

Application number: **036/SOL/079/2025**
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 an event called 'Mainstreet Christmas Market'.

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 an event held at Majestic Square, 98 Victoria Avenue Whanganui. The nature of the event for which the licence is sought is called "Mainstreet Christmas Market".

The dates and hours sought are -

- **Sunday 7 December 2025** **12.00 midday to 5.00pm**

2. Application

The application was received on 24 October 2025 and included a site plan, menu, permission letters from site owner and supporting letters.

The application is to allow the sale of alcohol at a particular occasion or event where there is no existing licence in force for people to attend the event

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 13 November 2025.

Medical Officer of Health – No opposition within report received on 6 November 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 has an off-licence for distilled gin they make and wholesale. The applicant is familiar with licensing matters and laws. They have also run similar type special licences to this before with no apparent issue.
- The applicant anticipates that the event may attract up to 100 people (small event) over the period of the licensed time and any attendance to this stall is restricted to persons aged 18 years and over or are accompanied by their legal guardian (Supervised). The event is held at a market with stalls provided where people present various fresh and local produce and or products for sale to the public.
- Suitability is not challenged.
- The proposal is to provide a licensed stall, with other vendors, within an established retail space. The issuing of a special licence should not reduce the amenity and good order of the locality.
- The venue provides a market day experience with various stalls providing food, produce, craft/gift products, various alcohol tastings with a seasonal Xmas theme.
- The hours appear relevant for the events being undertaken.
- A certified manager has been nominated for the licence.
- A 'supervised' 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 event.

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 17th day of November 2025.



Secretary
Whanganui District Licensing Committee

