

Agenda Item	7.1
Report No	HLC/063/16

**Application for the renewal of a public entertainment licence – Inverness Hogmanay Event, Northern Meeting Park, Ardross Street, Inverness (Ward 15 – Inverness Central)**

**Report by the Principal Solicitor**

**Summary**

This Report relates to an application for the renewal of a public entertainment licence.

This application is subject to a formal hearing procedure.

**1.0 Background**

1.1 On 25 February 2016 an application for the renewal of a public entertainment licence was received from Highland Council in respect of the Inverness Hogmanay Event, Northern Meeting Park, Inverness. The person detailed on the application as being responsible for the management of the event is Gerry Reynolds, Events Officer.

1.2 A site plan showing the location of the premises is attached at Appendix 1.

1.3 This is an annual event which takes place from 8.00pm to 1.00am on 31 December/1 January each year for up to 8000 attendees. This year will be the 9 year this event has been held.

1.4 The principal activity of the event is musical performances by a number of artists.

1.5 The process for determining an application for an event of this scale is managed through the Safety Advisory Group. This group is led by the Senior Licensing Officer and membership of the Group includes Police Scotland, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Scottish Ambulance Service and the Council's Environmental Health, Building Standards, Emergency Planning, Community Services (Roads) Services. All aspects of the event are considered including traffic management, stewarding, health and safety, welfare, medical provision, fire safety and technical issues e.g. certification for temporary structures. All agencies/services require to be satisfied with the arrangements proposed prior to a licence being issued.

**2.0 Process**

2.1 As the application for renewal of this licence has been submitted early this year at the time of writing there are a number of aspects of the event still to be discussed and finalised. These include submission of the final event plan and certification for the temporary structures.

**2.2** No objections to the application have been received following the display of the notice of application at the venue.

### **3.0 Determination period**

**3.1** In terms of the legislation an application for licence under the Civic Government (Scotland ) Act 1982 requires to be determined within 6 months of receipt of the same. In the case of this application it requires to be determined by 24 August 2016.

### **4.0 Determining issues**

**4.1** Section 5(3) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 states that a licensing authority may refuse an application to grant or renew a licence where:

- The applicant or anyone else detailed on the application is not a fit and proper person
- The activity would be carried out by a person other than the applicant who, if he had made the application himself, would have been refused
- Where the application relates to a premise, vehicle or vessel That the location, character or condition of the same is not suitable
- The nature and extent of the proposed activity is not suitable
- The kind of persons likely to be in the premises are not suitable
- Where there is the possibility of undue public nuisance, public order or public safety
- Where there is other good reason

**4.2** If required the Principal Solicitor will offer particular advice on the criteria relating to this particular application.

### **5.0 Policies**

**5.1** The following policies are relevant to this application:

**5.2** Standard public entertainment licence conditions. A copy of these can accessed at

[http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/1125/licences\\_permits\\_and\\_permissions/298/entertainment\\_licences/2](http://www.highland.gov.uk/info/1125/licences_permits_and_permissions/298/entertainment_licences/2)

or a hard copy can be supplied where requested.

## **6.0 Determination of application**

- 6.1** If the Committee is minded to approve the application the licence could be granted subject to a condition prohibiting the public entertainment activity from taking place until such time as all the relevant agencies/services have signed off the event management plan and all relevant plans, certification and information has been submitted and is satisfactory.

### **6.0 Recommendation**

- 6.1 The Committee is invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's hearings procedure.

Officer Reference: Michael Elsey

Date: 19 July 2016