City of Glasgow Licensing Board – Pilot Scheme in relation to the granting of a terminal hour of 1 am to on sales premises within the city centre – Update noted etc.

3 In terms of Standing Order No 6 and with reference to the minutes of 14th May 2024 noting an update regarding the Board's pilot scheme in relation to the granting of a terminal hour of 1 am to on sales premises within the city centre and that a further update would be provided at this meeting, there was heard a verbal update by the Clerk to the City of Glasgow Licensing Board regarding the matter, advising

(1) that at a meeting on 17th May 2024, the Licensing Board had granted 54 applications for major variation in relation to the pilot scheme;

(2) of the proposed process to be undertaken in relation to a 12 month review of the scheme whereby the Licensing Board, working in partnership with Police Scotland, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde/Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership and Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability (Licensing Standards), would review the impact of the pilot scheme throughout the initial 12 month period and determine whether to continue it or maintain the existing policy terminal hour of 12 midnight; and

(3) that if the Licensing Board agreed to continue the scheme, applications for major variation would then require to be submitted and determined by the Licensing Board.

After consideration, the Forum noted

(a) the update;

(b) that the criteria considered by the Licensing Board when determining applications for major variation from city centre premises for the pilot scheme was similar to the criteria considered for applicants seeking premises licences to operate as a nightclub to 4am;

(c) various concerns expressed at the meeting regarding transport provision from the city centre at night time and the economic impact of the pilot scheme on the night time economy;

(d) that it would not be appropriate to establish a sub-group to consider various issues in relation to the pilot scheme as the Licensing Board had already agreed the review process, as detailed in 5.3.3 of its Licensing Policy Statement;

(e) that in its 12 month review, the Licensing Board would consider whether there was any evidence of a measurable or direct link between the pilot scheme and alcohol related crime or hospital admissions figures and that issues such as the economic impact of the scheme on the night time economy and transport provision would not be at the forefront of the review; and

(f) that Glasgow Chamber of Commerce had commissioned a report by Professor J J Lennon, Glasgow Caledonian University, entitled “The Value of the Night Economy in Glasgow 2024” and that Donald MacLeod would arrange for this to be circulated to members for their information via the Clerk.