

TE WHAKATŪ PAKIHI HOU KI HERETAUNGA

STARTING A BUSINESS IN HERETAUNGA HASTINGS



Advice from Hastings District Council

If you're starting a new business here in Heretaunga Hastings, let us help you navigate the consents and regulations that may apply to your business venture.

Always call first before you get started. Talking to the right people early will help you make the right plans.

Customer Services can put you in touch with the right people if you're not sure who to approach first. Our officers are always pleased to have a chat and offer general advice.

In the meantime, here are some general areas we cover at Council.



TIP: Remember to check your title and lease documents or your rental agreements to ensure you're allowed to get started on any work.

Building, renovating, or changing the use of a building:

Meet a council planner to discuss your project and work out what's required, which planning applications you might need to apply for, and which specialists need to be involved. A duty building technician can help you understand the Building Act requirements.

Some things they can help you with:

- **zoning laws:** these are captured in the District Plan and tell you what you are allowed to do and where you're allowed to do it
- **consents and licences:** do you need one or more and do you understand the timeframe for getting one?
- **development contributions:** what fees may be payable on developments and subdivisions
- **neighbours:** if, how and when to let them know about activity
- **vehicle crossings/parking:** who is allowed to manage these and how they can be managed
- **environmental factors:** how to approach planning for any environmental effects.

For all rural issues, you may need to talk to the [Hawke's Bay Regional Council | New Zealand \(hbrc.govt.nz\)](https://www.hbrc.govt.nz)

Water and waste

Visit our website (search #water) for information about drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and trade waste. If you have any questions, call the Customer Services team which can connect you to the right officer.

Some things they can help you with:

- your water requirements if you will need more than the average business, or if you need extra capacity for the likes of firefighting, or if you're in a heritage building
- the requirements for managing contaminants at risk of going into stormwater
- how to manage trade waste.

For rubbish and recycling information contact the Customer Services team which will connect you to the right officer.

TIP: Search the reduce, reuse, recycle database to find out how to dispose of commercial items: [Waste Guide | Hastings District Council \(hastingsdc.govt.nz\)](#)



Licences and registrations

Some licences and registrations are essential before you open. Contact us early to understand what you need and how long it will take to ensure you can open your business when you want to.

Here are some considerations for licensing and registration

- sale of food
- sale or consumption of alcohol
- hairdressing
- funeral directing
- campgrounds
- footpath dining
- street activities or trading in a public place
- offensive trades e.g. refuse collection and disposal.

Contact a Council environmental health officer or the alcohol licensing officer through Customer Services.

Food

If you are manufacturing, preparing, packing or storing food for sale, you will need to be registered under the Food Act 2014.

Refer to the [Food section of the HDC Website](#) and look for the application forms in 'related documents'.

Contact Customer Services if you have any questions, they can connect you with the right officers.

Types of business that need to consider this include:

- cafés, takeaways, restaurants, bars and early childhood centres
- butcheries, bakeries, fruit and vegetable shops, dairies, grocers, supermarkets and service stations.

TIP: For more information, look at the Ministry for Primary Industries Frequently Asked Questions on the Food Act 2014 [Information for regulators and verifiers FAQs - Food Act 2014 \(mpi.govt.nz\)](#)

More support for you:

For economic information on Hastings, see our regional page on Infometrics: www.infometrics.co.nz/regional-profile/hastings-district/overview

For networking and advice on the region, you can reach out to the following business associations:

- Havelock North Business Association: www.havelocknorthnz.com
- Hastings City Business Association: www.hastingscity.co.nz
- Hawke's Bay Chamber of Commerce: www.hbchamber.nz

TIP: The Council's Economic Development team can provide support and direction. Contact them at business@hdc.govt.nz or through Customer Services on +64 (0) 6 871 5000 or through hastingsnz.com

Contact Hastings District Council Customer Service Centre to discuss your proposal with a Duty Planner or Duty Builder, if you're not sure who to talk to, Customer Services will point you in the right direction.

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