

**SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING BOARD/  
SOUTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL LICENSING FORUM**

Minutes of the meeting of Licencing Board/ Local Licensing Forum  
held on 26 October 2023 at 10.30am

**Licensing Board Members Present:** Councillors William Grant (Chair), Laura Brennan-Whitefield, Martin Kilbride, Bob Pollock, Gavin Scott and Duncan Townson.

**Licensing Forum Members Present:** C. Andrew – Licensing Standards Officer (Chair), David Cuthill, Janice Lindsay, Sandy Paton, Rachael Rennie and Paul Zive.

**Apologies:** Councillor Lee Lyons, Alex Kelly and Sukhuinderjit Sangha.

**Attending:** K. Briggs, Service Lead – Legal and Licensing; L. McChristie, Co-ordinator (Licensing); and A. Gibson, Committee Services Officer.

**1. Welcome.**

Councillor Grant, Chair of the Licensing Board, welcomed all present.

**2. Draft Statement of Licensing Policy.**

The Licensing Standards Officer advised

- (1) that all local authorities in Scotland were required to have a Licensing Forum;
- (2) that there had been difficulties in encouraging young people to join the Forum;
- (3) that the Forum met quarterly; and
- (4) that this meeting today, with the Board Members allowed the Forum to raise matters of concern.

Having heard a Member of the Forum, there was discussion on the term “nightclub” following which the draft Statement of Licensing Policy was circulated to those at the meeting.

There was discussion on allowing access to under 18’s to nightclubs and children being allowed into licensed premises with an adult and the difficulties that various premises faced in the current economic climate.

Councillor Grant, Chair of the Board advised that if the Forum Members had any matters they wished to discuss with the Board, he was happy to have additional meetings of this joint Group.

There was discussion on the granting of licences for holiday parks etc.

A Member of the Forum advised that it would be beneficial if applicants who had licences rejected, were advised more clearly of the reason for its non-approval.

It was agreed that the retailing strategy “Challenge 25” was a helpful tool in avoiding underage drinking. Thereafter there was discussion on young people entering licenced premises to consume food; and the sale of alcohol to young people at off-sales premises.

There was discussion on the granting of occasional licenses and the events this was suitable for.

Following a matter being raised, there was discussion regarding the use of designated areas at events for the consumption of alcohol.

The matter of refrigerated alcoholic beverages being sold in off-sales premises was raised and discussed. It was noted that this was a matter that was now more transparent in the draft Policy.

Following discussion ,it was noted that Forum Members were welcome to attend Board meetings and should write to the Clerk if there were any matters that required discussion and that their input into the draft Policy was important.

It was noted that there would be a two hour training session next week that Forum Members were welcome to attend. Having heard a Forum Member advise that she could not attend, it was noted that the Licensing Standards Officer would ascertain if it could be recorded to allow Forum Members to watch it a later date.

The meeting finished at 11.55 a.m.