

**PROPOSED ALCOHOL RESTRICTIONS IN PUBLIC PLACES
AMENDMENT BYLAW 2012 HEARINGS PANEL**

**Minutes of a meeting held in the Number 2 Committee Room, Civic Offices, on
Friday 6 July 2012 at 12 noon.**

- Present:** Councillor Sue Wells (Chairperson)
Councillors Peter Beck, Sally Buck, Barry Corbett and Aaron Keown.
- In Attendance:** Ruth Littlewood, Vivienne Wilson, Martin Ferguson, Jenn Davison, Senior Sergeant Alistair Lawn and Janet Anderson (Committee Adviser).

1. HEARING OF SUBMISSION

Mr Frost presented his written submission and answered questions from the panel. In response to questions he advised that prior to the temporary ban there had been drunken behaviour including vomiting, broken bottles and general litter especially in the warmer weather. This had worsened since the earthquakes and prior to the ban, but even prior to the earthquakes it had been at an irritating level especially in summer. The panel asked whether he had noticed drunken disturbances on those nights to which the temporary ban did not apply. Mr Frost responded that he had not, that there was a police station nearby, and that possibly the ban from Wednesday to Saturday night had affected the behaviour on the other nights – “a generic effect”.

2. CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS

The panel noted some submitters had asked for the ban to be extended to seven nights a week and for the area to be extended to include Elmwood Park. Senior Sergeant Lawn was asked for comment. Senior Sergeant Lawn responded that if the ban was too far reaching it would be difficult to enforce. The ban needed to be targeted to those times where problems were occurring and he agreed with the times included in the current temporary ban.

The panel **decided** to receive all the written submissions.

3. HEARINGS PANEL CONSIDERATION

Councillor Keown expressed concern about Public Holidays which fell on those days outside the scope of the current temporary ban, such as New Year's Eve and St Patrick's Day. Staff advised the panel that there were four areas in addition to Merivale and Papanui which would be similarly affected; namely, Hagley Park environs, Sumner, Akaroa and Okains Bay. The Chairperson suggested that this matter could be dealt with by the panel making a further recommendation to the Council that it undertake a further piece of work preparatory to imposing temporary liquor bans in each of the areas with liquor bans not currently covering public holidays where there was a perceived drinking problem.

The chairperson then sought advice from staff as to whether it would be appropriate for the panel to recommend to the Council that it adopt the Bylaw with an extension from the nights specified to seven nights a week. Ms Wilson responded that while some submitters had requested such an extension and it was open to the panel to make amendments in response to submissions received, the Council had not consulted on a proposal which included seven nights within the ban, nor had the perceived problem which the bylaw was intended to address extended to Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights, and in her view such a Bylaw would be vulnerable to legal challenge.

Recommendation

1. The Hearings Panel **decided** on the motion of Councillor Keown, seconded by Councillor Buck, to recommend that the Council:
 - (a) Move the phrase “Schedule 1” to immediately above the two tables detailing the Merivale Alcohol Ban Area and the Papanui Alcohol Ban Area.
 - (b) Make the following minor change to the table describing the Papanui Alcohol Ban Area (in Schedule 1 of the Bylaw) by inserting the words “the cycle-walkway and” immediately after the words “inclusive of all, or the relevant parts of,”.
 - (c) Make the following change to the table describing the times, days or dates during which alcohol restrictions apply in Schedule 1 of the Bylaw by replacing the words “Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights” with the words “seven nights a week” where they occur in both the Papanui and Merivale Alcohol Ban Areas.
 - (d) Resolve to adopt the Christchurch City Council Alcohol Restrictions in Public Places Amendment Bylaw 2012 with the changes noted above to come into effect on 9 September 2012.
 - (e) Give public notice as soon as practicable, that the Christchurch City Council Alcohol in Public Places Amendment Bylaw 2012 has been made by the Council, that it comes into effect on [1 September 2012] and that copies of the bylaw may be inspected and obtained at the Council’s offices or on its website, without payment.

Councillor Wells requested that her vote against the motion be recorded.

2. The Hearings Panel **decided** on the motion of Councillor Wells, seconded by Councillor Beck, to recommend that the Council undertake an additional piece of work to impose temporary liquor bans on Christmas Eve, New Year’s Eve, New Year’s Day, Cup Day and St Patrick’s Day in each of those areas which have liquor bans not currently covering those days and times.

The meeting concluded at 1pm.