**The Highland Licensing Board**

**Meeting – 01 December 2026**

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| Agenda Item | **8.1** |
| Report No | **HLB/106/26** |

**Application for personal licence – Hassan Ahmed**

**Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board**

Summary

This report invites the Board to hold a hearing to consider and determine an application for a personal licence under Section 72 of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 (the Act).

## 1. Background

1.1 A personal licence is required to allow any individual to supervise or authorise the sale of alcohol.

1.2 On 21 September 2026, an application for a personal licence was received from Ahmed Hassan.

As part of the application process, the application was circulated to Police Scotland and the Licensing Standards Officer on 03 November 2026.

The delay in circulating the application to Police Scotland was due to required information not initially being provided by the applicant with the application form.

1.3 **Police Scotland – notice of conviction**

Under section 73 of the Act, Police Scotland have timeously given notice confirming that the applicant has convictions for relevant or foreign offences. A copy of the notice received from Police Scotland dated 14 November 2026 is attached as **Appendix 1**.

1.4 Police Scotland have included in their notice a recommendation under section 73(4) of the Act that the personal licence application be refused.

They have included additional information under section 73(5) of the Act which they consider may be relevant to consideration by the Board of the application.

1.5 Under section 73A of the Act, the Licensing Standards Officer (LSO) has also been given notice of the application and has offered no further information which he considers relevant to the consideration by the Board of the application.

1.6 The applicant is entitled to be heard and has been invited to attend the hearing along with Police Scotland.

## 2. Legal position

2.1 Section 74(6) of the Act requires that at the hearing the Board must refuse the application if, after having had regard to the Police Scotland notice, any information provided by Police Scotland under section 73(5) of the Act and any information provided by the LSO under section 73A(2) of the Act, the Board is satisfied that a ground of refusal applies. If not satisfied, the Board must grant the application.

2.2 The grounds of refusal are-

(a) that, having regard to the licensing objectives, the applicant is not a fit and proper person to be the holder of a personal licence,
(b) that it is otherwise necessary to refuse the application for the purposes of any of the licensing objectives.

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 determine the application as follows:-

(a) If, having had regard to the Police Scotland notice, any information provided under section 73(5) or 73A(2) of the Act and any submissions made by the applicant and/or the Police Scotland representative at the hearing, the Board is satisfied that a ground of refusal applies, the Board must refuse the application.

(b) If the Board is not so satisfied, the Board must grant the application.

Ref.: HC10203
Author: Kata Somogyi
Date: 16 November 2026
Appendices: Appendix 1 - Letter from Police Scotland dated 14 November 2026

Appendix 1

14/11/2026

Your Ref:

Our Ref: 1064911

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

POLICE SCOTLAND
Keeping people safe

FOR THE ATTENTION OF Iain Meredith

Dear Sir,

**LICENSING (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005 - APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PERSONAL LICENCE. HASSAN AHMED or ALI, [redacted].**

I refer to the above application.

In terms of Section 73(3)(b) of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act) I give notice that, based upon the information provided and as far as the Chief Constable is aware, the applicant has been convicted of the following relevant offence. This was not declared.

| Date | Court | Crime/Offence | Disposal |
|---|---|---|---|
| 04/12/2024 | Elgin Sheriff | Section 38(1) Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010. | £720 fine.<br>£40 victim surcharge. |

In terms of Section 73(5) of the 2005 Act the Chief Constable provides the following information in relation to the applicant which is relevant to the Board's consideration of the application: -

PSSAERCZZ0624

Around 8am, on Sunday the 9th of June 2024, after a night of consuming alcohol the applicant began acting in an aggressive and hostile manner towards a family member.

Another family member heard this shouting and swearing and made attempts to calm the applicant down. The applicant refused to desist and continued in his

conduct. The family fled the address due to the conduct of the applicant to await police assistance.

Around 8.15am, police attended and traced the applicant within the address where he was duly arrested. It was noted that he appeared under the influence. He was conveyed to Elgin Police Station where he was later charged and released to attend Elgin Sheriff Court on the 4th of July 2024. On the 4th of December 2024, the applicant was convicted of the offence and fined £720 with a £40 victim surcharge.

In light of the above, the Chief Constable considers that it is necessary for the purposes of the preventing crime and disorder and securing public safety licensing objectives, that the application be refused. The Chief Constable accordingly makes a recommendation to that effect in terms of section 73(4) of the 2005 Act.

Yours faithfully



Chief Superintendent David Ross
Divisional Commander