

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **M7 Limited** for a renewal of an 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/004/2014.4) was publicly advertised in the River City Press on the 15 January 2026 and again on 22 January 2026; along with a display notice attached to the premise in accordance with the Regulations, with no objections received.

No matters of opposition were raised under section 102 and 103 reports; therefore the matter is 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 16 December 2025, **M7 Limited** on the prescribed form made application for renewal of their On-licence.

The application for renewal of On-licence is in relation to the premises known as *'Kingsgate Hotel'* situated at 379 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui. This is the fourth renewal for the applicant and this On-licence.

The general nature of the business is that of an 'On-licence Hotel'. The renewal application seeks to renew with the same conditions. The premises have not come to the notice of authorities in an adverse manner during the renewal period.

The premises have been undergoing reconstruction following a fire in 2023 that caused extensive damage to the kitchen, restaurant, and bar areas, which have remained non-operational since that time.

During the Inspectors recent inspections, the scale and pace of the reconstruction appeared to be progressing well, with all building works now nearing completion. The applicant has advised that they expect the works to be fully completed by July 2026.

The applicant does not seek any changes to the existing licence.

The Inspector's report notes – *"The applicant seeks renewal of their On-Licence for the entire interior area: **Monday to Sunday (7 days) 8:00 AM to 2:00 AM the following day** and where the bar/restaurant area is **'Supervised'** and the rest of the Licensed Premises is **'Undesignated'**. This is in keeping with their practice to be a family-style accommodation option supported by a bar and restaurant service.*

The entire venue is dedicated to business as a full-service hotel complimented by those services provided by alcohol licenses (On and Off). The building is purpose built for such activities and can host modest size conference attendance. No adverse events or compliance concerns are known or recorded against this applicant. It is this Inspector's conclusion that the applicant has at all times operated their existing Off-licence in a professional and responsible manner".

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 consideration of 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 private company incorporated in 1995 with one director and two shareholders.

- The premises have not come to the notice of authorities in an adverse manner during the renewal period. This is the fourth renewal.
- The applicant provided a host responsibility plan that if followed should ensure the object of the Act is met.
- Two certified manager's names were put forward for the licence with the applicant advising they are in the process of appointing three more. The applicants are 'hands on' in the business. The applicant appears to have appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law.
- There were no reports questioning suitability and neither do I.
- The existing hours wanting to be renewed have operated without incident i.e. **Monday to Sunday, between 8.00am to 2.00am, the following day (with a one way door policy starting at 12.00midnight)**
- Floor plan provided works well for the general nature of the business held on the premises. The general premises will continue to be '**Undesignated**' with the 'Restaurant and Bar' designated '**Supervised**'. The premises have been undergoing extensive renovations following a fire in the restaurant. The applicant has advised that the restaurant and bar are expected to reopen in July 2026.
- 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 excellent systems for staff training and performance.
- The application accords with the 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 – No opposition within report dated 5 January 2026.

3.2 Medical Officer of Health – Report received on 27 January 2026, of no opposition.

3.3 Licensing Inspector – Full report dated 25 March 2026. The inspector has no opposition to the application and assessed the application against s. 105 matters with no matters of opposition raised.

4 Conclusion

The premises restaurant or bar has not operated at full capacity since an extensive fire in 2023 and has undergone extensive work of late to reinstate the premises to working capacity.

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 as listed in the Inspectors report.

The Committee expects that the licensee will continue to operate those parts of the licensed premises that have the appropriate building compliance certificates to do so and that full operations will resume in the not-too-distant future when CCC's and/or CoPU are issued.

5 Decision

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

Dated at Whanganui District this 22nd day of April 2026.

Signed

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Stuart Hylton
Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner

