



Party party party.... How can Party Central expand so quickly?

Local and National Governments often blame each other when things go wrong especially with planning for international events. How can central Government patch up the size of the party fan zone and transport solutions in less than a week? Normally resource management consents are difficult to fast track.

Minister Murray McCully announced on 13 September 2011 that the overcrowding on Rugby Cup opening night has caused him to use the provisions of the Rugby World Cup Empowering Act 2010 to extend the fan zone beyond its current limits. The newly formed Auckland Council is not pleased with the intervention.

Section 55 of the Rugby World Cup Empowering Act enables the Minister, after consultation with the Authority established by the Act, the Minister of Economic Development and other relevant Ministers, to grant or decline an application for an urgent approval in full or in part. The start and finish dates and any conditions relevant to the application such as public and environmental safety must be stated in the application.

For generations tax payers have argued National, Local and Territorial Government over regulate the rights of citizens at considerable expense to those tax payers. Those employed within the organisations argue they provide a valuable financial and employment contribution to society.

Inadequate organisation of global events like the World Cup raises issues of who should pay for the financial cost the errors have caused and the need to understand what law is available to attempt to remedy those errors to reduce the embarrassment they cause. The way the Rugby World Cup Empowering Act was drafted could cause cynical readers to wonder if the problems which have arisen were almost anticipated?

Ross Fanthorpe has an interest in Constitutional and Sports law especially when they combine to create topical subject matter.



Written by
Ross Fanthorpe
Partner

DDI: (06) 768-3729
Email: Ross.Fanthorpe@gqlaw.co.nz