

# Notice of meeting and agenda

## Joint meeting of Licensing Forum and Licensing Board

**12.30, Monday 15 April 2013 - Diamond Jubilee Room, City Chambers**

This is a public meeting and members of the public are welcome to attend

### Contact

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### 1. Agenda

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- 1.1 Can the Board please put Minutes of Board meetings on the web within two weeks of a board meeting?
- 1.2 Can the Board please provide the Forum with a summary of the applications it has granted/refused under its overprovision policy over the past year?
- 1.3 Why is there a restriction (in breach of the Act and Regulations) on the public having reasonably free access to see applications for Premises licences, variations etc?
- 1.4 Can the Board ensure that the content of the brief description on all site notices is improved so that each notice gives a clear explanation of any proposals?
- 1.5 Why can all applications not be put on the Board's web pages for everyone to see?
- 1.6 May we please have a time frame for access to an electronic register of Premises Licences for both the Forum and the public?
- 1.7 Provision  
  
Will the Board please indicate exactly what its current view on overprovision is?
- 1.8 Children and Young Persons

Will the Board make a greater effort to visit premises when applications involving children and young persons to get a better feel for their suitability for Children & Young Persons?

1.9 Sunday Opening (NB Appendix 1 attached)

1.9.1 Sunday Morning applications – Could this be a policy change/minor rather than a cost of £130 to each outlet? (Graeme Arnott)

1.10 What statistical information is readily available to the Board?

1.11 LSO Visits (Graeme Arnott)

1.12 AOCB

1.13 Date of next joint meeting

## **Information about the Licensing Forum**

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The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 requires each council to establish a Local Licensing Forum. The Licensing Forum represents the views of people concerned with the operation of the alcohol/liquor licensing system in the City of Edinburgh.

The Forum keeps under review the operation of the alcohol licensing system and gives advice and makes recommendations to the Licensing Board. However, it cannot give advice or make recommendations on any individual case or the Licensing Board's consideration of any individual application.

The Forum is appointed to represent the views of organisations and the citizens of the City of Edinburgh Council area.

## **Further information**

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If you have any questions about the agenda or meeting arrangements, please contact Isla Burton, Community Safety, City of Edinburgh Council, Business Centre 2.02, East Neighbourhood Centre, 101 Niddrie Mains Road, Edinburgh EH16 4DS, Tel 0131 469 5796, email [isla.burton@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:isla.burton@edinburgh.gov.uk).

A copy of the agenda and papers for this meeting will be available for inspection prior to the meeting by contacting Isla Burton (details above).

The agenda, minutes and public reports for this meeting can be viewed online by going to [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/licensingforum](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/licensingforum) .

## Appendix 1

**Note of conclusions and recommendations or meeting of the Licensing Forum sub group on Sunday hours held at the offices of Caledonian Heritable Ltd 4 Hope Street Edinburgh on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at the kind invitation of Graeme Arnott.**

In attendance John Loudon, Robin Morris, Graeme Arnott, Patrick Browne (Standing in for John Murphy), Jim Wilkie, Peter Swanson

Apologies; - Lynne Symington, Eddie Thorn and Alison Magill

Good wide ranging debate

### **Matters to note:-**

Many premises, in particular sporting and other clubs open early on Sundays, off sales are also available from 10am and some premises have earlier opening times by virtue of grandfathering of hours from 1976 Act. This is significant and in many cases unfair competition for the licensed trade.

No particular problems, concerns or general issues are known to have arisen over Sunday morning opening hours elsewhere in Scotland.

Edinburgh is the capital city and is not currently offering reasonable facilities for hospitality on Sunday mornings e.g. hotels, pubs, and restaurants cannot offer brunch/lunch with a glass of wine before 12-30pm. Many visitors to the city are looking for morning facilities e.g. having finished a visit to the castle or such like before noon.

If Sunday morning opening hours were available not all premises would apply for these as it would need a major variation of their premises licence and they may not wish to have or to offer such hours.

The management of licensed premises tend to know their customers and these premises operate in a well run, safe and controlled environment with proper toilet facilities. Many premises also offer a wide range of food. Better to have locally known people using such facilities than for those who wish a drink to simply buy from off sales and then consume wherever they want without control or facilities.

With the 2005 Act and the introduction of LSO's there is now an easy and rapid mechanism for identifying and resolving any problems that might arise. LSO's and/or the Board have wide ranging immediate and effective powers to deal with any such problems although it was not envisaged they would need to do so.

If the current policy were amended to allow hours on a Sunday morning then it should still be on the basis of each case on its own merits. The Board should also retain flexibility to grant occasional licences outwith basic policy hours to deal with unusual occasions that arise such as the Rugby World Cup.

After much debate about opening hours and having regard to the e mailed comments made by Eddie Thorn the group decided to recommend to the Forum that:-

**The Forum request the Board to amend its general policy to allow opening hours on Sunday mornings for those premises that wish to apply for these but still on a case by case basis.**

**That the general opening hours be either from 10am or 11am, as the Forum decides, to reflect expected demand and to provide hospitality during hours already enjoyed by many other licensed facilities in our city.**