

ANGUS COUNCIL

CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE – 15 MAY 2025

SEXUAL ENTERTAINMENT VENUE – POLICY STATEMENT REVIEW

REPORT BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF LEGAL, GOVERNANCE AND CHANGE

1. ABSTRACT

The purpose of this Report is to advise Civic Licensing Committee of the requirement to review Angus Council's Sexual Entertainment Venue Statement of Policy and to seek consent to commence the review process.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

This proposal aligns to the following Council Plan Priorities:

Caring for our Economy –

Support Angus to achieve inclusive and sustainable economic growth.
Encourage and invest in fair work opportunities for those that live, work and study in Angus.

Caring for our People –

Reduce inequalities in all our communities.

Caring for our Place –

Enable inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe communities across Angus.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee: -

- (i) notes the legal requirements on licensing authorities to review their policy statement in relation to sexual entertainment venues in terms of Section 45C of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982;
- (ii) notes the proposed process of reviewing the policy statement in relation to sexual entertainment venues; and
- (iii) determines to commence the process of reviewing the policy statement in connection with sexual entertainment venues.

4. BACKGROUND

Section 45B(1) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 provides that a local authority may resolve to implement a licensing scheme for sexual entertainment venues ("SEVs"). Angus Council made such a resolution on 12 August 2020. This Resolution stated that a licensing regime for SEVs would come into effect from 12 August 2021.

In terms of section 45C(2) of the 1982 Act, where a local authority has passed a Resolution under section 45(1), they must prepare a statement of their policy with respect to the exercise of their functions in relation to the licensing of SEVs. In terms of section 45C(5), this policy statement must be reviewed "from time to time", and the local authority must make such revisions as they consider appropriate (if any). The revised statement must be published in such manner as the local authority considers appropriate.

5. CURRENT POSITION

The current policy statement in relation to SEVs, which came into effect on 12 August 2021 and which requires to be reviewed, is attached in Appendix 1.

6. PROPOSALS

In that the current policy statement for SEVs was prepared in 2020 and that it should be reviewed “from time to time” as per the 1982 Act, it is recommended that the Committee note this legal requirement and authorise the commencement of the reviewing process. The review process will require consideration of the impact of such venues in the local area and formal consultation.

Committee is asked to note that a further report will be brought with regard to consultation of such impacts in due course.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

There are no direct risk implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

10. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

A screening assessment has been undertaken and a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required for the following reason(s): - this is a technical report.

11. CHILDRENS RIGHTS AND WELLBEING IMPACT ASSESSMENT

A Children’s Rights and Wellbeing Impact Screening Assessment has been undertaken and a full assessment is not required as the “General Principles” do not apply to this proposal.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1: Current Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy Statement