

# **Tasman District Council's Review of Local Alcohol Policy**

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## Submitter details

1. Nelson Marlborough Health (Nelson Marlborough District Health Board) (NMH) is a key organisation involved in the health and wellbeing of the people within Te Tau Ihu. NMH appreciates the opportunity to comment from a public health perspective on Tasman District Council's (TDC) Review of Local Alcohol Policy.
2. NMH makes this submission in recognition of its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and the Health Act 1956.
3. This submission sets out particular matters of interest and concern to NMH.

## Specific Comments

4. NMH supports the Proposal to leave the current Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) unchanged.
5. LAP allow Councils to regulate licensing of premises for the sale of alcohol as a way of reducing the harm caused by the excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol.
6. NMH cares about the achievement of equitable health and wellbeing for the population we serve. Alcohol use is a major behavioural risk factor for numerous health conditions, injuries and social problems. Alcohol-related harm costs the health sector significant money, time and resources. It is a key driver of health inequities, as harm is disproportionately borne by demographic and population subgroups.<sup>1</sup>
7. NMH's *Position Statement on Alcohol* states that we will undertake to reduce alcohol-related harm by supporting and assisting Councils to implement strategies to reduce harm i.e. LAPs.<sup>2</sup>
8. The current LAP has been useful in reducing alcohol related harm in our region and we support its continuation.

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<sup>1</sup> Nelson Marlborough Health (2019) [Alcohol Position Statement](#)

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

## Conclusion

9. NMH thanks the TDC for the opportunity to comment on the Review of Local Alcohol Policy.

10. NMH wishes to be heard should TDC decide a hearing is required.

Yours sincerely



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