

Highland Council

Minutes of the **Highland Licensing Committee** held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness on Tuesday, 28 October 2025 at 11.00am.

The webcast of the meeting will be available within 48 hours of broadcast and will remain online for 12 months: <https://highland.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

Present: Dr C Birt, Mr J Bruce, Mr J Grafton, Mrs J Hendry, Ms L Johnston, Mr S Kennedy (Chair), Ms E Knox (remote), Ms K Maclean (remote), Mr K Rosie (remote), Mr R Stewart.

In Attendance:

Ms C McArthur, Principal Solicitor, Regulatory Services
Mr G Somers, Solicitor, Regulatory Services
Ms A Macrae, Senior Committee Officer

Also Attending:

Sergeant Paterson, Police Scotland

Items 7.1 & 7.2: Piotr Krol (applicant), Pawel Grzendzicki (applicant's son), Aneta Flasz (interpreter)

Item 8.1: Arun Manyappan (applicant), Reshma Suresh (applicant's wife)

Item 8.2: Ronald Morrison (licence holder)

Item 10.3: Jennifer Larsen (premises host/operator), Ben Larsen (applicant's representative)

Item 10.4: Rebecca Revill (applicant), Hamish Fraser (applicant's representative), Denis Connell (objector), Helen Connell (objector)

Item 11.1: Jamie Ross (applicant)

Item 11.2: Jamie Ross (applicant's employer)

Item 12.1: Humza Malik (applicant)

Item 13.1: Rojob Ali (applicant)

The Chair confirmed that the meeting would be webcast and gave a short briefing on the Council's webcasting procedure and protocol.

Business

**1. Apologies for absence
Leisgeulan**

There were apologies for absence from Mr W Mackay and Mr D Macpherson.

**2. Declarations of Interest/Transparency Statement
Foillseachaidhean Com-pàirt/Aithris Fhollaiseachd**

There were no declarations of interest/transparency statement.

3. Confirmation of minutes
Dearbhadh a' Gheàrr-chunntais

There had been submitted for confirmation as a correct record the minutes of meetings of the Committee held on 16 September 2025, the terms of which were **APPROVED**.

4. Licences granted under delegated powers
Ceadachdan a bhuilicheadh fo ùghdarras air a thiomnadh

There had been circulated Report No HLC/150/25 by the Principal Solicitor which detailed all Licences granted under delegated powers under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 in the period from 4 September 2025 to 15 October 2025.

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

4.1 Short Term Let Licences granted under delegated powers
Ceadachd Aontaidhean Màil Geàrr-ùine Ceadachdan a bhuilicheadh fo ùghdarras air a thiomnadh

There had been circulated Report No HLC/151/25 by the Principal Solicitor which detailed all Short Term Let Licences granted under delegated powers under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 in the period from 4 September 2025 to 15 October 2025.

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

5. Pending applications – 3 monthly considerations
Iarrtasan ri thighinn – beachdachaidhean 3 mìosach

There had been circulated Report No HLC/152/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to applications which are currently pending for the grant or renewal of licences under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

The Committee **AGREED** to defer the determination of the applications, either:

(a) to allow them to be approved under delegated powers in the event that no objections/representations are received and all outstanding documentation has been received from the applicants; or

(b) to a future meeting of the Committee when the applications will be determined in terms of the Hearings Procedure.

**5.1 Short Term Let Pending applications – 3 monthly considerations
Ceadachd Aontaidhean Màil Geàrr-ùine Iarrtasan ri thighinn –
beachdachaidhean 3 mìosach**

There had been circulated Report No HLC/153/25 by the Principal Solicitor outlining the Short Term Let applications which are currently pending for the grant or renewal of licences under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

The Committee **AGREED** to defer the determination of the applications, either:

(a) to allow them to be approved under delegated powers in the event that no objections/representations are received and all outstanding documentation has been received from the applicants; or

(b) to a future meeting of the Committee when the applications will be determined in terms of the Hearings Procedure.

- 6. The Committee RESOLVED that, under Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the public be excluded from the meeting during discussion of the following items on the grounds that they involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.**
- 7. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 Taxi driver's / operator's licences
Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982 Ceadachdan Dhràibhearan /
Oibrichean Tagsaidh**

7.1 Taxi driver's licence – Piotr Krol

There had been circulated to members only Report No HLC/154/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to Piotr Krol who is the holder of a taxi driver's licence (Ward 8 – Dingwall and Seaforth). The Committee was invited to determine the matter in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Police Scotland and Piotr Krol, applicant, via his interpreter.

The Committee **AGREED** to grant the licence subject to the standard conditions.

7.2 Taxi operator's licence – Piotr Krol

There had been circulated to members only Report No HLC/155/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to Piotr Krol who is the holder of a taxi operator's licence (Ward 8 – Dingwall and Seaforth). The Committee was invited to determine the matter in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Police Scotland and Piotr Krol, applicant, via his interpreter.

The Committee **AGREED** to grant the licence subject to the standard conditions.

7.3 Application for the renewal of a taxi driver's licence – Andrew MacKay

There had been circulated to members only Report No HLC/156/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application for the renewal of a taxi driver's licence by Andrew MacKay (Ward 13 – Inverness West). The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee **AGREED** to **DEFER** the determination of the application to the next meeting of the Highland Licensing Committee on 2 December 2025 to allow the applicant to attend.

7.4 Taxi operator's licence – Andrew MacKay

There had been circulated to members only Report No HLC/157/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to Andrew MacKay who is the holder of a taxi operator's licence (Ward 13 – Inverness West). The Committee was invited to determine the matter in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee **AGREED** to **DEFER** the determination of the application to the next meeting of the Highland Licensing Committee on 2 December 2025 to allow the applicant to attend.

8. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 Private hire car driver's / operator's licences Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982 Iarrtasan airson ceadachdan do dhràibhearan / oibrichean chàraichean airson fastadh prìobhaideach

8.1 Application for the grant of a private hire car driver's licence – Arun Manyappan

There had been circulated to members only Report No HLC/158/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which had been received from Arun Manyappan for the grant of a private hire car driver's licence. The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Police Scotland and Arun Manyappan, applicant, and Reshma Suresh, applicant's representative.

The Committee **AGREED** to grant the licence subject to a satisfactory right to work check being undertaken.

8.2 Private hire car driver's licence – Ronald Morrison

There had been circulated to members only Report No HLC/159/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to Ronald Morrison who is the holder of a private hire car driver's licence (Ward 14 – Inverness Central). The Committee was invited to determine the matter in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Police Scotland and Ronald Morrison. applicant.

Mr R Stewart, seconded by Mr S Kennedy, **MOVED** to take no further action in relation to the private hire car driver's licence.

As an **AMENDMENT**, Ms E Knox, seconded by Mrs J Hendry, moved to suspend the licence holder's private hire car driver's licence for the unexpired portion of the duration of the licence, with immediate effect, under paragraph 11(2)(a) of Schedule 1 of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982.

On a vote being taken, the **MOTION** received 5 votes and the **AMENDMENT** received 5 votes, with no abstentions, the votes having been cast as follows:-

For the Motion: Dr C Birt, Mr J Bruce, Mr J Grafton, Mr S Kennedy, Mr R Stewart

For the Amendment: Mrs J Hendry, Ms L Johnston, Ms E Knox, Ms K MacLean, Mr K Rosie

On there being an equality of votes cast, the Chair cast his second and determining vote in favour of the **MOTION** which became the finding of the meeting.

Decision

The Committee **AGREED** to take no further action in relation to the private hire car driver's licence.

9. The Committee returned to public proceedings for the following items.

10. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 Short Term Let licensing Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982 Ceadachd Aontaidhean Màil Geàrr-ùine

10.1 Application for grant of a short term let licence – 8 The Moorings, Harbour Street, Nairn, IV12 4HR

There had been circulated Report No HLC/160/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which had been received from Miss Alison Melville for the grant of a short term let licence (Ward 18 – Nairn and Cawdor). The

Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee **NOTED** the outstanding matters had now been resolved and the licence had been granted under delegated powers.

10.2 Application for grant of a short term let licence – An Teallach, Evanton, IV16 9UU

There had been circulated Report No HLC/161/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which had been received from Ms Natalie Wastnidge for the grant of a short term let licence (Ward 06 – Cromarty Firth). The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee **NOTED** the outstanding matters had now been resolved and the licence had been granted under delegated powers.

10.3 Application for grant of a short term let licence – 17 Bellfield Park, Inverness IV2 4TA

There had been circulated Report No HLC/162/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which had been received from Mr Kevin MacDonald for the grant of a short term let licence (Ward 14 – Inverness Central). The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Jennifer Larsen, premises host/operator and Ben Larsen, applicant's representative.

The Committee **AGREED** to grant the licence subject to the mandatory conditions and the additional licence conditions.

10.4 Application for grant of a short term let licence – Birches and Rowan Caravans - Half Of 16 Waterloo, Breakish, IV42 8QE

There had been circulated Report No HLC/163/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which had been received from Mrs Rebecca Revill for the grant of a short term let licence (Ward 10 – Eilean a' Cheo). The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Hamish Fraser, applicant's representative, Denis Connell, objector, and Helen Connell, objector.

The Committee **AGREED** to grant the licence subject to the mandatory conditions, the additional licence conditions and a further additional licence condition:

'the licence holder shall ensure that all guests are provided with a management document explaining the house rules, including the responsible management of dogs within the premises'.

**11. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 Street Traders licence
Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982 Iarrtas airson ceadachd neach-
malairt sràide**

11.1 Application for the variation of a street trader's licence – Jamie Ross

There had been circulated Report No HLC/164/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which had been received from Jamie Ross for the variation of a street traders licence (Ward 14 – Inverness Central). The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Jamie Ross, applicant.

The Committee **AGREED** to grant the licence subject to the standard conditions.

11.2 Application for the grant of a street trader's licence – Maciej Najman

There had been circulated Report No HLC/165/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which had been received from Maciej Najman for the grant of a street traders licence (Ward 14 – Inverness Central). The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Jamie Ross, applicant's employer.

The Committee **AGREED** to grant the licence subject to the standard conditions.

11.3 Application for the renewal of a street trader's licence – Patrick Blanchard

There had been circulated Report No HLC/166/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which had been received from Patrick Blanchard for the renewal of a street traders licence (Ward 18 – Nairn and Cawdor). The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee **NOTED** the application had been withdrawn at the applicant's request, prior to the meeting.

**12. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 Late hours catering licence
Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982 Ceadachdan Solarachaidh
Uairean Anmoch**

**12.1 Application for the grant of a late hours catering licence – Shakes n
Cakes, Unit 1, Culduthel Avenue, Inverness**

There had been circulated Report No HLC/167/24 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application by Shakes n Cakes Inverness Ltd. for the grant of a late hours catering licence for Shakes n Cakes, Unit 1, Culduthel Avenue, Inverness (Ward 15 – Inverness Ness-Side). The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Humza Malik, applicant.

The Committee **NOTED** the application had been withdrawn at the applicant's request, during the course of the meeting.

**13. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 Taxi driver's / operator's licences
Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982 Ceadachdan Dhràibhearan /
Oibrichean Tagsaidh
13.1 Taxi driver's licence – Mr Rojob Ali**

There had been circulated Report No HLC/168/25 by the Principal Solicitor relating to an application which had been received from Mr Ali for a taxi driver's licence (Ward 21 – Fort William and Ardnamurchan). The Committee was invited to determine the application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Rojob Ali, applicant.

The Committee **NOTED** the application had been withdrawn at the applicant's request, during the course of the meeting.

The meeting ended at 3.50pm.