

Highland Council

Minutes of the **Highland Licensing Committee** held in the Council Chamber, Council Headquarters, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness on Tuesday, 11 August 2026 at 9.30 am.

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: Mrs J Hendry, Ms L Johnston, Ms E Knox, Ms K Maclean, Mr K Rosie (Vice Chair).

In Attendance:

Mr I Meredith, Solicitor, Regulatory Services
Mr M Elsey, Senior Licensing Officer
Ms A Macrae, Senior Committee Officer

Also Attending:

Item 6.1: Hiwa Saed (applicant)

The Vice 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 was an apology for absence from Dr C Birt.

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

There were no declarations of interest/transparency statements.

3. Confirmation of minutes Dearbhadh a' Gheàrr-chunntais

There had been submitted for confirmation as a correct record the minutes of meeting of the Committee held on 23 June 2026, the terms of which were **APPROVED**.

Thereafter, the Committee **NOTED** that item 12.1 at the meeting of the Highland Licensing Committee on 23 June 2026 was referred to a special meeting of the Highland Council held on 4 August 2026.

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

There had been circulated Report No HLC/81/26 by the Principal Solicitor which detailed all Licences granted under delegated powers under the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 in the period from 11 June 2026 to 22 July 2026.

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/82/26 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 11 June 2026 to 22 July 2026.

The Committee **NOTED** the report.

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

There had been circulated Report No HLC/83/26 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/84/26 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. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982

Taxi driver's / operator's licences

Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982

Ceadachdan Dhràibhearan / Oibrichean Tagsaidh

6.1 Application for a taxi driver's licence – Hiwa Saed

There had been circulated Report **No HLC/85/26** by the Strategic Lead (Legal & Regulatory) relating to an application which had been received from Hiwa Saed for a taxi driver's licence (Ward 14 – Inverness Central). The Committee was invited to determine this application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The Committee heard from Hiwa Saed, applicant.

The Committee **NOTED** that the applicant had **WITHDRAWN** his application during the hearing.

6.2 Application for a taxi driver's licence – Raheel Zeb

There had been circulated Report **No HLC/86/26** by the Strategic Lead (Legal & Regulatory) relating to an application which had been received from Raheel Zeb for a taxi driver's licence (Ward 14 – Inverness Central). The Committee was invited to determine this application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The applicant was not present.

The Committee **NOTED** that the applicant had **WITHDRAWN** his application prior to the meeting.

7. 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

7.1 Application for a private hire car driver's licence – Mohammed Usman

There had been circulated Report **No HLC/87/26** by the Strategic Lead (Legal & Regulatory) relating to an application which had been received from Mohammed Zakir Usman for a private hire car driver's licence. The Committee was invited to determine this application in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The applicant was not present.

The Committee **NOTED** that the licence had been **GRANTED** under delegated powers as the applicant had satisfactorily completed a right to work check prior to the meeting.

8. 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 Item on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

**9. Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982
Taxi driver's / operator's licences
Achd Riaghaltais Chatharra (Alba) 1982
Ceadachdan Dhràibhearan / Oibrichean Tagsaidh**

9.1 Taxi driver's licence – John Munro

There had been circulated **to members only Report No HLC/88/26** by the Strategic Lead (Legal & Regulatory) relating to John Munro who is the holder of a taxi driver's licence (Ward 13 – Inverness West). The Committee was invited to determine this matter in accordance with the Council's Hearings Procedure.

The applicant was not present.

The Committee **NOTED** that the applicant had **SURRENDERED** his licence prior to the meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.45am.
