

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **Value Kitchen Limited** for a renewal of On-licence pursuant to section 127 of the Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

BEFORE THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

The application for renewal of On-licence (036/ON/001/2025.1) was publicly advertised in the Whanganui Chronicle on 22 January 2026 and again 29 January 2026, along with a display notice attached to the premise in accordance with the Regulations, with no objections received.

As no matters of opposition were raised under section 102 and 103 reports; therefore, the matter was considered by the Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner on the papers contained in the full file provided by the secretary.

Commissioner: Stuart Hylton

RESERVED DECISION OF THE WHANGANUI DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

1. Application

On the 15 January 2026, **Value Kitchen Limited** on the prescribed form made application for renewal of an On-licence. This is the first renewal application by the licensee.

The application for renewal of On-licence is in relation to the premises known as 'Japanese Kitchen WA' situated at Shop 'C', 92 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui.

The general nature of the business will remain that of a 'Restaurant Style On-licence'. The renewal application seeks to renew with existing conditions, and the premise has not come to the notice of authorities in an adverse manner during the renewal period.

The complete file included –

- The application
- Fire evacuation compliance statement
- Host Responsibility Plan
- Owner permission letter
- Food/Drinks list
- Floor plan
- Photo's
- Copy of draft public notice and public display
- Existing Licence
- Reports from Police, Medical Officer of Health and Inspector

2. Decision Making

In consideration of this application for On-Licence the licensing committee had regard to the criteria under section 131 and 105 of the Act. Section 105 assessments were made using the inspector's full report and own assessment. I accept the inspector's assessment and recommendations.

Key matters raised in the complete file, including the inspector's report, were –

- The applicant is a private company who has operated the licence during the renewal period without apparent issue. This is their first renewal. The applicant has named two managers for the licence which is considered suitable for this type of licence.
- The premise has not come to the notice of authorities in regard to SSAA matters in an adverse manner during the renewal period.
- The applicant provided a host responsibility plan that if followed should ensure the object of the act is met.
- The applicant appears to have appropriate systems, staff and training to comply with the law.
- The Inspector concludes that the applicant's suitability is not challenged.
- The inspector recommends the license includes a discretionary LAP condition of - *Record and maintain a register of significant alcohol related incidents and have that register available for inspection by an enforcement officer at any time during trading hours.* This condition is supported by the Committee.
- The hours wanting to be renewed are -
Monday to Sunday (7 days) 10:00am to 11:00pm
- No changes have been made to the premises' design or layout, including the small enclosed and paved courtyard at the main entrance. The proposed licensed area remains consistent with the previously approved footprint and continues to be effectively managed. Site inspections undertaken on 30 October 2025 and 9 February 2026 confirm that staff maintain clear oversight of all areas. The current

non-designation has supported the premises' operation as a restaurant, and with no changes proposed to service style or management, the existing systems appear sufficient to ensure compliance, prevent nuisance, and manage risk. The licensed area is clearly identified on the plan date-stamped 15 January 2026 by Whanganui District Council.

- No CPTED or amenity or good order issues raised with renewal. There is no reason to believe the amenity and good order of the locality would likely to be increased, more than a minor extent, by the effects of a refusal to renew the licence.
- The applicant has satisfactory systems for staff training and performance.

3 Reporting Agencies

The following reports were received under section 103 of the Act and taken into account during the decision.

3.1 Police – No opposition within report dated 16 February 2026.

3.2 Medical Officer of Health – Report received on 9 February 2026, of no opposition.

3.3 Licensing Inspector – Full report dated 20 February 2026. The inspector has no opposition to the application and assessed the application against s. 105 matters with no matters of opposition raised.

The Inspector notes – *"Overall, the restaurant appears to be well managed and continues to demonstrate compliance with licensing requirements. I have no concerns regarding the renewal"*.

4 Conclusion

Based on the evidence provided to me within the complete file, my assessment above of section 105 matters and the past operation of the premise/licensee, I conclude that the application by **Value Kitchen Limited** meets the statutory criteria to be granted a renewal of On-licence under the Act for a period of three (3) years, from the date of this decision.

The license will be subject to the recommended conditions outlined in the Inspectors report.

5 Decision

Accordingly, the application is **Approved** for issue immediately.

Dated at Whanganui District this 27th day of February 2026.

Signed

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Stuart Hylton
Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner

