

DECISION NUMBER

32/ON/4481/2024

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by **Pure Turoa Limited** for an On-licence pursuant to section 100 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, in respect of the premises situated at the Turoa Ski Area, Mount Ruapehu and known as 'Snowflake Cafe'.

BEFORE THE RUAPEHU DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

The application for a new On-licence was advertised in the Ruapehu Bulletin newspaper on 29 May and 5 June 2024; together with statutory signage on the building. No objections were received, and no s. 103 reports noted any opposition.

Therefore, the matter is considered by the Ruapehu District Licensing Commissioner on the papers contained in the full file provided by the secretary in accordance with the provisions of s.202 (1) and 191(2) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

Commissioner: Stuart Hylton

DECISION OF THE RUAPEHU DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

Application

- (1) The application was made on the 15 May 2024 on the prescribed form. This is a new licence application brought about by a change of ownership for an existing licensed premises. The premises are currently operating under a Temporary Authority by the applicant.

The premises is at the Turoa Ski Area, Mount Ruapehu and known as 'Snowflake Cafe', with the principal entrance accessed off the Turoa ski field. This is more precisely shown on floor plan date stamped as received by the DLC on 15 May 2024.

The general nature of the business will continue to be a Cafe Style On-licence. The premises is formed from the two-story Snowflake Burger and Bar building, an outdoor seating area located at the main entrance and a large outdoor area of level ground.

The lower indoor area and exterior deck are clearly visible from the point of sale. Staff are continually in and out of the upper mezzanine level of the premises clearing tables and monitoring compliance. Rock walls around the edge of the outdoor area prevent people accessing it without substantial climbing, some of these walls are over 3m high.

Inbuilt wooden seating clearly delineates the perimeter of the outdoor licensed area and sturdy metal "no alcohol beyond here" signage is clearly displayed around the perimeter also. The interior of the premises is quite small and therefore the outdoor area is necessary to accommodate large volumes of people.

- (2) The owners have given consent and tenure for the licensed operation. The floor plan provided with the application clearly shows the areas to be licensed which is ‘undesigned’.
- (3) The applicant is a private company incorporated under the Companies Act 1993 on 13 March 2023, July 2013, Company No: 8650346, NZBN: 9429051181451. The company’s total number of shares is 1,000. The full list of directors and shareholders is quite complex but well documented in the Inspectors report. The company has been operating this particular licensed premises under a Temporary Authority.
- (4) The application has been prepared by Darron Beange, Hospitality Manager for the applicant. Mr Beange has over 20 years’ experience in the hospitality industry managing restaurants, bars, and nightclubs. The premise is known as the “**Snowflake Cafe**”.
- (5) The complete file that the District Licensing Committee received included evidence that the following was provided as part of the application –
 - The application
 - Certificate of incorporation
 - Floor plan
 - A s. 100(f) RMA/ Building Act compliance letter from Council
 - Letter from applicant’s landlord agreeing to the application to be licensed.
 - Letter from landlord representative as having the necessary evacuation scheme
 - Copy of public notice on the building
 - Host Responsibility Policy
 - Full menu
 - Public Advert wording
 - Reports from Police, Medical Officer of Health and Inspector

Decision Making

- (6) In considering this application for On-Licence the District licensing Committee (here in after referred to as the ‘Committee’) had regard to the criteria specified under s. 105 of the Act.

- (7) **The object of this Act:**

This is a new licensee for an existing licence with Pure Turoa Limited being the new operators of the Turoa ski field following the failure of Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Limited. The premise is classified as medium risk. A Temporary Authority has been held by the applicant for this premises for around three months with no concerns noted.

The applicant provided a Host Responsibility Policy that shows how alcohol will be sold in a responsible manner under the licence. If followed this should ensure the object of the Act continues to be complied with.

- (8) **The suitability of the applicant:**

The applicant, **Pure Turoa Limited**, is an incorporated company with many directors and shareholders. The applicant has supplied the name of five certified managers to oversee the licence which is seen as suitable for this type of licence.

- (9) The inspector and reporting agencies do not challenge suitability of the applicant and neither do I.

(10) **Any relevant local alcohol policy:**

The Ruapehu LAP has been adopted. The inspector has noted that the application accords with the LAP.

(11) **The days on which and the hours during which the applicant proposes to sell alcohol:**

The applicant has applied for the following days and hours which are supported by the inspector – **Monday to Sunday from 10.00am to 4.30pm.**

The hours accord with the national default maximum trading hours. The applicant and inspector have one year to monitor whether they are suitable before possible renewal.

(12) **The design and layout of any proposed premises:**

The application included a floor plan dated 15 May 2024 that shows the area to be licensed. The licensed area is undesignated which is normal for a café type on-licence.

(13) **Whether the applicant is engaged in, or proposes on the premises to engage in, the sale of goods other than alcohol, low-alcohol refreshments, non-alcoholic refreshments, and food, and if so, which goods:**

No.

(14) **Whether (in its opinion) the amenity and good order of the locality would be likely to be reduced, to more than a minor extent, by the effects of the issue of the licence:**

Within the agency reports there are no concerns about the possible reduction in amenity and good order from any licence issue.

The premise is in an appropriately zoned area which should ensure the amenity and good order of the locality are not affected by more than a minor extent. The applicants have a vested interest to ensure amenity and good order is preserved on the mountain.

(15) **Whether (in its opinion) the amenity and good order of the locality are already so badly affected by the effects of the issue of existing licences that—**

- (i) **they would be unlikely to be reduced further (or would be likely to be reduced further to only a minor extent) by the effects of the issue of the licence; but**
- (ii) **it is nevertheless desirable not to issue any further licences:**

No concerns raised.

(16) **Whether the applicant has appropriate systems, staff, and training to comply with the law:**

If the host responsibility policy is followed, the licence holder should have no problems with compliance. The applicant has taken their licensing responsibilities seriously and there is no reason to suggest this will not continue. Staff will be given one full day of training prior to the start of the season.

The MOH representative has visited the premises and followed up by sending out staff training templates for the applicant to follow and record training sessions and also Health Promotion Agency books to use as additional reference tools to aid in on-going staff training programme.

Reporting Agencies

- (17) The following reports were received under section 103 of the Act.
- (18) **Police** – Report received on 27 May 2024, offering no opposition.
- (19) **Medical Officer of Health** - Report received 11 June 2024, offering no opposition. Matters were raised with the applicant and intend to be followed.
- (20) **Licensing Inspector**
Full report dated 5 July 2024. The inspector provided a comprehensive report into the application and concluded that the application is complete, appears to meet the criteria for a new on-licence and therefore supports the grant of the application.

Committees Decision and Reason

- (21) Based on the evidence provided to me within the complete file, lack of opposition from the relevant agencies, my assessment above, I conclude that the application meets the s. 105 criteria under the Act to be granted an On-licence for the premise situated at the Turoa Ski Area, Mount Ruapehu and known as ‘Snowflake Cafe’.
- (22) Accordingly, the application is **approved** for issue for one year subject to the following conditions.
- (a) Alcohol may be sold only on the following days and during the following hours:
Monday to Sunday from 10.00am to 4.30pm.
 - (b) No alcohol may be sold on the premises on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, Christmas Day, or before 1pm on Anzac Day to any person who is not on the premises to dine.
 - (c) The area where alcohol is to be sold and consumed is described in the plan date stamped as received by the District Licensing Committee on 15 May 2024 and no alcohol is to be taken out of this area.
 - (e) The holder of a manager’s certificate or a properly notified manager shall be on duty and on the premises at all times alcohol is sold.
 - (f) A manager’s register (as required by s.232 of the Act) is to be maintained and available on site.
 - (g) A Host Responsibility Policy must be maintained and the Licensee must ensure all staff receives training in their responsibilities and obligations under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.
 - (h) There must be no sale or supply of alcohol to minors or intoxicated persons and there must be displayed at every point of sale appropriate signs detailing these restrictions.
 - (i) Drinking water must be freely available and this must be clear to customers, while the premises are open for the sale and supply of alcohol.
 - (j) Food must be available for consumption on the premises at all times when open for the sale of alcohol. If a la carte menu or buffet meals are not available then a minimum of four types of light meals must be available. Menus and their availability should be clear to customers and food should be actively promoted.
 - (k) A range of low-alcohol and non-alcoholic drinks must be available at all times when the premises are open for the sale of alcohol.
 - (l) A telephone must be freely available for customers to call for transport and staff must assist if required. Telephone numbers for alternative forms of transport from the premises must be displayed.
 - (m) The Licensee must ensure the following are displayed;
 - (i) A sign to be seen from outside the principle entrance stating the ordinary hours of business during which the premises will be open for the sale of alcohol.
 - (ii) A copy of the original licence with all the conditions, just inside the principle entrance so persons entering can read it.
 - (iii) A sign in a prominent place identifying the duty manager.

(23) **Decision**

Accordingly, the application is **Approved** for issue from this date.

Dated at Ruapehu District this 10th July 2024.



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Stuart Hylton
Ruapehu District Licensing Commissioner