

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

Date of Decision:  May 2023

1. On 19 May 2023, SKYCITY Auckland Limited ("**SCAL**") applied, pursuant to conditions 6 and 7 of its venue licence, for approval of construction and design changes on Level 7 at the Auckland Casino.

2. Conditions 6 and 7 of SCAL's venue licence for the Auckland casino 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 Original Casino Site, including the Gambling Area but excluding the Sky Tower, 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) construction and design changes to Level 7 of the Grand Hotel on the NZICCA Additional Site, including the Gambling Area but excluding restaurant and bar areas outside the Gambling Area 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);
  - (c) the construction or relocation outside the Gambling Area and within the Original Casino Site or the NZICCA Additional Site of bank facilities available to the public excluding ATMs, EFTPOS and like devices;
  - (d) the addition or alteration of signage relating to the casino business on any building, road or structure within the Original Casino Site or the NZICCA Additional Site, including, walkways between any of the Original Casino Site and the NZICCA Additional Site;
  - (e) the broadcasting of gambling activity by or on behalf of the Licence Holder via any communication medium or channel.

The process by which the Licence Holder may obtain approval for construction or design changes to Ls 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the Original Casino Site, and Level 7 of the Grand Hotel on the NZICCA Additional Site, including the Gambling Area (paragraphs (a) and (b) above) is set out in condition 7. The Commission will determine any application for approval under 6(c). The Executive Director may approve the addition or alteration of signage relating to the casino business on any building, road or structure within the Original Casino Site or the NZICCA Additional Site (paragraph (d) above) and the broadcasting of gambling activity by or on behalf of the Licence Holder via any communication medium or channel (paragraph (e) above) if satisfied that the proposed initiative(s) will have no potentially adverse effects. The proposed changes must otherwise 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 Levels 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 of the Original Casino Site, and Level 7 of the Grand Hotel on the NZICCA Additional Site, including the Gambling Area, but excluding Sky Tower, SKYCITY Theatre and

foyer area, restaurant and bar areas outside the Gambling Area, hotel rooms, 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*

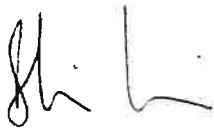
#### 3. SCAL submitted as follows:

- (a) It wants to refurbish the area on Level 7 at the Grand Hotel. Level 7 of the Grand Hotel is not part of the current standard gambling areas, pursuant to condition 9, but does represent an additional gambling area once activated as an alternative Gambling Area in accordance with condition 9A. The area is not currently activated, but it is subject to condition 6.
- (b) It wants to use the area as a function and dining space, primarily for guests of the Grand Hotel.
- (c) The proposed changes are as follows:
  - remove existing pit stands and some cabinetry;
  - remove floral curtains;
  - remove and replace existing carpet;
  - install a vinyl floor covering in the area adjacent to the Satellite Kitchen;
  - remove wallpaper and either re-paper or paint walls;
  - install double, salon-style swinging doors from the self service area to the area noted as "Satellite Kitchen";
  - install fixed banquet seating along the wall in the area noted as Zone A;
  - install fixed benches, buffet and waiter stations;
  - repurpose existing benches from card holder cabinets to cold buffet area;
  - install non-fixed furniture (tables and chairs) and planter boxes.

- (d) A kitchen to be named "Satellite Kitchen" is also being installed. This does not fall into the alternative gambling area and it is not seeking approval for the back of house works.
- (e) The affected area will remain an optional gambling area.
- (f) Construction is expected to take around four weeks and if approved, it intends for the work to commence on or before 29 May.
- (g) The existing footprint of the room remains unchanged.
- (h) The proposed works will have no adverse effect on the matters set out in condition 7 of its venue licence.

*Decision*

4. 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 changes are to be generally in accordance with the application.



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**Blair Cairncross**  
Executive Director  
Gambling Commission

22 May 2023



