Snapshot: Liquor Licensing Exemptions

New exemption provisions under the Liquor Act 2010 came into effect on 18 May 2017. From this date certain businesses (those whose core business is not to sell or supply liquor) will no longer be required to hold a liquor licence or permit.

A list of exempt businesses follows:

**Accommodation business** – traveller accommodation that only supplies liquor in the accommodation unit operated by the business, for example a minibar or room services in a hotel or motel.

However, the exemption wouldn’t apply if the accommodation business also has a restaurant that supplies liquor as part of the restaurant service.

**Florist or Gift Maker business** – a florist or gift maker business that packages liquor together with flowers, food or other gifts where the liquor supplied with each package does not exceed 1.5 litres and the value of the liquor does not exceed half the sale price of the package.

Example: a florist creates a hamper that contains two 700ml bottles of wine, flowers and other gifts. Total cost of the hamper is $100 and the liquor value is $25.

**Hairdresser or barber business** – a hairdressing or barber business that supplies complimentary alcoholic drinks (beer, wine, champagne etc) to their clients when doing their hair.

However, the exemption doesn’t apply if there is a charge for the alcohol beverage.

The following businesses are exempt if the supply of liquor does not exceed 2 standard alcoholic drinks per person per day:

- hospital
- home or residential care service provider
- retirement village
- hospice.

**Limousine or Tour business** – a limousine or tour business provides services to no more than 12 adults and offers no more than 2 standard complimentary alcoholic beverages per person.

However, the exemption doesn’t apply if there is a charge for the alcohol drinks.

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