

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **Sandhu Brothers Limited** for a renewal of Off-licence pursuant to section 127 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, in respect of the premises situated at 379 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui and known as "Big Barrel Victoria Avenue".

BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

The application for renewal of off-Licence was advertised in the Whanganui Chronicle on the 28 July and 4 August 2023 with no objections received. The required public notice to the exterior of the premises was also displayed in statutory compliance. No matters of opposition were raised under section 128 and 129 reports; therefore the matter was considered by the Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner on the papers contained in the full file provided by the secretary in accordance with the provisions of s.202 (1) and 191(2) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

Commissioner: Stuart Hylton

RESERVED DECISION OF THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Application

(1) The premises at 379 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui, is currently operating as an off licence 'Bottlestore' (036/OFF/004/2019.1) and this application is to renew the licence. This is the second renewal of this particular licence.

(2) The application to renew was made on 28 July 2023 on the prescribed form. The application seeks to renew with the same existing conditions. The general nature of the business will continue to be that of a 'Bottlestore'. The premises are designated 'supervised'.

(3) The applicant has been operating for four years at this site with no apparent compliance issues noted. The applicant operates a number of similar type premises locally and nationally. The premises has not come to the notice of enforcement agencies during the renewal period.

- (4) The complete file that I received included –
- The application
 - Certificate of incorporation
 - Licensed Premises Policy
 - Copy of current licence
 - Floor Plan
 - Principal entrance photos etc
 - Copy of renewal advertisement
 - Letter stating the premise is exempt from having an evacuation of premises scheme
 - Reports from Police, Medical Officer of Health and Inspector

Decision Making

(5) In considering this application for renewal of Off-Licence the District Licensing Committee (here in after referred to as "the Committee") had regard to the criteria specified under s. 131 of the Act.

(6) the object of this Act:

The Inspector has inquired into the application seeking evidence that the object of the Act will be complied with under this licence. It's noted that the applicant has not failed any controlled purchase operation or committed any offence that would suggest renewing the licence would result in the object of the Act not be complied with. We agree. The applicant also has suitable policies and manuals that if followed should ensure the Act is complied with.

(7) the suitability of the applicant:

The applicant is an experienced private company incorporated in 2005. The applicant supplied two names of certified managers to be employed on the premises, which is seen as sufficient. There are no matters raised in

the reports indicating any non-compliance issues over the renewal period and an inspection of the premises by the inspector recently revealed no non-compliance issues.

The inspector and reporting agencies do not challenge suitability of the applicant and neither does the Committee.

(8) any relevant local alcohol policy:

The licence and its conditions accords with the LAP together with a new condition around maintaining a register of significant alcohol related incidents.

(9) the days on which and the hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol:

Applicant has applied for the same hours as previous which have operated without incident.

- **Monday to Sunday 9.00am to 10.00pm**

(10) the design and layout of any proposed premises:

A long standing existing premise with no design and layout issues reported. The premise is a simple open layout with good visibility. A 'supervised' designation is applied for again and supported.

(11) whether (in its opinion) the amenity and good order of the locality would be likely to be reduced, to more than a minor extent, by the effects of the issue of the licence:

I accept the inspectors assessment that there have been no complaints about nuisance type offences in the area in the past and in her opinion the amenity and good order of the locality would unlikely to improve by more than a minor extent if the licence was not renewed.

(12) whether the applicant has appropriate systems, staff, and training to comply with the law:

The applicant has nominated two managers of varied experience and skills and runs its own in-house checks of staff. The inspector's report notes the applicant has complied with compliance aspects of the license, maintains excellent staff training programmes and never failed a Police CPO.

Reporting Agencies

(13) The following reports were received under section 103/129 of the Act.

(14) **Police** – No opposition.

(15) **Medical Officer of Health** - Report received on 21 August 2023, offering no opposition.

(16) **Licensing Inspector**

Full report dated 31 August 2023. The inspector provided, amongst other things, his assessment of the application in relation to the Act. She also assessed the application against s105 criteria. This assessment has been referred to in this report.

The inspector concluded that the application is complete and having regard to the required criteria together with the performance of the applicant, she has no opposition to the application being renewed.

Committees Decision and Reasons

(17) Based on the evidence provided to me within the complete file, lack of opposition from the relevant agencies and my assessment above, I conclude that the application meets the s. 105/131 criteria under the Act to be granted renewal of an Off-licence for the premise situated at 379 Victoria Avenue, Wanganui, to be known as 'Big Barrel Victoria Avenue'.

(18) Accordingly the application is **approved** for **renewal for three years** subject to the existing conditions and payment of any outstanding fees, if any.

Dated at Wanganui District this 1st day of September 2023.

Signed



Stuart Hylton
Wanganui District Licensing Commissioner

