

# **Agenda Item 9**

**Falkirk Council Licensing Board**

**Subject:**           Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005  
                          Statement of Licensing Policy – Festive Trading  
                          General Extension of Hours Dates  
**Meeting:**       Licensing Board  
**Date:**           22 June 2021  
**Author:**       Consumer Protection Manager

**1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise members of the proposed dates for general extension of hours over the Festive Period 2021/22 and to seek their approval in accordance with the Licensing Board's Statement of Licensing Policy on Festive Trading.

**2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 **It is recommended that the Board approves the proposed dates for general extension of hours over the Festive Period 2021/22 in accordance with the Licensing Board's Statement of Licensing Policy – Festive Policy.**

**3. Background**

- 3.1 The Board's Statement of Licensing Policy approved by the Board on 19 December 2018 states that the Board will set the dates for a general extension of hours during the Festive Period which will run from mid-December to 2 January the following year.
- 3.2 The general extension of hours will apply to all on sales premises irrespective of whether or not they have a seasonal variation in their Operating Plan referring to Festive Trading. At the time of writing this report, nightclubs are not permitted to open, However, if this position has changed and they are permitted to open, then they will be permitted to trade until 4am and non-nightclub premises until 2am. All premises will be subject to covid-19 restrictions if applicable at that time.
- 3.3 Premises trading after 1am require to comply with the Licensing Conditions (Late Opening Premises) (Scotland) Regulations 2007. These will be published on the licensing pages of the Council's web site.

#### **4. Considerations**

- 4.1 At the meeting of the Licensing Board on 18 August 2020, dates for the 2019/20 festive period were agreed. However as tighter restrictions were introduced across the country, licensed premises were not able to take advantage of the additional hours.
- 4.2 On-sales premises have borne the brunt of the impact on licensed premises during the covid-19 pandemic. Although the furlough scheme and various grants may have mitigated financial losses, the Board is keen to assist the on-sales trade where it can and, to that end, it is recommended that the Board will grant extended hours for an increased number of days than it has done previously years during this year's festive period. An increased number of dates was agreed by members for the 2020/21 festive period.
- 4.3 Accordingly, officers are recommending that the Board grants a general extension of hours for on sales premises on the following dates during the festive period.

Thursday 16 December 2021

Friday 17 December 2021

Saturday 18 December 2021

Thursday 23 December 2021

Friday 24 December 2021

Saturday 25 December 2021

Sunday 26 December 2021\*

Monday 27 December 2021\*

Thursday 30 December 2021

Friday 31 December 2021

Saturday 1 January 2022

Sunday 2 January 2022\*

Monday 3 January 2022\*\*

\*Monday 27 December, Tuesday 28 December, and Monday 3 January 2022 are Bank Holidays as Christmas and New Year fall on a Saturday and Sunday this year.

\*\* Members may wish to depart from policy and allow a general extension of hours on Monday 3 January 2022 as Tuesday 4 January is a Bank Holiday

The above are the dates that trading commenced. For example, a premises trading on Friday 17 December was permitted to trade until 2am on Saturday 18 December.

- 4.4 Dates of the general extension of hours granted by the Board will be published on the Council's web site.

## **5. Implications**

### **Financial and Resources**

- 5.1 There are no financial or resource implications in relation to setting of dates for general extension of hours during the Festive Period.

### **Legal**

- 5.2 The setting of dates for general extension of hours during the festive Period is in accordance with the Board's Statement of Licensing Policy – Festive Trading.

### **Risk**

- 5.3 There are no anticipated risks associated with setting the dates for general extensions of hours during the Festive Period.

### **Equalities**

- 5.4 The Board's continued commitment to equalities issues is demonstrated in the strategy and reports that have been published since 2013.

### **Sustainability/ Environmental Impact**

- 5.5 None.

## **6. Conclusion**

- 6.1 In setting the dates for the general extensions the Board will be complying with its Statement of Licensing Policy.

.....  
**pp Clerk to the Licensing Board**

Date: 21 May 2021

**Contact Officer:** Alison Barr, Consumer Protection Manager ext. 1265

**Appendices:**

Nil

**List of Background Papers**

Nil