

# LICENSING COMMITTEE INFORMATION SHEET

31 August 2021

## Public Application

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

**APPLICANT:** CATHERINE ROBERTSON

**ADDRESS:** 102 BEDFORD ROAD, ABERDEEN

**AGENT:** NONE DECLARED

### 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 31 August 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 31 August 2021. I will advise the Committee whether the applicant has satisfactorily completed the necessary work & certification requirements.

### DESCRIPTION

The premises at No.102 Bedford Road, Aberdeen, is a first-floor flat providing accommodation of 3 letting bedrooms, public room, kitchen and bathroom. The applicant has requested an occupancy of 3 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'*

## **GROUND 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 and her HMO property are registered with this Council.
- The Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team (ASBIT) has no record of any complaints of anti-social behaviour involving the tenants of No.102 Bedford Road.
- The extent of the above-mentioned work & certification requirements is as follows:
  1. CO detectors to be installed in any room which contains a gas appliance and/or a flue.
  2. All faulty/missing lightbulbs to be replaced immediately.
  3. At the time of the inspection the electric meter and gas meter were in debt and no power was available. Both meters must be credited, following which time all gas and electrical appliances to be checked to ensure correct and safe operation.
  4. All portable heaters to be permanently removed from the property.
  5. If the electric fire in the lounge is to remain, it must be wired to a fused switched outlet.
  6. 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.
  7. All windows to be adjusted as necessary to ensure that they open and close easily.
  8. The following documentation to be submitted to the HMO Unit for inspection:
    - Notice of HMO Application – Certificate of Compliance
    - Gas Safe certificate
    - Portable Appliance Test (PAT) certificate
    - Copy of the Tenancy agreement that will be used