

Decision	19/045/2025
<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 Incorporated 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 Incorporated is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, on the premises situated at King and Taupiri Streets, Te Kuiti to any person attending the funeral service of Mr Gerard Dutton.
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 Thursday 7 November 2025, from 12noon to 7.00pm.
 - (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 is as the clubs usual licensed 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 and there must be displayed at every point of sale appropriate signs detailing these restrictions
 - (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: club bistro menu.
- (i) A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must be available at all times when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol.
- (j) 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.
- (k) The entire premises is undesignated.

REASONS

1. This is an application by Waitomo Club Incorporated for a special licence for a special licence for funeral service to be held at their premises. The application was filed less than 20 working days prior to the event, and was therefore filed late (section 137). However, a waiver is granted from the requirement to file a special licence more than 20 working days before the event, because a funeral is an unforeseen event (sections 137(2) & 208).
2. The 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, this committee 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.

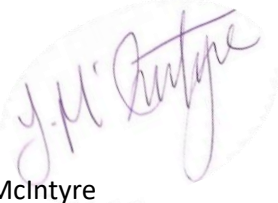
Should a special licence be granted?

5. The principal purpose of this event is to host a funeral service and gathering to celebrate Mr Dutton's life. Mr Dutton was a past president of the club and long-time club member. Approximately 100 people are anticipated to attend this event, as this is an event for close family and friends the probable age distribution is mixed (minors included). Mr Dutton's Obituary was published by the Waikato Times on 5 August 2025.
6. The licensing committee is satisfied that Waitomo Club Incorporated 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. The issue of a special licence for these events will allow the applicant to sell alcohol to non-members of the club attending the event and to extend the clubs licensed area to include an outside area just beyond the rear decking. A Duty Manager will be present on the premises for the duration of the proposed event to ensure compliance with the Act. The licensing committee is satisfied that proposed hours are reasonable.
7. The Licensing Inspector reports that the application does comply with the Waitomo District Local Alcohol Policy.
8. 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. 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.
9. The licensing committee is satisfied that the design and layout of the premises is suitable given the temporary nature of the licence. The applicant will provide sufficient food, low-alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments. Free water will be provided.
10. The licensing committee is satisfied that the applicant will provide information about alternative forms of transport from the premises, including a courtesy van and sober driver services and a free phone for customers to call those services.

Conclusion

11. 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.
12. Therefore, the application for a special licence is granted.

Dated at this 6th day of August 2025


Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee