

Media Release

20 December 2016

Easter Sunday Trading Consultation

Kaipara District residents are being asked whether Easter Sunday trading should be allowed across the whole District or parts of the District.

The Kaipara District Council decided at its 13 December 2016 meeting to consult on a proposed policy to permit Easter Sunday trading within the Kaipara District.

The option of allowing Easter Sunday trading follows adoption of the Shop Trading Hours Amendment Act 2016 by the Government in August. The Act handed the decision on Easter Sunday Trading to local authorities meaning it is now up to the Council to develop an Easter Sunday trading policy on the issue.

During its meeting, Council opted to consult with the public on a Statement of Proposal outlining options for Easter Sunday trading. Submissions opened on 19 December and will close at 4.30pm on 03 February 2017.

The timeframe for submissions reflects the need to give employers plenty of time to consult with retail staff ahead of Easter. Under the Shop Hours Amendment Act retailers must give staff four to eight weeks' notice if they want employees to work on the religious holiday. The Act also says staff can refuse to work the holiday without risk of penalty.

Submissions can be made online at www.kaipara.govt.nz ; by emailing submissions to policy@kaipara.govt.nz , or drop off at any Council Service Centre, or by posting submissions to Private Bag 1001, Dargaville 0340.

Submitters will also have an opportunity to speak directly to Council on the issue.

For more information contact 09 439 3123