

**DECISION UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY ON AN APPLICATION
BY CHRISTCHURCH CASINOS LIMITED FOR APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION AND
DESIGN CHANGES, AND FOR APPROVAL OF TEMPORARY FLOOR PLANS
FOR THE CHRISTCHURCH CASINO**

Date of Decision: 7 April 2025

1. On 31 March 2025, Christchurch Casinos Limited (“**CCL**”) applied, pursuant to conditions 6 and 7 of its venue licence, for approval of construction and design changes; and pursuant to condition 12 of its operator’s licence, for approval of temporary floor plans, “Level 1 – 14 April 2025”, “Level 1 – 29 April 2025” and “Level 2 – Monza floor plan – 14 April 2025”, for the Christchurch Casino.

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

6. Subject to the provisions of condition 7, the Licence Holder must obtain the approval of the Commission prior to:

- (a) any construction or design changes whatsoever in the Gambling Area (Schedules 1 and 2) and Additional Gambling Area (Schedule 3) and for any construction or design changes elsewhere in the Casino Venue which may impact on the matters set out in condition 7;
- (b) the construction or relocation outside the Gambling Area and Additional Gambling Areas and within the Casino Venue of bank facilities available to the public excluding ATMs, EFTPOS and like devices; and
- (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 1, Level 2 and the rooftop area of the Casino Venue, (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 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 for which approval is required under condition 6. 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 of the Act.

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 of CCL's operator's licence 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 change 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

4. CCL submitted, in summary, as follows:

- (a) It wants to make changes at the Christchurch casino as it undertakes remedial earthquake strengthening work under the New Building Standards. This will involve the repositioning of gambling product around the casino and the closure of the Gambling Area on Level 2.
- (b) The closure of the Level 2 Gambling Area will be conducted in two phases. First, Club Aspinall will be close from 14 April until late June/early July 2025, and secondly, the Monza area will close from 29 April until late June/early July 2025. This closure will include the non-designated Back of House administrative areas, but the Security and Surveillance areas will remain operational, as will access to emergency exits and access to the Monza kitchen.
- (c) It wants to erect hoardings around the Baccarat Lounge and Café EGM area on Level 1. The hoarded-off area will be used as a premium player lounge and provide a restricted gaming zone while Club Aspinall is closed. The installation of the hoardings will not create any adverse impact in relation to the matters set out in condition 7 of its venue licence.
- (d) To provide greater space for customers in the hoarded-off zone, it wants to relocate two gaming tables to the MGF. It also wants to add an additional gaming table to the MGF. If approved, this would result in the casino having 28 gaming tables for the period 14 to 28 April.
- (e) It seeks approval of three new temporary floor plans; a floor plan for Level 1 from 14-28 April 2025, a floor plan for Level 1 from 29 April 2025 and a floor plan for Monza on Level 2 from 14-28 April 2025. The proposed floor plans will comply with the ratio of gaming machines to gaming tables, as required by licence conditions.

- (f) Prior to Club Aspinall and Monza reopening in late June/early July, it will submit new floor plans for Commission approval.

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 CCL's venue licence. The changes are to be generally in accordance with the application.
6. The proposed floor plans raised no issues of regulatory concern for the Commission. Accordingly, plans "Level 1 – 14 April 2025", "Level 1 – 29 April 2025" and "Level 2 – Monza floor plan – 14 April 2025" (**attached**) are approved by the Chief Gambling Commissioner and the Executive Director under delegated authority pursuant to condition 12 of CCL's operator's licence.
7. Plan "Level 1 – 14 April 2025" will cease to be valid once CCL operates in reliance upon plan "Level 1 – 29 April 2025".
8. Plan "Level 2 – Monza floor plan – 14 April 2025" will cease to be valid from 29 April 2025.



Susan Hughes KC
Chief Gambling Commissioner
Gambling Commission



Blair Cairncross
Executive Director
Gambling Commission

7 April 2025







