

Decision	19/015/2026
<u>IN THE MATTER</u>	the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012
<u>AND</u>	
<u>IN THE MATTER</u>	of an application by Waitomo Club Inc for a special licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act

DECISION OF THE DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

1. The application for a special licence is granted. The special licence may issue immediately.
2. Waitomo Club Inc is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, on the premises situated at 10 King Street East, Te Kuiti to any person attending the ANZAC Day service on Saturday 25 April 2026.
3. This licence is subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) A copy of this licence with all the conditions must be displayed in a prominent place so all persons can read it and all staff must be familiar with the conditions.
 - (b) Alcohol may be sold under the licence only on Saturday 25 April 2025, from 8.00am to 1.00pm.
 - (c) Alcohol may be sold or supplied to people present participating in the event this licence is issued for.
 - (d) The area where alcohol is to be sold and consumed the clubs usual licenced area and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
 - (e) The holder of a manager's certificate or a properly notified manager shall be on duty and on the premises at all times alcohol is sold.
 - i. All staff will be trained in their responsibilities under the Act;
 - ii. Evidence of age documents will be requested from any person appearing to be under the age of 25.
 - iii. There must be no consumption of alcohol by staff or managers immediately before or during their shifts.
 - (f) 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.
 - (g) Drinking water must be freely available from the bar and this must be clear to customers while the premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
 - (h) Food must be available for consumption on the premises at all times the premises is open for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the menu submitted with the application for this licence: free

breakfast including sausages, bacon, hash browns and eggs. A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must be always available when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol.

- (i) A telephone must be freely available for customers to call for transport and staff must assist if required. Telephone numbers for alternative forms of transport from the premises must be displayed and a courtesy vehicle or sober driver services available.
- (j) The entire premises is undesignated.

REASONS

1. This is an application by Waitomo Club Inc for a special licence for a community ANZAC day commemoration event to be held at their premises on the 25 April 2026. This application was received more than 20 working days prior to the event as required by section 137 of the Act.
2. The Liquor Licensing Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health have no objection to this application for a special licence (s 141). Accordingly, this application is decided on the papers (s 202).
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 grant a special licence the District Licensing Committee must have regard to the criteria in s142 of the Act. Therefore, we must consider the following questions within the framework of the purpose and object of the Act:
 - a) What is the nature of the event? 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?
 - b) Is the applicant suitable?
 - c) Will the amenity and good order of the locality be reduced to more than a minor extent by the effects of the issue of the licence?
 - d) Are the days and hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol reasonable?
 - e) Is the design and layout of the premises suitable? Are any areas of the premises designated restricted or supervised areas?
 - f) Does the applicant have appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law? What steps will the applicant take to ensure that alcohol is not sold to prohibited persons?
 - g) What proposals does the applicant have in relation to the sale and supply of non-alcoholic drinks and food, low-alcohol drinks and the provision of help with or information about alternative forms of transport from the premises?
 - h) Have the Inspector, Police and Medical Officer of Health raised any relevant considerations?
 - i) Does the application comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy?
4. Sections 146 – 149 of the Act outline the compulsory and discretionary conditions for a special licence.

Should a special licence be granted?

5. Waitomo Club Inc proposes to host the annual Anzac Day service and breakfast. Up to 200 people are expected to attend this advertised event.
6. The licensing committee is satisfied that Waitomo Club Inc is a suitable applicant to hold a special licence. The club currently holds a club licence and has demonstrated compliance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. A special licence is sought to allow the applicant to sell alcohol to non-members of the club attending the event but also to extend the club's licensed hours.

7. However, the Licensing Inspector reports that the application does not comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy. Waitomo Club Inc seek to sell alcohol from 8.00am onwards but section 4(b) of the Waitomo District Council Local Alcohol Policy 2022 restricts trading beyond the hours allowed under the applicant's existing club licence, which in this case commence at 9.00am, unless determined as exceptional circumstances by the District Licensing Committee.
8. The Committee finds that the circumstances of this event meet the threshold for an exceptional circumstance. ANZAC Day is a nationally significant commemorative occasion, and the Waitomo Club has a long-standing role in providing a community-focused environment for veterans, service personnel, and their families following civic services. The extended hours sought are considered reasonable and are not intended for increased commercial trading but to appropriately accommodate the flow of commemorative activities, consistent with observing this National Day of Remembrance.
9. 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. There will be 2 duty managers who will be supported by bar staff and volunteers. All will be trained to ask anyone who looks below 25 years of age for valid ID before being served alcohol. Given the nature of the events and the venue it is not likely that the issue of the special licence will adversely affect neighbouring properties.
10. The licensing committee is satisfied that the design and layout of the premises is suitable given the temporary nature of the licence. The premises is formed of a large club room with a bar, sizeable dining area, dance floor and external grass area. There is also a large area with snooker tables, TAB facility and gaming room. The applicant will provide sufficient food, low-alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments. Free water will be provided.
11. The licensing committee is satisfied that the applicant will provide information about alternative forms of transport from the premises, will operate its courtesy van and offer a free phone for customers to call those services.

Conclusion

12. The licensing committee is satisfied that the grant of the special licence with the appropriate conditions will ensure the safe and responsible supply of alcohol and the minimisation of harm caused by excessive or inappropriate use of alcohol.
13. Therefore, the application for a special licence is granted.

Dated at this 1st day of April 2026


Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee