

# **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE LICENSING BOARD**

## **Report by the Clerk to the Licensing Board**

**Licensing Board Meeting: 8 February 2011**

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### **Subject: Extensions to Licensing Hours for the Royal Wedding**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1 To consider a proposal to be approved by West Dunbartonshire Licensing Board on the granting of Applications for Extended Hours for the day of the Royal Wedding in terms of Section 67 of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 The Royal Wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton is scheduled to be held on Friday, 29 April 2011 which the government had designated as an official Bank Holiday.
- 2.2 The Licensing Act 2003 for England and Wales enables the Secretary of State to make a special order relaxing licensed premises' opening hours. The Home Office is currently consulting on the issue to enable premises in England and Wales to trade until 1.00 a.m. However, the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 does not grant the same provisions for Scottish Ministers and it is therefore up to individual licensing boards to decide what policy they want to adopt in their area for the occasion.

#### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1 In terms of Section 67 of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005, a Licensing Board may grant general extensions to licensed hours in connection with special events of local or national significance. This can apply to the whole of the Board's area and to licensed hours generally.
- 3.2 Over the years, the Board has agreed to relax its policy on extension of opening hours for the Festive Period allowing premises to submit applications for Extended Hours beyond the Board's policy hours.
- 3.3 The additional extended hours permitted for the Festive Period have only been allowed on condition that appropriate festive entertainment is provided.
- 3.4 Following the practice which has been adopted since the formation of the West Dunbartonshire Local Licensing Forum, the Forum has been consulted by the Board on all proposed policies. Given that the next meeting of the Forum is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 22 March 2011, it would not be possible to consult with the Forum within a reasonable time to provide notice of determination of the proposal and it may therefore be necessary to write to Members of the Forum to request their views on a relaxation of the policy.

#### **4. People Implications**

There are no people implications other than additional administrative duties involved in processing applications.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

There will be a statutory fee of £10 per Application for Extended Hours for each application submitted.

#### **6. Risk Analysis**

No additional risk analysis was required.

#### **7. Equalities Impact**

No significant issues were identified in a screening for potential equality impact of this policy.

#### **8. Conclusions and Recommendations**

8.1.1 The Board is asked to consider the proposal of accepting Applications for Extended Hours for Friday, 29 April 2010 for an additional hour for the occasion of the Royal Wedding.

8.1.2 It is recommended:-

- (a) that the Board considers whether it is appropriate to relax its Licensing Policy in relation to licensed hours for the day of the Royal Wedding in order to allow all licensed premises within the West Dunbartonshire area to apply for an extra hour beyond those hours currently approved by the Board;
- (b) that Officers of the Board be instructed to write to all members of the Licensing Forum to request their views on the issue;
- (c) that licence holders be charged a fee of £10 per Application for Extended Hours; and
- (c) that the Board considers whether it is appropriate to impose a condition that the additional extended hour referred to above would only be allowed where appropriate entertainment is provided.

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Clerk to the Licensing Board

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**Person to Contact:** Andrew Fraser, Clerk to the Licensing Board, Council Offices,  
Garshake Road, Dumbarton. Tel. 01389 737800.  
andrew.fraser@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

**Appendices:** None

**Background Papers:** Report to West Dunbartonshire Local Licensing Forum  
13 September 2010 – Extensions to Licensing Hours over the  
Festive Period

Report to West Dunbartonshire Licensing Board - 19 October  
2010 - Extensions to Licensing Hours over the Festive Period

**Wards affected:** All