

Delegate of the Director of Liquor Licensing

Decision Notice

MATTER:	Application for the grant of a licence with a restaurant authority
APPLICANT:	Northstar Australia Group Pty Ltd
PREMISES:	Shanghai Alley Yeperenye Shopping Centre T19, 36-38 Hartley Street ALICE SPRINGS NT 0870
LEGISLATION:	<i>Liquor Act 2019</i> – Part 3 and 4
DECISION OF:	Southern Region Manager Liquor – Licensing and Compliance
DATE OF DECISION:	29 September 2026

DECISION

1. As a delegate of the Director of Liquor Licensing (the Director), I approve the application submitted by Northstar Australia Group Pty Ltd for the grant of a liquor licence with a restaurant authority, for the premises to be known as Shanghai Alley situated within the Yeperenye Shopping Centre, T19, 36-38 Hartley Street, Alice Springs.
2. The licence is granted in accordance with the delegations issued by the Northern Territory Liquor Commission on 4 July 2025 and pursuant to section 60(1)(a) of the *Liquor Act 2019* (the Act).
3. The operative authority for this licence is, with reference to section 47(1)(b) of the Act, a restaurant authority.
4. The hours of trade are in accordance with the hours prescribed in the *Liquor Regulations 2019* (the Regulations) for this authority being:
 - a) Seven days a week
 - b) 10:00 hours to 23:59 hours
 - c) Good Friday and Christmas Day are from 11:00 to 21:00 if the liquor is served, sold or supplied only to patrons purchasing full meals during those hours.
5. The sale of liquor by the licensee at the premises under this licence is prohibited until such time as the licensee has provided all necessary occupancy permits and any other permissions necessary to the satisfaction of the Director or their delegate, and received written permission to commence trade.

BACKGROUND

6. Pursuant to section 52 of the Act, Northstar Australia Group Pty Ltd lodged an incomplete application for a licence with a restaurant authority on 5 August 2026.
7. Licensing NT worked with the applicant in the intervening period to obtain the remainder of the materials necessary to consider this matter as prescribed by the Act.
8. The premises is the simple restaurant operation within the Yeperenye Shopping Centre providing freshly made to order Chinese cuisine, including handmade dumplings, yum cha, classic wok dishes, fresh smoothies, juices, Chinese tea and soft drinks.
9. The sale of liquor is not a primary attractor and is as required, ancillary to a meal.
10. The applicant has provided the material prescribed in section 52 of the Act.

NOTIFICATION, PUBLIC NOTICES AND OBJECTIONS

11. Changes to the Act commencing on 22 June 2026 classify this application as a low-risk application under section 52A of the Act.
12. 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.
13. In pursuance of section 56(4) of the Act, the application was notified to the Commissioner of Police (Police), the Chief Executive Officers of the Department of Health (DoH) and the Alice Springs Town Council.
14. No party expressed any adverse comments in relation to this matter.

APPLICATION

15. The Applicant has provided a comprehensive suite of materials in support of the application including all materials prescribed by the Act.
16. The authority sought by the Applicant is in pursuance of section 47(1)(b) of the Act.
17. The determination of applications under section 60(1) of the Act has been conditionally delegated by the Liquor Commission to the Director of Liquor Licensing. The limitation, including the authorities which may be granted under delegation being a restaurant authority.
18. The Director further delegated these powers to me by instrument.

DISCLOSURE OF PERSONS

19. Section 54 of the Act requires the Applicant to make an affidavit disclosing each person who, if the licence is issued, may
- (a) be able to influence the applicant; or
 - (b) expect a direct or indirect benefit from the Applicant.
20. I am satisfied with the materials provided by the Applicant in relation to this requirement.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

21. Section 58 of the Act enables the Director to conduct an investigation into an application as considered appropriate. No materials have been discovered or provided to indicate there are any adverse matters in relation to this application.
22. A fulsome Business Plan was provided detailing the nature of the business.
23. The nature of the operation is simple in that the licensee intends to provide freshly made to order Chinese cuisine, including handmade dumplings, yum cha, classic wok dishes, fresh smoothies, juices, Chinese tea and soft drinks.
24. The licensee sought the following hours of operation, which are less than those prescribed by regulation 79 of the Regulations:
- Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 11:00 to 20:30 hours
 - Thursday & Friday 11:00 to 21:00 hours
 - Saturday & Sunday 10:00 to 20:30 hours
25. The hours prescribed in the Regulations for each authority are the maximum hours allowed under that authority, they are not a minimum and licensees are not compelled to trade those hours.
26. It is not uncommon for licensees of low-risk operations to seek limited hours, however in my experience they soon discover a need to extend beyond those originally sought at times. It is therefore more appropriate to provide the licensee flexibility to trade as required within the prescribed hours, with the licensee deciding what hours they trade within those maximums.
27. This saves unnecessary subsequent applications in the future. It is for this reason that I the hours approved for this licence are those prescribed in the Regulations.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

28. I am satisfied with the materials provided for the financial stability and business reputation of the applicant.

FIT AND PROPER

29. Section 59(3)(g)(i) of the Act requires the decision maker to consider whether the Applicant, including the nominee designated by the Applicant, is a fit and proper to hold a licence.
30. There are no materials to suggest any person is not fit and proper.
31. Having considered the materials provided, I am satisfied the applicant and nominee are fit and proper to hold a licence.

PUBLIC INTEREST AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

32. As this application is for a restaurant authority, it falls within the low risk classification of matter and therefore with reference to section 51 of the Act, there is no onus on the applicant to satisfy the issuing of the licence or authority is in the public interest and will not have a significant adverse impact on the community.
33. Although the Act removes this onus for this matter the materials provided and investigation undertaken provides comfort that there is no materials to suggest this matter should not be treated as a low risk matter, or would give rise to any adverse impacts on the public interest or the community.

CONSIDERATION CRITERIA

34. Consideration must be made of the applicant's affidavit, the results of any investigation, objections and responses, the suitability of the premises along with the appropriateness of the applicant to be a licensee.
35. With regards to the matters raised in section 49(2) of the Act, I note the following:
- a. Minimising the harm or ill health caused to people, or a group of people, by the consumption of liquor is to be minimised:

I am satisfied the provision of liquor is ancillary to the overall services provided by the applicant.
 - b. Ensuring liquor is to be sold, supplied, served and consumed, on or in licensed premises in a responsible manner:

Having considered all the material, it is unlikely any liquor sold, supplied, served and consumed will be done so in an irresponsible manner.
 - c. Safeguarding public order and safety, particularly when large numbers of people would be attracted to licensed premises or an area adjacent to those premises:

The Director considers that public order and safety are unlikely to be jeopardised by the operation of the licence because of the nature of business.

- d. Protecting the safety, health and welfare of people who use licensed premises:

The simple nature of the operation suggests there is no risk to the safety, health or welfare of people who will use this licensed premises.

- e. Increasing cultural, recreational, employment or tourism benefits for the local community area:

The primary intention of the licence is to provide cultural, employment and tourism benefits to the community.

- f. Promoting compliance with this Act and other relevant laws of the Territory:

There are no materials provided which would suggest the applicant will not comply with the Act and any other relevant laws.

- g. Ensuring each person involved in the business conducted at licensed premises receives training suitable for the person's role in the business:

I am satisfied the applicant will appropriately manage and supervise service staff.

- h. Preventing the giving of credit for the sales of liquor to people:

No issues have been raised to suggest there is any concern in relation to this objective.

- i. Preventing the practices that encourage irresponsible drinking:

No issues have been raised to suggest there is any concern in relation to this objective.

- j. Reducing or limiting increases in anti-social behaviour:

No issues have been raised to suggest there is any concern in relation to this objective.

36. Turning to the matters under section 49(3):

- a. The risk of undue offence, annoyance, disturbance or inconvenience to people who reside or work in the vicinity of the proposed licensed premises or who are using, or travelling to or from, a place of public worship, a hospital or a school:

There is no material to suggest there is a significant risk of undue offence, annoyance, disturbance or inconvenience likely to be caused by the granting of the licence.

- b. The geographic area that would be affected:

It is highly unlikely to affect the geographic area given the minimal nature of the operation.

- c. The risk of harm from the excessive or inappropriate consumption of liquor:

As previously indicated, there are no materials to suggest there will be excessive consumption of liquor.

- d. The people or community who would be affected:

It is unlikely to be significant adverse impact on the community by granting of the licence to the applicant.

- e. The effect on culture, recreation, employment and tourism:

The venture is expected to generate positive employment benefits.

- f. The effect on social amenities and public health:

It is unlikely there will be any significant adverse impact on the social amenities and public health by the granting of this licence to the applicant.

- g. The ratio of existing liquor licences and authorities in the community to the population of the community:

It is my opinion this matter is not considered to be a relevant matter in this application given the nature of the venture and the location of the premises.

- h. The effect of the volume of liquor sales on the community:

For the same reasons as above, this factor is not considered to be of significance in the circumstances of this application.

- i. The community impact assessment guidelines issued under section 50:

These have been considered and referred to earlier in this notice.

37. Having regards to the foregoing, I am satisfied that the issuing of the licence as sought is in the public interest and will not have an adverse effect on the community.

REVIEW OF DECISION

38. Section 27 of the Act provides for the applicant or a person who made a submission to the subject of the decision, to seek a review of a decision made by the delegate of the Director.

39. The Director delegated the determination of applications made under section 52 of the Act by instrument to the person from time to time holding, acting in or performing the duties of the position listed in the Schedule of that instrument. This decision was made by a person referred to in that schedule.

40. An application for review must be lodged with the Director within 28 days after written notice of the decision is given to the person and must be in the form approved by the Director, stating the grounds for the review and the facts relied on to establish the grounds.

41. Accordingly, the affected people in relation to this decision are Northstar Australia Group Pty Ltd.



Mark Wood
Delegate of the Director of Liquor Licensing
29 September 2026