Item 5

13th February 2024

Glasgow City Council

Local Licensing Forum

Report by Executive Director Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

Contact: Paul Stewart **Tel: 0141 287 6658**

Licensing Standards Report

Purpose of Report:

To provide an update for the period July – December 2023 for the Licensing Forum on ongoing Licensing Standards issues.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Forum note:

- the work being undertaken by Licensing Standards Officers continues to focus on supporting licensed premises where legislation, policy and resources permit; and
- the work of Licensing Standards Officers is enhanced by participating in multi-agency initiatives.

Ward No(s): Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1.0 Applications

1.1 During the months July to December 2023 Licensing Standards, as statutory nominees, provided comments on the following licensing applications:

- New and Provisional Premises Licence Applications - 24
- Major Variation Applications - 35
- Occasional Licence applications - 691
- Extended Hours applications - 116

1.2 New and Variation applications and the significant resource demands linked to the delivery of major events, including the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships, were the focus for this period. The number of Occasional Licence/Extended Hours applications processed also remained consistently above average due to the variety of small to medium scale events taking place and the continuation of the 6-month Outdoor Licensed Area process.

2.0 Enquiries and Complaints

- Enquiries - 240
- Complaints - 117

2.1 The complaints received related mainly to Outdoor drinking, noise, alcohol display areas, statutory training requirements and anti-social behaviour. The majority were addressed and resolved with no requirement for formal action, with the remainder requiring either mediation between all parties or formal action. In all cases, Licensing Standards either liaised with or worked in conjunction with Police Scotland, other partner agencies and Council services.

2.2 Enquiries received related mainly to application or legislative processes and procedures, Licensing Board policy including the Festive Policy and Policy Statement consultation, the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships and services provided by other Council divisions linked to the Licensing process. Said enquiries were received from licence holders, other Council services, partner agencies and the general public.

3.0 Interest Group Activity

3.1 With the number of events/concerts taking place within the City significant, including the 2023 UCI Cycling World Championships and thereafter the Festive period, resources were focused on guidance, monitoring and enforcement. This involved the dissemination of event details to residents, interested parties, Pub Watches and licence holders with engagement work targeted at the benefits/effects of those events and any licensing implications relative thereto.

3.2 Information and guidance was also provided to residents, interested parties, Pub Watches and licence holders on the Licensing Boards Policy Statement consultation exercise. Best practice guidance and reminder visits to licensed premises continued where Pub Watch and Off Sale watch groups were currently dormant.

4.0 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:	All costs for Licensing Standards derive from funding via CEO Licensing
Legal:	All activities are in compliance with the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Alcohol etc. (Scotland) Act 2010 as well as other appropriate legislation.
Personnel:	Four Licensing Standards Officer posts are held within Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (Environmental Health). Other Environmental Health staff are available to assist with work as requested.
Procurement:	None

Council Strategic Plan: None

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25	N/A
What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	No significant impact
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage	N/A

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate	N/A

Plan actions? Please specify:	
What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?	N/A
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	N/A

Privacy and Data Protection impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report	No
If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out	N/A

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that the Forum note:

- the work being undertaken by Licensing Standards Officers continues to focus on supporting licensed premises where legislation, policy and resources permit; and

- the work of Licensing Standards Officers is enhanced by participating in multi-agency initiatives.

George Gillespie

Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability