

## **INVERCLYDE LICENSING BOARD**

**THURSDAY 13 DECEMBER 2018 AT 10.00 A.M.**

**Present:** Councillors Ahlfeld, Crowther, McEleny, Murphy and Robertson.

**Chair:** Councillor Ahlfeld presided.

**In attendance:** Mr James Douglas and Fiona Denver (for Clerk to the Board); Sergeant J Hay, (Police Scotland); Crawford Brown, Licensing Standards Officer; I Hamil and L Rebecchi, (Inverclyde Licensing Forum).

**Apologies:** Councillors Jackson, Moran and Wilson; R Dillon, Licensing Standards Officer; Chief Inspector Reilly and Inspector MacDonald, (Police Scotland); A Hunter (NHS); A Howlett, M McConnachie and M O'Neill Craig (Inverclyde Licensing Forum).

**Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest intimated.

### **LICENSING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 REVIEW / CONSULTATION OF LICENSING BOARD POLICY**

The Chair referred to all the responses and reports received during the consultation period and thanked those persons / organisations / authorities for taking the time to do so. The documentation was forwarded to Members prior to the meeting giving them the opportunity to view the information provided, copies were also circulated at the meeting.

The Chair asked Sergeant Hay if there was any additional comments he wished to make and also opened the meeting for Members to ask questions to those in attendance.

Sergeant Hay intimated Police Scotland's view on the curfew, highlighting crime and disorder stats within their report. He also addressed the Board on the current overprovision area within the Policy and referred Members to other matters within the Police Scotland submissions which he requested the Board to consider as read.

Mr Rebecchi addressed the Board with regard to the curfew and raised the issue of existing customers temporarily leaving the premises after 12 Midnight for fresh air or smoking. He spoke of the operation of a queue forming prior to 12 Midnight for entry to premises. Mr Rebecchi asked the Board to consider if there could be some leeway given within the Policy to these or similar circumstances.

Mr Hamil referred to Mr Rebecchi's comments and advised of the possible implications of protecting public safety and additional resources to licence holders of customers leaving and re-entering premises after the curfew.

There followed a full discussion between all parties on the issues raised, the curfew, overprovision area and information contained in all the documentation submitted.

The Chair advised that the Board would continue in recess and make their final decisions on the Policy and thanked all those in attendance for their input. He confirmed that they will be informed when the new Policy is published.

Members continued their discussions after which, Councillor Ahlfeld moved (i) the curfew remain in place; (ii) the overprovision statement be removed and (iii) remit to the Clerk to amend, add or delete as appropriate other matters discussed and a final copy sent to the Chair for approval prior to implementation. All motions were unanimously agreed.

## **GAMBLING ACT 2005 REVIEW / CONSULTATION OF GAMBLING STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES**

Mr Douglas confirmed that all statutory procedures had been carried out in terms of the review process and responses had been received from NHS, Police Scotland and minimal public responses which are included in the documentation circulated at the meeting. The documentation was also forwarded to Members prior to the meeting giving them the opportunity to view the information.

The Chair thanked those persons / organisations / authorities for taking the time to submit their comments.

The Chair asked Sergeant Hay if there was any additional comments he wished to make and also opened the meeting for Members to ask questions to those in attendance.

Sergeant Hay intimated that he had nothing further to add to the information previously submitted.

There were no further questions from Board Members.

The Chair advised that the Board would continue in recess, review the information received and make their final decision on the Policy. He confirmed that the new Policy will be published to meet the legislative timescales.

Members continued their discussions after which, Councillor Ahlfeld moved that the current Policy be adopted from 31 January 2019 to 31 January 2022 which was unanimously agreed.