

Outdoor Seating Info Sheet

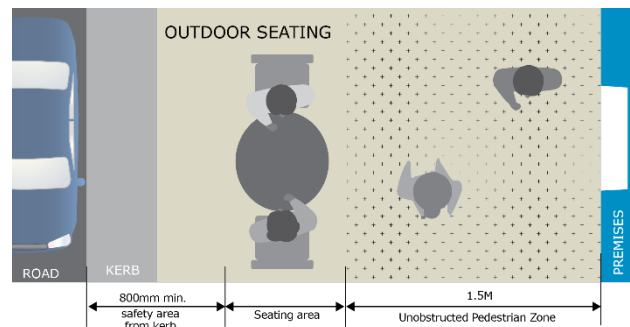
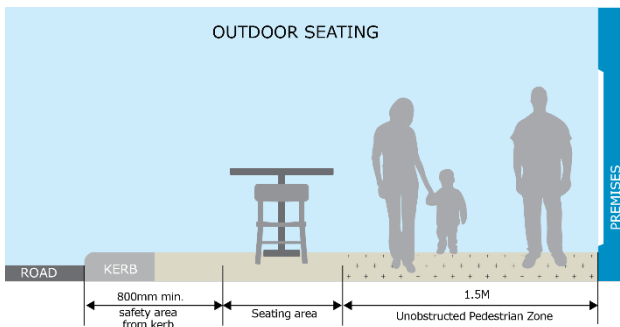
The main use for footpaths is for people to get around on foot, wheelchair or mobility scooter/device safely. Town centre footpaths are also used for a lot of other activities such as outdoor café seating and street performances. These activities add to the character and vibrancy of our towns, but they can sometimes interfere with safe pedestrian movement.

This information sheet is to help our business operators and wider community know what the rules are around placement of outdoor seating on our town centre footpaths.

The key things you need to know are:

- There has to be 1.5 metres of clear (unobstructed) footpath available for pedestrians.
- Outdoor seating cannot be placed anywhere that interferes with vehicle sightlines on the road.

An application for redefinition of the licensed area will be required if alcohol will be served/consumed in the outdoor area. This is required under the terms of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act.



Outdoor seating

- Must be adjacent to the business holder's premises, within the width of the building frontage.
- May be under verandah cover where space for the movement of people has been provided for and there is still enough room.
- The layout and position of the furniture in the seating area must allow for:
 - Unobstructed access to and from the business.
 - Easy movement throughout the seating area and for chair use.
 - At least 0.8m of footpath from the kerb to ensure safety of the patrons.
- May not be on street corners with designated pedestrian crossings or near the entry to designated pedestrian crossings.

The full Town Centre Footpath Policy can be found on our website

www.hauraki-dc.govt.nz/footpaths

Design elements (items such as tables, chairs, menu boards, umbrellas, heaters, potted plants or barriers)

- Umbrellas should not damage the footpaths and should not interfere with pedestrian movement. They also need to be securely fixed in and in the case of high winds, removed.
- Temporary barriers can be used (such as planter boxes, screens and ropes) as long as the other requirements for safe access and movement are met.
- Permanent barriers are generally not permitted on footpaths, however Council will consider this on a case by case basis. If a permanent barrier is considered necessary the cost of installation and maintenance will be covered by the business. A bond fee may be required to cover the cost of the removal and footpath reinstatement if the barriers are removed.
- Outdoor heaters are not encouraged and are not allowed to be fixed to the footpath.
- If an outdoor heater is used it must:
 - Turn off automatically if overturned.
 - Be secure to withstand the wind.
 - Not damage the footpath.
 - Be safely clear of umbrellas and verandas.
- The business operator is responsible for ensuring all the elements are kept within the outdoor seating area.
- All elements must be removed from the footpath outside of the businesses opening hours or during bad weather.

Monitoring and maintaining outdoor seating areas

- The business operator is responsible for cleaning the seating area during opening hours.
- Rubbish from cleaning outdoor seating areas must be disposed of in the businesses bins and not the Council litter bins.
- Rubbish, including cigarette butts cannot be swept from the outdoor seating area into the kerb channel or street.

Toilet facilities

- Adequate toilet facilities are required to cover both indoor and outdoor dining numbers in accordance with NZ Building Code. Additional outdoor seating may require an increase in the toilet facilities or a reduction in the indoor seating provided.

Lighting

- Outdoor seating must provide adequate lighting to Council satisfaction. Please refer to lighting rules in the Hauraki District Plan if you intend to introduce new lighting.