

DECISION

036/SOL/100/2025

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **Rory Smith** for a special-licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act on the occasion of the '**Whanganui Vintage Weekend Shindig 2026**' event.

BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Commissioner
Mr S G Hylton



DECISION

1. Introduction

This is an application by **Rory Smith** for a special licence in regard to an event to be held at 1A-C Taupo Quay, Whanganui. The nature of the events for which the licence is sought is the annual '**Whanganui Vintage Weekend Shindig 2026**'.

The date and hours sought are –

- **Sunday, 18 January 2026, between 1.00pm and 8.00pm;**

2. Application

The application was received on 24 November 2025. The application included a floor plan and site plan.

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.

Medical Officer of Health – No opposition.

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 inspector also noted the following pertinent points in their report –

- The applicant is a private individual who has organised this event during previous years with no apparent issues. This event is the annual heritage weekend shindig.
- The applicant has described this as a 'Family oriented Festival' with music being part of the Whanganui Vintage Weekend Festival. The applicant will provide a small venue providing alcoholic beverages within a fenced off area within the festival grounds. This application is for an on-licence where the licensed area is limited to their Stall site (Bar).
- The applicant estimates that the event may attract up to 1000 people (attendance spread over the entire festival venue) and where their stall area will likely host less than 50 people at any time. The licensed area is restricted to their stall area only.
- Previous events have been run without apparent incident.
- Suitability is not challenged.
- The area is part of the riverside public place and will be demarcated by fencing and structures. The event should not reduce amenity and good order of the locality.
- The area is suitable for the event and layout has been suitable in the past.
- The hours appear reasonable for the events.
- Rory Smith, a non-certified manager, is nominated as manager for the licence. The inspector has no concerns about his suitability. A s. 213(2) waiver is sought and recommended.
- The '**Supervised**' designation for the event is supported.
- Both the Police and MOH have no opposition to 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 18th day of December 2025.



Secretary
Whanganui District Licensing Committee

