

LOCAL LICENSING FORUM'S MINUTES.

Glasgow, 18th February 2025.

Item 2

13th May 2025

Local Licensing Forum.

Present: Donald MacLeod, Concert Promoters' Association (Chair); Gary Atkinson, Community Resident – North West Area; Campbell Bern, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council (Substitute for Lise Fisher); Dr Daniel Carter, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; Brian Fulton, Night Time Industry Association; Billy Gold, Scottish Licensed Trade Association; Charlie Ingham, Glasgow Life (Substitute for Julie Pearson); Audrey Junner, Accredited Liquor Licensing Law Specialist (Substitute for Archie Maciver); Bailie Hanif Raja, Glasgow City Council; Matthew Reilly, Glasgow Pubwatch Groups; Constable David Rooney, Police Scotland (Substitute for Inspector Alan Ferris); 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; Eva Curran, National Union of Students; Inspector Alan Ferris, Police Scotland; Lise Fisher, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council; Archie Maciver, Accredited Liquor Licensing Law Specialist; Bailie Margaret Morgan, Glasgow City Council; Fiona Moss, Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership; Stuart Patrick, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce; and Julie Pearson, Glasgow Life.

Attending: G McDermid (Clerk); I Miller, Legal Advisor to the Forum; M Millar, Depute Clerk to the City of Glasgow Licensing Board; and J Laiolo, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council.

Chair.

1 Iain Miller, Legal Advisor to the Forum, assumed the Chair and called the meeting to order.

Appointment of Convener approved.

2 Iain Miller, Legal Advisor to the Forum, reported on the procedure for the appointment of the Convener of the Local Licensing Forum.

After consideration, the Forum appointed Donald MacLeod as Convener.

Vacation and appointment of Chair.

3 Iain Miller, Legal Advisor to the Forum, vacated the chair, which was taken by Donald MacLeod.

Membership update noted

4 With reference to the minutes of 3rd December 2024 noting an update regarding the 2 vacant Community Resident positions on the Forum for the North East and South areas of the city, there was heard and noted a verbal update by the Clerk to the Forum regarding the membership of the Forum, advising that

- (1) the 2 vacant Community Resident positions had been discussed at a Community Council Development Session in November 2024 and that the Council's Communities Team would now seek nominations for both positions as soon as possible; and
- (2) Inspector Allan Ferris had replaced Inspector Gareth Griffiths as the representative of the Chief Constable, Police Scotland.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

5 The minutes of the previous meeting of 3rd December 2024 were submitted and approved.

City Centre Strategy 2024-30 - Presentation noted etc.

6 The Forum heard a presentation by Jane Laiolo, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council, regarding the City Centre Strategy 2024-30, advising

- (1) that the City Centre Strategy 2024-30 Action Plan would deliver the recommendations of the following reports, either directly or through coordinated action:-
 - (a) Strategic Development Frameworks;
 - (b) District Regeneration Frameworks;
 - (c) Golden Z Report;
 - (d) Property Repurposing Action Plan;
 - (e) Increasing Residential Capacity Outcomes in City Centre; and
 - (f) Retail & Commercial Leisure Capacity Study;

- (2) of the City Centre Task Force, co-chaired by Councillor Angus Millar, City Convener for Climate, Glasgow Green Deal, Transport and City Centre Recovery and Stuart Patrick, Chief Executive of Glasgow Chamber of Commerce, which was the strategic body with oversight of the City Centre Strategy and was supported by the following 4 thematic sub-groups:-
 - (a) City Services – Operations and Events;
 - (b) City Centre Transport;
 - (c) City Centre Infrastructure – Development and Repurposing; and
 - (d) Evening/Night-Time Economy and Hospitality Sectors;
- (3) of the work of the Development Team, which was a one stop shop for development in Glasgow City Centre;
- (4) of information on the City Centre Improvement Funds and various city centre projects;
- (5) of information regarding the City Centre Avenues Programme, including those projects currently under construction and progressing towards construction;
- (6) of advocacy work with the Scottish Government to seek additional powers and of the George Square and surrounds Redevelopment Plan; and
- (7) of the Glasgow 850 Programme, which would run from January to December 2025 and of the 2026 Commonwealth Games, which would be held in the city from 23rd July to 2nd August 2026.

After consideration and having heard further from Jane Laiolo in response to members' questions, the Forum noted

- (i) the presentation;
- (ii) various comments by members highlighting the need for better consultation and engagement with the community and local businesses in the city centre in relation to certain projects;
- (iii) that delays in relation to the redevelopment of George Square were as a result of the procurement process;
- (iv) that any members who had specific issues regarding the impact of any project should contact Jane Laiolo directly after the meeting at jane.laiolo@glasgow.gov.uk and she would arrange for an appropriate response; and
- (v) 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 - 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 2024, 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 the focus for the period primarily related to work associated with applications for new premises licences and major variation, the delivery of major events, the Licensing Board's Pilot Scheme in relation to the granting of a terminal hour of 1 am to on sales premises within the city centre, minimum unit pricing and the festive period;
- (3) that the number of applications processed for occasional licences and extended hours remained consistent 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 112 complaints and 228 enquiries, as detailed in the report; and
- (5) of interest group activity undertaken by officers during the period, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the Forum noted

- (i) the contents of the report;
- (ii) that there had been an increase in the number of applications for extended hours in comparison with occasional licences during the period; and
- (iii) that in terms of paragraph 8.9 of the Licensing Board's Licensing Policy Statement in relation to the restriction on the number of extended hours applications, the Board generally considered that it would not be appropriate to grant licensed premises extended hours on more than 10 days in each calendar year, or on a pro-rata basis, in respect of new licensed premises.

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

8 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 July to December 2024, 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 (GSA); and
 - (d) Digital Radio Network;
- (2) of the specific services delivered in the city centre by GSA, as detailed in the appendix to the report;
- (3) that all work had been supported by Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability staff and enhanced through a multi-agency approach; and
- (4) 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;
- (ii) various positive comments by members in relation to the work undertaken by the City Centre Team on Best Bar None Glasgow and its overall contribution to 'driving up' standards within the city and concern expressed regarding the impact of any potential budget cuts on the services provided;
- (iii) that the CCTV system within the city centre was operational 24 hours, however, the cameras were only manned by operatives from 1500 hours to 0300 hours daily;
- (iv) concern expressed regarding the reduction in footfall in the city centre at night time and the availability of public transport at this time to take people home;
- (v) that at its meeting on 15th January 2025, the Council's Licensing and Regulatory Committee had instructed a public consultation to be undertaken on the demand for taxi and private hire car services in the city and whether the authority should continue to have policies limiting the number of such licensed vehicles; and

- (vi) that with regard to the said public consultation as detailed above, the consultation would be published on the Council's consultation hub in the next few weeks and would run for 12 weeks and that members of this body would be sent a link by the Clerk to the Forum at the appropriate time.

Date of next meeting noted etc.

9 The Forum noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 13th May 2025 at 1400 hours and that all items of business should be submitted to the Clerk to the Forum by Tuesday, 22nd April 2025.