

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Our ref: DF25/047143

Mr Gary O'Sullivan

President

Scarborough -Wombarra Bowling & Recreation Club Limited

25 August 2025

Dear Mr O'Sullivan

Application No.	SR0001385159
Applicant	SCARBOROUGH-WOMBARRA BOWLING AND RECREATION CLUB LIMITED
Application for	Change of boundaries
Application date	28 March 2025
Decision date	16 July 2025
Licence name	Scarborough-Wombarra Bowling & Recreation Club Limited
Licence number	LIQC300244148
Trading hours	<u>Consumption on premises</u> Monday to Sunday 05:00 AM – 05:00 AM (unrestricted) <u>Takeaway sales</u> Monday to Saturday 05:00 AM – 12:00 AM Sunday 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM
Premises	578 Lawrence Hargrave Drive Wombarra NSW 2515
Legislation	Sections 3, 12, 18, 19, 20, 40, 44, 45, 48, 49, 53, 66, 94 and 123 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i> Section 10 of the <i>Registered Clubs Act 1976</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Application for a change of boundaries – Scarborough-Wombarra Bowling & Recreation Club Limited

We **approve** the application above under section 94 of the *Liquor Act 2007* (the Act) – with the conditions set out in Schedule 1.

McKell Building, 2-24 Rawson Place Haymarket NSW 2000 | GPO Box 4012 Sydney NSW 2001
office@ilga.nsw.gov.au | ilga.nsw.gov.au | ABN 42 496 653 361

Statement of reasons

We are satisfied that the overall impact of approving the application will be consistent with the objects of the Act and will contribute to, not detract from, the amenity of community life.

Our main findings

The local community for the purposes of this decision is the suburb of Wombarra. The broader community is the Local Government Area (LGA) of Wollongong.

The applicant is seeking approval for a change of boundaries to incorporate a stage/presentation area, the western bowling green and the seated areas surrounding both bowling greens into the licensed premises.

We determined that the proposed expansion, intended for small-scale music events ceasing by 8.30pm, is unlikely to result in an adverse impact on the local or broader community and facilitates the balanced development of the live music industry.

Social impacts

We accept that the proposal could contribute to an increase in alcohol-related harm in the local and broader communities because of the:

- crime rates – the incident rate of alcohol-related non-domestic assault, malicious damage to property and alcohol-related disorderly conduct are higher in the LGA than in NSW, while the incident rate for alcohol-related domestic assault is lower in the LGA than in NSW
- licence density – the density of club licences in the suburb is higher than NSW and the overall density of all liquor licences in the suburb is aligned to NSW
- health statistics – the rate of alcohol-attributed hospitalisation and deaths in the LGA is higher than in NSW

We also considered submissions from 3 members of the public who objected to the proposal due to concerns with security, noise, anti-social behaviour and littering.

However, we note that the below factors weigh in favour of approval of the application, and may also partially or fully mitigate some of the risks identified above:

- there are no crime hotspots in the suburb for any of the offence categories we considered
- to mitigate concerns raised by members of the public, the Club is subject to a suitable liquor plan of management prepared in consultation with licensing police which incorporates specific procedures for the management of large-scale events to ensure the safety of patrons and reduce loss of amenity within the neighbourhood
- there were no objections by government agencies
- there were 10 public submissions received in support of the application
- there are no incidents of crime recorded in the suburb for the period ending March 2025 for any of the alcohol-related offences considered and only one incident is recorded for malicious damage to property offences
- the venue is the only licensed club in the suburb and the only premises where members of the community may meet and have a meal; as there are no other restaurants, cafes, or licensed premises open to the public. The only other licence in the suburb is a packaged liquor licence

- Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) data indicates an above average level of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage in the suburb and LGA compared to other communities in NSW¹
- the harm-minimisation measures outlined in the plan of management and appropriate licence conditions have been imposed, as set out in Schedule 1.

The material we considered

We considered the following material when making our decision:

- the application material – including evidence that stakeholders and the community were notified about the application
- the legislation
- a Statement of Risks and Potential Effects
- the plan of the licensed premises and any authorisations
- a plan of management for the licensed business
- a development consent for the premises
- statistics from Liquor & Gaming NSW, Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Health and Australian Bureau of Statistics on the socio-economic status, liquor licence density, alcohol-related crimes rates and health issues in the local and broader communities
- stakeholder submissions and the applicant's response to them.

We also considered [Guideline 6](#) to assess the likely overall impact to the local and broader community.

This decision will be published in accordance with section 36C of the *Gaming and Liquor Administration Act 2007*.

If you have any questions

Please contact Liquor & Gaming NSW at: new.applications@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



Caroline Lamb

Chairperson

Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

¹Research shows that the association between liquor outlet density and assaults is stronger in areas with higher percentages of ATSI and in areas with lower socio-economic status (Association of liquor outlet density with domestic and non-domestic assault in New South Wales; Jiang, H., Riordan, B., Laslett, A-M., Livingston, M., Lee, K., James, D., Stearne, A., & Room, R. (2024))

Schedule 1: Licence conditions to be imposed – Scarborough – Wombarra Bowling & Recreation Club Limited

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
1.	Liquor plan of management	The premises is to be operated at all times in accordance with the Plan of Management dated 14 November 2024 as may be varied from time to time after consultation with NSW Police. A copy of the Plan of Management is to be kept on the premises and made available for inspection on the request of a police officer, council officer, Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector, or any other person authorised by the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority.

Licence conditions to be revoked – Scarborough – Wombarra Bowling & Recreation Club Limited

Condition to be revoked	Reason
<p>Condition 3020</p> <p>The premises is to be operated at all times in accordance with the Plan of Management dated 01/11/2024 as may be varied from time to time after consultation with NSW Police. A copy of the Plan of Management is to be kept on the premises, and made available for inspection on the request of a police officer, council officer, Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector, or any other person authorised by the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority.</p>	<p>To be replaced with updated condition #1 imposed above.</p>