

Attachment C – Feedback received on the proposed permanent alcohol ban in Woolston Village

ID	Do you support 24 hours a day, seven days a week permanent alcohol ban in Woolston Village area?	Name of organisation / individual
Local community board		
48	Yes. The Community Board think that a permanent alcohol ban in the Woolston Village area is a necessary move to help 'clean up' the streets in Woolston and sends a message that this community wants all residents and visitors to feel safe, that they are welcome and that they (and especially children) will not be exposed to the anti-social behaviour drinking in the streets exposes people to. The Board would like the pocket park on the corner of St Johns Street and Glenroy Street and the rest of Portman Street, the streets off it and Thistledown Reserve to be included in the permanent ban area.	Waitai Coastal-Burwood-Linwood Community Board Paul / McMahon
Organisations		
33	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). Please see attached submission document at the bottom (compiled by Te Mana Ora on behalf of the National Public Health Service and Te Whatu Ora Waitaha. Signed by Vince Barry, Regional Director Public Health Te Waipounamu)	Te Whatu Ora Waitaha & NPHS / Chantal Lauzon (Te Mana Ora)
40	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). The amendments look great. Kāinga Ora have a large amount of properties in the areas affected by the by-law particularly on Riley Cres and we think the alcohol ban that includes Radley Park is a great move towards making Woolston a safer neighbourhood for our customers.	Kainga Ora / Doug Sekone Fraser
49	Yes.	[REDACTED]
Schools		
17	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). I would like to see the alcohol restricted area extended up Ferry Road to include Woolston Park and the school area.	Te Waka Unua School / Janeane Reid
39	Yes. Since the ban we have had a decrease in people drinking in the carpark during the day.	Woolston preschool Inc / Letisha Derham
Businesses		
9	Yes.	[REDACTED] Tevita [REDACTED]
23	Yes.	[REDACTED]
24	Yes. A ban is very much needed.	Woolston Auto Surgery / Ross Davids
25	Yes. Still see people drinking around Woolston Village area.	Printing.com Christchurch / Marcelle Galbraith
28	No. I support the idea of people not making a nuisance of themselves while drinking alcohol in public, but I'm not convinced that an alcohol ban will make that happen. - This survey is unfortunately biased as it does not have an option of ""no with suggestion"". Why is that?	Three Boys Brewery / Ralph Bungard

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	<p>- There are already laws in place about public nuisance, so they should be applied first. Some people may enjoy a drink in public places and never cause a problem - something that is common in other parts of the world where attitudes to drinking are different.</p> <p>- How about a ban of drinking in public spaces after, 8pm and before 10 am that might be more sensible.</p> <p>- This survey is unlikely to reach many people that enjoy having a drink in public places in Woolston and is more likely to reach those that oppose it. Therefore, this survey is set up for bias. How are you countering that bias?</p> <p>-What is the objective of the alcohol ban? Who is it targeting and who is it benefitting and harming?</p> <p>- I like working in Woolston with its eclectic mix of individuals. Has there been any harm from not having an alcohol ban in this area when this area is compared with any other part of Christchurch?</p> <p>- What problem is this ban going to solve? - certainly not any individuals problem with drugs and alcohol.</p> <p>I support stopping people creating a nuisance and being drunk in public.</p> <p>I also support actions that stop obesity and the onset on diabetes and other health issues. Can we perhaps also have a survey to ask if people should not eat McDonalds in public? Just a (sarcastic and ironic) thought...</p>	
30	Yes. As a business in the area we would support this so customers feel safer coming and going.	Smoke 'n' Barrel / Chris Geary
35	Yes.	Arcadia Motel / Geoff Lester
37	Yes. Totally support this as there is no need for drinking on our streets.	Munch Me Ltd / Donovan Thorpe
46	Yes.	Ferry Road Discount - Woolston Foodcentre / Ajay Patel -
Individuals		
2	Yes. This is essential to provide a safer environment within the local area. I stopped visiting the local shops as a result of people drinking and being abusive in the Woolston Village, after this Alcohol Ban was put into effect the area was alot safer or had the percieved image of being a safer place.	Jo Forward
3	Yes. This makes it so unsafe to go upto the market for families	Jatin Vohra
4	Yes.	Pauline Mountford
5	Yes. I border the woolston area and spend a lot of time in there and the drunks in the area outside the shops cause a lot of issues so I fully support the ban.	Stephanie Lawry-Dent
6	Yes.	Rebecca Majendie
7	No. Because theres alot of people in that area already struggling with problems now your jist gonna have em locked up	Ann-Marie Ferguson
8	Yes. Reduce crime in the area with less intoxicated people	Shaye Lock
10	Yes.	Usipua [REDACTED]
11	Yes. There's no need to wander the streets drinking	Selina McLeod

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12	Yes.	Toa [REDACTED]
13	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). It's unclear why Council would not just apply the ban city wide if it was so effective.	Cody Cooper
14	No. I find the ban unnecessary. This has not stopped the drinking in the village but the people who come into the village from out of area specifically to spend the day outside the shops, drinking. They are still doing exactly the same as they always were. At the end of the day they leave and go back to their homes outside of Woolston. So the few people, who used to enjoy a drink and a chat in a non-threatening, totally social way sitting out in the sun with a couple of mates can now no longer do that because the local busy bodies threaten to call the police. These people are residents of Woolston who have every right to enjoy their own neighbourhood however they see fit. They are not aggressive or abusive. You are targeting the wrong people. In addition, the police are already stretched and often have to prioritise what calls they attend. People drinking in Woolston is pretty low down on the list I would say, given that people are already stating that nothing happens when they report day drinking in the village. So what makes any one think a permanent alcohol ban is suddenly going to provide the police with more time and resources to deal with it? It is completely illogical to go down this path, it is people ticking boxes and being able to say they achieved something while in their term of office that actually achieves nothing useful for this suburb.	[REDACTED]
15	Yes. N/A	Romaine Lunney
16	Yes. Alcohol causes significant harm especially in poorer suburbs. Alcohol should be continued to be banned in this area. I drive through Woolston every day, and are very familiar with the suburb.	Dr Bonnie Miller Perry
19	Yes. I used to live in [REDACTED] Street, [REDACTED] Terrace & [REDACTED] Road in Woolston & came across people with bad attitudes in Woolston. Adding alcohol to the mix would have made matters worse.	Alan Mitchell
20	Yes. I am a retail business owner in Woolston. I have noticed a dramatic improvement in the area in terms of safety and crime reduction since the alcohol ban came into force.	Brian Hill
21	Yes.	Grant Alexander
22	Yes.	Rose Pender
26	Yes. n/a	Kimberlee Spiers
27	Yes.	Susan PLAISTER
29	Yes. It's excellent idea. It can be a bit scare at times.	Maria Valeria Ferrari
31	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). Can the ban area be extended?. My family van was attacked in the early hours on the way to airport on Linwood Ave (with family inside). A man who was definitely on something, broke my van back window. Lucky my family wasn't hurt and my sons were in the car behind me to try and chase him down.	Inoke [REDACTED]

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32	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). Can the ban area be extended?. My family van was attacked in the early hours on the way to airport on Linwood Ave (with family inside). A man who was definitely on something, broke my van back window. Lucky my family wasn't hurt and my sons were in the car behind me to try and chase him down.	Tafata [REDACTED]
34	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). Needs to be enforced as currently it is not enforced and people continually drink in public otherwise there is no point in having a ban.	Evan Baker
36	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). Woolston is sadly becoming a worse place to own a business/ property. The alcohol ban with give the police more power to be able to do something about the issue. Without the ban, I believe the area will continue to decline into a suburb that no one wants to raise a family or be a part of.	Paul Clyne
38	Yes.	Debbie Devine
41	Yes. I have been a resident of Woolston since birth (1987) and have fond memories of a friendly and welcoming Woolston. The reputation we have today is disgusting, and the image we portray of our area to those outside of Woolston discourages people to visit. I believe an alcohol ban will help to bring back our great neighbourhood.	Maxwell [REDACTED]
42	Yes. Too much trouble in Woolston. Too many bad people.	Fogasavaii [REDACTED]
43	Yes. Any movement that will increase potential for improved neighbourhood safety is a positive movement. Those wanting to consume alcohol can do so from within licensed premises or the comfort of their own homes.	Joseph [REDACTED]
44	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). I support the permanent alcohol ban as proposed. However, I suggest the area is also extended to cover Woolston Park.	David Owen
45	Yes with suggestions (please explain below). "I support a liquor ban in the Woolston Village area in the vicinity of Ferry Road. I do not support a ban covering the totality of Radley Park at all times. In my submission, that overly restricts the ability of law-abiding, non-threatening locals to go to the park and enjoy a glass of wine or a beer in the evening during summer. Although more complex than a blanket ban, restriction in Radley Park, of a similar nature to Hagley Park would be sufficient in my view. A blanket ban seems to be a blunt tool that pushes the issue out of immediate view but does not address the root causes of the problem."	John Whitcombe
47	Yes.	Ella Herriot

23 June 2023

Coastal-Burwood-Linwood Community Board
c/o Christchurch City Council
53 Hereford Street
Christchurch 8013

Tēnā koutou,

Submission on the Proposed permanent alcohol ban in Woolston Village area

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the proposed permanent alcohol ban in the Woolston Village area. This submission has been compiled by Te Mana Ora (Community and Public Health) on behalf of the National Public Health Service and Te Whatu Ora Waitaha. Te Mana Ora recognises its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities of Aotearoa New Zealand under the Pae Ora Act 2022 and the Health Act 1956.

This submission sets out particular matters of interest and concern to the National Public Health Service.

General Comments

1. We welcome the opportunity to comment on the proposed permanent alcohol ban in the Woolston Village Area. As noted in our submission on the initial proposal for a temporary ban, Te Mana Ora supports establishing an alcohol ban as proposed in the Woolston Village area. This submission reiterates the reasons for our support and notes the positive impact the temporary ban is having on alcohol-related harm in this neighbourhood.
2. The future health of our populations is not just reliant on health care services, but on a responsive environment where all sectors work collaboratively. While health care services are an important determinant of health, health is also influenced by a wide range of factors beyond the health sector. Health care services manage disease and

trauma and are an important determinant of health outcomes. However, health creation and wellbeing (overall quality of life) is influenced by a wide range of factors beyond the health sector.

3. These influences can be described as the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, and are impacted by environmental, social and behavioural factors. They are often collectively referred to as the 'social determinants of health'.¹
4. The most effective way to maximise people's wellbeing is to take these factors into account as early as possible during decision making, policy and strategy development. Initiatives to improve health outcomes and overall quality of life must involve organisations and groups beyond the health sector, such as local government if they are to have a reasonable impact.²
5. Alcohol is the most widely used social drug in New Zealand, and the most harmful to individuals and communities.^{3,4} It is also the leading preventable cause of early death, disability and social harm.⁵ Our health system absorbs significant costs due to alcohol-related harm. In 2011, alcohol-related harm was estimated to cost the Canterbury health system \$62.8 million per year.⁶ While alcohol consumption costs our health system considerable money, time and resources, Te Mana Ora is equally concerned about the mounting evidence of the harm it causes to individuals, whānau, communities, and our most vulnerable when misused.
6. Alcohol is now much more widely available and accessible than in the past. Just under 20% of people in Canterbury over the age of 15 years report drinking at a level that is hazardous to their health.⁷ This equates to more than 100,000 people in our region who

¹ Public Health Advisory Committee. (2004). *The Health of People and Communities. A Way Forward: Public Policy and the Economic Determinants of Health*. Public Health Advisory Committee: Wellington.

² McGinnis JM, Williams-Russo P, Knickman JR. (2002). The case for more active policy attention to health promotion. *Health Affairs*, 21(2): 78 - 93.

³ Global Drug Survey. (2017). *Global Drug Survey GDS2017*. London, UK: Global Drug Survey: London, UK. Available from: www.globaldrugsurvey.com

⁴ NZ Drug Foundation. (2019). *The State of the Nation 2018*. Wellington: NZ Drug Foundation. Accessed from: <https://www.drugfoundation.org.nz/assets/uploads/2019-uploads//State-of-the-Nation-2018.pdf>

⁵ World Health Organisation. (2014). *Global status report on alcohol and health*. Geneva: World Health Organisation. p.46.

⁶ Slack A, Nana G. (2012). *Costs of Harmful Alcohol Use in Canterbury DHB*. Wellington: BERL.

⁷ Ministry of Health. (2021). *Regional Data Explorer 2017–2020: New Zealand Health Survey [Data File]*. URL: <https://minhealthnz.shinyapps.io/nz-health-survey-2017-2020-regional-update>

would be considered hazardous drinkers. The more alcohol is consumed, the higher the risk of alcohol-related diseases and injuries which results in preventable costs to the health, social development and justice systems, in addition to the personal costs to individuals, families and communities.

7. Together with Christchurch City Council and NZ Police, Te Mana Ora/Te Whatu Ora – Waitaha supports work under the Christchurch Alcohol Action Plan (CAAP) to achieve the shared vision of a safe, vibrant, healthy Christchurch free from alcohol-related harm. The proposed alcohol ban for Woolston Village area is an action that can support the CAAP’s objective to “Create Safer Spaces”.

Specific Comments

8. Alcohol bans work to reduce the availability of alcohol and are a key policy lever in reducing alcohol-related harm.
9. There are several factors which lead to some groups in society experiencing more alcohol-related harm than others. Inequities in harm can be driven by our age, where we live and the number of alcohol outlets close to our homes, the socio-economic circumstances we live in, our exposure to racial discrimination and structural barriers that limit our opportunities, as well as our alcohol consumption patterns. There is clear evidence that those living in the most deprived neighbourhoods, men, and Māori and Pacific peoples have higher rates of hazardous drinking.²
10. Neighbourhoods with greater socioeconomic deprivation experience a stronger relationship between off-premises outlet density and harm.⁸ Woolston is an area that has deprivation index levels of 8 and 9, making it one of the most highly deprived areas in urban Christchurch. As shown in the CCC 2017 Commercial Centre Factsheet for Woolston,⁹ the deprivation profile of the catchment area includes some of the most deprived households in the city; over three-times the number of households in Woolston

⁸ Cameron MP, Cochrane W, Livingston M. The relationship between alcohol outlets and harm: A spatial panel analysis for New Zealand, 2007-2014. Wellington (NZ): Health Promotion Agency; 2016.

⁹ <https://ccc.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Culture-Community/Stats-and-facts-on-Christchurch/Community-Ward-Profiles/Commercial-Centre-Factsheets/Woolston.pdf>

have a deprivation index of 9 compared with the city-wide profile. As also shown, there are far more crimes, including violent crimes, around the Woolston centre than the average for Christchurch. Adults living in the most deprived neighbourhoods (quintile) in Canterbury are also more likely to be hazardous drinkers than those in least deprived quintile.¹⁰

11. Māori are disproportionately affected by alcohol-related harm, both from drinking alcohol and from others' drinking. For example, Māori women experience more adverse effects because of other people's drinking than any other sub-group by ethnicity and gender.¹¹ The population of Māori and Pacific peoples in Woolston East is 13.9% and 9.3%, respectively.¹² This proportion is higher than for Christchurch (9.9% Māori and 3.8% Pacific peoples).¹³

12. Although available data only represent a small fraction of alcohol-related presentations, data from Christchurch Hospital show severe alcohol related harm affects residents of the Woolston area. The data for residents of Woolston South and Woolston West capture Emergency Department (ED) presentations and inpatient admissions for the few clinical codes directly linked to alcohol. Data from Woolston East is not available as the hospital coding is different to current census coding. From the available data, from 2017 to May 2022, there were 73 presentations to the ED for alcohol-related conditions (such as alcohol intoxication and alcohol withdrawal). In 2020, nearly 3% of all emergency arrivals directly coded as being related to alcohol were people living in Woolston South and West, despite their being less than 1% of the population served by Christchurch Hospital. During this period, there were also 63 alcohol-related ED presentations from residents of nearby Ensors area. It should be noted that the majority of hospital presentations where alcohol is a contributing factor are not routinely coded as such. This

¹⁰ Ministry of Health. 2021. Regional Data Explorer 2017–2020: New Zealand Health Survey [Data File]. URL:

<https://minhealthnz.shinyapps.io/nz-health-survey-2017-2020-regional-update>

¹¹ Rankine J, Gregory A, Tonks A, Thompson-Evans TP. Women and Alcohol in Aotearoa/New Zealand Te waipiro me ngā wāhine i. Auckland (NZ): Alcohol Healthwatch and Women's Health Action; 2013. Available at:

<https://www.ahw.org.nz/Portals/5/Resources/Briefing%20papers/2013/WomenAlcoholReport%20%28jenny%20rankin%29%202013.pdf>

¹² Stats NZ. 2018. 2018 Census place summaries: Woolston East. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/tools/2018-census-place-summaries/woolston-east>

¹³ Stats NZ. 2018. 2018 Census place summaries: Christchurch City. <https://www.stats.govt.nz/tools/2018-census-place-summaries/christchurch-city>

means that most injuries related to alcohol use, assaults and victims of other people's alcohol use are not captured. These numbers also do not capture the admissions for other medical conditions such as cancers related to alcohol use.

13. The concentration of bottle stores in poorer parts of Aotearoa is linked to a range of harm and considerable public concern.¹⁴ A recently published report on the impact of alcohol supply on neighbourhoods in New Zealand found most residents felt alcohol supply, public drinking and intoxication, and related noise and rubbish negatively impacted their neighbourhoods by detracting from their positive features (amenity) and making them feel less safe.¹⁵ In each of the eight suburban neighbourhoods studied, this led to some residents avoiding parts of the area some or all of the time. People of varying ages and genders were troubled by alcohol, although families and young people were commonly affected. Locations avoided included shops, parks, recreation areas, playgrounds, certain streets and alleys. Other findings included:

- a) Restriction of young people's activities was common; several parents would not let their children walk to school, the park or take part in other activities due to safety concerns linked to alcohol. This reduced children's opportunities for walking, play, socialising with friends and independence.
- b) Drinking near local shops was believed to affect the vitality of neighbourhood centres as it drove away some customers, particularly those with children.
- c) Residents felt that the visibility of alcohol outlets close to schools and food outlets visited by children, alongside public drinking, normalised alcohol and contributed to underage drinking.
- d) Groups of drinkers and noise from drinkers annoyed residents in all eight neighbourhoods.

¹⁴ New Zealand Law Commission. Alcohol in our lives: curbing the harm. Law Commission report no. 114. [Internet] Wellington (NZ): NZLC; 2010 [cited 3 Aug; 2021]. Available from:

<http://www.lawcom.govt.nz/sites/default/files/projectAvailableFormats/NZLC%20R114.pdf>

¹⁵ Randerson, S., Gordon, L., Casswell, S., Lin, J., Borell, B., Rychert, M., & Huckle, T. (2022) "I feel it's unsafe to walk": Impacts of alcohol supply on public space in eight neighbourhoods, and residents' input to alcohol licensing decisions. Wellington: Te Whatu Ora. Available at: <https://resources.alcohol.org.nz/assets/Inclusivity-report/Inclusivity-report.PDF>

- e) Littering of cans and bottles from bottle stores was a common problem and broken glass was a safety risk. Residents regularly removed this rubbish from their front gardens, parks and carparks.
- f) Residents in six of the eight neighbourhoods said there were too many bottle stores in the area and that the easy access contributed to alcohol-related harm in the neighbourhood.

14. Prior to the establishment of the temporary alcohol ban, Te Mana Ora staff heard similar concerns raised by residents of Woolston Village. On several occasions, our Alcohol Licensing Officers have observed people drinking alcohol on the main streets of Woolston Village, alone and in groups with open alcohol visible, often displaying intimidating behaviour towards other members of the public.
15. Following implementation of the temporary alcohol ban, Te Mana Ora's Alcohol Licensing Officers have noticed a reduction in individuals and groups drinking alcohol in public spaces. Te Mana Ora has also received positive feedback from Woolston residents that the alcohol ban has made a positive contribution to addressing antisocial behaviour in the area.
16. Te Mana Ora notes the support of Police for making the ban permanent. As they enforce the ban, a permanent alcohol ban in Woolston may be an opportunity for Police to work with and/or support the work of Māori Wardens in their work with whānau to reduce alcohol-related harm.
17. Te Mana Ora recognises there is evidence that alcohol bans sometimes displace drinking and associated problems to nearby locations or may further marginalise young drinkers or rough sleepers, potentially shifting their drinking to less visible locations.¹⁶ Te Mana Ora recommends that Council consider this in applying the alcohol ban and support other opportunities and shared space in Woolston Village for community connectedness and participation. In such circumstances, it is hoped the ban will

¹⁶ Randerson S, Casswell S, Rychert M. Diminished inclusivity in public space: How alcohol reduces people's use and enjoyment of public places literature review. Wellington: Health Promotion Agency; 2019. Available at: <https://www.hpa.org.nz/sites/default/files/Diminished%20inclusivity%20in%20public%20space%20literature%20review1.pdf>

continue to be used as a mechanism to identify people who require support rather than repeatedly experience what would be, for them, disproportionate consequences as result of their public drinking.

18. Overall, alcohol bans have been found to increase amenity and inclusivity. By influencing factors such as consumption and possession of alcohol in public places when risk of excessive drinking is more likely, a permanent alcohol ban will continue to contribute to reducing alcohol-related harm in the Woolston community.

Conclusion

19. Te Mana Ora does wish to be heard in support of this submission.

20. If others make a similar submission, the submitter will not consider presenting a joint case with them at the hearing.

21. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on proposed alcohol ban for Woolston Village area.

Ngā mihi,



Vince Barry

Regional Director Public Health Te Waipounamu
National Public Health Service