

The Highland Licensing Board

Meeting – 31 March 2026

Agenda Item	11.1
Report No	HLB/25/26

Hearing to consider Police Scotland report of conduct inconsistent with licensing objectives Personal licence holder – Priyanka Selvachandran (HC/INBS/6490)

Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board

Summary

This report relates to a hearing under section 84A of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005. This is a mandatory hearing which the Board must hold following receipt from Police Scotland of a report advising that the Chief Constable considers that a personal licence holder has acted in a manner inconsistent with any of the licensing objectives.

1. Background

- 1.1 A personal licence is required to allow any individual to supervise or authorise the sale of alcohol.
- 1.2 Priyanka Selvachandran was granted a personal licence on 23 November 2018, subject to the terms of the Act, the licence will expire on 22 November 2028.
- 1.3 In terms of section 84A of the Act, Police Scotland have submitted to the Board a report dated 12 March 2026 that the Chief Constable considers that personal licence holder, Priyanka Selvachandran, has acted in a manner inconsistent with the licensing objectives, namely protecting children and young persons from harm and preventing crime and disorder. A copy of this report detailing the conduct in question is attached (Appendix 1).

Section 84A(2) of the Act provides that where the Board receives from Police Scotland a report of this nature, the Board must hold a hearing.

- 1.4 The personal licence holder, Priyanka Selvachandran, and a representative from Police Scotland have been invited to attend the hearing. Both have been advised of the hearing procedure which will be followed at the meeting and which may also be viewed via the following link:

http://highland.gov.uk/hlb_hearings

2. Legal position

- 2.1 At the hearing, the Board may, after giving the licence holder, Police Scotland and such other persons as they consider appropriate an opportunity to be heard, make an order revoking, suspending or endorsing the licence if the Board is satisfied that it is necessary to do so for the purposes of any of the licensing objectives. The period of any suspension may not exceed 6 months. Alternatively, the Board may decide to take no action.
- 2.2 Separately, where, at the hearing, the Board are satisfied that, having regard to the licensing objectives, the licence holder is not a fit and proper person to be the holder of a personal licence, the Board must make an order revoking the licence.
- 2.3 For the purposes of the Act, the licensing objectives are-
- (a) preventing crime and disorder,
 - (b) securing public safety,
 - (c) preventing public nuisance,
 - (d) protecting and improving public health, and
 - (e) protecting children and young persons from harm.

Recommendation

The Board is invited to hear from the representative of Police Scotland and from the personal licence holder and then to determine whether to make any order revoking, suspending or endorsing the personal licence.

Reference: HC/INBS/6490

Date: 13 March 2026

Author: Kata Somogyi

Appendices: Appendix 1 - Letter from Police Scotland dated 12 March 2026

12/03/2026

Your Ref: HC/INBS/6490

Our Ref: 158935

Highland Council
Licensing Office
Council Headquarters
Glenurquhart Road
Inverness
IV3 5NX



Divisional Co-ordination Unit
Highland and Islands Division
Police HQ
Old Perth Road
INVERNESS
IV2 3SY

Dear Madam,

**LICENSING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 - SECTION 84A.
REPORT OF CONDUCT INCONSISTENT WITH LICENSING OBJECTIVES
PERSONAL LICENCE HOLDER: PRIYANKA SELVACHANDRAN.**

LICENCE NO: HC/INBS/6490

The Chief Constable hereby reports to the Licensing Board in terms of Section 84A of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 that Priyanka Selvachandran, has acted in a manner which is inconsistent with the licensing objectives articulated at Section 4(1) of Act, namely:

- Preventing Crime and Disorder
- Protecting Children and Young Persons from Harm.

Ms Selvachandran was granted a personal licence from the Highland Licensing Board on the 23rd of November 2018. This expires on the 23rd of November 2028.

Ms Selvachandran is the Premises Licence Holder and the Designated Premises Manager of Maryburgh Stores, Proby Street, Maryburgh, IV7 8DU.

The following information is provided for the Board's consideration.

Ms Selvachandran has received a Procurators Fiscal Warning in relation to an alleged offence under Section 103 (1) and 141B Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 with a child aggravation. (Allowing the sale of alcohol to someone under 18).

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PSSNER7QN0825

On the 3rd of July 2025, around 4.20pm, a child, 14 years of age, entered Maryburgh Stores, selected and then placed two cans of the alcoholic beverage "Dragon Soop", with an ABV content of 7.5%, onto the countertop. A staff member sold the alcohol to the child. The child provided to Police that they were not challenged for identification during the transaction. The parent of the child later became aware that this had occurred and contacted Police.

On the 6th of July 2025, officers attended the store and met with the staff member who had sold the alcohol to the child. The staff member advised Police that he did ask the child for identification, but the child could not provide it. Due to the belief the child was over 18 they sold the alcohol to them regardless.

CCTV was reviewed which confirmed the sale of alcohol without any viewing of identification from the child. The staff member was advised of the offence and that he would be reported to the Procurator Fiscal for consideration of prosecution.

Ms Selvachandran was thereafter contacted and appraised of the circumstances and subsequently informed that she would be reported for the matter as she is the designated licenced premises manager and premises licence holder. In this capacity Ms Selvachandran holds ultimate responsibility for the sale of alcohol in the store.

Police informed the Licensing Standards Officer for the area of the incident who carried out compliance visits with the premises.

On the 19th of December 2025 Ms Selvachandran received a Procurators Fiscals Warning in relation to the incident.

On the 12th of March 2025 Police Licensing attended the store to check age verification policies as well as staff training records in respect of being able to sell alcohol in the store. At this time all was in order with the documentation which had been recently refreshed from viewing the records available. The staff member who had sold the alcohol to the child has recently undergone further training in respect of selling alcohol within the store. Ms Selvachandran was immediately available to assist Police whilst they carried out the licenced premises visit.

It is the Chief Constable's view that the Board should consider all the options open to them under Section 84(7) or 84(7A) of the Act.

In signing this report, I confirm that this report is made under the authority of the Chief Constable of Police Service of Scotland:

Signed:

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Chief Superintendent Rob Shepherd
Divisional Commander