

SOUTH AYRSHIRE LICENSING BOARD (SPECIAL)

Minutes of a hybrid webcast meeting held on 23 February 2026 at 12 noon.

Present: Councillors William Grant (Chair); Laura Brennan-Whitefield; Martin Kilbride; Bob Pollock and Gavin Scott.

Attending
Remotely: Councillor Duncan Townson.

Apology: Councillor Kenneth Bell.

Attending: L. McChristie, Co-ordinator – Licensing and Depute Clerk to the Board; C McMenamin, Service Lead, Legal and Licensing and Depute Clerk to the Board; C. Andrew, Licensing Standards Officer; J. Chapman, Committee Services Officer and C. McCallum, Committee Services Assistant.

Also

Attending

Remotely: C. Caves, Chief Governance Officer and D. Hastings, Police Scotland.

Opening Remarks

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, outlined the procedures for conducting this meeting and advised that it would be broadcast live.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members of the Board in terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

2. FIFA WORLD CUP 2026

There was submitted a [report](#) of 18 February 2026 by the Depute Clerk to the Licensing Board advising the Licensing Board of their options in relation to extended hours regarding the upcoming FIFA World Cup 2026 which includes kick off times which may extend beyond the terminal hour for some premises.

Having heard from the Depute Clerk, the LSO and following comments from Members, the Board

Decided to confirm their position as follows:

- The Board confirmed their ongoing support to the licensed trade and invited licensed premises who wish to screen any of the games, who have televised sport in their operating plan, to submit an extended hours application, to be processed and determined in the usual manner. The Board confirmed that applications can be made for any game in the World Cup, not just Scotland games.
- The Board request that extended hours applications are submitted by 31st March 2026 to allow adequate time for the applications to be processed and determined.
- In order to ensure the licensing objectives continue to be met by premises, the Board will consider applying the suggested conditions outlined in the LSO Report contained in Appendix 1 to the Report by the Depute Clerk to the Board dated 18th February 2026 and may apply further premises specific conditions when the application is considered.

- The Board are keen to support the existing licensed trade and are not in favour of any fan zone areas which would require to operate under an occasional licence.

3. Closing Remarks

The Chair thanked officers and the Board for their hard work and concluded the meeting.

The meeting ended at 12:25.