



Mr Tony Schwartz
Back Schwartz Vaughan
By email to: licensing@bsv.com.au

14 February 2023

Dear Mr Schwartz

Application No.	APP-0009868822
Applicant	THE SAPPHIRE AUSTRALASIA PTY LTD
Application for	New Hotel (general bar) with extended trading authorisation and minors area authorisation
Licence name	Hotel Australasia
Proposed trading hours	<u>Consumption on premises</u> Monday to Sunday 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM
Premises	142-144 Imlay St, Eden NSW 2551
Legislation	Sections 3, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 40, 44, 45, 48, 49 and 121 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Application for a new hotel (general bar) with extended trading authorisation and minors area authorisation – Hotel Australasia

The Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority considered the application above and decided on 16 December 2022 to **approve** the application under section 45 of the *Liquor Act 2007*, subject to imposing conditions as set out in Schedule 1.

Approved manager or individual licensee

The licence cannot be exercised unless and until the Authority or Liquor & Gaming NSW has been notified of the appointment of an approved manager to the licence, or the licence has been transferred to an individual licensee.

Concise statement of reasons

A concise statement of reasons for this decision is attached at the end of this letter.

In the interest of efficient finalisation of determined matters in a high-volume liquor and gaming jurisdiction, the Authority will only produce a detailed statement of reasons for applications which are refused, partially approved or the subject of stakeholder objections.

A concise statement of reasons is produced for non-contested applications that have been approved by the Authority, in cases where a statement of reasons is required to be published for the application under section 36C of the *Gaming and Liquor Administration Act 2007*.

The concise statement of reasons briefly sets out the material considered by the Authority, the legislative requirements, and the Authority's key findings.

If you have any questions, please contact the case manager, Wendy Yeung, at Wendy.yeung@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully



Murray Smith

Deputy Chairperson

For and on behalf of the **Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority**

Important Information:

In accordance with section 13A of the *Gaming and Liquor Administration Act 2007* a relevant person (the Applicant or a person who was required to be notified of the prescribed Application and who made a submission to the Authority or the Secretary in respect of the prescribed Application) who is aggrieved by this decision may apply to NCAT for an administrative review under the *Administrative Decisions Review Act 1997*.

An application to NCAT must be made within 28 days of notice of this decision being published on the [Liquor & Gaming NSW website](#) and be accompanied by the fee prescribed by the regulations.

For more information please contact the NCAT Registry at Level 10 John Maddison Tower, 86-90 Goulburn Street Sydney. The [NCAT website](#).

Concise statement of reasons

Key facts

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Applicant	THE SAPPHIRE AUSTRALASIA PTY LTD
Application for	New Hotel (general bar) with extended trading authorisation and minors area authorisation
Licence name	Hotel Australasia
Premises	142-144 Imlay St, Eden NSW 2551
Proposed trading hours	<u>Consumption on premises</u> Monday to Sunday 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM
Application date	1 August 2022
Decision	Approved under section 45 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>
Decision date	16 December 2022

Material considered by the Authority

The Authority has considered the following material in determining the application:

- Application material, including evidence of notification to specified stakeholders and the community about the application;
- Category B community impact statement;
- Premises plan setting out the proposed boundaries of the licensed premises and any applicable authorisations;
- Plan of management for the licensed business at the premises;
- Development consent for the premises;
- Statistics sourced from Liquor & Gaming NSW, Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Health and Australian Bureau of Statistics in respect of the socio-economic status, liquor licence density, alcohol-related crimes rates, and health issues in the relevant local and broader communities; and
- Stakeholder submissions in relation to the application, and the applicant's response to those submissions.

Legislative requirements

The Authority has considered the application in the context of the following sections of the *Liquor Act 2007*, and the associated clauses of the Liquor Regulation 2018:

- Section 3: Statutory objects of the Act and relevant considerations.
- Sections 11A and 12: Standard trading period for liquor licences and a mandatory 6-hour period during which liquor cannot be sold.
- Sections 14, 15, 15A and 16: Specific provisions in respect of a hotel licence.
- Section 40: Minimum procedural requirements for a liquor licence application to be validly made.
- Section 44: Submissions to Authority in relation to licence applications.

- Section 45: Criteria for granting a liquor licence.
- Section 48: Requirements in respect of a CIS, including a requirement that the Authority must not approve the application unless it is satisfied, having regard to the CIS and other available information, that the overall social impact of doing so will not be detrimental to the well-being of the local or broader community.
- Section 49: General provisions in respect of ETAs.
- Section 121: Minors in hotels in company of responsible adult.

The Authority has also had regard to its Guideline 6 in considering the overall social impact of approving the application pursuant to section 48 of the Act.

Key findings

In accordance with its Guideline 6, the Authority finds that the relevant local community for the purposes of this decision is the suburb of Eden, and the broader community is the Local Government Area of Bega Valley.

Positive social impacts

The Authority is satisfied on the material before it that the proposal set out in the application, if approved, would likely benefit the local and broader communities through the provision of increased convenience and choice.

The proposed premises will house a restaurant, lounge and bar areas with an outdoor courtyard as well as accommodation rooms, and occasional live music. The hotel will employ full and part time staff, providing significant local employment and support to the local economy.

The venue is considered a historic hotel and local landmark since its construction in 1905 and has been an integral part of the social and physical fabric of Eden. It is proposed that the fit-out will be a contemporary design in keeping with its heritage to provide a warm and welcoming family atmosphere with light entertainment and dining options.

Negative social impacts

The Authority accepts that the proposal may, over time, contribute to an increase in alcohol-related harm in the local and broader communities, including alcohol-fuelled violence, health problems and/or social and amenity issues, having regard to:

- the higher rates of alcohol-related domestic and non-domestic assault, and malicious damage to property in Eden;
- the below average level of socio-economic advantage in Eden; and
- the rate of alcohol attributed deaths in the Bega Valley LGA being higher compared to the NSW average.

The Authority is nevertheless satisfied that these risk factors are sufficiently mitigated by the following:

- the absence of any objections from agency stakeholders or members of the community;
- the hotel not being located near the crime hotspots for alcohol-related assaults or damage to property;
- there will be no take-away liquor, gaming, Keno or TAB (general bar) offering;

- the rate of alcohol attributed hospitalisations in the Bega valley LGA being lower compared to the NSW average; and
- the harm minimisation measures set out in the plan of management and licence conditions as set out in Schedule 1.

Overall social impacts and conclusion

Having considered the positive and negative social impacts that are likely to flow from the applicant's proposal, the Authority is satisfied that the overall social impact of approving the application will not be detrimental to the well-being of the local or broader community.

The Authority is also satisfied that the other legislative requirements for the approval of the application have been met.

The Authority finds, having regard to the above, that approving the application is consistent with the statutory objects and considerations of the Act to regulate the liquor industry in line with the community's expectations, needs and aspirations, and facilitate the balanced and responsible development of the liquor industry and related industries.

Accordingly, the Authority approves the application under section 45 of the Act.

Yours faithfully



Murray Smith

Deputy Chairperson

For and on behalf of the **Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority**

Schedule 1 – Licence conditions to be imposed Hotel Australasia

1. 6-hour closure period

Section 11A of the *Liquor Act 2007* applies to this licence. Liquor must not be sold by retail on the licensed premises for a continuous period of six (6) hours between 04:00 AM and 10:00 AM during each consecutive period of 24 hours. The licensee must comply with this 6-hour closure period along with any other limits specified in the trading hours for this licence.

2. Consumption on premises

Good Friday 12:00 noon – 10:00 PM

Christmas Day 12:00 noon – 10:00 PM (liquor can only be served with or ancillary to a meal in a dining area)

December 31st Normal opening time until normal closing time or 2:00 AM on New Year's Day, whichever is the later

Note: Trading is also allowed after midnight into the early morning of Good Friday and Christmas Day if authorised by an extended trading authorisation. Trading must cease at the time specified under the authorisation. The latest time that can be specified is 5:00 AM.

3. Social Impact

The business authorised by this licence must not operate with a greater overall level of social impact on the wellbeing of the local and broader community than what could reasonably be expected from the information contained in the Community Impact Statement, application and other information submitted in the process of obtaining this licence.

4. Liquor Accord

The licensee or its representative must join and be an active participant in the local liquor accord.

5. Plan of Management

The premises is to be operated at all times in accordance with the Plan of Management dated 16 August 2022 as may be varied from time to time after consultation with NSW Police. A copy of the Plan of Management is to be kept on the premises and made available for inspection on the request of a police officer, council officer, Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector, or any other person authorised by the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority.

6. CCTV

- 1) The licensee must maintain a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system on the premises in accordance with the following requirements:
 - (a) the system must record continuously from opening time until one hour after the premises is required to close (or, in the case of a premises that is not required to cease trading, continuously at all times),
 - (b) recordings must be in digital format and at a minimum of ten (10) frames per second,
 - (c) any recorded image must specify the time and date of the recorded image,
 - (d) the system's cameras must cover the following areas:
 - (i) all entry and exit points on the premises,
 - (ii) the footpath immediately adjacent to the premises, and

- (iii) all publicly accessible areas (other than toilets) within the premises.
- 2) The licensee must also:
- (a) keep all recordings made by the CCTV system for at least 30 days,
 - (b) ensure that the CCTV system is accessible at all times the system is required to operate pursuant to clause 1(a), by at least one person able to access and fully operate the system, including downloading and producing recordings of CCTV footage, and
 - (c) provide any recordings made by the system to a police officer or Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector within 24 hours of any request by the police officer or Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector to provide such recordings.

7. Minors Area

Minors Area Authorisation: whole of the licensed premises excluding the accommodation area as indicated on the premises plan.

8. Extended Trading

Extended Trading Authorisation: whole of the licensed premises excluding the accommodation area as indicated on the premises plan

9. Crime Scene Preservation

Immediately after the person in charge of the licensed premises or a staff member becomes aware of any incident involving an act of violence causing injury to a person on the premises, the person in charge of the licensed premises and/or staff member must:

- 1) take all practical steps to preserve and keep intact the area where the act of violence occurred,
- 2) retain all material and implements associated with the act of violence in accordance with the crime scene preservation guidelines issued by NSW Police, as published from time to time on the Liquor and Gaming NSW website,
- 3) make direct and personal contact with NSW Police to advise it of the incident, and
- 4) comply with any directions given by NSW Police to preserve or keep intact the area where the violence occurred.

In this condition, 'staff member' means any person employed by, or acting on behalf of, the licensee of the premises, and includes any person who is employed to carry on security activities (e.g. crowd controller or bouncer) on or about the premises.

10. Requirement to maintain an Incident Register

- 1) The licensee must maintain a register, in which the licensee is to record the details of any of the following incidents and any action taken in response to any such incident:
 - (a) any incident involving violence or anti-social behaviour occurring on the premises,
 - (b) any incident of which the licensee is aware that involves violence or anti-social behaviour occurring in the immediate vicinity of the premises and that involves a person who has recently left, or been refused admission to, the premises,
 - (c) any incident that results in a person being turned out of the premises under section 77 of the Liquor Act 2007,
 - (d) any incident that results in a patron of the premises requiring medical assistance.
- 2) The licensee must, if requested to do so by a police officer or Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector:

- (a) make any such incident register immediately available for inspection by a police officer or Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector, and
 - (b) allow a police officer or Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector to take copies of the register or to remove the register from the premises.
- 3) The licensee must ensure that the information recorded in the incident register under this condition is retained for at least 3 years from when the record was made.