

The Highland Licensing Board

Meeting – 23 June 2026

Agenda Item	9.1
Report No	HLB/60/26

Application for a major variation of premises licence under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005

Blue Door Burgers and Shakes, Riverside Road, Thurso

Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board

Summary

This report relates to an application for a major variation of premises licence by Anderson & Moore Leisure Limited.

1.0 Description of premises

1.1 The premises are located on Riverside, Thurso and trade as a restaurant style premises. Food and drink is also available to take away and for delivery. The premises were granted a premises licence on 9 April 2026.

2.0 Current operating hours

2.1 The premises currently has the following operating hours:

On sales:

Monday to Sunday: 1100 hrs to 0100 hrs

3.0 Summary of variation application

3.1 Variation sought

The applicant seeks to vary the premises licence as follows:-

- 1) add off sales with the hours of Monday to Sunday 1000 hrs to 2200 hrs;
- 2) add to other services provided – “Customers may order food and drinks, including alcoholic drinks for takeaway from the premises. The premises may offer home delivery of food and drinks, including alcoholic drinks.”

4.0 Background

4.1 On 24 April 2026 the Licensing Board received an application for a major variation of a premises licence from Anderson & Moore Leisure Limited.

- 4.2 The application was publicised during the period 4 to 25 May 2026 and confirmation that the site notice was displayed has been received.
- 4.3 In accordance with standard procedure, Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire & Rescue Service and the Council's Community Services (Environmental Health) and Planning and Building Standards were consulted on the application.
- 4.4 Notification of the application was also sent to NHS Highland and the local Community Council.
- 4.5 Further to this publication and consultation no timeous objections or representations have been received.
- 4.6 The applicant must nevertheless be given the opportunity to be heard before the Board determines the application and has accordingly been invited to the meeting. The applicant has been advised of the hearings procedure which may also be viewed via the following link:

[Highland Licensing Board - Hearings](#)

5.0 Legislation

- 5.1 The Licensing Board must in considering and determining the application, consider whether any grounds of refusal apply and if none of them applies, the Board must grant the application.
- 5.2 Relevant grounds of refusal may be: -
 1. the grant of the application will be inconsistent with one or more of the licensing objectives;
 2. having regard to (i) the nature of the activities carried on or proposed to be carried on in the subject premises, (ii) the location, character and condition of the premises, and (iii) the persons likely to frequent the premises, the Board considers the premises are unsuitable for use for the sale of alcohol in accordance with the proposed variation;
 3. that the Board considers that, if the application were to be granted, there would, as a result, be overprovision of licensed premises, or licensed premises of the same or similar description as the subject premises, in the locality.
- 5.3 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.

- 5.4 The Board only has power either to grant the application and make a variation of the conditions to which the licence is subject or to refuse the application.
- 5.5 If the Board refuses the application, the Board must specify the ground for refusal and if the ground for refusal relates to a licensing objective, the Board must specify the objective in question.

6.0 Licensing Standards Officer

6.1 The LSO has provided the following comments:-

- a) The property is situated in a location, adjacent to the river Thurso on the outskirts of Thurso town centre, Caithness.
- b) The property known as Blue Door Burgers and Shakes is comprised of a detached single storey building which has two restaurant style seating areas within. There is also an outside hospitality area. The property sits in its own grounds.
- c) The premises offers alcohol for on sales. On sales are provided for customers in the identified areas, there is no bar area and no vertical drinking.
- d) This variation seeks to add off sales of alcohol from the premises, and also by means of delivery.
- e) Alcohol for off sales will be taken from stock.
- f) The activities sought would appear to be reasonable and appropriate for the proposed operation of the premises.
- g) There would not appear to be any matter contained within the application that is inconsistent with the licensing objectives.
- h) During the period of public consultation, no objections were received.
- i) I have no objection to this application.

7.0 HLB local policies

7.1 The following policies are relevant to the application:-

- (1) Highland Licensing Board Policy Statement 2023-28
- (2) Highland Licensing Board Equality Strategy

8.0 Conditions

8.1 Mandatory conditions

If the application is approved the mandatory conditions set out in Schedule 3 of the Act will apply.

8.2 Local conditions

Existing local condition will continue to apply and no additional local conditions are considered necessary.

Recommendation

The Board is invited to determine the above application and if minded to grant the application.

If the Board is minded to refuse the application, the Board must specify the ground for refusal and if the ground for refusal is in relation to a licensing objective, the Board must specify the objective in question.

Reference: HC/CSR/2174

Date: 9 June 2026

Author: G Sutherland