Item 2

3rd December 2024

Glasgow, 5th December 2023.

Joint meeting of the Local Licensing Forum and the City of Glasgow Licensing Board.

Local Licensing Forum

Present: Gary Atkinson, Community Resident – North West Area; Daniel Carter, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; Eva Curran, National Union of Students; Lise Fisher, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council; Janice Fisher, Greater Glasgow Hotels' Association (Substitute for Chris McGuinness); Brian Fulton, Night Time Industry Association; Billy Gold, Scottish Licensed Trade Association; Inspector Gareth Griffiths, Police Scotland; Archie Maciver, Licensing lawyer representative (Substitute for Jack Cummins); Bailie Margaret Morgan, 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; John Ferguson, Community Resident – North East Area; Chris McGuinness, Greater Glasgow Hotels' Association; Donald MacLeod, Concert Promoters' Association; Fiona Moss, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership; and Gail Sheridan, Community Resident – South Area.

City of Glasgow Licensing Board

Present: Margaret Morgan (Chair), Bill Butler, Thomas Kerr, Linda Pike and Alex Wilson.

Apology: Dan Hutchison.

Attending: G McDermid (Clerk); I Miller, Legal Advisor to the Forum; G McNaught, Clerk to the City of Glasgow Licensing Board; K A Harkins, Chief Executive's Department, Glasgow City Council; and G Ferguson and L MacDonald, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership.

Chair of meeting – Position noted.

1 In terms of paragraph 3 of the Code of Conduct for joint meetings of the City of Glasgow Licensing Board and the Local Licensing Forum, it was noted that Bailie Morgan would chair the meeting.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

2 The minutes of the previous meeting of 29th November 2022 were submitted and approved.

Update on plans for establishment of Safer Drug Consumption Facility - Presentation noted etc.

3 The Forum and Board heard a presentation by Lynn MacDonald, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership (GCHSCP), providing an update on GCHSCP's plans for the establishment of a Safer Drug Consumption Facility (SDCF) in the city centre, advising of

(1) various background information in relation to the proposed establishment of the facility, including appropriate health data in relation to the Glasgow City area and information on reported injecting locations in 2022/23 and the number of needle complaints submitted to Glasgow City Council in relation to various locations within the Calton/Trongate area;

(2) changes to the legal framework in relation to the matter;

(3) the benefits of a SDCF, which provided a hygienic environment where illicit drugs (purchased off the premises) could be consumed under clinical supervision;

(4) the proposal for a SDCF to be located at Hunter Street Health and Social Care Centre, which would be managed by the GCHSCP Alcohol and Drug Partnership with running costs for the pilot to be met by the Scottish Government and building re-design works to be funded by GCHSCP; and

(5) the oversight and governance arrangements, with the SDCF implementation plan agreed by the GCHSCP Integration Joint Board on 27th September 2023 and of the establishment of a SDCF Implementation Board and 4 sub-groups in Communications & Engagement, Properties, Workforce and Evaluation.

After consideration and having heard further from Lynn MacDonald and Gillian Ferguson in response to a number of members' questions, the Forum and Board noted

(a) the presentation;

(b) the following comments in relation to the proposal:-

(i) the level of investment in the local area was highlighted and that there was a need for ongoing community engagement in relation to the facility, both with local businesses and residents; and

(ii) that monitoring arrangements should be considered in relation to the wellbeing of service users of the facility who had stopped attending; and

(c) that the Clerk to the Forum would arrange for the presentation slides to be emailed to all members after the meeting.

Review of City of Glasgow Licensing Board's work during 2023 – Presentation noted etc.

4 The Forum and Board heard a presentation by Gillian McNaught, Clerk to the City of Glasgow Licensing Board, regarding a review of the work of the Licensing Board during 2023, advising of

(1) various statistical information in relation to the processing of applications by the Board during 2023, in particular, highlighting that

(a) 48 new licence applications had been granted (7 new premises licences and 41 new provisional licences) and 2 applications had been refused (1 new premises licence/1 new provisional licence); and

(b) 103 applications for approval of major variations had been granted (15 on sales, 18 off sales and 70 on and off sales);

(2) various statistical information in relation to the number of current licences in force in the city, in particular, highlighting that there were currently 1,977 premises licences (564 on sales, 600 off sales and 813 on and off sales) and 4,149 personal licences;

(3) an analysis of the number of premises licences in force by type from 2020 to 2023; and

(4) a summary of the work undertaken by the Board in relation to the review of its Policy Statement, in particular, highlighting the

(a) pre-consultation process undertaken from 31st October to 9th December 2022;

(b) evidence sessions held on 31st January and 2nd February 2023;

(c) responses referred to the Board by the Forum in March and May 2023 in relation to licensed hours and overprovision;

(d) focus group event held on 21st April 2023;

(e) evaluation of all evidence gathered by the Board at a meeting on 19th May 2023 and of the main changes within the draft Policy Statement;

(f) public consultation process undertaken on the draft Policy Statement from 19th July to 27th September 2023, including community engagement events; and

(g) outcome of the public consultation process and the publication of the new Policy Statement in November 2023.

After consideration, the Forum and Board noted

(i) the presentation;

(ii) various positive comments by members on the work undertaken by the Clerk to the Licensing Board and officers of the Licensing Section in relation to the review, including the contributions made by all partners agencies; and

(iii) that the Clerk to the Forum would arrange for the presentation slides to be emailed to all members after the meeting.

Glasgow Festive Safety Initiative 2023 – Presentation noted.

5 The Forum and Board heard a presentation by Lise Fisher, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council, providing information on the delivery of the Glasgow Festive Safety Initiative 2023 in support of the night time economy, advising

(1) that the initiative would be held every Friday and Saturday between 1st and 23rd December 2023 and would be delivered through a partnership approach involving Glasgow Alcohol and Drug Partnership, Police Scotland, British Transport Police, Glasgow Taxis Ltd and various voluntary sector organisations;

(2) of matters considered in planning for this year's initiative, including the lessons learned from previous years;

(3) that the initiative would be delivered through the enhancement of the 'nitezone' provision in the city at the following 5 locations:-

(a) Sauchiehall Street;

(b) Gordon Street;

(c) West George Street;

(d) Byres Road; and

(e) Shawlands;

(4) that the following enhanced public safety initiatives would also be delivered:-

(a) Patrolling of ‘nitezones’ by Community Enforcement Officers;

(b) Police Scotland/British Transport Police Festive Plans;

(c) Glasgow Street Pastors and Glasgow Street Aid;

(d) Dedicated CCTV at the Glasgow Operations Centre; and

(e) Digital radio link to pubs, late night venues, street pastors, taxi marshalls, Glasgow Operations Centre and other voluntary services; and

(5) of various forms of communication to be used in relation to the delivery of the initiative, including social media/press, use of emails to Best Bar None premises and the delivery of training seminars.

After consideration, the Forum and Board noted

(i) the presentation; and

(ii) that the Clerk to the Forum would arrange for the presentation slides to be emailed to all members after the meeting.

Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Glasgow Annual Licensing Report for 2022/23 noted.

6 There was submitted and noted the Glasgow Annual Licensing Report for 2022/23 by the Chief Constable, Police Scotland, in accordance with Section 12(A) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, advising of

(1) the 2-tier structure for licensing adopted by Police Scotland to support both national and local priorities through service delivery, which comprised the Violence Prevention and Licensing Co-ordination Unit and licensing teams located in each of the 13 Local Policing Divisions;

(2) various information regarding the City of Glasgow Licensing Board’s area, which was policed by the Greater Glasgow Division;

(3) the local policing priorities for the division as set out in the Local Policing Plan;

(4) work undertaken at a local level in relation to the operation of the Act by the Greater Glasgow Licensing Department, which was led by Inspector Gareth

Griffiths supported by 2 Sergeants, 6 Constables and 9 members of police staff;

(5) work undertaken in relation to preventing the sale or supply of alcohol to children or young people and tackling serious and organised crime; and

(6) the proposed activity for the year ahead.