

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

**Class 4 Gaming and TAB Board Venue Policy**

Issued	29 April 2026
Submissions close	29 May 2026

## Summary of Proposal

Under the Gambling Act 2003 and the Racing Industry Act 2020, Council must have both a Class 4 Gambling Venue Policy and a TAB Venue Policy for TAB venues operated by TAB NZ. Previously Council had two separate policies but for simplicity purposes, Council has chosen to combine these policies into one updated policy: the Class 4 Gaming and TAB Board Venues Policy.

### What is being proposed?

Councils need to review their Class 4 Gaming and TAB Board Venue policies on a regular basis. As part of the current review, Council is proposing to lower the cap on the number of gaming machines and venues in the Grey District by:

- Reducing the cap on the maximum number of gaming machines allowed in the district from 130 to 75; and
- Reducing the maximum number of venues from 18 to 10.

There are no other material changes proposed to the policy. A copy of the proposed combined policy and previous separate policies are available to view.

### How would it work?

There are currently 67 gaming machines in the Grey District across seven venues. With the proposed reduced cap on maximum numbers of gaming machines and venues, the total number of gaming machines and venues allowed in the district would reduce. The proposed reduced caps still provide capacity for additional machines and venues from current.

### Why is this being proposed?

Councils are required to review their Class 4 Gambling and TAB Board Venue policies regularly. The objectives of the combined policy include:

1. To ensure the community, through Council, has influence over the location and number of Class 4 Gaming venues and machines and TAB board venues within the Grey District.
2. To set restrictions on the establishment of Class 4 gaming venues, number of gaming machines and establishment of TAB board venues in the Grey District.
3. To facilitate minimisation of the harm to the community caused by gambling.
4. To allow those who wish to participate in gambling to do so in a safe and well managed environment.

Reducing the cap on the total number of gaming machines and venues within the Grey District helps Council achieve the objectives of the policy by minimising the harm of gambling in the community through reduced gaming machines

and venues, whilst still providing an appropriate number of facilities for those who wish to participate in gambling.

## What would change?

There would be no changes for existing businesses.

For new applications or relocations, the numbers of gaming machines and venues will not be able to exceed the maximum caps for the Grey District stated in the final adopted policy.

It is worth noting the Gambling Act 2003, which underpins this policy, was updated in 2023. The changes strengthened the Act's harm minimisation framework:

- Venue staff must actively monitor gambling behaviour
- Staff must identify and respond to observable signs of harm
- Conversations and interventions must be recorded
- Infringement offences and fines apply if venues fail to comply
- Training requirements for staff and managers were clarified and strengthened

## Where to find more information

<b>Grey District Council</b>
<a href="http://www.greycdc.govt.nz/Haveyoursay/">www.greycdc.govt.nz/Haveyoursay/</a>
105 Tainui St, Greymouth
03 769 8600

## How to have your say

We want your feedback.

All submissions must be through the online submission platform "Have your Say Grey" form or a paper submission form available from Council offices, the library and the Westland Recreation Centre.

You are welcome to speak in person in support of your submission — if you wish to do this, please clearly indicate this in your submission.

Submissions will be heard and considered at a hearing at Council offices on Monday 29 June 2026.

Submissions close at **5pm on Friday 29 May 2026.**