

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

5 APRIL 2017

AGENDA ITEM C7

PROPOSED DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE MEMBER APPOINTMENT

Purpose of Report

To seek the appointment of Councillor Margaret Craig as the deputy chairperson for the District Licensing Committee (DLC) and to extend the appointment of the current DLC chairperson, Julie Riddell.

Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Council:

1. *Receive the Proposed DLC Member Appointment Report.*
2. *Appoint Councillor Margaret Craig as deputy chairperson for the DLC until 30th June 2018.*
3. *Agree that the Chief Executive Officer extend the appointment of the current DLC chairperson, Julie Riddell, until 30th June 2018.*

1. Executive Summary

A territorial authority may appoint an elected member to be the deputy chairperson of the DLC. The deputy chairperson may act as the chairperson of the DLC, if the chairperson is unable to act because of illness, absence from NZ or for other sufficient reason. The appointment of a deputy chairperson will allow for decisions on alcohol matters to continue, with the absence of the chairperson.

The current DLC chairperson, Julie Riddell, has been appointed to the position until 1st June 2017. Extending this appointment to align with that of the deputy chairperson will allow for continuity of alcohol decisions from the DLC.

2. Background

The current DLC deputy chairperson is Mayor. The chairperson anticipates being on leave in the coming months, which will require the deputy chairperson to make decisions on alcohol related matters. Considering the workloads of a DLC chairperson and the Mayor, officers and the Mayor recommend the appointment of an elected member other than the Mayor, to that of DLC deputy chairperson.

Extending the current DLC chairperson term of appointment to align with the introductory term for a new DLC deputy chairperson will allow for consistency of decisions and an overlap for this important role.

3. Discussion

3.1 Legal Implications

Section 189(3) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 gives a territorial authority the option of appointing an elected member to be the deputy chairperson of the DLC.

When a territorial authority appoints either a DLC chairperson or list member, the person(s) involved should be considered in relation to any biases they may have relating to the alcohol industry. Furthermore, a territorial authority should only appoint a DLC chairperson or list member to the role if they have experience relevant to alcohol licensing matters.

While the Act does not apply this same standard to that of the deputy chairperson, it is suggested it would be prudent for the territorial authority to consider this when appointing the deputy chairperson.

Local Government New Zealand are not currently offering training workshops for DLC members due to developing a new training workshop. It is also suggested that the new DLC deputy chairperson start working alongside the DLC chairperson to gain an understanding of the processes for making decisions. Officers will provide training documentation to the new DLC deputy chairperson.

It is recommended by the Mayor that Councillor Margaret Craig be appointed as the deputy chairperson of the DLC until 30th June 2018.

Contact Officer: Shane Sykes, Team Leader Environmental Services
Reviewed By: Murray Buchanan, Group Manager Planning and Environment