

Decision number: 055-2026

**IN THE MATTER** of Sale and Supply of Alcohol  
Act 2012(the Act)

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of an application by the  
**partnership of Mark William  
Browne and Paulette Claire  
Browne** pursuant to s127 of  
the Act for the renewal and  
variation of the ON Licence in  
respect of premises situated  
at 19 Aylmer Street, Ross  
known as the "**Empire  
Hotel**"

**BEFORE THE WESTLAND DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**The Application**

**Mark William Browne and Paulette Claire Browne**, trading in partnership, apply for the renewal and variation of the ON Licence in respect of premises situated at 19 Aylmer Street, Ross known as the "**Empire Hotel**".

The business is the sole On licence operating in Ross with an 'across the bar' off licence. The offer food alcohol and accommodation to the locals, tourists and tour parties.

The current days and hours are **Monday to Sunday 11.00am to 2.00am the following day. No changes are sought.**

These hours are within the default national maximum trading hours for ON licensed premises.

The application was publicly notified on the council website from the 18 March 2026. No objections were received from members of the public.

**Reasons for the Decision**

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Neither the Police nor the Medical Officer of Health has raised any matters in opposition.

The inspector reports that the amenity and good order of the area has not been reduced by more than a minor extent.

We approve the new plan dated 9 April 2026 of the revised licensed area

I am satisfied as to the matters to which we must have regard as set out in s.131 of the Act.

I deal with the application on the papers.

### **DECISION**

The District Licensing Committee Chairman, acting pursuant to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, **approves** an application by **the partnership of Mark William Browne and Paulette Claire Browne**, (“the licensee”), **for the renewal of the ON Licence in respect of premises situated at 19 Aylmer Street, Ross known as the “Empire Hotel ”** subject to conditions.

We refresh the licence conditions to reflect best practice.

### **Conditions:**

The ON licence is subject to the conditions listed below:

1. Alcohol may be sold or supplied for consumption on the premises only on the following days and hours:  
**Monday to Sunday 11.00am to 2.00am the following day;**
  2. Drinking water is to be provided to patrons free of charge from a water supply prominently situated on the premises.
  3. The following parts of the premises is designated as Supervised Area: **The Bar**
  4. The licensee must have available for consumption on the premises, at all times when the premises are open for the sale and supply of alcohol, a reasonable range of non-alcoholic and low-alcohol beverages.
  5. Food must be available for consumption on the premises at all times the premises are open for the sale and supply of alcohol, in accordance with
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- the sample menu supplied with the application for this licence or menu variations of a similar range and standard. Menus must be visible, and food should be actively promoted;
6. A properly appointed certificated, or Acting or Temporary, manager must be on duty at all times when the premises are open for the sale and supply of alcohol and their full name must be on a sign prominently displayed in the premises;
  7. The licensee must provide information, advice and assistance about alternative forms of transport available to patrons from the licensed premises;
  8. The Licensee must display:
    - a. At every point of sale, signs detailing restrictions on the sale and supply of alcohol to minors and intoxicated persons;
    - b. At the principal entrance to the premises, so as to be easily read by people immediately outside the premises, a sign stating the ordinary hours of business during which the premises will be open for sale of alcohol;
    - c. A copy of the licence attached to the premises so as to be easily read by persons attending the premises;

The renewal will be for three years from the expiry of the current licence, and a replacement licence is to be issued.

**DATED** at Hokitika this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026



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Murray Clearwater  
**Chairperson/Commissioner**  
**Westland District Licensing Committee**

