

Application number: 036/SOL/057/2025

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012


AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **Robe Wine Company Limited** for an Off style special-licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act on the occasion of a 'winery cellar door Pop-Up event'.

BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Chairperson
Mr Stuart Hylton



DECISION

1. Introduction

This is an application by **Robe Wine Company Limited** for a special licence (OFF-type) in regard to a pop-up event to be held at Victoria House – Porridge Watson, located at 30 Drews Avenue, Whanganui. The applicant has submitted a request for a special licence to permit off-licence wine sales during the event. The applicant intends to offer wine tastings of their products, with each sample limited to 30ml. Following the tastings, attendees will have the opportunity to purchase wine for consumption off the premises.

Porridge Watson currently holds an on licence for the venue and the applicant intends to set up their off licence stall in the outside courtyard area.

The dates and hours sought are

- **Friday 17 October 2025 3:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

2. Application

The application was received on 11 September 2025 and included a site plan, menu and supporting letters.

The application was not advertised and no objection or notice of desire to be heard has been received under section 141 of the Act. Accordingly, we deal with the matter on the papers in accordance with section 202(1).

In considering the application for special licence the committee had regard to the following criteria under section 142 of the Act:

- (a) *the object of this Act:*
- (b) *the nature of the particular event for which the licence is sought and, in particular, —*
 - (i) *whether the applicant is engaged in, or proposes at the event to engage in, the sale of goods other than alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments, and food, and if so, which goods; and*
 - (ii) *whether the applicant is engaged in, or proposes at the event to engage in, the provision of services other than those directly related to the sale of alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments, and food, and if so, which services:*
- (c) *the suitability of the applicant:*
- (d) *any relevant local alcohol policy:*
- (e) *whether (in its opinion) the amenity and good order of the locality would be likely to be reduced, by more than a minor extent, by the effects of the issue of the licence:*
- (f) *the days on which and the hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol:*
- (g) *the design and layout of the premises concerned:*
- (h) *whether the applicant has appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law:*
- (i) *any areas of the premises that the applicant proposes should be designated as restricted areas or supervised areas:*
- (j) *any steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure that the requirements of this Act in relation to the sale and supply of alcohol to prohibited persons are observed:*
- (k) *the applicant's proposals relating to—*
 - (i) *the sale and supply of non-alcoholic drinks and food; and*
 - (ii) *the sale and supply of low-alcohol drinks; and*
 - (iii) *the provision of help with or information about alternative forms of transport from the premises:*

(l) any matters dealt with in any report from the Police, the Medical Officer of Health, or an inspector made under [section 141](#).

3. Reporting Agencies

The following reports were received under section 141 of the Act.

Police Report – No opposition within report dated 6 October 2025.

Medical Officer of Health – No opposition within report received on 30 September 2025 provided conditions suggested are adhered to.

Licensing Inspector Report – Full report provided by the inspector including assessment of application against section 142 criteria. The Inspector concludes that the application is complete and will likely meet the criteria of the Act. Draft conditions are also offered by the inspector.

The application file and inspectors report raised the following pertinent points –

- The applicant is a company who have experience in this type of special licence in other Districts with no apparent issues. The applicant is familiar with licensing matters and laws.
- Suitability is not challenged.
- A floor plan was provided with the application showing the proposed licenced area which is in the courtyard area unless inclement weather when the stall will be out the back room of the main bar.
- The hours appear relevant for the events being undertaken.
- A certified manager has been nominated for the licence.
- A '**supervised**' designation for the licensed area is supported for this type of event.
- Both the Police and MOH have no opposition to the application.

The Inspector states *"Robe has confirmed that only his own brand of wines will be offered, as this is a promotional event. I also contacted the New Plymouth licensing inspector, who advised that Robe Wines has held similar events in their district without any reported issues or concerns. Based on that feedback, I'm confident the event will be managed appropriately"*

I concur with the inspector's assessment of the application.

4. Decision

Accordingly, the application for Special Licence is **Approved** for issue subject to the conditions outlined in the inspector's report.

DATED at Whanganui this 8th day of October 2025.



Secretary
Whanganui District Licensing Committee

