

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **Dale Thomas Pullen** for a renewal of On-licence pursuant to section 127 of the Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

The application for renewal of On-licence (036/ON/005/2018) was publicly advertised in the River City Press on the 2 October 2025 along with a display notice attached to the premise in accordance with the Regulations, with no objections received.

As no matters of opposition were raised under section 102 and 103 reports; therefore, the matter was considered by the Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner on the papers contained in the full file provided by the secretary.

Commissioner: Stuart Hylton

RESERVED DECISION OF THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

1. Application

On the 29 September 2025, **Dale Thomas Pullen** on the prescribed form made application for renewal of an On-licence. Mr. Pullen is the sole operator and manager of the homestead and resides on-site in private quarters. The premises and grounds are owned by Bushy Park Limited and Forest Trust Incorporated.

The application for renewal of On-licence is in relation to the premises known as '*Bushy Park Homestead*' situated at 791 Rangitatau East Road, Whanganui. The premises is risk rated "Very Low".

The general nature of the business is that of an 'On Licence'. The renewal application seeks to renew with the same existing conditions. The premise has not come to the notice of authorities in an adverse manner during the renewal period.

The complete file included –

- The application
- Fire evacuation compliance statement
- Host Responsibility Plan
- Food/Drinks list
- Floor plan
- Photo's
- Copy of draft public notice and public display
- Existing Licence
- Reports from Police, Medical Officer of Health and Inspector

2. Decision Making

In considering this application for On-Licence the licensing committee had regard to the criteria under section 131 and 105 of the Act. Section 105 assessments were made using the inspector's full report and own assessment. I accept the inspector's assessment and recommendations.

Key matters raised in complete file including the inspector's reports were –

- The applicant is a sole trader of a Heritage Homestead run by a Trust. The homestead and facility are well used and renowned as a heritage experience for Whanganui. The applicant lives on the premises and is the sole manager.
- The premise has not come to the notice of authorities in an adverse manner during the renewal period. This is the third renewal application.
- The applicant provided a host responsibility plan that if followed should ensure the object of the Act is met.
- One manager's name (applicant) was put forward for the licence which is considered to be adequate for this type of premise. Alcohol is not a big part of the operation. The applicant resides on the premises and will be present for all functions, which are limited in number. Given the nature and scale of the business, having one certified manager is considered sufficient.
- There were no reports questioning suitability and neither do I.
- The current hours wanting to be renewed have operated without incident i.e.
Monday to Sunday, between 11.00am to 12.00 midnight.

- There is no change noted to the design and layout of the premise which appears to function well. The bar is situated in a compact room approximately 3 by 4 meters. It's size and placement (next to the billiards room on the floorplan) are well suited to the nature of the venue. No concerns have been raised regarding the design or layout of the premises.
- No CPTED or amenity or good order issues raised with renewal. There is no reason to believe the amenity and good order of the locality would likely to be increased, more than a minor extent, by the effects of a refusal to renew the licence.
- The applicant has satisfactory systems for staff training and performance.
- The application accords with the Whanganui LAP.

3 Reporting Agencies

The following reports were received under section 103 of the Act and taken into account during the decision.

3.1 Police – Report received on 7 October 2025, of no opposition.

3.2 Medical Officer of Health – Report received on 20 October 2025 highlighting that necessary records were not on site as required. Their audit summary noted there was "*No staff training program in place, no duty manager register maintained, no incident reporting system established*".

The applicant was provided resources to Dale Pullen to support his efforts toward compliance, he has since updated his records as recommended. The Medical Officer of Health is not opposed to the issue of the licence.

3.3 Licensing Inspector – Full report dated 12 November 2025. The inspector has no opposition to the application and assessed the application against s. 105 matters with no matters of opposition raised. The inspector concludes that the application is complete and appears to meet the criteria for renewal of the licence with existing conditions.

4 Conclusion

Based on the evidence provided to me within the complete file, my assessment above of section 105 matters and the past operation of the premise/licensee, I conclude that the application meets the statutory criteria to be granted a renewal of On-licence under the Act for a period of three (3) years, from the expiry date of the previous licence.

The licence will be subject to the conditions identified within the Inspectors report.

5 Decision

The application is **Approved** for issue immediately.

Dated at Whanganui District this 14th day of November 2025.

Signed



Stuart Hylton
Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner

