Liquor Licensing Fact Sheet

Plans of licensed premises

When a liquor licence or BYO permit is granted, it is for a defined area where liquor can be supplied and/or consumed. This is shown by a red-line drawn on a plan of the premises. This plan needs to be submitted to the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) as part of the application process and may be required upon request at any time.

The plan of the premises must accompany applications for:

- a licence or BYO permit excluding a pre-retail licence or a BYO permit for party bus
- a variation of a licence or BYO permit that involves a change to the size or perimeter of the licensed premises
- a transfer of a licence or BYO permit if the current floor layout of the premises differs from the plan held at the VCGLR
- the relocation of a licence or BYO permit.

Four copies of the plan should be lodged when submitting an application form.

Why do I need to submit four copies of the plan?

Four copies are required to enable:

- a copy to be endorsed as an approved plan and retained by the VCGLR
- a copy to be provided to Victoria Police as part of the application process
- a copy to be provided to the relevant local council as part of the application process
- an approved copy to be provided to the applicant on the grant of an application.

Plan of premises should be given to the VCGLR if internal changes are made.

If a change is made to the internal area of licensed premises (for example, by adding or removing a particular structure), the licensee should submit an updated plan of the licensed premises.

Plan of the premises to be given to the VCGLR if requested

In addition to the above, section 101A of the Liquor Control Reform Act 1998 provides that the VCGLR may at any time request that a licensee submit a current plan of a licensed premises.

What form should a plan take?

The VCGLR has specified that a plan must contain the following elements:

- be on suitably sized paper, minimum A4 size (graph paper is not acceptable)
- be drawn in ink and be neat and legible
- show the floor plan(s) of the owned or leased property
- outline in red the boundaries of the proposed area to be licensed
- if the proposed area does not follow a physical barrier (such as a wall), describe what is being used to separate the area
- show clear and consistent measurements on the plan
- include the address of the premises
- include a compass point showing north and names of the surrounding streets
- show basic functions or fixtures, for example, bar and dining area/kitchen area or in the case of a packaged liquor outlet, shelf areas where alcohol is displayed and the cash register is located
- a plan should be drawn to a suitable scale so that all elements above are clearly identified. A suggested scale is 1:100 (1cm = 1m).
Restaurant and cafe licences and On-premises licences

If applying for kerbside trading, identify the area to be licensed and separately outline this area in red on the plan. The VCGLR will mark this area with an A.A on the approved copy of the plan. This area is referred to as the Authorised Area.

General licences

A general licence authorises the supply of liquor to patrons for consumption off the licensed premises, being a footpath or kerbside area. Therefore this area does not need to be identified on the plan.

Please note that licensees must comply with relevant local planning laws.

Where a proposed licensed or authorised area includes large outdoor spaces, a separate site plan must be provided that shows:
- the entire site including internal and external areas drawn to a suitable scale
- outline in red the proposed area that is to be licensed
- clear descriptions of how the proposed outdoor area will be distinguished (for example, fence, portable barriers, warning signs).

If the plan does not meet these requirements, the applicant will be required to resubmit the plan.

What am I required to do with my approved plan?

A copy of the approved plan must be kept on the licensed premises and must be available for inspection on request by a member of Victoria Police or a Compliance Inspector.

Failure to keep a copy of the plan on the licensed premises or produce a copy of the plan for inspection could result in a fine being issued.

Where can I get a copy of my approved plan?

If you do not have a copy of your approved plan, you can obtain a copy from the VCGLR at no extra cost.

An example of a plan is provided below.