Review of City of Glasgow Licensing Board's work during 2022 – 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 2022, advising

(1) of various statistical information in relation to the processing of applications by the Licensing Board during 2022, highlighting that

(a) 49 new licence applications had been granted (7 new premises licences/42 new provisional licences) and 1 application for a new provisional licence had been refused (on and off sales) and then subsequently granted for on sales only; and

(b) 95 applications for approval of major variations had been granted (8 on sales, 43 off sales and 44 on and off sales) and that 2 applications had been refused (1 off sales and 1 on and off sales);

(2) of various statistical information in relation to the number of current licences in force, in particular, highlighting that there were currently 1,951 premises licences and 6,247 personal licences;

(3) that with regard to the submission of applications for occasional licences for outdoor areas from 1st October 2022, separate applications must now be submitted for an occasional licence and, where required, a Section 59 consent and paid for accordingly and that occasional licence applications could be made for up to 6 months;

(4) of the outcome of work undertaken by the Licensing Board in relation to a review of the 4am pilot scheme and of its decision to continue the scheme for a period of 18 months;

(5) of the appointment of the Licensing Board on 19th May 2022 by Glasgow City Council and of the subsequent appointment of Bailie Margaret Morgan as Convener and Councillor Bill Butler as Vice Convener; and

(6) of work being undertaken in relation to the review of the Licensing Board's Policy Statement, which would be finalised in November 2023, including the Local Licensing Forum's establishment of a Sub-group to prepare a draft response as part of the pre-consultation exercise in relation to the

(a) Policy on Licensed Hours; and

(b) Overprovision Assessment and general approach to the consideration of Overprovision.

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

(i) the presentation;

(ii) the following comments and responses:-

(A) in response to concern expressed regarding the number of licences that had been granted in the Parkhead area, it was highlighted that in determining applications, the Licensing Board would have regard to Part 7 of the Licensing Policy Statement entitled “Overprovision Assessment and general approach to the consideration of Overprovision” but that each application would still be considered on its own merits and that there had to be appropriate grounds for refusal of any application;

(B) with regard to the above concern, it was also pointed out that this part of the Licensing Policy Statement would be reviewed as part of the development of the new Licensing Policy Statement, including consideration of the response by the Local Licensing Forum Sub-group as referred to at paragraph (6) (b) above; and

(C) in response to clarification being sought as to when the updated Scottish Government Section 142 guidance would be available, it was highlighted that it was hoped that it would be published by mid December 2022; and

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