

LICENCE TO SERVE

ISSUE 009

News from the Liquor Licencing team



TIMARU DISTRICT COUNCIL SMOKE FREE POLICY

Anyone now applying for a Special Licence in a Council owned facility in the Timaru District will be advised that they will not be able to include a 'smoking zone' in their licensed area effective immediately.

This is due in part to the Smokefree Policy the Council adopted on 18 July 2017 but also was due to a number of concerns around the fencing of the smoking zones and fire exits.

The Council Smokefree Policy is as follows:

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the Council's position towards a Smokefree New Zealand

2.0 Background

The Smokefree Environments Act 1990 placed restrictions on smoking in workplaces, public transport and certain other public places, and restricted smoking in cafes, restaurants and casinos.

In March 2011, the government committed to the goal of supporting New Zealand to become a smokefree nation by 2025. This commitment provides a strong strategic direction for local authorities and other organisations working towards smokefree outcomes.

Section 23 of the Health Act 1956 also states that it is the duty of every council to improve, promote and protect public health within its district.

This Smokefree policy is part of Council's response to this legislative and government policy direction and is about encouraging people to refrain from smoking in public

spaces, Council-owned facilities and public outdoor areas. Compliance with the policy is voluntary and it will not be enforced by Council staff.

The policy also contributes to the following Community Outcomes stated in Council's Long Term Plan:

- People enjoying a high quality of life
- A valued, health and accessible environment

3.0 Key Definitions

Public Outdoor Areas refers to Council controlled playgrounds, public sports grounds and facilities specifically listed in this policy.

Council controlled means either owned by Council or Council has legislative responsibility for the facility.

Educational Approach means encouragement by means of educational signage rather than enforcement.

4.0 Policy

1. Timaru District Council endorses the goal of Smokefree Aotearoa 2025.
2. Council supports the concept of Smokefree Aotearoa and smokefree public areas
3. Council will work collaboratively with all stakeholders towards Smokefree Aotearoa.

Continues on following page

This newsletter is jointly produced by the Timaru District Council Alcohol Licencing Team, the Police Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer and the Community and Public Health Alcohol Licencing Officer.

We encourage all licensees to circulate this newsletter to all staff, especially Duty Managers.

THIS ISSUE

UPDATE - Clear fire exits

Host Responsibility

Some philosophical thoughts...

Newsletter Library

If anyone is looking for any previous newsletters you can find these on our website now.

The link is:

<https://www.timaru.govt.nz/services/environment/liquor-control/liquor-licensing/tri-agency-newsletter>



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4. Council will encourage the public to refrain from smoking in the following Council controlled public outdoor areas:
 - playgrounds
 - sportsgrounds & associated facilities
 - Caroline Bay
 - Bus Shelters
 - Areas set up for café or dining purposes (where associated with Council-owned facilities or road reserve)
5. Smokefree signage will be displayed where it is determined to be most effective, to discourage smoking in these areas. Other information will be displayed or developed where appropriate (e.g. website).
6. Appropriate placement and funding for signage will be established with local stakeholders (e.g. Community and Public Health).
7. Council-owned events will be run and promoted as smokefree events.
8. Council supported or funded events will be required to meet smokefree criteria in funding applications before funding will be granted.
9. Council's social housing stock will be smokefree.
10. Council will take an educational rather than enforcement approach to the implementation of this policy.

CPO/ Monitoring Results

No Controlled Purchase Operations (CPO) was undertaken since the previous newsletter.

A number of monitoring visits have been conducted since the last newsletter went out:

29th September – Monitoring in the Timaru district as well as Special Licence Monitoring (Cage Wars)

12th October – monitoring in Mackenzie District

The monitoring trips have resulted in a number of enquiries being made to the agencies regarding a range of issues.

FENZ Article re Clear Fire Exits

In the last newsletter we highlighted the inception of the new 'Fire and Emergency New Zealand (Fire Safety, Evacuation Procedures and Evacuation Schemes) Regulations 2018'.

We would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm the need for compliance with the regulations with a particular focus on maintaining the exit pathway of your buildings so as to provide the best opportunity for everyone to safely and efficiently leave the building in the event of an incident.

The picture below is an example of what is NOT acceptable.



It is advisable to have a regular inspection schedule of exit ways and doors as part of normal duties. Equipment or goods can be inadvertently moved into the exit pathway and left unnoticed.

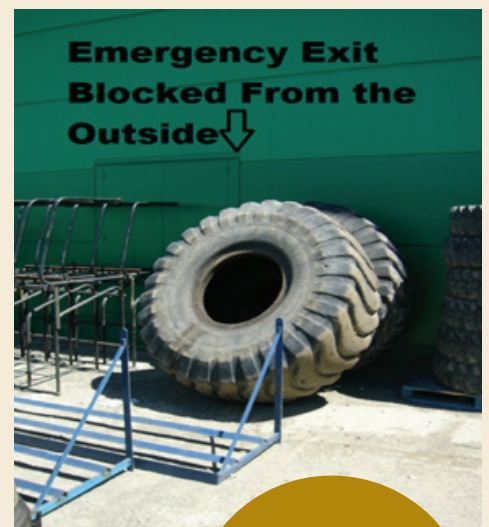
Things to check are

- Exit doors are unlocked and free from barriers or blockages
- The means of escape are kept clear of obstacles at all times
- Stairwells and passageways are free of stored items and accumulation of waste
- There are no hazardous substances positioned in, or outside the exit pathway

While we tend to always focus on keeping the exit pathway clear on the inside of building but consideration should also be given to what is on the outside of the exit.

No one wants to be a victim to bad practise and no building owner or tenant wants to have an avoidable accident on their conscience or be faced with a large fine.

For more information please go to www.fireandemergency.nz or contact your local Fire Risk Management Officer at the Timaru Fire Station on the corner of Latter and Woollcombe Streets or call 03 684 1200.



**LET'S
BE FIRE
SAFE**

HOST RESPONSIBILITY

I have been in the role of Liquor Licensing Health Promoter or about two months now and have been working closely with the Tri Agency team in Timaru.

Regretfully, Sergeant Greg Sutherland resigned as the Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer in our area. Greg was very conscientious and his common sense and sense of humour made him easy to work with.

I wish him all the best on his new path in life.

Since I have been in this role, I have visited quite a few licensed premises. During my visits I have generally not introduced myself but observed the layout of the premises and that the requirements of the Host Responsibility Policy are in place.

I have been happy with my observations so far, and pleasantly surprised at the quality and welcoming nature of the licenced premises and licensed restaurants in the South Canterbury area.

The range of food and venues is refreshing and they cater for locals and tourists alike.

Heading towards the later part of the year brings the warmer weather and all the associated Christmas and break up parties. This tends to lead to higher alcohol consumption and the problems that can go with it.

As hosts, I urge you to follow the six concepts that make up your Host Responsibility Policy. This should be your strategy to help create a safe drinking environment.

1. Prevents Intoxication
2. Does not serve alcohol to minors
3. Provides and actively promotes low alcohol and non-alcoholic alternatives
4. Provides and actively promotes substantial food
5. Serves alcohol responsibly or not at all
6. Arranges safe transport options.

As we enter this time of celebration, please consider the safety of yourselves, your workmates and your patrons.

I hope you all have a safe and Happy Christmas and New Year and I look forward to meeting more of you in 2019.

Wayne Cummings



LCQ TRAINING DATES

I have received the dates for next year from ARA however please be aware they are open to change in case you have any staff needing to go through.

Timaru

11 February and exam on 25 February

29 April and exam on 13 May

10 June and exam on 24 June

29 July and exam on 12 August

21 October and exam on 3 November

As well as the ARA course there is also the online version which is done through another organisation called GetLCQ (located in Dunedin) and their website is www.getlcq.co.nz if your staff would prefer to do it online.

Environmental compliance unit HOW DID WE DO?

Here in the Environmental Compliance Unit we wear a number of different hats, providing a variety of services to the Timaru, Mackenzie and Waimate districts.

Because we look for continuous improvement, it's pretty important to us that we capture your feedback and look for ways to improve our customer service whenever we can. The regulatory and compliance functions can be tricky areas to work in because as a regulator you can't really get drawn into giving advice like a consultant would, otherwise the waters can quickly get muddied.

Having said that, we do need to provide education and information at every opportunity. With this in mind any feedback on how we might deliver a better service is pretty valuable to us.

The link or QR code below will take you to a short 4 question survey that'll only take a couple of minutes for you to do. You can complete the survey once for alcohol related services (licensing) and once again for environmental health services (food). Thanks for helping us be better at what we do.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P8RJ95W>



POLICE UPDATE

In the last newsletter you will have seen that Greg Sutherland has left the NZ Police to pursue a new career as a Funeral Director and in the interim we have appointed Constable Rory Chapman to the position of Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer for the Timaru, Mackenzie and Waimate Districts.

This posting will be until such time as a permanent replacement has been appointed to the role. Const. Chapman will be working closely with the other members of the tri-agency to ensure that there is little impact on the level of service we provide.

With the Christmas and New Year period fast approaching I thought I would take this opportunity to remind you all to be vigilant when it comes to drink driving and if you have concerns regarding any patrons attempting to drink and drive please feel free to take a note of their vehicle registration and call 111 and report your concerns.

As you will be aware, you do not have the power to remove the keys from these people but we would like to think that you would be able to talk to them and offer alternative forms of transport before they attempt to drink and drive.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe holiday season.

Time to Move On, From the Secretary's desk

I paraphrase the Greek philosopher Heraclitus when I say *change is the only constant*, which seems to be the case for the Tri-agency in recent months.

Sergeant Greg Sutherland has had a change in career and moved on from the New Zealand Police, Shayne Broughton from Community Public Health has done the same by moving on to pastures new (replaced by Wayne Cummings). In that vein I'll be moving on from the Timaru District Council in late November to take up the role of the Regulatory and Compliance Group Manager at Waimate District Council in early December.

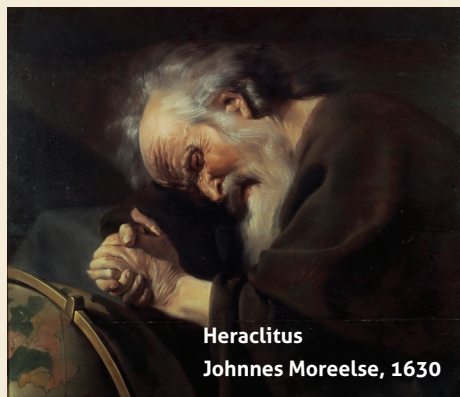
I started here in 2013 as a Liquor Licensing Inspector, was a Corporate Planner for a while and then started in my current role in 2015. As a Licensing Inspector and more recently as Environmental Compliance Manager and Secretary to the DLC, I've had many hundreds, if not thousands of interactions with licensees, applicants for special licenses and certificated managers across the Timaru, Waimate and Mackenzie district's.

During all that human contact, in what can be a challenging role for both me as a regulator, and likewise a challenging role for the licensees or applicants, almost everyone has been friendly in approach, professional in their work and open to learning new things. I find this encouraging and often reflect on how lucky we are to have such good people taking on the serious responsibility of selling alcohol to our communities. Have a safe and happy holiday period.

Kia kaha and onward.

Paul Cooper

District Licensing Committee Secretary



FOOD ACT 2014 TRANSITION

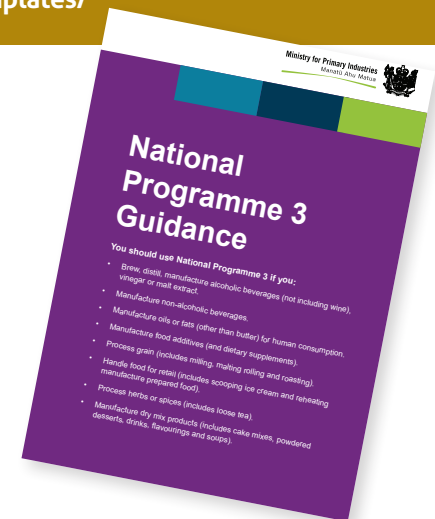
Further to the article in the last newsletter if you are a bottle store selling food such as pre-packaged ice, pre-packaged ice-creams/ frozen confections or offering self-serve riggers then you will need to transition to the Food Act 2014 by 30 November 2018.

Please email foodadmin@timdc.govt.nz for a copy of the registration form or to clarify any questions you may have.

If you are on a Food Hygiene Regulations Registration it will expire 28 February 2019. To ensure you can continue to sell the above items please submit your application as soon as possible.

You can find a guidance booklet online on the New Zealand Food Safety website at

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/food-safety/food-act-2014/forms-and-templates/>



Future Topic Suggestions

Do you find the newsletter useful?

We are looking for suggestions from you as licensee's as to what sort of articles or items you would like to see in future newsletters. If you have any suggestions please feel free to email me on sharon.hoogenraad@timdc.govt.nz