

Decision

19 035 2026

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND
IN THE MATTER

of an application by
Pal and Harry Company Limited
for renewal of an on-licence pursuant to
section 127 of the Act in respect of the
premises at 12 King Street East, Te Kuiti
known as The Muster Bar.

DECISION OF THE WAITOMO DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

1. The on-licence 19/ON/004/2023 in respect of the premises situated at 12 King Street East, Te Kuiti and known as The Muster Bar is renewed for a further period of 3 years. The licence may issue upon payment of the annual fee.
2. The present conditions of the licence are replaced as follows:
 - (a) Alcohol may be sold only on the following days and during the following hours:
For the interior of the premises and outdoor smoking area
9.00am to 12.30am the following day, Monday to Sunday
 - (b) **A one-way door restriction will operate from 11.00pm to 12.30am the following day, Monday to Sunday.** During these hours no person is to be admitted (or readmitted) into the premises.
 - (c) The area where alcohol is to be sold and consumed is described in the plan date stamped as received by the Waitomo District Licensing Committee on **2 June 2023** and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
 - (d) The entire premises is designated as a supervised area (no persons under 18 can be in the area unless with their parent or legal guardian).
 - (e) A properly appointed certificated, acting or temporary manager must be on duty and on the premises at all times when the premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
 - (f) A Manager's Register (as required by s.232 of the Act) is to be maintained and available on site.
 - (g) A Host Responsibility Policy must be maintained and displayed, and the licensee must ensure all staff receive training in their responsibilities and obligations under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

- (h) There must be no sale or supply of alcohol to minors or intoxicated persons. Appropriate signage outlining these restrictions must be clearly displayed at every point of sale..
- (i) Drinking water must be freely available and this must be clear to customers, while the premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
- (j) Food must be available for consumption on the premises at all times when open for the sale of alcohol. A minimum of four types of light meals must be available (excluding nuts, chips and the like). Menus and the availability should be clear to customers and food should be actively promoted.
- (k) A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must be available at all times when the premises are open for the sale of alcohol.
- (l) A telephone must be readily available for customers to arrange transport, and staff must provide assistance if needed. Contact details for alternative transport options must be clearly displayed.
- (m) The Licensee must ensure the following are displayed;
 - i) A sign to be seen from outside the principal entrance stating the ordinary hours of business during which the premises will be open for the sale of alcohol.
 - ii) A copy of the original licence with all the conditions, just inside the principal entrance so persons entering can read it.
 - iii) A sign in a prominent place identifying the duty manager.

REASONS

1. This is an application by for renewal of an on-licence in respect of the premises situated at 12 King Street East, Te Kuiti and known as The Muster Bar. This tavern has been operating from its present site for a number of years.
2. The application was advertised, and no public objections have been received. The Liquor Licensing Inspector, Police and the Medical Officer of Health have provided reports and do not oppose the application. Accordingly, the matter is decided on the papers (section 134).
3. The object of the Act is to ensure that the sale and supply of alcohol is undertaken safely and responsibly, and the harm caused by excessive or inappropriate consumption of alcohol is minimised (s 4). In deciding whether to renew an on-licence, the Licensing Committee must have regard to sections 105 and 131 of the Act. Therefore, this Committee must consider the following questions within the framework of the purpose and object of the Act:
 - a) Is the applicant suitable?
 - b) Are the days and hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol reasonable?
 - c) Is the design and layout of the premises suitable?
 - d) Does the applicant propose to engage in the sale of goods or provision of services other than those directly relating to the sale of alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments and food?
 - e) Does the applicant have appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law?
 - f) Have the police, inspector and medical officer of health raised any relevant considerations?
 - g) Will the amenity and good order of the locality be increased by more than a minor extent by the effects of a refusal to renew the licence?

- h) Has the applicant sold, displayed, advertised or promoted alcohol in a responsible manner?
- i) Does the application comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy?

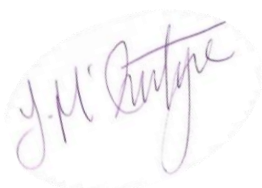
Should the licence be renewed?

- 4. The Licensing Committee is satisfied that Pal and Harry Company Limited is a suitable applicant to hold an on-licence. The company has demonstrated compliance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 and has extensive hospitality experience. The Licensing Committee is satisfied that Pal and Harry Company Limited has an appropriate Host Responsibility Policy and staff training programme. There is a pool of 5 Duty Managers employed to ensure that the sale of alcohol complies with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.
- 5. Pal and Harry Company Limited proposes to continue operating as a tavern from 9.00am to 12.30am the following day, Monday to Sunday. We are therefore satisfied that the proposed hours remain appropriate. An amendment to the Act, which came into force 3 April 2026, now allows on-licence premises to sell alcohol for on-site consumption on any day of the year, and customers no longer need to be dining or staying to be served. This means Pal and Harry Company Limited can now choose to open and operate as normal on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Anzac Day, and Christmas Day
- 6. The Licensing Inspector reports that the application does comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy.
- 7. The Licensing Committee is satisfied that suitable measures will be taken to ensure that alcohol is sold and supplied responsibly and that harm caused by inappropriate or excessive consumption of alcohol is minimised.
- 8. The Licensing Committee is satisfied that the premises has a suitable design and layout to meet the requirements of the Act. The premises is formed from the bar area, lounge with tables chairs and pool tables, gambling area, toilets and office, and an external smoking area. It is well appointed and able to be monitored effectively by the staff of the premises.
- 9. The Licensing Committee is satisfied that the renewal of the on-licence will not reduce the amenity and good order of the locality by more than a minor extent. The premises is located in the liquor ban area and there have been no reports of any nuisance or vandalism or noise problems associated with this premises in the past three years.

Conclusion

- 10. Therefore, the application for the renewal of the on-licence is granted.

Dated at this 3rd day of August 2026



Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee