

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Our ref: DF26/009898

Mr Tony Schwartz

LSV Liquor and Gaming Lawyers

16 April 2026

Dear Mr Schwartz

Application No.	APP-0015369212
Applicant	THE SEAHORSE INN HOTEL PTY. LTD.
Application for	New hotel (full) licence with minors' area authorisation
Application date	30 October 2025
Decision date	18 March 2026
Proposed licence name	The Seahorse Inn Hotel
Proposed trading hours	<u>Consumption on premises</u> Monday to Sunday 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM <u>Takeaway</u> Monday to Saturday 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM Sunday 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM
Proposed premises	87 Boydtown Park Road Boydtown NSW 2551
Legislation	Sections 3, 11A, 12, 14, 15, 40, 44, 45, 47B, 72I, 121 and 123 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Application for a new hotel (full) licence with minors' area authorisation – The Seahorse Inn Hotel

We **approve** the application above under section 45 and 72I 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.

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 Boydtown. The broader community is the Local Government Area (**LGA**) of Bega Valley.

In 2025 as a result of a licence swap, the proposed premises transitioned from having a full hotel licence to having a hotel (general bar) licence. The new owners have now sought approval for a new full hotel licence with a minors' area authorisation, replacing the existing hotel (general bar) licence. The objective is to allow takeaway liquor sales for guests.

The venue operates as a boutique beachfront hotel with a restaurant, 10 accommodation rooms and takes regular wedding and event bookings. The plan of management outlined controls for managing minors and minibars. There will be no gaming at the premises.

We are satisfied that the proposal would benefit the local and broader communities by providing increased convenience and choice, particularly to guests using the accommodation.

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:

- incidence for all crime categories we considered being higher in both the suburb and the LGA than the rates for New South Wales
- rate of alcohol-attributed deaths in the LGA being higher than the corresponding statewide rate for New South Wales
- Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) data indicating that the suburb and LGA exhibit a below average level of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage compared with other communities across New South Wales¹.

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

- no objections were received from government agencies or from members of the community
- the proposed premises will operate with reduced trading hours
- there will be no gaming at the proposed premises
- the venue is currently operating under a hotel (general bar) licence without any history of non-compliance over the past 5 years
- the venue is not located near any designated high-density crime hotspot across all categories we considered
- absence of recorded crime rates for the offences we considered in the suburb. (Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research advise this is generally because the area has a small population, making rate calculation unreliable, or there were no incidents of that crime type recorded)

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)).

- the rate of alcohol-attributed hospitalisations in the LGA is lower than the corresponding statewide rate for New South Wales
- 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 crime 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.

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 than 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.

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 - The Seahorse Inn Hotel

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 04:00 AM and 10:00 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.	Consumption on premises	Good Friday: 12:00 noon - 10:00 PM Christmas Day: 12:00 noon - 10:00 PM (liquor can only be served with or ancillary to a meal in a dining area) December 31st: Normal opening time until normal closing time or 2:00 AM on New Year's Day, whichever is the later Note: Trading is also allowed after midnight into the early morning of Good Friday and Christmas Day if authorised by an extended trading authorisation. Trading must cease at the time specified under the authorisation. The latest time that can be specified is 5:00 AM.
3.	Take away sales	Good Friday: Not permitted December 24th: Normal trading Monday to Saturday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 midnight on Sunday Christmas Day: Not permitted December 31st: Normal trading Monday to Saturday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 midnight on Sunday.
4.	Minors' Area	Minors' Area Authorisation: whole of the licensed premises excluding the accommodation areas, kitchen, lounge bar and back of house areas as marked on the premises plan dated 18 March 2026 .
5.	Liquor plan of management	The premises is to be operated at all times in accordance with the Plan of Management February 2026 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.	Overall impact	The business authorised by this licence must not operate with a greater overall 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.
7.	Liquor accord	The licensee or its representative must join and be an active participant in the local liquor accord.
8.	Complaints register	1. A complaints register is to be maintained at the premises at all times which records the following:

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
		a. the name and number of the complainant b. the time and date on which the complaint was received c. the nature of the complaint, and d. the measures taken to resolve the complaint. 2. Details of complaints received, either in person or over the phone, must be: a. recorded in the complaints register, and b. reported to the duty manager. 3. A mobile or dedicated contact number for the duty manager is to be published on the hotel's website, and on a sign to be posted at the premises entrance. If requested, the duty manager's contact details must be provided to complainants. A messaging service must be in place if the dedicated contact number is unattended.
9.	CCTV	1. The licensee must maintain a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system on the premises in accordance with the following requirements: a. the system must record continuously from opening time until one hour after the premises is required to close (or, in the case of a premises that is not required to cease trading, continuously at all times), b. recordings must be in digital format and at a minimum of ten (10) frames per second, c. any recorded image must specify the time and date of the recorded image, d. the system's cameras must cover the following areas: i. all entry and exit points on the premises, ii. the footpath immediately adjacent to the premises, and iii. all publicly accessible areas (other than toilets) within the premises. The licensee must also: 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.
10.	Crime scene preservation	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:

No.	Condition to be imposed	Description
		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. 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 (e.g. crowd controller or bouncer) on or about the premises.
11.	Incident register	1. The licensee must maintain a register, in which the licensee is to record the details of any of the following incidents and any action taken in response to any such incident: a. any incident involving violence or anti-social behaviour occurring on the premises, b. any incident of which the licensee is aware that involves violence or anti-social behaviour occurring in the immediate vicinity of the premises and that involves a person who has recently left, or been refused admission to, the premises, c. any incident that results in a person being turned out of the premises under section 77 of the Liquor Act 2007, d. any incident that results in a patron of the premises requiring medical assistance. 2. The licensee must, if requested to do so by a police officer or Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector: a. make any such incident register immediately available for inspection by a police officer or Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector, and b. allow a police officer or Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector to take copies of the register or to remove the register from the premises. 3. The licensee must ensure that the information recorded in the incident register under this condition is retained for at least 3 years from when the record was made.
12.	No gaming activities	No gaming machines may be operated on the licensed premises.