



Jon Martin
JDK Legal
j.martin@jdklegal.com.au

20 February 2020

Dear Mr Martin

Application No.	APP-0006180100
Applicant	LIQUORLAND (AUSTRALIA) PTY. LTD.
Application for	Packaged liquor licence
Licence name	Liquorland
Premises	Huntlee Town Centre, 22 Empire Street BRANXTON NSW 2335
Trading hours	Monday to Saturday 9:00 am to 9:59 pm Sunday: 10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Legislation	Sections 3, 11A, 12, 29, 30, 31, 40, 45 and 48 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>

**Decision of the Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority
Application for a packaged liquor licence – Liquorland Branxton**

The Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority considered the application above, and decided on 22 January 2020 to **approve** the application under section 45 of the *Liquor Act 2007*, subject to imposing conditions as set out in Schedule 1.

Trading on a Sunday that falls on 24 December

Please note that in the case of any Sunday that falls on 24 December, the 6-hour closure period overrides the statutory provision that would otherwise allow the licence to trade from 8:00 AM. In accordance with the 6-hour closure period for the current licence, the Premises must not trade earlier than 9:00 AM.

Approved manager or transfer to an individual licensee

The licence cannot be exercised unless and until Liquor & Gaming NSW has been notified of the appointment of an approved manager to the licence, or the licence has been transferred to an individual licensee.

Concise statement of reasons

A concise statement of reasons for this decision is attached at the end of this letter.

In the interest of efficient finalisation of determined matters in a high-volume liquor and gaming jurisdiction, the Authority will only produce a detailed statement of reasons for applications which are refused, partially approved or the subject of stakeholder objections.

A concise statement of reasons is produced for non-contested applications that have been approved by the Authority, in cases where a statement of reasons is required to be published for the application under section 36C of the *Gaming and Liquor Administration Act 2007*.

The concise statement of reasons briefly sets out the material considered by the Authority, the legislative requirements, and the Authority's key findings.

If you have any questions, please contact the case manager at michelle.stark@liquorandgaming.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Crawford', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Philip Crawford
Chairperson

For and on behalf of the **Independent Liquor & Gaming Authority**

Concise statement of reasons

Key facts

Application No.	APP-0006180100
Applicant	LIQUORLAND (AUSTRALIA) PTY. LTD.
Application for	Packaged liquor licence
Licence name	Liquorland
Premises	Huntlee Town Centre, 22 Empire Street, BRANXTON NSW 2335
Trading hours	Monday to Saturday 9:00 am to 9:59 pm Sunday: 10:00 am to 8:00 pm
Application date	30 August 2019
Decision	Approved under section 45 of the <i>Liquor Act 2007</i>
Decision date	22 January 2020

Material considered by the Authority

The Authority has considered the following material in determining the application:

- Application material, including evidence of notification to specified stakeholders and the community about the application;
- Category B community impact statement;
- Premises plan setting out the proposed boundaries of the licensed premises;
- Plan of management for the licensed business at the premises;
- Development consent for the premises;
- Statistics sourced from Liquor & Gaming NSW, Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, NSW Health and Australian Bureau of Statistics in respect of the socio-economic status, liquor licence density, alcohol-related crimes rates, and health issues in the relevant local and broader communities; and
- Stakeholder submissions in relation to the application, and the applicant's response to those submissions.

Legislative requirements

The Authority has considered the application in the context of the following sections of the *Liquor Act 2007*, and the associated clauses of the Liquor Regulation 2018:

- Section 3: Statutory objects of the Act and relevant considerations.
- Sections 11A and 12: Standard trading period for liquor licences and a mandatory 6 hour period during which liquor cannot be sold.
- Sections 29-31: Specific provisions in respect of a packaged liquor licence.
- Section 40: Minimum procedural requirements for a liquor licence application to be validly made.
- Section 45: Criteria for granting a liquor licence.
- Section 48: Requirements in respect of a CIS, including a requirement that the Authority must not approve the application unless it is satisfied, having regard to the CIS and other available information, that the overall social impact of doing so will not be detrimental to the well-being of the local or broader community.

The Authority has also had regard to its Guideline 6 in considering the overall social impact of approving the application pursuant to section 48 of the Act.

Section 30

The Authority notes that that section 30 of the Act imposes certain requirements about the operation of a liquor sales area when a packaged liquor licence is exercised by a business whose primary purpose is not the sale of liquor for consumption away from the premises, such as a supermarket. The Authority further notes that Guideline 10 provides additional policy guidance as to the requirements of section 30.

Having regard to the applicant's submission and the supporting material provided, the Authority accepts that the proposed liquor facility is a distinct business operated independent of the adjacent Coles supermarket, and is therefore not captured by section 30 of the Act and the Authority's Guideline 10.

The Authority notes, however, that business models involving the operation of a liquor facility alongside a supermarket will be carefully assessed against section 30 and Guideline 10 on a case by case basis, and that any proposed design or layout intended to circumvent the requirements will not be considered favourably.

Local and broader community

In accordance with its Guideline 6, the Authority finds that the relevant local community for the purposes of this decision is the suburb of Branxton, and the broader community is the Local Government Area of Cessnock.

Positive social impacts

The Authority is satisfied on the material before it that the proposal set out in the application, if approved, would likely benefit the local and broader communities through the provision of increased liquor access, choice and convenience.

Negative social impacts

The Authority accepts that the proposal may, over time, contribute to an increase in alcohol-related harm in the local and broader communities, including alcohol-fuelled violence, health problems and social and amenity issues, having regard to the:

- higher than average liquor licence density in the local community;
- higher than average rates of non-domestic assault and offensive conduct in the local community;
- higher than average rate of malicious damage to property in the broader community;
- higher than average level of alcohol-attributable deaths in the broader community; and
- relative socio-economic disadvantage in the broader community.

The Authority is nevertheless satisfied that these risk factors are sufficiently mitigated by the following:

- lower than average liquor licence density in the broader community;
- lower than average level of alcohol-attributable hospitalisations in the broader community;
- absence of crime hotspots in the local community;
- absence of any objections from agency stakeholders or members of the community;
- experience of the applicant as an operator of multiple licensed premises with sound compliance records; and
- harm minimisation measures set out in the plan of management and licence conditions as set out in Schedule 1.

Overall social impacts and conclusion

Having considered the positive and negative social impacts that are likely to flow from the applicant's proposal, the Authority is satisfied that the overall social impact of approving the application will not be detrimental to the well-being of the local or broader community.

The Authority is also satisfied that the other legislative requirements for the approval of the application have been met.

The Authority finds, having regard to the above, that approving the application is consistent with the statutory objects and considerations of the Act to regulate the liquor industry in line with the community's expectations, needs and aspirations, and facilitate the balanced and responsible development of the liquor industry and related industries.

Accordingly, the Authority approves the application under section 45 of the Act.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Philip Crawford', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Philip Crawford
Chairperson

Schedule 1 – Licence conditions to be imposed Liquorland Branxton

1. 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 six (6) hours between 3:00 AM and 9:00 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. Restricted trading & NYE (std)
Retail sales

Good Friday	Not permitted
December 24 th	Normal trading Monday to Saturday 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM Sunday
Christmas Day	Not permitted
December 31 st	Normal trading
3. The business authorised by this licence must not operate with a greater overall level of social impact on the wellbeing of the local and broader community than what could reasonably be expected from the information contained in the Community Impact Statement, application and other information submitted in the process of obtaining this licence.
4. The premises is to be operated at all times in accordance with the Coles Liquor NSW Management Strategies and House Policy for the Responsible Service of Alcohol documents, as submitted to the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority (“the Authority”) in support of the licence application and as may be varied from time to time after consultation with the Authority. A copy of these documents is to be kept on the premises, and made available for inspection on the request of a police officer, council officer, Liquor & Gaming NSW inspector, or any other person authorised by the Authority.
5. The licensee or its representative must join and be an active participant in the local liquor accord.
6. Closed-circuit television system
 - 1) The licensee must maintain a closed-circuit television (CCTV) system on the licensed premises (“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,
 - (b) recordings must be in digital format and at a minimum of six (6) 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 to the premises, and
 - (ii) all publicly accessible areas (other than toilets) within the premises.
 - 2) 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 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.