

LICENCE TO SERVE

ISSUE 035

News from the Liquor Licensing team



This newsletter is jointly produced by the Timaru District Council Alcohol Licensing Team, the Police Alcohol Harm Reduction Officer, Te Whatu Ora Alcohol Licensing Officer and the Fire Risk Management Officer, Fire & Emergency New Zealand.

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

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Quad Agency Involvement Enhances Liquor Licensing Discussions

Once a month a Quad Agency Meeting is held involving Liquor Licensing Inspectors, Police, FENZ and MoH Representatives to discuss applications and any concerns the representatives may have.

You will have read in the last couple of Police articles that there have been a few meetings that the quad agency representatives have either been invited to attend, or have requested a meeting with a specific entity, in relation to a specific concern. Representatives collaborated closely with licensees and community stakeholders to address ongoing regulatory challenges and promote responsible alcohol service. Quad Agency representatives actively participated by presenting updates on current laws, clarifying compliance expectations, and offering practical guidance tailored to specific events. Their expertise ensured that complex regulatory language was translated into clear, actionable information for those involved.

One of the highlights of the meeting was an open discussion where Quad Agency representatives provided real-world examples

of effective compliance strategies, emphasising proactive measures licensees can take to avoid enforcement action. Their emphasis on education over enforcement encouraged those attending to view agencies as partners rather than adversaries.

Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive and many noted that the presence and approachability of Quad Agency staff made the meeting more productive and helped bridge gaps between regulatory expectations and business realities.

Those licensees who have approached, and engaged the quad agency approach, appreciated the opportunity to ask detailed questions and receive immediate, informed answers. This successful collaboration underscores the value of including Quad Agency staff in discussions on liquor licensing. Their participation not only enhances transparency but also strengthens the working relationship between regulators and the businesses they oversee.

Moving forward, continued engagement between Quad Agencies and licensees will be essential in promoting compliance, community safety, and business success.

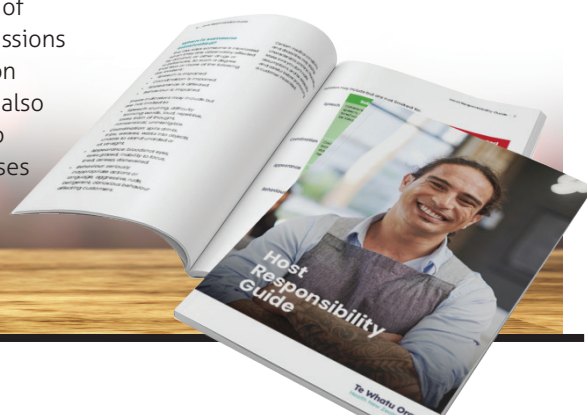
If you feel a meeting with the Quad Agency members may be of use feel free to email liquoradmin@timdc.govt.nz with a bit of information as to what the purpose of the meeting is for and those who would be attending and we will be able to discuss the request at the next quad agency meeting in the hope of arranging a suitable date, time and venue.

Sharon Hoogenraad

Chief Licensing Inspector / Enforcement Officer



Timaru
District Council
Te Kaunihera a-rohe
O Te Tihi o Maru



Alcohol Ban Areas series

The Mackenzie District: what you need to know

In this series we are going to focus on one of the three districts that the Timaru District Council area contracted to carry out liquor licensing for.

This article is on the Mackenzie District. More specific details can be found in the 'Alcohol Restrictions in Public Places Bylaw – 2021' issued by the Mackenzie District Council on 16 November 2021.

The purpose of the Bylaw is to reduce alcohol related harm, damage, disorder and crime; and to improve community safety by prohibiting, or otherwise regulating, the possession and consumption of alcohol in public places.

Please note that the Council may declare a Temporary Alcohol Ban area by resolution stating times, days or dates during which the alcohol restrictions apply to any public places in the area.

In permanent or temporary Alcohol Ban Areas no person may:

- Consume alcohol in a public place; or
- Consume alcohol in a vehicle in a public place; or
- Bring alcohol into a public place, whether in a vehicle or not; or
- Possess alcohol in a public place, whether in a vehicle or not.

For exemptions in relation to unopened bottles or containers section 147(4) of the Local Government Act 2002 states:

A bylaw under this section does not prohibit, regulate, or control, in the case of alcohol in an unopened container,—

- 1 the transport of the alcohol from licensed premises next to a public place, if—
 - (i) it was lawfully bought on those premises for consumption off those premises; and
 - (ii) it is promptly removed from the public place; or
- 2 the transport of the alcohol from outside a public place for delivery to licensed premises next to the public place; or
- 3 the transport of the alcohol from outside a public place to premises next to a public place by, or for delivery to, a resident of the premises or his or her bona fide visitors; or
- 4 the transport of the alcohol from premises next to a public place to a place outside the public place if —
 - the transport is undertaken by a resident of those premises; and
 - (ii) the alcohol is promptly removed from the public place.

Fairlie Liquor Ban Area



Lake Tekapo Liquor Ban Area



Twizel Liquor Ban Area





Police alcohol harm reduction

I hope everyone had a great Easter break and managed to get some time off relaxing with family and friends.

I travelled to Twizel over that weekend and it was great to see holiday makers in good spirits and well behaved. As a District we were incredibly lucky with no major road trauma, which is a great outcome given the number of motorists on our roads.

A small follow up from my previous article about the multi-agency meeting with South Island Rowing which took place in March. Over Easter weekend, University Rowing Championships were held and a small celebration took place at the rowing grounds. This event was well managed, and it was great to see a significant improvement on behaviour. This is a great example of agencies and external organisations working together for a common goal to create a fun but safe environment for celebrations.

The weather has certainly shifted, reminding us that we're transitioning into winter and with that comes sports season. Unfortunately, it has been a disappointing start to the rugby season.

With players wearing their uniforms in town while consuming alcohol and becoming involved in disorder events/fights.

This is just a reminder for duty managers and staff to be aware of, as club rivalry can inadvertently be dragged off the field and into licensed premises.

With the cooler weather setting in, comes the temptation to drive. Walking home after a night out is less desirable for patrons. While you don't have any authority to take vehicle keys from anyone who is intoxicated, talking to them in attempts to prevent them from driving and offering alternative transport options is a good start. If you believe someone is driving or attempting to drive while intoxicated, try obtain their vehicle registration and phone 111.

Take care

Sergeant Samantha Stewart, Alcohol Harm Reduction – Aoraki



Annual Fee Reminder

Just a friendly reminder not to leave your annual fee payments until it is too late.



Unfortunately we have recently had to send out 'Notice of Suspension' emails to licensees due to unpaid annual fees which is automatically suspended if not paid within 30 days of the due date.

Invoices are sent out a few months before the anniversary of the licence to ensure that there is plenty of time to plan for the payment.

On the right is a guide as to when invoices/renewals are sent out.

October- November

Invoices and renewals sent out August/September

December-January

Invoices and renewals sent out October/November

February-March

Invoices and renewals sent December/January

April-May

Invoices and renewals sent February/March

June-July

Invoices and renewals sent April/May

August-September

Invoices and renewals sent June/July



Availability of food

As the cooler time of year sets in and everyone is gearing up for winter sport and other activities, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to assess their host responsibilities, especially the provision of food.

In the same way having low- and non-alcoholic options available promotes responsible consumption of alcohol and helps to avoid intoxication on your premises, food is another tool for preventing intoxication by slowing the rate at which alcohol is absorbed into the bloodstream.

After the game or battling the elements, some hot food can be just the thing patrons are looking for.

Some examples of the range of food available could include: paninis, pizzas, lasagne, pies, toasted or fresh sandwiches, wedges, filled rolls, or salads.

The Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 requires:

- Food is available at all times alcohol is available. This means right up until the door closes at the end of the day's trade.
- The range of foods available is always actively promoted. This may be done by having menus on the bar/tables, a chalkboard menu or food on display.
- Food is made available within a reasonable amount of time at reasonable prices.

Licensees should ensure staff are aware of your host responsibilities and that during service they actively promote patrons to order food.



From time to time we will carry out controlled purchase operations to ensure that premises are being compliant with the food requirements associated with holding a licence.

If you have any questions regarding the requirements around the availability of food, please contact me at the public health unit:

M: 027 537 2321

P: 03 687 2600

E: Cameron.Duff@TeWhatuOra.govt.nz

Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand



LCQ Training Dates

In the Timaru / Waimate / Mackenzie district there are three providers that offer NZQA Unit Standards 4646 and 16705 training.

The 2024 dates have just been released and are as follows.

Session	Assessment
28 July	11 August
20 October	3 November

Please contact ARA directly to register on 0800 242 476.

Also to note is that ARA do offer the ability to carry out night sessions if demand is sufficient so speak to them if this may be something you wish to pursue.

As well as the ARA courses there are also the following options online:

GetLCQ
www.getlcq.co.nz (0800 800 415)

Industry Training Solutions
www.its.ac.nz (0800 GO4 ITS)

ServeWise

This is excellent for those staff that you have working behind the bar who may not wish to go to the next level of obtaining their LCQ. This is a free training system and you can access this by going to www.alcohol.org.nz and search for 'Servewise'.



Look out for fire risk heaters

The following notification is directly copied from Worksafe and our local Fire and Emergency team would like you all to check your businesses and homes to ensure you don't have one of these identified models installed. **These heaters are considered a major fire risk from our perspective.**

For more information you can also visit the consumer protection website at www.consumerprotection.govt.nz/news-and-media/consumer-information-serene-heaters-safety-recall.

Energy Safety has extended its clampdown on Serene wall mounted bathroom heaters, which don't meet New Zealand's safety standards. This now involves the following Serene models: S2068, S207T, and S2069.

Serene Classic S2068

We've prohibited sale, use, installation, and importation of Serene Classic S2068 wall mounted bathroom heaters. This prohibition applies to all units imported, sold, or installed since June 2018. This expands on the prohibition published in February this year, which was limited to specific serial number ranges.

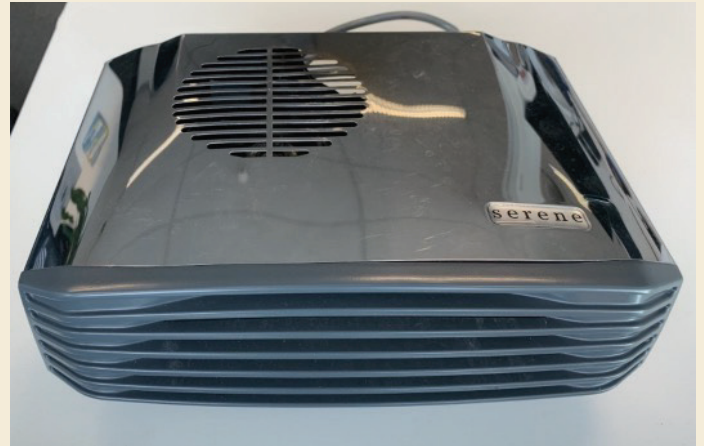
[Click here for the gazette notice for Serene Classic S2068](#)

Serene S2068 heaters are unsafe. Testing has found these heaters are non-compliant with safety standards. A series of fires and overheating incidents are associated with these heaters. More recently, events have occurred outside the previously prohibited serial number range.

There is a significant risk of people being seriously harmed or property being damaged through use of these heaters.

The prohibited S2068 heater is described as follows:

- Wall mounted fan heater with step-down thermostat with pull-cord on-off switch, for fixed-wired installation in bathrooms and similar locations.



- Available finishes include mirror polished stainless steel metal shell with die cast grille, and also known to come in a range of colours including white and black.
- Dimensions: 300 mm wide, 210 mm high and 110 mm deep.

Serene S207T

We've prohibited sale, installation, and importation of Serene S207T wall mounted bathroom heaters. This prohibition applies to all units imported, sold, or installed since January 2018.

[Click here for the gazette notice for Serene S207T](#)

Testing has found Serene S207T heaters are non-compliant with safety standards. There is a low risk they may be unsafe, however we are not aware of any fires or overheating events with these heaters.

The prohibited S207T heater is described as follows:

- Wall mounted fan heater with step-down thermostat control.
- Available finishes include stainless steel or white with gray wall bracket and cast metal grille.
- Approximate dimensions: 375 mm wide, 220 mm high and 140 mm deep.



Look out for fire risk heaters

Serene S2069

Serene S2069 wall mounted bathroom heaters imported, purchased, or installed after June 2018 have had their approval withdrawn. This confirms they cannot be legally sold in New Zealand.

Click here for the gazette notice for Serene S2069

Serene S2069 heaters are non-compliant with safety standards. We are currently investigating a reported fire associated with one of these units.



Energy Safety will continue to monitor for incidents involving any of the above Serene models, and may take further actions if necessary.

What to do if you have a bathroom heater in your home

- Check the make and model of the heater in your bathroom.
- If your heater is a Serene model S2068, do not use it. If you can't unplug it from a wall socket, you should arrange for removal by an electrician.
- If your heater is a Serene model S207T or S2069, Energy Safety considers there is a low risk from continued use. However if you observe an unusual smell or noise from the heater, do not use it and contact an electrical worker to check it over.

From the Secretary's Desk

Kia ora koutou

The winter months are upon us again which calls for warm winter fires and beverages to boot. The industry continues to be busy and as such we continue to keep up with demand and our statutory deadlines.

Speaking of statutory deadlines – we continue to receive special license applications which do not meet the minimum requirements of 20 working days for the lodging of an application before the event. This has been met with disappointment for these applicants and events having to be postponed or cancelled as a result, as we have had to reject those applications.

I'd like to clarify a few points i.e.:

1. 20 working days is the minimum – we encourage earlier lodgements to avoid disappointment
2. Any weekday public holidays is not included in the 20 working days – this means if there is a public holiday in the 20 working day period you must add another day onto the calculation which means you must submit the application 21 working days prior to the event.
3. The 20 working days requirement is written in law, for the purposes of allowing the Police, the Medical Officer of Health and the Liquor Licensing Inspector to review the application and provide a report to the DLC outlining any concerns or conditions they may require. Once these reports are received, they are then submitted to the DLC for a determination.
4. Should your application fall outside of the 20 working day cut off period, S 137 (2) of the Act states that the DLC may consider an application within the 20 working days statutory requirement but it would need to be satisfied that the need for a special licence could not reasonably have been foreseen earlier. In this case a formal request would need to be made to the DLC along with your application.

Finally, if you are struggling with filling out the application form, please contact the Liquor Licensing team, and arrange a time to meet so they can assist you with this.

Ngā mihi,

Debbie Fortuin, Secretary