Item 6

5th September 2023

Glasgow City Council

Local Licensing Forum

Report by Executive Director Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability

Contact: Lisé Fisher Ext: 37562

Managing the Evening Economy Towards a Safer City Centre

Purpose of Report:

To provide an update on the recent developments of Best Bar None Glasgow initiatives facilitated and supported by the NRS City Centre Team.

The report highlights the 6-month period between 1st January and 30th June 2023.

Recommendations:

It is recommended the Forum note:

- All work has been supported by GCC NRS staff and enhanced by a multi-agency approach; and
- That activities have been described in this report provide additional value and assistance to the City Centre Policing Plan, which provides an overall approach to crime and safety in the city centre.

Ward No(s): Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ✓ consulted: Yes ☐ No ✓

1.0 Best Bar None Glasgow developments

1.1 Best Bar None Glasgow officially launched on Wednesday 10th May 2023 at the Venue, University of Strathclyde Students Union. The launch event was attended by representatives of 20 Licensed Premises, 9 Partnership Agencies and included 4 information stands from partners, APEX Radios, Streetchange Glasgow, Glasgow Council on Alcohol and Security Industry Association. Guest Speaker, David Cavani, Operations Manager at the Scottish Event Campus provided an input on the Sustainability Journey the Campus has been on over the last few years. David also shared their journey with Best Bar None Glasgow and outlined the benefits of participating in the Initiative.

1.2 Since the Launch event 62 applications have been received to date and the team are continuing to promote Best Bar None to Licensed Premises across the city. We have facilitated 2 Training Seminars since the beginning of the 2023 with topics including LGBTQI+ Awareness & Crisis Intervention and an input on the World Cycling Championships in Glasgow. We are currently waiting for our new Best Bar None Glasgow website to go live in 2023.

1.3 In partnership with Scottish Drugs Forum, we have undertaken a Safer Nightlife Training Pilot with Holdfast Entertainment with a mix of staff from The Garage & Cathouse Rock Club. The training consisted of 3x2hr twilight Sessions, topics delivered were Substance Awareness, Dealing with the Adverse Physical and Mental Impact of Substances and Responding to Sexual Harassment and Safe Spaces. The second phase of the Training Pilot took place with staff from SWG3 in March 2023 over one day session, a Training Evaluation Report is available. Discussions are ongoing regarding the future of the Training and SDF are currently putting a proposal together outlining costs and logistics.

1.4 BBN Scotland held their 2023 launch event in Bag O'Nails on 14th June 2023. The venue won the **Best Late Night Bar** category in 2022 National Awards. Following on from the BBN Glasgow Awards category winners are entered into the BBN Scotland National Awards which showcases local success and promotes national good practice.

Maxine Fraser, Managing Director for Retailers Against Crime, attended the National launch event: Retailers Against Crime are the new administrators of BBN Scotland and take over from Scottish Business Resilience Centre is supporting the National BBN agenda.

Glasgow BBN venues successful in other national categories are as follows:

Best Nightclub	The Cathouse
Heart of the Community	Armstrongs
Platinum Award	University of Strathclyde, Students Union

2.0 City NiteZones

2.1 The NiteZones continue to contribute to the safe exit of patrons from the various locations across the city centre. The figures demonstrate a levelling off in usage of the ranks, with a slight decrease in footfall post COVID Restrictions. Patrons appear to be entering and exiting the city centre earlier at weekends due to the decrease in the availability of taxis and other means of late-night transportation.
The ranks have been operating within the current Friday and Saturday time schedules, Albion Street and Byres Road operating between 10pm – 2am, Gordon Street, West George Street and Sauchiehall Street have been operational between 11pm – 4am. The NiteZone at Shawlands is operational from 11:30pm – 3:30am.

2.2 Statistics for the reporting period against the same period last year are as follows:

NiteZone	**Jan 22**	**Jan 23**	**Feb 22**	**Feb 23**	**Mar 22**	**Mar 23**
Albion Street	333	731	1153	733	1245	625
Byres Road	460	995	1798	925	1694	635
Gordon Street	1450	5141	5222	5436	5935	8137
Sauchiehall Street	902	1984	2379	2549	2586	2109
Shawlands	177	313	519	356	648	276
West George Street	660	1755	2769	2703	2525	2688
NiteZone	**Apr 22**	**Apr 23**	**May 22**	**May 23**	**June 22**	**June 23**
Albion Street	1258	791	951	676	884	796
Byres Road	2186	687	1111	587	1617	761
Gordon Street	8755	5664	5964	4986	6612	5520
Sauchiehall Street	3713	2730	2983	2033	2702	3152
Shawlands	1179	376	619	290	691	458
West George Street	3267	2987	2527	3239	2527	2796

3.0 Voluntary Sector partners

3.1 Glasgow Street Pastors Association (GSP) are based within the Saint George's Tron Church of Scotland on Nelson Mandela Place, providing patrols and distribution of care and safety resources such as flip flops, hats gloves and blankets in the city centre and west end. During the reporting period, GSP have delivered a service from February 2023 and will continue until the end of December 2023. The service is operational from 22:00 – 04:00 on a Friday and Saturday night.

The street patrol teams (each pair) are linked into PSCCTV by the radio network for reassurance, support and operational assistance.

3.2 Glasgow Street Aid (GSA) provide an outreach service of volunteers from a medical background that can support vulnerable people in the city centre on Friday and Saturday evenings.

GSA have been operating in the city centre since January 2021 and are linked into PSCCTV by the radio network for reassurance, support and operational assistance.

Data relating to this reporting period is included below:

Number of logs per month:

Month	Medical	Welfare	Total
January 2023	49	35	84
February 2023	89	44	133
March 2023	73	31	104
April 2023	89	55	144
May 2023	80	35	115
June 2023	66	48	114

Naloxone Administered (Figures already included in total logs)

Month	Total
January 2023	0
February 2023	1
March 2023	1
April 2023	3
May 2023	5
June 2023	4

3.3 City Events Alcohol is a short life working group (SLWG) established by the City Alcohol Licensing and Drugs Subgroup (CALD) in 2021. The remit of this SLWG is to respond to key events in the city which attract high footfall of individuals under the influence of drugs and / or alcohol and likely to have an impact on resources within the city centre. A number of statutory and voluntary support services, event organisers, Police and BTP, GCC Licensing Standards attend and agree the key / high profile events and provide information on what services / resources they have available in the city centre on those dates. GCC Neighbourhood Liaison Manager created a template that was then shared with all services containing all the information gathered for each event. By sharing this information, support services can better respond to incidents in a more co-ordinated way. During the period of this report 7 key events were supported by this SLWG and a further 10 events taking place between July and October.

4.0 Digital Radio Network

4.1 The Digital Radio Network continues to provide City Centre radio links that allow licenced premises to communicate directly with one another and with

the Glasgow PSCCTV Operations Centre (GOC) at Eastgate. Radio calls can be overheard by other users of the system allowing assistance to be summoned, PSCCTV coverage to be provided or for persons ejected from one premises to be rejected from others thereby preventing disorder within licensed premises.

4.2 The GCC PSCCTV Operators liaise directly with the police via their airwaves radio and can relay important information to them regarding the nature of incidents and keep communication between premises reporting and the police updated in real time. Operators also record important images from when an incident is reported that may be used later for evidential purposes.

4.3 There are currently 105 premises users on the night time Digital Radio Network system, with a further 5 organisations who work with us in partnership in the city centre. All calls for assistance from licensed premises using the radio network are logged and actioned by PSCCTV officers at the Glasgow Operations Centre (GOC) in Eastgate (such as requesting attendance of police or street pastors for a vulnerable person/ incident). This early intervention approach help reduce the likelihood of incidents occurring or escalating.

4. Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:	All costs for BBN Glasgow and related activity derive from funding via Glasgow Alcohol and Drug Partnership.
Legal:	All activities are in compliance with the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Alcohol etc. (Scotland) Act 2010 as appropriate.
Personnel:	Three posts are held within Neighbourhoods and Sustainability (City Centre) Neighbourhood Liason Manager (City Centre), Neighbourhood Liaison Co-ordinator, Alcohol and Drug Development Officer. Other GCC staff are available to assist with work as requested.
Procurement:	None

Council Strategic Plan: N/A

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality	N/A

Outcomes 2021-25.

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?	No significant impact
Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio economic disadvantage.	N/A

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:	N/A
What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?:	N/A
Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?	N/A

Privacy and Data Protection impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of this report	No
If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out	N/A

5.0 Recommendations

5.1 It is recommended that the Forum note:

- All work has been supported by GCC NRS staff and enhanced by a multi-agency approach; and

- That activities have been described in this report provide additional value and assistance to the City Centre Policing Plan, which provides an overall approach to crime and safety in the city centre.

George Gillespie
Executive Director of Neighbourhoods and Sustainability