

## **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.