



Supporting Sustainable Freedom Camping in Aotearoa New Zealand – Submission Form

How to provide us with feedback

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) is collecting written submissions to gather a range of views on the Government's proposals to improve the management of freedom camping in New Zealand.

This submission form brings together all the questions asked throughout the discussion document *Supporting Sustainable Freedom Camping in Aotearoa New Zealand – Proposed changes to support effective management of freedom camping in New Zealand*.

Please feel free to answer as many or as few of these questions as you wish.

For more information and discussion about these topics please refer to the discussion document available at <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/supporting-sustainable-freedom-camping-in-aotearoa-new-zealand>.

Your submission can be returned by email to responsiblecamping@mbie.govt.nz. Submissions are due by midnight on Sunday 16 May.

Use and release of information

After the consultation period has closed, MBIE will publish a summary of submissions on our website at www.mbie.govt.nz.

We will not be publishing any individual submissions or names of individuals who made a submission. We may wish to include part of your submission in the summary of submissions; in that case, MBIE will first ensure we have your permission to do so.

If you are submitting on behalf of a business or organisation, MBIE will consider that you have consented to the content being included in the summary of submissions unless you clearly state otherwise. If your submission contains any information that is confidential or that you do not want published, you can say this in your submission.

The Privacy Act 2020 applies to your submission. Any personal information you supply to MBIE through your submission will only be used by MBIE for the purpose of producing a summary of submissions. The summary will present themes and no personally identifiable information will be included. The summary will be reported to the Minister of Tourism and be published online.

Submissions may be subject to requests for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). If your submission, or part of it, comes within the scope of an OIA request, MBIE would normally release it (excluding any personal information) to the person who asks for it. If you consider there are reasons for MBIE to withhold any of the information you are providing, please indicate these reasons in your submission.

Your details

What is the name of the person making this submission?

Cathy Macdonald

If you are submitting on behalf of an organisation, what is the name of that organisation?

Westshore Residents and Development Association

Is it okay for your organisation's details to be published if we publish which organisations made a submission, or include part of your submission in the summary of submissions?

- Yes, you can publish my organisation's details with information from my submission.
 No, keep my organisation's details confidential.

Can we use information in your submission as a case study in the summary of submissions?

- Yes, you can include information from my submission as a case study in the summary of submissions.
 No, keep my information confidential.

Please provide us with your email address in case we need to contact you about your submission.

Email

westshoreRA@hotmail.com

What sector(s) does your submission most closely relate to, if applicable?

For example, the sector in which you may work or operate, or which you represent.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accommodation provider | <input type="checkbox"/> Other tourism business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rental vehicle business | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-tourism business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iwi, hapū or Māori organisation | <input type="checkbox"/> Local Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual or camper | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Club or club representative (eg camping club) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> N/A | |

Context to Supporting Sustainable Freedom Camping in Aotearoa New Zealand

1.1 How much do you agree that certain types of vehicle-based freedom camping is a problem? Please write a (Y) next to the option which applies to you				
Strongly agree Y	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1.2 What are your views on freedom camping in vehicles? When answering this question you may like to think about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is vehicle-based freedom camping an issue in your area?• Have you observed any specific issues?• Are there specific behaviours which impact on your use of local amenities/infrastructure?• What benefits does vehicle-based freedom camping provide for your region?				

Since the council set up a freedom camping site in the Westshore Beach Reserve there have been ongoing issues with anti-social behaviour and breaches of the bylaw including:

- : campers often breach the no alcohol bylaw
- : leave excessive rubbish in and by bins
- : overstay the maximum number of nights allowed
- : don't display self-containment stickers or warrants
- : hang out large amounts of washing
- : use the public toilets / basins for bathing, washing clothes and dishes.
- : increased drug activity – drug paraphernalia left around the reserve

the numbers of campers in the car park resulted in locals and visitor feeling they were intruding on the campers and reserve activity decreased

How much do you support the proposal to make it mandatory for vehicle-based freedom campers to use a certified self-contained vehicle?

2.1

Please write a (Y) next to the option which applies to you

Strongly agree Y	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
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Do you support this proposal?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

2.2

- Do you consider this option will improve camper behaviour?
- Will this option support or improve tourism outcomes in your region?
- Will this option decrease pressure on the environment and local government infrastructure?
- Are there impacts of this proposal that you are concerned about?

Certified self-contained vehicles should be the only option. All other campers should be at the local campgrounds. There are excellent campgrounds in Napier, plenty of options for campers and tourists to stay.

How might this proposal impact you?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

2.3

- Will this proposal increase or decrease the likelihood of you camping?
- Will this proposal have a direct financial impact on you or your business?
 - If yes, please indicate if this is a personal or business expense, and quantify how much you estimate it would impact you.
- Will this option increase or decrease the attractiveness of visiting other regions in New Zealand?

N/A

What things should Government consider to implement this option?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

2.4

- What exceptions should Government allow under this proposal?
- Do you have any ideas about how this proposal could be implemented?
- Should this option be considered alongside other options proposed in this discussion document?

There should be no exemptions.

How much do you support the proposal to make it mandatory for freedom campers to stay in vehicles which are certified self-contained, unless they are staying at a site with toilet facilities (excluding public conservation lands and regional parks)?

3.1 Please write a (Y) next to the option which applies to you

Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree Y
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Do you support this proposal?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

- Do you consider this option will improve camper behaviour?
- 3.2 • Will this option support or improve tourism outcomes in your region?
- Will this option decrease pressure on the environment and local government infrastructure?
- Are there impacts of this proposal that you are concerned about?

Totally disagree, local communities should not have to pay for infrastructure so campers can have a free holiday – there are far more urgent matters that could use the money. If a camper is not certified self-contained they shouldn't be utilising freedom camping sites.

How might this proposal impact you?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

- Will this proposal increase or decrease the likelihood of you camping?
- 3.3 • Will this proposal have a direct financial impact on you or your business?
 - If yes, please indicate if this is a personal or business expense, and quantify how much you estimate it would impact you.
- Will this option increase or decrease the attractiveness of visiting other regions in New Zealand?

N/A

What things should Government consider to implement this option?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

- What do you think is required to achieve this option?
- 3.4 • What exceptions should Government allow under this proposal?
- How far from toilet facilities should a person be able to freedom camp if not in a vehicle with a toilet? eg, 100 metres, 200 metres?
- Should this option be considered alongside other options proposed in this discussion document?

No exceptions, if vehicles aren't fully self-contained they should be in the local camping ground – there is one less than 800 metres from the freedom camping site in Westshore

How much do you support the proposals to improve the regulatory tools for government land managers?

4.1

Please write a (Y) next to the option which applies to you

Strongly agree Y	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
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Do you support this proposal?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

4.2

- Are there any specific parts of this proposal you support or propose?
- Do you consider this option will improve camper behaviour?
- Will this option support or improve tourism outcomes in your region?
- Will this option decrease pressure on the environment and local government infrastructure?
- Are there impacts of this proposal that you are concerned about?

Yes, we support this proposal, the current ones are not working.

How might this proposal impact you?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

4.3

- Will this proposal increase or decrease the likelihood of you camping?
- Will this proposal have a direct financial impact on you or your business?
 - If yes, please indicate if this is a personal or business expense, and quantify how much you estimate it would impact you.
- Will this option increase or decrease the attractiveness of visiting other regions in New Zealand?

N/A

What things should Government consider to implement this option?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

4.4

- What would you like to see in practice?
- Should this option be considered alongside other options proposed in this discussion document?

Government should consider the impact on communities and the environment.

4.5 **What would be an appropriate penalty?**

When answering this question you may like to think about:

- Should non-compliant vehicles be confiscated? If so, under what conditions?
- If vehicles are confiscated, what conditions should be placed on returning the vehicle?
- Should fines be similar to those for not holding a valid Warrant of Fitness for a motor vehicle?
- What levels should fines be set at?
- Who should collect a fine?

Vehicles should be confiscated if they are not certified self-contained

Returned once the fine is paid.

Fines could be a tiered system, for 1st and 2nd offence, 3rd time vehicle should be confiscated

Fines could be collected by - Local councils, govt agency, rental companies, airport departure staff

Do you think that the requirements for self-containment should be strengthened?

5.1 Please write a (Y) next to the option which applies to you

Yes Y	Neutral	No
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Is the current standard fit for purpose?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

- 5.2
- Should there be a requirement that self-contained vehicles have fixed toilets?
 - Should there be specific reference to the types of vehicles that can be self-contained?

Definitely, toilets must be fixed and accessible at all times, this would dictate what sort of vehicle was used.

Who should certify to the Standard?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

- 5.3
- Should any Plumber registered under the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Act 1976 be able to certify to the Standard, or should certifiers be separately recognised and licensed?
 - Once a vehicle has passed its initial certification, should other entities be able to re-certify it?

A separate licenced body should be set up to certify vehicles for self-containment and only they should be able to re-certify.

What transition arrangements should be in place?

When answering this question you may like to think about:

- 6.1
- How long should Government give people to upgrade or dispose of their vehicles?
 - Should currently certified self-contained vehicles be exempt from any new rules?
 - Are there any other transition arrangements we should consider?

2 years to comply, no exemptions.

How could Government ensure vulnerable groups are not further disadvantaged?

- 6.2
- Could Government make homelessness exempt from any new regulatory system? What might this look like?

Homelessness is a social housing issue, not a freedom camping issue.

- 7.1 **Is there anything else on the proposed changes or discussion document you would like to mention?**

Ratepayers should not have to fund infrastructure for freedom campers, our rates could be better spent upgrading local playgrounds, surf clubs, park benches etc