

# Minute of Meeting

## Renfrewshire Licensing Forum.

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 01 December 2022	15:00	Council Chambers and Hybrid,

### PRESENT

#### REPRESENTING THE LICENSING FORUM

C Cardosi, C Dickson, M Dymond, F Moore-McGrath (Police Scotland), J McSorley and D Reid (Renfrewshire Drug and Alcohol Partnership).

#### REPRESENTING THE LICENSING BOARD

Councillor C McEwan, Councillor J McDonald, Councillor B MacFarlane, Councillor J Paterson and Councillor A Steel.

### CHAIR

J McSorley, Convener, presided.

### IN ATTENDANCE

D Campbell, Assistant Managing Solicitor and A Easdon, Team Leader (both Licensing), C MacDonald, Senior Committee Services Officer, K O'Neill, Assistant Democratic Services Officer and J Barron, Assistant Committee Services Officer (all Finance & Resources).

### APOLOGIES

T Mills, S McLean, P Pieraccini, Councillor K Montgomery and Councillor M Campbell.

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

## 1 **MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

There was submitted Minute of the previous meeting of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum held on 23 May 2022.

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

## 2 **MATTERS ARISING**

**DECIDED:** That it be noted that the Licensing Standards Officer (LSO) report would be circulated to members.

## 3 **POLICE SCOTLAND UPDATE**

Sergeant Moore-McGrath, Police Scotland, provided a verbal update on local licensing issues which had arisen since the previous meeting in May 2022 advising that Police Scotland had attended 197 recorded inspections of licensed premises within the Paisley area during the period. There had also been 102 incidents in the Paisley area and 64 outwith Paisley resulting in 166 incidents in total since May 2022. None of these had given rise to any issues.

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

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## 4 **LICENSING STANDARDS OFFICER - UPDATE**

C Dickson (LSO) provided an update in relation to licensing activity undertaken. The LSO provided information on the number of licensed premises in the Renfrewshire area with a breakdown of on and off-sale premises, the number of premises which were no longer licensed, the number of personal licences and the number of new premises licensed since his last report. He advised there had been a significant increase in the number of Occasional Licenses issued since 1 January 2022. The LSO was then heard in answer to questions from members of the Forum on the report. C Cardosi advised that the Paisley Pub Forum was going to disband and Paisley First would be taking over.

**DECIDED:** That information be noted.

## 5 **LICENSING POLICY STATEMENT REVIEW**

The Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) provided a verbal report on the Renfrewshire Licensing Board Policy Statement Review, indicating the Review takes place every five years and are tied to the period of Council elections.

He indicated the Policy statement is reviewed and a new policy statement issued within 18 months of Local Government elections.

The Assistant Managing Solicitor (Licensing) outlined the consultation process to be undertaken and the timescale involved and was heard in answer to questions from members. It was noted that a final copy of the report would be issued to members.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## 6 **ALCOHOL FOCUS SCOTLAND - LICENSING POLICY REVIEW GUIDE**

There was submitted a report from Alcohol Focus Scotland relative to a guide for local stakeholders in contributing to Licensing Policy Reviews.

The guide covered the Policy Review process, including who boards must consult, consultation methods, and timescales; post-covid recovery and the current context, including home drinking, changing drinking patterns, the use of outdoor areas and minimum unit pricing (MUP); and issues to consider when reviewing the policy including promoting the licensing objectives, overprovision, licensing hours, children and young persons' access, occasional licences, the licensing process and public participation and identifying strategic links.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Convener intimated that the following item of business would not be considered at this meeting and would be submitted to a future meeting.

## 7 **FORUM ACTION PLAN**

There was submitted a report by the Convener relative to the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum Work Plan.

**DECIDED:** That this item had not been considered and would be submitted to a future meeting.

## 8 **JOINT INFORMATION EVENT**

The Convener indicated that following his discussions with relevant parties, it was his intention to re-introduce joint information events. These events could involve members of the Licensing Forum, the Licensing Board and the Health & Social Care Partnership.

These information events could include health updates, local issues, input from the licensing trade.

The Convener undertook to identify a suitable date and investigate suitable items for discussion.

**DECIDED:** That the report be noted.

## 9 **WORKING FROM PUB**

The Convener provided a verbal update on the working from pub initiative where premises particularly in London, were encouraging people to work from the pub instead of working from home.

Full discussion then followed on various aspects of the initiative, including benefits in terms of savings in energy costs and the practicalities of the initiative. C Cardosi indicated that if a proposal was submitted to her she would forward it to licensed premises through Paisley First to gauge the level of interest in the initiative.

Concerns were also raised in terms of workplace policies relating to alcohol

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That further information be sought on the initiative; and
- (b) That the information be otherwise noted.

## 10 **OPEN DISCUSSION ON GENERAL LICENSING ISSUES**

A General discussion took place relative to a number of licensing issues.

The Convener referred to a proposal from the Scottish Government regarding the banning of advertising alcohol at sporting events, and a full discussion took place on advertising of both alcohol and gambling.

The Convener then thanked those in attendance for their contribution to the discussions.

**DECIDED:** That the discussion be noted.

## 11 **DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

There was submitted a report by the Clerk relative to the dates for future meetings. The report proposed arrangements for meetings of the Renfrewshire Licensing Forum until September 2023.

The dates proposed were 6 February, 22 May and 11 September 2023.

### **DECIDED:**

- (a) That the dates for future meetings of Renfrewshire Licensing Forum were agreed as 6 February, 23 May (amended from the proposed 22 May) and 11 September 2023; and
- (b) That the Clerk, in consultation with the Conveners of the Forum and the Licensing Board, determine a date for the Joint meeting with the Licensing Board.