

**Application number: 036/SOL/021/2025**

**IN THE MATTER**

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER**

of an application by **Whanganui Distilling Company Limited** for an Off style special-licence pursuant to section 138 of the Act on the occasion of the 'Whanganui River Markets'.

**BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Commissioner  
Mr S G Hylton



**DECISION**

**1. Introduction**

This is an application by **Whanganui Distilling Company Limited** for a special licence (OFF-type) in regard to a series of events to be held weekly at the Whanganui River (Farmers and Traders) Market event, alongside the Whanganui River, 7 Taupo Quay, Whanganui . The nature of the event for which the licence is sought is the "Whanganui River Markets".

The dates and hours sought are:

**8:30 AM – 1:00 PM, every Saturday between 7 June 2025 and 30 May 2026.**

**2. Application**

The application was received on 25 March 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 dated 31 March 2025.

**Medical Officer of Health** – No opposition within report received on 27 March 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 an off-licence for distilled gin they make and wholesale. They have operated an off-style licence from this market for the past year with no apparent issues noted. The applicant is familiar with licensing matters and laws. They have also run similar type special licences to this before with no apparent issue.
- This application is for 52 weeks of the year at Whanganui's premier market on Saturday mornings. In terms of the particular single event in respect of which the application is made, the applicant is provided a stall (147) at a weekly Farmers/Traders Market where they host a (gin) tasting opportunity of their products and provide their distilled products for sale for later consumption off-site (Off Licence).
- Suitability is not challenged.
- A floor plan (area plan) was provided with the application showing the proposed licenced area (being stall 147). The applicant requests the entire delineated area to be undesignated for the duration of the event. The licensed area is delineated by structure and design and will be demarcated by structure and fencing. The issuing of a special licence should not reduce the amenity and good order of the locality.
- The hours appear relevant for the events 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 and market.
- Both the Police and MOH have no opposition to the application.

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 inspectors report.

**DATED** at Whanganui this 31 March 2025.



Secretary  
**Whanganui District Licensing Committee**

