

# LICENSING COMMITTEE INFORMATION SHEET

18 May 2021

## Public Application

**TYPE OF APPLICATION:** HMO LICENCE APPLICATION (RENEWAL)

**APPLICANT:** ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL (CORPORATE LANDLORD)

**ADDRESS:** 77 – 79 BON ACCORD STREET, ABERDEEN

**AGENT:** NONE STATED

### INFORMATION NOTE

At the date of drafting this Information Note, a new HMO licence cannot be granted for the reason that the applicant has not completed the work & certification requirements to bring the property up to the current HMO standard. The meeting of the Licensing Committee on 18 May 2021, is the last meeting before the one-year statutory deadline for determining this HMO licence application therefore if the property is still unsuitable for occupation as an HMO by the day of the Committee, and the Committee are minded to refuse the application, they must do so at the meeting on 18 May 2021. I will advise the Committee whether the applicant has satisfactorily completed the necessary work & certification requirements.

### DESCRIPTION

The premises at No.77 – 79 Bon Accord Street, Aberdeen, is a former homeless hostel housed in a three-storey mid-terraced building providing accommodation of 20 letting bedrooms, one public room, 4 kitchens & 5 bathrooms/shower-rooms. The applicant has requested an occupancy of 20 tenants, which is acceptable in terms of space and layout.

### CONSULTEES

- Police Scotland
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service
- A public Notice of HMO Application was displayed outside the building for the 21-day statutory period, alerting the general public to the HMO licence application.

### OBJECTIONS/REPRESENTATIONS

- Police Scotland – no objections
- Scottish Fire & Rescue Service – no objections
- General public – no objections

## 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

## OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- The applicant, Aberdeen City Council, as a RSL is exempt from the Landlord Registration regime.
- The Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team (ASBIT) has no record of any complaints of anti-social behaviour involving the tenants of No.77-79 Bon Accord Street
- The extent of the above-mentioned work & certification requirements is as follows:
  - 1) All faulty and missing lightbulbs to be replaced immediately.
  - 2) All self-closing doors to be inspected and adjusted as necessary to ensure that they fully close against their stops from all angles of swing. Particular attention to be paid to the door in bedroom 3.
  - 3) All windows to be inspected and adjusted as necessary to ensure that they open and close securely. Broken window handles must be replaced.
  - 4) The mechanical extract fan in the annexe shower-room to be repaired or replaced as necessary.
  - 5) The mould growth in the walls and ceiling of the annexe shower-room to be treated with anti-fungicidal wash then coated with anti-fungicidal paint and redecorated.

- 6) The refurbishment of the shower-room on the second floor to be completed.
- 7) The decoration throughout the building requires attention.