

Document No: A413420

Report To: Council



Meeting Date: 20 November 2018

Subject: **Supplementary: Freedom Camping Bylaw – Late Submission**

Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this business paper is to present to the Council a late Submission to Council's draft Freedom Camping Bylaw.

Commentary

- 2.1 At 11.46am on Wednesday 14 November 2018 a late submission was received by Mayor Hanna from Elly and Keith Buswell (for Project Manu and the Mangaokewa Reserve Committee). Note: The closing date for public consultation was Friday 2 November 2018)
- 2.2 As set out in the business paper for the Hearing of Submitters, Council was advised that in the event any further submissions were received, these would be provided to the Council under separate cover and Council must decide whether or not to accept those late submissions and include them for consideration as part of its deliberations.
- 2.3 Historically, Council has accepted all late submissions received up until the time of the deliberations meeting.
- 2.4 A copy of the late Submission No. 4 - Elly and Keith Buswell (for Project Manu and the Mangaokewa Reserve Committee) is attached to and forms part of this business paper.

Suggested Resolutions

- 1 The Supplementary business paper Freedom Camping Bylaw – Late Submission be received.
- 2 Council accept/not accept the late submission and include it for consideration as part of the deliberations at the Council Meeting on Tuesday 27 November 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle Higgie".

MICHELLE HIGGIE
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Attachment: Submission No. 4 - Elly and Keith Buswell (for Project Manu and the Mangaokewa Reserve Committee)

From: [Brian R. Hanna](mailto:brian@hanna.net.nz)
To: [Michelle Higgie](mailto:Michelle.Higgie@waitomo.govt.nz)
Subject: FW: Letter to Council
Date: Wednesday, 14 November 2018 3:12:51 PM
Attachments: [Letter to council about freedom camping.docx](#)

Brian R. Hanna | Mayor
Waitomo District Council
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Our people, our place, our future!
Waitomo District

-----Original Message-----

From: brian@hanna.net.nz [<mailto:brian@hanna.net.nz>]
Sent: Wednesday, 14 November 2018 3:11 PM
To: Mayor <Mayor@waitomo.govt.nz>
Subject: Fwd: Letter to Council

>----- Original Message -----

>From: Keith Buswell <buz@actrix.co.nz>
>To: "Sheryl and David David" <d.sknight@xtra.co.nz>, "Dave Smith"
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><lindalovini@yahoo.co.nz>, "Paul Ware" <PAUL.JOHN.WARE@gmail.com>,
>"kelvin Hayes" <kel.hayestreesnjobs@gmail.com>

>Sent: Wed, Nov 14, 2018, 11:46 AM

>Subject: Letter to Council

>

>Kiaora Tatou,

>

>We have taken the liberty to send the attached letter/submission to council today - on your behalf!!!

>Submissions closed late last week and so it was urgent to get it away.

>I am sorry you have not been able to have input but please let me know

>if you have any thoughts/disagreement etc.Nga mihi Keith and Elly

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Letter/Submission to Council re- Freedom Camping at the Mangaokewa Reserve

Over the past several years, we have become increasingly concerned at the increasing numbers of camper vans, slept in cars and tents appearing each night at the viaduct picnic area over the summer months.

This past Sunday morning, Project Manu held a baiting day and parking for our volunteers was an issue. There were 32 vehicles at the site and several tents. There were very few campervans.

The toilets were blocked and smelly. We noted people carrying large bags of rubbish from their cars to fill the overflowing rubbish containers.

In the past the area has been a popular destination for local families for swimming, picnicking, games etc. The scale of freedom camping is interfering with this experience.

It is not uncommon to find rubbish within the bush surrounding the picnic area, (although it is possible this is largely irresponsible local residents' rubbish).

Whilst it is a laudable ideal for people to be able to camp, the numbers now involved are problematic. It seems that the area is being used by freedom campers not so much because of its inherent qualities (beautiful forest, river, peaceful etc) but because it is free. It is free for these campers, but not for local ratepayers who cover the cost of maintenance, and whose use of the area is compromised.

We suggest that:

- the proposed camping ground at Brook Park be high priority – for campers as well as campervans
- there be a fee for staying the viaduct eg \$10 – 20 per car. Over the summer months this would more than compensate an employees salary to collect this fee each evening
- the existing barrier could be used to lock the reserve from incoming traffic at night with an opening mechanism for exiting. Campers would be given a code when they pay. This code would be changed each day and it seems such systems are in place elsewhere.
- freedom camping in general should be discouraged in our area. There are reports of campervans along Tate Road at night, at Brook Park and elsewhere.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Elly and Keith Buswell

For Project Manu and the Mangaokewa Reserve Committee.