

Decision	19/011/2025
<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 Hauwai Flats Catering Limited 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. Hauwai Flats Catering Limited is authorised to sell and supply alcohol, at the les Munro Centre premises situated at King Street East, Te Kuiti to any person attending the Māori Fresh Water Fisheries Conference, 8-9 April 2025.
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 the following days and during the following hours:
Tuesday, 8 April 2025, from 5.00pm to 7.00pm
Wednesday, 9 April 2025, from 5.00pm to 10.00pm
 - (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 described in the plan received via email by the Waitomo District Licensing Committee on 20 March 2025 and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
 - (e) A properly appointed certificated must be on duty and on the premises at all times when the premises is open for the sale of alcohol. If a duty manager is not present, then there must be no alcohol sales and a notice displayed advising the public of this fact.
 - a. All staff will be trained in their responsibilities under the Act;
 - b. Evidence of age documents will be requested from any person appearing to be under the age of 25.
 - c. 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; buffet lunch, BBQ dinner and substantial afternoon teas. Menus and the availability of food should be clear to customers and food should be actively promoted.
- (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. Sober drivers must be made available to transport patrons from the premises and this assistance must be displayed in a notice to patrons.
- (k) 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).

REASONS

1. This is an application by Hauwai Flats Catering Limited for a special licence to host the Māori Fresh Water Fisheries Conference at the Les Munro Centre. 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).
4. In deciding whether to grant a special licence the District Licensing Committee must have regard to the criteria in s 142 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?

5. The licensing committee may refuse a special licence even if there was no objection to the application (s 144). Sections 146 – 149 of the Act outline the compulsory and discretionary conditions for a special licence.

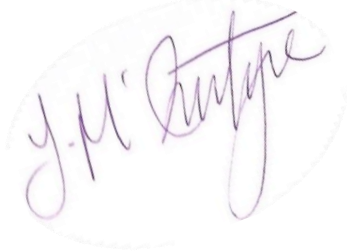
Should the special licence be granted?

6. The general nature of the event is conference. Approximately 300 people expected to attend the event. Evidence of the event was supplied with the application form in the form of the conference brochure detailing the dates, location and agenda of the two days. The licensing committee is satisfied that the proposed trading 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 Hauwai Flats Catering Limited is a suitable applicant to hold a special licence. Hauwai Flats Catering Limited is entitled to hold an on-site special licence because the company is registered on the NZ Companies Register. There are 2 certificated Duty Managers who are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Act. All staff receive training in the requirements of the Act.
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. Twenty staff will be assisting during the event, and training will be provided to staff on the night including ID, intoxication and safe consumption of alcohol. Only staff with hospitality experience will be working at the bars. All guests will be IDed prior to service. Guardians of minors are required to sign an agreement of guardianship at pre-registration and security will monitor any unaccompanied minors who will be removed. The applicant has also advised (via email 23 March 2025) that minors will be removed from the event by 4:30pm on 8 April 2025, and 8:00pm on 9 April 2025.
10. Given the nature of the event and the venue it is not likely that the issue of the special licence will adversely affect neighbouring properties. The licensing committee is satisfied that the design and layout of the premises is suitable given the temporary nature of the licence. The licenced area includes the auditorium, supper room, foyer and outside deck. Only the bar adjacent to the auditorium and supper room are to be used. The entire premises is to be a supervised area.
11. The licensing committee is satisfied that the applicant will provide sufficient food, low alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments. Free water will be provided at the bar. The use of taxi services will be promoted as a safe option for transport home from the event.

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 26th day of March 2025



Tegan McIntyre
Commissioner
Waitomo District Licensing Committee