councils to adopt a Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) to guide how alcohol is sold, supplied, and consumed in their area, with the aim of minimising harm and supporting safe, responsible use. This Social Impact Assessment brings together local data, research, and community perspectives to build a comprehensive understanding of how alcohol impacts Tasman communities and to support evidence based decision making as part of the LAP review.

Purpose and scope of this report

The purpose of this report is to assess the social, economic, and health-related impacts of alcohol within the Tasman District and to provide a robust evidence base to inform the review of the Local Alcohol Policy. Specifically, the report:

- Draws together national legislation, local regulatory context, and relevant academic and sector research.
- Presents demographic, economic, health, licensing, and Police data to build a detailed picture of alcohol availability, consumption, and harm in Tasman.
- Summarises insights from engagement with iwi, youth councils, health organisations, licence holders, Police, community groups, and the wider public.
- Identifies key issues, patterns, and considerations relevant to alcohol-related harm and community wellbeing.
- Supports the development of policy options that are reasonable, evidence-based, and aligned with the requirements of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act.

The scope of the report includes alcohol availability, accessibility, and associated impacts across the district, with attention to both positive contributions and harm.

Executive Summary

Alcohol plays a prominent role in the social and economic life of the Tasman District, contributing to employment, hospitality, tourism, and community events. At the same time, alcohol availability and consumption are associated with a wide range of harms affecting individuals, families, and neighbourhoods. This Social Impact Assessment provides a comprehensive overview of how alcohol impacts the district and is intended to inform the review of Tasman District Council's Local Alcohol Policy (LAP).

The assessment brings together legislative context, local demographic and economic data, Police and health evidence, and extensive engagement with iwi, youth councils, licence holders, health organisations, NGOs, and the wider community. Tasman's population continues to grow and diversify, with an ageing demographic and generally lower levels of socioeconomic deprivation compared with national patterns. Alcohol-related industries, including hospitality, tourism, and retail, make a measurable contribution to the local economy, though recent growth has slowed.

Alcohol consumption trends nationally show a decline in total volumes consumed, yet alcohol-related harm remains significant. Tasman-specific data highlights steady increases in Police-recorded alcohol-related incidents between 2021 and 2025, with the highest levels concentrated in Richmond and Motueka. Health data also indicates ongoing impacts on emergency department presentations and hospitalisations, though changes in recording practices create challenges in fully understanding recent trends. ACC claims for alcohol-related incidents have fluctuated over the past five years but remain a consistent burden.

Community feedback reflects a diversity of perspectives. Many residents, health organisations, iwi, NGOs, and Police emphasised concerns about domestic violence, drink driving, youth exposure, and the clustering of outlets in specific areas. These groups often support strengthening controls on availability, advertising, and trading hours, particularly around sensitive sites such as schools. Conversely, licence holders and business groups highlighted the economic and social value of licensed premises, the importance of regulatory certainty, and the need to avoid unnecessary restrictions that could negatively impact low-risk businesses or community events. These views were also shared by many members of the public. Views also varied on the role and effectiveness of conditions applied to special licences and event-based alcohol management.

Youth councils reported high visibility of alcohol, concerns about ease of access through secondary supply, and a drinking culture linked to social identity and pressure. They

supported measures to reduce visibility near schools but questioned whether changes to trading hours would affect young people's access.

The literature review reinforces that trading hours are an effective lever for reducing harm, while evidence on advertising impacts is more mixed. Outlet density is generally associated with increased alcohol harm; however, some researchers acknowledge that causal direction cannot be proven. Online and rapid-delivery alcohol services present emerging challenges due to inconsistent age verification and aggressive marketing.

The findings show that alcohol remains a significant factor in community wellbeing in Tasman. While most adults consume alcohol responsibly, harm is unevenly distributed and disproportionately affects certain communities. The Social Impact Assessment provides a robust evidence base to support the development of a revised Local Alcohol Policy that is reasonable, effective, and responsive to Tasman's unique social, cultural, and economic context.

Our proposal

Proposed to stay the same

Proposed maximum trading hours:

On licences (such as restaurants, pubs, taverns and cafés)	8am – 2am the following day
Off licences (such as supermarkets, bottle stores and grocery stores)	7am - 10pm
Club licences (RSA, sports clubs etc.)	8am – 2am the following day
Special licences (for festivals, one-off events etc.)	At the discretion of the District Licensing Committee

Elected members are also considering two other options for maximum off licence hours. These are 7am – 9pm, and 9am – 9pm.

Proposed changes

Buy Now Pay Later (BNPL)

We are proposing to include considerations of Buy Now Pay Later (BNPL) in the discretionary conditions for off licences. This would mean that the District Licensing Committee could have the ability to grant an off licence, on the condition that BNPL services are not promoted or used for the sale of alcohol.

Why are we proposing this change?

BNPL services differ from credit cards largely because they offer very low-barrier, near-instant approvals, often involving only a soft credit check or no meaningful affordability assessment at all, making them accessible even to consumers who would not qualify for a credit card. This ease of access, coupled with minimal upfront cost (typically just the first instalment) can create a misleading sense of affordability, encouraging people to take on debt they may struggle to repay. Credit cards, by contrast, require more stringent credit checks and clearer disclosure of obligations, making the cost of borrowing more visible and regulated.

BNPL schemes increase the perceived affordability of alcohol, encouraging higher consumption and financial strain among already vulnerable consumers. Research indicates that BNPL use in alcohol retail disproportionately affects low-income households, younger people, and those already experiencing debt, compounding both financial and social harm. These findings have led public health organisations to advocate for regulatory measures, including LAP conditions prohibiting BNPL, to minimise harm and uphold the objectives of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act.

Bottle stores within 100 metres of schools

We are proposing that there should be a presumption against alcohol licences being issued for *new* bottle stores that are within 100 metres (walking distance) of schools. This means that the default position is that a licence should not be granted in these locations, and anyone applying for one would need to provide strong, compelling reasons to outweigh that starting point.

For the purposes of this Policy, a bottle store is:

A retail premises where (in the opinion of the licensing authority or licensing committee concerned) at least 85% of the annual sales revenue is expected to be earned from the sale of alcohol for consumption somewhere else, and where the retail offer consists of a wide range of mainstream packaged alcoholic beverages.

A bottle store does not include:

- *Producer-based premises (such as tap rooms or cellar doors) where takeaway alcohol is limited to products made on-site or sourced from a single local producer or a small group of local producers;*
- *Specialty or boutique alcohol retailers that sell a curated or limited selection of products rather than a broad, general retail range.*

This definition is intended to acknowledge the value of local producers in our hop and wine growing region, and that these smaller, craft businesses are generally not considered the target of such Policy measures.

Why are we proposing this change?

Research shows that school proximity to alcohol stores also increases the likelihood of early alcohol use. Furthermore, young people who have greater exposure to alcohol advertising (including storefront advertising) are more likely to have initiated alcohol use or to be consuming alcohol.

In 2023, a proposed liquor store in Māpua near the local primary school prompted strong community opposition, with many residents and stakeholders coming together to have their say. Given this strong community response, including a presumption against new bottle stores near schools, could save time for everyone involved. The application in Māpua and subsequent community response also generated several days of hearings, which comes at a cost to rate payers. This approach would give the community confidence, while also providing more certainty for applicants planning new businesses.

Minor discretionary condition changes

Under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, discretionary conditions are licence conditions that a District Licensing Committee (DLC) may impose if it decides they are appropriate and consistent with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

A LAP can identify or recommend discretionary conditions that licensing bodies may consider when assessing licence applications, but the decision to apply any condition remains case-by-case.

The DLC can apply discretionary conditions without the use of a LAP or having them explicitly listed in the Policy. However, including common conditions in the Policy provides applicants with a clear and transparent indication of what may be expected.

Examples of new potential discretionary conditions include:

- Maintaining an incident log
- Site-specific Host Responsibility Policy
- Noise Management Plans
- Post event reporting for large events
- Alcohol Risk Management Plan for large-scale events
- Presence of a certified manager at large events
- Restrictions on exterior product or price advertising

Why are we proposing these changes?

These changes are proposed to improve clarity, predictability, and preparedness for licence applicants, while preserving the District Licensing Committee's discretion on a case-by-case basis. By signalling a set of commonly used discretionary conditions in the Policy, applicants are better able to understand the types of operational expectations that may arise for certain activities, scales, or risk profiles, and to factor these into their planning, resourcing, and application materials.

Including these conditions also supports more transparent and consistent decision-making. It helps reduce uncertainty, avoids applicants being surprised by conditions late in the process, and may lead to more complete and better targeted applications, for example by encouraging proactive consideration of host responsibility, noise management, and event risk. This, in turn, can streamline assessment processes.

Listing these conditions in the Policy does not make them mandatory. It simply makes visible what is already within the DLC's discretion, supporting fairness for applicants while enabling licensing bodies to continue tailoring conditions to the specific circumstances of each application.

Section 1: Regulatory Framework

Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act) allows for the sale, supply and consumption of alcohol in Aotearoa. Section 75(2) of the Act provides councils with the ability to introduce a Local Alcohol Policy.

The object of the Act is that:

- the sale, supply, and consumption of alcohol should be undertaken safely and responsibly; and
- the harm caused by the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol should be minimised.

Key features of the Act include:

- Increasing the ability of communities to have a say about alcohol licensing in their local area.
- Allowing local-level decision-making for all licence applications.
- Strengthening the rules around the types of stores allowed to sell alcohol.
- Introducing maximum default trading hours for licensed premises.

What is a Local Alcohol Policy (LAP)?

A Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) is a policy that a local Council can make to guide how alcohol is sold, supplied, or consumed in the district. It can cover things like the hours that licensed premises can operate and where they can be located.

The District Licensing Committee (DLC) and the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority (ARLA) must take any LAP into account when deciding on licence applications or renewals.

Having a LAP gives the community a way to influence alcohol rules in their area and have a say in how licences are managed.

When making a LAP, Councils must consider:

- The goals and rules in the District Plan.
- The health and makeup of local residents and visitors.
- How many licences already exist, where they are, and their opening hours.
- Areas where alcohol is banned in public spaces.
- The level and type of alcohol-related harm in the district¹.

Councils must also consult with the Police, alcohol licensing inspectors, and medical officers of health before making a draft policy.

A LAP can include²:

- **Maximum trading hours:** How long licensed premises can sell alcohol, which can be different from the law's maximum hours.
- **Location rules:** Restrictions on where licences can be issued, for example near schools or other sensitive sites.
- **Guidance on new licences:** Whether new licences, or certain types of licences, should be allowed.
- **Recommended conditions:** Optional rules that the DLC or ARLA can apply to licences if reasonable.

¹ [Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 No 120 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act 78 Territorial authorities must produce draft policy – New Zealand Legislation](#)

² [Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 No 120 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act 77 Contents of policies – New Zealand Legislation](#)

- **Specific licence conditions:** Rules that apply to certain types of licences, such as one-way door restrictions.

How does a Council adopt a LAP?

Councils can choose to make a Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) to guide how alcohol is sold and supplied in their area. If a council decides to make a LAP, they must first prepare a draft policy and formally consult with the community³. After consultation, deliberations and adoption, the council gives public notice of the policy⁴. The LAP becomes official 30 days after this notice (in some cases, three months' notice is required) and is sent to ARLA⁵.

Before mid-2023, councils had to submit a Provisional LAP (PLAP) to ARLA. People or groups who had made submissions on the draft could appeal the PLAP. Appeals were often made by community groups or the alcohol industry, and could take a long time, sometimes delaying or stopping the policy. Appeals could be settled through negotiation, or, if that didn't work, through a hearing at ARLA. Once all appeals were finished, the final policy became official 30 days after public notice.

In August 2023, the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Community Participation) Amendment Act was passed. This law gives communities more say in local alcohol rules. The main changes are:

- Appeals on LAPs are no longer allowed
- Councils no longer need a provisional LAP
- Cross-examination at licensing hearings is removed
- Anyone can object to an alcohol licence application

This means people can no longer appeal a LAP through ARLA, but they can still take legal action through judicial review. Overall, the changes make it easier for communities to have a say in local alcohol rules and encourage more people to get involved in licensing decisions.

³ [Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 No 120 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act 79 Territorial authority must consult on draft policy using special consultative procedure – New Zealand Legislation](#)

⁴ [Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 No 120 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act 80 Territorial authority must give public notice of finalised policy – New Zealand Legislation](#)

⁵ [Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 No 120 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act 81 When local alcohol policy adopted – New Zealand Legislation](#)

Licensing process and decision making

Under the Act there are four types of licences to sell and supply alcohol. These are⁶:

- On-licence – where alcohol is sold and consumed on the premises e.g., bars, taverns, nightclubs, BYO restaurants, venues hired for use for events like weddings/receptions.
- Off-licence – where alcohol is sold and consumed after it leaves the premises e.g., supermarkets, bottle stores, grocery stores.
- Special licence – where a licence is granted for a one-off or a series of large events. Special licences can be granted as an on-site special licence or off-site special licence.
- Club licence – where alcohol is bought and consumed on the premises, but the licence holder is a body corporate aimed at promoting a sport or recreational activity and does not operate for financial gain.

People who want to sell alcohol must apply to the District Licensing Committee (DLC)⁷. If a Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) exists, the DLC uses it to guide decisions.

When deciding whether to grant, renew, or vary a licence, the DLC must consider things like:

- The object of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act
- The design and layout of the premises
- How the licence might affect the local area and community

The DLC can approve, refuse, or place conditions on a licence. A licence can be refused if it doesn't follow the LAP. If approved, conditions can include those listed in the LAP or others allowed under the law, such as how the premises are managed.

Officials such as the Police, the Medical Officer of Health, and licensing inspectors must be given the opportunity to inquire into the application and provide reports to the DLC, including raising any opposition where appropriate. Anyone else can also object to a licence application or renewal, whether as an individual or representing a group⁸.

⁶ [Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 No 120 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act 13 Kinds of licence – New Zealand Legislation](#)

⁷ [Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 No 120 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act 99 Applications to be made to licensing committee – New Zealand Legislation](#)

⁸ [Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 No 120 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act 102 Objections to applications – New Zealand Legislation](#)

Previously, only people with a “greater interest” than the public, such as living or working nearby or being part of a local school or marae board, could object.

The new legislation also requires licensing committees to consider applications in a way that avoids unnecessary formality. Licensing committees must also allow for:

- Inclusion of tikanga Māori
- Use of te reo Māori
- Consideration of requests to participate remotely.

Monitoring, compliance and enforcement

Under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, responsibility for monitoring, compliance, and enforcement is shared between three regulatory agencies:

- Police
- Medical Officer of Health
- Territorial authority licensing inspectors (within councils)

These agencies play a critical role in overseeing licensed premises to ensure they operate in accordance with the law and with due regard to public health and safety. Their functions include routine monitoring, responding to complaints, undertaking investigations, and preparing reports. Where necessary, they may also apply for alcohol licences to be suspended, varied, or cancelled.

Territorial authority licensing inspectors are appointed by the Chief Executive of each council and are responsible for a range of regulatory functions. These include inspecting licensed premises, assessing and inquiring into licence applications, appearing at hearings, and making applications to the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority (ARLA) in relation to the modification or suspension of licences.

Control of Alcohol in Public Places Bylaw 2025

Tasman’s Control of Alcohol in Public Places Bylaw was reviewed in 2025. This included minor amendments to the previous Bylaw and was consulted on with the community.

An Alcohol Control Bylaw prohibits the possession and consumption of alcohol in certain locations at certain times. Councils are able to make alcohol control bylaws under s.147 of the Local Government Act 2002 following a full community consultation process. Alcohol ban areas are often introduced because of concern about disorderly behaviour and criminal offending linked to the consumption of alcohol in public places.

To make an alcohol ban area, there must be evidence of a high level of crime or disorder that is caused or made worse by consumption of alcohol, or that it is likely to arise if a current ban area is removed. Community and Police observations, along with Police data were used to inform this review.

Tasman's Control of Alcohol in Public Places Bylaw imposes prohibitions on the drinking, possession and carriage of alcohol, between 7pm on one day and 7am the following day on all days of the week in the following places:

- Brightwater and environs
- Collingwood
- Māpua and environs
- Motueka urban area
- Murchison
- Pōhara and environs
- Richmond urban area
- Aniseed valley
- Tapawera
- Wakefield and environs

And at all times on all days of the week in:

- Motueka CBD area
- Richmond CBD area
- Tākaka

Seasonal alcohol bans apply in the following locations:

- Kaiteriteri and environs: 4pm to 7am Alcohol Ban December to February inclusive. 7pm to 7am Alcohol Ban March to November inclusive.
- Riwaka and environs: 24 hour Alcohol Ban December to February inclusive. 7pm to 7am Alcohol Ban March to November inclusive.

Police enforce the bylaw using special powers under sections 169, 169A and 170 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Tasman Resource Management Plan (TRMP)

In developing and reviewing the Local Alcohol Policy (LAP), the Council must have regard for the Tasman Resource Management Plan (TRMP), as required by section 78 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. The TRMP provides the statutory framework for land use activities within the district, including where licensed premises may be located and, in

some circumstances, the operating hours associated with those activities. The LAP operates alongside this framework and cannot authorise any activity that is not permitted under the TRMP but may impose more restrictive provisions in relation to the sale and supply of alcohol where this is considered appropriate to address alcohol-related harm.

The interaction between the LAP and the TRMP requires careful consideration, as licensed premises may operate across a range of land use contexts, including commercial, retail, rural, community and, in some cases, industrial activities. While the TRMP determines whether a particular activity is permitted, controlled or requires resource consent, the LAP focuses on alcohol-specific matters such as location, density, and trading hours. In practice, this means that the LAP relies on the underlying planning framework to establish whether a use is lawful, while providing an additional, more targeted tool to manage the social and community impacts associated with alcohol availability.

Council should also consider the need for the LAP to remain robust over time, particularly in light of anticipated reform to the resource management system and potential future changes to plan structure, terminology or zoning frameworks. To this end, the LAP should align with the principles and outcomes of the TRMP, rather than rely solely on references to specific zone names or current plan provisions that may evolve. This approach supports consistency between planning and alcohol regulatory functions, while allowing the LAP to continue to operate effectively alongside future plan changes.

The LAP is designed to complement, rather than duplicate or override, the TRMP. By recognising the respective roles of each document, the policy should ensure that land use planning decisions and alcohol licensing decisions work together to support the wellbeing, safety and amenity of Tasman communities, while retaining sufficient flexibility to respond to future legislative and planning change.

Tasman's current LAP

Based on the Tasman District Council Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) reviewed and continued on 5 November 2020, the current settings are as follows:

Maximum Trading Hours

The policy sets maximum trading hours for different license types across the Tasman District territorial area:

- **On-Licences (e.g., pubs, restaurants, late-night bars):** Monday to Sunday, 8:00 am until 2:00 am the following day.
Hotel In-bedroom (mini-bar) sales: 24 hours per day, Monday to Sunday.

- **Off-Licences (e.g., bottle stores, supermarkets):** Monday to Sunday, 7:00 am to 10:00 pm.
- **Club Licences:** Monday to Sunday, 8:00 am until 2:00 am the following day.
- **Special Licences:** Discretionary up to 24 hours a day, Monday to Sunday. However, for premises with existing on-licences, the special licence closing time is generally no more than two hours later than their permitted on-licence hours.

Location and Licensing Restrictions

- **Zoning Requirements:** No new off-licences are to be issued unless the premises is already licensed or is located on land zoned Central Business, Commercial and Tourist Services (or has a specific Resource Consent).
- **Residential Proximity:** The Tasman Resource Management Plan restricts operating hours for licensed premises in zones adjacent to residential zones to no later than 11:00 pm.

Discretionary Conditions

The District Licensing Committee (DLC) may apply various conditions, including:

Management & Security:

- "One-way door" restrictions for late-night bars, nightclubs, or special events.
- Requirements for additional security staff or the presence of a manager's certificate holder during busy periods.
- CCTV installation and effective exterior lighting.

Environmental Design: Supermarkets and bottle stores are encouraged to apply Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles, including specific lighting, internal layout, and CCTV requirements.

Service Restrictions: Limitations on the size of servings (e.g., "doubles"), the time of "last orders," and restricting the use of outdoor areas after a certain hour.

Special Events: Special licences for a series of events should not exceed 6 months or more than 25 events.

- Prohibition of alcohol consumption at school fetes or galas held on school grounds where children are expected to participate.

- Restrictions on glassware in outdoor areas, often requiring plastic containers or cans instead.

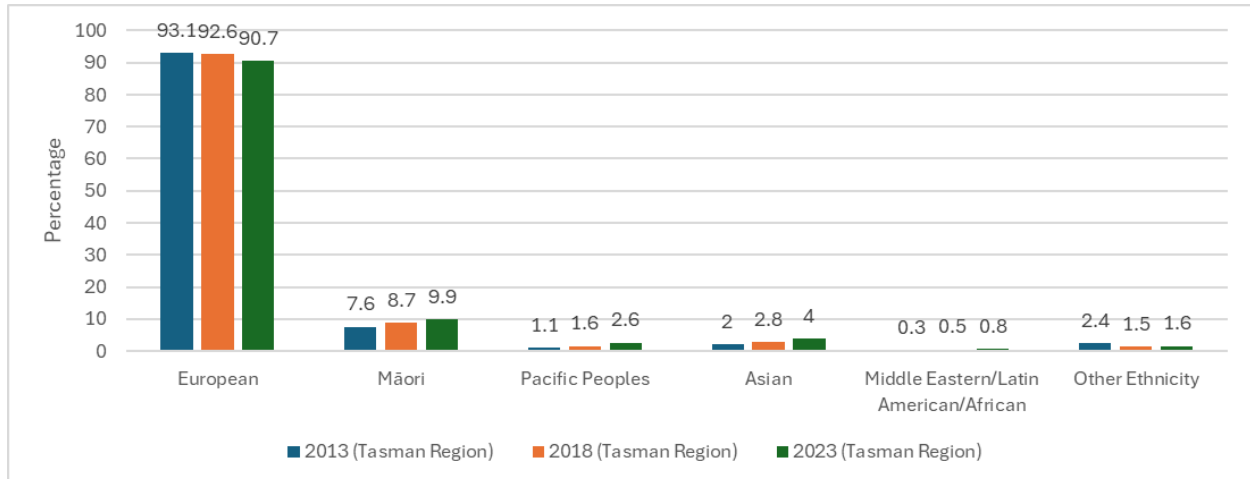
Section 2: Tasman and alcohol

The purpose of this section is to determine what impact alcohol is having within our communities in the Tasman District. This report explores the positive and negative impacts of alcohol in Tasman. The benefits of alcohol are primarily seen through the financial contribution the alcohol industry has on the economy through alcohol sales, employment and the hospitality industry (cafes, taverns, bars and restaurants). Negative impacts are depicted through data gathered from health organisations and the Police on alcohol related harm.

About Tasman

Tasman is a district of 59,900 people in Te Tau Ihu. While the population is predominantly made up of NZ Europeans, the District is starting to become more diverse, with notable increases in Māori, Pasifika and Asian populations in recent years.

Percentage of population that identify with each ethnic group (level 1), Tasman Region and New Zealand, 2013–2023 Censuses⁹



Tasman District Council updates the Growth Model every three years as part of the long term planning process. Tasman's 10-Year Plan 2024-2034 assumes that Tasman District's population is likely to grow by almost 7,400 residents over the next ten years, to reach

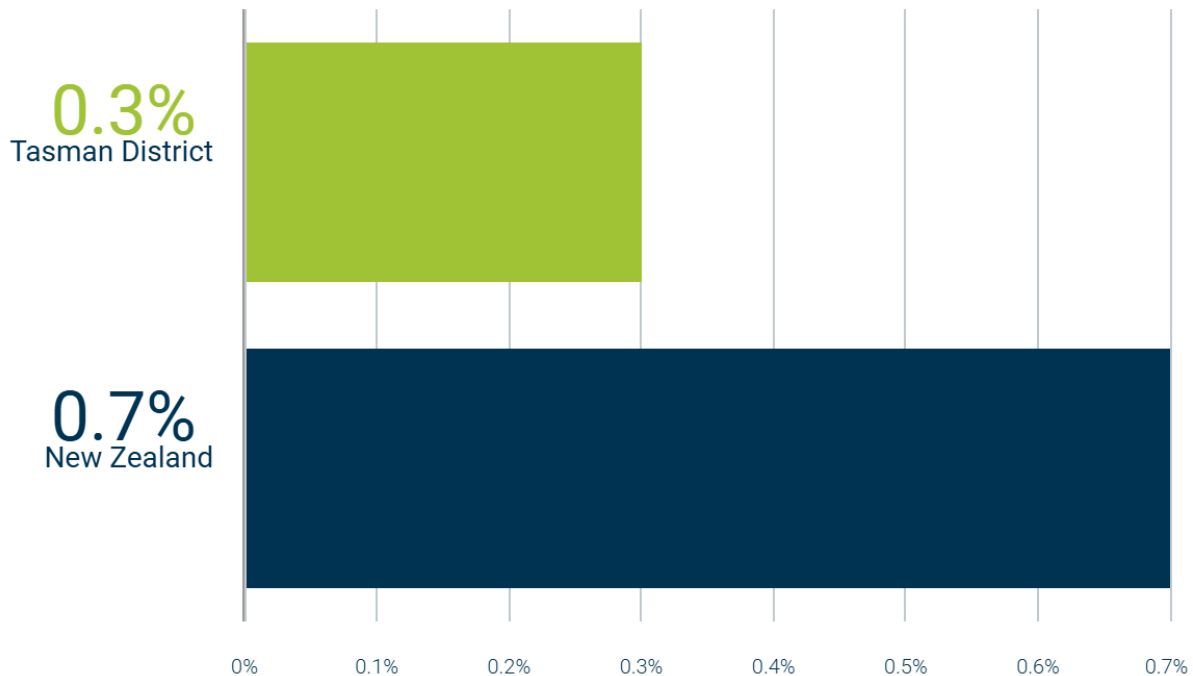
⁹ tools.summaries.stats.govt.nz/places/RC/tasman-region#ethnicity

67,900. Growth is projected to continue in the long term, but at a slower rate, to reach 78,800 by 2054. This is based on the medium scenario of updated population projections¹⁰.

In 2025 Tasman's population grew by 0.3%, as opposed to 0.7% growth for the whole of New Zealand¹¹.

Population growth, 2025

Annual % change, year to 30 June 2025



Employment

Employment in the Tasman District totaled 27,845 for the year ending March 2025, representing a 1.7% decline from the previous year. This contraction was more pronounced than the national trend, which saw a 1.1% decrease in employment over the same period. Despite this recent downturn, which represents a historical low for the district since a peak growth of 6.1% in 2004, Tasman's long-term labor market performance remains robust; employment growth averaged 2.5% per annum over the decade leading into 2025, outperforming the New Zealand average of 1.9% per annum. As of 2025, the Tasman District continues to account for 1.0% of total national employment¹².

¹⁰ [Growth model | Tasman District Council](#)

¹¹ [Regional Economic Profile | Tasman District | Population growth](#)

¹² [Regional Economic Profile | Tasman District | Employment growth](#)

GDP per capita

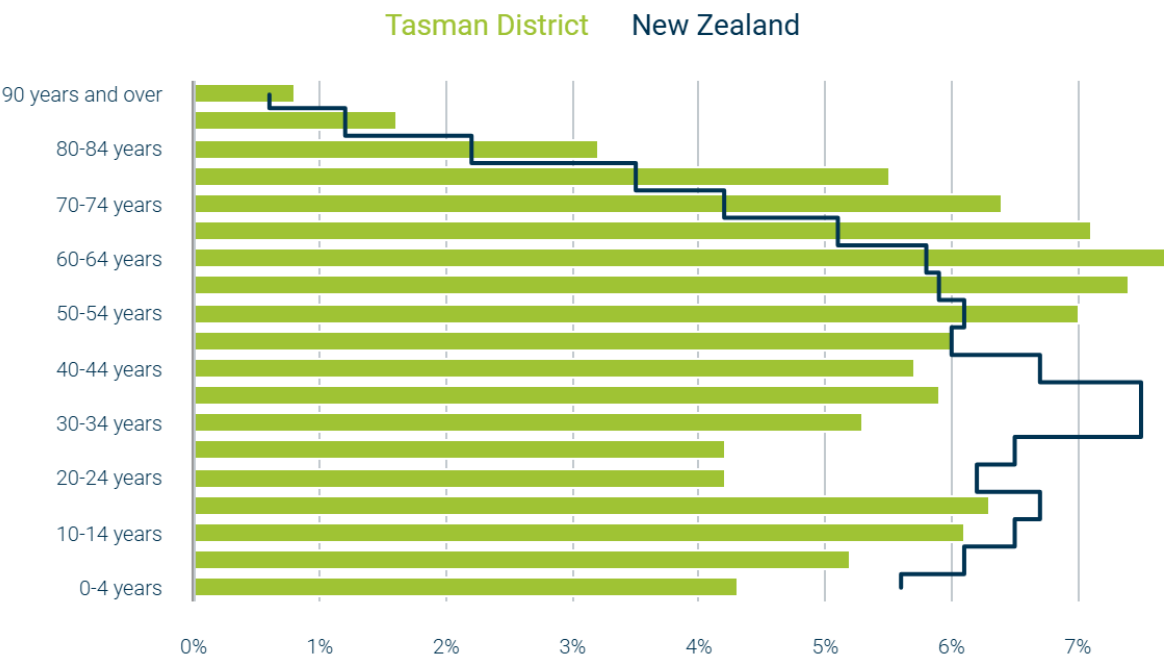
As a gauge of economic health and prosperity, GDP per capita measures the economic output of an area relative to the number of people living there. In 2025, the Tasman District’s GDP per capita was \$59,876, which is lower than the New Zealand average of \$81,071. However, the district’s economy showed resilience with a growth rate of 0.5% for the year ending March 2025. This was a stronger result than the national average, which saw a decline of 1.5% over the same period¹³.

Age composition of the population

In 2025, about 60% of the Tasman District’s population was of working age (15–64), which is slightly lower than the national average of 65%. The district also has a smaller proportion of children and teenagers, with those aged 0–14 making up 15.7% of the community compared to 18.2% across New Zealand. Notably, Tasman has a much higher percentage of seniors; nearly one in four residents (24.5%) is aged 65 or older, while the national figure is significantly lower at 16.9%¹⁴.

Population by 5-year age group, 2025

% of total, as at 30 June



¹³ [Regional Economic Profile | Tasman District | GDP per capita](#)

¹⁴ [Regional Economic Profile | Tasman District | Age composition](#)

Socioeconomic deprivation

The New Zealand index of socioeconomic deprivation is a tool developed by the University of Otago to measure the relative poverty or "deprivation" of different areas. Instead of looking at individuals, it assesses small geographic areas based on eight key dimensions from census data: communication, income, employment, qualifications, home ownership, support, living space, and dwelling condition.

Each area is assigned a decile number from 1 to 10:

- Decile 1 represents the 10% of areas in New Zealand with the lowest levels of deprivation (the most well-off areas).
- Decile 10 represents the 10% of areas with the highest levels of deprivation (the most disadvantaged areas).

Because these scores are calculated for specific neighborhoods rather than for a single person or household, they provide a "snapshot" of the local community. This helps organizations understand where resources, services, or social support might be needed most.

The Tasman District has a different socioeconomic deprivation profile compared with New Zealand as a whole. A higher proportion of Tasman's population sits in the mid-range deprivation categories (particularly deciles 3 and 7), while comparatively fewer people live in the most deprived areas. Notably, only 0.8% of Tasman residents are in the most deprived decile, compared with 10.5% nationally. Tasman also has slightly fewer residents in the least deprived decile than the national average. Overall, this distribution indicates that deprivation in Tasman is more evenly spread across middle deciles, with lower concentrations of extreme deprivation than is seen nationally.

Percentage of population by New Zealand index of socioeconomic deprivation, Tasman Region and New Zealand, 2023 Census¹⁵

¹⁵ tools.summaries.stats.govt.nz/places/RC/tasman-region#new-zealand-index-of-socioeconomic-deprivation

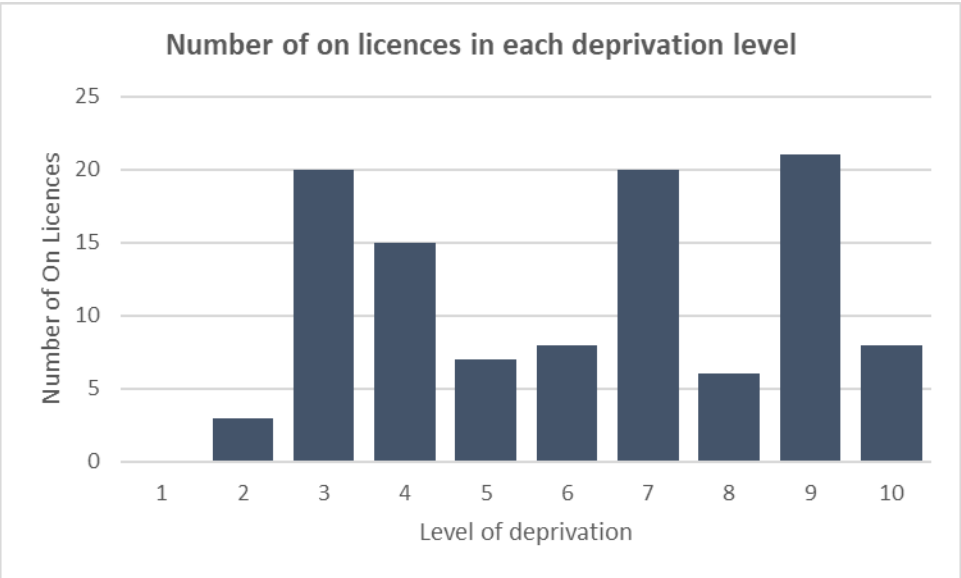
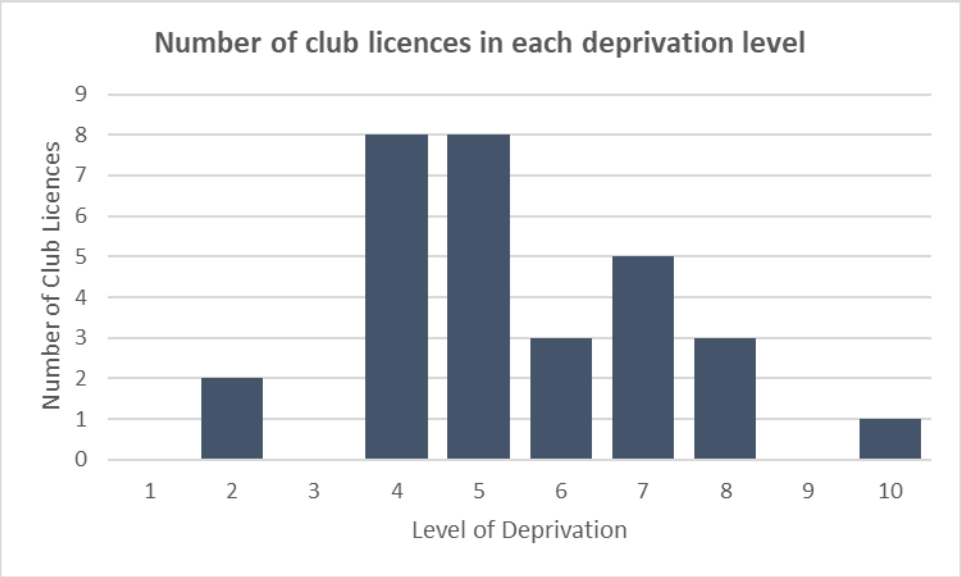


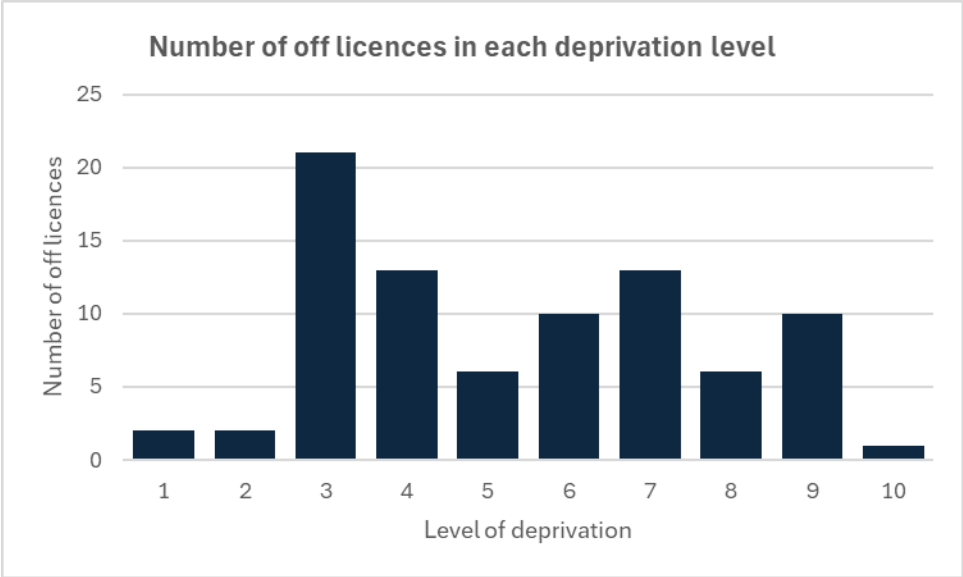
Alcohol licensing in Tasman

In 2025 Tasman had 227 alcohol licences (excluding special licences). 30 were for clubs, 84 were for off licences (where alcohol is taken off the premises) and 113 were for on licences (where alcohol is consumed on the premises). Some premises hold both an on and an off licence.

Alcohol licensing in each level of deprivation

The graphs below show how many club, on and off licences there are in different levels of deprivation across Tasman.





Economic contribution of alcohol

The table below summarises the economic contribution of alcohol-related hospitality and retail sectors in the Tasman District for the year to March 2024, using Infometrics data. It provides context on the scale of these sectors within the local economy, recent growth trends, and how Tasman compares with national averages. It is important to note that it is not possible to isolate alcohol from this data, and a significant portion can be attributed to the sale of food.

Economic contribution of hospitality and alcohol related sectors for Tasman District (year to March 2024) ¹⁶					
Sector	GDP (\$m)	Annual change	Share of Tasman GDP (2024)	Share of Tasman GDP (2023)	Comparison with NZ
Pubs, bars and taverns	5.9	↓ 14.5%	0.17%	0.20%	Same as NZ (0.17%); larger decline than NZ (-6.4%)
Clubs (hospitality)	1.8	↓ 5.3%	0.05%	0.06%	Higher than NZ (0.04%); smaller decline than NZ (-9.0%)

¹⁶ regions.infometrics.co.nz

Cafes and restaurants	39.6	↓ 11.2%	1.16%	1.31%	Higher than NZ (0.88%); larger decline than NZ (-6.0%)
Wholesale of liquor and tobacco products	0.4	No change	0.01%	0.01%	Lower than NZ (0.07%); NZ declined (-5.0%)
Liquor retailing	4.3	↓ 6.5%	0.13%	0.14%	Higher than NZ (0.08%); larger decline than NZ (-4.2%)

National alcohol industry (year ending March 2020)

Key economic statistics for the alcohol industry across New Zealand were as follows¹⁷:

- Total domestic retail sales - \$3.61 billion dollars (including imports)
- Total exports - \$2.09 billion
- Tax contribution to the government \$1.82 billion (including excise tax)
- Employment numbers – 10,210 direct jobs, 20,913 indirect jobs.

Benefits the alcohol industry brings to Tasman

Positive benefits the alcohol industry provides for the district include:

- support for the local economy through revenue generated and through direct and indirect employment
- on-licence premises are social hubs where people gather to socialise, network, and celebrate special occasions
- Sponsorship and funding of community groups and events
- licensed restaurants offer patrons the opportunity to consume alcohol with food
- supermarkets, groceries, and bottle stores offer a convenient way to purchase alcohol
- tourists are attracted to:
 - vineyards, breweries, and distilleries for tastings and tours
 - local licensed restaurants to dine and consume alcohol

¹⁷ [NZIER Alcohol Beverages Industry Economic Impact Report February 2022.docx](#)

- bars and taverns to socialise and enjoy entertainment, etc.

The alcohol industry encourages moderate drinking through programs such as Lion's *Alcohol & Me*¹⁸ and The Life Education Trust NZ's *Cheers!* website¹⁹. It is also responding to consumer demand for healthier options by producing more low- and no-alcohol beverages with reduced alcohol, sugar, and carbohydrates.

Tourism

Section 78 of the Act states that if Council wishes to have a LAP it must prepare a draft LAP, having regard to:

- the demography of the district's residents including people who have holiday homes there
- the demography of people who visit the district as tourists or holidaymakers.

Tourist and holiday maker demographics

Domestic visitors accounted for 64.0% of tourism spending in the Tasman District in 2025, with international visitors contributing the remaining 36.0%. Canterbury is the largest source of domestic visitors to the Tasman District, with visitors from the region spending \$69.9 million locally in the year to March 2025. Internationally, visitors from the rest of Europe make up the largest group, contributing \$39.9 million in visitor spending over the same period.²⁰.

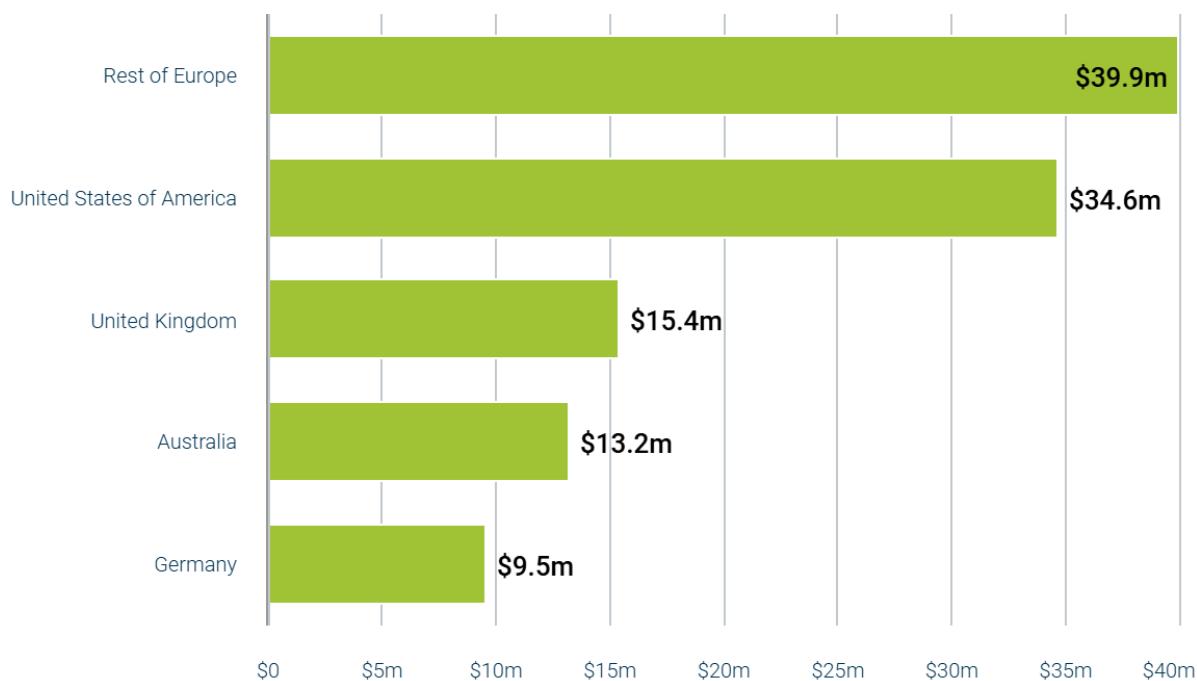
¹⁸ [Alcohol&Me – Quick Tips For Smarter & Safer Drinking](#)

¹⁹ [Home » Cheers!](#)

²⁰ [Regional Economic Profile | Tasman District | Tourism expenditure by tourist origin](#)

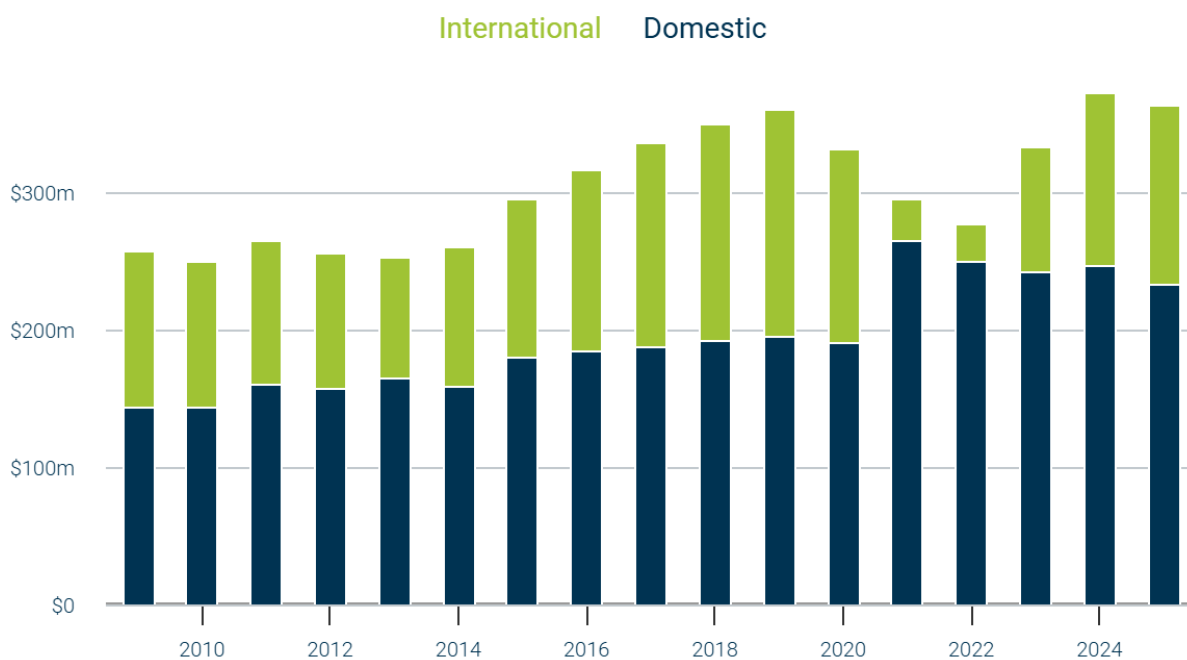
International tourism expenditure by tourist origin, top five countries Tasman District

Current prices, year to March 2025



Composition of tourism expenditure

March years, current prices



Economic and social impact of tourism

In 2025, visitors spent a total of \$363.8 million in the Tasman District. This represents a 2.2% decrease compared with the previous year, while tourism spending across New Zealand overall remained stable²¹

The figures are shown in current prices and separate spending by domestic and international visitors to the Tasman District. Tourism expenditure reflects how much visitors spend and is different from tourism GDP, which measures the value added by the tourism sector to the economy.

In the year to March 2025, the largest share of tourism spending in the Tasman District was on retail purchases of alcohol, food and beverages, totalling \$69.4 million. This was a decrease of 1.7 percent compared with the previous year.

The second largest area of tourism spending was food and beverage serving services, with visitors spending \$55.7 million over the same period, down 1.1 percent from the previous year.

Contribution of alcohol industry to the tourism sector

The alcohol industry plays an important role in Tasman's tourism, providing experiences that attract visitors and support local businesses. Visitors can enjoy wine and cider tastings, tours, and cellar door sales at vineyards across the district. Craft breweries and bars offer opportunities to sample locally brewed beers and ciders, while events and festivals showcase the region's beverages alongside food, music, and entertainment. Scenic routes and trails, such as the Great Taste Trail, connect visitors with these local producers, encouraging engagement with Tasman's food and drink culture.

Alcohol Consumption

Alcohol Consumption Trends (2022 vs. 2023)

Overall, the total amount of alcohol available for consumption in New Zealand saw a notable decline between 2022 and 2023. The total volume of all alcoholic drinks dropped by 4.3%, falling to 477 million litres.

This downward trend was seen across all major drink categories:

- Beer: The most popular choice saw a 4.4% decrease (down to 281 million litres).

²¹ [Regional Economic Profile | Tasman District | Tourism expenditure](#)

- Wine: Available volumes fell by 2.4% (down to 99 million litres).
- Spirits and Pre-mixed Drinks: This category saw the largest decline, dropping 5.7% (down to 97 million litres).

When looking at the actual "pure alcohol" content within these drinks, the total amount fell by 3.0%. For the average person aged 18 or older, this means the amount of alcohol available per person, per day, dropped by 5.3%; roughly equivalent to 1.86 standard drinks daily²².

In New Zealand, Off licence sales account for 84% of sales by total beverage volume²³.

What is alcohol harm?

Alcohol-related harm refers to the wide range of negative impacts that the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol has on individuals, whānau, and the wider community. This harm is not limited to the person drinking; it extends to others through alcohol-fueled violence, road accidents, and social disruption. In a legal and policy sense, as defined by the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, harm encompasses everything from direct physical illness and injury to indirect consequences like property damage, disorderly behaviour, and the long-term erosion of community wellbeing.

New Zealand Context

A University of Otago report estimated that alcohol contributed to significant health harm in New Zealand in 2018. Alcohol was linked to an estimated 901 deaths, 1,250 cancer cases, 29,282 hospitalisations, 49,742 years of healthy life lost (DALYs – Disability Adjusted Life Years), and 128,963 ACC claims.

For Māori, alcohol-related harm included an estimated 173 deaths, 148 cancer cases, 5,210 hospitalisations, and 16,078 ACC claims. After accounting for differences in age and sex, the rate of alcohol-attributable deaths for Māori was around twice that of non-Māori (309 deaths per 100,000 people).

Men experienced the majority of alcohol-related harm, accounting for 83% of alcohol-attributable deaths, 47% of cancer cases, 64% of hospitalisations, 76% of years of healthy life lost, and 63% of ACC claims.

Alcohol-attributable cancers were the largest contributor to alcohol-related deaths, accounting for 376 deaths (42%). They also contributed to 1,580 hospitalisations (5%) and

²² [Alcohol available for consumption: Year ended December 2023 | Stats NZ](#)

²³ NZ Alcohol Supply and Demand Structure Research Report.PDF

10,227 years of healthy life lost (21%), making cancer one of the most significant sources of alcohol-related harm²⁴.

Alcohol harm in Tasman

In the Tasman District, alcohol-related harm manifests in a variety of ways, ranging from acute incidents handled by emergency services to long-term health trends captured in regional data.

ACC data on alcohol related harm

ACC provided data for claims made in relation to alcohol consumption for the Tasman District over the past five years. Alcohol related claims were identified where the accident description contained one of the following key words, allowing for some spelling variation: *alcohol, drunk, wine, champagne, beer, intoxicate, tipsy, under the influence, whiskey, vodka, booze*. The accident description is a non-mandatory free-text field on the ACC45 form. The nature and quality of responses vary. Therefore, this data is considered indicative only.

Number of new claims, active claims and active claim costs (excluding GST) for alcohol related claims in the Tasman District between 1 January 2020 and 16 November 2025			
Calendar Year	New Claims	Active Claims	Active Costs
2020	28	28	\$9,089
2021	31	30	\$26,032
2022	28	28	\$48,101
2023	26	33	\$54,730
2024	20	26	\$40,611
2025 YTD	17	18	\$35,691

Alcohol-Related Health Indicators and Drinking Patterns in Nelson Marlborough

The following tables present a longitudinal look at alcohol consumption behaviours and their direct health consequences within the Nelson Marlborough region compared to

²⁴ [Estimated alcohol-attributable health burden in Aotearoa New Zealand - University of Otago](#)

national averages. These metrics, which include heavy episodic drinking rates and alcohol-attributable hospitalizations, serve as key indicators for assessing the social and physical impact of alcohol on the community²⁵. For reference, Hazardous drinking is measured using the 10-question Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) developed by the World Health Organization. The AUDIT is a 10-item questionnaire that covers three aspects of alcohol use: alcohol consumption, dependence and adverse consequences. An AUDIT score is the total of the scores obtained for each of the 10 items.

Hazardous drinkers are those who obtain an AUDIT score of 8 or more, representing an established pattern of drinking that carries a high risk of future damage to physical or mental health. Someone can reach a score of 8 from the alcohol consumption items alone. For example, someone who drank six or more drinks on one occasion, twice a week²⁶.

Trends in Heavy Episodic Drinking							
Nelson Marlborough			2017/18- 2019/20	2018/19- 2020/21	2019/20- 2021/22	2020/21- 2022/23	2021/22- 2023/24
Heavy episodic drinking	At least monthly	Total population	22.6%	23.6%	21.7%	17.4%	13.9%
		Past-year drinkers	27.5%	28.1%	26%	21.2%	17.7%
	At least weekly	Total population	13%	13.9%	13.9%	10.2%	7.4%
		Past-year drinkers	15.3%	16.6%	16.6%	12.4%	9.4%

Trends in Hazardous Drinking						
		2017/18-2019/20	2018/19-2020/21	2019/20-2021/22	2020/21-2022/23	2021/22-2023/24
Hazardous drinking	Nelson Marlborough	19%	20.6%	20.7%	18.7%	17.1%
	New Zealand	20.6%	20.5%	20%	18.2%	15.8%

Alcohol-Related ED Presentations and Hospitalisations Among Tasman District Residents

²⁵ [Alcohol-related harm – Pānga waipiro](#)

²⁶ [EHINZ](#)

Te Whatu Ora / Health NZ produced a report that provides an overview of how alcohol is affecting the health of Tasman District residents who attend Nelson and Wairau Hospitals. It examines trends in emergency department (ED) visits over a five-year period and provides estimates of hospital admissions where alcohol was likely to have played a role. Overall, the data shows rising demand for ED services among Tasman residents, but a growing difficulty in confidently identifying how much of this demand is linked to alcohol.

Across the past five years, total ED visits by Tasman residents increased steadily. However, the number of presentations where alcohol involvement was recorded as “unknown” more than doubled, making it harder to interpret trends with confidence. Recorded alcohol related ED presentations appear to have decreased since 2020/21, but this may simply reflect changes in recording practices rather than an actual reduction in alcohol related harm. Men consistently had a higher proportion of alcohol related ED visits than women throughout the period.

Key ED statistics

- Total ED presentations increased 19% from 11,544 in 2020/21 to 13,701 in 2024/25.
- Recorded alcohol related ED visits declined from 345 to 249 over the same period.
- “Unknown” alcohol status cases rose sharply, from 504 to 1,026.
- Males consistently had higher alcohol related rates, ending at 2.2% of male ED visits in 2024/25 compared with 1.5% for females.

The report also estimates how many hospital admissions in 2023/24 were caused by, or linked to, alcohol. These are not direct counts but calculated estimates known as “alcohol attributable hospitalisations” (AAH). To determine these, researchers use national studies that identify what percentage of specific health conditions can be linked to alcohol consumption. These percentages, called alcohol attributable fractions, are then applied to real hospital data. For example, some conditions such as alcohol use disorders or alcoholic gastritis are considered fully caused by alcohol, while others, like injuries or certain cancers, have a partial link. This method allows health agencies to estimate the impact of alcohol even when the hospital diagnosis itself does not explicitly record it.

Key hospitalisation findings

- An estimated 316 hospital admissions for Tasman residents in 2023/24 were attributable to alcohol.
- Conditions with the highest estimated alcohol-related admissions included:

- Unintentional injuries: 89 admissions
- Transport injuries: 39 admissions
- Pancreatitis: 17 admissions
- Self harm: 14 admissions
- Liver cirrhosis: 11 admissions

Together, these findings show that alcohol continues to have a significant impact on the health of Tasman residents. While some recorded ED measures suggest a decline over time, issues with data quality, particularly the growing number of ED presentations with “unknown” alcohol involvement, mean caution is needed when interpreting these trends. The hospitalisation estimates reinforce that alcohol contributes to a wide range of injuries and illnesses, placing a burden on local health services.

The complete report can be viewed in [appendix 1](#).

Police recorded alcohol harm statistics

The New Zealand Police have provided statistics regarding crime and incidents where alcohol has been recorded as a contributing factor. The data covers the previous five years from mid January 2026. As the data from 2026 only covers around 2 weeks, it cannot be used to inform trends in alcohol harm.

Richmond

Statistical Area 2	2021 (part year)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 (part year)	Grand Total
Ben Cooper Park	35	32	30	29	14		140
Daelyn	8	10	9	7	7		41
Easby Park	21	18	28	27	38	2	134
Fairose	10	18	19	22	28	2	99
Richmond Central	78	79	96	87	85	6	361
Richmond South	35	18	28	43	30		154
Richmond West	43	62	68	46	43	5	267
Saxton	8	10	25	19	33	1	68
Templemore	6	6	13	29	22		76
Wilkes Park	15	10	23	21	27		96

Grand Total	259	263	339	329	300	16	1506
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Richmond Central and Richmond West consistently record the highest volumes across the five-year period, together accounting for over 40% of the total cases. Most areas show a rise from 2021 to a peak around 2023–2024, followed by a slight easing in 2025. Alcohol related harm was most commonly recorded in residential settings and public spaces.

Brightwater

Statistical Area 2	2021 (part year)	2022	2023	2024	2025	Grand Total
Brightwater	23	39	16	28	12	118
Waimea West	0	0	0	2	0	2
Grand Total	23	39	16	30	12	120

Māpua

Statistical Area 2	2021 (part year)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 (part year)	Grand Total
Māpua	16	19	20	28	42	2	127
Ruby Bay	3	2	2	2	3	0	12
Moutere Hills	0	1	0	1	2	0	4
Grand Total	19	22	22	31	47	2	143

Data from Māpua indicates an upward trend in alcohol related harm, particularly in 2024 – 2025, predominantly in the Māpua area.

Wakefield

Statistical Area 2	2021 (part year)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 (part year)	Grand Total
Wakefield	39	25	28	50	42	1	185
Wakefield Rural	0	1	0	0	2	0	3
Grand Total	39	26	28	50	44	1	188

Motueka

Statistical Area 2	2021 (part year)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 (part year)	Grand Total
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Motueka West	103	115	137	104	108	5	572
Motueka East	43	42	51	79	69	5	289
Motueka North	87	87	62	66	89	3	394
Kaiteriteri– Riwaka	3	5	7	17	14	2	48
Grand Total	236	249	257	266	280	15	1303

Motueka shows a steady upward trend in Police recorded alcohol related harm across 2021–2025: +44 cases (from 236 → 280), i.e., +18.6% overall. Motueka West (43.9%) and Motueka North (30.2%) make up the largest components, with Motueka East (22.2%) and Kaiteriteri–Riwaka (3.7%) smaller.

Tākaka

Statistical Area 2	2021 (part year)	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026 (part year)	Grand Total
Tākaka	26	29	29	36	31	2	153
Golden Bay/Mohua	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Grand Total	26	29	29	36	35	2	157

Tākaka shows a slight upward trend overall: +9 cases from 2021 (part) to 2025 (+34.6%), with a peak in 2024 and a small decrease in 2025.

Tasman District

	2021 (part year)	2022	2023	2024	2025
Whole of Tasman	830	928	997	1035	1026
YoY change	-	+98 (+11.8%)	+69 (+7.4%)	+38 (+3.8%)	-9 (-0.9%)

Police-recorded alcohol-related harm in Tasman District shows a clear upward trajectory between 2021 (part year) and 2025, increasing by 196 incidents over this period (from 830 to 1026, a 23.6% rise). While overall harm has grown, the rate of annual increase has steadily moderated, with growth slowing from 11.8% in 2022 to 7.4% in 2023, and 3.8% in 2024, before a minor decline of 0.9% in 2025.

Recorded alcohol-related harm in Tapawera, Murchison, Collingwood, and Pōhara remained very low, with each area experiencing fewer than 50 incidents over the five-year period. Riwaka and Kaiteriteri also recorded comparatively low levels of harm, with fewer

than 100 incidents across the same timeframe. Due to the small numbers involved, Police did not provide specific annual counts for these locations.

Further key takeaways Police data on alcohol related harm:

- *Nearly 25% of alcohol harm in Tasman over the last 5 years was related to drink driving*
- *36% of alcohol harm in Tasman over the last 5 years was related to family harm*
- *26.7% of all alcohol harm in Tasman over the last 5 years occurred in Motueka (but make up 13.8% of Tasman population)*
- *30.9% of all alcohol harm in Tasman over the last 5 years occurred in Richmond (and make up 31.4% of Tasman population)*
- *Alcohol harm predominantly occurs in the evening; the hour with the most harm is between 8 and 9pm.*

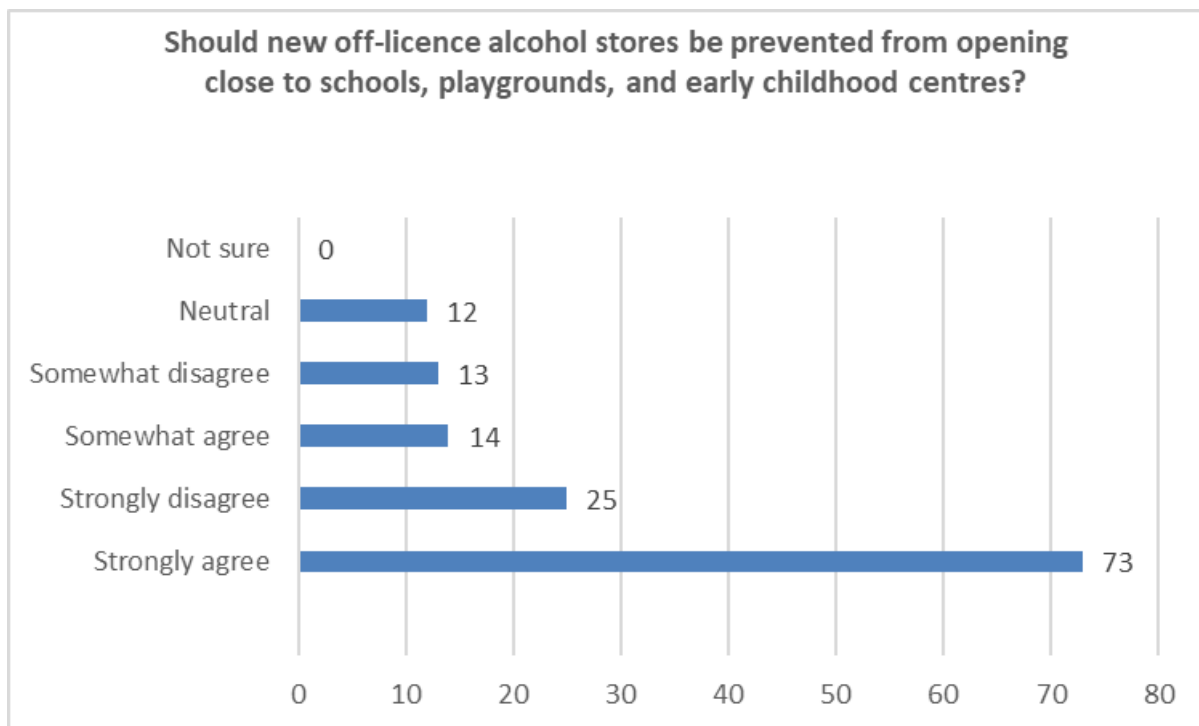
Complete Police provided data on alcohol related harm can be read in [appendix 2](#).

Section 3: Community Engagement

A wide variety of stakeholders were contacted for early feedback to inform the review. These included health organisations such as Te Whatu Ora and Te Piki Oranga, the Medical Officer of Health, Police, community groups and non-government organisations, iwi, business and industry advocates, alcohol licence holders, youth councils, and the wider community. We sought feedback through surveys, quick polls, free text feedback and hui.

Quick polls

We asked the community whether new off-licence alcohol stores should be prevented from opening close to schools, playgrounds and early childhood centres.



We asked the community, *“What do you think is most important for Council to consider when reviewing the Local Alcohol Policy?”* We introduced the conversation by explaining that the Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) gives people in Tasman the chance to have their say on how alcohol is sold and managed in our district. Because the LAP affects different parts of our community in different ways, we want to understand what matters most to people as we begin this review.

We received 68 responses, which informed a thematic analysis. Theme frequency is depicted in the image below, along with a table quantifying each theme.



Theme	percent	count
Hospitality and economic value	29.41%	20
Evidence/proportionality	27.94%	19
Process/red tape	25%	17
Public health/harm	22.06%	15
Oppose event service limits	17.65%	12
Restrict around sensitive sites	13.24%	9
Personal responsibility	13.24%	9
Enforcement	10.29%	7
Reduce outlet density	10.29%	7
Social value of venues	8.82%	6
Concern for youth drinking	7.35%	5
Oppose alcohol advertising/visibility	7.35%	5
Reduce trading hours	7.35%	5
Balanced outlet density	5.88%	4
Support status quo	4.41%	3
Event licensing	4.41%	3
Alternative models/levies	4.41%	3
Oppose supermarket sales	4.41%	3
Equity impacts	4.41%	3
Council role/scope	4.41%	3
Product controls	2.94%	2
Drink driving	2.94%	2
Alcohol ban areas	2.94%	2
Education for licence holders	2.94%	2
Prohibition	1.47%	1
Unique local perspectives	1.47%	1
Alcohol litter	1.47%	1
Education for community	1.47%	1
Oppose reduced trading hours	1.47%	1

A substantial amount of feedback stressed the importance of hospitality businesses, local events, and tourism to the region's social and economic life. Many respondents felt that existing alcohol rules, particularly around event licensing and serving limits, are too restrictive, harming community vibrancy, discouraging events, and creating unnecessary operational hurdles. There were repeated calls for a more enabling, business-friendly environment that helps venues and events thrive.

Many respondents stressed that alcohol policy should be practical, risk-based, and grounded in actual evidence or history of harm, rather than applying blanket restrictions. These submissions often highlighted frustration with one-size-fits-all conditions, calling instead for contextual judgement and “common sense,” especially where there is no record of issues.

There was extensive concern about the complexity, cost, and inconsistency of the current licensing process. Respondents pointed to delays, paperwork, and burdens on small businesses and community events. A repeated message was that the system feels bureaucratic and that simpler, more transparent processes would better support both compliance and local economic activity.

A considerable group highlighted alcohol’s health and social impacts, supporting stronger controls on availability, visibility, and access. They emphasised harm to individuals, families, and communities, and many advocated tightening aspects of the policy, particularly where youth, vulnerable groups, or high-risk environments are involved.

A cluster of feedback focused on rules applied to special events, such as two-drink limits or bans on bottle sales at wineries. These were commonly described as unnecessary, impractical, or punitive, and several respondents felt such settings attract low-risk, older audiences where stricter conditions make little sense. Some reported negative experiences involving long queues, reduced enjoyment, and flawed implementation.

A moderate number of submissions supported reducing or better managing the number and placement of alcohol outlets, especially near schools, ECEs, and lower-income neighbourhoods. Others favoured maintaining limited density but were not necessarily seeking further reductions.

Several emphasised that alcohol is a legal product and that adults should be free to make their own choices. They argued that councils should avoid moralistic approaches and intrusive rules that treat responsible adults as incapable.

Some respondents wanted a more supportive, education-first approach to compliance, particularly for licence holders who make genuine mistakes. Others advocated stronger police involvement in relation to youth drinking and secondary supply.

Some feedback highlighted the need to protect young people from access and exposure, especially around retail outlets near schools and through advertising in everyday environments.

Some expressed concern about alcohol marketing, particularly in supermarkets and at sporting facilities, arguing that visibility normalises alcohol for young people and encourages impulse purchasing.

A smaller but still notable set of respondents preferred reduced trading hours, while a small minority explicitly opposed reduced hours. Overall, views on this issue were present but not dominant.

While less common, some feedback raised:

- Alternative licensing models or levies to return alcohol revenue to the community
- Equity concerns, particularly the impact of outlet clustering in low-income areas
- Opposition to supermarket alcohol sales
- Concerns about drink-driving and transport safety
- Support for maintaining the status quo
- Prohibition-level views opposing alcohol sales entirely
- Local context issues (e.g., unique cultural or regional considerations)
- Focus on alcohol litter
- Community alcohol education

Survey Results: Impact and accessibility of alcohol

As part of the Local Alcohol Policy Review, Council sought feedback from a variety of stakeholder groups using surveys that asked a common set of questions about the impacts, availability, and regulation of alcohol. These shared questions allow direct comparison across groups including the wider community, iwi representatives, Police, community organisations, health providers, and alcohol licence holders. We also sought feedback from the Chamber of Commerce and Hospitality NZ, however these groups opted for a hui in lieu of the survey. In addition to the common questions, each group also responded to a small number of tailored, free text prompts designed to capture perspectives specific to their role, experience, or organisational context. Collectively, this approach provides both a consistent dataset for cross group comparison and deeper qualitative insight into the distinct concerns and priorities of different stakeholders.

The results of the survey are attached in [appendix 3](#).

Key themes from survey results

Across stakeholder groups there is shared recognition that alcohol contributes to significant social and health harms, with Community Groups/NGOs, Iwi/Māori, Health

organisations and Police consistently signaling strong concern on issues such as domestic violence, drink driving and disorderly behaviour. The Wider Community also shows substantial concern, though with a more even spread across response categories. Alcohol licence holders acknowledge harm but are comparatively less emphatic in their responses across several harm questions.

Views on outlet density diverge most clearly. Community-facing groups (NGOs, Health, Police) and Iwi/Māori tend to indicate that the number of bottle stores should be lower, whereas the Wider Community leans in the same direction but is more mixed. Alcohol licence holders are most likely to view current outlet numbers as about right.

On trading hours there is a consistent split. Community-facing groups favour tighter earliest and latest sale times across outlet types; the Wider Community commonly supports current settings, but were more likely to indicate that there are too many bottle stores. Alcohol licence holders generally prefer to retain current hours.

Across groups, there is support for prohibiting new off-licences near schools, playgrounds/ECEs, and addiction or medical centres. The wider community shows strong agreement on these locations, and Iwi, Police, community groups/NGOs, and health organisations indicate full agreement in their returns. Alcohol licence holders are more mixed but tend to agree with restrictions near schools and addiction/medical centres. Views are more divided for restrictions near homes and near churches or marae.

Retail-focused controls show notable consensus on some measures. Most groups support prohibiting Buy-Now-Pay-Later for alcohol purchases; limiting exterior alcohol advertising is strongly supported by community-facing groups and the Wider Community, with alcohol licence holders more hesitant on this lever.

There is also converging support for robust age-verification for online alcohol sales, at both purchase and delivery stages.

Summary of free text feedback from wider community survey on accessibility and impact of alcohol in Tasman

The feedback reflects two strong and opposing themes. A significant number of submitters support tighter controls on alcohol availability, citing harm to individuals, families, and communities. Some describe alcohol as a “dangerous poison” (29553) or note “the enormous damage done by freely available alcohol” (29356). Many oppose new outlets, especially in Māpua, with repeated statements such as “No more alcohol outlets in Māpua” (29338) and concerns about youth exposure, antisocial behaviour, and proximity to schools.

Some advocate treating alcohol more like other harmful substances (29331) or cigarettes (29356), limiting advertising (29574), raising prices, restricting cheap single-serve alcohol (29329), and discouraging drinking in public spaces like rivers and beaches (29128). Others emphasise accountability for behaviour rather than restricting access, saying that responsible drinkers and well-run businesses should not be penalised (29387, 29381).

A smaller but vocal group argue current rules are adequate or already excessive, criticising the Council for over-regulation and “puritanical” approaches (29234). Others highlight survey design issues (29556, 29344, 29185).

A subset also argue for increased convenience, particularly in Māpua, with frustration about long travel times to purchase spirits or RTDs and concerns about “scaremongering” (29143). Some suggest event-based restrictions should be relaxed (29266), while others support keeping limits (29574).

Summary of free text feedback from alcohol licence holders on survey on accessibility and impact of alcohol in Tasman

Only seven licence holders provided written feedback, but several consistent themes emerged. Some felt the survey was overly negative or leading, with concerns it aimed to “fix a problem that didn’t exist” (29624) and was “very leading in its questions” (29506). Some respondents noted improving drinking trends, especially among young people: “the younger generations... don’t drink like we have seen in the past” (29509), and argued this shows current policy is largely effective (29420). Many emphasised the positive role of licensed venues in reducing harm, describing reputable venues as safer than unregulated settings like “parties, parks, beaches” (29513), and warning that further restrictions could damage nightlife or push young people elsewhere. Concerns about over-regulation were common, including frustration at being held responsible for customers’ choices, which one respondent saw as “overregulation... focused on the few instead of the many” (29409). While most opposed tighter availability controls, one submitter supported reducing off-licence density in vulnerable areas and giving more weight to Police and health advice (29500).

Summary of free text feedback from Community Groups and NGO’s on survey on accessibility and impact of alcohol in Tasman

Groups mentioned a range of measures, including restricting trading hours and avoiding clustering of outlets in high-deprivation areas (29621), limiting early-morning sales and considering purchase limits (29433), reducing street signage and expanding alcohol-ban areas, and reducing youth exposure to alcohol advertising (29397). One group also

suggested increasing price and legal age, earlier closing times, and stronger DUI penalties (29391).

Responses described a broad set of harms including addiction, mental health impacts, domestic violence, criminal offending, homelessness, financial stress, and wider effects on families and wellbeing (29433, 29397, 29391). One group simply noted they use data on a “range of harms” (29621).

One organisation noted that some community members prioritise alcohol over essentials such as rent and food, meaning restrictions may not directly change entrenched behaviours (29433). Another felt a well-designed policy could strengthen the community, provided changes come with appropriate support from wrap-around services (29397).

Summary of free text feedback from iwi representatives on survey on accessibility and impact of alcohol in Tasman

Two iwi representatives highlighted several considerations for how alcohol-related harm and policy responses should be understood within their rohe. While one respondent did not identify specific patterns of harm, the other emphasised the need for an integrated approach to the effects of alcohol abuse. Both noted important locations where restrictions may need attention, particularly marae, reflecting their role as places of tikanga, whakapapa and collective wellbeing. One respondent stressed the importance of maintaining strong alcohol-related restrictions in marae spaces during hui, tangihanga and other kaupapa iwi events, while the other highlighted kura and schools as additional sites where alcohol controls should be carefully considered, with marae themselves determining their own tikanga on alcohol.

The representatives also offered guidance on how mātauranga Māori should inform Council decision-making. One provided detailed expectations, including treating mātauranga Māori as core evidence, broadening definitions of harm to include whānau wellbeing, mauri and intergenerational impacts, and ensuring iwi knowledge, lived experience and Māori wellbeing frameworks sit alongside Western public-health models. They emphasised co-design with mana whenua, shared decision-making power, and resourcing iwi participation so engagement is meaningful rather than symbolic. The second respondent reiterated the need for an integrated approach to incorporating mātauranga Māori into harm assessment. Additional feedback encouraged an approach that prioritises whānau wellbeing, cultural safety and prevention, with early, resourced engagement and clear visibility of how iwi input influences policy decisions.

Summary of hui with Hospitality New Zealand and Chamber of Commerce

Hospitality New Zealand and the Chamber of Commerce provided feedback through a hui held as part of the engagement process. Both organisations expressed concern that the survey design may give an impression of pre-determined positions, particularly in relation to questions about the number of on-licence premises.

Both organisations highlighted the need for clarity and certainty for businesses, especially regarding discretionary conditions in the proposed Local Alcohol Policy (LAP). They encouraged an approach that avoids unintended consequences seen in other districts, where broadly framed provisions have inadvertently affected low-risk operators such as craft breweries, boutique distilleries, or small wine shops. Their preferred direction is for the LAP to be enabling, with the District Licensing Committee used to address specific concerns on a case-by-case basis rather than applying broad restrictions across all operators.

Hospitality New Zealand noted that most alcohol sales occur through off-licence premises, although harm data does not clearly distinguish between consumption in licensed venues and elsewhere. They emphasised the role of on-licence premises in providing supervised environments that support responsible consumption. They also queried the value added by LAPs given their view that the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act already provides an effective regulatory framework.

Both organisations expressed interest in more integrated conversations across tourism, economic development, and regulatory functions, and supported renewed relationship-building, including the potential for an alcohol accord²⁷ similar to Wellington's model. Consideration of a 24-hour economy was also raised, particularly in relation to shift workers whose social hours differ from the general population.

Overall, their feedback supported shared objectives: increasing clarity and certainty through the LAP, maintaining safe and well-managed licensed environments, and reducing alcohol-related harm without unintentionally limiting innovative or low-risk operators.

Summary of free text feedback from Police on survey on accessibility and impact of alcohol in Tasman

²⁷ An Alcohol Accord is a partnership between key stakeholders/partners in the Accord coverage area to promote community safety through safer alcohol consumption. Members can include the police, the local city or district council, public health units, representatives of both on and off-licensed premises, and other interested community organisations.

Police highlighted specific regulatory measures they believe would most effectively reduce alcohol-related harm, particularly reducing all off-licence trading hours to 9am–9pm and introducing a one-way door policy from 1am for all on-licence premises. They noted that a one-way door policy can prevent late-night issues and manage patron dispersal more safely. Police also referenced positive experiences from Tauranga, where such a policy reportedly made “a huge difference,” and considered reduced off-licence hours a reasonable measure that still maintains adequate access to alcohol while supporting harm reduction.

In relation to enforcement capability, Police indicated they are confident their current resourcing is sufficient to support strengthened alcohol policy settings, noting they are dedicated to reducing harm and that the recommended tools would make enforcement easier. Additional feedback emphasised alignment with broader national trends, such as moves in Auckland toward more restrictive availability.

Summary of free text feedback from Health Organisations on survey on accessibility and impact of alcohol in Tasman

One organisation recommended reducing access and trading hours to minimise harm. They commonly see a wide range of alcohol-related issues including addiction, family violence, drink-driving, mental and physical health impacts, trauma, and harms to children. They suggested monitoring ED presentations, hospital admissions, and police call-outs related to intoxication as indicators of policy effectiveness.

Summary of Feedback from Medical Officer of Health

Te Whatu Ora / Health NZ also provided additional advice from the Medical Officer of Health. This is attached as [appendix 4](#) and summarised below:

The National Public Health Service (NPHS) Te Waipounamu commends Tasman District Council for reviewing its Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) and emphasises the need for a strengthened, future-focused policy that responds to Tasman’s growing population, tourism, and changing community needs. The advice highlights that alcohol causes significant harm in New Zealand, with high rates of hazardous drinking in the Tasman region (around 18% of adults). Māori and Pacific young people experience disproportionately high levels of alcohol-related harm.

NPHS supports the existing LAP but recommends several enhancements based on evidence linking alcohol availability to harm:

Key Recommendations

Trading Hours

- Reduce alcohol trading hours to limit consumption and associated harm.
- Standardise off-licence hours to 9am–9pm across all premises.
- Reduce late-night closing times for on-licence premises in suburban areas to 1am.
- Align hours consistently across the district to discourage people travelling to buy alcohol.

Location and Density Controls

- Introduce a freeze or cap on new off-licences, especially in high-risk or high-deprivation areas.
- Restrict new licences within 100m of sensitive sites such as early childhood centres, schools, hospitals, marae, youth facilities, community centres, parks, and playgrounds.
- Engage with marae to ensure culturally informed decision-making.

Alcohol Availability and Promotion

- Restrict alcohol advertising at licensed premises to reduce exposure, especially for young people.
- Prohibit buy now, pay later (BNPL) purchasing of alcohol.
- Require a minimum three-hour delay between ordering and delivery for remote sales, with no deliveries outside permitted hours.
- Limit drink serves at large special-licence events to support safer consumption.

One-Way Door Policies

- Consider introducing one-way door restrictions as a harm-reduction tool, acknowledging mixed evidence but potential benefits in reducing late-night disorder.

Policy Clarity

- Ensure the LAP is simple, clear and user-friendly, with concise definitions, summary tables and clearly presented conditions.

NPHS reiterates its willingness to support further engagement as the LAP progresses and highlights the importance of aligning policy with Te Tiriti o Waitangi and reducing inequities in alcohol harm.

Feedback from Alcohol Licensing Inspectors

Alcohol Licensing Inspectors are employed by the Council, but their role is carried out independently of Council's political and operational decision-making. When performing their statutory functions under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act, they are required to act impartially and apply the law objectively, rather than advocating for Council as an organisation. This means they assess licence applications, monitor compliance, and provide reports to the District Licensing Committee based on evidence and legislative criteria, not on Council policy preferences. Their independence helps ensure that licensing decisions are fair, transparent, and legally robust. Our alcohol licensing inspectors' perspectives are included below:

Off-licences

- Freeze on issue of new off-licences for bottle stores
- Hours: All Off Licences Monday to Sunday 9.00am till 9.00pm
- Sensitive sites - No new bottle stores within 100m of sensitive sites (both terms to be defined)

Off Licence Discretionary Conditions

- No single sales of mainstream beer of 500mL or less
- Supervised designation of all bottle stores to ensure unaccompanied minors do not enter the premises.
- No Buy Now Pay Later
- All applications to include a Social Responsibility Policy
- Having an incident log to record any issues.
- CCTV installation and operation in suitable locations to monitor vulnerable areas (areas which are not easily or continuously monitored by staff).
- Provision of interior and/or exterior lighting.
- No exterior price or product advertising

On-licences

On Licence Types	Hours
Night Club, Tavern, Hotel, Adult Premises and Class 1 Restaurant	8.00am till 2.00am the following day
All other On Licences	8.00am till 12.00 midnight

Maximum trading hours are subject to section 47 of the Act regarding restrictions for on-licences on the sale and supply of alcohol on Anzac Day morning, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Christmas Day.

Explanatory note: Mini bars in hotel rooms will be exempt from the above limits where it can be established that accommodation is the principal activity. This recognises that where mini bars are situated in rooms, it is unrealistic to prevent consumption of alcohol outside set hours.

On Licence Discretionary Conditions

- All applications to include a Host Responsibility Policy
- incident log to record any issues.
- CCTV installation and operation in suitable locations to monitor vulnerable areas (areas which are not easily or continuously monitored by staff

Club Licence

- Trading hours: 8:00 – 2:00am the following day

Club Licence Discretionary Conditions:

Class 1 Club Licences to have a certificated manager on duty during alcohol sales and consumption.

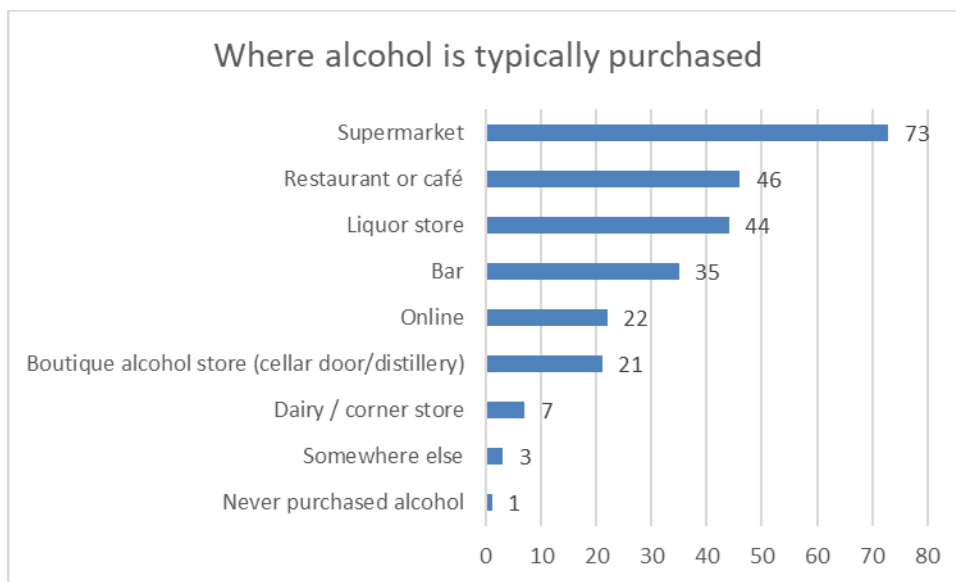
Special Licence Discretionary Conditions:

- Requirement for a certificated manager for large events, or as otherwise considered appropriate, to be on site for the entire event, actively managing sale and supply of alcohol.
- Events over 400 attendees, or as otherwise considered appropriate, require an Event Alcohol Risk Management Plan in a form acceptable to the Council.
- No On-site special licences granted for a school fete, gala or similar on school grounds.
- Type of vessel
- Maximum vessel size for alcohol.
- number of serves per sale.
- Time for reduced number of serves per sale.
- Queue Management Plan
- Noise Management Plan
- CCTV installation and operation in suitable locations to monitor vulnerable areas (areas which are not easily or continuously monitored by staff
- Provision of interior and/or exterior lighting.
- Having an incident log to record any issues.
- Large Event Reporting: The licensee shall review the event and provide a report to the District Licensing Committee not more than 15 working days after the event,

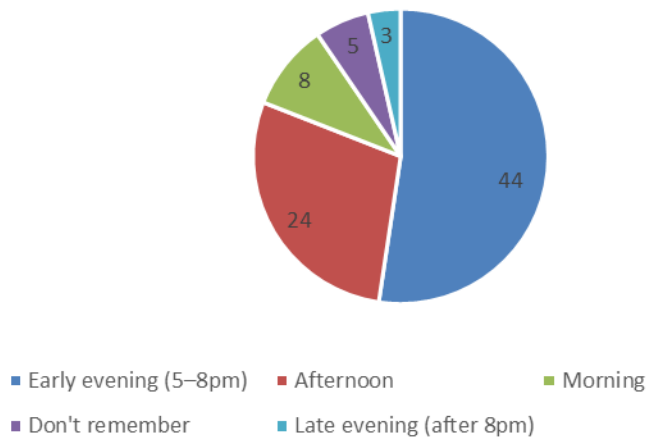
reviewing the overall management of the event, any issues that arose and how these may be addressed in future.

Survey Results: How do people purchase and consume alcohol?

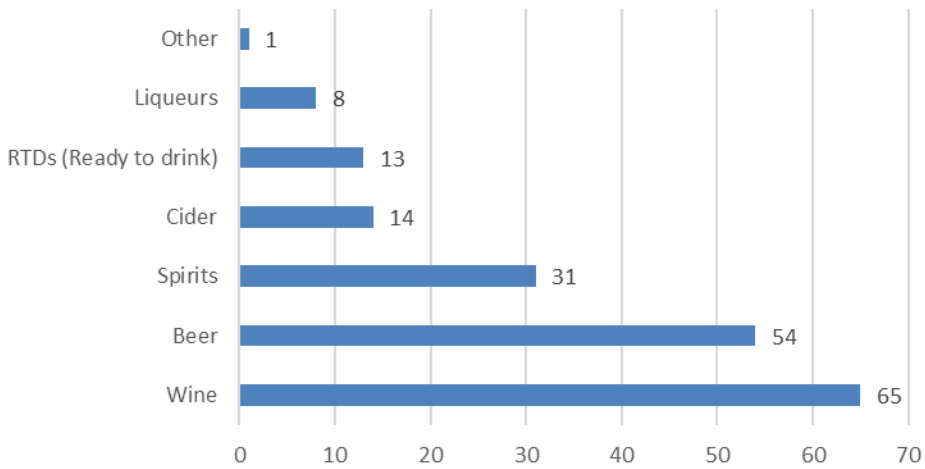
As part of the Local Alcohol Policy Review, Council invited community members to complete a short survey about how they purchase and consume alcohol. The survey was open from 25 November 2025 to 9 February 2026 and received 85 responses. It asked a series of straightforward questions about where people usually buy alcohol, the types of alcohol they prefer, how often they drink, how much they typically consume on a single occasion, and where they most commonly drink. It also included a question about the township respondents live in. Together, these results provide a useful snapshot of everyday alcohol-related behaviours in the district, offering context for understanding consumption patterns and how they relate to wider policy settings.



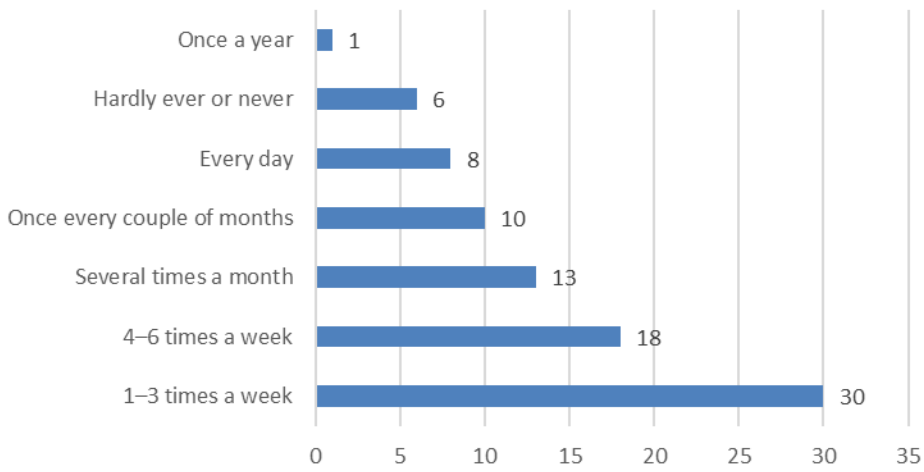
Time alcohol is usually purchased



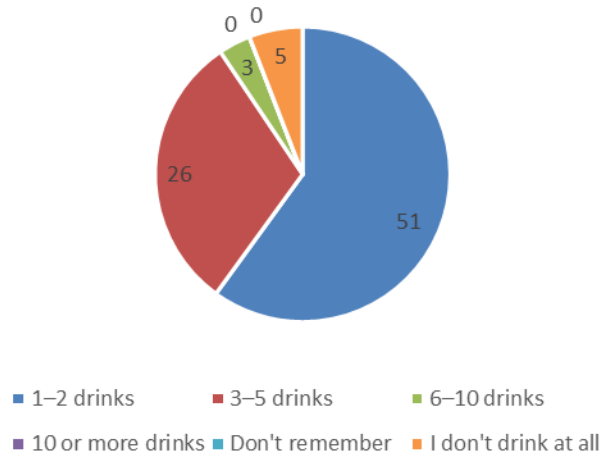
Type of alcohol usually purchased

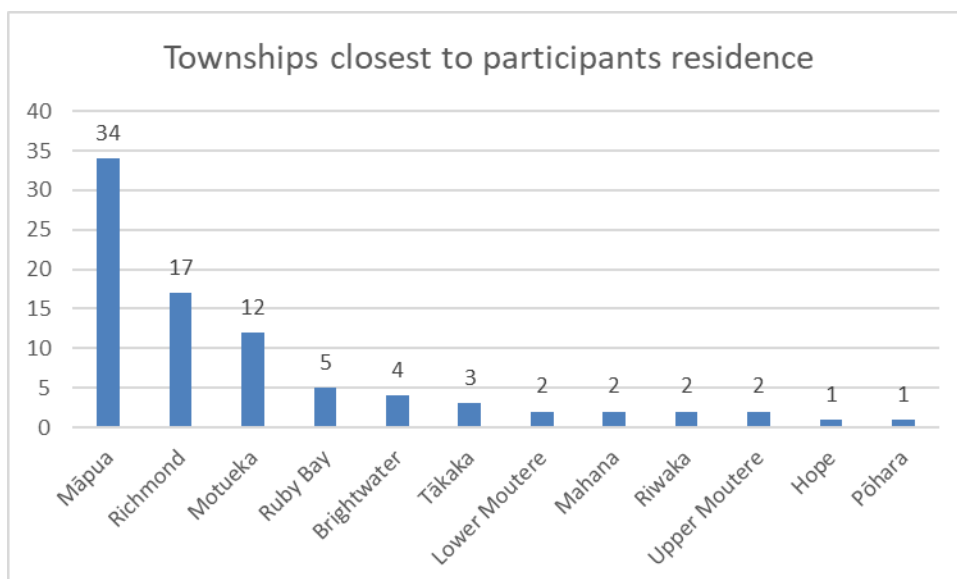
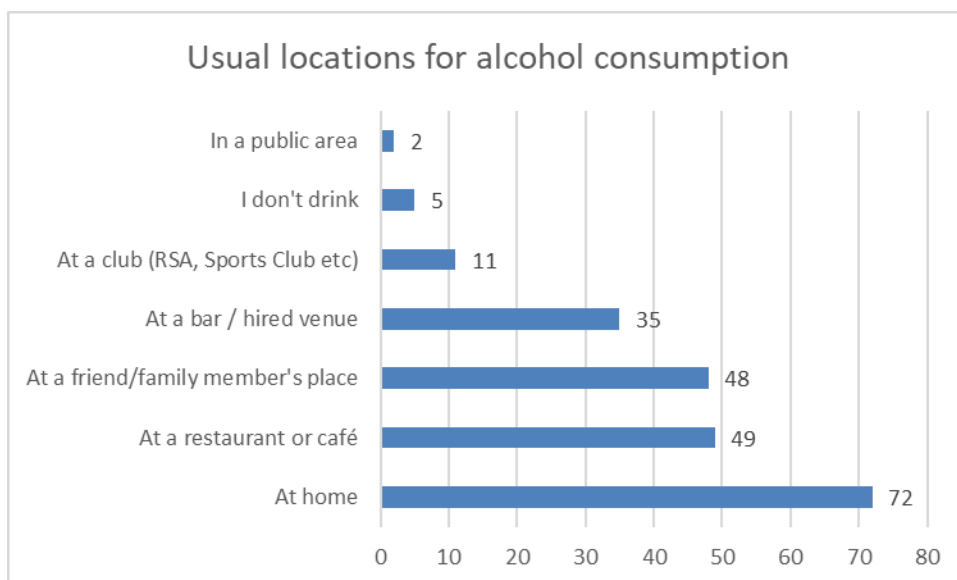


How frequently alcohol is consumed



Typical number of drinks consumed per occasion

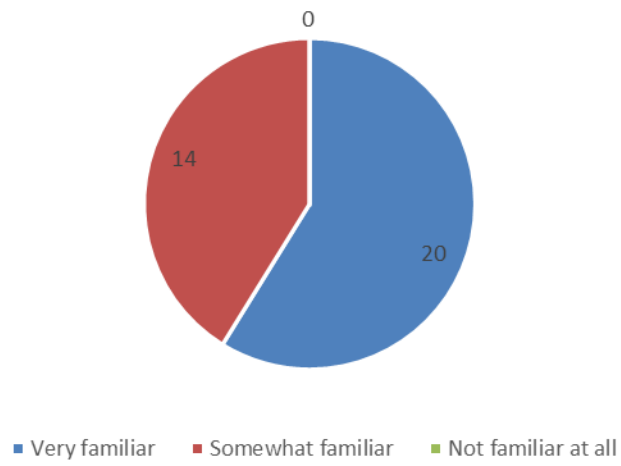




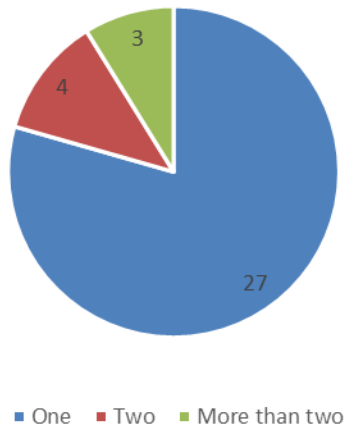
Survey Results: Alcohol licence holder perspectives

Council also sought feedback directly from alcohol licence holders through a dedicated survey conducted between 9 December 2025 and 14 February 2026. The survey received 34 submissions and was designed to understand how licence holders experience and interpret the Local Alcohol Policy in practice. It asked about familiarity with the current policy, the nature of each business and licence type held, patterns of alcohol sales, and views on whether current trading hours and policy settings strike the right balance between business needs and community wellbeing. Respondents were also asked about any operational changes made as a result of the LAP, their experiences with enforcement, and whether alcohol-related harm is influenced by current policy settings.

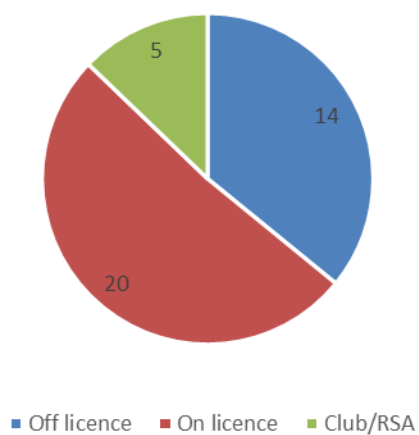
Familiarity with LAP



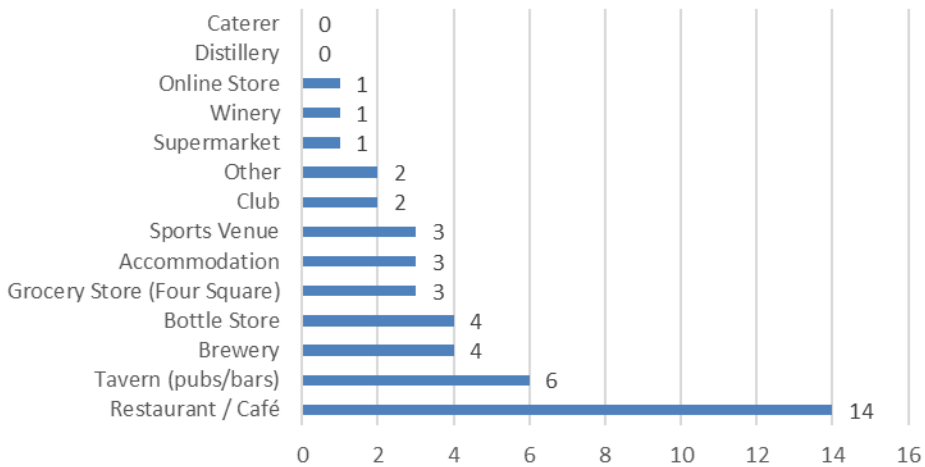
Number of licences held



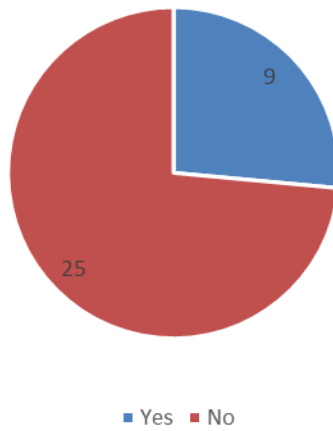
Types of licence held



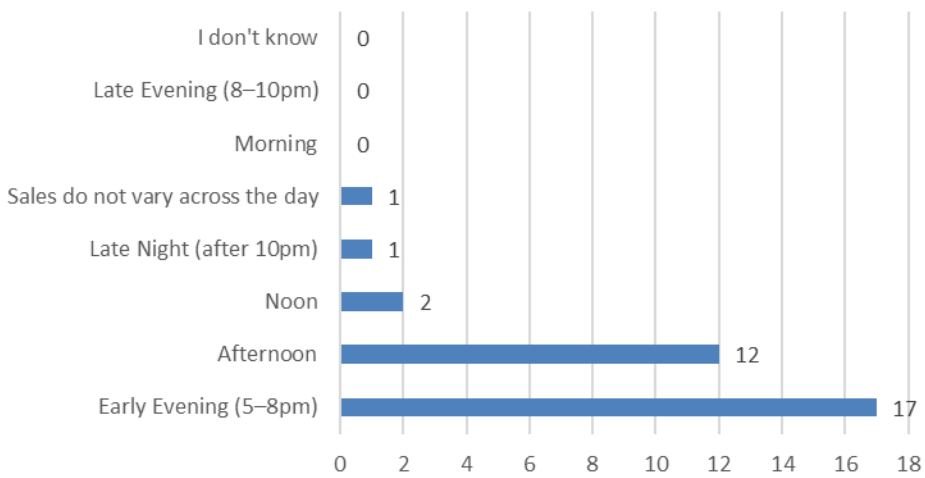
Types of outlet represented



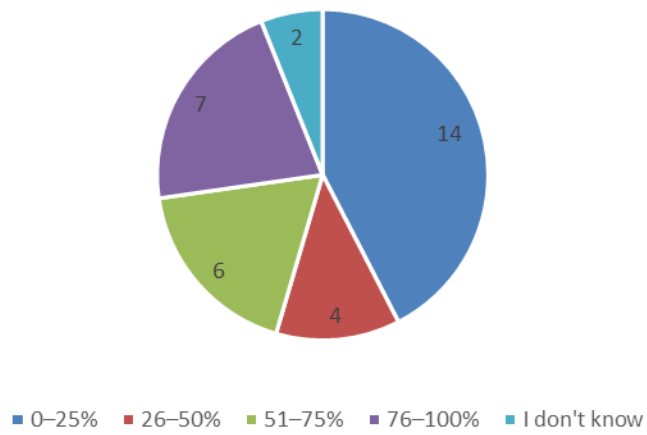
Are outlets part of a larger group or chain



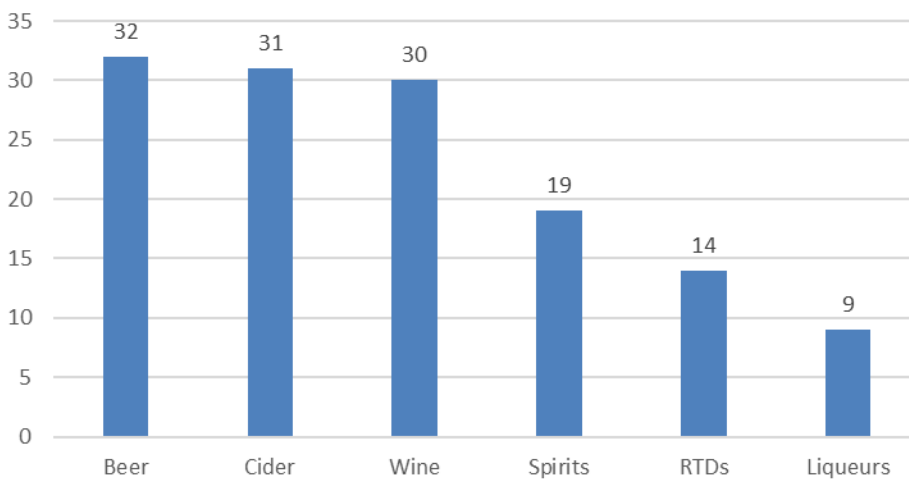
Estimated time of day for majority of alcohol sales

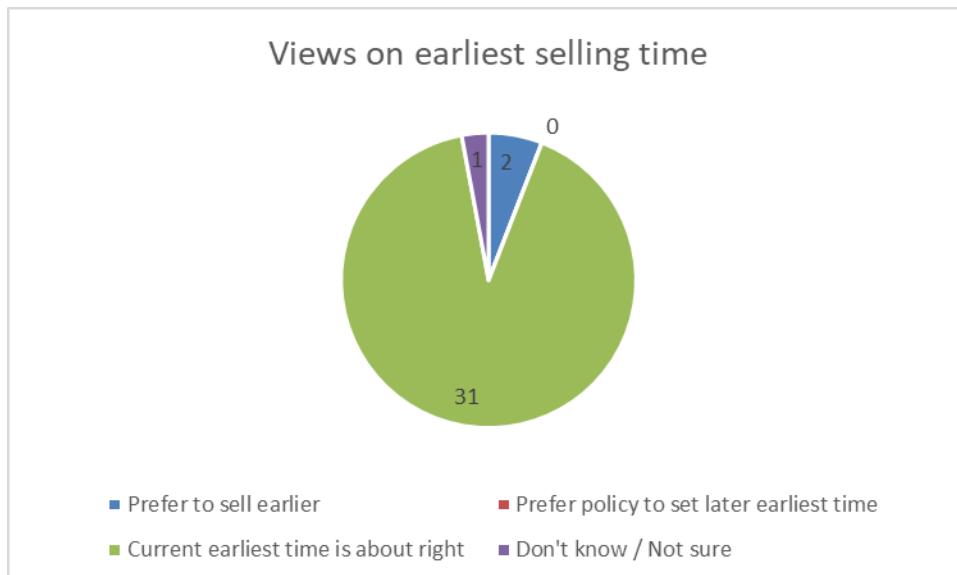
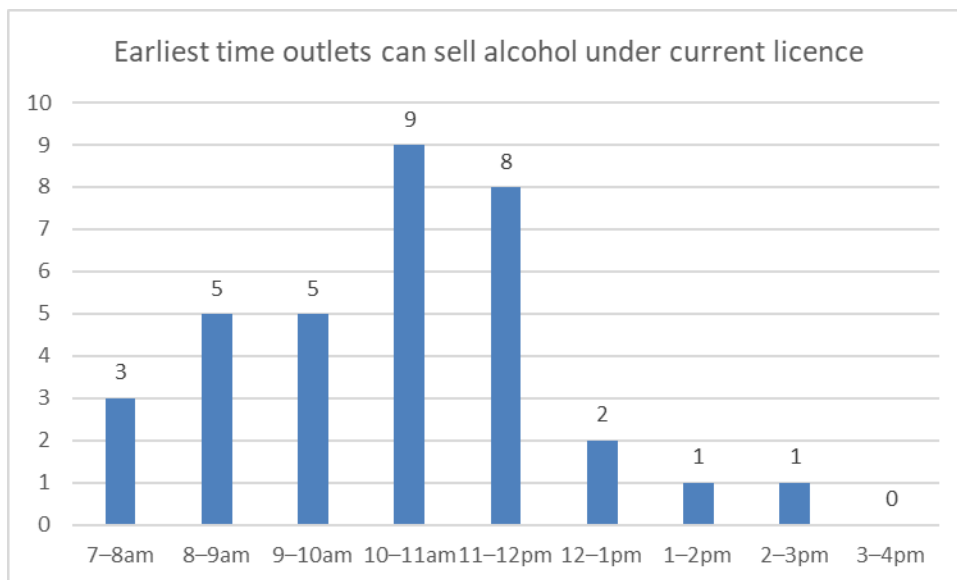


Estimated proportion of total sales from alcohol

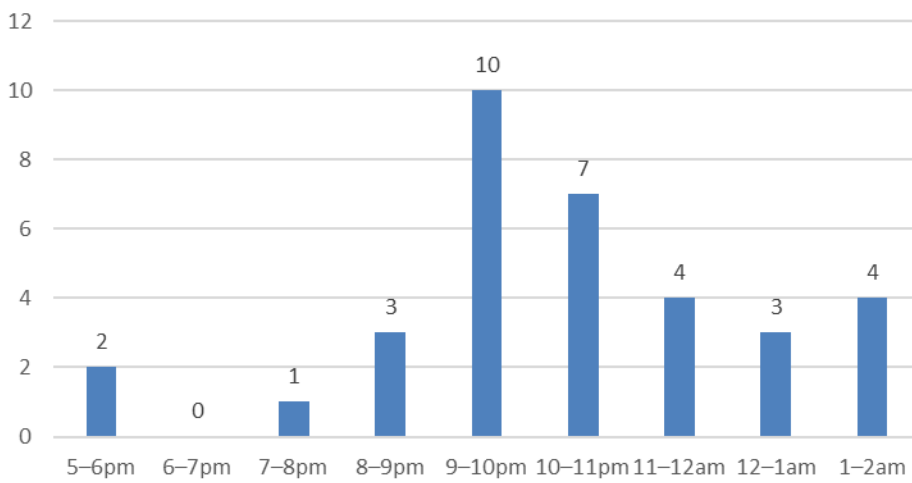


Types of alcohol sold by outlets

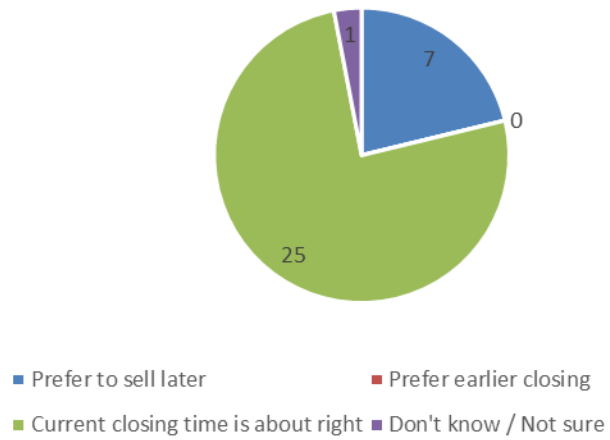




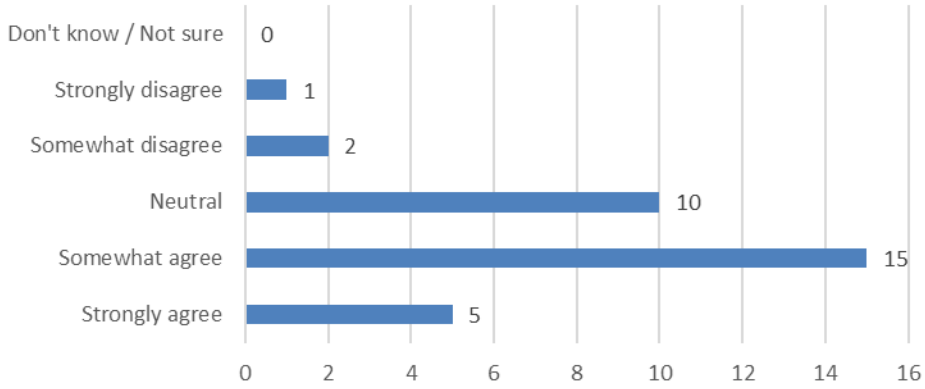
Latest time outlets can sell under current licence



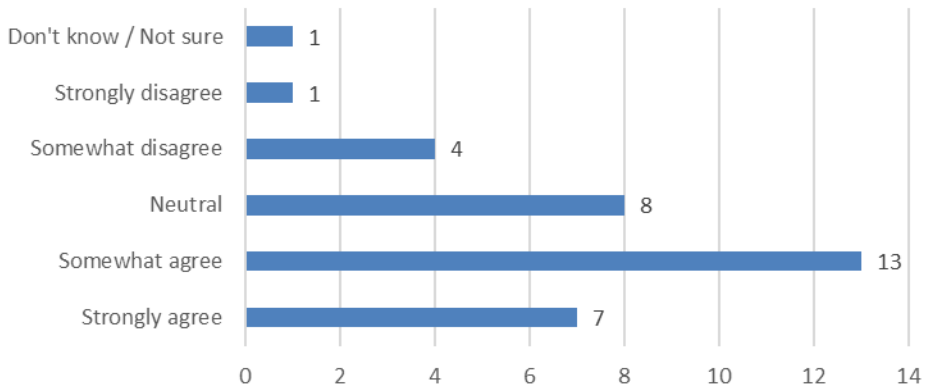
Views on latest selling time



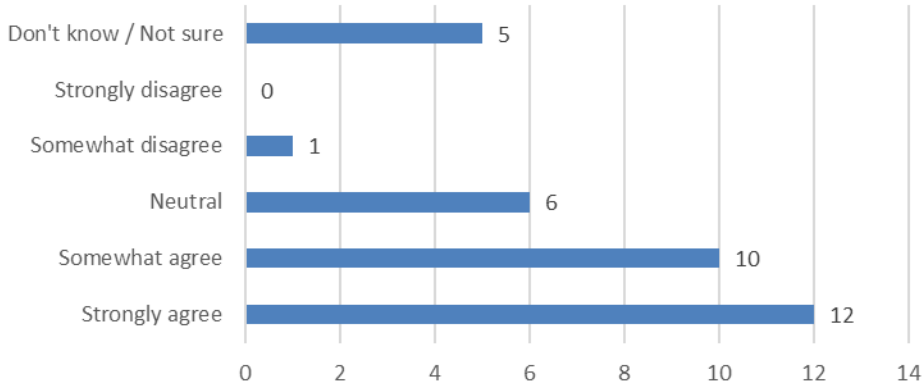
The Local Alcohol Policy sets the right balance between business operations and community wellbeing.



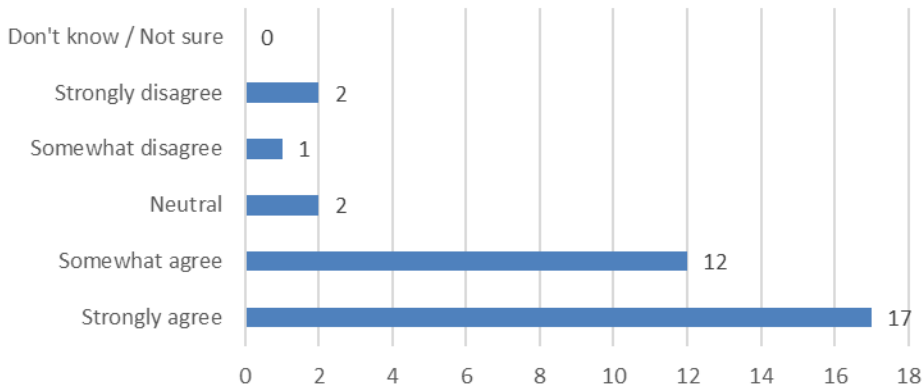
The Local Alcohol Policy makes a difference in reducing alcohol harm in my community.

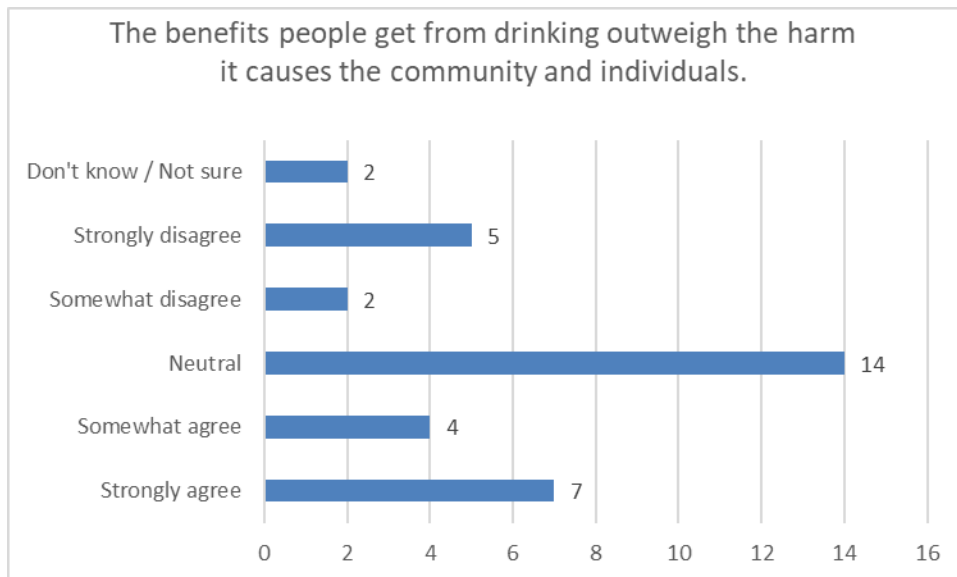
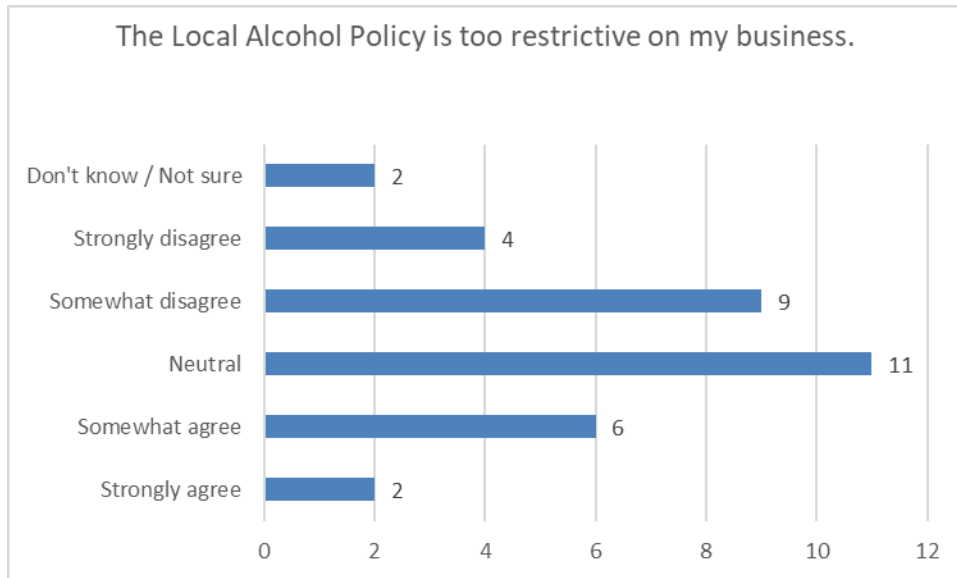


The money made from selling alcohol provides a benefit to the community.

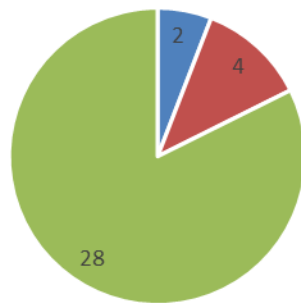


If there was no Local Alcohol Policy, I would continue to run my business in much the same way.



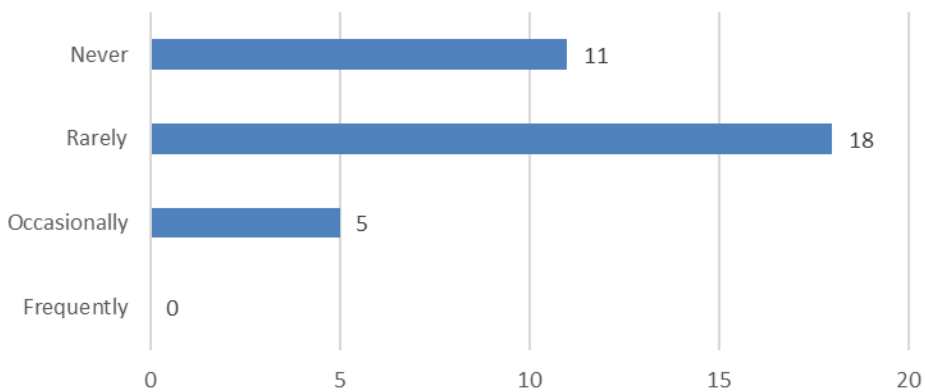


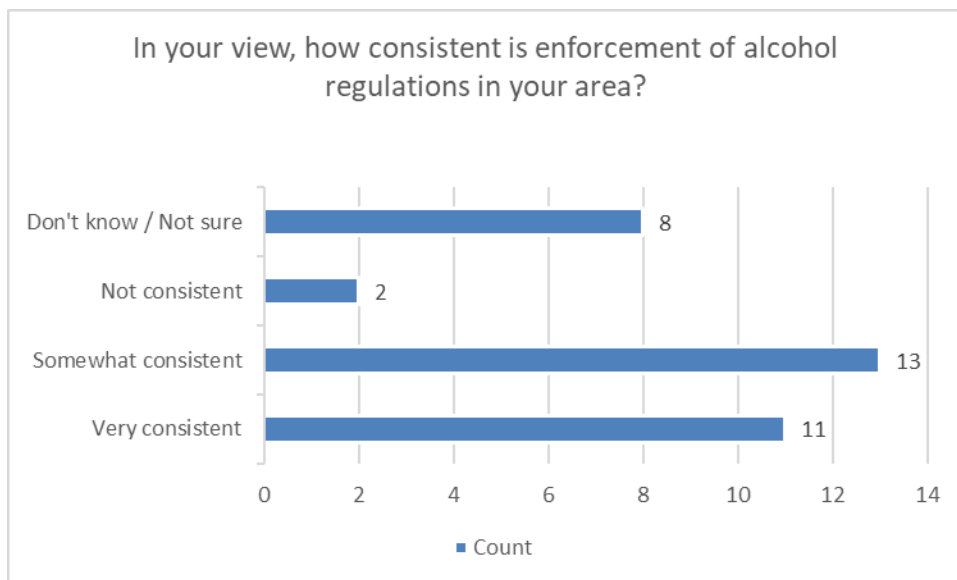
Have you had to change staff rosters, security arrangements, or business practices because of the LAP?



■ Yes – significant changes ■ Yes – minor changes ■ No

Does your business regularly need to refuse service due to intoxication or age concerns?





Participants were also asked if they had any suggestions on how the Local Alcohol Policy could better support their business while still reducing alcohol-related harm.

Across the nine free text responses, licence holders offered a range of suggestions for how the Local Alcohol Policy could better support their businesses while still reducing harm. Clear, consistent rules were emphasised, with some expressing frustration at what they saw as subjective or overly moralistic approaches from authorities. One respondent asked for “clearer rules rather than vibe-based nice-to-haves,” arguing that some officials “push their own standards rather than following what the law says” (29504). Others felt operators should be trusted to apply “common sense” (29429) and that responsible businesses should not be penalised for the actions of a few, with one stating: “Punishments [should be] in place for the bad businesses. Freedom for those that follow the rules” (29400).

A suggestion was made for specific operational adjustments, including more flexible security requirements based on closing times (29442) and modernised rules for seasonal or holiday trading, such as Easter (29398). A few highlighted inconsistencies in regulation, such as restrictions on displaying “top shelf” products compared with supermarkets, which they felt limited customer choice unnecessarily (29429). Others argued the current policy settings were already workable, with one noting, “If we run our business within the guidelines of the law then there shouldn’t be an issue” (29396), while another said the “balance is about right” (29419).

A recurring theme was concern about perceived pressure to change opening hours or operations without legislative backing. Two respondents argued that if changes are desired, councils should “change the law, don’t apply pressure” (29504, 29399). Some also felt there was an overly strong influence from “‘anti’ alcohol people” involved in

licensing (29399). Despite these concerns, a few respondents did recognise the importance of reducing harm, with one emphasising the role of on-licence environments in safer consumption compared to low-cost takeaway alcohol (29417).

Youth Council Perspectives

Council staff met with both the Motueka and Richmond Youth Councils to seek young people's perspectives on alcohol-related issues in Tasman and to inform the review of the Local Alcohol Policy. The discussion focused on lived experience rather than technical policy detail and covered perceptions of alcohol, impacts on young people, and views relevant to local policy settings. Key statistics were shared only after a more general discussion was held to avoid bias in the feedback.

Richmond Youth Council

Perceptions of Alcohol in Tasman

Alcohol is visible through retail stores and advertising. Participants felt some people use alcohol responsibly, but harmful use is common. They highlighted the need for clearer information for parents about alcohol's role in hindering brain development.

Where Young People Encounter Alcohol

Encounters are both positive and negative, but primarily negative. Exposure occurs at social events. Alcohol plays some role in youth social life, increasing from Year 11–12 onward (e.g., semi-formals, after-parties). Participants felt alcohol is probably too accessible for these events, with parents usually buying. Buying alcohol is viewed as relatively easy. Even if youth can be stopped from purchasing directly, they can still obtain it indirectly.

Alcohol Education

Participants considered it vital to give correct information, saying there isn't enough effective education: little is remembered from school. Content is covered in Years 9–10, but not in senior years when use is more likely. Recalled examples included a "cringe" play about drinking/drink-driving. Most young people know alcohol is harmful but don't understand why.

Reflections on Alcohol Harm Data

Statistics shared were not considered surprising; alcohol harm is a known issue. Participants expected more family harm than drink-driving; they found that result sad but not surprising.

Views relevant to Local Alcohol Policy settings

Location of outlets: Alcohol should be away from schools, though this is hard in town centres where schools and shops are close. This is seen as a visibility issue, not direct sales to youth. Youth can be prevented from buying but not from getting alcohol.

Trading hours: Participants felt it was unclear if changing hours would help. Youth plan in advance, often needing an older person to buy, so hours likely make little difference.

Outlet types and density: Participants didn't want to harm local businesses such as wineries given their contribution to the local economy. They thought these items may be more likely to be stocked in supermarkets than liquor stores. Limiting liquor stores that focus on RTDs and spirits might help alleviate some alcohol harm. However, participants speculated that liquor stores may check ID more consistently than supermarkets, which are busier.

One-way door restrictions: Dunedin's policy was noted as linked to lower incidents. Participants felt Tasman doesn't have a nightclub strip, so the policy may be less relevant locally.

Motueka Youth Council

Perceptions of Alcohol in Tasman

Alcohol is highly visible locally, particularly through the number of liquor stores, including three outlets on the Motueka high street. Youth described a strong drinking culture, with over-consumption and drinking "to get drunk" seen as common behaviour. While Motueka was seen as having particular issues, participants noted this reflects a broader national drinking culture.

Alcohol-related littering was raised as a concern, with Youth Council members involved in initiatives such as the Thorps Bush project to reduce alcohol waste. Specific public spaces were identified where alcohol-related behaviour is noticeable. Some young people reported feeling unsafe or uncomfortable around intoxicated adults, leading them to avoid

certain areas. In Māpua, participants had awareness of teenagers congregating late at night, often loud and clearly under the influence of alcohol.

Role of Alcohol in Youth Social Life

Alcohol was described as playing a significant role in youth socialising, with drinking often being the default activity when making plans. This was seen as reinforcing expectations that social activities involve alcohol. Peer pressure to drink was not uncommon. Some participants noted that if young people stand their ground, others eventually accept their choice, and that stigma around not drinking may be slowly reducing.

Access and Impact of Alcohol

Participants felt alcohol was not difficult for young people to access, particularly from the mid-teen years onwards, often through older friends or other people purchasing it on their behalf. Youth identified alcohol as contributing to a negative culture that affects mental, physical, and social wellbeing.

Education and Awareness

Alcohol education at school was not considered memorable or engaging, with much of it not sticking by Year 12. While students recalled learning about alcohol ban areas and attending performances or skits, these were not seen as having a lasting impact.

Reflections on Alcohol Harm Data

Youth felt that local alcohol harm statistics for Motueka generally reflected their lived experience. No aspects of the data were identified as surprising.

Views Relevant to Local Alcohol Policy Settings

Location of outlets: Participants felt that alcohol should not be sold near schools, with concern noted about outlets currently located close to school environments.

Outlet density: Participants felt there are already enough alcohol outlets, and that additional outlets are not needed.

Trading hours: A suggestion was raised that alcohol availability should be contained to school hours when students are busy at school so less likely to be exposed.

Section 4: Literature Review on the impacts of alcohol

Trading Hours

Research consistently shows links between trading hours and alcohol-related harm. Systematic reviews report that extending on-licence trading hours is commonly followed by increases in assaults, injuries and drink-driving outcomes, while restricting hours is followed by reductions in these harms (Sanchez-Ramirez & Voaklander, 2018; Nepal et al., 2020). Some studies show that violence shifts later into the night following extended hours, for example, increases between 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. even when total daily assaults remain unchanged (Sanchez-Ramirez & Voaklander, 2018; Nepal et al., 2020).

One study in Sweden found a decrease in assaults after a short extension of trading hours, though this occurred alongside other interventions and was noted as an exception (Nepal et al., 2020). New Zealand modelling shows that reducing off-licence trading hours could produce large population health gains over current settings (Chambers et al., 2024).

In New Zealand survey data, off-licence purchases made after 10 p.m. were associated with heavier drinking on a typical occasion (odds ratio 2.1) and with daily drinking (odds ratio 1.8) compared with purchases made before 10 p.m. For on-licences, purchasing after 2 a.m. was associated with 2.9 times higher odds of heavier drinking and was also predictive of daily drinking (Casswell, Huckle, Wall, & Yeh, 2014).

Outlet Density and Proximity

Evidence on outlet density and proximity is mixed and varies depending on the type of outlet, harm measure and study method.

In England, higher densities of several outlet types were associated with higher rates of alcohol-related hospital admissions, particularly for conditions wholly attributable to alcohol (Maheswaran et al., 2018). In New Zealand a survey found no significant relationship between density and overall consumption or “risky drinking”, although off-licence density was associated with increased binge drinking, and several outlet types were associated with self-reported harms (Connor et al., 2011).

Proximity studies in New Zealand report that living closer to alcohol outlets is associated with hazardous drinking and multiple crime outcomes. These relationships often follow a

dose-response pattern and are particularly strong for on-licence premises (Hobbs et al., 2020). International reviews highlight that results vary widely across locations and that some natural experiments find small or no changes in harm despite changes in outlet numbers (Gmel et al., 2016). United States research notes that access to off-premise outlets can be strongly associated with certain violent crimes, although the strength of association differs by crime type (Trangenstein et al., 2018).

A twin-study design found that neighbourhood deprivation was associated with hazardous drinking even after accounting for shared family and genetic factors, while outlet density was not, highlighting the relevance of socioeconomic context (Rhew et al., 2018). A plausible alternative is that areas with stronger demand for alcohol attracted more outlets over time, which would make density a result of demand rather than a cause (Maheswaran et al., 2018; Gmel et al., 2016).

Pricing and Taxation

New Zealand survey evidence indicates that lower prices for alcohol are linked to heavier drinking. People who pay lower prices at both on- and off-licence premises have higher odds of consuming six or more drinks on a typical occasion, and lower off-licence prices are associated with daily drinking (Casswell et al., 2014). Modelling of alcohol interventions suggests that increased alcohol taxes and minimum pricing would produce substantial health gains (Chambers et al., 2024).

Marketing Exposure and Children

Studies show that children and young people are exposed to alcohol marketing in multiple ways. Adolescents who report greater exposure to alcohol advertising are more likely to have initiated alcohol use or to be consuming alcohol (Jones & Magee, 2011). School proximity to liquor stores also increases the likelihood of early alcohol use (Trapp, Knuiman, Hooper, & Foster, 2018).

Wearable-camera studies in New Zealand found that children frequently encountered alcohol marketing during supermarket visits, often near everyday products, and were also frequently exposed to alcohol packaging in home environments, with health warnings rarely visible (Chambers et al., 2017; Chambers et al., 2019). Another review of advertising restrictions concludes that evidence is inconsistent and generally low in quality, meaning

it is unclear whether advertising bans reduce population-level consumption (Siegfried et al., 2014).

Online, Rapid and On-Demand Supply

Online and rapid alcohol delivery services have expanded quickly. Studies show that alcohol is often delivered within short timeframes, commonly with bulk-discounting and promotional marketing (Colbert et al., 2020). In Auckland, mystery-shopping studies found that most deliveries either did not check age identification or left alcohol unattended, raising concerns about supply to minors (Sneyd & Richardson, 2024).

Online platforms can increase alcohol availability in residential areas and may bypass aspects of the traditional licensing system. Evidence gathered before and after implementation of Auckland's LAP suggests that while compliance with the LAP's 9 p.m. closing time was generally high for delivery services, availability before 9 p.m. was extensive and often accompanied by aggressive promotional methods and buy-now-pay-later payment options (Alcohol Healthwatch, 2025).

A scoping review notes that on-demand delivery services may undermine existing alcohol controls through poor age-verification processes and limited regulatory oversight (Duthie et al., 2023). Concerns have also been raised about financial and health risks associated with buy-now-pay-later services used for alcohol purchases (The Salvation Army, 2025).

Health Impacts

Alcohol is linked with a broad set of health harms across cancers, cardiovascular disease, and acute injury. Epidemiological evidence reports dose-response associations between alcohol and several cancers, with some reduction in risk after long-term cessation, while noting that a few sites show no association or inverse associations (Connor, 2017). Alcohol use represents a major health risk, ranking as the seventh leading cause of disease and death globally, and the fifth for New Zealanders, in 2016 (Chambers, Mizdrak, Herbert, Davies, & Jones, 2024). Cardiovascular findings are mixed: some studies describe lower risk at low-to-moderate intake, whereas others question whether apparent benefits remain after factors like lifestyle and measurement limitations are taken into account. The level of risk also varies depending on things like sex, ethnicity, drinking patterns, and the type of

alcohol consumed (Chiva-Blanch & Badimon, 2020). Beyond chronic disease, alcohol contributes to acute harms such as assaults, injuries, and drink-driving outcomes, with reviews documenting increases in these outcomes when alcohol is consumed in ways that elevate immediate risk (e.g., heavy or late-night drinking), and decreases in acute harms when such exposure is lower (Sanchez-Ramirez & Voaklander, 2018; Nepal et al., 2020). At the population level in New Zealand, modelling attributes substantial health loss to alcohol across multiple disease categories and indicates that changes in consumption patterns would shift overall morbidity and mortality; the same work also highlights that health burdens are not evenly distributed across groups (Chambers et al., 2024).

Impacts for Māori

Modelling studies show that Māori may experience larger health gains than non-Māori from interventions such as earlier closing hours and increased alcohol taxation (Chambers et al., 2024). Historical research provides evidence that alcohol was used strategically in 19th-century land transactions involving Māori, often in ways that undermined Māori self-determination. Māori leaders and communities responded with temperance movements, restrictions on alcohol at gatherings, and public criticism of the role alcohol played in land loss (McDowell, 2015). Contemporary studies continue to show disproportionately high hazardous drinking and harm among Māori (Chambers et al., 2024).

Interventions and Enforcement

Evidence reviews indicate that price increases and restrictions on trading hours consistently show the strongest effects in reducing alcohol harm. Other approaches such as server training and environmental measures (e.g., CCTV, crowding management) can have modest and sometimes short-lived effects unless coupled with robust enforcement (Miller et al., 2015). Case studies of local interventions show reductions in assaults and emergency department presentations following earlier closing times and other restrictions, although results vary by location (Nepal et al., 2020; Sanchez-Ramirez & Voaklander, 2018).

Alcohol-Free and Low-Alcohol Products

Survey research from Great Britain shows that people who drink alcohol to “fit in” with others are more likely to consume alcohol-free or low-alcohol products. Those who drink because they enjoy the feeling alcohol gives them are less likely to consume these products. However, the study design does not show whether these products replace alcoholic drinks or supplement them (Burke et al., 2025).

Positive Social and Cultural Considerations

Sociological work notes that “drinking culture” encompasses norms, practices, settings, and social meanings, and is not uniform across societies or subgroups (Savic et al., 2016). Authors highlight that policy discussions often refer to “changing the drinking culture” without clearly defining what this means.

Studies of modest, social drinking report links to social bonding, including larger supportive networks and stronger feelings of connection to community, particularly in certain hospitality settings. These findings relate specifically to modest drinking and emphasise that enjoyment and pleasure are among the motivations shaping drinking behaviour (Dunbar et al., 2017). Researchers argue that understanding and acknowledging these pleasurable aspects is important when considering how drinking behaviours form and persist, and what interventions may be appropriate (Savic et al., 2016).

Section 5: What are other Councils doing?

Forty-one of New Zealand’s 67 Territorial Authorities (61%) have adopted Local Alcohol Policies, covering about 80% of the population, including Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Tauranga²⁸. A further eight have publicly identified that they are in policy development.

A cross Council policy analysis has been undertaken to identify similarities and differences in practice across the country. Some Councils did not address all types of licence.

²⁸ [Alcohol Healthwatch > Issues & Resources > Local Government Policies & Strategies > Local Alcohol Policies](#)

Councils that do not have a Local Alcohol Policy (26) are not included in the tables below. These Councils refer to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 and make licencing decisions on a case-by-case basis. The default maximum national trading hours are between 8am and 4am the next day for club and on licences, and 7am and 11pm for off licences²⁹.

On licence policies

Earliest on licence trading hours	Count
7am	14
8am	22
9am	6
10am	1

Latest on licence trading hours	Count
Midnight	1
1am	14
2am	12
3am	11
4am	2

Trading hours framework		Count
On licence	Different max trading hours for different types of business	19
	Different max trading hours for different locations	14
	Different max trading hours for different days	3
	Same max trading hours for all on licences	15

Off licence policies

Earliest off licence trading hours	Count
7am	36
8am	2
9am	2
10am	1

Latest off licence trading hours	Count
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²⁹ [Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 No 120 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act 43 Default national maximum trading hours – New Zealand Legislation](#)

8pm	1
9pm	16
9:30pm	1
10pm	18
10:15pm	1
11pm	4

Trading hours framework		Count
Off licence	Different max trading hours for different types of business	9
	Different max trading hours for different locations	2
	Same max trading hours for all off licences	31

For the nine Councils that set out different trading hours depending on the type of business, seven specified that supermarkets and or grocery stores could trade earlier than bottle stores.

Club Licence Policies

Earliest club licence trading hours	Count
7am	3
8am	17
9am	17
10am	3

Latest club trading hours	Count
midnight	8
1am	22
2am	3
3am	2

One-way door policies

Use of one-way door policies	Count
Mandatory for certain businesses or those open to a certain time	11
Discretionary option for the DLC	22

Location or Density Policies

Use of location or density policies (excluding district plan restrictions)	Count
Sensitive sites	23

High deprivation / priority areas	6
High density of outlets	6
Off licence cap or temporary freeze	3
Bottle store cap or temporary freeze	7
Presumption against new off licences	3

Of the 23 Councils that set out restrictions for alcohol outlets around sensitive sites such as education facilities, playgrounds, marae or places of worship, 12 specified that this excluded supermarkets and or grocery stores.

Remote Sales

Use of remote sales provisions in policies	Count
Different hours of delivery to other off licence trading	2
Same hours of delivery as other off licence trading	1
Mandatory delivery package instructions for courier	2
Licensee must take reasonable steps to ensure the buyer and recipient are not under 18	1
No remote sale deliveries permitted on certain public holidays	2

Discretionary Conditions

Local Alcohol Policies (LAPs) sit alongside national alcohol legislation and other regulatory tools, and give councils the ability to tailor alcohol-related rules to local circumstances. In addition to setting baseline provisions such as trading hours and location controls, LAPs can include discretionary conditions; flexible, event- or premises-specific requirements that licensing committees may apply when issuing or renewing licences. These conditions allow councils to respond to local risks, venue types, event characteristics, and community priorities by adding targeted measures such as security, host-responsibility requirements, drink-service limits, or amenity protections.

The following sections summarise the key components found in other Council's discretionary conditions. Some of these elements listed below are already set out in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 and are arguably unnecessarily repeated in these policies.

Trading Hours & Access Management

- More restrictive trading hours based on location or risk.
- One-way door restrictions after a set time.
- Earlier cessation of alcohol service before closing.
- Limits on entertainment hours (e.g., live music finish times).

Host Responsibility & Responsible Service

- A written host responsibility policy (implemented and displayed).
- Availability of food, low-alcohol, and non-alcoholic drinks.
- Requirements for trained staff (e.g., ServeWise or similar).
- Limits on service to prohibited persons (intoxicated people or minors).
- Drink-service restrictions (e.g., limits per transaction, no shots/doubles after a time).

Security & Staffing

- Additional security staffing after certain hours.
- Patron-to-security or patron-to-manager ratios.
- Door or security staff visibility requirements (e.g., high-visibility clothing).
- Queue-management requirements.

CCTV, Lighting & CPTED Measures

- CCTV installation and operation, including retention periods (e.g., 28 days).
- Adequate internal and external lighting for surveillance and ID checks.
- Layout requirements to minimise blind spots and ensure visibility.

Outdoor Area Management

- Use of outdoor areas restricted after specific times.
- Noise or speaker limits for outdoor spaces.
- Monitoring of outdoor drinking areas.
- Prohibition of glass in outdoor areas after certain hours.

Noise, Amenity & Good Order

- Noise management plans.
- Waste, litter, and vomit management requirements.
- Restrictions on signage and alcohol advertising.
- Amenity protection near sensitive sites (schools, ECEs).

Incident & Risk Management

- Incident registers for disorder or alcohol-related issues.
- Mandatory reporting of serious incidents to Police.
- Duty manager rosters.

- Alcohol or risk management plans (e.g., managing intoxication).

Transport & Safety Information

- Display of safe-transport options.
- Facilitating or providing transport options.
- Display of safe-drinking messages.

Sale & Supply Restrictions

- No glassware after set times.
- Limits on product types or strengths.
- No “buy now, pay later” alcohol purchases.
- Designation requirements to manage minors.

Venue Layout & Design

- Seating and occupancy requirements.
- Layout designed for visibility and safety.
- Acoustic treatment in noise-sensitive locations.

Discretionary conditions primarily used for on-licence premises

- Queue-management plans for busy bars/nightclubs.
- Patron-to-security ratios for late-night hospitality venues.
- Removal of outdoor furniture at specific times.
- Entertainment-related restrictions (DJ/live music timing).

Discretionary conditions primarily used for off-licence premises

- Mandatory storefront transparency (e.g., 50% glazing).
- Restrictions on external alcohol advertising (e.g., max 30–50% façade).
- Product-specific limits such as:
 - No single sales of certain RTDs, beer, or high-strength drinks.
 - Restrictions on breaking multipacks.
- Remote-sales and delivery requirements (age checks at purchase and delivery).
- Controls on displaying price specials near windows.
- Supervised or restricted designation for bottle stores (near-universal).

- Social impact statements for new off-licence applications.
- Additional conditions when located within buffer zones (e.g., 100 m from sensitive sites).

Discretionary conditions primarily used for club licences

- Alcohol may only be supplied to members, guests, and authorised visitors.
- Requirements linked to club membership and youth participation.
- Manager presence required only once attendance reaches specified levels.
- Special controls for sports-ground and event-day activities.
- Licensed area restrictions (e.g., must not include playing fields).
- Family-area separation from bar/drinking areas.

Discretionary conditions primarily used for special licences

- Alcohol Management Plans (AMPs) required for events over set attendee thresholds.
- Temporary licensed-area controls (fencing, cordons, wristbands, demarcation).
- Bag checks, BYO bans, and entry-control requirements.
- Drink-container restrictions (plastic only, no glass).
- Event-specific crowd-flow and queue-management measures.
- Maximum number of special-licence events per venue per year.
- Specific event types may be prohibited (e.g., school galas).
- Conditions enabling Police to request early shutdown or slower service.
- Temporary infrastructure conditions (porta-loos, external bins).

Section 6: Summary of findings

The evidence presented in this Social Impact Assessment shows that alcohol continues to play a significant and complex role in the Tasman District, contributing both social and economic benefits as well as notable harms. Alcohol related industries support employment, tourism, hospitality, and local events, providing social spaces valued by many residents. At the same time, the availability and visibility of alcohol are linked with a range of harms that disproportionately affect certain communities.

Police recorded alcohol harm has increased steadily across the district between 2021 and 2025, with particularly high concentrations in Richmond and Motueka. Emergency department presentations and estimated alcohol attributable hospitalisations also demonstrate ongoing health impacts, though interpretation is complicated by changes in how alcohol involvement is recorded. ACC claims for alcohol related incidents have fluctuated but remain a consistent burden.

Community feedback shows divergent perspectives. Health organisations, iwi, Police, NGOs, and many within the wider community expressed concerns about domestic violence, drink driving, youth accessibility, and the clustering of outlets near sensitive sites. These groups generally support stronger controls on availability, advertising, and trading hours. In contrast, licence holders and business groups and members of the wider community emphasise the social value of well run venues, the importance of regulatory clarity, and the need to avoid restrictions that may disproportionately affect low risk operators or community events.

Youth engagement highlighted concerns about alcohol's visibility and ease of access through secondary supply, as well as the normalisation of drinking in social environments. Young people supported reducing exposure around schools but doubted whether changes to trading hours would influence youth access.

The literature review indicates that restricting trading hours is an effective lever for reducing harm. Evidence on outlet density and proximity is more mixed, with indications of reverse causality at play, but shows associations with certain types of harm, especially in higher risk areas. Online and rapid delivery alcohol services present emerging risks due to inconsistent age verification and aggressive marketing.

Across the district, harm is unevenly distributed. Motueka accounts for a quarter of all alcohol related Police incidents despite having a smaller share of the district population, while Richmond also records a high proportion aligned with its population size. Family harm and drink driving comprise significant proportions of total alcohol related Police incidents. Alcohol harm is most commonly recorded in the evening, with the highest concentration around 8–9 pm.

Section 7: What Policy options are available?

Local Alcohol Policies must be 'reasonable'

Section 3(2a) of the Act states that the system of control over the sale and supply of alcohol introduced by the Act in 2012 must be reasonable. The meaning of the term 'reasonable' was discussed by the Supreme Court in the case *Woolworths and Foodstuffs*

North Island v. Auckland Council 2023. The Court said that a licencing restriction in a LAP may be justified if there is a reasonable likelihood that it will reduce alcohol-related harm. However, a restriction may be unreasonable if it is likely to:

- a) have limited efficacy in reducing alcohol-related harm
- b) cause significant disruption/ inconvenience to those who consume alcohol safely and responsibly and/or those who sell alcohol in a safe and responsible way.

A summary of the key Policy options available is included in the following pages.

Summary of key Policy options under consideration

Maximum off licence trading hours

Options	Pros	Cons
Maintain status quo: 7am – 10pm (Recommended)	Consistency for licence holders. Addresses research showing heavy drinking more likely with post 10pm purchase.	Missed opportunity for alcohol harm reduction.
9am – 9pm	Research links between reduced trading hours and lower alcohol harm. Survey responses indicate sales primarily occur before 9pm – indication of small impact on both businesses and consumers.	Potential lost income for some businesses Added expense for supermarkets installing barriers during restricted times. Inconvenience for consumers. Police data shows less harm in morning – response proportionality issues. Survey responses indicate sales primarily occur before 9pm – indication that benefits may not be significant.
7am – 9pm	Research links between reduced trading hours and lower alcohol harm. Survey responses indicate sales primarily occur before 9pm.	Potential lost income for some businesses Added expense for supermarkets installing barriers during restricted times.

Inconvenience for consumers.		
Different hours for different types of outlets (e.g. supermarket vs bottle store)	Can target outlets where alcohol sale is primary purpose. With the exception of bottle stores, community survey respondents generally considered current selling times about right.	Currently policy already has this discretion as trading hours are maximum. More complex.
National legislation default hours: 7am - 11pm		Research links between reduced trading hours and lower alcohol harm, and vice versa. More than half of Councils have a LAP that differs from the national default, so there are no consistency benefits.

Maximum on licence and club licence trading hours

Options	Pros	Cons
Maintain status quo: 8am – 2am (Recommended)	Consistency for licence holders. Times are relevant for businesses and clubs operating in Tasman.	Missed opportunity of alcohol harm reduction.

	Policy is for maximum hours – there is still potential to approve licences with less hours as appropriate.	
Reduce current hours	Potential for reduced alcohol harm	Policy is for maximum hours – there is still potential to approve licences with less hours as appropriate. Potential lost income for some businesses. Reduces night time economy for businesses and opportunities for consumers. Few places in Tasman are open this late – benefits may not be significant.
National legislation default hours: 8am – 4am	More flexibility for businesses what want to expand night time economy activities.	Extended hours aren't relevant for the nature of most Tasman businesses. Potential for increased alcohol-related harm. More than half of Councils have a LAP that differs from the national default, so there are no consistency benefits.

Sensitive site proximity restrictions

Proposed approach: Draft Policy has a presumption against new *bottle stores* within 100 metres of schools

Note – Recommended approach to any sensitive site restrictions:

- Measure separation distances using 100 metres walking distance, rather than “as the crow flies”. This avoids unintended consequences (e.g. businesses being restricted despite being on the other side of a block)
- Apply restrictions only to new licence applications - Existing licensed premises would not be affected.
- If a sensitive site relocates within a restricted area, the existing licensed premise should not be required to relocate.

Sensitive site options	Pros	Cons
Schools (recommended)	Broadly supported in early engagement. Supported in Māpua response 2023. Provides certainty for community and applicants – saving time and money rather than going through extensive hearings. Reduces likelihood of after hours drinking in school grounds. Research suggests visibility of alcohol increases adolescent use.	Assumes that children aren’t present elsewhere in the community and exposed in a multitude of other ways – possible issues with response/ result ratio.
Early childhood centres and playgrounds	Reduces visibility of alcohol for children. Broadly supported in early engagement	More numerous and geographically dispersed than schools.

		Lack of reliable spatial information – ongoing changes. Narrower set of sensitive sites is easier to administer.
Addiction services	Broadly supported in early engagement. Targeted approach to harm reduction for vulnerable people.	Lack of publicly available spatial information. Complex to implement. Alternative opportunity for concerns to be raised during public notification of a licence application.
Marae	Research suggests Māori experience disproportionate levels of alcohol harm.	Minimal interest from most iwi. Marae locations in Tasman are unlikely to be areas where off licences would want to operate.
Alternative ways of managing sensitive sites	Pros	Cons
Include sensitive sites as discretionary conditions	Can be applied to a number of different sensitive sites. Can be applied on a case-by-case basis, avoiding unintended consequences.	Less certainty for community and applicants if regarded on a case-by-case basis.
Presumption against new bottle stores near sensitive	Supports a precautionary, harm-reduction approach in areas already	Could lead to more complex and contested hearings, as applicants may seek to rebut the presumption.

sites (recommended for schools)	experiencing higher levels of alcohol-related harm or outlet density. Provides clear policy direction to applicants and decision-makers. Supports avoiding unintended consequences as there is an opportunity for applicant to demonstrate that the proposed business would not increase harm.	
No provision for sensitive sites in policy – status quo	No additional administrative burden. Less restrictive for businesses	Less certainty for community and applicants. Potential waste of time and resource for all parties on appeals, objections process. Missed opportunity for a reduction in alcohol harm. Doesn't align with previously heard community views.

Off licence density in areas of high harm

Options	Pros	Cons
Cap	Provides a clear, enforceable upper limit on outlet numbers in high-harm areas. Strong signal of a harm-reduction approach. Gives certainty to the community and licence holders.	Requires robust and defensible methodology in setting high harm criteria. There is an inherent policy tension: if harm decreases, the rationale for the restriction may no longer be evident, which could enable conditions that allow harm to increase again.
Temporary freeze	Allows time to assess impact of current density without further growth. Easier to justify as a precautionary, time-limited measure. Does not affect existing licences.	Requires robust and defensible methodology in setting high harm criteria. Effects are delayed and may be minimal if current density is already high. Creates uncertainty for applicants during the freeze period. Requires clear review timeframe and criteria.
Presumption against	Targeted approach that limits new licences while allowing exceptions where justified. Supports harm reduction without imposing a total ban on new licences. Stronger policy direction for licensing decisions.	Requires robust and defensible methodology in setting high harm criteria. May result in more contested hearings.

Maintain status quo – not included in policy (recommended).	No additional administrative burden. Least restrictive for business and market entry. Avoids unintended consequences for lower risk businesses such as boutique or specialty stores. See cons for alternative options.	No mechanism to address outlet density in high harm areas. Missed opportunity to align with harm reduction approach. Provides limited policy guidance to decision makers. Potential waste of time and resource for all parties on appeals, objections process.
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One-way door restrictions

One way door conditions allow patrons to leave premises but not re-enter or enter after a certain time.

Options	Pros	Cons
Maintain status quo – discretionary condition (recommended)	Allows case-by-case assessment based on risk and operating style. Can be tailored to specific premises and locations. No additional policy complexity. Keeps the policy proportionate to Tasman’s scale and night-time economy.	Provides less certainty for applicants and the community.

Mandatory measure for late night venues.	Certainty for businesses and community. Clear, consistent requirement for high-risk trading hours. Recognised tool for reducing late-night intoxication and harm.	Tasman does not have a concentrated night-time economy or nightclub strip and may not be needed. May impose unnecessary restrictions on low-risk venues. Could reduce venue viability without a clear local harm profile.
Do not include in policy	Avoids imposing a measure that may not be locally relevant. Keeps the policy proportionate to Tasman's scale and night-time economy. No additional compliance or monitoring requirements.	Removes the ability to signal expectations around late-night management. Less proactive approach should late-night issues emerge in future.

Remote sales requirements

Options	Pros	Cons
Maintain status quo – not included in policy (recommended).	No additional administrative or compliance burden. Least restrictive for businesses operating remotely.	Provides no local guidance on managing delivery times or safe drop off practices. Missed opportunity to address risks such as late night supply or delivery to intoxicated people.

	Policy is difficult to implement due to outdated legislation.	Default in Act allows delivery between 6am and 11pm, which is inconsistent with other off licence trading hours.
Discretionary condition: hours of sale and delivery.	Can align delivery hours with off licence trading hours. Targets late night harm.	Compliance difficult to monitor. Responsibility rests with licence holder rather than third party delivery.
Discretionary condition: licence holder must take reasonable steps e.g. courier delivery instructions on package.	Promotes responsible delivery practices.	Relies on third party delivery following instructions. Limited ability of licence holder or regulators to enforce responsible delivery.

Buy Now Pay Later discretionary condition

Options	Pros	Cons
Maintain status quo – not included in policy.	No additional administrative or compliance burden. Keeps policy simple and proportionate to Tasman context.	Provides no guidance to applicants on expectations. Could be perceived as tacit approval if community raises concerns.

Missed opportunity to proactively signal responsible practices.		
Include as a discretionary condition (i.e. potential for licence to be granted if BNPL is not made available) (recommended)	Widely supported in early engagement.	Adds extra layer of compliance for applicants.
	Can reduce risk of alcohol being accessed via deferred payment.	
	May save time and resources if issues arise, as seen in Auckland.	

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