IN THE MATTER OF the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

AND

IN THE MATTER OF an application by **JOHN DARELL CALMA** under s224 of the Act for the renewal of his manager's certificate

BEFORE THE KĀPITI COAST DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE

MINUTE OF THE COMMITTEE

Preliminary matters of clarification and attendance

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[1] John Darell Calma has applied under s224 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (the Act) to renew his manager's certificate. The inspector opposes renewal. The Police do not. The application will be heard on 23 November 2026.

[2] On 30 October 2026, the Secretary received a written submission from Mr Duane Watt. There appears to be some uncertainty about who the parties to the application are, and about Mr Watt's role. This minute sets out the position so that everyone can prepare on the same footing.

[3] The application is Mr Calma's alone. The only issue for the Committee is whether, having regard to the matters in s227 of the Act, his manager's certificate should be renewed. Those matters are his suitability to be a manager, any convictions recorded against him since the certificate was issued, the manner in which he has managed the sale and supply of alcohol under the licence with the aim of contributing to the reduction of alcohol-related harm, and the matters in the reports of the inspector and the Police.

[4] The hearing is not a prosecution, and there are no defendants. The Committee will not decide whether anyone has committed an offence. Neither Mr Watt nor Octopus Inc Limited, which holds the licence for The Telegraph Hotel, is a party to the application, and the Committee will make no order about either of them.

[5] Those to be heard as parties at the hearing are Mr Calma, the licensing inspector, and the New Zealand Police.

[6] Because Mr Watt is not a party, the Committee does not receive his submission as a submission in the proceeding. It concerns Council licensing fees and processes and earlier matters relating to the licence for the premises. It does not address the matters in s227 as they relate to Mr Calma, and the Committee will not have regard to it in deciding the application. It has been placed on the file, and any party may ask the Secretary for a copy.

[7] The Committee considers that Mr Watt is likely to be able to give evidence that will assist it on matters within s227, in particular what happened at the premises on 10 June 2026 and how managers at the premises are appointed and recorded. For that reason, and not because he is a party, the Committee will hear from Mr Watt as a witness. His evidence must be confined to those matters as they concern Mr Calma. Evidence or argument on other matters will not be taken into account. Mr Watt will give evidence as an individual witness. He does not appear for Octopus Inc Limited.

[1] Under s203(9) of the Act, the Committee directs that Mr Watt file a written statement of his evidence with the Secretary by 06 November 2026. The Secretary will send it to Mr Calma, the inspector, and the Police on receipt. Mr Watt is asked to attend the hearing to confirm his statement and to answer the Committee's questions.

[2] Any party may file evidence or submissions in response to Mr Watt's statement by 13 November 2026, the date already set for further evidence.

[3] Consistent with s203A(2), the parties will not question Mr Watt.

[4] The Committee will not decide whether anyone has committed an offence. Nevertheless, at the hearing any party or witness may decline to answer a specific question if the answer would be likely to incriminate them, that is, expose them to prosecution.

[5] This minute expresses no view on the merits of the application.

[6] The Secretary is to send a copy of this minute to Mr Calma, the inspector, the Police, and Mr Watt.

Dated at Raumati on 02 November 2026



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Cr Bede Laracy
Chairperson
Kāpiti Coast District Licensing Committee