

Monique Eade

From: The van Hout Family [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 31 July 2019 9:04 PM
To: Monique Eade
Subject: RE: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE HDC FREEDOM CAMPING BYLAW 2018

Sorry about the late reply. I am an accountant and our organisations end of year is 30 June so it's been all go.

I appreciate your reply and would have liked to spend a bit more time on this topic but I have not been able to find the time. I did start looking at what the Select Committee had to say on the Act when it was still in Bill form and what was reported back to the House but did not finish that work.

From my perspective and from my understanding of the Act, the Council is required to consider freedom camping in its area but the Act does not set minimum or maximum places for freedom camping. However, it is my understanding that a Council cannot say "no freedom camping". A Council is required to set aside areas for this purpose.

My personal opinion is that minimum levels should be set aside in areas favourable to local communities and when it can be proven that there is a positive financial and social benefit to that local community. I see that in most situations it is the local Councils (and hence the ratepayers) who are left to face the costs associated with the negative impact of freedom camping. Small councils are left to clean up with limited funding and local community are left with that burden.

I believe that the positive financial aspects of freedom camping are over stated based upon my observations. People using freedom camp sites are doing so to minimise their own costs and this can be seen from the type of vehicles using the sites. There is no direct financial benefit to the community. Moving the freedom camping sites from Gore Bay to Cheviot may increase the probability that there will be a greater financial impact on the local businesses but I do not see that has be material to the community.

I also believe that the Council should take into consideration registered camping grounds close to any proposed freedom camping site. The Council will be aware that registered camping grounds (as defined in the Camping Ground Regulations 1985 are required to meet minimum requirements (in addition to building code and regulations, resource consents, etc.) and so have costs to meet and therefore there is a price to pay. No freedom camping site should be provided within, say a 3 to 5km radius of a registered camping ground.

Freedom camping is not the correct term to be using in any event. I am sure the Council is fully aware the camping provided under the Freedom Camping Act is not free at all. There is a price to pay and at this time I understand it's the Councils that mostly pay the cost.

The last concern is about enforcement. Please, if you are going to have freedom camping sites and penalties can be applied then have enough enforcement officers available in the local community so that they can enforce the bylaw. Give them the tools to undertake the enforcement with wheel clamping (if possible) or tow away.

Appreciate the opportunity to engage.

Peter van Hout

From: Monique Eade <Monique.Eade@hurunui.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 2 July 2019 10:20 AM
Subject: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE HDC FREEDOM CAMPING BYLAW 2018

Good morning,

The Council is proposing to make some changes to the current Freedom Camping Bylaw. The amendment is limited in scope to address identified issues.

Why have a freedom camping bylaw?

Freedom camping is permitted in all local authority areas unless it is restricted or prohibited in a bylaw. The Council is only able to make a bylaw if it is considered necessary for one of the following purposes:

- To protect the area
- To protect the health and safety of people who may visit the area
- To protect access to the area.

Any prohibition or restriction must be proportionate to the issue.

Why make changes?

As part of making the bylaw in 2018 we put in place a process to review the implementation of the bylaw. Our review has identified a few areas where there has been unanticipated demand and issues associated with overcrowding.

What are the proposed changes?

1. Limiting the number of campers permitted per night at:
 - Scargill-Motunau Reserve,
 - Glenmark Reserve, and
 - Hanmer Springs River Reserve.
2. Removing the freedom camping carparks at:
 - Chisholm Crescent Carpark, Hanmer Springs, and
 - War Memorial Hall Carpark, Hanmer Springs.
3. Relocating the carparks currently available in Gore Bay to the Cheviot Service Centre Carpark.

What do you think?

Making a submission is your way to be heard. We want to hear from you regardless of whether you support the proposal or not.

Your submission needs to be in writing and needs to be with the Council **by 5pm on 31 July 2019**.

- You can email your submission to submission@hurunui.govt.nz; or
- Post or deliver to Hurunui District Council, 66 Carters Road, PO Box 13, Amberley 7441

***Need a bit more information?**

Visit www.hurunui.govt.nz/news-and-views/have-your-say

Kind regards,
Monique

Monique Eade
Policy Planner

Phone 03 314 0095 | Fax 03 314 9181
Email monique.eade@hurunui.govt.nz | Web hurunui.govt.nz
Mail PO Box 13, Amberley 7441



“Making our district even better”

This email has been filtered by SMX. For more information visit smxemail.com

--
#####

Attention:

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error:

- Please let us know by return email immediately and then destroy the message;
- Do not copy, disclose or use the contents in any way.

The contents of this email and any attachments are not formal policy of the Hurunui District Council, unless otherwise stated. Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the author.