

# Minute of Meeting Renfrewshire Licensing Forum.

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 23 May 2023	14:00	Corporate Meeting Room 2, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

## PRESENT

M Dymond, T Mills, J McSorley (Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership), D Edmonds (Renfrewshire Alcohol & Drug Partnership), Sergeant Moore-McGrath (Police Scotland), J Hampsay and S MacFarlane, both Fair Trading Officers (Communities and Housing Services).

## IN ATTENDANCE

D Campbell, Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing), J Barron and D Cunningham, both Assistant Committee Services Officers (all Finance & Resources).

## APOLOGIES

P Pieraccini, C Dickson and D Reid.

## DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

## 1 **ELECTION OF CONVENER**

It was noted that in terms of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 the Forum must elect one of its members to be Convener. M Dymond, seconded by T Mills proposed that Mr J McSorley be appointed as Convener. This was agreed unanimously. Mr McSorley assumed the chair at this point.

**DECIDED:** That Mr McSorley be appointed as Convener of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum.

## 2 **MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

There was submitted the Minute of the previous meeting of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum, held on 13 February 2023.

**DECIDED:** That the Minute be approved.

## 3 **MATTERS ARISING**

Under reference to Item 5 of the Minute of the previous meeting of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum held on 13 February 2023 relative to the Licensing Policy Update, the Convener advised that the statement on behalf of the Licensing Forum had been submitted to the Licensing Board.

**DECIDED:** That it be noted that the statement on behalf of the Forum in respect of the Licensing Policy Update had been submitted to the Licensing Board.

## 4 **POLICE SCOTLAND UPDATE**

Sergeant Moore-McGrath advised the Forum that she would cease to be the Licensing Sergeant at the end of this week and that Sergeant Ian Robertson would resume this role.

Police Scotland provided a verbal update on local licensing issues which had arisen since the previous meeting in February 2023 and outlined various statistics which were being provided as part of their annual update to the National Policy Unit.

Police Scotland had attended 460 licensed premises in the Renfrewshire area within the last year in relation to incidents and had undertaken 1110 pro-active and/or reactive inspections of licensed premises. Police Scotland had carried out various campaigns including anti-disorder and anti-social behaviour inspections and the "Talk-to" campaign which would run from June to September 2023. In addition, Sergeant Moore-McGrath indicated that Pub-watch had resumed. She advised that the increase in post-covid events throughout Renfrewshire had placed demands on Police Scotland.

Sergeant Moore-McGrath was then heard in answer to questions from members on the update.

The Convener and D Edmonds advised the Forum about the Renfrewshire Health and Social Care Partnership roll out of Naloxone within Renfrewshire.

**DECIDED:** That the verbal update be noted.

## 5 **LICENSING STANDARDS OFFICER UPDATE**

The Fair Trading Officer provided a verbal update relative to licensing activity undertaken since the previous meeting in February 2023. Two premises had been visited in connection with operating plans, three premises were no longer licensed and the premises licence annual fee remained outstanding for four premises.

The Fair Trading Officer outlined the proposed implementation of a duty rota of Licensing Standards/Trading Standards Officers who would respond to enforcement emails and was then heard in answer to questions from members on the update.

**DECIDED:** That the verbal update be noted.

## 6 **CONSULTATION - RENFREWSHIRE LICENSING BOARD'S STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY 2023-2027**

The Convener provided a verbal update relative to the Renfrewshire Licensing Board's Statement of Licensing Policy 2023-2027 consultation.

The Convener proposed that further discussion of the Policy be continued to a future meeting of the Forum and that a collective response to the consultation would be submitted to the Licensing Board on behalf of the Forum. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That discussion of the Renfrewshire Licensing Board's Statement of Licensing Policy 2023-2027 be continued to a future meeting of the Forum; and

(b) That a collective response to the consultation be submitted on behalf of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum to Renfrewshire Licensing Board.

## 7 **RENFREWSHIRE LICENSING BOARD'S FESTIVE POLICY 2023/2024**

There was a general discussion relative to the policy of extended opening hours for licensed premises for the festive period 2023/2024.

The Convener proposed that further discussion of this Policy be continued to a future meeting of the Forum and that a collective response to the consultation would be submitted to the Licensing Board on behalf of the Forum. This was agreed unanimously.

**DECIDED:**

(a) That discussion of Renfrewshire Licensing Board's Policy on Festive Hours 2023-2024 be continued to a future meeting of the Forum; and

(b) That a collective response to the consultation be submitted on behalf of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum to Renfrewshire Licensing Board.

## **8 LOCAL LICENSING FORUMS - TRAINING/AWARENESS SESSION**

The Convener reminded members of the Forum of the Scottish Government Licensing Training/Awareness Event being held on 9 June 2023 and asked if anyone could attend and feedback to the Forum at a future meeting.

T Mills advised he could attend.

The Convener advised he had spoken to the Convener of the Renfrewshire Licensing Board relative to other areas of training/awareness, as part of the Action Plan, and that this may be discussed further at the November Joint meeting of Renfrewshire Licensing Board and Renfrewshire Licensing Forum.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That Mr Mills would attend the Scottish Government Training/Awareness event on 9 June 2023;

(b) That the event information email be resent to members of the Forum; and

(c) That training/awareness be discussed at the November joint meeting of Renfrewshire Licensing Board and Renfrewshire Licensing Forum.

## **9 ACTION PLAN**

There was a discussion relative to Forum membership in terms of engaging another member from the Licensed Trade and a young person to fill the outstanding vacancies. The Convener advised he would make contact with the current members who had not attended recent meetings to establish if they wished to remain part of the Forum and make contact with other Services and Organisations with the aim of increasing membership to the quota of 12 persons.

Forum members agreed that it would be beneficial to increase the Forum's knowledge in various areas such as Security and Events. The Convener asked that if members had any other suggestions to assist with increasing membership or knowledge topics that they notify him.

### **DECIDED:**

(a) That the Convener would pursue various avenues to update/increase membership numbers of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum; and

(b) That members of the Forum would advise the Convener of suggestions for membership and knowledge topics.

10 **ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND**

There was submitted the Alcohol Focus Scotland Newsletter for March 2023.

M Dymond advised that she may have received April and May newsletters from Alcohol Focus Scotland and that if she had she would forward these to the Clerk for distribution to members of the Forum.

**DECIDED:** That the March 2023 newsletter be noted.

11 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**DECIDED:** Members noted that the next meeting of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum was scheduled to be held on 11 September 2023.