

**APPLICATION No.**

**036/SOL/106/2025**

**IN THE MATTER**

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER**

of an application by **Sunflour Trading Limited** for a special licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act on the occasion of the 'Caboodle Street Festival'.

**BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Commissioner  
Mr S G Hylton



**DECISION**

**1. Introduction**

This is an application by **Sunflour Trading Limited** for a special licence in regard to a proposal to extend the licensed hours and area to include the existing seating directly in front of the Blend Café, located on a closed road outside 136 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui. The nature of the event for which the licence is sought is the annual 'Caboodle Street Festival'.

The venue comprises the existing licensed café premises and extends onto the footpath area (approximately two metres), which is already delineated with barriers and previously formed part of the licensed area. For the duration of the event, the Victoria Avenue carriageway will be closed to traffic, thereby accommodating the extended licensed area. In accordance with established practices relating to licensed activities hosted outdoors within the central business district, the event will conclude at the required close-off time of 11:00pm for outdoor licensed activities known as the "Caboodle." The current on-licence hours for the premises are Tuesday to Sunday, 9.00am to 3.00pm. The applicant is seeking an extension of those licensed hours for the duration of Vintage Weekend, together with approval for the use of the outdoor seating area described above.

**The date and hours sought are -**

- **Saturday 17 January 2026**                   **10.30am to 11.00pm**
- **Sunday 18 January 2026**                   **10.30am to 11.00pm**
- **Monday 19 January 2026**                   **10.30am to 11.00pm**

**2. Application**

The application was received on the 16 December 2025 and included a site plan, event flyer, manager's certificates and menu. A waiver was issued by this Committee for it being applied for late.

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 17 December 2025.

**Medical Officer of Health** – No opposition within report received on 18 December 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.

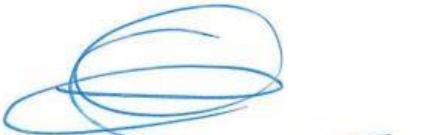
The complete file including inspectors report noted the following pertinent points—

- The applicant has a substantive licence for the Blend bar requires a special for extended hours and outside service for the event. This is the first time the applicant has held a special licence event. The event is expected to attract around 100 attendees to the premises.
- This is an annual event as part of Heritage Weekend and the applicant is new to this event.
- The applicant has not hosted similar events previously although they are a hospitality professional, and this application seeks to supplement their usual café/dining services with a licensed beverage option. The applicant provides a known and certified manager who will support compliance management throughout the event duration.
- The applicant has not come to notice of authorities previously.
- Suitability is not challenged.
- The area is a licensed café and the public footpath that is part of the premises usual dining experience. The footpath area is well demarcated. It is in the CBD. An extra special licence for this type of event should not reduce amenity and good order of the locality.
- The hours appear reasonable for the event being undertaken.
- A certified manager is nominated for the event and will be supported by other staff.
- A no designation for the whole licensed area has been recommended and supported. The area is shown on the marked-up plan and should be clearly delineated on the day.
- Both the Police and MOH have no opposition to the application.

### 4. Decision

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

**DATED** at Whanganui this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 2025.

  
 Secretary  
 Whanganui District Licensing Committee

