

East Dunbartonshire Licensing Board
Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005,
Section 9A
Annual Functions Report 2017 - 2018

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undernoted address or East Dunbartonshire Council's website:-
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PART 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005

1.1 This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Section 9A of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 as amended (the “**Act**”). The Act makes provision for regulating the sale of alcohol and for regulating licensed premises and other premises on which alcohol is sold.

1.2 Under the Act, licensing boards will be responsible for considering applications for:

- Premises licences;
- Occasional licences;
- Provisional licences;
- Temporary licences;
- Personal licences;
- Transfer of premises licences;
- Variation of premises licences; and
- Extensions of licensing hours.

2.0 East Dunbartonshire Licensing Board

2.1 East Dunbartonshire Licensing Board (the “**Board**”) is the licensing authority for the local government area of East Dunbartonshire for the purposes of the Act. The Board comprises ten members, all of whom are elected members of East Dunbartonshire Council. The Board is responsible for the functions set out in paragraph 1.2 above within East Dunbartonshire.

2.2 East Dunbartonshire is situated just north of Glasgow and covers an area of some 77 square miles. Around 105,000 people live within the area which is bounded to the north by the Campsie Hills. Local communities include Bearsden, Bishopbriggs, Kirkintilloch, Lennoxton, Lenzie, Milngavie, Milton of Campsie, Torrance and Twechar. A map of East Dunbartonshire is provided in Appendix 1 to this report.

3.0 The Licensing Objectives

3.1 Section 4 of the Act sets out the following five licensing objectives:-

- Preventing crime and disorder;
- Securing public safety;

- Preventing public nuisance;
- Protecting and improving public health; and
- Protecting children and young persons from harm.

The Board is aware of its responsibilities to uphold the licensing objectives equally and the Board details its approach to the objectives in its Statement of Licensing Policy. Within the policy the Board seeks to ensure that both the licence holders and the residents of East Dunbartonshire are fully informed of the Board's approach and expectations with regard to the operation of licences premises in its area.

PART 2

ANNUAL FUNCTIONS REPORT

4.0 Annual Functions Report

4.1 The function of this Annual Functions Report (the “**Report**”) is to detail the operation of the Board during the period from 1 April 2017 until 31 March 2018.

4.2 In terms of Section 9A of the Act, the Report must include:-

- (a) a statement explaining how the Board has had regard to the licensing objectives; and
- (b) the Board’s Licensing Policy Statement in exercise of their functions under the Act; and
- (c) a summary of decisions made by the Board; and
- (d) information about the number of licences held in the Board’s area including occasional licences.

5.0 Decisions of the Board

5.1 During the period specified in paragraph 4.1 above, the Board met 6 times. During this period the following licences were granted:-

• Premises licences	186
• Occasional licences	176
• Provisional licences	3
• Temporary licences	0
• Personal licences	661
• Transfer of premises licences	4
• Variation of premises licences	65
• Extensions of licensing hours	88

5.2 Applications for the Board are processed in a speedy, efficient and cost effective manner. Each application is considered on its individual merits and in accordance with the Act and the Statement of Licensing Policy.

5.3 The Board recognises that licensing hours are important to individual licensed premises operators. The Board also recognises that when licensed premises are open they can have a wider impact on persons who work and live in the area.

5.4 The Board's policy on licensed hours is dependent on the type of operation that is being conducted and details of the Board's policy are contained in the Board's Statement of Licensing Policy.

6.0 Licensing Board Training

6.1 The Act requires that all Board members undergo training qualifications. All East Dunbartonshire Licensing Board members have received training from Alcohol Focus Scotland.

6.2 In addition to the statutory training, Board members are updated with any other relevant legislative changes.

7.0 The Local Licensing Forum

7.1 The membership of the Local Licensing Forum ("**Licensing Forum**") includes Licensing Standards Officers, representatives of the licensed trade, license holders and a representative of Police Scotland. The Licensing Forum has recently reconstituted and it is anticipated it will work well in partnership with the Board and the Board will provide statistical information for the Forum regularly.

8.0 Licensing Board Financial Statement

8.1 The Board's current financial statement for 2017 – 2018 can be accessed on the Council's website.

9.0 Review of Licensing Policy Statement

9.1 The Board is currently reviewing its statement of licensing policy. In doing so the Board will consult with partners such as NHS, Police Scotland, the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, the local Licensing Forum and all premises licence holders in the East Dunbartonshire area. The Board will complete the review with the aim of publishing the new Licensing Statement in early 2019.

10.0 Conclusion

10.1 The Board is clear in its responsibilities in relation to the licensing objectives and endeavours to ensure that the licensing function in East Dunbartonshire operates well and in an open and transparent manner.