

The geography of smoking outside bars and cafés in the Wellington CBD

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Background

- Smoking outside of bars and restaurants may contribute to normalising smoking and hinder successful quitting



Aim

- To observe and map areas of smoking on pavements outside bars and cafés in downtown Wellington, New Zealand

Methods

- Using ArcGIS, we located
 - All building footprints in the CBD
 - All public spaces (roads, footpaths, etc)
 - 273 premises with alcohol licenses
 - 70 bars and cafes with pavement leases

Base map of Wellington CBD



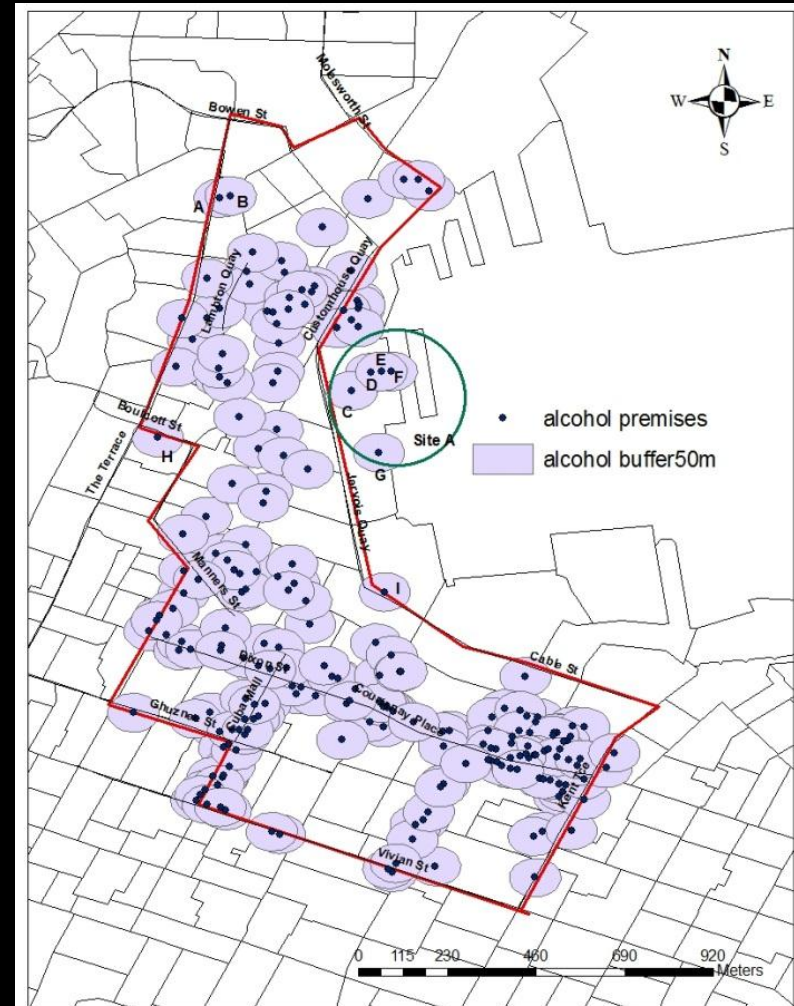
- The prevalence of smoking was observed for 14 bar/café pavement leases and averages were extrapolated to the remaining leases

Results

The mapping indicated that:

- over 60% of the CBD area was within 50 metres of a bar or café

**Area covered by 50m
radius from bars/cafes**

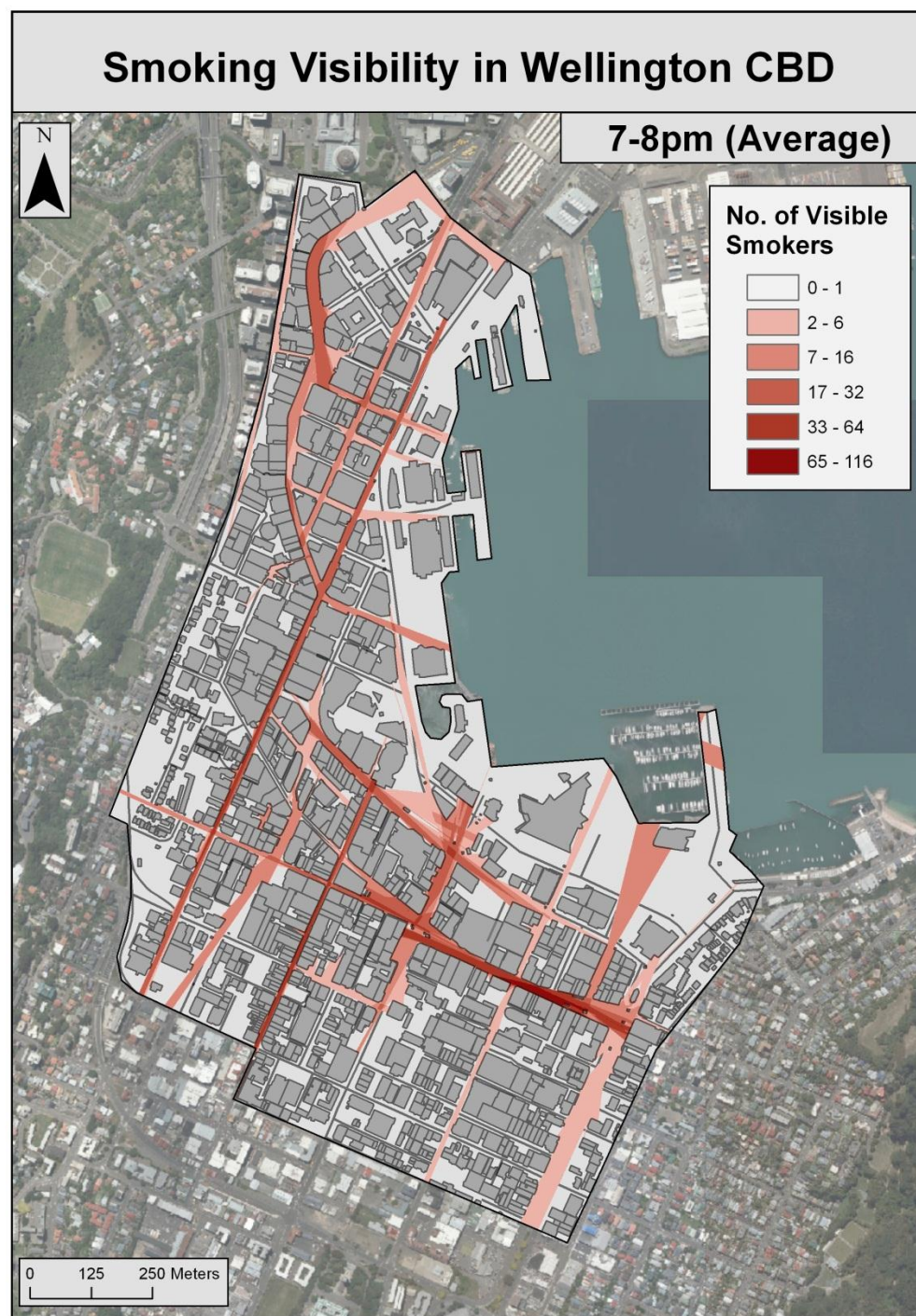


The observations indicated:

- Point smoking prevalence of 16%
- Range 0-116 smokers
- Large differences between day and evening smoking

The analysis of smoking visibility indicated:

- The primary shopping streets have the highest visibility of smoking at pavement leases, particularly in the evening



Discussion

- With available GIS software, it is possible to study the extent to which outdoor smoking around bars and restaurants on pavements can be seen
- The extent of smoking appears to normalise smoking in this downtown area
- Options include:
 - ◆ Smokefree outside areas
 - ◆ Smokefree streets

