



# FAQ'S Frequently asked questions

## Alcohol Control Bylaw

### *Ture ā-rohe Whakahaere Waipiro*

#### What is an Alcohol Control Bylaw?

##### *He aha tēnei mea te Ture ā-rohe Whakahaere Waipiro?*

An alcohol bylaw allows councils to prohibit or restrict the consumption, possession, or bringing of alcohol into specified public places at certain times. These are often referred to as “alcohol bans” or “alcohol-free zones”.

#### Why do councils review alcohol control bylaws?

##### *He aha te take ka arotakengia ngā kaunihera i ngā ture ā-rohe whakahaere waipiro?*

Bylaws must be reviewed periodically (usually every 5–10 years) to ensure they remain necessary, effective, and proportionate. Reviews also ensure compliance with the local government act 2002 and the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

#### Who enforces alcohol control bylaws?

##### *Mā wai ngā ture ā-rohe whakahaere waipiro e whakaū?*

Only New Zealand Police constables can enforce these bylaws. They have powers to search, seize, and issue infringements notices (e.g, a \$250 fine for breaches).

#### Are there exceptions to alcohol bans?

##### *He awerenga i ngā whakakatinga waipiro?*

Yes. Councils can issue consents for specific events or groups to allow alcohol in otherwise restricted areas. Special licenses under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 may also apply.

#### Do alcohol bans apply to unopened cans or bottles?

##### *Ka hāngai ngā whakakatinga waipiro ki ngā kēne kōpani, pātara kōpani rānei?*

No – alcohol bans generally do not apply to unopened cans or bottles.

#### What is the difference between alcohol bans and the Local Alcohol Policy?

##### *He aha te rerekētanga i waenga i ngā whakakatinga waipiro me te Kaupapa Here Waipiro ā-rohe?*

Alcohol bans apply restrictions to the consumption and possession of alcohol in public places. The Local Alcohol Policy regulates the sale of alcohol in a District, and the location of licensed premises - so these matters are outside the scope of this bylaw review.

#### What are some examples of alcohol-related crime or disorder?

##### *He aha ētahi taurira o ngā mahi hara, mahi hīanga rānei i ahu i te waipiro?*

Examples of alcohol-related crime or disorder include:

- alcohol-related broken glass and/or litter
- inappropriate behaviour as a result of drinking alcohol, including urinating in public, and public disorder/nuisance behaviours such as property damage or fighting
- people congregating in public places, drinking alcohol and being noisy and disruptive to neighbours
- people drinking alcohol which led to aggressive, intimidating or offensive behaviours towards others.