

**DECISION UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY ON AN
APPLICATION BY QUEENSTOWN CASINOS LIMITED FOR APPROVAL
OF CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN CHANGES, AND BY SKYKCITY CASINO MANAGEMENT
LIMITED FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW FLOOR PLAN FOR THE QUEENSTOWN CASINO**

Date of Decision: 14 August 2020

1. On 11 August 2020, Queenstown Casinos Limited (“**QCL**”) applied, pursuant to conditions 6 and 7 of its venue licence, for approval of construction and design changes to level 2 of the casino, and SKYKCITY Casino Management Limited (“**SCML**”) applied, pursuant to condition 12 of its operator’s licence for the Queenstown casino, for approval of a new floor plan, “2020 001 QTN” for the Queenstown casino.

2. Conditions 6 and 7 of QCL’s venue licence for the Queenstown casino provide as follows:

6. The Licence Holder must obtain the approval of the Commission prior to:

- (a) construction or design changes to Level 2 of the Casino Venue, including the Gambling Area;
- (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 the exterior of the Casino Venue or on or around the building within which it is located.

The process by which the Licence Holder may obtain approval for construction or design changes to Level 2 of the Casino Venue (6(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 the exterior of the Casino Venue or on or around the building within which it is located (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.

7. The Licence Holder must notify the Executive Director of any proposed changes to the construction or design of Level 2 of the Casino Venue. 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.

3. Condition 12 SCML's operator's licence for the Queenstown casino provides as follows:

12. The Licence Holder shall obtain the approval of the Commission for new floor plans prior to relocating or installing tables or machines in positions not specified in approved floor layouts. When applying, the Licence Holder must submit fresh plans showing the floor layout for the Gambling Area and details of the proposed CCTV layout for the consideration of the Commission. Any changes must comply with the Surveillance Standard. The Executive Director and a single Gambling Commissioner may approve the new floor plans if they are satisfied that the floor layout has no potentially adverse effects. If they are not so satisfied, the proposed floor plan must be referred to the Commission for a decision on approval.

Submissions

Construction and design changes

4. QCL submitted as follows:

- (a) It wants to remove a half-height wall which currently provides the backing to seven EGMs. The primary purposes for removing the wall are to:
 - create a flow between EGMs and tables games. Currently the wall creates a lot of congestion and issues during busy periods; and
 - to provide a clear line of sight from the security podium through to the EGMs in the Alpha area of the casino.
- (b) The removal of the wall will have no adverse effect on the matters set out in condition 7 of its venue licence.

Floor plan

5. SCML submitted as follows:

- (a) It is currently reliant on plan 2019 001 QTN.
- (b) Subject to the approval of the construction and design change, it wants to make the following changes, as follows:
 - remove 2 EGMs next to the female toilets;
 - remove 7 EGMs along the half height wall;
 - redeploy 4 EGMs next to the Table Games area;
 - redeploy 5 EGMs along the wall next to the male toilets;
 - remove the Substitute Table;

- remove 1 table (from the space next to the new bank of 5 EGMs);
 - move 1 table 90 degrees to cap the end of the pit.
- (c) Any necessary adjustments to camera positions to ensure compliance with the Surveillance Standard will be undertaken in conjunction with the repositioning of table games and EGMs.

Decision

6. 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 proposed are approved by the Executive Director under delegated authority pursuant to conditions 6 and 7 of QCL's venue licence. The construction and design changes are to be generally in accordance with the application.
7. The floor plan raises no issues of regulatory concern for the Commission. Accordingly, plan "2020 001 QTN" (**attached**) is approved by the Chief Gambling Commissioner and the Executive Director under delegated authority, pursuant to condition 12 of SCML's operator's licence, for the Queenstown casino.
8. Once SCML is reliant on plan "2020 001 QTN", plan "2019 001 QTN" will cease to be valid.

Lisa Hansen

Blair Cairncross

Lisa Hansen
Chief Gambling Commissioner
Gambling Commission

Blair Cairncross
Executive Director
Gambling Commission

14 August 2020



2020 001 QTN

