

EASTER SUNDAY SHOP TRADING POLICY

DECISION STORY

On 5 December 2017, Council considered all feedback received (both written and through the 'Have your Say' session) in its deliberations on a final policy, and resolved to adopt a policy to enable shop trading on Easter Sunday for the whole district.

This decision story provides an overview of the policy and its development, and the implementation of this policy going forward.

Background

The Shop Trading Hours Act 1990 was amended on 30 August 2016 to enable local councils to adopt a policy to allow shop trading in their districts on Easter Sunday. The Act does not change any of the other restricted trading days (being Good Friday, ANZAC Day or Christmas Day), nor does it remove employees' rights to choose not to work on Easter Sunday.

Council adopted a draft Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy on 19 October 2017 and undertook a Special Consultative Procedure from 23 October to 24 November 2017. The draft policy proposed trading being enabled across the Western Bay.

Your views

Of the 54 submissions received, 67% of submissions were supportive of the policy, and 33% were opposed to the policy. Of the supportive submissions, 97% submitted that the policy should cover the entire district, while 3% submitted that it should only cover parts of the district (generally being town centres).

Adoption and Implementation of the Policy

This policy has now been adopted by Council, in time for Easter Sunday 2018. The policy applies to the whole of the Western Bay of Plenty District.

The Shop Trading Hours Act requires employers wishing to trade on Easter Sunday to give employees at least 4 weeks' notice of their intention to trade. Employees have the right to refuse work on Easter Sunday, and to do so must tell their employer no later than 14 days after the employer has given notice of their intention to trade.