



MINISTRY OF
JUSTICE
Tāhū o te Ture

Alcohol Reform Bill

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Why do we need the Bill?

- Government wants to reduce the harm caused by alcohol
- Children and young people are over-exposed to alcohol
- Communities want greater control
- Parents want tools to manage their children's drinking
- Concern about alcohol advertising, particularly price promotions

Object of the new Act

- The object of this Act 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.

Summary of the Bill

The Bill aims to:

- Reduce the physical availability of alcohol
- Reduce youth access to alcohol
- Increase community input into the licensing process
- Enhance the operation of the licensing process
- Increase industry and personal responsibility

What difference will the Bill make?

- It will be more difficult to get alcohol
- It will be harder for young people to get drunk
- Communities will have a greater say about when and where alcohol is sold
- Exposure to alcohol will be reduced
- Alcohol-related offences will be better enforced

It will be more difficult to get alcohol

- The times that alcohol can be sold will be cut back:
 - 8am-4am (the next day) for bars, restaurants, nightclubs, cafes
 - 7am-11pm for bottle stores, supermarkets, grocery stores
- No more dairies or convenience stores selling alcohol
- Licences will be harder to get and easier to lose
- The system will pay for itself through a risk-based licence fee system

It will be harder for young people to get drunk

- No-one will be allowed to knowingly supply alcohol to a minor without express consent from a parent or guardian
- Alcohol must always be supplied responsibly
- Young people must be:
 - At least 20 years old to buy alcohol from an off licence, such as a bottle store, supermarket or grocery store
 - At least 18 years old to buy alcohol from an on licence premise, such as a restaurant or bar

Communities will have a greater say

- Councils will be able to choose to develop local alcohol policies to:
 - Restrict or extend trading hours of licensed premises
 - Limit location and density of licences
 - Impose conditions on licensed premises (such as one-way doors)

Local alcohol policy development

- **Draft policy** developed and consulted on using the special consultative procedure
- **Submissions** heard

- **Provisional policy** developed and publicly notified

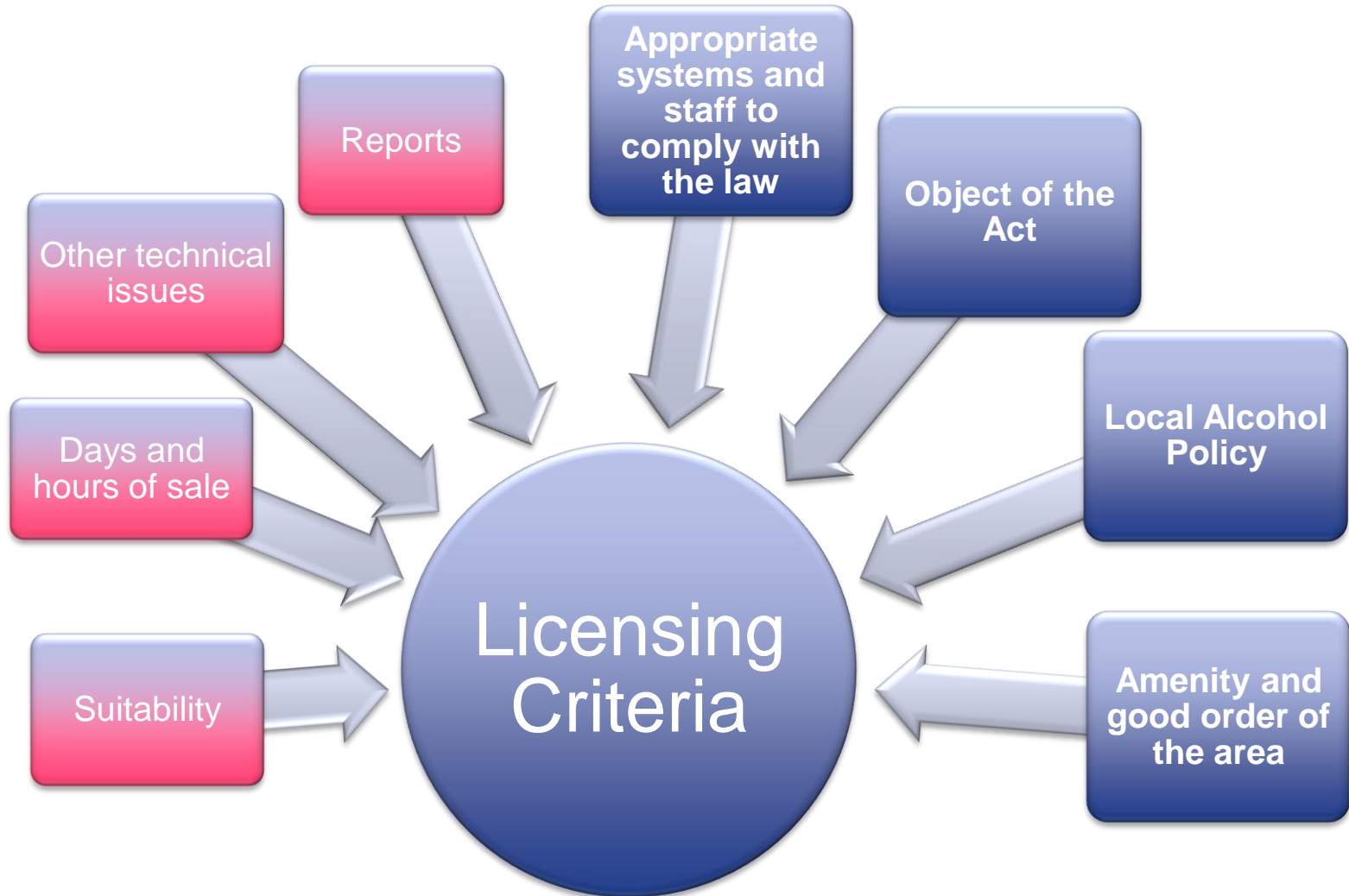
- **Appeals** heard by the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority

- Policy adopted 30 days after appeals resolved and brought into force through a resolution of Council

Licences will be harder to get

- People will be able to object to a licence application in certain circumstances, for example, if a licence would:
 - Encourage heavy drinking or increase alcohol-related harm
 - Have a negative impact on the neighbourhood, for example, by increasing noise, nuisance or vandalism
 - Affect other uses of the area

Licensing criteria



Exposure to alcohol will be reduced

- Supermarkets and grocery stores will only display and advertise alcohol in a single, non-prominent area of their store
- Tighter restrictions on alcohol advertising and promotions will prohibit unacceptable practices
- RTD sales in off-licences will be limited to 6% alcohol and 1.5 standard drinks

Displays in supermarkets & grocery stores

- In supermarkets and grocery stores (like Four Squares) alcohol display and advertising will be in a single 'non-prominent' area of their store
- So alcohol will be in one place and will not be:
 - At the entrance of stores
 - At check-outs
 - At the ends of aisles

Tighter restrictions on advertising and promotions

- It will be an offence to:
 - Do anything that is likely to encourage people to drink too much
 - Advertise alcohol at 25% or more below its normal price off the premises
 - Advertise alcohol that is free of charge off the premises
 - Offer any goods or services on the condition that alcohol is bought
 - Promote or advertise alcohol in a way that is likely to have special appeal to minors

RTDs

- The Government is proposing to restrict RTDs sold from off-licences (bottle stores) to 6% alcohol content and 1.5 standard drinks per container
- On-licences (e.g. bars, restaurants) could continue to sell RTDs that do not meet the restrictions

Alcohol-related offences will be better enforced

- Licensees or managers who commit three offences within three years could lose their licence and/or manager's certificate for 5 years
- Liquor bans will be strengthened
- Police will be able to intervene in unsupervised or poorly supervised parties, such as after-balls

What else is the Government doing

- More money for alcohol and drug treatment – \$10 million per year, taken from alcohol excise revenue
- Considering a minimum price for alcohol
- Targeting ready-to-drink beverages (RTDs)
- Establishing an expert forum to consider further restrictions on alcohol advertising & sponsorship
- Introducing drink driving counter-measures through the Safer Journeys Strategy

COMMENCEMENT

Day after Royal Assent

- Licensing authority changes
- Interpretation section and some formal provisions

Six months after Royal Assent

- Purpose and object of the Act
- New licence criteria

12 months after Royal Assent

- The rest of the Bill comes into force

NEXT STEPS

- Committee of the Whole
- Third reading and royal assent
- Regulation development
- Ongoing work with LGNZ, ALAC and TAs
 - Data collection
 - Risk based fees
 - Guidance to TAs, DLCs and general public

QUESTIONS?

