

Highland Council

Minute of the remote meeting of the **Highland Licensing Committee** held via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 22 June 2021 at 10.05 am.

Present:

Mr A Jarvie (Chair), Mrs L MacDonald, Mr D Macpherson, Mr A Sinclair and Mr C Smith.

In attendance:

Mr I Meredith, Solicitor (Regulatory Services)

Ms R Banfro, Solicitor

Mr M Elsey, Senior Licensing Officer

Mrs A MacArthur, Administrative Assistant, Performance and Governance

Also attending:

Sergeant K Duncan, Police Scotland

The Chair confirmed that the meeting would be webcast and gave a short briefing on the Council's webcasting procedure and protocol.

Business

1. Apologies for absence Leisgeulan

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Mrs Jennifer Barclay, Mr John Bruce and Ms Emma Knox.

2. Declarations of interest Foillseachaidhean Com-pàirt

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Confirmation of minutes Dearbhadh a' Gheàrr-chunntais

There had been submitted for confirmation as a correct record the minute of meeting of the Committee held on 11 May 2021 which was **APPROVED**.

4. Licences granted under delegated powers Ceadachdan a bhuilicheadh fo ùghdarras air a thiomnadh

There had been circulated **Report No HLC/030/21** by the Principal Solicitor which detailed all licences which had been granted under delegated powers under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 in the period from 29 April 2021 to 9 June 2021.

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

**5. Pending applications – 3 monthly considerations
Iarrtasan ri thighinn – beachdachaidhean 3 mìosach**

There had been circulated **Report No HLC/031/21** by the Principal Solicitor relating to applications which were currently pending for the grant or renewal of licences under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

The Committee **AGREED** to defer the determination of the applications, either to:

(a) allow them to be approved under delegated powers in the event that no objections/representations are received and all outstanding documentation has been received from the applicants; or

(b) a future meeting of the Committee when the applications will be determined in terms of the Hearings Procedure.

**6. Review of Taxi Tariff 2020/21
Ath-bhreithneachadh air Taraif Tagsaidh 2020/21**

There had been circulated **Report No HLC/032/21** by the Principal Solicitor relating to the statutory requirement to undertake, and complete, a review of the Council's taxi tariff within 18 months of the current tariff coming into effect.

The Senior Licensing Officer stated that the normal process where meetings were held in Inverness, Wick, Dingwall and Fort William had not been undertaken this year, due to the restrictions from Covid 19. An informal consultation was held with letters sent out on 8 and 9 April this year with submissions requested by 12 May. Responses received had been appended to the report.

The Committee **AGREED** to:

1. keep the same maximum rates of fares for Tariffs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5;
2. keep the same rates that applied to extra charges; and
3. publish the Licensing Committee's proposal to keep the maximum rates of fares and extra charges the same in an advertisement in the Press and Journal (Highland Edition) for further consultation.

**7. Housing (Scotland) Act 2006
Applications for house in multiple occupation licence
Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982
Iarrtasan airson ceadachd thairghean ann an ioma-sheilbh**

7.1 Premises – Flats at Plot 7A, Inverness Campus, UHI Student Residence, Inverness

There had been circulated **Report No HLC/033/21** by the Principal Solicitor relating to the renewal of a house in multiple occupation licences from Aviva Staff Pension Trustee Limited in respect of flats at Plot 7A, Inverness Campus, UHI Student Residence, Inverness (Inverness South – Ward 19).

The Committee **AGREED** to **NOTE** the applications had been granted under delegated powers, following the submission of the relevant electrical certificate and portable appliance test (PAT) certificate by the applicants.

8. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982
Applications for taxi driver's / operator's licences
Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982
Iarrtasan airson ceadachdan do dhràibhearan / oibrichean chàraichean
airson fastadh priobhaideach

8.1 Application for taxi operator's licence – Mr Roger Ewen

There had been circulated **Report No HLC/034/21** by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which has been received from Mr Roger Ewen for a taxi operator's licence (Aird and Loch Ness – Ward 12).

A written submission had been submitted by the applicant and this had been circulated to the Committee in advance of the meeting.

The Senior Licensing Officer stated that the applicant required to purchase a new vehicle and to submit the relevant certification.

The Committee **AGREED** to **GRANT** delegated powers to the Acting Principal Solicitor to refuse the application if a suitable vehicle is not presented for, and passes, a taxi inspection, and has its taxi meter checked and sealed, and valid insurance, MOT, and registration documents are submitted to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority by 21 July 2021.

The meeting closed at 10.15 am.