
Regulatory and Hearings Committee

Komiti Whiriwhiri Kaupapa

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Regulatory and Hearings Committee held in Council Chamber, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Thursday 10 April 2025 at 9:30 am.

PRESENT

Chairperson Cr Louise Hutt
Heamana

Deputy Chairperson Cr Ewan Wilson
Heamana Tuarua

Members Cr Maxine van Oosten
Cr Moko Tauariki
Cr Anna Casey-Cox
Cr Maria Huata
Cr Geoff Taylor
Cr Andrew Bydder
Cr Tim Macindoe

In Attendance Cr Sarah Thomson

The Chair opened the meeting with a karakia.

1. Apologies – *Tono aroha*

Resolved: (Cr Hutt/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the Regulatory and Hearings Committee accepts the apologies for absence from Mayor Southgate and Deputy Mayor O’Leary.

2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take*

Resolved: (Cr Tauariki/Cr Macindoe)

That the Regulatory and Hearings Committee confirms the agenda.

3. Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipaaanga*

No members of the Committee declared a Conflict of Interest.

4. Confirmation of the Regulatory and Hearings Committee Open Minutes 4 December 2024

Resolved: (Cr Hutt/Cr van Oosten)

That the Regulatory and Hearings Committee confirm the Open Minutes of the Regulatory and Hearings Committee Meeting held on 4 December 2024 as a true and correct record.

5. Alcohol Fees Bylaw hearings report

The following members of public spoke to their submissions on the Alcohol Fees Bylaw.

[Luke van Veen \(Hospitality New Zealand\)](#) spoke to their submission in opposition of the introduction of an Alcohol Fees Bylaw, highlighting the unstable economic environment and current struggles to operate in the hospitality industry. They responded to questions from Members concerning industry efficiencies, comparison of fees to other councils and legislation changes.

[Chris Rollitt \(1\) and \(2\) \(Hospitality New Zealand\)](#) spoke to their submissions in opposition of the introduction of an Alcohol Fees Bylaw, noting that an increase in fees was unnecessary and their experience in district licensing committee hearings. They responded to questions from Members concerning user pay systems.

[Andrew Galloway and Jennifer Lamm \(Alcohol Healthwatch\)](#) spoke to their submission in support of the introduction of an Alcohol Fees Bylaw, highlighting the use of fees as a key measure in minimising alcohol harm and meeting the policy objectives of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act. They responded to questions from Members concerning public objections to licenses.

[Vanessa Williams \(Hamilton Central Business Association\)](#) spoke to their submission in opposition of the introduction of an Alcohol Fees Bylaw, and noted that hospitality was an important and highly regulated sector which enabled vibrance. They responded to questions from Members concerning the economic importance of hospitality and the potential lobbying of Central Government.

The Strategy & Policy Advisor spoke to the report highlighting the number of written submissions and thanked the verbal submitters who spoke in the chamber.

Members requested the following matters be included in the deliberations report to be presented at the 26 June Council Meeting:

- Financial efficiencies already in place and costs cuts that could be implemented (if any);
- Potential structured fee charges including non-profit, risk classification and cost sharing;
- Breakdown of hospitality representation in submissions;
- Timelines for implementation;
- History of previous fee increases;
- District licensing committee matters including:
 - i. Legislation framework;
 - ii. Decision made on paper;
 - iii. Objectors from outside Hamilton; and
 - iv. Previous objection restrictions;
- Number of on license vs off license; and
- Hospitality impact.

Resolved: (Cr Hutt/Cr Casey-Cox)

That the Regulatory and Hearings Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) hears and considers public submissions arising from the public consultation undertaken from 21 January – 25 February 2025; and
- c) notes that a Deliberations and Adoption Report that includes feedback from the consultation and hearings will be brought to the 26 June 2025 Council.

The Chair closed the meeting with a karakia.

Cr Wilson retired from the meeting (10.26am) during the discussion of the above item. He was not present when the matter was voted on.

The meeting was declared closed at 10.29am.