

Kava Public Consultation

1. Is an increase to 4 kilograms of kava a suitable quantity for personal use?
Yes. People take kava on their visits to use as gifts, to use for traditional culture events if they are visiting for a wedding or funeral, to use for inviting family and friends for a social gathering and also use as a pre-sermon function at church on Sundays.
2. What are the health and social impacts of the proposal to increase the amount of kava that may be imported for personal use?
 - a. Health – Kava is widely known as a stress relieve drink in Tonga. Taken in moderation is good and does not have negative health impacts. When in excessive, it can cause skin dryness. Which is not fatal as skin can return to normal when excessive drinking is ceased.
 - b. Social – It is a friendly gathering for the Tongan men. It avoids going to bars and drinking alcohol. It is a good alternative. No one becomes abusive or loud such as that invoked by alcohol.
3. Is two years a sufficient period for the pilot?
I think so. Many Tongans travels to Australia and enough sample and information can be gathered during this period.
4. What methods of evaluation should apply to this pilot?
Paper pen questionnaire at airport.