

# **Draft Alcohol Fees Bylaw**

## **Statement of Proposal**

### **Introduction**

Tauranga City Council has a range of alcohol licensing functions under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act). This includes:

- appointing and supporting the District Licensing Committee (DLC)
- receiving and processing licence applications for the DLC to make decisions on
- monitoring and compliance assessments of all licensees, including inspections of premises and providing education to licensees

The Act directs Council to recover, as far as is practicable, the total costs of its licensing function from alcohol licensing fees. Our current fees are set by the Act and have not changed since the fees were first set in 2013. These fees makeup around 40% of the total alcohol licensing costs with the remaining 60% coming from general rates (approximately \$755 000).

### **Summary of the proposed changes**

We are proposing an Alcohol Fees Bylaw to enable us to set our own fees. This would mean we have the option to consider how alcohol licensing are funded in Tauranga.

The proposed draft bylaw would allow fees to be set by Council resolution through the annual plan and long-term plan process, providing an opportunity for the community to provide feedback on alcohol licensing fees each year. This ensures that the community can provide feedback on all of council's proposed fees and charges at the same time.

Schedule One of the proposed draft bylaw sets out indicative fees based on full cost recovery. This is to help inform community consultation. No decision has been made on the timing and level of any potential changes to the fees. This will be considered as part of the annual plan.

### **Reason for the proposed changes**

The current fees, prescribed by the legislation, do not recover the full cost of alcohol licensing in Tauranga. Using the fees set in legislation does not allow for any changes to be made to how alcohol licensing is funded in our city. Having an Alcohol Fees bylaw would allow a greater proportion of the licensing costs to be funded by alcohol fees.

### **Have your say**

Please tell us what you think of the proposal of Tauranga City Council developing a bylaw to set our own alcohol fees as opposed to using the prescribed fees set by the Act.

If a bylaw is adopted, we will come back to the community to get feedback on the level and timing of the fees. This will be done as part of the annual plan consultation.

You can do this by:

- Entering your feedback online at: <https://www.tauranga.govt.nz/community/have-your-say/how-to-have-your-say>
- Emailing it [info@tauranga.govt.nz](mailto:info@tauranga.govt.nz)

**Review Timeframes:**

- Consultation period: February/March 2025
- Hearings, deliberations, and bylaw adoption: March/April 2025
- Consultation of any new fees as part annual plan: March/April 2025
- Decision on fees: May 2025