

29 September 2021

The Secretary  
Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority  
Tribunals Unit  
Wellington

**Questions:**

- 1. Please provide the name of your District Licensing Committee.**  
Christchurch
- 2. Please provide the name, email, and contact phone number of your Committee's Secretary.**  
Dawn Baxendale, [dawn.baxendale@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:dawn.baxendale@ccc.govt.nz), 03 941 6996
- 3. Please name each of your licensing inspectors and provide their email and contact phone number.**

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- 4. The following questions relate to the number of licences and managers' certificates your Committee issued and refused in the 2020-2021 financial year.**

**Note: the 2020-2021 financial year runs from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.**

**Licences 2020-2021**

In the 2020-2021 year, how many 'on licences' did your Committee issue? 97

In the 2020-2021 year, how many applications for 'on licences' did your Committee refuse? 0

In the 2020-2021 year, how many 'off licences' did your Committee issue? 43

In the 2020-2021 year, how many applications for 'off licences' did your Committee refuse? 2

In the 2020-2021 year, how many club licences did your Committee issue? 1

In the 2020-2021 year, how many applications for club licences did your Committee refuse? 0

**Managers' certificates 2020-2021**

In the 2020-2021 year, how many managers' certificates did your Committee issue? 757 new + 1052 renewals

In the 2020-2021 year, how many applications for managers' certificates did your Committee refuse? 5

In the 2020-2021 year, how many applications for managers' certificates were withdrawn? 12 + 2 renewals

**Licence renewals 2020-2021**

In the 2020-2021 year, how many licence renewals did your Committee issue? 389 (271 ON + 85 OFF + 33 CLUB)

In the 2020-2021 year, how many licence renewals did your Committee refuse? 1

**As at 30 June 2021 what is the total number of licences (new and existing in your licensing district?)**

On-licences	Off-licences	Club licences
670	245	112

Total 1027

**5. Please comment on any changes or trends in the Committee's workload in 2020-2021.**

In the reporting year commencing 1 July 2020 and ending on 30 June 2021 the District Licensing Committee was referred 3460 application files for determination (478 new/renewal premises licences, 1809 Managers Certificates, 1094 Special Licenses, 79 Temporary Authorities). Of those applications that were determined during the reporting period, 14 were set down for public hearing.

Overall there has been a minor increase in workload from the previous year. There has also been an increase in number of public hearings.

**6. Please comment on any new initiatives the Committee has developed/adopted in 2020-2021.**

The District Licensing Committee has developed a greater tendency to hold pre-hearing meetings to consider objector status/standing and other preliminary arguments.

**7. Has your Committee developed a Local Alcohol Policy?**

No

**7A. If the answer is yes, what stage is your Local Alcohol Policy at?**

N/A

**8. If the answer to 7 is Yes, what effect do you consider your Local Alcohol Policy is having?**

N/A

**9. If the answer to 7A is 'in force', is your Local Alcohol Policy due for review?**

N/A

**10. If the answer to 9 is Yes, has such a review been undertaken; and, if so with what result?**

N/A

**11. Please comment on the manner in which Covid-19 has impacted on DLC operations.**

A lack of clarity around whether District Licensing Committees can hold meetings/hearings via Zoom or audio-visual link resulted in delays to hearing schedules. Even in Alert Level 2, the increased importance of face coverings created some uncertainty around the viability of hearings at that Alert Level.

**12. Please comment on the ways in which you believe the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 is, or is not, achieving its object. Note: the object 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.**

The District Licensing Committee has noted that there is a recurring theme in matters before the Committee and that the absence of an LAP is hindering the achievement of the object of the Act. The perception is that the Act has in effect made it impractical and unattainable to achieve a LAP in the larger centres in reasonable time and at reasonable cost. An LAP is considered an important tool to achieving the object of the Act, and the lack of one is a frustration to minimising alcohol-related harm in the Committee's view.

Council is not progressing an LAP at this time.

**13. To what extent, if any, do you consider that achievement of the object of the Act may have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic?**

Delays caused by the postponement of hearings as a result of lockdowns and the inability to hear matters by audio-visual link may have had some general effect.

It's also possible that the deployment of tri-agency staff to attend to pandemic response activities and additional constraints on monitoring activities due to alert level restrictions has had an impact.

The Alert level guidelines under level 3 and 4 has led to more premises engaging in remote, contactless sales.

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

An increase in the number of online sales; and an increase in the number of public objections (particularly in relation to off-licence applications).

**15. What changes to practices and procedures under the Act would you find beneficial?**

Reviewing the barriers that apply to the adoption / production of LAPs and/or providing a streamlined model LAP that covers universally desirable policies that seek to minimise alcohol-related harm.

Providing increased access to professional development for District Licensing Committees (for example through the Institute of Judicial Studies) would also be of benefit. As would improve clarity around procedural requirements for District Licensing Committee meetings/hearings and the use of audio-visual conferencing.

Please also find attached the Territorial Authority Summary Annual Return Statistical Fees Return for applications received during the reporting year ending 30 June 2021.