

ANGUS LICENSING BOARD

MINUTE of the Special MEETING of the **ANGUS LICENSING BOARD** held in the Town and County Hall, Forfar on Monday 11 June 2018 at 2.40pm.

Present: Councillors CRAIG FOTHERINGHAM, RICHARD MOORE, BRIAN BOYD, COLIN BROWN, BRENDA DURNO, DAVID FAIRWEATHER, ALEX KING, DAVID LUMGAIR, GAVIN NICOL AND BETH WHITESIDE.

Councillor Fotheringham, Convener, in the Chair.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies intimated.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Board agreed to note that no declarations of interest were made.

3. REVIEW OF STATEMENT OF LICENSING BOARD POLICY

With reference to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of this Board of 17 May 2018, there was submitted Report No LB42/18 by the Clerk advising members of the responses to the consultation exercise undertaken between 17 January 2018 and 16 March 2018 and for members to consider same in connection with the review of the Statement of Licensing Board Policies. Statistical information was attached as Appendix 1 to the Report.

Before discussions commenced, the Clerk gave advice on the revised guidance issued by the Scottish Government to Licensing Boards – “The Overprovision Assessment” as detailed in Appendix 2 (2.1) to the Report.

Constable Reid, Police Scotland addressed the Board on the figures provided by Police Scotland, as detailed in Appendix 2 (2.2) showing recorded crime in Angus where alcohol had been identified as a contributing factor. A number of questions were asked by members during which Constable Reid advised them that Police Scotland had recently re-defined the way in which they recorded their statistics. The information was noted by members.

The members then considered information provided by Angus Alcohol and Drugs Partnership in the form of two documents; the first entitled “The Public Health and Social Impact of Alcohol Availability in Angus” dated March 2018 and the second entitled “Alcohol Related Crime Analysis 2015-2017”. The documents were attached as Appendix 2 (2.3 and 2.4) respectively.

Dr Emma Fletcher, Consultant in Public Health Medicine and Mr Bill Troup, Head of Service, Angus Health and Social Care Partnership and Chair of the Angus ADP were present. Dr Fletcher addressed the Board on the information provided and gave a detailed presentation on the findings.

Members of the Board, the Clerk and the Licensing Standards Officer asked a number of questions of Dr Fletcher and Mr Troup in relation to the information provided.

The Clerk and the Licensing Standards Officer then addressed the Board regarding information submitted in Appendix 2 (2.5) and discussion took place regarding a number of proposed changes to the Statement of Licensing Policy.

Mrs Janet Hood, Training and Consulting Ltd addressed the Board on her submission, which was attached as Appendix 2 (2.6) to the Report. Discussion took place following which her suggestions were noted.

The Board then heard from the final speaker, Mr Aidan Collins, Alcohol Focus Scotland who addressed the Board on his submission, as detailed in Appendix 2 (2.7) to the Report and questions were asked by members.

The Board noted the response from the Angus Local Licensing Forum members, as detailed in Appendix 2 (2.8).

The Convener thanked all the speakers for their contributions, as part of a very fruitful discussion.

Thereafter, the Board agreed:-

- (i) to note Appendices 1 and 2, as attached to the Report;
- (ii) to determine that there was no overprovision of any type of licensed premises, or licenced premises of a particular description and alcohol related harm within Angus, as no robust and dependable causal link had been established between the evidence provided in Report LB 42/18, Appendix 2 and the operation of licensed premises within Angus; and
- (iii) to direct the Clerk to revise the current Statement of Licensing Policy and Supplementary Statement of Licensing Policy by:-
 - (a) merging the two documents into one Policy Statement;
 - (b) updating the Policy in terms of the process adopted during the recent consultations;
 - (c) updating the Policy with any legislative changes since 2013;
 - (d) updating the Scheme of Delegation as necessary;
 - (e) making any necessary minor amendments; and
 - (f) implementing the changes agreed by Members, in light of the consultation responses received and as a result of the discussions above and submit the revised document for approval to the Board meeting on 9 August 2018.