

ROTORUA LAKES COUNCIL

Minutes

**Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee hearing
Prostitution Bylaw review**

**held Thursday, 14 February 2019 at 1pm
in the Council Chamber, Rotorua Lakes Council**

- PRESENT:** Cr Raukawa Tait (Chairperson)
Mayor Chadwick, Cr Donaldson, Cr Hunt, Cr Kent, Cr Maxwell, Cr Tapsell,
Mr Thomass (Lakes Community Board) and Mrs Trumper (Rural Community
Board); E Berryman-Kamp and G Mohi, Te Tatau o Te Arawa.
- APOLOGIES:** Cr Gould and Cr Sturt
- NO ATTENDANCE:** Cr Bentley
- OFFICERS PRESENT:** G Williams, Chief Executive; C Tiriana, Manager CE's Office; R Viskovic, Strategy
Development Manager; I Tiriana, Manager Council Communications; R Dunn,
Governance Lead; C Peden, Governance Support Advisor

The Chairperson welcomed members, media and staff to the hearing.

1. APOLOGIES

Resolved:

That the apologies from Cr Gould and Cr Sturt be accepted.

Cr Donaldson/Cr Hunt
CARRIED

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. STAFF REPORT

RECOMMENDATION 1: Hearing on 'Prostitution Bylaw' review

Resolved

That the report titled 'Hearing on Prostitution Bylaw review' be received.

Mr Berryman-Kamp/Mr Thomass
SPF19/02/005
CARRIED

4. HEARING OF SUBMITTERS

Submitters were invited to speak, as summarised on Attachment 1.

Hearing closed at 1.35pm

Confirmed at the Strategy, Policy & Finance Committee meeting on 14 March 2019

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Chair

2. HEARING OF SUBMITTERS

Time	Submitter	Sub No.	Page No.	Summary of comments
1.10pm	NZ Prostitutes Collective	3	8	<p>Bridie Sweetman attended on behalf of the NZ Prostitutes Collective, accompanied by Sue Forbes and Ange Berryman from the Tauranga branch. They highlighted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • narrow area defined in map where small home-based sex workers can operate, • larger brothels advantaged by this • suggested non-bylaw approach • oppose ban of street-based sex work • the bylaw is unnecessary – would like to see it repealed (not replaced) • suggested amendments to the bylaw to ensure it was consistent with the law • If Council wanted to retain a bylaw, expanding the zone would be a simple option. • Being compelled to work in a brothel has limitations and potential for exploitation – 12 hour shifts, subject to fines, etc. • there is a strong correlation between stigma and violence • Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch don't have a Prostitution bylaw – no issues. • A collaborative approach between agencies had addressed any issues. • Issues such as noise, traffic, etc can be covered by other bylaws. • safety and health issues - exploitation is more likely to occur under a bylaw.
1.25pm	Nicole Winters	1	7	<p>Nicole Winters (health care professional) highlighted the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • limitations on the CBD means only 1 brothel operating in Rotorua • Alexandra's charge a \$20 shift fee • smaller owner-operators want to be compliant but find advertising options limited • ground floor requirement limiting for some clients – e.g. with disabilities