

LOCAL LICENSING FORUM'S MINUTES.

Glasgow, 10th February 2026.

Item 1

19th May 2026

Local Licensing Forum.

Present: Donald MacLeod, Concert Promoters' Association (Chair); Fraser Brown, National Union of Students; Lise Fisher, Neighbourhoods, regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council; Brian Fulton, Night Time Industry Association; Billy Gold, Scottish Licensed Trade Association; Chris McGuinness, Greater Glasgow Hotels' Association; Susan McKay, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce (substitute for Stuart Patrick); Jamie Mackie, Scottish Grocers' Federation (substitute for Peter Cheema); Bailie Margaret Morgan and Bailie Hanif Raja, Glasgow City Council; Matthew Reilly, Glasgow Pubwatch Groups; PC Brian Rooney, Police Scotland (substitute for Inspector Alan Ferris); and Paul Stewart, Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability, Glasgow City Council.

Apologies: Daniel Carter, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde; Peter Cheema, Scottish Grocers' Federation; Inspector Alan Ferris, Police Scotland and Stuart Patrick, Glasgow Chamber of Commerce.

Attending: D Brand (Clerk); I Miller, Legal Advisor to the Forum; and G McNaught, Clerk to the City of Glasgow Licensing Board.

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 to 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 Glasgow City Council of 11th December 2025, Audrey Junner was appointed as the Accredited Liquor Licensing Law Specialist to the Forum.

Minutes of previous meeting approved.

5 The minutes of the previous meeting of 9th December 2025 were submitted and approved.

Minutes of the joint meeting of Local Licensing Forum and Licensing Board, approved in principle.

6 With reference to the minutes of the joint meeting of the Local Licensing Forum and the Licensing Board of 9th December 2025 noting that the minutes of 3rd December 2024 could not be approved due to the meeting being inquorate, and would be added to the agendas of future individual meetings of the Local Licensing Forum and Licensing Board, the Forum approved the minutes, subject to

(1) at item 3 (5), the following information to be added:-

- The analysis found no statistical difference in the rate of licence applications made to areas of overprovision compared to those made in non-overprovided areas.
- The most deprived areas of Glasgow City saw a higher rate of new premise applications than the least deprived areas. However, there was no significant difference by deprivation when combining new premise applications with major variation applications.
- A total of 80 objections were made over the analytical period on Public Health grounds. Of these, 9 (11%) applications were refused by the licensing boards; and

(2) at item 3 (ii), to delete all and replace with:-

NHSGGC/Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership offered to meet with appropriate officers of the Board to discuss the data in more detail and to provide future updates of the analysis of alcohol licensing outcomes to the Forum if required; and

(3) noting that the Licensing Board would consider these at its meeting of 13th March 2026.

Business Improvement District progress - Presentation noted etc.

7 There was heard a presentation by Brian Fulton, Night Time Industry Association regarding the progress of the Glasgow City Centre Business Improvement District (BID), advising

- (1) of the definition of a BID, which was a business-led initiative whereby businesses within the area paid an additional levy over and above their business rates that would be used to deliver priorities within the area that had been determined by them;
- (2) of the results of the BID ballot which had ended on 27th November 2025 and had seen 87% of the returned ballots had been in favour of the initiative;
- (3) of the BID area and number of premises and business groups contained within that area, and that the levy that had been agreed was for 1.5% of each business premises' rateable value over a 5-year term and that the forecast investment was for £14m over the 5-year period;
- (4) that the plan for the forecast investment would be based on 4 main themes, and would be used to collectively fund improvements that went beyond baseline services; and
- (5) of the projects that had been identified for the BID and of the next steps which would see the official launch of the initiative in April 2026.

After consideration, the Forum

- (a) noted and thanked Mr Fulton for the presentation;
- (b) discussed
 - (i) the issues surrounding rough sleeping in city centre and public safety and that the BID company would be working with Glasgow City Council and other partners to try to tackle these issues; and
 - (ii) the recent set up of the Retail Crime Taskforce by Police Scotland and agreed for contact details of primary contacts to be shared with the BID company.

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

8 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 2025, 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 significant resource demands for the period related primarily to work associated with applications for new premises licences and major variation, the delivery of major events, Minimum Unit Pricing and Festive policy hours monitoring whereby a significant number of premises visits were carried out to ensure compliance;
- (3) of the steady number of applications processed for occasional licences and extended hours 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 115 complaints and 250 enquiries, as detailed in the report; and
- (5) of interest and stakeholder group activity undertaken by officers, as detailed in the report.

After consideration, the Forum noted

- (i) the contents of the report;
- (ii) the comments made in relation to some premises where the seller of alcohol's Personal Licence had lapsed and took note of the importance of promoting refresher training to all staff and setting reminders of when such licences required renewal.

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

9 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 1st July to 31st December 2025, 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;
- (ii) the comments made in relation to the monitoring of CCTV cameras within the city centre not covering a 24 hour period, but noted that the cameras were still operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and that this had been a budget decision made by the Council; and
- (iii) the concerns raised regarding free transport for under 22 year olds and the issues being experienced by the industry as a result of this.

Date of next meeting noted etc.

10 The Forum noted that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, 12th May 2026 at 1500 hours and that all items of business should be submitted to the Clerk to the Forum by Tuesday, 21st April 2026.