Food Stall By-Law No. 7 of 2023

Malampa Provincial Government Council

The Malampa Provincial Government Council has established the **Food Stall By-Law No. 7 of 2023** under the Decentralization Act [CAP 230]. The By-Law sets out requirements for the **management, hygiene, permits, fees and inspection of food stalls and food vendors** operating within Malampa Province.

Its purpose is to ensure that food stalls and vendors maintain appropriate hygiene and cleanliness standards when preparing and selling food to the public.

Food Stall Hygiene and Cleanliness

All food stall owners, operators and vendors must:

- Comply with the **Public Health Act [CAP 234]**;
- Maintain a high standard of **daily cleanliness**;
- Maintain good personal hygiene;
- Keep working benches clean;
- Ensure cooking and eating utensils are clean and free from dust and dirt; and
- Maintain food stalls and surrounding areas in a condition that supports safe food preparation and sale.

Permit Requirements

Owners or operators of a food stall or room used to prepare and cook food must apply to the Council for a permit.

- **Permit application fee: VT 1,000**
- **Permit fee: VT 5,000**
- The permit fee is **non-refundable**.

Food stall operators working within the Area Councils must apply directly to their respective **Area Council** for the required permit.

Food Stall and Vendor Fees

The By-Law establishes the following fees:

Type of Stall/Vendor	Fee
Food stall or room – per month	**VT 15,000**
Open vendor – Malampa Market/Lakatoro	**VT 1,000**
Corporate – Malampa Market/Lakatoro	**VT 5,000**

Type of Stall/Vendor	Fee
Open vendor – Area Councils	**VT 500**
Corporate – Area Councils	**VT 2,000**

Payment of Fees

Fees are payable to an authorised Council officer in accordance with the approved payment period.

Open vendors receiving daily cash transactions may pay their fees **at the end of each month**. Other clients may pay their applicable fees to the Provincial Council Accountant at the end of each month for the specified period, until the Council is able to collect the fees directly.

Where fees remain unpaid for **30 days after the due date**, the Council may recover the outstanding amount as a **civil debt**.

Inspection of Food Stalls

The Malampa Provincial Government Council must conduct **at least two inspections per quarter** to ensure that food stalls and vendors comply with the Public Health Act and required cleanliness standards.

Inspections apply to:

- **Malampa Market food stalls in Lakatoro**;
- Open vendors and stalls in the surrounding Lakatoro areas;
- Open vendors and stalls around **Norsup Hospital**;
- Open vendors and stalls around **Litzlitz Wharf**; and
- Food vendors and stalls operating across all **10 Area Councils**.

Enforcement

The By-Law may be enforced by a **Provincial Health Promotion Officer** or another person appointed by the Malampa Provincial Government Council.

Offences and Penalties

A person who contravenes the provisions of the Food Stall By-Law commits an offence and, upon conviction, may be liable to a **fine of up to VT 100,000**.

If the fine is not paid, an additional **VT 1,000 per day** may apply until the fine is fully paid.

Commencement

The **Food Stall By-Law No. 7 of 2023** commences on the day it is published in the **Vanuatu Gazette**.

For further information on food stall permits, fees, hygiene requirements or inspections, please contact the Malampa Provincial Government Council or the relevant Area Council.