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**EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**

**OF**

**CITY STRATEGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS**

**Time:** 9:30am  
**Date:** Thursday, 25 October 2018  
**Venue:** Committee Room 1  
Ground Floor, Council Offices  
101 Wakefield Street  
Wellington

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**Business**

**Page No.**

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**2.1 Oral hearings for Alcohol Control Bylaw review**

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Inner City Wellington

**Alcohol ban by law – oral submission, 25 Oct 2018**

ICW supports the proposal to retain the existing bylaw in the central city. There has been a noticeable reduction in the frequency of drinking in public places and in the associated alcohol-related harms – in rubbish and other deposits and behaviour – that comes with excessive consumption.

The effectiveness of alcohol bans relies on enforcement. The role of volunteers monitoring the city safety cameras in the Camera Base has played an important role in reducing the frequency and impacts of alcohol consumption in the alcohol ban area.

We know that Police resources are stretched to the limit and that not every breach will be responded to, but there needs to be enough ongoing enforcement to show that the ban is being enforced and to avoid an increase in frequency and seriousness of any breaches.

ICW does not support the proposed change in the bylaw to make it discretionary for Council to erect signage about the alcohol ban. Signage is an important part of wider education and social media campaigns.

ICW questions the lack of detail in the consultation document about the other areas that have been suggested by communities, considered by officers but not progressed. The public has to go back to the committee paper and minutes to fully understand the wider options considered and the rationale for inclusion or exclusion. This is not transparent consultation.

ICW accepts that the higher threshold has been set in legislation. But based on the data, and the criteria, Kilbirnie has the stronger case for an alcohol ban area. Officers state that 'some of the incidents are related to more intractable issues of homelessness and do not consider a ban to be appropriate or proportionate'. There is no data so we can't assess this approach.

ICW initially supported the proposal not to include Kilbirnie, but having looked at the data and the analysis in the paper, it seems that the two issues are being conflated. The alcohol ban bylaw is not intended to address homelessness. In the inner city, there are also a lot of people sleeping on the street with associated issues – not all to do with alcohol consumption at the time. The alcohol ban and the Police response to breaches helps prevent issues from escalating.

With respect to Kelburn, ICW questions the data that only a single complaint has been made to the call centre over the past five years. Based on the data in the Vic Neighbours submission, there are clearly more instances of excessive alcohol consumption and associated problems. Many ICW members can relate to the experiences of Vic Neighbours.

The Committee paper refers to 44 arrests in Kelburn over the last five years, which is not that different to the 51 arrests outside the current alcohol ban area in Mt Victoria. There is no data to clarify if the Kelburn arrests are around the Kelburn Park area, which is the focus of the problems, or in other parts of Kelburn. ICW supports the extension in the Mt Victoria area, but questions whether there has been a consistent application of the criteria across the three areas.

ICW members have also raised questions in the past about the reliability of the WCC data on noise complaints. Only a single call is logged by Council for a noise complaint. So, irrespective of how many other people may be affected by that source of noise – which is usually associated with alcohol consumption - there is only one incident from Council's perspective. This does not provide a true picture of the alcohol-related harms being experienced by others in the immediate vicinity.

I also clarified that noise control officers use their judgement, based on training, of what is excessive noise rather than noise level thresholds in the District Plan, which I had previously thought. ICW

Inner City Wellington

wants to understand what the training is, how it is applied and the proportion of complaints deemed excessive. Vic Neighbours may also be interested in that based on the issues raised in their submission.

The committee meeting resolved that the consultation document would include a statement that an alcohol ban bylaw is only one part of the Council's work on alcohol management and that wider issues around alcohol would be picked up in the review of the Alcohol Management Strategy.

ICW agrees with the intent and the recommendation to update the Alcohol Management Strategy. It will be great to get the data to assess the success measures in the Strategy and determine what has worked, where it's worked and where the gaps are.

The issues raised by Vic Neighbours in their submission and by ICW members in previous discussions around excessive noise associated with alcohol consumption and related activities are not being adequately addressed by the current processes.

The Strategy is 'central area' focused, and the issues raised in the paper and in Vic Neighbours submission shows there are extensive alcohol-related harms in the areas outside the central area. An action that can be taken to progress resolutions of the identified issues is to include a residents' representative from outside the central area in the Night Time City Forum, along with representatives of the Student Union and universities.

As part of this review, Council needs to consider whether a bylaw is required to set fees that fully recover the costs of the licensing framework, including enforcement.

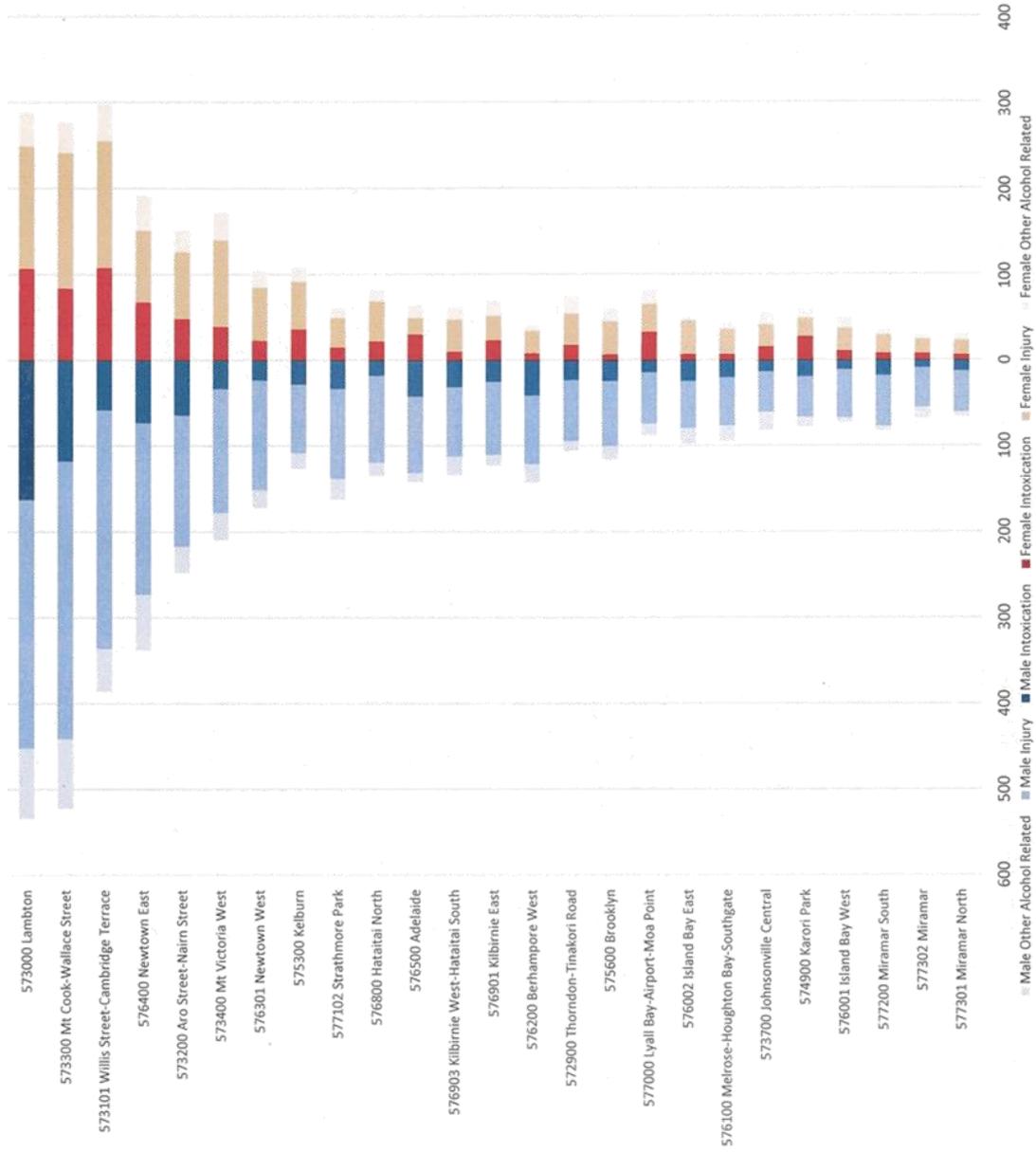
Full recovery is the intent of the fees, but based on data for 2015/16 and 2016/17 the total revenue from fees has been short by \$86,000 and \$42,000 respectively. While the costs associated with the DLC and the administrative support and overheads are going up, the costs associated with enforcement are going down when the number of applications have steadily risen over the three year period from 2014/15 to 2016/17.

We need to understand the monitoring and enforcement role of Council and why it's reducing given the level of Police resources committed to the CBD most Friday and Saturday nights.

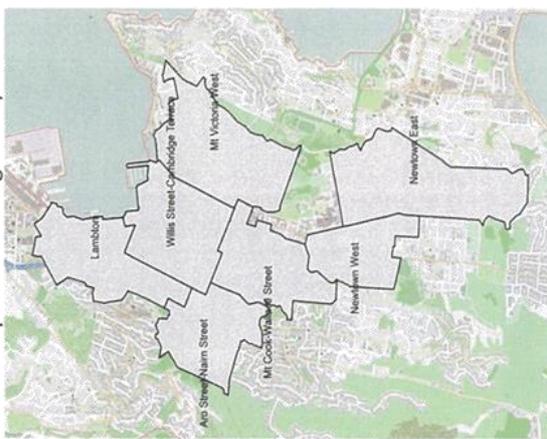
ICW supports the Take10 initiative and believe it should be financially supported by Council, Police and central government agencies, as well as the sponsorship it obtains, to allow it to build on the trial completed earlier this year. We should also consider how the cost recovery fee regime can be used to minimise alcohol-related harm, one of the four objectives of the Fees Regulations. The Take10 initiative seems to fit into this objective.

Item 2.1 Attachment 2

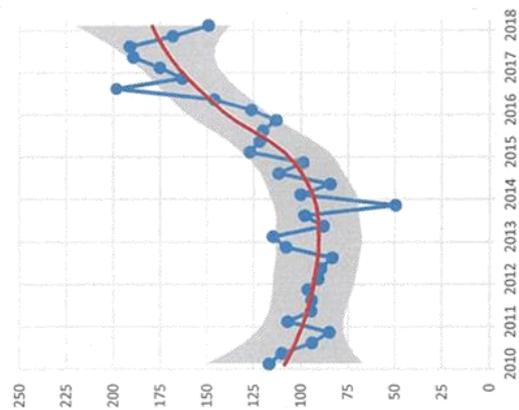
Top 25 AUs Wellington City - Alcohol-Related ED Attendances – 18 years & over – Jan 2010 to April 2018



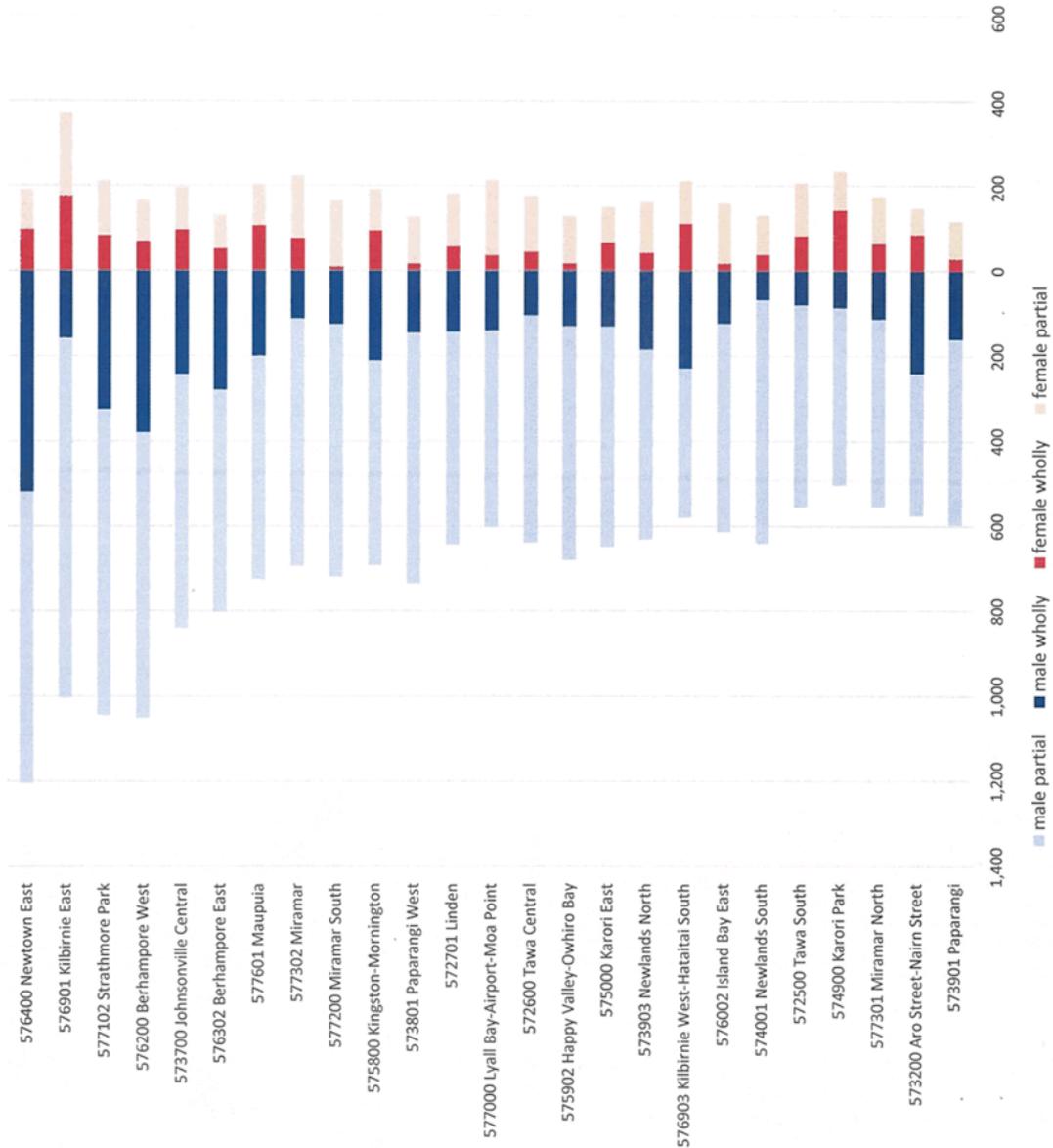
Top 7 AUs Wellington City



Quarterly Trend for Top 7 AUs



Top 25 AUs Wellington City – Chronic Alcohol-Related Hospital Admission Rates (per 100,000) – 18 years & over – Jul 2009 to Aug 2018



Top 6 AUs Wellington City



**Chronic Alcohol-Related Illness**

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|--|--|
| <b>Wholly attributable conditions</b>    | <b>Partially attributable conditions</b>           |
| Alcoholic Mental & behavioural disorders | Hypertension                                       |
| Alcoholic Liver disease                  | Respiratory infections                             |
| Alcoholic Gastritis                      | Cardiac arrhythmia                                 |
| Alcoholic pancreatitis                   | Breast Cancer                                      |
| Alcoholic Cardiomyopathy                 | Epilepsy   |
| Nervous, system degeneration             | Liver cirrhosis unsp                               |
|  | Colorectal Cancer                                  |
|  | Mouth & Oropharyngeal Cancer                       |
|  | Oesophageal Cancer                                 |
|  | Gastro-oesophageal laceration-haemorrhage syndrome |
|  | Pancreatitis                                       |
|  | Oesophageal varices                                |
|  | Liver Cancer                                       |
|  | Laryngeal Cancer                                   |