

Business bulletin


Regulatory Committee

Item 6.1

9am, Monday, 20 May 2019

Dean of Guild Court Room, City Chambers, High Street, Edinburgh

Regulatory Committee

Convener:	Members:	Contact:
<p>Councillor Catherine Fullerton</p> 	<p>Councillor Scott Arthur Councillor Steve Burgess Councillor Denis Dixon Councillor Cameron Rose Councillor Stephanie Smith Councillor Donald Wilson Councillor Max Mitchell Councillor Neil Ross</p>	<p>Lesley Birrell, Committee Services 0131 529 4240</p>

Street Trading

The Regulatory Services Manager and colleagues from the Licensing Service met the new committee of the Playfair Steps and High Street Traders Association on 7 February 2019. The Association had previously sent council officers proposals about the use of the High Street and Hunters Square areas. At the meeting the Association highlighted areas within the existing High Street trading policy where they felt they could add value, including improved communication between traders and the Council, standardisation of stalls in respect of look and size, allocation of stances, trading periods and future opportunities. The meeting concluded with the Association agreeing to review their plans and making a further submission re their proposals. Further meetings are planned.

Street Trading: Pedicabs

The Licensing Service met members of the pedicab trade on 5 April 2019. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the examination of pedicabs and any other issues arising from the implementation of the new policy. The trade members agreed to work with Council officers and to consider proposals put to the trade regarding vehicle examiners. This follows on from work that Council officers have completed in relation the pedicab testing regime and inspection documentation.

Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEVs)

On 11 March 2019 the committee agreed that a consultation would be carried out on the introduction of a licensing regime for SEVs. The consultation will ask whether or not the Council should adopt discretionary powers to licence SEVs and will be posted on the Council's Consultation Hub. Following

The committee has considered reports on street trading and received a deputation from the Association in May 2018.

Street Trading Licences on Playfair Steps were suspended from the end of September 2018 during works for the National Gallery.

The operation of pedicabs within the city had previously given rise to concerns about passenger safety, the operating area and adherence to licensing conditions. On 27 October 2017 a report was presented to the committee proposing a draft policy framework and new conditions.

The committee agreed on 7 January 2019 to approve a proposed revised licensing policy and conditions for pedicabs with an implementation date of 1 April 2019

On 21 March 2019 a commencement order was laid before the Scottish Parliament which provides a discretionary licensing regime for Sexual Entertainment Venues (SEVs). A SEV is defined as a premises where sexual entertainment is performed live, for the direct or

the collation and analysis of the responses received, a further report will be submitted to the committee.

Theatres

On 11 March 2019 it was agreed that a consultation would be carried out to consider the inclusion of Theatres within the current Public Entertainment Licensing Resolution. As Edinburgh is a 'festival city', it is essential to ensure continuity of approach and maintain theatres within a licensing system. The consultation will ask whether or not the Council should adopt discretionary powers to license theatres and will be posted on the Council's Consultation Hub. Following the collation and analysis of the responses received, a further report will be submitted to the committee.

Taxi & Private Hire Training

The training course content has been developed and the City & Guilds certification process is currently ongoing. After discussions with the trade it has been agreed that more detailed course content information will be shared at the next Hire Car Trade Group meeting.

Suitable premises has now been identified within the existing Council portfolio and the relevant logistical and financial arrangements are in the process of finalisation. The desired premises will be suitable for customer needs and will include appropriate classroom style accommodation.

Unexpected delays in procurement of specialist services and recruitment of appropriately trained, highly skilled staff is being addressed and it expected to be concluded in the near future.

indirect financial benefit of the organiser and for the sole purpose of sexual stimulation of members of the audience.

On 21 March 2019 a commencement order was laid before the Scottish Parliament which repeals the Theatre Act 1968 and removes the exclusion of theatres from the definition of "place of public entertainment", thereby enabling a local authority to resolve under section 9 of the 1982 Act to license theatres under its public entertainment licensing regime. This comes in to effect on 27 January 2021.

The committee has agreed to the Licensing Service developing a training programme for all current and new taxi and private hire drivers.

This training course will cover several topics including; passenger and road safety, licence conditions, first aid, professional customer service and service for passengers who require additional assistance.