

19 January 2024

Title	Comment
<p>Freedom Camping Reforms – exemption for hunting and fishing</p> <p>Dale Elvy, Manager Tourism Communities and Regions</p> <p>Privacy of natural persons</p>	<p>We understand a stakeholder has proposed the idea of exempting hunters and fishers from the freedom camping legislation. We do not believe this is necessary because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The legal definition of freedom camping* does not include back country areas and private land so hunting and fishing on this land is not covered by the law. • The national rule requiring freedom campers to use a certified self-contained vehicle also does not apply to Department of Conservation land. • During the Parliamentary consideration of the Bill, there were no concerns raised by hunters and fishers that an exemption was needed. <p>Creating an exemption for hunting and fishing would require primary legislation change, including legally defining hunters and fishers within the freedom camping context. A key consideration would be how any exemption would be enforced by local authorities. We recently outlined the process for making primary legislation change to the Self-Contained Vehicles legislation [Briefing 2324-1334 refers].</p> <p>*Freedom camping is defined as staying in a vehicle or tent within 200 metres of a place where you can drive, the coast, or a Great Walks Track. It does not include camping on private land, back country areas, or where payment is required for the site.</p>

1 March 2024

Title	Comment
<p>Freedom camping stakeholders update</p> <p>Dale Elvy, Manager Tourism Communities and Regions</p> <p>Privacy of natural persons</p>	<p>We continue to receive high levels of correspondence from stakeholders, who raise concerns about the lack of certainty about potential changes to freedom camping legislation and the resultant impact on the industry.</p> <p>NZ Lifestyle Camping (NZLC) (the second largest certifier of vehicles under the previous regime) organised a meeting this week with industry stakeholders to discuss the new laws. MBIE officials attended this and will provide you with a meeting summary.</p> <p>NZ Motor Caravan Association note that they are fielding more enquiries from their members and rental operators who need to arrange inspections before the end of the winter. They are requesting greater certainty to allow operators to plan.</p> <p>We will continue to keep you informed of key correspondence and information we receive from freedom camping stakeholders.</p> <p>We have provided you with options to change the freedom camping legislation [briefing 2324-1334 refers].</p>

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<p>Freedom camping stakeholders meeting summary</p> <p>Dale Elvy, Manager Tourism Communities and Regions</p> <p>Privacy of natural persons</p>	<p>As raised in last week’s Weekly Report, we attended a stakeholder meeting organised by NZ Lifestyle Camping with approximately 30 industry stakeholders (including some peak bodies and rental vehicle companies, but not including the NZ Motor Caravan Association).</p> <p>During the meeting, a number of issues were raised including concerns about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The deadline set in legislation for Rental Vehicles to be certified (7 December 2024), as this falls during their peak season. Particularly for smaller rental vehicle companies who are likely to be more impacted due to the type of vehicles they own. • The impact and cost of compliance with Regulations, specifically 20(b) relating to the venting of toilets. • The requirement set in legislation for a fixed toilet to become certified self-contained. • A perception that there is not enough capacity in the system to convert and certify vehicles before the deadline for both rental and private vehicles. <p>In response to these issues stakeholders plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact you as the Minister of Tourism and Hospitality, other Ministers and MPs directly. • Form a collective body to lobby for amendments to the legislation. • Brainstorm ‘workarounds’ for the laws, including the potential for non-compliance. <p>The group have agreed to meet again in a few weeks to assess progress. We will continue report on these through the Weekly Report and updates to your Office.</p>