

Public Interest Assessment Submission

Applicant

Eneabba Community Store PTY LTD

Premises

Eneabba Recreation Centre
Lot 383 Eneabba Drive
ENEABBA WA 6518

Background

Following the closure of the former Eneabba Super Store (the local Grocery, Hardware, Australia Post and Liquor Store) its contents were placed into liquidation. On 29 May 2026, a group of local Eneabba business owners purchased the shelving, refrigeration units, shop fittings and remaining stock. The primary objective was to retain these assets within the town, ensuring the infrastructure required to operate a local store remained available for future use. Had these assets been sold separately or removed from the district, re-establishing a community store would have been significantly more difficult and costly.

Since that time, the Steering Committee has met regularly, secured capital commitments, established the necessary business structure, including an ABN/ACN, and successfully relocated the store assets to the Eneabba Recreation Centre on Eneabba Drive a Shire of Carnamah building, which we are in the process of finalising a lease arrangement. These efforts have been supported by strong community backing, significant local investment and a shared commitment to reopening the business as the Eneabba Community Store by mid to late July 2026.

The proposed bottle shop will operate as an integral component of the community store, providing a complete retail service to residents and reducing the need for travel to neighbouring towns to purchase packaged liquor.

Purpose of the Application

The Eneabba Community Store Steering Committee seeks the grant of a Packaged Liquor Licence to operate a retail bottle shop supplying liquor for consumption away from the licensed premises. The proposed bottle shop will complement the broader retail operations of the community store by providing a convenient, professionally managed and responsibly operated packaged liquor service for local residents and visitors.

Public Interest

Granting the licence is in the public interest because it will:

- Provide the local community with a safe, accessible and professionally managed retail liquor outlet that promotes responsible purchasing practices.
- Restore an essential retail service that was lost following the closure of the former Eneabba Super Store, reducing the need for residents to travel significant distances to purchase packaged liquor.
- Meet the needs and expectations of the local community by offering a diverse range of quality packaged liquor products in a safe, responsible and well-managed retail environment.
- Generate employment opportunities for local residents through the creation of both full-time and part-time positions.
- Support the local economy by encouraging residents to shop locally, retaining expenditure within the community, engaging local suppliers where practicable and contributing to ongoing economic activity.
- Operate in full compliance with the *Liquor Control Act 1988 (WA)*, all applicable regulations, licence conditions and Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) requirements, ensuring liquor is sold responsibly and in accordance with best practice.

The proposed business will be operated responsibly and will actively promote the safe and lawful sale of packaged liquor. The application is intended to restore an important community service rather than increase alcohol availability beyond the reasonable needs of the local community.

Harm Minimisation

We recognise the importance of minimising alcohol-related harm and is committed to responsible retail practices.

The business will implement the following measures:

- All staff involved in the sale of liquor will hold current Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) certification.
- Staff will receive ongoing training in liquor licensing obligations and responsible service practices.
- Liquor will not be sold to persons under 18 years of age or to intoxicated persons.
- Identification will be requested from any customer who appears to be under 25 years of age.
- CCTV will monitor the premises to enhance security and deter inappropriate behaviour.
- Appropriate signage regarding proof of age, responsible drinking and licensing obligations will be prominently displayed.
- Incident records will be maintained where appropriate.
- Management will work cooperatively with WA Police and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries to ensure compliance with all licence conditions and legislative requirements.

Community Impact

The proposed premises are expected to have minimal impact on the surrounding community because:

- Liquor will only be sold in sealed containers for consumption away from the licensed premises.
- No on-site consumption of liquor will be permitted.
- No entertainment, amplified music or late-night trading associated with the bottle shop is proposed.
- Customer visits will generally be brief and form part of routine grocery shopping.
- The premises will be managed to minimise any potential impacts relating to noise, traffic, parking and litter.
- The bottle shop will operate as part of the community store, providing an integrated retail service rather than functioning as a standalone liquor outlet.

Management

The premises will be supervised by experienced management committed to complying with the *Liquor Control Act 1988 (WA)*, all licence conditions and any directions issued by the licensing authority.

Management will regularly review operational procedures, staff training and compliance systems to ensure the responsible sale of liquor and ongoing adherence to legislative requirements.

Conclusion

The applicant submits that granting the Packaged Liquor Licence is consistent with the public interest by restoring an important retail service to the Eneabba community while ensuring the responsible sale of packaged liquor. The proposal reflects a community-led initiative supported by local investment and is intended to meet the reasonable needs of residents in a safe, well-managed and compliant manner.

The Eneabba Community Store will provide a valuable local service, strengthen the town's economic sustainability, create employment opportunities and contribute positively to community wellbeing while maintaining high standards of responsible liquor retailing and regulatory compliance.

Thankyou for your consideration,

Debra Tregoning on behalf of The Eneabba Community Store