

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **Multiplex Cinemas 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/002/2022.2) was publicly advertised in the Whanganui Chronicle on 3 June 2026 along with a display notice attached to the premise in accordance with the Regulations, with no objections received.

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 5 June 2026, **Multiplex Cinemas Limited** on the prescribed form made application for renewal of their On-licence. This is the licensee's second renewal of the licence.

The application for renewal of On-licence is in relation to the premises known as '*Embassy 3 Cinema's*' situated at 34 Victoria Avenue, Whanganui. The premises has a risk rating of 'very low'.

The general nature of the business is that of a 'Theatre Style On-licence'. The premises operate solely as a cinema entertainment venue, with alcohol service provided as a complementary part of the overall customer experience under the On-Licence. The building is purpose-built for this activity and can accommodate up to 450 patrons.

The renewal application seeks to renew with the same existing conditions. The premises have 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
- 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 sections 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 complete file including the inspector's reports were –

- The applicant is a private company that has run this licence for four years now following a hearing held by the DLC to determine and consider concerns raised by original submitters. The license is low risk with low quantities of alcohol consumed.
- The Inspector reports that all the DLC conditions have been complied with in the past three years.
- The premises have not come to the notice of authorities in an adverse manner during the renewal period. This is the second renewal application.
- The applicant provided a host responsibility plan that if followed should ensure the object of the Act is met.
- The applicant has appointed three certificated managers for the operation, two more than last renewal, which is to be commended. Alcohol is not a big part of the operation.
- There were no reports questioning suitability and neither do I.
- The current hours wanting to be renewed have operated without incident i.e.

Monday to Sunday, between 11.30am to 10.00pm

- There are no changes to the design and layout of the premises. The licensed area is more precisely identified on the plan date stamped as received by Whanganui District Council on 5 June 2026.
- 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. A review of the premise records during the inspector's visit did not raise any concerns. A training register and records of were available and current.
- The application accords with the Whanganui LAP.

3 Reporting Agencies

The following reports were received under section 103 of the Act and considered during the decision.

3.1 Police – No opposition recorded within report dated 24 June 2026.

3.2 Medical Officer of Health – No opposition recorded within report dated 24 June 2026.

3.3 Licensing Inspector – Full report dated 23 June 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 in her report - *"Based on my observations, the premises are professionally managed and continue to operate in accordance with the requirements of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 and the conditions of the licence. I am not aware of any compliance issues, enforcement matters, or adverse incidents associated with the premises"*. The inspector concludes that the application is complete and appears to meet the criteria for renewal of the licence with existing conditions.

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 meets the statutory criteria to be granted a renewal of On-licence under the Act for a period of three (3) years, from the expiry date of the previous licence.

The licence will be subject to the conditions recommended within the Inspectors report.

5 Decision

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

Dated at Whanganui District this 9th day of July 2026.

Signed



Stuart Hylton
Whanganui District Licensing Commissioner

