

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

MINUTES

THE MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 59-61 HUIA STREET, TAUMARUNUI
ON WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2023, AT 1:04PM

PUBLIC BUSINESS | KAUPAPA O WAHO

Present | Tuhinga

Mayor	Weston Kirton	
Deputy Mayor	Vivienne Hoeta	
Councillors	Robyn Gram	
	Janelle Hinch	
	Fiona Kahukura Hadley-Chase	
	Lyn Neeson	
	Brenda Ralph	1:37PM Item 5.2
	Korty Wilson	

In Attendance | I Tae Mai

Clive Manley	Chief Executive
Melissa Jackson	Manager Policy & Strategy
Kareen Cadman	Strategic & Policy Advisor
Tasha Paladin	Governance Manager

External Speakers

Simon O'Neill	Item 4.1 and 5.3
Cassie Pui	5.1
Chester Peñaflor	5.2

Absent | Ngaro

Councillors	Rabbit Nottage
	Channey Iwikau

1 Welcome

Mayor Kirton welcomed the speakers to the Hearings.

2 Apologies

The Chairperson invited notice from members of apologies, including apologies for lateness and early departure from the meeting.

RESOLVED

Moved: Deputy Mayor Hoeta

Seconded: Cr Wilson

That the Apologies from Councillor Nottage and Councillor Ralph (lateness) be accepted.

3 Declarations of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

Note: The meeting moved to Item 5: Hearings Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy

5 Hearings Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy

Members considered a report providing a list of submitters who had indicated that they wished to speak in support of their submissions to the Smokefree and Vapefree Policy Statement of Proposal.

5.1 The Cancer Society, Submission Number 60

Cassie Pui spoke to The Cancer Society's submission, representing the Whanganui, Rangitikei and Waimarino region. Cassie prepared a presentation for Elected Members (see **Minute Attachment**). She noted the high level of smoking in the Ruapehu District compared to the average for New Zealand; additionally, it was noted the District has a higher level of Pasifika and Māori smokers compared to other ethnic groups. The statistics were based on smoking prevalence only as there is currently vaping data is not available.

Whilst vaping is being used as a cessation tool, dual use of continuing to smoke whilst vaping has been observed. Additionally, vaping is seen as a gateway to smoking for rangatahi, and data suggested they were not selecting the low percentage nicotine products. It was acknowledged that there is not enough support to help people to quit; support is falling short in both cities and rural areas.

The Cancer Society has a desire to create a safe place for future generations rather than allowing them to be influenced by their surroundings, rangatahi and tamariki should not be exposed to smoking or vaping when in cafés or at the playground.

There is a growing interest in denormalisation strategies to influence society's norms and modify addictive behaviours, but vaping has challenged the progress made. Within the Whanganui, Rangitikei and Waimarino region, only Whanganui District Council has a smokefree and vapefree policy in place, Rangitikei is considering developing a vapefree policy over the next few months, and The Cancer Society welcomes Ruapehu District Council joining them.

It was recommended Council considers an educational based approach to support the community such as cafés and restaurants on how to handle scenarios throughout the implementation of policy.

Minute Attachment(s)**1 Cancer Society Presentation**

Note: Councillor Ralph joined the meeting at 1:37PM

5.2 Te Whatu Ora Whanganui, Submission Number 69

Chester Peñaflor spoke to Te Whatu Ora Whanganui's submission. He acknowledged the growing concern of the link of early introduction to vaping leading to alcohol use and smoking. 51 per cent of the referrals to the youth addiction clinic in Whanganui are from vaping.

He noted the allure overshadows the risk of vaping; there are health concerns including long term effects that are still under study. Vaping is seen as a gateway for alcohol use, and quite often the two behaviours occur together. In his opinion, the normalisation of the behaviour leads to confidence to experiment with other substances. He feels there is a lack of information on the associated risks of and there is a need for better education.

Note: Councillor Neeson left the meeting at 1:47PM and re-entered at 1:48PM

5.3 Simon O'Neill, Submission Number 58

Simon O'Neill spoke to his submission. Mr. O'Neill works in the health sector and is supportive of any reduction in smoking and vaping. He is against implementing a Bylaw unless Council has the means to enforce the rules, but advocates for an educational approach lead by the national health organisation, supported by council.

He recommended Council take advice from the health organisations to ensure consistent messaging across New Zealand and would like to see Council working with agencies on messaging that vaping is 'safer' not 'safe' and develop positive messaging for places where children are present.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Kahukura Hadley-Chase

Seconded: Cr Hinch

That the Council:

- 1** *Receives the Report **Hearings Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy**; and*
- 2** *Receives and considers the verbal submissions from the following persons, as presented in support of their written submissions to Council's Smokefree and Vapefree Policy Statement of Proposal, for consideration at the deliberations to be held on Wednesday 22 November 2023 in the Council Chambers, Ohakune.*

Submission Number	Submitter
58	Simon O'Neill
60	The Cancer Society
69	Te Whatu Ora Whanganui

Note: The meeting returned to Item 4: Hearings Report Smokefree and Vapefree Policy

4 Hearings Report: Interim Speed Management Proposal

Members considered a report providing a list of submitters who had indicated that they wished to speak in support of their submissions to the Interim Speed Management Proposal: Ruapehu Schools.

4.1 Simon O'Neill, Submission Number 49

Simon O'Neill spoke to his submission. He feels reducing speed limits is essential around schools to make it safer for children to walk to and from school and it may slowly reduce the traffic congestion for drop off and pick up times.

Residents of National Park would like to drop the speed limit uniformly across the whole of the village; Mr. O'Neill feels Council needs to apply any speed reductions practically for the larger centres such as Taumarunui and Ohakune, however acknowledged this creates enforcement challenges.

He advocated for education and signage to go hand in hand with speed reductions, however, he expressed that education needs to be more than a sign and Council should consider physical mechanisms such as chicanes and raised crossings. Mr. O'Neill also advocated for areas where children congregate in large groups such as Raurimu around the Blue Mountain Adventure Centre, and advocated for moving the speed limits on the State Highways at Ōwhango and Ohakune.

RESOLVED

Moved: Cr Gram

Seconded: Cr Wilson

That the Council:

- 1 *Receives the Report **Hearings Report: Interim Speed Management Proposal**; and*
- 2 *Receives and considers the verbal submissions from the following persons, as presented in support of their written submissions to Council's Interim Speed Management proposal, for consideration at the deliberations to be held on Wednesday 22 November 2023 in the Council Chambers, Ohakune.*

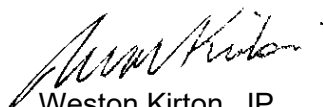
Submission Number	Submitter
49	Simon O'Neill

The Public Business part of the meeting concluded at 2:18PM.

Closing Karakia Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Korty Wilson

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held this 22nd day of November 2023.


Weston Kirton, JP
MAYOR

RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ruapehu

MINUTE ATTACHMENT(S)

THE MEETING OF RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE
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ON WEDNESDAY, 18 OCTOBER 2023, AT 1:04PM

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1 Cancer Society Presentation	



Oral Submission 18/10/2023

Support for Ruapehu District Council Statement of Proposal Draft Smokefree and Vapefree Policy 2023

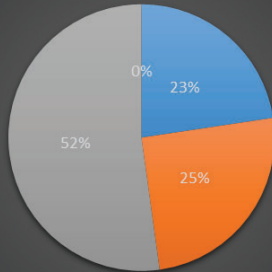
Cassie Pui
Toitū te whenua / Health Promoter
Cancer Society
Whanganui - Rangitikei - Waimarino



Aotearoa New Zealand's smokefree journey

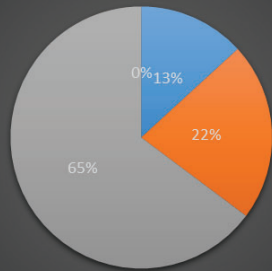


Ruapehu District (2018)



■ Regular Smoker ■ Ex-Smoker ■ Never Smoked Regularly ■ Not Elsewhere Included

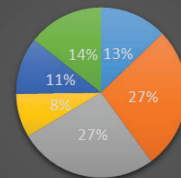
New Zealand (2018)



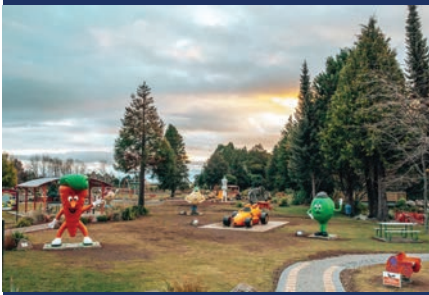
■ Regular Smoker ■ Ex-Smoker ■ Never Smoked Regularly ■ Not Elsewhere Included

Cigarette smoking behaviour for Ruapehu District Council (2018 Census)

Ruapehu District (2018)
Regular Smokers by Ethnic Group (%)



■ European ■ Māori
■ Pacific peoples ■ Asian
■ Middle Eastern/Latin American/African ■ Other ethnicity



STUDIES SHOW THAT ENVIRONMENTS INFLUENCE WELLBEING ACROSS THE LIFECOURSE AND ARE CENTRAL IN BOTH UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING HEALTH INEQUITIES.

Halfon et al., 2014



**INTERNATIONAL
EVIDENCE
INDICATES THAT
HAVING OUTDOOR
HOSPITALITY AREAS
INCREASE QUITTING
ATTEMPTS AND
REDUCE RELAPSES.**

Chaiton et al., 2016



Smokefree Outdoor Policies

Rangitikei - Ruapehu- Whanganui



Rangitikei
District
Council

Ruapehu
District
Council

Whanganui
District
Council



Outdoor Dining *Bylaw	Outdoor Dining *Leases	Outdoor Dining *Voluntary	The Fresh Air Project	CBD/Civic Spaces	Green Spaces	Events	Council Buildings	Transport Hubs	Social Housing	Vapefree	Beaches Lakes/Rivers	Council Committed to Smokefree 2025

Smokefree Outdoor Policies

Rangitikei - Ruapehu- Whanganui



Rangitikei
District
Council

Ruapehu
District
Council

Whanganui
District
Council

Outdoor Dining *Bylaw	Outdoor Dining *Leases	Outdoor Dining *Voluntary	The Fresh Air Project	CBD/Civic Spaces	Green Spaces	Events	Council Buildings	Transport Hubs	Social Housing	Vapefree	Beaches Lakes/Rivers	Council Committed to Smokefree 2025

TOGETHER WE CAN
REDUCE BURDEN OF
CANCER IN OUR
COMMUNITIES, THROUGH
ENHANCING AND
PROTECTING THE
ENVIRONMENTS IN WHICH
WE ALL LIVE, WORK AND
PLAY, NOW AND INTO THE
FUTURE.

