

Agenda item	<b>13.2</b>
Report no	<b>HLC/59/26</b>

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL**

**Committee: THE HIGHLAND LICENSING COMMITTEE**

**Date: 12 May 2026**

**Report title: Application for the renewal of a public entertainment licence – Muir of Ord Development Trust for Village Square, Muir of Ord (Ward 8 – Dingwall and Seaforth)**

**Report by: The Principal Solicitor – Regulatory Services**

**1. Purpose/Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report relates to an application for the grant of a public entertainment licence.  
This item is subject to a formal hearing procedure.

**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 Members are invited to determine the applications in accordance with the hearing procedure.

### **3. Background**

3.1 The Highland Council has resolved that in terms of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (“the Act”) a licence will be required for carrying on a business for public entertainment.

3.2 In terms of the abovementioned Act, the Licensing Authority have nine months from receipt of the application to determine the same, therefore this application must be determined by 19 May 2026. 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 to Muir of Ord Development Trust for a period of 12 months. The application is before this Committee as this is the last meeting before the determination date expires.

### **4. Application**

4.1 On 20 August 2025 an application for the renewal of a public entertainment licence was received from Muir of Ord Development Trust for the premises Village Square Area, The Muir Hub, Great North Road, Muir of Ord.

### **5. Process**

5.1 Following receipt of the application a copy was circulated to the following Agencies/Services for consultation:

- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Highland Council Environmental Health Service
- Highland Council Building Standards Service
- Highland Council Planning Service
- Highland Council Roads and Infrastructure Service
- The Highland Child Protection Committee, and
- NHS Scotland

5.2 Police Scotland and the Council’s Roads Service have confirmed that they have no objection to the application.

5.3 The consultations to the other Services detailed above were delayed whilst we awaited submission of the required documents from the applicant.

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service have responded to request a Fire Safety Checklist before comment can be made.

5.4 At the time of writing, we still await submission of the following documents from the applicant to enable the Services to consider the consultations:

- Fire Safety Checklist
- Plans – location/layout
- EICR
- PAT certificate
- PEL07 Temporary Electrical Installation sign-off certificate
- Health & Safety Statement
- Risk Assessment

- Welfare document
- Public Liability Insurance certificate
- Certificate of Compliance for Public Notice
- Premises Owner's permission
- PEL05 Tent/Gazebo sign-off certificate

We require confirmation from all of the consultees that they do not have any objections to the grant of the licence before it can be granted and issued.

The applicant has been asked, and reminded, to submit the documents. However, at the time of writing this report the documents have not been received. A verbal update will be given by officers at the meeting.

## **6. Determining issues**

6.1 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 anyone else detailed on the application is not a fit and proper person;
- (b) 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;
- (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 shall 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 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
  - (v) public order or public safety; or
- (d) there is other good reason for refusing the application.

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

6.3 A copy of this report has been sent to the applicant who, in the terms of paragraph 4(2) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, has been invited to attend and will be provided with an opportunity to be heard by the Committee. They have also been advised of the procedure which will be followed at the meeting.

## **7. Options**

7.1 If Members are minded, they could grant the application with an additional condition attached to the same to the effect that no public entertainment activities should take place until the matters detailed in paragraph 5 of the report have been submitted and deemed satisfactory.

7.2 Alternatively, the Committee could grant delegated powers to the Principal Solicitor to refuse the application if satisfactory documentation and responses to the consultations have not been received by 19 May 2026.

## **8. Policies**

8.1 The following policies are relevant to this application:

Public entertainment licence conditions.

A copy of these can accessed at  
[Civic Government Licensing | PEL - Conditions](#)

or a hard copy can be supplied where requested.

## **9. Implications**

9.1 Not applicable.

Date: 21 April 2026

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Background Papers: Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982