

**IN THE MATTER**

of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012  
(the Act).

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER**

of an application **by RONITA HEENAL  
SHARMA** pursuant to s.219 of the Act for a  
Managers Certificate.

**BEFORE THE QUEENSTOWN LAKES DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Mr LA Cocks

Members: Mrs NJ Vryenhoek

Mr P Jones

**DECISION OF THE DISTRICT LICENSING COMMITTEE (ADDENDUM)**

1. The Committee heard an application by Ronita Heenal Sharma for a Manager's Certificate at a hearing on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023.
2. At the hearing the Inspector questioned the applicant's suitability due to her inability to pass the knowledge test conducted by council staff. Ms Sharma attempted to pass the test on three occasions between 17<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022, but was unsuccessful on each attempt. A review of the applicant's responses for each attempt revealed she did not have a basic understanding of the following:
  - a. The Object of the Act;
  - b. The three designations that can be imposed on a licensed premises;
  - c. The minimum number of substantial food options which must be available when an on- licence premises is open for the sale and supply of alcohol; and
  - d. Responsibilities of a duty manager.
3. The applicant told us she was confident she would pass the test if given another opportunity. She advised she was redoing the LCQ online. We accepted the applicant had completed the relevant training, had adequate experience and apart from not passing the knowledge test, was considered suitable to hold a Manager's Certificate.
4. Accordingly, we ruled pursuant to s.222 of the Act, that the above application for a new Manager's Certificate was approved on two conditions as follows:

- a. *That prior to issuing the certificate the applicant must sit and pass in one more attempt the Council's Duty Manager's assessment at a time and place to be nominated by an Inspector.*
  - b. *That the applicant signs an undertaking to only use the certificate while managing the premises known as 'Queenstown T Galleria' in Queenstown, for at least 12 months.*
5. Ms Sharma undertook the Duty Manager's assessment again on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023, however she was unsuccessful in passing the test and failed to achieve condition 4.a above.
6. We therefore consider the applicant does not fulfil all the criteria at s.222 of the Act, and her ability to be a manager is in doubt. Accordingly the application is declined.

**DATED** at Queenstown this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 2023.



LA Cocks  
Commissioner  
Queenstown Lakes District Licensing Committee

