Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 - Update on licensing standards issues noted etc.

7 There was submitted a report by the Council's Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability providing an update on licensing standards issues in respect of the period from July to December 2023, advising

(1) that Licensing Standards, as statutory nominees, had provided comment on various applications, as detailed in the report, which included applications for

(a) new and provisional premises licences;

(b) major variation;

(c) occasional licences; and

(d) extended hours;

(2) that applications for new premises licences and major variation, together with the significant resource demands linked to the delivery of major events in the city, were the focus of the reporting period;

(3) of the above average number of applications processed for occasional licences and extended hours due to the variety of small to medium scale events that had taken place and the continuation of the 6-month outdoor licensed area process;

(4) that Licensing Standards had dealt with 117 complaints and 240 enquiries, as detailed in the report; and

(5) of interest and stakeholder group activity undertaken by officers, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the Forum noted

(i) the contents of the report;

(ii) that with regard to the City of Glasgow Licensing Board's pilot scheme for on sales premises in the city centre whereby the Board would consider granting a terminal hour of 1am, the Clerk to the Licensing Board would circulate information to all members on the number of applications that had been received for major variation by the 31st January 2024 deadline after this information had been reported to the Licensing Board at its meeting on 16th February 2024; and

(iii) that with regard to work being undertaken by the Scottish Government in relation to bringing forward regulations which would put in place "occasional licence limits" in terms of the number of occasional licences, or the number of days on which occasional licences had effect, in relation to the same applicant or premises in any 12 month period, the Clerk to the Licensing Board had

recently met with civil servants of the Scottish Government to discuss the matter and had been advised that the matter remained a priority but had been delayed pending work being undertaken in relation to another urgent matter.