

Agenda item	10.2
Report no	HLC/161/25

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: THE HIGHLAND LICENSING COMMITTEE

Date: 28 October 2025

Report title: Application for the grant of a short term let licence – An Teallach, Evanton, IV16 9UU (Ward 06 – Cromarty Firth)

Report by: The Principal Solicitor – Regulatory Services

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 This report relates to an application for the grant of a short term let licence.

2. Recommendation

2.1 Members are asked to determine the application in accordance with the Council's hearings procedure.

3. Background

- 3.1 In terms of The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-term Lets) Order 2022, a licence is required for residential accommodation for use as a short term let.
- 3.2 In terms of the abovementioned Act, the Licensing Authority have twelve months from receipt of the application to determine the same, therefore this application must be determined by 4 November 2025. Failure to determine the application by this time would result in the application being subject of a 'deemed grant' which means that a licence would require to be issued on 5 November 2025 for a period of 12 months. The application is before this Committee as this is the last meeting before the determination date expires.
- 3.3 Short term let means the use of residential accommodation provided by a host in the course of business to a guest, where all of the following criteria are met:
- The guest does not use the accommodation as their only or principal home
 - The short term let is entered into for commercial consideration
 - The guest is not:
 1. An immediate family member of the host
 2. Sharing the accommodation with the host for the principal purpose of advancing the guest's education as part of an arrangement made or approved by a school, college, or further or higher educational institution, or
 3. an owner or part-owner of the accommodation
 - the accommodation is not provided for the principal purpose of facilitating the provision of work or services by the guest to the host or to another member of the host's household
 - the accommodation is not excluded accommodation, and
 - the short-term let does not constitute an excluded tenancy

4. Application

- 4.1 On 5 November 2024 a validated application for the grant of a short term let licence was received from Ms Natalie Wastnidge.
- 4.2 The property to which the application relates is An Teallach, Evanton, IV16 9UU (the "Premises"). A site plan was provided by the applicant as part of the application process and is attached as an appendix to this report (**Appendix 1**). The Premises are those edged in red on the plan on page 1 of Appendix 1.
- 4.3 The application for the short term let licence has been made on the basis that the said Ms Wastnidge and Mr Benjamin Frimet will be the hosts/operators of the Premises. The hosts/operators have applied for a short term let licence as 'existing hosts' on the basis that the Premises were operated as a short term let property prior to 1 October 2022.
- 4.4 Ms Wastnidge and Mr Frimet are named on the application as the owners of the Premises.
- 4.5 The person named on the application as being responsible for the day-to-day management of the Premises is the said Ms Wastnidge.

- 4.6 The type of letting which has been applied for is 'secondary letting' which means the host/operator is letting a property where they do not normally live.
- 4.7 The Premises is described as an annex ancillary to a dwellinghouse, which can accommodate a maximum of two guests.

Floor plans of the Premises were provided by the applicant as part of the application process, and these can be found on page two of Appendix 1.

5. Process

- 5.1 The application was circulated to the following Agencies/Services for consultation:
- Police Scotland; and
 - Highland Council Environmental Health Service
- 5.2 Police Scotland and the Highland Council's Environmental Health Service have both confirmed that they have no objections to the application.
- 5.3 The Scottish Fire & Rescue Service was not further consulted on the application as the fire safety checklist, which was completed by the applicant, pertaining to the application was deemed satisfactory.

6. Non-Timeous Representation

- 6.1 The Highland Council's Building Standards submitted a non-timeous representation, which was received by email on 20 December 2024 and subsequent written submissions by emails of 30 May 2025, 16 June 2025 and 17 September 2025. This representation was received after the 28-day period for objections or representations to be made had elapsed, namely 4 December 2024 and therefore it cannot automatically be considered by the Committee.
- 6.2 At the meeting, a representative of the Highland Council's Building Standards will be invited to address the Members as to the reason(s) why this representation was submitted after the required timescale. The applicant will be invited to address the Committee on the same and thereafter Members will require to determine whether there were sufficient reasons for the late representations and whether it should be heard.
- 6.3 If the Committee are minded to accept the email of representation, copies of same will be circulated at the meeting. If not, the application will be determined in its absence.

7. Certificate of Compliance

- 7.1 The applicant has provided a certificate of compliance confirming that a public notice of application for their short term let licence was displayed at or near the Premises for a period of 21 days from 1 December 2024.

8. Public objections

- 8.1 It is open to any member of the public to submit an objection or representation in relation to an application for a licence for a short term let licence. No public objections have been received.

9. Determining issues

- 9.1 Paragraph 5(3) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 states that a licensing authority shall refuse an application to grant or renew a licence where:

- a) The applicant or, where the applicant is not a natural person, any director of it or partner in it or any other person responsible for its management, is either:
 - i. for the time being disqualified under section 7(6) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, or;
 - ii. is not a fit and proper person to be the holder of the licence.
- b) The activity to which it relates would be managed by or carried on for the benefit of a person, other than the applicant, who would be refused the grant or renewal of such licence if he made the application himself;
- c) where the licence applied for relates to an activity consisting of or including the use of premises or a vehicle or vessel, those premises are not or, as the case may be, that vehicle or vessel is not suitable or convenient for the conduct of the activity having regard to—
 - (i) the location, character or condition of the premises or the character or condition of the vehicle or vessel;
 - (ii) the nature and extent of the proposed activity;
 - (iii) the kind of persons likely to be in the premises, vehicle or vessel;
 - (iv) the possibility of undue public nuisance; or
 - (iv) public order or public safety; or
- d) there is other good reason for refusing the application.

If required, the Principal Solicitor – Regulatory Services will offer particular advice on the criteria relating to this particular application.

- 9.2 A copy of this report has been sent to the applicant and to the Highland Council's Building Standards Team who, in the terms of paragraph 4(2) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, have both been invited to attend and will be provided with an opportunity to be heard by the Committee.
- 9.3 Both parties have also been advised of the procedure which will be followed at the meeting which may also be viewed via the following link:

[Licensing hearings procedures | Licensing hearings procedure \(Licensing Committee\) \(highland.gov.uk\)](#)

10. Policies

The following policy is relevant to this application:

- Short-term let licensing policy statement (which includes the mandatory and additional licence conditions attached to all Short Term Let Licences):-

A copy of this policy can accessed [here](#) or a hard copy can be supplied where requested.

11. Implications

11.1 Not applicable.

Date: 28 September 2025

Author: Amy Smith

Reference: [FS549530786](#)

Background Papers:

- Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982
- The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Short-term Lets) Order 2022

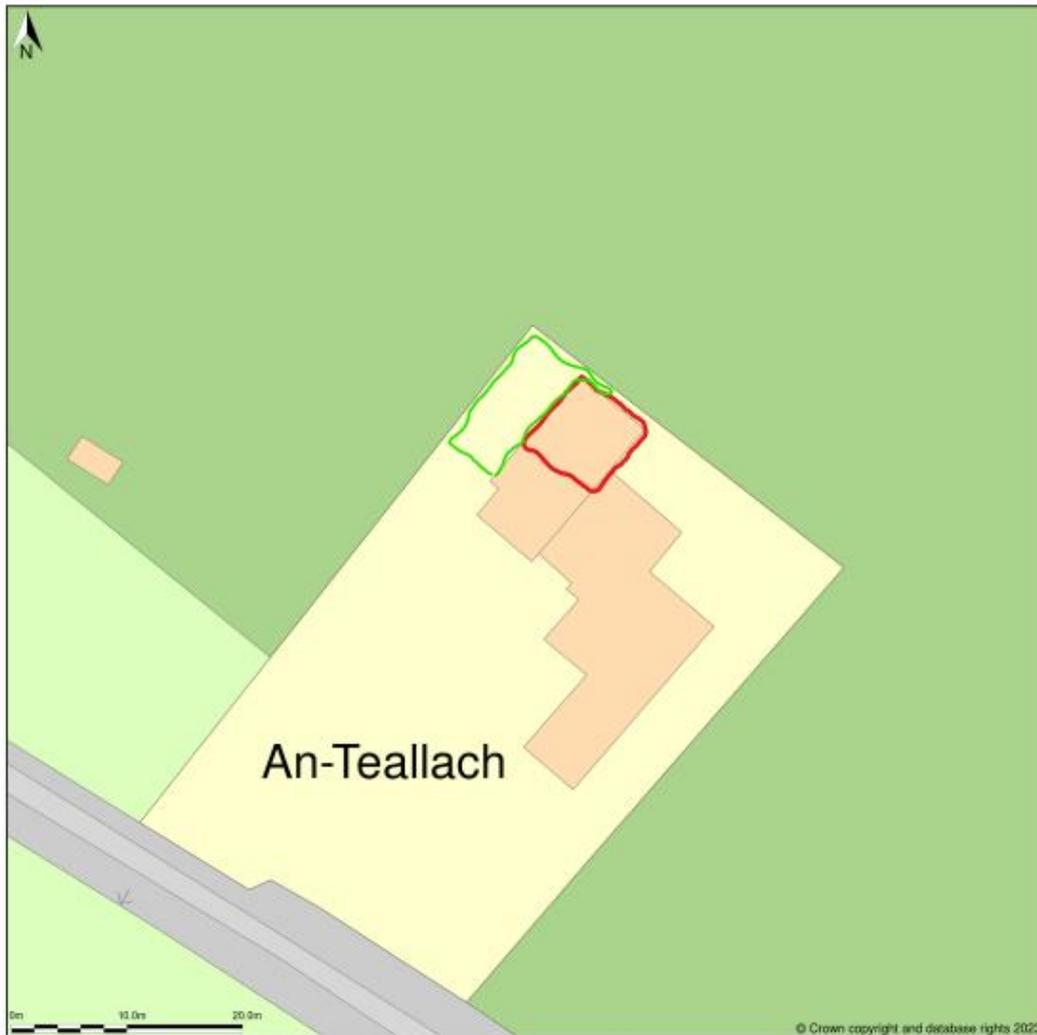
Appendix:

Appendix 1: Site plan detailing the extent of the Premises and floor plans for the Premises.

APPENDIX 1



An Teallach, Foulis Castle Road, Foulis, Evanton, Highland, IV16 9UU



Site Plan (also called a Block Plan) shows area bounded by: 259523.09, 864873.98 259613.09, 864963.98 (at a scale of 1:500), OSGridRef: NH59566491. The representation of a road, track or path is no evidence of a right of way. The representation of features as lines is no evidence of a property boundary.

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KEY

-  Outline of Annex building
-  Outline of Annex garden.

FLOOR PLAN WITH NEW SLEEPING AREA ON GROUND FLOOR ONLY

