

Director of Liquor Licensing

Decision Notice

MATTER:	Application for the grant of a licence with a restaurant authority
LICENSEE:	Darwin Airport Resort Operating Company Pty Ltd
PREMISES:	The Splash and Go Food Truck Darwin Airport 1 Henry Wrigley Drive Eaton
LEGISLATION:	Part 3 Division 5 of the <i>Liquor Act 2019</i>
DECISION OF:	Director of Liquor Licensing
DATE OF DECISION:	9 July 2026

DECISION

1. For the reasons set out below, and pursuant to section 60(1)(a) of the *Liquor Act 2019* (Act), and in accordance with the delegations issued by the Northern Territory Liquor Commission on 4 July 2025, I, as Director of Liquor Licensing (Director), approve the application by Darwin Airport Resort Operating Company Pty Ltd for a licence with a restaurant authority.
2. The conditions, including the hours of operation of the licence, are as prescribed in Part 4 Division 15 of the Liquor Regulations 2019.
3. The licensed area is to be clearly delineated and identified, with no liquor being permitted to be removed from this licensed area to other areas of the Darwin airport terminal, including other licensed premises within the terminal.

REASONS

APPLICATION

4. On 12 June 2026, counsel for the applicant, Darwin Airport Resort Operating Company Pty Ltd, lodged an application for a licence with a special venture authority.
5. Discussions between counsel for the applicant and Licensing NT confirmed an amendment to the application to seek a restaurant authority, as it was considered the more appropriate authority on the basis of the operation proposed.
6. This was confirmed on 22 June 2026, with the application being formally accepted and the required materials being provided soon after.

PUBLICATION & NOTIFICATIONS

7. Changes to the Act commencing on 22 June 2026 classify this application as a low risk application under section 52A of the Act.

8. As a low risk application, and having regard to the nature of the application, the application was not required to be advertised by public notice.
9. Accordingly, no public notices were required for this matter.
10. Notification in compliance with the requirements of section 56(4) of the Act was provided to the prescribed parties.

ASSESSMENT OF THE APPLICATION

11. The proposed licensed premises are contained within the landside area of the existing Darwin Airport terminal, on the ground floor.
12. Another entity holds a licence for much of the first floor and areas of the ground floor, providing a range of food and beverage services to travellers and their guests in the terminal.
13. For completeness, there is also a members-only licensed lounge on the first floor for passengers and their guests.
14. Accordingly, the proposed operation is within an already comprehensive tourism and hospitality operation and will have no impact on areas outside of the terminal.
15. A fulsome suite of materials was provided in support of the application, and the operation is being supported by the resort operated by the licensee adjacent to the terminal.
16. The applicant holds a licence for the adjacent Darwin Airport Resort and has no known record of adverse compliance issues.
17. I am also guided by the provisions of section 51(3) of the Act and consider the applicant to be a fit and proper person for the purposes of this application.
18. The operation proposed is simple in nature and will provide a range of meals and food, including coffee and tea as well as liquor, with the sale of liquor not being the primary attractor to the operation.
19. This operation will provide a wider range of products to the travelling public and is unlikely to attract anti-social behaviour as the terminal is not generally patronised by the general public unless for the purposes of travel.

Public interest and community impact requirements

20. With reference to sections 51 and 52A of the Act, as a low risk application, this matter is not subject to the formal public interest and community impact requirements otherwise prescribed by the Act.
21. Section 3(4) of the Act requires that a person exercising powers under the Act have regard to both its primary and secondary purposes, with the primary purpose being harm minimisation.
22. The grant of this authority is also consistent with the secondary purpose set out in section 3(2)(d), namely the stimulation of the tourism and hospitality industries.
23. This decision has been made consistently with those statutory purposes.

REVIEW OF DECISION

24. Section 29(1) of the *Liquor Commission Act 2018* provides that any decision made by the Director, except those under section 52A(2) or 161(2) of the *Liquor Act 2019*, is reviewable by the Commission. Section 29(2) prescribes the persons who may apply for such a review.
25. An application for review must be lodged with the Commission within 28 days of the applicant receiving written notice of the Director's decision. The application must be in the form approved by the Commission and must specify the grounds for review and the supporting facts.
26. This decision falls within the scope of section 29(1) of the *Liquor Commission Act 2018*, is not excluded by section 29(1)(a) or (b), and is therefore reviewable by the Commission.



Mel Garde
Director of Liquor Licensing

9 July 2026