

# LICENSING COMMITTEE INFORMATION SHEET

22 March 2022

## Public Application

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

**APPLICANT:** MAIRI MACLEOD

**ADDRESS:** 179 SKENE 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 22 March 2022, 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 22 March 2022. I will advise the Committee whether the applicant has satisfactorily completed the necessary work & certification requirements.

### DESCRIPTION

The property at No.179 Skene Street, Aberdeen, is a maisonette flat on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, providing accommodation of 4 letting bedrooms (1 en-suite), lounge, kitchen, dining room, bathroom and store room. The applicant has requested an occupancy of 4 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 is registered as a landlord with this Council and her registration includes No.179 Skene Street.
- The Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team (ASBIT) has no record of any complaints of anti-social behaviour involving the tenants of No.179 Skene Street.
- The extent of the above-mentioned work & certification requirements is as follows:
  - 1) All faulty/missing lightbulbs to be replaced immediately and a lightshade fitted to the pendant in bedroom 2.
  - 2) The 2-gang sockets located in bedroom 2 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor landing to be securely refixed.
  - 3) The faulty CO detectors to be replaced.
  - 4) All windows to be adjusted as necessary to ensure easy opening for ventilation.
  - 5) All self-closing doors to be checked 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 doors in bedrooms 1 & 4.
  - 6) The broken double-glazing unit in bedroom 2 to be replaced.
  - 7) The hole in the ceiling of the cupboard in bedroom 4 to be made good and decorated.

- 8) The property to be thoroughly cleaned throughout. Particular attention to be paid to the carpet in bedroom1.
- 9) The mattress in bedroom 1 must be replaced.
- 10) The following documentation to be submitted for inspection:
  - Notice of HMO Application – Certificate of Compliance
  - Copy of Private Residential tenancy Agreement