



North Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

## Licensing Committee

A Meeting of the **Licensing Committee** of North Ayrshire Council will be held in the **Council Chambers, Ground Floor, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE** on **Wednesday, 13 March 2024** at **10:00** to consider the undernoted business.

### **Meeting Arrangements - Not live streamed**

This meeting will be held on a predominantly physical basis but with provision, by prior notification, for remote attendance by Elected Members in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003.

### **Licensing Exemption Para**

Please note that, whilst the items on this Agenda are public documents, consideration of some reports at the meeting may necessitate the passing of a resolution to exclude from the meeting the press and public in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

#### **1 Declarations of Interest**

Members are requested to give notice of any declarations of interest in respect of items of business on the Agenda.

#### **2 Minutes**

The accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 7 February 2024 will be confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (copy enclosed).

#### **3 Civic Government Scotland Act 1982 and other Licensing Statutes: Licensing Matters**

Submit report by the Head of Democratic Services on hearings to be determined, all in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (copy enclosed).

**4 Urgent Items**

Any other items which the Chair considers to be urgent.

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## Licensing Committee Sederunt

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Eleanor Collier (Chair)  
Nairn McDonald (Vice-Chair)  
John Bell  
Cameron Inglis  
Christina Larsen  
Jean McClung  
Matthew McLean  
Donald L. Reid  
Ronnie Stalker  
Angela Stephen

Chair:

Apologies:

Attending:



**IRVINE**, 7 February 2024 - At a Meeting of the Licensing Committee of North Ayrshire Council at 10.00 a.m.

**Present**

Eleanor Collier, Nairn McDonald, John Bell, Cameron Inglis, Jean McClung, Matthew McLean, Donald L. Reid, Ronnie Stalker and Angela Stephen.

**In Attendance**

R. Lynch, Senior Manager (Legal Services), D. Grier, Solicitor (Legal Services), D. Robertson, Enforcement Officer, C. Pollock, Licensing Administration Officer, A. Toal, Administration Assistant (Licensing), S. Dalgoutte, Senior Clerical Assistant (Licensing), and C. Stewart, Committee Services Officer (Democratic Services) (Chief Executive's Service).

**Also in Attendance**

Sergeant S. Syme and D. Hastings (Police Scotland).

**Chair**

Councillor Collier in the Chair.

**Apologies**

Christina Larsen.

**1. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 11 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

**2. Minutes**

The accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 10 January 2024 were confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

**3. Taxi Drivers Dress Code**

Submitted report by the Head of Democratic Services on the review of dress code requirements for taxi drivers.

The Committee agreed that (a) Members of the Committee would submit any individual representations to officers on the revised dress code; (b) thereafter, a revised report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee for consideration; (c) consultation would then take place with the taxi trade on such; and (d) a further report be brought to a future meeting of the Committee to determine the revised conditions to be adopted.

#### **4. Exclusion of the Public**

The Committee resolved, under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude from the Meeting the press and the public, for Agenda Item 3 (Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other Licensing Statutes: Licensing Matters) on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of Exempt Information as defined in Section 50J of, and Schedule 7A to, the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

The 'Exempt Information' concerned is information of the type described in one or more of Paragraphs 3, 6, 14 and 15 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A to the Act:

3. "Information relating to any particular applicant for, or recipient or former recipient of, any service provided by the authority."
6. "Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the authority)."
14. "Any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime."
15. "The identity of a Protected Informant" - where "Protected Informant" is defined in Part III as a person who informs the Local Authority about a past, present or future crime, breach of statutory duty, breach of planning control, or nuisance."

#### **5. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other Licensing Statutes: Licensing Matters**

Submitted report by the Head of Democratic Services on hearings to be determined, under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other Licensing legislation.

##### **5.1 Taxi Driver's Licence: TDL/02415 (New): Mark Monaghan**

The applicant, having been duly cited to attend, was not present. A representative from Police Scotland was in attendance.

Police Scotland addressed the Committee on the terms of a letter setting out their representation.

The Committee agreed that it had sufficient information available to allow it to make a decision in respect of this matter.

#### **Decision**

Councillor Reid, seconded by Councillor McDonald, moved that the application be refused on the basis that the Applicant was not a fit and proper person to hold the Licence applied for, in terms of Paragraph 5(3)(a)(ii) of Schedule 1 to the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. There being no amendment, the motion was declared carried.

##### **5.2 Taxi Driver's Licence: TDL/02437 (New): Shaun Blakely**

The applicant, having been duly cited to attend, was present. A representative from Police Scotland was in attendance.

Police Scotland addressed the Committee on the terms of a letter setting out their representation.

The applicant then addressed the Committee on the issues raised and responded to questions.

The applicant and representative from Police Scotland then withdrew to allow the Committee to deliberate. Thereafter the applicant and representative from Police Scotland re-joined the meeting, with the same Members and Officers present and in attendance, to hear the Committee's decision.

### **Decision**

The Committee unanimously agreed to continue consideration of this matter to the March meeting to allow the applicant to submit a character reference, including any appropriate further supporting information, to assist the Committee in making its decision.

### **5.3 Taxi Licence: TL/459 (New): Kirsten Stahly and Piotr Stachowski**

The applicants, having been duly cited to attend, were present.

The applicants then addressed the Committee on the issues raised and responded to questions.

### **Decision**

The Committee agreed that the proposed vehicle should be treated in the circumstances of the case as justifying an exception to Paragraph 12 of the Council's Taxi and Private Hire Car Vehicle Approval Specification under Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, Sections 10(2) and 10(5) ("Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles").

In terms of Standing Order 6.8, the Chair agreed that the meeting be adjourned at 10.55 a.m. for a short comfort break, reconvening at 11.05 a.m. with the same Members and officers present and in attendance.

### **5.4 Short Terms Lets:- NA00306N: Mary Cleary; NA00307N: JDC Rentals Ltd.; NA00308N: JDC Rentals Ltd.; NA00309N: JDC Rentals Ltd.; NA00310N: JDC Rentals Ltd.; NA00311N: JDC Rentals Ltd.; NA00312P: JDC Rentals Ltd.; NA00313P: JDC Rentals Ltd.; NA00314N: JDC Rentals Ltd.; NA00315P: JDC Rentals Ltd.; and NA00317P: JDC Rentals Ltd.**

Mary Cleary, having been duly cited to attend, was not present. However, Mary Cleary's son, Jason Cleary, was in attendance. Mr Cleary was represented at the hearing by Janet Hood, Solicitor, who also represented Mary Cleary and JDC Rentals Ltd. A representative from Police Scotland was in attendance.

A number of preliminary legal matters was dealt with at the outset of the meeting. It was also agreed that the 11 applications for Short Term Lets would be dealt with under one hearing, given the similarities pertaining to each of the applications under consideration.

Police Scotland then addressed the Committee on the terms of a letter setting out their objection.

Ms Hood then addressed the Committee on the issues raised and responded to questions.

The Committee agreed that it had sufficient information available to allow it to make a decision in respect of this matter.

Mr Cleary and his representative and the representative from Police Scotland then withdrew to allow the Committee to deliberate. Thereafter, Mr Cleary and his representative and the representative from Police Scotland re-joined the meeting, with the same Members and Officers present and in attendance, to hear the Committee's decision.

## **Decision**

The Committee agreed to grant the applications under The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-Term Lets) Order 2022 No. 32 ("the STL Order") subject to (a) the Mandatory Conditions set out in Schedule 3 to the STL Order; and (b) the additional local condition set out as "The First Exception" in Paragraph 10(b) of the Committee's "Licensing Policy Statement on Short-Term Let Licensing".

## **6. Urgent Items**

There were no urgent items.

The meeting ended at 12.00 noon.



## NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

13 March 2024

### Licensing Committee

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**Title:** Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 and other Licensing statutes: Licensing Matters

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**Purpose:** To advise the Committee of:  
a) Hearings to be determined

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**Recommendation:** 1) That the Committee should decide whether or not to make a Resolution excluding the public from the meeting at which any of the matters in this Report are to be considered;  
2) That the Committee consider and determine the matters before them.

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### 1. Executive Summary

1.1 The Licensing Committee's remit is to exercise the Council's licensing functions. These functions arise under many statutes, mainly the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. Depending on the legislation and the circumstances of each individual case, the Committee is entitled to grant, refuse, renew, vary, suspend and revoke Licences.

### 2. Background

2.1 The Committee's business under the 1982 Act is as follows:

Appendix A - Licences and Permits where Hearings have been convened

#### Exempt Information

2.2 The Committee will consider "Exempt Information" under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, Schedule 7A. The information is covered by one or more of the following categories of "Exempt Information" under Schedule 7A:

Paragraph 3: "Information relating to any particular applicant for, or recipient or former recipient of, any service provided by the authority."

Paragraph 6: "Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the authority)."

Paragraph 14: "Any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime."

Paragraph 15: "The identity of a Protected Informant" - where "Protected Informant" is defined in Part III as a person who informs the Local Authority about a past, present or future crime, breach of statutory duty, breach of planning control, or nuisance.

2.3 The details of the cases in the Appendix, with any relevant documents (such as letters from the Police or objectors) are in the background papers given to Committee Members and will be sent to the respective Applicants or Licence-Holders before the Meeting. The Schedules are excluded from the published Agenda under Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, Section 50B(2) and (5). This has been done as the Clerk considers that the meeting is likely not to be open to the public while those Schedules are being considered, as they contain "Exempt Information".

2.4. The Committee is entitled, but not obliged, to make a Resolution excluding the public from a meeting during consideration of an item of business whenever it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the public were present during consideration of that item of business there would be disclosure to them of "Exempt Information" (Section 50A(4)).

2.5. For example:

Paragraph 3 could apply in relation to information or advice requested by a member of the public.

Paragraph 6 could apply to a business activity (such as where an Applicant wants a Licence for business or employment).

Paragraphs 14 or 15 could apply where it was alleged that there was criminal conduct or anti-social behaviour committed by or against a Licence-Holder or Applicant for a Licence, or where the Committee was told that any person had committed a criminal offence (whether or not there had been concluded Court proceedings).

2.6. Accordingly, if a Resolution is made:

- (a) the publicly-accessible Minutes will exclude so much of the proceedings during which the public were excluded (Section 50C);
- (b) the Minutes will include a summary of the proceedings without disclosing the 'Exempt Information' (Sections 50C(2) & 50C(1)(b)).

### **3. Proposals**

3.1 It is proposed that the Committee consider and determine each of the listed cases in accordance with the required procedure.

### **4. Implications/Socio-economic Duty**

#### **Financial**

4.1 There are possible financial implications in relation to any Licensing decision.

## **Human Resources**

4.2 None

## **Legal**

4.3 There are possible legal implications in relation to any licensing decision. Depending on the legislation, there may be a right of appeal.

## **Equality/Socio-economic**

4.4 Equality Act 2010 imposes duties on the Council:

Section 1(1) ("Public sector duty regarding socio-economic inequalities"): the Council

"must, when making decisions of a strategic nature about how to exercise its functions, have due regard to the desirability of exercising them in a way that is designed to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage."

Section 149(1) ("Public sector equality duty"): the Council

"must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under [that Act];
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a "Relevant Protected Characteristic" and persons who do not share it;
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a "Relevant Protected Characteristic" and persons who do not share it."

The "Relevant Protected Characteristics" are: age; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation.

The Clerk has considered these Duties in preparing this Report and any specific impacts will be evaluated where appropriate. Unless the Clerk advises the Committee otherwise in a particular case, there are no significant impacts to be considered

## **Climate Change and Carbon**

4.5 None.

## **Key Priorities**

4.6 An effective licensing system, for example monitoring the 'fit and proper' status of licence-holders, the safety of vehicles, and the suitability of premises, helps progress towards one of the Priority Outcomes of the North Ayrshire Council Plan 2019-2024: "North Ayrshire's residents and communities are safe."

## **Community Wealth Building**

4.7 There are no Community Wealth Building issues.

### **5. Consultation**

5.1 Consultations have been undertaken where appropriate with Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue, and Council Directorates.

Aileen Craig  
Head of Democratic Services

For further information please contact **Raymond Lynch, Manager, Legal Services**, on **Licensing@north-ayrshire.gov.uk**.

### **Background Papers**

None

## Appendix A

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Case 1	Taxi Driver's Licence	TDL/02437 (New)
Applicant	Shaun <b>Blakely</b>	

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Case 2	Taxi Driver's Licence	TDL/02442 (New)
Applicant	Jordan <b>Devine</b>	

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Case 3	Short Term Lets	NA00245P
Applicant	Charles Fforde	

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Case 4	Short Term Lets	NA00257P
Applicant	Strabane Enterprises Ltd	

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Case 5	Short Term Lets	NA00258P
Applicant	Strabane Enterprises Ltd	

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Case 6	Short Term Lets	NA00259P
Applicant	Strabane Enterprises Ltd	

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Case 7	Short Term Lets	NA00260P
Applicant	Strabane Enterprises Ltd	

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Case 8	Short Term Lets	NA00261P
Applicant	Strabane Enterprises Ltd	

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Case 9	Caravan Site Licence	CSL/004 (Renewal)
Applicant	Willowpark Mobile Homes Ltd	

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Case 10	Short Term Lets	NA00298P
Applicant	Jacqueline Lamb	

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