

Decision number: 070-2026

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

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of an application by **Lake Mahinapua Hotel Limited** pursuant to s100 of the Act for the grant of an OFF Licence in respect of premises situated at 962 Ruatapu Road, Hokitika known as "**Lake Mahinapua Hotel** "

**BEFORE THE WESTLAND DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**The Application**

**Lake Mahinapua Hotel Limited applies** for the grant of an OFF Licence in respect of premises situated at 962 Ruatapu Road, Hokitika known as "**Lake Mahinapua Hotel**."

The business is an hotel that offers accommodation, food, and alcohol to locals and tourists. There is a bar and dining areas in the main complex and accommodation units adjacent to the main building.

The days and hours sought for the OFF Licence are **Monday to Sunday 7.00am to 11.00pm**

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

The applicant seeks to designate a 6 square metre strip in the bar as the Supervised Area

The application was publicly notified on the council website from the 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2024. No objections were received from members of the public.

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## Reasons for the Decision

Neither the Police nor the Medical Officer of Health has raised any **final** matters in opposition after initially opposing the grant of the OFF Licence for a variety of reasons.

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

As we explained when renewing the ON Licence, the Supervised Area must be meaningful, and we designated the whole of the bar as the Supervised Area. That will be sufficient for this OFF licence application as all sales will be across the bar.

Re designations, in **Kim Ashton Williams LLA 2291/96**<sup>1</sup> at paragraph [46] the Liquor Licensing Authority said:

*We have come to the view that in assessing which parts of any premises should be designated, **our duty is to impose a designation on any bar or other area used principally or exclusively for the sale or consumption of liquor** “ (our emphasis).*

Section 119(3)(c) of the Act requires that the DLC **must** designate a part of a hotel’s on-licensed area as a Supervised Area.

The applicant requests that that area be a 6sq metre strip to one side of the bar. This is **not sufficient** to meet the intent of the Act. The Act envisions that there is a **definable, usable, area that is used principally for the consumption of alcohol designated as the Supervised Area.**

We believe, to comply with the Act, that the whole of the Bar must remain as a Supervised Area and the rest of the licensed area will be undesignated.

The applicant has provided some Queenstown decisions applying ‘token’ Supervised Area designations. These have no relevance to the OFF Licence.

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, **grants** an application by **Lake Mahinapua Hotel**

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<sup>1</sup> Kim Ashton Williams LLA 2291/96

**Limited for an OFF Licence in respect of premises situated at 962 Ruatapu Road, Hokitika known as “Lake Mahinapua Hotel” subject to conditions.**

**Conditions:**

The licence is subject to the following conditions:

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 from 7:00am to 11:00pm**

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 Main Bar is designated as a “**Supervised Area**”;
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.

**DATED** at Hokitika this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 2026

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Murray Clearwater  
Chairperson/Commissioner  
Westland District Licensing Committee

