

LICENSING COMMITTEE INFORMATION SHEET

22 March 2022

Public Application

TYPE OF APPLICATION: HMO LICENCE APPLICATION (RENEWAL)

APPLICANT: ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

ADDRESS: 1 ABBOSWELL DRIVE, ABERDEEN

AGENT: N/A

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 premises at No.1 Abbotswell Drive, Aberdeen, is a 2-storey, detached house providing accommodation of 5 letting bedrooms, lounge, kitchen and bathroom. The applicant has requested an occupancy of 5 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 his registration includes No.1 Abbotswell Drive.
- The Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Investigation Team (ASBIT) has no record of any complaints of anti-social behaviour involving the tenants of No.1 Abbotswell Drive.
- The extent of the above-mentioned work & certification requirements is as follows:
 - 1) All self-closing doors must be capable of closing fully against their stops from all angles of swing and latch off when closed. In this regard the following doors require adjustment :

Guest Room
Kitchen entrance and exit
Bedroom 2,3,4
 - 2) A window in each room must be capable of being easily opened for ventilation. In regards to the kitchen and bathroom areas they must have adequate ventilation, natural or mechanical. In this regard the window in bedroom 5 requires repair.

- 3) The following documentation to be submitted for inspection:
- Gas Safety Certificate, detailing all gas appliances and carbon monoxide detectors (annually).
 - Electrical Installation Condition Report, which meets the requirements of BS 7671
 - Itemised Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) Certificates, for all electrical appliances provided by the owner (annually).
 - Private Residential Tenancy Agreement, an anti- social behaviour clause must be detailed.