

Decision number:

101-2026

IN THE MATTER

of the Sale and Supply of
Alcohol Act 2012 ("the Act")

AND

IN THE MATTER

of an application by
Chantelle Maree Hewer
pursuant to s. 100 of the Act
for the grant of an OFF
Licence in respect of
premises situated at 69 Main
Road, Whataroa known as
**"The Lonely Stag Café &
Store"**

BEFORE THE WESTLAND DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

The Application

Chantelle Maree Hewer ("the licensee") applies for the grant of an OFF Licence in respect of premises situated at 69 Main Road, Whataroa known as "The Lonely Stag Café & Store."

This is a remote rural general store and has been licensed as a grocery store for several years. The applicant currently trades under a Temporary Authority.

The days and hours of operation sought are Monday to Sunday 8.30 am to 7.30pm. These hours are within the operative default nation maximum trading hours.

The applicant has provided a list of the low alcohol and non-alcoholic refreshments that are also available for sale at all times when the premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol.

The application was notified on councils' website from the 7th of August 2026, and no public objections were received by the secretariat.

Neither of the reports of the Police nor the Medical Officer of Health raises any matters in opposition.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

As is typical in small remote settlements like Whataroa, the local general store is just that, it caters for all needs of the community. The small resident population swells during the summer tourist season. The rest of the year the township is very quiet.

The Committee believes the uneconomic exception found in Section 34 of the Act is available to this business as they do not meet the true definition of grocery store requirements. As such they will be able to sell spirits along with wine, beer and mead.

The Inspector reports that the amenity and good order of the area is unlikely to be reduced by more than a minor extent.

On that basis, I am satisfied as to the matters to which we must have regard as set out in s.105 and 106 of the Act.

We are also satisfied that a Section 34 exemption can be granted, and no Single Alcohol Area (SAA) is required.

Accordingly, I deal with the matter on the papers.

DECISION

The District Licensing Committee Chairman, acting pursuant to the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, **grants** an application by **Chantelle Maree Hewer ("the licensee")** for the grant of an OFF Licence in respect of premises situated at 69 Main Road, Whataroa known as **"The Lonely Stag Café & Store"** subject to conditions.

We refresh the licence conditions to reflect best practice.

Conditions:

The licence is subject to the conditions listed as follows:

1. Alcohol may be sold on, or delivered from, the premises for consumption off the premises, or supplied free as a sample for consumption on the premises, only on the following days and hours: **Monday to Sunday 8.30 to 7.30pm;**

2. No alcohol is to be sold on, or delivered from, the premises on Good Friday, Easter Sunday or Christmas Day or before 1.00 pm on Anzac Day.
3. While alcohol is being supplied free as a sample, water is to be provided to patrons free of charge at the place where the samples are being supplied.
4. The Licensee must have available for consumption off 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. A properly appointed certificated or Acting or Temporary Manager must be on duty at all times, within the licensed area, 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.
6. 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 inside of the premises so as to be easily read by people entering each principal entrance.

The licence is granted for 12 months from the date of issue.

DATED at HOKITIKA this 20th day of August 2026



Murray Clearwater
Chairperson/Commissioner
Westland District Licensing Committee

