

NSW Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Our ref: DF26/018471

Mr Darrin Thompson
Pyramid Liquor Licensing

19 May 2026

Dear Mr Thompson

Application No.	APP-0015790635
Applicant	AUSSIE HOSPITALITY GROUP PTY LTD
Application for	New hotel (general bar) licence with minors' area authorisation
Application date	29 December 2026
Decision date	22 April 2026
Proposed licence name	Victoria Hotel
Proposed trading hours	Monday to Thursday 10:00 AM – 10:00 PM Friday to Sunday 10:00 AM – 12:00 AM
Proposed premises	339 Gosport Street Moree NSW 2400
Legislation	Sections 3, 40, 44, 45 and 72l and 121 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>

Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority

Application for a new hotel (general bar) licence with minors' area authorisation – Victoria Hotel

We **refuse** the application above under sections 45 and 72l of the *Liquor Act 2007* (the **Act**)

Statement of reasons

We are not satisfied that the overall impact of approving the application will not be detrimental to the wellbeing of the local or broader community, or that it would be consistent with the objects of the Act.

Our main findings

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

We considered an application for a new hotel (general bar) licence with a minors' area authorisation (**MAA**) for the Victoria Hotel within the Moree CBD. The applicant submitted that reopening the historic hotel would deliver social, economic and tourism benefits, generate employment, and preserve a valued heritage asset, supported by proposed harm minimisation measures.

We considered a range of relevant factors, including crime statistics, location and amenity considerations, socio-economic indicators, and health data. This evidence indicated that the local and broader community experiences high levels of alcohol-related harm and social disadvantage, and that approval of the application would be likely to contribute to an increase in alcohol-related harm. We also considered the submissions made by government agencies and the Moree Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Social impacts

We considered the factors below which may partially or fully mitigate some of the risks:

- no objections were received from government agencies or from members of the community.
- 5-year crime trends show the rates for alcohol-related domestic assault, alcohol-related non-domestic assault and alcohol-related offensive conduct in the suburb have trended down
- the proposed premises would not operate gaming machines or engage in take-away alcohol sales
- the rate of alcohol-attributed hospitalisations in the LGA is lower than the rate for NSW.

Notwithstanding these mitigating factors, we found that approval of the proposal could result in an increase in alcohol-related harm in the local and broader communities because:

- the proposed premises are in a high-density crime hotspot for domestic assault and malicious damage, medium-density crime hotspot for non-domestic assault and a low-density crime hotspot for alcohol-related assault
- the crime rate for all categories we considered is higher in the suburb and LGA than in NSW
- there is a higher alcohol outlet density¹ and a concentration of hotel (full) licences within the suburb and the local government area compared with New South Wales.
- the rate of alcohol-attributed deaths in the LGA is higher than the rate for NSW²

¹ High levels of hotel outlet-density, and highly concentrated clusters of hotels in an area, have been shown to be positively associated with higher rates of alcohol-related non-domestic assault (Livingston, 2008a, 2008b; Jiang et al., 2023)

Community impact of liquor licences: An Evidence Check rapid review brokered by the Sax Institute for the NSW Ministry of Health. <https://www.saxinstitute.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Community-impact-of-liquor-licences-1.pdf>

Jiang, H., Riordan, B., Laslett, A., Livingston, M., Lee, K., James, D., Stearne, A., & Room, R. (2023). Association of liquor outlet density with domestic and non-domestic assault in New South Wales. NSW Government Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority, Sydney, NSW.

Buykx, P., Cooper, J., Nickson, R. (2026) Review 2: Comprehensive Literature Review: Liquor Outlet Density

² Socio-economically disadvantaged communities are at greater risk of alcohol-attributable death (NSW Health, 2021).

- Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (**SEIFA**) data indicate that the suburb and the LGA exhibit a below-average level of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage compared with other communities across New South Wales³
- the proportion of residents who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in both the suburb and the LGA is more than five times higher than the corresponding proportion across NSW⁴.

While we acknowledge the merits of the application and the applicant's objectives, we determined that granting the licence would not be consistent with the statutory objectives of harm minimisation and the need to ensure that the sale, supply and consumption of liquor does not detract from the amenity of community life.

We were not satisfied that the imposition of conditions would sufficiently mitigate the identified risks. We formed the view that introducing an additional licensed premises in an already high-risk environment, characterised by elevated levels of alcohol-related crime and social issues would likely exacerbate existing problems.

On the basis of the application and the material before us, we considered that approval would have been unlikely to facilitate the balanced development of the industry in the public interest because it would not contribute to, and could detract from, the amenity of community life.

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.

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

³ Research shows that the association between liquor outlet density and assaults is stronger 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. (2023)).

⁴ Research shows that the association between liquor outlet density and assaults is stronger in areas with higher percentages of **ATSI** (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. (2023)).

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