

Licensing Sub-Committee of the Regulatory Committee

9.30am, Monday, 3 March 2025

Request for Fee Refund – Public Entertainment Licence – Tasteinyourmouth

Item number

Report number

Executive/routine

Council Commitments

N/A

Wards

City centre (11)

Executive Summary

A temporary Public Entertainment Licence was granted to Tasteinyourmouth for an event running four times per day between 1 August 2024 and 25 August 2024. A representative of the licence holder has written to request that the Licensing Sub-Committee considers refunding the fee for this application.

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Request for Fee Refund – Public Entertainment Licence – Tasteinyourmouth

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:
 - 1.1.1 Hears from the applicant;
 - 1.1.2 Notes that granting a fee refund risks setting a precedent; and
 - 1.1.3 Refuses the refund.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Tasteinyourmouth show ran four times daily between 1 and 25 August 2024 at 6 - 4f3 Buccleuch Terrace, Edinburgh.
- 2.2 Charges for licence applications are used to offset the significant costs which are incurred in dealing with Licensing issues in the city.

3. Main report

- 3.1 A temporary Public Entertainment Licence was required. Licence application fees are calculated to cover the cost of the licensing system, including the input of consultees to the organisation and ensuring the safe delivery of the event. This would otherwise become a cost to the Council.
- 3.2 The relevant application fee of £1,385 was paid. An applicant from a community/charitable/religious/political organisation in the same circumstances would be exempt from payment.
- 3.3 This event had a maximum capacity of five people, comprising one audience member, one performer and three crew members.
- 3.4 A representative of the organisers has written to request that Committee considers refunding the fee for the licence for this event. A copy of the licence application is attached at Appendix 1 and the request from the organiser is attached at Appendix 2. Further documentation in support of the request is attached at Appendix 3.
- 3.5 A representative of the applicant will be invited to address the committee on the request for the fee refund.

4 Measures of success

- 4.1 The event is licensed in a proportionate and effective manner.

5 Financial impact

- 5.1 The Council's scale of fees for licensing applications was approved with effect from 1 April 2024.
- 5.2 Committee should note that the Council approved the following as part of the Budget Motion in February 2019:
- 5.2.1 The Administration will adopt a policy of full cost recovery for major events in the city delivered by third parties. We will increase cost recovery through charges levied for licensing and regulatory services, road occupation licences and consents, where permitted by legislation.
- 5.3 The cost of refunding the licence fee would be met from the Licensing budget.

6 Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 The process outlined takes account of the relevant statutory provisions.
- 6.2 The fee structure was agreed by Council in April 2024. Any reduction risks setting a precedent. However, Committee has discretion to waive fees where it considers this appropriate.

7 Equalities impact

- 7.1 There is no equalities impact arising from the contents of this report.

8 Sustainability impact

- 8.1 There is no environmental impact arising from the contents of this report.

9 Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 None.

10 Background reading/external references

- 10.1 None

11 Appendices

- 11.1 Appendix 1 – Application form
- 11.2 Appendix 2 – Request from representative of Tasteinyourmouth
- 11.3 Appendix 3 – supporting documentation