

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **CHRISTOPHER HAYTON** for a variation to On- Licence pursuant to section 120 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, in respect of the premises situated at 40 Drews Avenue, Whanganui and known as "Brews on Drews".

BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

The application for On-Licence variation was publicly advertised on the 17 and 24 February 2026 with no objections received and no s.103 reports noted any opposition.

Therefore, the matter is considered by the Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner on the papers contained in the full file provided by the secretary in accordance with the provisions of s.202 (1) and 191(2) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

Commissioner: Stuart Hylton

RESERVED DECISION OF THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Application

The application to vary this existing licence was made on the 12 February 2026 on the prescribed form. The application seeks to vary an existing On-licence, **ON/004/2023.1**, which is due to expire on the 19 June 2027. The variation is to increase the licensed footprint to include a new On-licence area on the ground floor of the premises and to amend the trading hours.

Currently the licensed area covers the Teal Lounge located upstairs, and the application extends the licensed area to also include the downstairs area that will be known as Brews on Drews. This is shown on the amended floor plan date stamped as received by the DLC on 12 February 2026.

(2) Within the revamped downstairs space, the applicant seeks to establish an Off Licence counter and space of 2m x 2.5m. An application for a new Off-licence has been received and will follow this application. Each part of the revised premises i.e. Upstairs Teal lounge, downstairs Brews on Drews bar and the downstairs Off-licence, will have separate point of sales areas.

The applicant also seeks change to the licensed hours to cover the whole premises (On-licence only) –

Monday - Sunday 10.30AM – 11.30PM

The previous hours were 12.00pm – 11.30pm and the varied hours will match the Off-licence applications' opening hours.

Decision Making

(3) In considering this application for On-licence the District licensing Committee (here in after referred to as the 'Committee') had regard to the criteria specified under s. 120/105 of the Act.

Reporting Agencies

(4) The following reports were received under section 103 of the Act.

(5) **Police** – Report received on 11 March 2026, offering no opposition.

(6) **Medical Officer of Health** - Report received on 5 March 2026, offering no opposition.

(7) **Licensing Inspector**

Full report dated 12 February 2026. The inspector provided a comprehensive report into the application, has met the applicant and concluded that the application is complete, appears to meet the criteria for a variation of On-licence and therefore has no opposition to the application.

The applicant is Christopher David Hayton who continues as a sole trader, supported in this operation by his wife, both have relevant industry experience and are currently operating licensed premises, The Teal Lounge. There is nothing known that would raise any concern regarding the applicant's character or suitability.

The applicant has an established host responsibility policy that outlines the steps they will take to effectively manage the premises. Two certificated managers have been appointed for this application. The applicant also confirmed that if a certificated manager is not available to provide cover, the premises will not operate.

The inspector has recommended possible conditions.

Committee's Decision and Reason

(8) Based on the evidence provided to me within the complete file, lack of opposition from the relevant agencies, my assessment of s.105 criteria, I conclude that the application meets the criteria under the Act to be granted a variation of On-licence - **ON/004/2023.1**, as sought, for the premise situated at 40 Drews Avenue, Whanganui and known as "Brews on Drews".

(9) Accordingly, the variation application is **approved** for issue subject to the conditions identified in the Inspectors report.

Decision

Accordingly, the application is **Approved** for issue immediately.

Dated at Whanganui District this 5th day of April 2026.

Signed



Stuart Hylton
Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner

