

GENERAL PURPOSES BOARD – 9 JUNE 2021

General Purposes Board

Wednesday 9 June 2021 at 10am

Present: Provost Brennan, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Curley, Dorrian, J McEleny, Macleod, Moran and Quinn.

Chair: Councillor Dorrian presided.

In attendance: Ms A Sinclair, (Interim Head of Legal Services), Mr D Keenan, Ms F Denver and Ms D Sweeney (Legal Services) and Sergeant I Robertson (Police Scotland).

The Meeting was held by video conference.

The following paragraphs are submitted for information only, having been dealt with under the powers delegated to the Board.

239 Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest 239

An apology for absence was intimated on behalf of Councillor C McEleny.

No declarations of interest were intimated.

240 Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015 240
Repeal of Theatres Act 1968

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal Services providing an update on the implementation and changes to the licensing regime as a result of the Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015.

Ms Sinclair provided information in regards to the changes in legislation. There followed a discussion on types of entertainment to be considered.

Decided:

- (1) that the Board note the contents of the report;
- (2) to pass a resolution to include performance of plays within Inverclyde Public Entertainment Licensing regime from 9 March, 2022; and
- (3) that the Interim Head of Legal Services publish a notice of the resolution as required in terms of the legislation no earlier than nine months after the resolution is made.

241 Licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues 241
Update after Initial Consultation

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal Services advising the Board of the outcome of the initial public consultation exercise on the licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues in Inverclyde.

Ms Sinclair advised Members on the report and the responses received to the public consultation.

Decided:

- (1) to note the contents of the report and consider the responses received to the

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initial public consultation on the licensing of sexual entertainment venues in Inverclyde;

(2) to pass the resolution to licence Sexual Entertainment Venues in Inverclyde from 9 June 2022 and to remit to the Interim Head of Legal Services to publish a notice of the resolution as required in terms of the legislation at least 28 days before the resolution comes into effect; and

(3) remit to the Interim Head of Legal Services to (a) consult with groups who may have an interest in the matter including, but not limited to, Police Scotland, violence against Women Partnerships, Inverclyde Women's Aid as well as the public in relation to the formation of a licensing policy statement; and (b) report back to the Board providing a proposed note of application process for approval by the Board, including a draft Sexual Entertainment Policy Statement.

242 Taxi Fares Review 2020/21

242

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal Services requesting the Board to consider the taxi fare scales and charges following its annual review.

Mr McEntagart, Messrs TLT was present representing the objectors and Mr H Glasgow was in attendance.

Mr Keenan advised Members on the background of the report and that public objections had been received following the public notice of the taxi fare scales and charges.

The Board heard Mr McEntagart and Mr Glasgow in support of the objection.

Following discussion Councillor J McEleny moved to uphold the decision of 26 February 2021 Board. As an amendment Councillor Brooks moved to set aside the decision of 26 February 2021 and to increase the flagfall across all tariffs by 20p.

Following a roll call vote, three Members, Provost Brennan, Councillors J McEleny and MacLeod, voted in favour of the motion and six Members, Councillors Ahlfeld, Brooks, Curley, Dorrian, Moran and Quinn, voted in favour of the amendment which was declared carried.

Decided:

- (1) to increase the initial flagfall by 20p across all tariffs; and
- (2) remit to the Interim Head of Legal Services to advertise the proposals determined and report on the outcome once the statutory period for representations has lapsed.

It was agreed in terms of Section 50(A)(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 as amended that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item on the grounds that the business involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 6 of Part I of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

243 Request for Suspension of Taxi Drivers Licence

243

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal Services requesting the Board to uphold the immediate suspension of a Taxi Drivers Licence and consider whether or not to further suspend the licence, all as detailed in the appendix.

244 Application for Renewal of a Taxi Drivers Licence

244

There was submitted a report by the Interim Head of Legal Services on an application for the renewal of a Taxi Drivers Licence which was refused, all as detailed in the appendix.