

Kia ora koutou

Welcome to the second bi-monthly edition of the Hawke's Bay Alcohol Network newsletter. Our aim is to keep local community groups well connected in Hawke's Bay on alcohol-related issues, news and initiatives. If we all stay well connected, together we can support each other to reduce alcohol-related harm in our communities.

Firstly, we'd like to thank those of you who provided valuable feedback following our inaugural newsletter in November 2017.

If you would like to share any news or information with the Network, please get in touch with us simply by replying to this email. We look forward to hearing from you!

### Meet our team!



*Clockwise from left: Rebecca Peterson, Theresa Te Whaiti, Rowan Manhire-Heath, Denise Seymour, Alyson Bullock and Dr Rachel Eyre.*

This month some of our team will attend the [Otago University Summer School](#) workshop 'Tackling big booze: Price, promotion, primary care and politics'.

We look forward to sharing our learnings in the next issue.

### In this issue:

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- Local Alcohol Policies: progress report
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### Supporting alcohol-free events

Are you thinking of hosting an alcohol-free event for young people? We highly recommend you check out The Good Vibes resources which are free to [download here](#).



If you don't already, we suggest you follow the [Alcohol Healthwatch Facebook page](#)—where news and research on alcohol-related harm is shared.

Alcohol Healthwatch is a non-government organisation dedicated to reducing and preventing alcohol-related harm in Aotearoa.

## Alcohol and young people

You may have recently read about a recorded drop in the number of young people drinking nationally. Although this trend is positive, Executive Director of Alcohol Healthwatch, Nicki Jackson, had this to say during a Radio New Zealand interview last month:

*"..Yes, there's been declines in young people choosing to take up drinking, but we've seen no declines what-so-ever in the style in which young people drink. They're still drinking very heavily so that culture hasn't changed."*

In Hawke's Bay, our most recent stats from the New Zealand Health Survey (pooled data 2011-14) show that approximately one in two young people (aged between 15-24 years) are drinking hazardously compared to one in four nationally.

Based on this data, Hawke's Bay District Health Board's Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy (2017-2022) recognises young people as a priority group.

The DHB is developing a number of strength-based health promotion initiatives to try and reduce hazardous drinking within this group. This work includes focusing on settings where young people spend time – e.g. schools, sporting events and social media. We look forward to sharing these initiatives with you!

[Read our position statement on Alcohol](#) (the link is at the top of the right hand section)

## Local survey provides insight

In response to our last newsletter, Alcohol Action Hawke's Bay member Fran Lowe (far right) has shared the results of a community survey on alcohol harm reduction, which was conducted at the Safer Napier Day (28 October 2017).

Event attendees were asked a question and given examples of solutions as a guide to help them answer – i.e. marketing, pricing, accessibility, age of purchase, drink driving initiatives.

The question was: *What is the one thing that could be done to reduce the harm caused by alcohol?*

### The results were:

- 33% believe the price of alcohol should be increased
- 13.8% believe alcohol should be removed from supermarkets
- 13.8% believe availability should be reduced
- 11.1% believe marketing of alcohol should be restricted
- 8.3% believe the legal age should be increased



Fran said it was surprising to see the number of people who suggested raising the price of alcohol as this was often an unpopular choice.

Thank you to Fran and Lisa Smith (pictured left) from Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder – Care Action Network/Beacon. Your work aides our understanding of how the public not only view alcohol-related harm, but their thoughts on how to reduce the burden on communities.

## Local Alcohol Policies: progress report

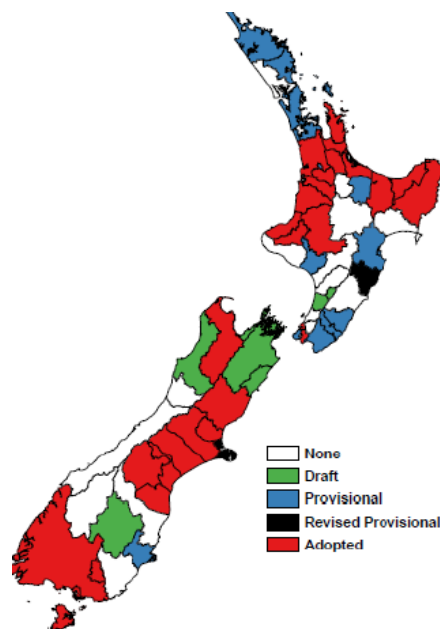
Alcohol Healthwatch recently released a reviewed report on Local Alcohol Policy (LAP) progress throughout New Zealand. It concludes that: “...it would appear that in five years since the introduction of the new legislation, community expectations for greater control of alcohol availability have not been realised.”

[Read the review summary here.](#)

The three Hawke’s Bay LAPs are in different stages of progression.

**Central Hawke’s Bay** (provisional LAP) — The CHB LAP went before the Alcohol Regulatory Licensing Authority in December 2017. Further information on the implementation process has been requested from CHB Council who is in the process of obtaining this information.

**Wairoa** — Wairoa District Council is currently working on a Local Alcohol Policy background paper. Its purpose is to stimulate discussion with key stakeholders on alcohol and its place in the Wairoa community. This is the first step towards developing a Local Alcohol Policy for the Wairoa District and we congratulate the Council on making this step.



**Napier/Hastings** (provisional LAP)— The provisional Joint Napier/Hastings LAP was appealed by 3 appellants late last year. The appeals largely relate to the opening hours for supermarkets and grocery stores. An appeal hearing date has now been set by the Alcohol Regulatory Licensing Authority for 18 June 2018. If you would like to know more, please contact our Health Protection Officer Theresa Te Whaiti via email: [liquorlicensing@hbdhb.govt.nz](mailto:liquorlicensing@hbdhb.govt.nz)

## The association between parental supply and adolescent drinking: A new study

A new Australian study published in the Lancet (25 January 2018) provides further evidence that parents who supply their children with alcohol are causing direct and indirect harm.

The authors found that adolescents supplied alcohol by parents were 2.5 times more likely to binge drink in the future, experience alcohol-related harm and display symptoms of alcohol use disorder.

Significantly, the authors found that no evidence existed to support the view that supplying children with alcohol protected them from negative or risky drinking experiences.

[Read the full study here.](#)

## The Lost Night—HPA’s new campaign

‘The Lost Night’ —the next wave of the Health Promotion Agency’s ‘Say Yeah Nah’ campaign launched on 5 February with the key message being ‘When you drink too much, you risk missing out on the good times’.

A free digital toolkit is available for community groups who would like to help promote this popular campaign. [Find out more here.](#)

