
REPORT 8
(1215/52/IM)

LIQUOR CONTROL BYLAW – BANS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS 1 NOVEMBER 2007 – 30 MARCH 2008

1. Purpose of Report

To seek Strategy and Policy Committee agreement to recommend that Council approve liquor bans for specific events and times.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Recommend that Council resolves to invoke liquor control bans for the following specific events under the provisions of Clause 23.2.2 of the Consolidated Bylaw:*

Event 1 - Guy Fawkes

Monday 5 November 2007, 5pm until 8am the following day within the Wellington Central Area (as defined in the Bylaw).

In the event of unfavourable weather conditions the Guy Fawkes display will be postponed until the following night. In the event of a postponement the liquor ban shall apply: Tuesday 6 November 2007, 5pm until 8am the following day within the Wellington Central Area (as defined in the Bylaw).

Event 2 - Wellington Anniversary Weekend Waterfront Festival

Saturday 19 January 2008 from 8am until 5pm on that day. The general ban applies from 5pm Saturday 19 January until 8am on Sunday 20 January. Sunday 20 January 2008 from 8am until 8am the following day and Monday 21 January 2008 from 8am to 8am the following day, within the Wellington Central Area (as defined in the Bylaw).

Event 3 - Hula Laguna

Sunday 17 February 2008 from 8am until 8am the following day across the Wellington Central Area (as defined in the Bylaw).

Event 4 - Dragon Boat Festival

Saturday 15 March 2007 from 8am to 5pm when the general liquor ban begins. Sunday 16 March 2008 from 8am until 5pm that same day. The ban shall apply to that area within the Wellington Central Area bordered by the Aotea and Waterloo Quay junction. Waterloo Quay, Customhouse Quay to Willis St, along Willis St to Mercer St to Wakefield Street to Kent Terrace.

Event 5 - St Patrick's Day

Monday 17 March 2008 from 8am until 8am the following day across the Wellington Central Area (as defined in the Bylaw).

3. Background

On 28 June 2007, the Council agreed to adopt amendments to the Liquor Control Bylaw to come into effect on 19 July 2007.

3.1 Bylaw Provisions

The Liquor Control Bylaw states:

The consumption or possession of liquor in a public place (including while in a vehicle), is prohibited within the Wellington Central Area, Oriental Parade and Mt. Victoria Lookout as shown on the attached map. This prohibition is effective from 5.00pm Thursday to 8.00am Friday, 5.00pm Friday to 8.00am Saturday, 5.00pm Saturday to 8.00am Sunday. The prohibition also applies every year on Christmas Eve, the 24th of December and New Years Eve, the 31st of December from 5.00pm to 8.00am the following day.

The Liquor Control Bylaw also provides, under Part 23.2, that Council may order a prohibition on the consumption or possession of liquor (including while in a vehicle) in a public place for certain specified times and/or within certain specified public places for specified special events. The prohibition must be notified in the appropriate Wellington metropolitan newspaper at least 14 days in advance of the special event.

4. Discussion

4.1 Rationale, Consultation and Public Notification

A special events ban allows for management and enforcement provisions in the bylaw to be exercised outside of the standard times provided in the bylaw. The list of special events was compiled by officers in consultation with the Police, and Victoria University. The details of all the events and issues identified is attached as Appendix One.

In making recommendations, consideration was given to the size of the audience of the event, its target market, previous history and/or tradition, associated activities and advice from emergency services.

Any resolution to invoke these provisions will be notified in an appropriate Wellington metropolitan newspaper 14 days in advance of the special event in accordance with Clause 23.2.2.

5. Conclusion

This paper discusses the specified events where a recommendation has been made to impose a prohibition of alcohol consumption or possession in a public place within the specified times or specified public places. A consultation process has been put in place for this purpose.

Contact Officer: Joanne Burt, Liquor Licensing Inspector

Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

The recommended bans are supporting Council's overall vision of Creative Wellington – Innovation Capital specifically by contributing to objectives concerned with safety – that Wellington should be safe at all times.

2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

not applicable

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

not applicable

4) Decision-Making

This is not a significant decision. The options available to the Council are limited to deciding whether (or not) to adopt an events ban for each event, on a case-by-case basis.

5) Consultation

Wellington Police, and Victoria University - see letter from Victoria University Of Wellington – Appendix 3

6) Legal Implications

Council's lawyers have previously been consulted in relation to the wording for possible postponement days. This will be particularly important in the public notification process.

7) Consistency with existing policy

The report is consistent with (and applies) existing policy.

APPENDIX 1

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS CONSIDERED FOR A SPECIAL BAN UNDER THE PROVISIONS
OF THE LIQUOR CONTROL BY LAW**

PERIOD 1 NOVEMBER 2007 – 30 MARCH 2008

EVENT	DATE(S)	HISTORY/ISSUES	RECOMMENDATION
Sunday night prior to Labour day	Sunday 21 October 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Liquor ban applies Friday and Saturday night.▪ No special events or activities scheduled within the CBD or surrounds for Labour day holiday weekend▪ Residents concerned that there may be a higher degree of public place drinking in the oriental bay area over the holiday weekend.▪ No specific public place drinking identified in CBD and surrounds for this occasion.	Recommend that no special ban be put in place for this occasion. Police and Walkwise will monitor activities in the CBD and Oriental Bay area.

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Guy Fawkes Day	Monday 5 November 2007, plus Tuesday 6 November 2007 in case of rain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ History has proved that problems associated with alcohol and fireworks have increased▪ There are large gatherings that occur on this night▪ Police advise they have concerns for the period▪ A number of jobs logged with the Police regarding incidences in the Oriental Bay & Mt. Victoria areas▪ There is no history of the night before Guy Fawkes being an issue.	Recommended that a special ban be in place for the current liquor ban area from 5pm Monday 5 November 2007 to 8am the following day or Tuesday 6 November 2007 to 8am the following day, if the event is postponed.
Volcom Skateboarding	Saturday 8 December 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Youth skateboarding event in Waitangi Park▪ Event has a family focus▪ Event starts at 3pm, and the general ban commences at 5pm.▪ Police concerns regarding congregation of youth in Waitangi Park	Recommend that no special ban be put in place. The event will only run for 2 hours prior to the general ban being effective.

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Carols by Candlelight	Saturday 15 December 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Large gathering in the city▪ The event is family focussed▪ To be moved from the Stadium to the Basin Reserve	Recommended that no special liquor ban be put in place for this event as the Basin Reserve falls within the liquor ban area. Discussions are to be held with the organiser regarding the sale and supply of liquor and the requirements for a liquor licence.
Xmas Eve	Monday 24 December 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Large numbers of people gathering in the CBD▪ Traditionally a time when high levels of disorder occur	No special ban is required for this event as the Liquor control Bylaw includes this event in the regular ban

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New Years Eve	Monday 31 January 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Large numbers of people gathering in the CBD▪ Traditionally a time when high levels of disorder occur	No special ban is required for this event as the Liquor control Bylaw includes this event in the regular ban
Wellington Anniversary Weekend Waterfront Festival	Saturday 19 January to Monday 21 January 2008, Waterfront area, Lagoon and Waitangi Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Large gathering of people in the city for this event▪ Includes street entertainment, bands, and performances throughout the CBD. It will attract a large number of younger people to a variety of venues across the city.▪ The event is planned for 3 days▪ High potential for problems associated with misuse of alcohol▪ Police report drinking and related offences in Oriental Bay associated with long weekends▪	Recommended that a special ban be placed across the central area from 8am Saturday 19 January 2008 until 5pm when the general liquor ban begins, 8am Sunday 20 January 2008 until 8am the following day and 8am Monday 21 January 2008 to 8am the following day

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International Rugby Sevens	Friday 1 February & Saturday 2 February 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Well controlled at the Stadium▪ Most problems with excessive alcohol consumption occurs after the event has finished for the night▪ Friday and Saturday Night ban should be sufficient▪ Police have no concerns prior to the start of the games	Recommended that no special ban be in place for this event
Latin Festival – Civic Square	Saturday 2 February 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Well controlled in Civic square▪ Saturday night regular ban should be sufficient▪ Police have no concerns about the event	Recommend that no special ban be in place for this event

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EVENT	DATE(S)	HISTORY/ISSUES	RECOMMENDATION
Waitangi Day Celebrations – One Love	Wednesday 6 February 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ This is a time when large groups gather to celebrate Bob Marley's birthday.▪ The event is held at Hataitai Park. It is expected that up to 20,000 people will attend▪ A liquor ban has not previously applied to this event, as event management has been adequate to manage alcohol consumption and control crowds	Recommend that no special ban be in place for this event

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Hula Laguna	Sunday 17 February 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Large gathering of people in the city for this event▪ The event will attract a large number of younger people▪ Minor problems were identified at previous events resulting from misuse of alcohol History suggests that alcohol is taken outside those controlled areas	It is recommended that a special ban be placed across the central area from 8am Sunday 17 February 2008 to 8am the following day
Dragon Boat Festival	Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 March 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ This is a very large gathering of people in and around Wellington▪ Some special licences will be in place while the event is running▪ History suggests that alcohol is often taken outside those controlled areas▪ Problems across the city with displacement from this event	It is recommended that a special ban be in place across the central area on Saturday 15 March 2008 from 8am to 5pm that day when the general ban begins, 8am Sunday 16 March 2008 to 5pm that day.

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St Patricks Day	Monday 17 March 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Traditionally there have been a range of events happening in the city during the day▪ A number of special licenses have been granted in the past▪ These premises are generally well controlled▪ The period of the event covers the full extent of the day, until premises close,▪ The last 2 years a ban has been in place and this has ensured minimal problems encountered by the Police	It is recommended that a special ban be in place across the central area on Monday 17 March 2008 from 8am to 8am the following day.
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