

Submission in response to consultation on ticket reselling in New Zealand

Name (full)

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Organisation (if applicable)

Submitter category

Have you experienced problems with ticket resale?

No, I have never purchased resale tickets before

Please share your experiences, either positive or negative

n/a

Your views on the issues

Are these problems serious enough to require changes to the law or industry practices?

Yes

Tell us what you think

The commercial model of market value notwithstanding there are two issues that I see.

The original seller of the ticket (and obviously the beneficiaries, particularly the performers) does not benefit from the reselling in any way that is positive, but is left to deal with the consequences, so it is unfair to the provider.

The use of technology to monopolise the purchase of tickets forcing purchasers to go to resellers is also unfair.

Your views on the options, and the pros and cons

Price cap on resale tickets:

Option C: Original sale price + resale costs

Why did you choose the option above? Please explain

To avoid profiteering there should be no profit from reselling, the recovery of costs in the case of no longer needing or being able to use tickets is fair, but profiting just encourages the behaviour that has caused the current problems.

More information disclosure: Do you agree with this option? Why or why not?

Ban on ticket-buying bots: Do you agree with this option? Why or why not?

Yes, it becomes a monopoly and undermines both the seller and buyers rights to fair trading.

Joint industry-government actions: Do you agree with this option? Why or why not?

Yes, industry buy-in and legal enforcement will be needed to make this work.

Are there other solutions that would work well?

It seems to me that this is a great use for blockchain. By using the intrinsic contract nature of blockchain, and by only allowing tickets to be transferred using the technology the price could be controlled, and the authenticity and ownership verified by buyers. Forging and scalping would be prevented, but transfer allowed.