

**IN THE MATTER**

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act  
2012

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER**

of an application by **Ocean 1313 Limited** 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/001/2020.3) was publicly advertised in the River City Press on the 8 and 21 August 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 17 December 2025, **Ocean 1313 Limited** on the prescribed form made application for renewal of an On-licence. This is the third renewal application by the licensee.

The application for renewal of On-Licence is in relation to the premises known as 'Stellar Bar and Restaurant and Vic Bar' situated at 2A Victoria Avenue, Whanganui. The premises has a risk rating of 'medium'.

The general nature of the business is that of a 'Tavern Type On-licence' and includes an outdoor public place licensed area. The renewal application seeks to renew with the same conditions. The premise has not come to the notice of authorities in an excessive manner during the renewal period.

The Committee previously renewed the licence for a truncated period following a hearing where the agencies opposed the licence renewal due to alcohol-related harm in and around the premises. The Committee gave the applicant twelve months to work with the agencies to implement the necessary procedures and training to bring the premises 'into line'.

The Inspector has reported – *"Based on the information received, they have made consistent progress in line with the Committee's expectations. The applicant, together with staff and contracted security personnel, has completed refresher training and conducted a review of incident recording and reporting procedures to enhance compliance and accountability. The applicant has further provided a letter describing measures taken to improve their progress towards consistent compliance."*

This is pleasing to hear.

The complete file included –

- The application
- Fire evacuation compliance statement
- Host Responsibility Plan
- Owner permission letter
- 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 report were –

- The applicant is a private company who has operated the licence during the truncated renewal period with consistent progress on areas needing to be improved since last years hearing. The applicant has named four managers for the licence which is seen as adequate for this type of licence.
- The premise has not come to the notice of authorities in regard to SSAA matters in an adverse manner during the renewal period. The applicant is a private company with one Director and two Shareholders.
- The applicant provided an updated host responsibility plan that if followed should ensure the object of the act is met.
- The applicant appears to have adopted appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law.
- The Inspector concludes that applicant's suitability is not challenged.
- The hours wanting to be renewed are -

**Interior: Monday to Sunday, between 8.00am to 2.00am the following day.**

**Exterior: Monday to Sunday, between 9.00am to 11.00pm.**

There are no reports opposing these hours.

- Floor plan provided works well for the general nature of the business held on the premises. The licensed area is to be '**supervised**' apart from gaming room which is Restricted.
- 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 current LAP. The proposed LAP that comes into force from 12 January 2026 will incorporate a one-way door policy which will restrict entry from midnight onwards. We will stipulate a revised one-way door condition to take effect from this date.

### 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 2 September 2025, of no opposition. Police have also noted marked improvements in operational standards following the structured training.

**3.2 Medical Officer of Health** – Report received on 28 August 2025, of no opposition. This report notes that since the previous opposition, the licensee has been more present on-site and has put systems in place with help from Council and Police.

**3.3 Licensing Inspector** – Full report dated 28 September 2025. The Inspector has conducted three inspections during the truncated renewal period, all of which have complied. The inspector concludes that "*the applicant has demonstrated relevant experience and a clear commitment to the safe and responsible sale of alcohol. They have actively adopted improved practices to reduce harm at their premises and now consistently uphold compliance standards. After reviewing the application and inspecting the premises, I am satisfied that the applicant meets the criteria under section 105(b) and consider them suitable to hold an On-licence at this time.*"

### 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 by **Ocean 1313 Limited** 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 current conditions with the following additional condition –

*That from the 12 January 2026, or the date when the Council's LAP officially becomes operative, the premises one-way door restriction will apply from 12:00 midnight.*

## 5 Decision

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

**Dated at Whanganui District this 6 day of October 2025.**

**Signed**



**Stuart Hylton**  
**Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner**

