



Presentation to Wellington City Council
on the
Draft Local Alcohol Policy

August 8 2013

The Voice of
Hospitality



Wellington City Nightlife



- We all agree there is a minority who do cause issues
- How do we change their behaviour without
 - punishing the wrong people
 - damaging businesses and employment
 - wrongly engineering the growth and development of the city
- How to actually make a difference

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Our proposals



- Suburban Premises - 1am closing
 - rationale for midnight ? There are not issues in the suburbs
 - other centers including Lower Hutt, Christchurch and Nelson are proposing 1am
 - hub of community interaction, celebrations, functions, sporting events
 - keep residents in the suburbs
- No Precincts
 - anti competitive
 - costs and rent rises
 - prevents natural evolution of the city

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Our proposals



- City – 3am
- Later for existing late licenses and on application for other license holders (5am or 6am)
- Conditions – overly complex, not operationally sound, and not necessary (co-operation v enforcement)
 - Wind down hour – effectively closing an hour earlier and potentially ultra vires
 - One Way Door – there IS no good evidence this works, Australian studies prove this (see Fact v Fiction document)
 - excludes 5000 hospitality staff
 - dilutes the vibrancy of Wellington,
 - creates safety issues
 - Christchurch “model” was at 4am

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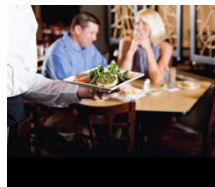


Our reasoning



- Draft LAP does not address the issue of personal responsibility
- Closure of businesses
- Loss of jobs
- Cost v Benefit analysis – the Christchurch study has shown us what the reality is... the reduction of consumption will be 1% - the costs will outweigh the benefits
- Serious damage to an industry worth \$700 million annually - \$41 million post 4am
- Too hard and costly to administer for Council and industry
- Transport issues – train timetables (first train is 6am)

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On Line submission results



- Over 400 submitted online to Hospitality NZ – members and public
- 78% did not like the idea of a precinct
- 86% do not think a wind down hour is a good idea
- 71% do not think a one way door is a good idea

Assuming there is an entertainment precinct:

- 92 % - want trading hours in precincts to be *4am or later*
- 94% - want trading hours in city to be *3am or later*

- 88% - want trading hours in the suburbs to be *1am or later*

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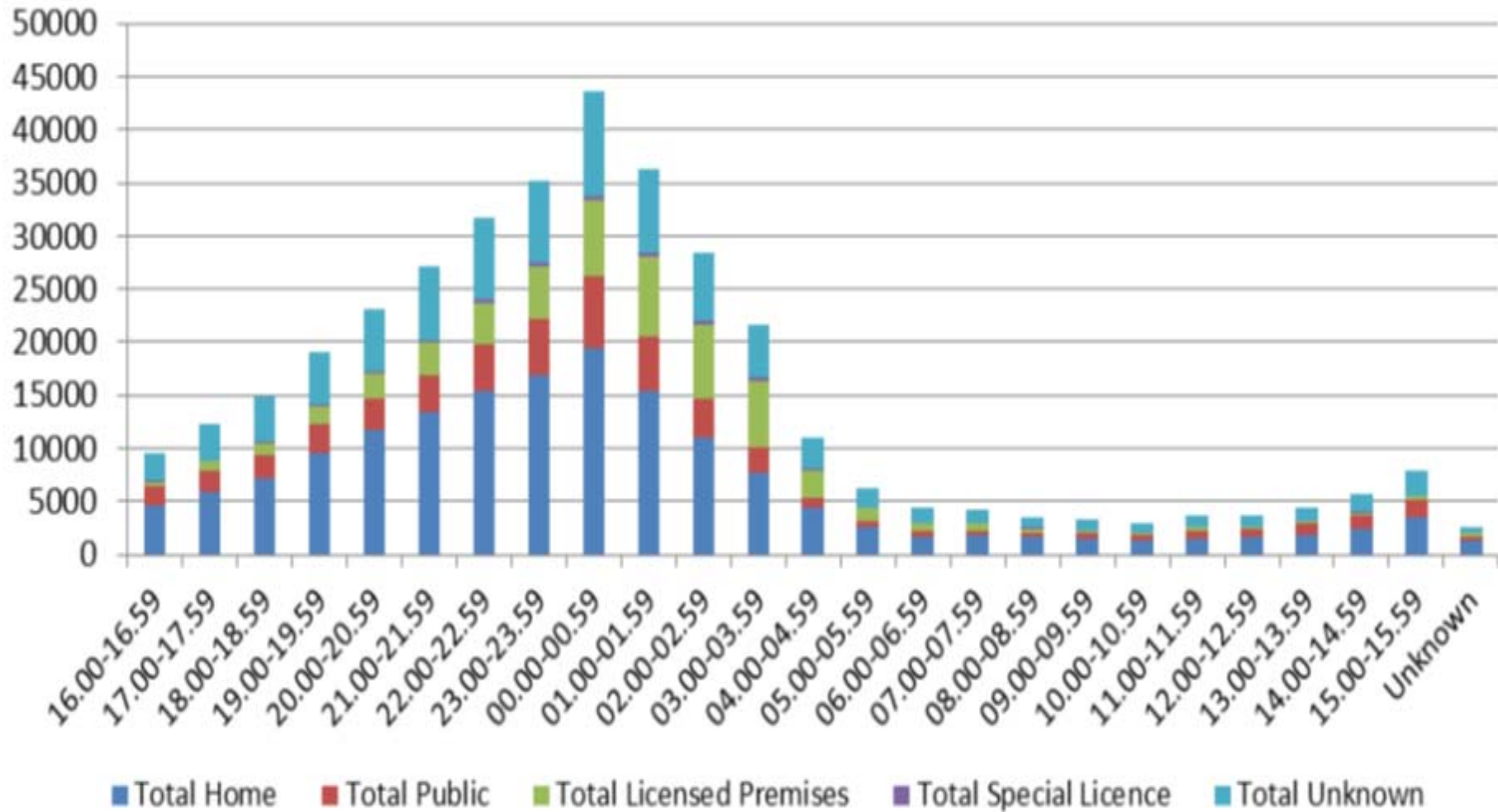


Police Perspective

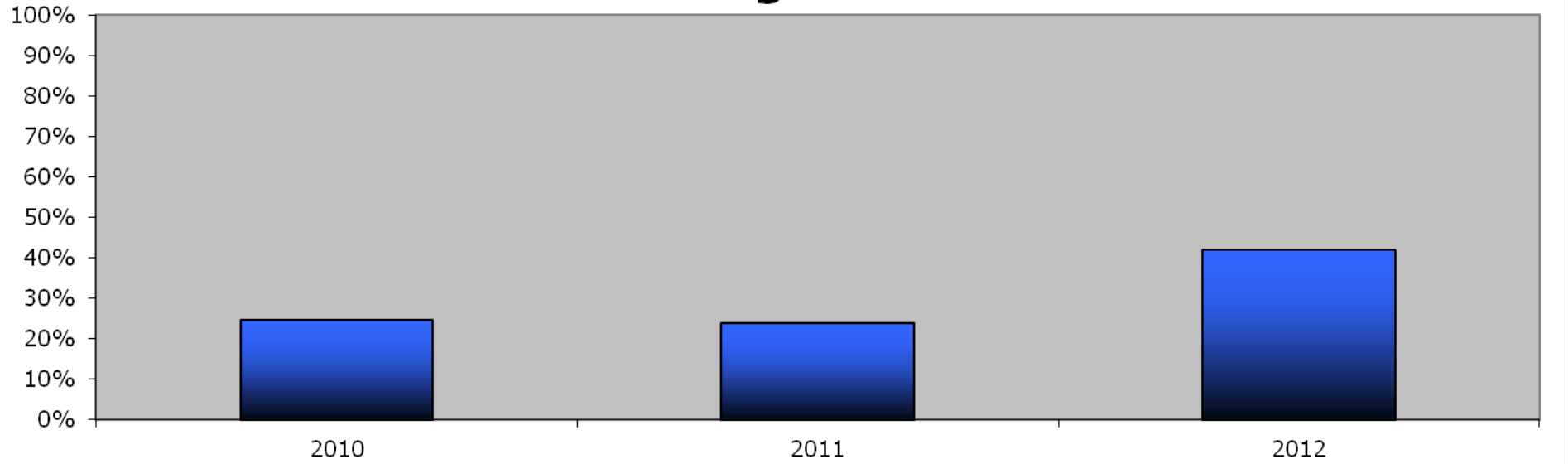
- Police proposing one size fits all, shut everything down and the problems will go away
- We can find no evidence to support this approach (best evidence against = 6 o'clock swill?)
- Bulk of issues are actually at midnight to 1am
- Last 12 months crime down - public place assaults down 28%
- Police evidence is showing Wellington is vibrant safe city and does NOT require major fixing
- Good use of police time enforcing regulation in bars v doing more on streets? (Team Policing)



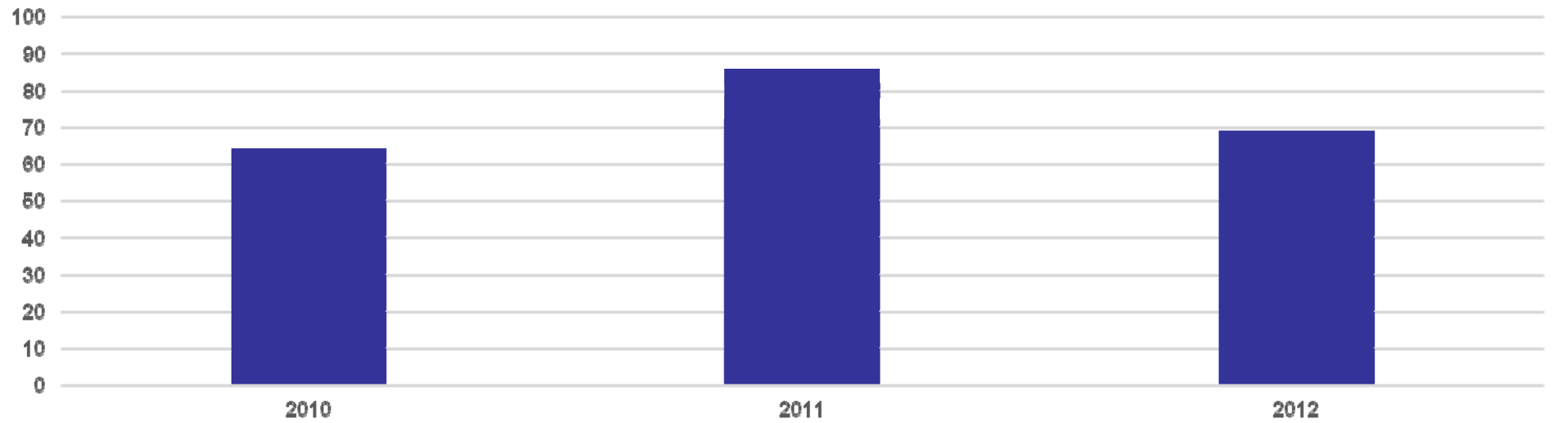
Time Profile of all alcohol related offences (2009 – 2012)



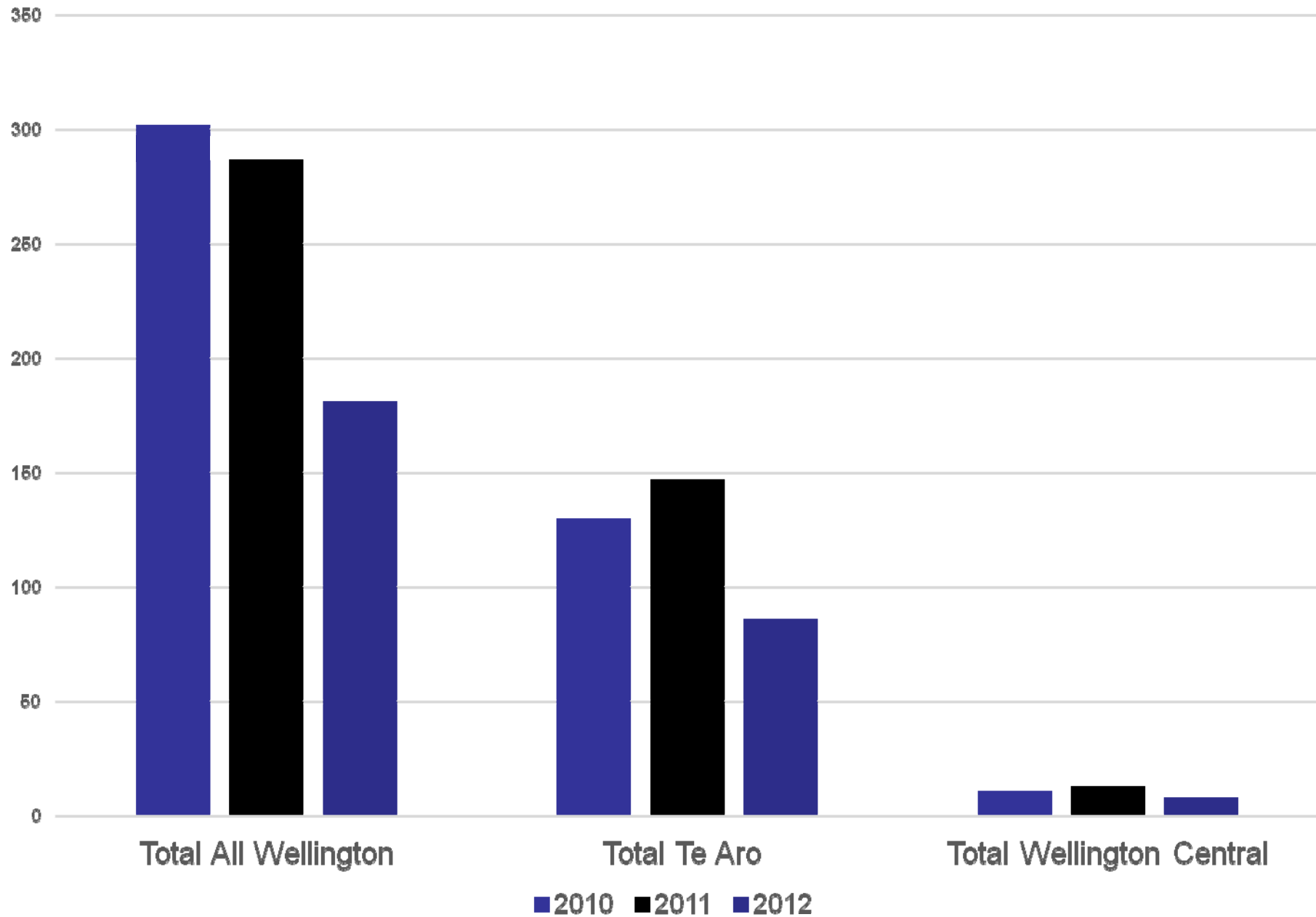
% of stranger assaults in Te Aro



Te Aro stranger assaults



Assaults 2010 -2012



The Alternatives

- Interests aligned (co-operation more likely to be effective than even *more* regulation on Industry)
- Capital Host
- Lighting, CCTV, transport, street food and entertainment, chill out zones
- **If we want to change behaviour we need to promote personal responsibility**

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Personal Responsibility

Proactive suggestions:

- Make enforcement of the alcohol fuelled nuisance practical
 - Low level offences (already exist but currently not practical to enforce)
 - Infringement notices
- Reintroduction of an offence of public drunkenness
 - Nuisance element (so as not to capture people merely drunk)
- Trespass or “banning orders” for specified locations
 - Common in the UK
 - Melbourne
 - Could apply to just licenced premises?



Personal Responsibility

How Council can achieve:

- Local Bill
 - Akin to Hutt City (graffiti), Whanganui (gang-patch) and Manukau (street prostitution) bills
 - Would not require bylaws to be implemented but allows the Council to implement
 - Legal advice that no reason Council can cannot resolve to push for law change (promote a local bill) as part of the final LAP
- Advice appended to submission

