

Functions of the Waikato District Licensing Committee

Annual Report for the 12 month period ending 30 June 2026

Section 199 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 requires the Waikato District Council submit an annual report. This report is for the 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 licensing period. The information detailed in this report is based on an information request from ARLA for this annual return.

Name of District Licensing Committee

Waikato District Licensing Committee

Committee Secretary

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Licences 2025/2026

Licence Type	New Licence	Licence Renewed	Licence Refused
On Licence	6	21	0
Off Licence	4	17	0
Club Licence	0	10	0

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Managers Certificates 2025/2026

Number Issued (New)	80
New Applications Refused	0
Number Renewed	128
Number Renewals Refused	1
Number of Applications Withdrawn	7

As of 30 June 2026, there were 51 On-Licences, 48 Off-Licences and 44 Clubs holding a licence within the Waikato licensing district.

Comments on any changes or trends in the Committee's workload in 2025-2026

Modest increase in the number of applications that are attracting community objectors. More public objections for new off and off renewals that are organised by one particular organisation, using the same objectors across numerous jurisdictions it seems and that the objections are used or organised on many occasions to achieve specific discretionary conditions.

New Initiatives the Committee has developed/adopted in 2025/2026

Nothing to report.

Has your Territorial Authority developed a Local Alcohol Policy?

Yes, at 30 June 2023, the Local Alcohol Policy is in force.

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What effect do you consider your Local Alcohol Policy is having?

There is greater clarity across the district as to the Community and Council's common expectations around alcohol sale and supply. The policy has provided clarity to the DLC and potential applicants.

What date is your Local Alcohol Policy due for review?

Before September 2031

Please comment on the ways in which you believe the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 is, or is not, achieving its objective. Note: the objective of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 is that: A) The sale, supply, and consumption of alcohol should be undertaken safely and responsibly; and B) The harm caused by the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol should be minimised.

Likely to be risks from the recently announced changes that would allow barbers and hairdressers to supply alcohol to their clients without a licence, and without any control on the supply to intoxicated persons, minors, etc. That would seem to be at odds with the Object of the Act.

The issue of remote sellers who are licensed in one TA being able to sell to anyone in the country, without having to act in accordance with LAPs outside of the TA in which they are licensed, is still a loophole in the Act.

What changes or trends in licensing have you seen since the Act came into force?

No comments received

What changes to practices and procedures under the Act (if any) would you find beneficial?

Clarity around what training under section 105(1)(j) should actually look like would be useful.

The role of the MOoH is not clearly defined nor understood which sometimes ends up having them reporting on the same things as the other agencies and sometimes with opposing opinions which puts DLCs in a difficult position.

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