

**Application number:**

**036/SOL/087/2025**

**IN THE MATTER**

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER**

of an application by **Roots Brewing Company Limited** for an Off style special-licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act on the occasion of the 'Whanganui Christmas Night Markets 2025'.

**BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Commissioner  
Mr S G Hylton



**DECISION**

**1. Introduction**

This is an application by **Roots Brewing Company Limited** for a special licence (OFF-type) in regard to an event to be held at the Whanganui Racecourse, Whanganui . The nature of the event for which the licence is sought is the "Whanganui Christmas Night Markets 2025".

**The dates and hours sought are –**

- **Sunday 14 December 2025, between 2.00pm and 8.00pm.**

**2. Application**

The application was received on 16 November 2025 and included a site plan, menu, permission letters from site manager 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 received on 24 November 2025.

**Medical Officer of Health** – No opposition within report received on 21 November 2025.

**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 proposing to be an individual stall holder within a larger expo-style event. The total number of patrons attending the site are likely to spread attendance over the day/evening and the many other sites.
- This site is used by the applicant for previous events and is unchanged in design and purpose, permanent structures are in place on 3 sides and the front entrance is demarcated using ropes. A more detailed site plan was provided by the applicant on 20/11/2025 and added to the file. The applicant has confirmed that the off-licence sales will only relate to his own products.
- The applicant is a certified manager with licensed hospitality experience and has successfully hosted similar events in the past. Previous events have been subject to formal compliance inspections by both the Inspector and Police, with no concerns or instances of non-compliance identified.
- The applicant has experience in managing similar events and the event organiser provides security and other safety processes to the entire venue.
- This application is to allow the applicant to sell their alcohol at the special event for consumption on site at the Christmas Market at the Whanganui Racecourse. They have a stall area at the event.
- Suitability is not challenged.
- The area is part of the event and has been used for this purpose before. The issuing of a special licence should not reduce the amenity and good order of the locality.
- The licensed area layout was provided and is a particular site that will be demarcated.
- The hours appear relevant for the event being undertaken.
- A certified manager has been nominated for the licence. Other security persons will be present.
- A non-designation for the licensed area is supported for this type of event.
- Both the Police and MOH have no opposition to the application.

I concur with the inspector's assessment and conditions for the proposed events.

### 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 25<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025.

  
**Secretary**  
**Whanganui District Licensing Committee**

