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: 24 **December 2014**

1. On 19 December 2014, SKYCITY Auckland Limited ("**SCAL**") applied, pursuant to conditions 6 and 7 of its venue licence, for approval of construction and design changes around the Premier Rewards Station and its surroundings on level 2 at the Auckland casino.

2. Conditions 6 and 7 provide as follows:

> 6. The Licence Holder must obtain the approval of the Commission prior to:
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> (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);
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> (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;
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> (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.
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> 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.
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> 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 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:
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> (a) the integrity and fairness of games;
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> (b) the effectiveness of security and surveillance;
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> (c) harm prevention, harm minimisation and responsible gambling;
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> (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 stated that it wants to make a number of construction changes on level 2 of the Auckland casino.

4. It seeks approval:

(i) to relocate a toilet facility for disabled customers. The relocation of this facility will create an open passageway from one part of the level 2 Gambling Area to another;
(ii) to create a Coat Check facility in part of the former Premier Rewards station;
(iii) to construct a balustrade and stairs near the entrance to the level 2 Gambling Area;
(iv) to remove the Diamond Room reception.

5. SCAL submitted that the construction of the balustrade and stairs will enable access to this area to be monitored and policed by security officers stationed at the MGF front entry. In the event that further officers need to be stationed to this location during busy periods, it will take appropriate action to do so.

6. It wants to remove the Diamond Room reception so that it can utilise the space for the placement of gaming product in future (subject to the Commission's approval of floor plans). The reception area is no longer needed, as the Diamond Room is no longer a restricted members area; all customers now have right of access.

7. The construction will commence on 21 January 2015.

8. The proposed changes will have no bearing on any of the matters set out in condition 7; namely the integrity and fairness of games, the effectiveness of security and surveillance, harm prevention, harm minimisation and responsible gambling, or compliance by any person with the Gambling Act 2003, including section 11. The new arrangements will not have any adverse impacts on its ability to police access to the Gambling Area by persons under 20 years of age.

Decision

9. The Commission was satisfied that the proposed construction and design changes would not adversely impact upon any of the matters set out in condition 7. Accordingly 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 generally in accordance with the application.

Blair Cairncross
Executive Director
Gambling Commission

24 December 2014

GAMBLING COMMISSION