LICENSING COMMITTEE INFORMATION SHEET 16 March 2021

Public Application

TYPE OF APPLICATION: HMO LICENCE APPLICATION (RENEWAL)

APPLICANT: KA WAI CHENG

AGENT: NONE STATED

ADDRESS: 386D KING STREET, ABERDEEN

INFORMATION NOTE

This HMO licence application is on the agenda of the Licensing Committee for the reason that one letter of representation/objection was submitted to the HMO Unit.

If, after consideration of the representation/objection, the Committee is minded to grant the HMO licence, it may do so under delegated powers for the reason that the necessary upgrading works & certification have not yet been completed. That position may have changed by the day of the Committee meeting, in which case I will advise the Committee accordingly.

DESCRIPTION

The premises at No.386D King Street, Aberdeen, is an upper-floor flat contained within an ex-Council 4-flatted block. The flat provides accommodation comprising 3 letting bedrooms, one public room, one kitchen & one bathroom. The applicant wishes to accommodate a maximum of 3 tenants, which is acceptable to the HMO Unit in terms of space & layout. The location of the premises is shown on the plan attached as Appendix A.

CONSULTEES

- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
- A public Notice of HMO Application was displayed outside the building, alerting the general public to the HMO licence application.

REPRESENTATIONS/OBJECTIONS

- Police Scotland no objections
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service no objections
- General public one letter of representation/objection which was received within the statutory 21-day period and must be considered (Attached as Appendix B).
- Licence-applicant one e-mail from the applicant in response to the letter of representation/objection (Attached as Appendix C)

COMMITTEE GUIDELINES/POLICY

All applications for HMO licences are dealt with in accordance with the Scottish Government's document:

'Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation: Statutory Guidance for Scottish Local Authorities'

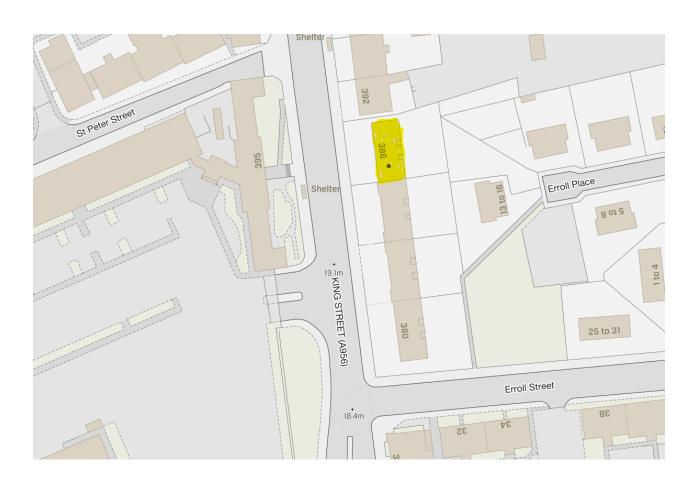
GROUNDS FOR REFUSAL

This application is being dealt with under the provisions of Part 5 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2006, as amended. Available grounds of refusal are as follows:

- 1) The applicant and/or agent is not considered to be a 'fit & proper' person to hold an HMO licence, and
- 2) The property is unsuitable for occupation as an HMO for one, some or all of the following reasons:
- i) Its location
- ii) Its condition
- iii) Any amenities it contains
- iv) The type & number of persons likely to occupy it
- v) Whether any rooms within it have been subdivided
- vi) Whether any rooms within it have been adapted, resulting in an alteration to the water & drainage pipes within it
- vii) The safety & security of persons likely to occupy it
- viii) The possibility of undue public nuisance
- ix) There is, or would be, an overprovision of HMOs in the locality

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- The applicant is registered as a landlord with this Council and his registration includes No.386D King Street, and another 6 rental properties.
- The Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team (ASBIT) has no record of any complaints of anti-social behaviour involving the tenants of No.386D King Street.
- The application under consideration is a 'renewal' application. The applicant first licensed the property in April 2014.
- There are no other HMO-licensed flats in No.386 King Street.



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I should add to the neighbour's objection, I always get the leak fixed immediately. As far as I remember, there were two "real" leaks over the last six years I own the flat, one time was from the newly installed shower and the other time was from the waste pipe connecting to the bath. The reason I say "real" is because there were serval other occasions where the neighbours accused there's a leak from my flat, but in fact there's none, the bathroom (including the bottom of the bath) is completely dry. I remember I once got called from the neighbour at 5am in the morning and spent over £100 for emergency plumber to turn up at 6am to find out there's no leak in my flat at all !! That was the time where the flat was coppiced by a family, the woman of the family was too scared to open the door for the neighbour as he kept banging on the door, according to the woman.

I am more than happy to repair the flat and keep it in a high standard, it is of my interest to do so. I just don't see how having a family as resident would make any changes if he kept accusing there's a leak from my flat when there's none.

Regards

Ka Wai Cheng