

Class 4 Gambling Venue and Board Venue Policy 2024

Business unit(s) & Division(s)	Strategy and Policy
Date adopted	01 October 2024
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Review period	3 years
Owner	Richard Hardie, Head of Strategy and Policy
Approved by	Council, 01 October 2024
Implementation	Head of Environmental Protection/Environment and Sustainability
Monitoring/Evaluation	Environmental Health Manager/Environmental Protection

Archived Version (of adopted policy)	Author	Date	Description
V 1.0	Angela Gordon, Senior Policy Advisor	Date created: 01 October 2024	Sinking lid policy aiming to reduce gambling machines, gambling venues and Board venues to minimise gambling harm.





Purpose

Section A: Class 4 Gambling Venue Policy 2024

1.1 POLICY

Council is adopting this policy in accordance with section 101 of the Gambling Act 2003 as the Class 4 Gambling Venue and Board Venue Policy 2024.

This policy has two main elements – it takes a wellbeing approach to minimising the regressive and inequitable social and economic harms of Class 4 gambling, particularly in high deprivation communities, and it ensures that Council is taking a leadership role, demonstrating this through its operational work and management of its own estate.

The goal is to reduce the number of gambling machines and Class 4 gambling venues in the Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt and ensure that no new venues or gambling machines can be added. Venues will not be able to relocate, and no new licences will be issued. If a Class 4 gambling venue is closed for over six months, it cannot be re-opened by another operator. Over time, this approach means that the number of gambling venues and gambling machines may decrease. Council will not allow any further gambling venues to be established in Council owned buildings/facilities.

The policy does not affect existing gambling venues or Class 4 gambling machines in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

The objectives of this policy are to:

- reduce Class 4 gambling machine numbers and venues in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt;
- adopt public health approaches to prevent and minimise harm from gambling, to support community problem gambling service providers, and monitor Class 4 gambling venues;
- provide community access to information about the funds produced and distributed from Class 4 gambling within the city; and
- facilitate community involvement in decisions about the provision of Class 4 gambling in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt.

1.3 WHERE CLASS 4 GAMBLING VENUES MAY BE ESTABLISHED

Council will not grant consent for any new Class 4 gambling venues to be established in the territorial authority district.

1.4 NUMBERS OF GAMBLING MACHINES TO BE ALLOWED

Council will not grant consent grant consent to any increase in the number of gambling machines in any Class 4 gambling venue in the territorial authority district

1.5 RELOCATION OF EXISTING VENUES AND MACHINES

Class 4 Venue licences cannot be transferred to a new location in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt.

1.6 PRIMARY ACTIVITY OF CLASS 4 GAMBLING VENUES

The primary activity of any Class 4 gambling venue shall be:

- a) for sporting activities, or
- b) for the sale of liquor or for liquor and food, or
- c) the activities as a venue owned or leased by the New Zealand Racing Board, and used mainly for racing betting, or sports betting, or as a racecourse.

1.7 MERGING VENUES

There will be no consents granted for venue mergers.

Section B: TAB Board Venue Policy

2.1 POLICY

- This policy is a policy adopted in accordance with Section 96, Racing Industry Act 2020 as a board venue policy.
- The policy covers standalone TAB board venues, which are owned or leased by the New Zealand Racing Board. Council consent is not required under the legislation for a TAB facility in a bar, hotel, or club.

2.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

The objectives of this policy are to:

- reduce Class 4 gambling machine numbers and gambling venues in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt;
- adopt public health approaches to prevent and minimise harm from gambling, to support community problem gambling service providers, and monitor Class 4 gambling venues;
- provide community access to information about the funds produced and distributed from Class 4 gambling within the city; and
- facilitate community involvement in decisions about the provision of Class 4 gambling in Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt.

2.3 WHERE TAB VENUE MAY BE ESTABLISHED

TAB Board Venues may be established within the central commercial and Petone commercial activity areas; suburban commercial and special commercial zones; and general recreation activity areas and special recreation activity areas subject to:

- (1) meeting application and fee requirements;
- (2) not being a venue at which the primary activity is a family or children's activity;
- (3) not being adjacent or adjoining to any residential zone, school, early childhood centre, kindergarten, place of worship or other community facility; and
- (4) not being adjacent to another board venue i.e. two board venues may not be adjacent or adjoining

Where a TAB Board Venue is adjacent to or adjoining a Class 4 gambling venue, the TAB board venue is prohibited from operating Class 4 gambling machines.

Note: "Central commercial and Petone commercial activity areas", "suburban commercial and special commercial zones", "general recreation activity areas and special recreation activity areas" and "residential zone or recreation zone"

have the meanings and will be applied in accordance with the meanings of those terms in the Hutt City Council District Plan as operative at the time an application is considered.

2.4 INCOMPATIBILITY OF TAB BOARD VENUE PREMISES

TAB board venues must not be located in premises that are incompatible with other predominant uses in a commercial or retail district.

2.5 APPLICATIONS

Applications for Council consent must be made on the approved form and must provide:

- name and contact details for the application;
- street address of premises proposed for the TAB board venue licence;
- the names of management staff; and
- if not in the central commercial zone, evidence of the distance to the nearest residential zone, educational or religious establishment and other Class 4 gambling venues.

2.6 APPLICATION FEES

These will be set by the Council from time to time, and shall include consideration of:

- the cost of processing the application, including any consultation and hearings involved;
- the cost of triennially reviewing the TAB board venue policy;
- the cost of inspecting TAB board venues on a regular basis to ensure compliance with consent or license conditions; and
- a contribution towards the cost of triennial assessments of the economic and social impact of gambling in the city.