

The Highland Licensing Board

Meeting – 7 September 2021

Agenda Item	6
Report No	HLB/076/21

Guidelines for the grant of extended licensing hours during the Royal National Mod in Inverness – 8 to 16 October 2021

Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board

Summary

This report invites the Board to consider whether to promote guidelines in relation to extended licensing hours for the 2021 Royal National Mod Event which takes place in Inverness between 8 and 16 October 2021.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Licensing Board specifies guidelines from time to time in relation to applications for extended licensing hours during major events. The guidelines specify the latest generally acceptable terminal hour for permitted hours.
- 1.2 It would be beneficial to licensees if the Board could fix similar guidelines for the 2021 Royal National Mod in Inverness.

2.0 Current HLB Policy Hours

2.1 • General on sales premises

Monday to Sunday: 1100 hours to 0100 hours the following day

2.2 • Late opening premises

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday:

1100 hours to 0100 hours the following day

Thursday, Friday and Saturday:

1100 hours to 0300 hours the following day

3.0 Report by Licensing Standards Officer

- The Royal National Mod 2021 will take place in Inverness between 8th and 16th October, 2021. The event will be in a mixed format this year comprising of both live and on line presentations.
- The main event venue for physical performances and competitions will be Eden Court Theatre, Inverness. Performances will finish by 10.00pm each night, therefore in terms of licensing, the existing alcohol premises licence held by Eden Court Theatre will be more than adequate to cater for the requirements of attendees.
- Traditionally the Mod has received extended licensed hours for hospitality premises based in Inverness. This year, in coming out of Covid restrictions, the numbers of attendees will be substantially reduced, and in many respects existing normal licensing hours may well prove adequate to cater for public demand.
- However, the Board may wish to allow premises who wish to put on “traditional musical entertainment” in support of the main event to have the ability to extend their licensed hours by an additional hour by way of individual Extended Hours Applications submitted to the Highland Licensing Board.
- It is suggested that the provision of “Traditional Musical Entertainment” would be a condition of any grant.
- Police Scotland have been fully consulted on these proposals and are supportive. It is suggested a press release be published if the Board are in agreement with the above proposals.

4.0 Specific conditions

The Board may wish to consider attaching the following specific condition(s) to any extended hours application granted:

- Premises must provide traditional music entertainment (to be tidied up).

Recommendation

The Board is invited to indicate whether they wish to introduce guidelines for the 2021 Royal National Mod event, and if so, agree the period and times to be so covered and if minded to grant extended hours, to agree the proposed specific condition(s) detailed at para(s). 4.0 above.

Reference: HC/INBS
Date: 25 August 2021
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