

**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: 14 August 2023

1. On 11 August 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 6 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 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:

- (a) It wants to remove the two sets of three individual skylights on the roof of Level 6 of the Auckland Casino, and to replace them with a single clear panel.
- (b) The existing skylights are visible from the Level 6 Gambling Area. There may be a slight visual difference as the new panels are larger than the existing skylights, but in essence a clear panel is being replaced by another clear panel.
- (c) The change is to prevent rain coming in to the Level 6 area.
- (d) 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.



Blair Cairncross
Executive Director
Gambling Commission

14 August 2023

