Item 2

5th December 2023

LOCAL LICENSING FORUM'S MINUTES.

Glasgow, 5th September 2023.

Local Licensing Forum.

Present: Donald MacLeod, Concert Promoters' Association (Chair); Gary Atkinson, Community Resident – North West Area; Daniel Carter, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; Lise Fisher, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council; Brian Fulton, Night Time Industry Association; Billy Gold, Scottish Licensed Trade Association; Inspector Gareth Griffiths, Police Scotland; Andrew Hunter, Licensing lawyer representative (Substitute for Jack Cummins); Susan McKay, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce (Substitute for Stuart Patrick); Jamie Mackie, Scottish Grocers' Federation (Substitute for Pete Cheema); Bailie Margaret Morgan, Glasgow City Council; Bailie Hanif Raja, Glasgow City Council; Matthew Reilly, Glasgow Pub Watch Groups; Elaina Smith, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (Substitute for Fiona Moss); and Paul Stewart, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council.

Apologies: Pete Cheema, Scottish Grocers' Federation; Jack Cummins, Licensing lawyer representative; Chris McGuiness, Greater Glasgow Hotels' Association; Fiona Moss, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership; and Stuart Patrick, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce.

Attending: G McDermid (Clerk); I Miller, Legal Advisor to the Forum; G McNaught, Clerk to the City of Glasgow Licensing Board; Councillor D Blench, Glasgow City Council; and S Kerr, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

1 The minutes of the previous meeting of 9th May 2023 were submitted and approved.

Membership update noted.

2 The Forum heard and noted a verbal update by the Clerk to the Forum regarding its membership, advising that Glasgow City Council, at its meeting on 7th September 2023, would consider the appointment of Eva Curran (National Union of Students) in place of Adam Morrow.

Use of the drug 'Naloxone' – Position noted etc.

3 The Forum heard a verbal report by Stephen Kerr, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership, in relation to the use of the drug 'Naloxone', advising

(1) of various statistical information in relation to drug related deaths in Scotland in 2022, in particular, highlighting that there had been a 21% reduction in deaths from 2021 but that deaths in Scotland were 2.7 times higher than the rest of the United Kingdom and that the Greater Glasgow and Clyde area had the highest number of deaths in Scotland;

(2) that the solutions to the problem were complex but that 'Naloxone' could play a part in reducing drug related deaths;

(3) of various information in relation to the drug, which was an opioid antagonist that rapidly reversed an opioid overdose;

(4) of how the drug worked, its safety and the legalities of carrying and using it; and

(5) of the content and benefits of proposed training in relation to the use of 'Naloxone'.

After consideration and having heard further from Stephen Kerr in response to a number of members' questions, the Forum noted

(a) the update;

(b) the following comments by members:-

(i) members generally commented in support of the use of the drug but highlighted that it was important that appropriate training was delivered on its use;

(ii) it was suggested that 'Naloxone' kits could be stored within licensed premises with other first aid equipment for use by trained staff;

(iii) although welcoming the update and the information provided, the number of alcohol specific deaths in Glasgow City were highlighted, which were significantly higher than drug related deaths;

(iv) a general discussion was held on how 'Naloxone' could be used to assist persons using drugs on the street; and

(v) it was suggested that appropriate trade organisations should be contacted in relation to the use of the drug and the delivery of the training; and

(c) that it was intended to deliver 'Naloxone' training through the Best Bar None Glasgow membership in the first instance.

Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Consultation on City of Glasgow Licensing Board's Draft Licensing Policy Statement – Position noted.

4 With reference to the minutes of

(1) 14th March 2023 approving the terms of a draft response by a Forum Sub-group to the Licensing Board's "Policy on Licensed Hours" and referring it to the Board as its response to the pre-consultation exercise in relation to this matter; and

(2) 9th May 2023 approving the terms of a draft response by a Forum Sub-group to the Licensing Board's "Overprovision Assessment and general approach to the consideration of Overprovision" and referring it to the Board as its response to the pre-consultation exercise in relation to this matter,

there was submitted a report by the Council's Director of Legal and Administration regarding the current live public consultation on the Draft Licensing Policy Statement, including the Draft Overprovision Assessment and General Approach to the Consideration of Overprovision, advising

(a) of email correspondence issued by the Clerk to the Licensing Board to all members on 19th July 2023, which advised of the public consultation and stressed that the Board were keen to gather as many views as possible and that all views and comments would be taken into account by the Board before the final version of the new Policy Statement was published in November 2023; and

(b) that given that all responses to the public consultation must be submitted online via the Council's consultation hub, the number of questions in the consultation response document and the work already done by members of this Forum at the pre-consultation stage, it had been agreed with the Convener that rather than submit a collective response, members should be encouraged to respond to the consultation individually at the hyperlink provided in the report by 27th September 2023.

After consideration, the Forum noted

(i) the contents of the report; and

(ii) that the following drop in sessions had been held or were due to be held to allow individuals an opportunity to seek further information about the consultation:-

Date and time	*Venue*
Tuesday, 29th August 2023 from 1800 hours to 1900 hours	Hillhead Library

Thursday, 31st August 2023 from 1800 hours to 1900 hours	Pearce Institute, Govan
Tuesday, 5th September 2023 from 1700 hours to 1800 hours	Burgh Court Hall, City Chambers
Tuesday, 12th September 2023 from 1800 hours to 1900 hours	Shettleston Library

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

5 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 January to June 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 period;

(3) of the increasing number of applications for occasional licences 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 111 complaints and 210 enquiries, as detailed in the report;

(5) of interest and stakeholder group activity undertaken by officers, which included guidance, monitoring and enforcement in relation to the high number of events/concerts taking place in the city, including the dissemination of event details to residents; and

(6) that engagement work with licence holders on a range of best practice issues continued, including the resolution of neighbourhood disputes and the

resurrection of various Pub Watch and Off Sale Watch Groups that were currently not meeting.

After consideration, the Forum noted

(i) the contents of the report; and

(ii) various concerns expressed by members in relation to the increasing number of applications for occasional licences and that the Clerk to the Licensing Board would update members at the appropriate time on 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.

Managing the evening economy towards a safer city centre – Update noted etc.

6 There was submitted a report by the Council’s Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability providing an update on recent developments of Best Bar None Glasgow initiatives facilitated and supported by the Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability City Centre Team in respect of the period from January to June 2023, advising

(1) of the initiatives concerned, namely:-

(a) Best Bar None Glasgow Developments;

(b) City Nite Zones;

(c) Voluntary Sector Partners, including Glasgow Street Pastors’ Association and Glasgow Street Aid; and

(d) Digital Radio Network;

(2) that all work had been supported by Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability staff and enhanced through a multi-agency approach; and

(3) that all activities provided additional value and assistance to the City Centre Policing Plan, which provided an overall approach to crime and safety in the city centre.

After consideration, the Forum noted

(i) the contents of the report; and

(ii) that Lise Fisher would arrange for the concerns expressed at the meeting regarding parking congestion in the area around the taxi rank at Sauchiehall Street and also in relation to the Candleriggs area to be raised with

appropriate officers in her department and would report back to both Donald MacLeod and Gary Atkinson directly.

Outcome of Local Licensing Forum training/raising awareness session noted etc.

7 With reference the minutes of 6th September 2022 when the Forum, having considered a report regarding a survey being undertaken by the Scottish Government of Local Licensing Forums nationally, had agreed that the Convener submit a response to the survey on its behalf by end of September 2022, there was submitted a report by the Council's Director of Legal and Administration regarding the matter, advising

(1) that following the submission of this Forum's survey response, correspondence was received from the Minister of Community Safety in March 2023 enclosing a summary report on the outcome of the said survey, which was then circulated to all members for information via e-mail;

(2) that the Scottish Government had hosted a Local Licensing Forum training/awareness raising session in Glasgow City Chambers on 9th June 2023, with representatives of Forums nationally invited to attend;

(3) that Donald MacLeod (Convener) attended on behalf of this Forum together with appropriate officers, with Iain Miller invited to deliver a presentation providing an overview of the approach taken by the Council to the operation of this Forum;

(4) of the other contributors at the training/awareness session and of a summary provided by the Scottish Government of the various issues raised during 2 round table discussions at the event, as detailed in the appendix to the report; and

(5) of further correspondence received from the Scottish Government regarding the potential establishment of a National Licensing Forum Group and that both Donald MacLeod and Iain Miller had attended a meeting on 30th August 2023 to discuss the matter.

After consideration, the Forum noted the

(a) contents of the report; and

(b) outcome of ongoing discussions in relation to the potential establishment of a National Licensing Forum Group at the said meeting held on 30th August 2023 and that members would be kept updated on the proposal.

Dates of future meetings noted etc.

8 The Forum noted the following future meeting dates for the remainder of 2023 and deadlines for the submission of business:-

(1) Tuesday, 5th December 2023 at 1300 hours (All items of business should be submitted to the Clerk to the Forum by Tuesday, 14th November 2023); and

(2) Tuesday, 5th December 2023 at 1400 hours – Joint meeting with the City of Glasgow Licensing Board (All items of business should be submitted to the Clerk to the Forum by Tuesday, 14th November 2023).