

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Our ref: DF25/073578

Mr Grant Cusack
Hatzis Cusack Lawyers

11 December 2025

Dear Mr Cusack

Application No.	APP-0015023149
Applicant	WISEMAN'S LOCAL GROCER PTY LIMITED
Application for	New packaged liquor licence
Application date	18 July 2025
Decision date	19 November 2025
Proposed licence name	Wisemans Ferry Grocer Supermarket
Proposed trading hours	Monday to Saturday 08:00 AM – 07:00 PM Sunday 10:00 AM – 07:00 PM
Proposed premises	Shops 8 and 9 5557 Old Northern Road Wisemans Ferry NSW 2775
Legislation	Sections 3, 11A, 12, 29, 30, 31, 40, 44, 45, 48, 53, 114 and 123 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Application for a new packaged liquor licence – Wisemans Ferry Grocer Supermarket

We **approve** the application above under section 45 and 48 of the *Liquor Act 2007* (**the Act**) – with the conditions set out in Schedule 1. The 6-hour closure period overrides any condition of the licence.

Approved manager or individual licensee

The licence cannot be exercised until the Authority or Liquor & Gaming NSW is notified that:

- the licence is transferred to an individual licensee, or an approved manager is appointed; and
- the licensee or approved manager is a suitable and qualified person.

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Mixed-use checkouts must be closed outside licensed hours

Under section 103(2) of the Act, any counter or place used to sell or supply liquor under the licence, including any mixed-use checkouts in the liquor sales area, must be closed to the public outside the licensed trading hours.

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 not be detrimental to the wellbeing of the local or broader community.

Our main findings

The local community for the purposes of this decision is the suburb of Wisemans Ferry. The broader community is the Local Government Area (**LGA**) of Hornsby.

The applicant is seeking a new packaged liquor licence for a liquor sales area within an existing supermarket known as “Wisemans Ferry Grocer Supermarket”. The shopping complex is the main commercial facility in the suburb. The supermarket is part of the Friendly Grocer chain.

We are satisfied that the proposal would benefit the local and broader communities by providing increased convenience and choice.

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:

- percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (**ATSI**) population in the suburb is higher than in NSW¹

We considered the following objections:

- 2 submissions were received raising concerns that there are already 2 licenced premises in the community and that the proposed premises would not comply with harm minimisation strategies in the community. The submissions highlighted that the community had previously faced issues with alcohol, death and injury. Further, concerns were raised about the vicinity of the proposed premises to a school, the local pub and bowling club.

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

- 4 letters of support for the proposed premises and a 209-customer signed petition in support of granting the application
- the applicant’s cooperation with the NSW Police to mitigate risks initially expressed, resulting in an updated Plan of Management that addressed Police concerns
- there were no objections from government agencies
- the proposed premises is not located in any crime hotspots

¹ Research 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)).

- crime rates – the incident rates of all categories we considered are lower in the LGA than in NSW²
- licence saturation – the rate of packaged liquor licences is lower in the suburb and LGA than in NSW
- Socio-Economic Index for Areas (**SEIFA**) data indicates an above average level of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage in the LGA compared to other communities in NSW¹
- the rate of alcohol attributed deaths in the LGA is lower than in NSW
- the liquor sales area will occupy an area of less than 20 square metres
- the harm-minimisation measures outlined in the plan of management and licence conditions, 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
- certificate of advertising
- 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
- L&GNSW compliance materials
- 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 and [Guideline 10](#) relating to the sale of liquor in supermarkets.

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

Opportunity for review

The applicant and anyone who was notified of the application and made a submission, may apply to [NCAT](#) for a review of the decision.

An application for review must be made no later 28 days after the decision is published on the website. There is a fee to lodge the application.

For more information, please contact the NCAT Registry at Level 10 John Maddison Tower, 86-90 Goulburn Street Sydney or visit the NCAT website.

² According to BOCSAR guidelines, crime rates in the suburb are 'not calculated', because either no incidents of that crime type were recorded, or the population for that region is too small to reliably calculate rates.

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

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Schedule 1: Licence conditions to be imposed - Wisemans Ferry Grocer Supermarket

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
1.	6-hour closure	Section 11A of the Liquor Act 2007 applies to this licence. Liquor must not be sold by retail on the licensed premises for a continuous period of 6 hours between 2:00 AM and 08:00 AM during each consecutive period of 24 hours. The licensee must comply with this 6-hour closure period along with any other limits specified in the trading hours for this licence.
2.	Retail sales	<p>Good Friday Not permitted</p> <p>December 24th Normal trading Monday to Saturday 8:00 AM to 12:00 midnight Sunday</p> <p>Christmas Day Not permitted</p> <p>December 31st Normal trading Monday to Saturday 10:00 AM to 12:00 midnight Sunday</p>
3.	Overall impact	The business authorised by this licence must not operate with a greater level of overall impact on the well-being of the local and broader community than what could reasonably be expected from the information contained in the application and other information submitted in the process of obtaining the licence.
4.	Liquor accord	The licensee or its representative must join and be an active participant in the local liquor accord.
5.	Liquor plan of management	The premises is to be operated at all times in accordance with the Plan of Management dated September 2025 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.
6.	Adequate separation	The liquor sales area must be adequately defined from the rest of the supermarket in accordance with the premises plan as approved by the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority on 19 November 2025 or any premises plan subsequently approved by the Authority.
7.	CCTV	<p>1. The licensee must maintain a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system at the supermarket/specialty store in accordance with the following requirements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the system must record continuously from opening time until one hour after the supermarket/specialty store is required to close, recordings must be in digital format and at a minimum of ten (10) frames per second, any recorded image must specify the time and date of the recorded image, the system's cameras must cover the following areas:

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. all entry and exit points to the supermarket/specialty store, and ii. all publicly accessible areas (other than toilets) within the liquor sales area. <p>2. The licensee must also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. keep all recordings made by the CCTV system for at least 30 days, b. ensure that the CCTV system is accessible at all times the system is required to operate pursuant to sub-clause 1(a), by at least one person able to access and fully operate the system, including downloading and producing recordings of CCTV footage, and c. provide any recordings made by the system to a police officer or Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector within 24 hours of any request by the police officer or Liquor and Gaming NSW inspector to provide such recordings.
8.	Crime scene preservation	<p>Immediately after the person in charge of the licensed premises or a staff member becomes aware of any incident involving an act of violence causing injury to a person on the premises, the person in charge of the licensed premises and/or staff member must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. take all practical steps to preserve and keep intact the area where the act of violence occurred, 2. retain all material and implements associated with the act of violence in accordance with the crime scene preservation guidelines issued by NSW Police, as published from time to time on the Liquor and Gaming NSW website, 3. make direct and personal contact with NSW Police to advise it of the incident, and 4. comply with any directions given by NSW Police to preserve or keep intact the area where the violence occurred. <p>In this condition, 'staff member' means any person employed by, or acting on behalf of, the licensee of the premises, and includes any person who is employed to carry on security activities (eg. crowd controller or bouncer) on or about the premises.</p>
9.	Tasting Area	<p>Tastings are to be confined to the liquor sales area, restricted to one (1) tasting per product and will be limited to the following quantities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Wine – 50 ml ii. Beer and cider – 100 ml iii. Spirits – 15 ml.
10.	No seating permitted in the liquor sales area	<p>No seating is permitted in the liquor sales area. The area must not encourage or facilitate on-premises consumption of alcohol (other than authorised tastings).</p>