

**DECISION UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY ON AN
APPLICATION BY SKYCITY AUCKLAND LIMITED FOR APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION
AND DESIGN CHANGES FOR THE AUCKLAND CASINO**

Date of Decision: 11 December 2025

1. On 5 December 2025, SkyCity Auckland Limited (“**SCAL**”) applied, pursuant to conditions 6 and 7 of its venue licence, for approval of construction and design changes at the Auckland casino. SCAL wants to reinstall an escalator that was removed in 2015. The escalator will link levels 3 and 2 at the Auckland casino.

2. Conditions 6 and 7 of SCAL’s venue licence provide as follows:

6. The Licence Holder must obtain the approval of the Commission prior to:
- (a) construction or design changes to Levels 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the casino venue, including the Gambling Area but excluding the SKYCITY Theatre and foyer area, restaurant and bar areas outside the Gambling Area, hotel rooms and the back of house areas used by staff (unless construction or design changes to any of these excluded areas may impact on matters set out in condition 7 in which case prior approval must be sought);
 - (b) the construction or relocation outside the Gambling Area and within the Casino Venue of bank facilities available to the public excluding ATMs, EFTPOS and like devices;
 - (c) the addition or alteration of signage relating to the casino business on any building, road or structure within the block of land bounded by Hobson Street, Wellesley Street West, Federal Street and Victoria Street West, including the Casino Venue, Sky Tower, car park, bus terminal and walkways between the casino and the Sky Tower and the convention centre.

The process by which the Licence Holder may obtain approval for construction or design changes to Levels 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the casino venue, including the Gambling Area (paragraph (a) above) is set out in condition 7. The Commission will determine any application for approval under 6(b). The Executive Director may approve the addition or alteration of signage relating to the casino business on any building, road or structure within the casino block (paragraph (c) above) if he/she is satisfied the proposed changes will have no potentially adverse effects. If he/she is not so satisfied, the proposed changes must be referred to the Commission for a decision on approval.

The Licence Holder must notify the Executive Director of any proposed changes to the construction or design of Levels 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the casino venue, including the Gambling Area but excluding SKYCITY Theatre and foyer area, restaurant and bar areas outside the Gambling Area, hotel rooms and the back of house areas used by staff. Notification must be accompanied by relevant drawings and an assessment of any impacts the alterations may have on:

- (a) the integrity and fairness of games;
- (b) the effectiveness of security and surveillance;
- (c) harm prevention, harm minimisation and responsible gambling;
- (d) potential access to the Gambling Area by persons under 20 years of age; and
- (e) compliance by any person with the Act, including section 11.

The Executive Director may approve the proposed changes to the construction or design if he or she is satisfied that there are no adverse impacts in relation to the

matters specified in (a)-(e) above. If the Executive Director is not satisfied, he or she will refer the proposal to the Commission for determination.

Submissions

3. SCAL submitted as follows:

- It wants to reinstall an escalator at the Casino that the Commission previously approved for removal in June 2015.
- The escalator will link levels 2 and 3 and provide an additional entry to the MGF from level 3.
- There will be no changes required to the Gambling Area.
- It wants to clear the gaming product to the right of the main casino entry on level 2 to make way for the bottom of the escalator. This will form a new entrance/exit to level 3.
- On level 3 it wants to remove the existing glass balustrade and planter boxes.
- The opened area will make way for the top of the escalator to form a new entrance/exit to level 2.
- There will be no changes to the carpet in the affected areas. During the works, the existing carpet will be rolled away and then reinstated on completion of the works.
- The bottom of the escalator will be infilled and clad with a metallic finish.
- If approved, it intends that the works will be carried out between mid-January and early May 2026.
- If installation of the escalator is approved, it will need to install hoarding while the work is carried out. The location and timings of the proposed hoardings are set out in plans provided to the Commission.
- It is anticipated that there will be some changes to the placement of gaming product on level 2 of the MGF. The plans are yet to be finalised and will be provided to the Commission for approval prior to the commencement of the initial works.

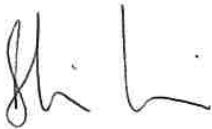
4. Steps are being taken to ensure that the proposed construction and design changes will have no adverse impact on the matters specified in condition 7, as follows:

- Once operational, a SkyCity Security Officer will be posted full-time at the top of the escalators on level 3 to monitor the entrance to the gaming floor.

- A PatronScan unit and facial recognition camera will be placed at the newly created entrance.

Decision

5. The Commission was satisfied that the proposed construction and design changes would not adversely impact any of the matters set out in condition 7. The construction and design changes are approved by the Executive Director under delegated authority pursuant to conditions 6 and 7 of SCAL's venue licence. The construction and design changes are to be implemented in a manner consistent with SCAL's letter of application dated 5 December 2025.



Blair Cairncross
Executive Director
Gambling Commission

11 December 2025

