

**Decision Number: 60F [2024]  
19425**

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

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF** an application by **BENJAMIN  
JOHN RITCHIE** for a Manager's  
Certificate pursuant to section 221  
of the Act.

**BEFORE THE CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**Committee:** Ms M Redstone (Chair)  
Mr D Blackwell  
Mr D Ivory

**Hearing:** Christchurch City Council Building on 6 August 2024

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**DECISION OF THE CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE**

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[1] This is an application by **BENJAMIN JOHN RITCHIE ('the Applicant')** for a Manager's Certificate pursuant to section 219 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (**'the Act'**). The application was received on 12 October 2023 and related to the applicant's employment at Spagalimis Pizzeria, Christchurch.

[2] The New Zealand Police initially opposed the application on the grounds that the applicant had received an infringement notice for the offence of Breath Alcohol Level Exceeded 250mcgs, but not 400mcgs. On 6 March 2024 the Police later withdrew their opposition due to the recent Alcohol Regulatory Licensing Authority decision it does not consider a "fine only" constitutes grounds for suspension or cancellation of a Manager's Certificate and that they considered the Committee would follow that finding when considering the application.

[3] The Applicant had been interviewed by the Inspector on 11 December 2023 where his knowledge of the Act was found to be acceptable.

[4] Following the Police decision to withdraw the made various attempts, by both phone and email, to engage with the applicant but all have failed, with the last attempt being made on 19 July 2024 at 1:53pm. Inquiries at Spagalimis Pizzeria confirmed that the applicant was no longer employed at the premises and it is not known if he still works in the industry.

[5] The matter was duly set down for a hearing on 6 August 2024 at 11:30am at the Civic Offices of the Christchurch City Council. The Applicant failed to attend this hearing.

[6] The application is declined on the grounds of the Applicant failing to respond to messages left for him to make contact with the Inspector, and failing to attend the hearing.

**DATED** at CHRISTCHURCH this 6th day of August 2024



Merelyn Redstone

Chairperson

**Christchurch District Licensing Committee**