

LICENSING BOARD INFORMATION SHEET

TYPE OF APPLICATION: VARIATION OF PREMISES LICENCE
PREMISES: BUTCHERS ARMS, 443 GEORGE STREET, ABERDEEN

DESCRIPTION

- Variation to on consumption terminal hour on Friday and Saturday to 01:00.
- Incorporate the external areas into licenced area.
- Amendment to the times in which children and young persons are permitted access
- Include Bar meals during core licensed hours
- Include outdoor drinking facilities.

OBJECTIONS/REPRESENTATIONS

- Police
- Member of the Public

POLICY

Protecting Children and Young Persons from Harm

The Board recognises that the question of access to licensed premises by children and young persons is not one that can be answered with a one size fits all type of approach. The suitability of premises will depend on a number of factors including layout of the premises, activities or services available, and typical customer demographic.

Applicants and licence holders should also be aware that access for children and young persons will bring with it additional responsibilities and may result in additional conditions being attached to the licence.

What the Board Will Do:

- Assess all applications for suitability of access for children and young persons.
- Impose additional conditions where necessary to protect children and young persons from harm.
- Limit the hours during which children and young persons have access if appropriate.
- Limit activities which may take place on the licensed premises during hours in which children and young persons have access if appropriate.

What the Board Will Expect of Licence Holders/Applicants

- Consider the ambience of premises and what is appropriate in terms of children and young persons' access.
- Ensure facilities are appropriate to the areas of the premises to which children and young persons are to be afforded access.
- Vigilance against underage drinking and proxy purchasing.
- Strict enforcement of Challenge 25.
- Comprehensive and up to date staff training.
- Restrict access for children and young persons to appropriate hours and parts of the premises.

Preventing Public Nuisance

The Board believes that licensed premises have the potential to have a significant impact on communities. It wishes to maintain and protect the amenity of the surrounding neighbourhoods whilst recognising the valuable cultural and social aspects of such premises.

Whilst licensing powers are not the main statutory mechanism for dealing with public nuisance in general the Board will interpret public nuisance in a wider sense where it relates to the operation of licensed premises, and in particular issues such as noise and litter.

Again, a number of factors should be considered including, but not limited to:

- Location of premises. In particular the proximity to residential or noise sensitive premises such as medical facilities, sheltered housing, schools, places of worship, nurseries and suchlike.
- Hours of operation. Closely related to the location of the premises, the hours of operation should reflect what is appropriate for the surrounding neighbourhood. The terminal hours indicated in the Supplementary Policy on Licensed Hours are the maximum available and will not be suitable for all premises.
- Nature of activities. Any activities carried on in the licensed premises should not be detrimental to the ambience of the locality.
- Outdoor areas. The Board will include a Supplementary Policy on this issue, but applicants will require to ensure that the inclusion of an outdoor licensed area in any premises is appropriate and will not contravene the licensing objective of preventing public nuisance.
- Smoking areas. These should be designed to minimise public nuisance and regularly monitored to cut down on noise and litter.
- Noise from patrons entering and exiting the premises.

What the Board Will Do:

- Consider the proximity of proposed licensed premises to noise sensitive premises when considering applications.

- Ensure that licensed hours and activities are appropriate for the type of premises and locality. The terminal hours indicated in the Supplementary Policy on Licensed Hours are the maximum available and will not be suitable for all premises.
- Improve communication between the trade, partners and local communities.
- Impose additional licence conditions where appropriate to prevent public nuisance.
- Highlight best practice where available and increase awareness and education on potential areas of risk.

What the Board Will Expect of Licence Holders/Applicants:

- Take a proactive approach to public nuisance with a risk-based approach.
- Be mindful of the location of the premises, hours of operation and activities.
- Comply with all conditions of the premises licence.
- Ensure appropriate control measures are in place and staff training is up to date and relevant.
- Consider public nuisance when establishing the design and layout of the premises.
- Adequate supervision of any outdoor area, smoking area and patrons entering/exiting the premises.
- Sharing of best practice via trade groups.
- Participation in communication to resolve any issues that may arise.
- Co-operation with Police Scotland and Licensing Standards Officers including access to all relevant policies and procedures such as dispersal policies and incident management.