

14 August 2024

Elected Members  
Western Bay of Plenty District Council  
c/o [haveyoursay@westernbay.govt.nz](mailto:haveyoursay@westernbay.govt.nz)

Dear Elected Members

### **Joint Business Feedback on WBOPDC's Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy 2017**

Thank you for the invitation to provide feedback to the review of Council's Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy 2017 ('the Policy'). We understand that Council is required to review the Policy at least once every five years. Please consider this letter as joint feedback from a range of local business representative organisations listed below.

For efficiencies, and to show unity on this important topic, the parties listed below jointly submit our strong support for Council to continue with the current Policy, which enables shops across the western Bay of Plenty subregion to open during Easter Sunday. This is due to the following reasons:

- It ensures consistency with the policies of the neighbouring territorial authorities within the Bay of Plenty. It sends a clear message to both visitors and residents that businesses across the Bay of Plenty are open for business. We acknowledge that Tauranga City Council approved this approach in 2022, and we are not aware of any local councils considering changing from the status quo.
- It ensures consistency between online businesses - who are allowed to trade regardless - and the 'brick and mortar' stores.
- The current Policy allows employers to consider opening, if they choose to.
- The current Policy allows employees to work on the statutory days and earn additional income, if they choose to.
- Regarding the previous point, and in reference to supporting employee wellbeing, we note there have been additional employee entitlements passed into law since the pPolicy was reviewed in 2017, including the additional public holiday of Matariki and an additional 5 days of extra sick leave.

Once again, we thank you for inviting submissions in the review. We would be happy to speak to the submission if elected members thought it would be helpful.

Yours faithfully,

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1. Matt Cowley – Tauranga Business Chamber</b>          | <b>2. Nigel Tutt – Priority One WBOP EDA</b>      |
| <b>3. Oscar Nathan – Tourism Bay of Plenty</b>             | <b>4. Marisa Bidois – Restaurant Assoc. NZ</b>    |
| <b>5. Joanna Hall – EMA</b>                                | <b>6. Luke van Veen – Hospitality New Zealand</b> |
| <b>7. Mark Boyle – Te Puke EDG</b>                         | <b>8. Jacqui Knight – Katch Katikati</b>          |
| <b>9. Matt Nicholson – Waihi Beach Events + Promotions</b> |   |