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# **PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL**

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## **AGENDA**

### **MINUTES ATTACHMENTS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

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**9AM, WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2023**

COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR  
CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
32 THE SQUARE, PALMERSTON NORTH

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# COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING

27 September 2023

## 9 Draft Gambling Venue Policies - Deliberations Report

1. Draft Gambling Venue Policies - Deliberations Report

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# GAMBLING POLICIES REVIEW

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 2023



# PURPOSE OF THE POLICIES

The **Class 4 Gambling Venue Policy** relates to pokies (class 4 gaming machines) in pubs and clubs

- It is used to decide whether Council will give consent to any new class 4 venue in Palmerston North

The **TAB Venue Policy** relates to stand-alone TAB venues, not TAB terminals or kiosks inside pubs

- It is used to decide whether Council will give consent to any new TAB venue in Palmerston North



# BACKGROUND

- Council is required to have these policies
- Council gives **consent** for class 4 venues
- The DIA issues **licences** to operate class 4 machines



# PROCESS SO FAR

**pre-March** Early engagement

**March** Workshop with Elected Members

**May** Approve draft policies for consultation

**June – July** Consultation

**August** Hearing of submissions

**September** Deliberation

**October** Adoption of policies

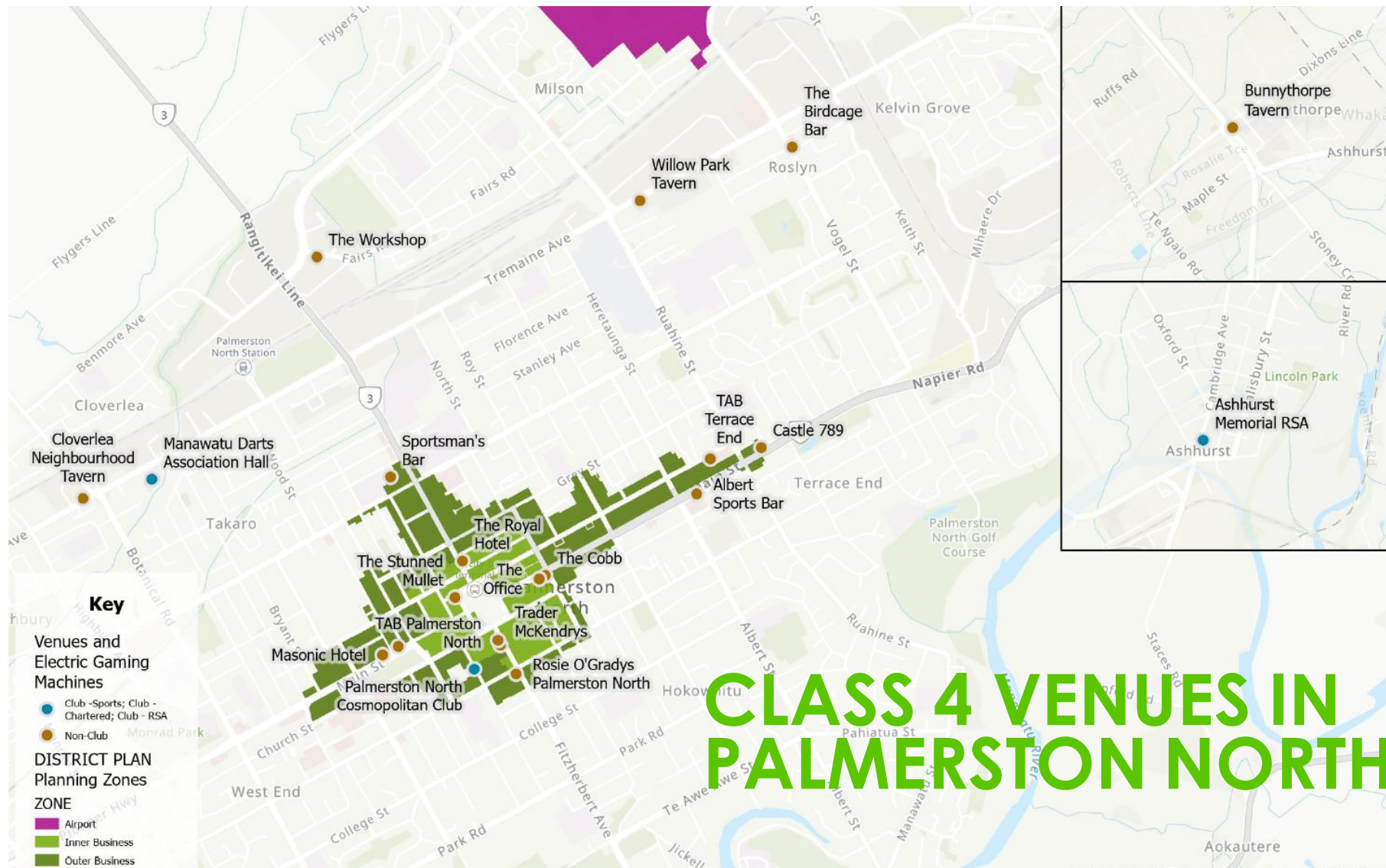


# SCOPE – WHAT IS CONSIDERED

- The social impact of gambling
- Specify if, and where, venues may be located
- Specify restrictions on maximum numbers of gaming machines
- May include a relocation policy
- May include restrictions on proximity to sensitive sites
- May specify the primary activity of the venue







# CLASS 4 GAMBLING IN PALMERSTON NORTH

2022: gaming machine proceeds of \$22,173,761 (\$75,165 per machine)

- The highest amount ever for Palmerston North

2022: grants of \$5,751,753 were distributed to the community

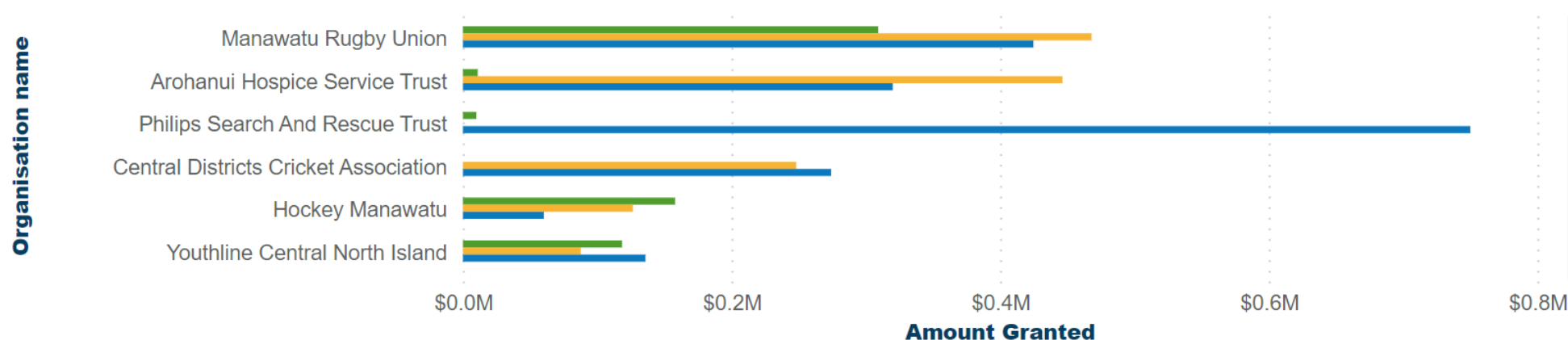
- This is 25.9% of the money gambled locally returned through grants
- Main recipients were sports organisations (49.2%), and community organisations / health and welfare services (38.1%) - this follows the national trend of grant distribution favoring sports organisations at this time



# GRANTS DISTRIBUTION IN PALMERSTON NORTH

## Amount Granted by Organisation

Year of Acceptance ● 2020 ● 2021 ● 2022



granted.govt.nz



# POLICY OBJECTIVES

- To ensure Palmerston North City Council and the community have influence over the location of new Class 4 gambling venues in the city
- To allow existing class 4 gambling venues to continue operating at their current premises
- To have regard to the social impact of gambling within Palmerston North, and to minimise the harm to our communities caused by problem gambling
- To prevent the growth of class 4 gambling venues or the number of gaming machines in existing venues



## WHAT THE COUNCIL PROPOSED

### **Change from a cap to 'sinking lid' for the number of class 4 gambling machines**

- Sinking lid: no new machine licences will be consented

### **Clarifying that Class 4 venues may relocate in specific circumstances**

- Through events beyond their control



# CHANGE PROPOSED FOLLOWING CONSULTATION

Add to clause 4.3 wording so that it reads:

4.3 “For the purpose of providing clarity, examples of “circumstances beyond the control of the operator or the lessee of the premises” include, but not be limited to, the following situations:

- Acquisition of property under the Public Works Act 1981; or
- ***“The premises are sold or the property lease expires and the license holder is not able to renew that lease”; or***
- Natural disaster”



# THE REASON FOR THE CHANGE

## To provide additional clarity to the clause

- The policy already permits relocation of class 4 venues where relocation is necessary because of events beyond the control of the licence holder
- The change provides guidance for the application of the policy by staff
- Any relocation would still have to align with the objectives of the policy, and all other criteria specified in the policy, before a consent would be given



## LIKELY IMPACT OF THE POLICY IF ADOPTED

- Longterm decline in class 4 machines/venues
- Gambling proceeds (and therefore grants to the community) are unlikely to change significantly
- It is unlikely that there will be a rise in problem gambling as a result of alternative forms of gambling (eg:online)
- The instances where relocation will be permitted, and will not be permitted, are clearly understood

