

Board Meetings

As Licensing Standards Officer, I have been involved in the following applications etc. as presented at the Licensing Board:

○ **August Licensing Board 2025**

- **Provisional Premises Licence – Herd Café, Balgone Estate**

Application for a provisional premises licence for a rural café. NHS response in relation to overprovision questioned by solicitor due to locality. Clerk asked by Board to write to NHS for more specific reports.

- **Provisional Premises Licence – 92 North High Street**

Application for an off sales premises. The premises is already a shop but has never sold alcohol. Granted by the Board and overprovision not considered a reason to refuse following representation from NHS.

- **Major Variation – Co-op, Longniddry**

Application to add deliveries to premises licence. Granted by the Board with standard deliveries condition.

- **Major Variation – The Cheese Lady, Haddington**

Application to increase capacity and add deliveries and online sales. Granted by the Board with standard deliveries condition.

- **Major Variation – Bombay Bar and Grill, Prestonpans**

Application to increase on sales hours, amend seasonal variations, remove dance facilities, theatres, films and gaming. Provide that the premises can open before 11am for certain events without alcohol, remove reference to microbrewery, add deliveries and takeaways and amend children and young person access. Granted by the Board with standard deliveries condition.

- **Major Variation – Fisherrow Tap, Musselburgh**

Application to convert premises into an on sales only convenience store. Granted by the Board with standard deliveries condition.

○ **September Licensing Board 2025**

- **Review of Premises Licence – The Stand, Musselburgh**

Premises brought back to a hearing by Board members for an update on any progression on works to reopen the premises. Update given by agent. Board agreed the premises licence can continue.

- **Occasional Licences – Bella Italia, North Berwick**
Multiple occasional licence applications submitted. It was established that the premises licence holder had died in 2022 and at that time the premises licence had not been transferred within 28 days, and so ceased to take effect. Premises continued to trade until August 2025. Occasional licences granted by the Board.
- **Occasional Licences – La Trattoria, Tranent**
Applications to for multiple occasional licences. The LSO submitted information that the occasional licences were applied for late, resulting in a gap. The premises continued to trade unlicensed. The applicant was warned by the LSO to stop. A further complaint was received that the premises still continued to trade, and held a ‘boozy brunch’ where alcohol was sold. Evidence was present of this from social media, as well as the advertising of alcohol at the premises whilst unlicensed. Police outlined there was an ongoing investigation. The Board granted the occasional licences following a casting vote by the Convenor after a 2 vs 2 split.
- **October Licensing Board 2025**
 - **Statement of Festive Extension Hours as per Statement of Licensing Policy**
 - **Review of three premises for non-payment of annual fees – Town House Fish and Chicken Bar, the Seaglass Inn, and Fair Price Food Store**
All given until 14 November 2025 to pay and to be reviewed at November Board meeting.
 - **Major Variation – The Craig House, Musselburgh**
Applications to remove accommodation. Granted by the Board.
 - **Provisional Premises Licence – Sweet and Smoky, Dunbar**
Application for new restaurant in Dunbar town centre. Granted by Board.
 - **Occasional Extension – Musselburgh Ruby Football Club**
Applications for an extension of hours for the Super Bowl Final. Granted with conditions recommended by the LSO.
 - **Review of Premises Licence – Auld Hoose, North Berwick**
Applications for review of premises licence from residents. Motion made by solicitor representing the premises licence holder that the application and process were not followed correctly and that a review was not competent. Board declined to take the review application forward and asked that all parties meet to discuss issues and complaints.

Provisional Licences Outstanding Confirmation

Provisional Grant Date	Premises	Comments re Section 50 Certs.	Confirmed
31/03/2022	Broxmouth Courtyard	Ongoing work on Section 50	Expires Mar 2026
25/08/2022	The Mart, East Linton	Ongoing work on Section 50	Expires Aug 2026
27/10/2022	The Tap Room, Haddington		Now Confirmed
30/03/2023	Buck and Birch	Ongoing work on Section 50	Expires Mar 2027
28/09/2023	Carfrae Farm shop	Ongoing work on Section 50	Expires Sep 2027
23/11/2023	Garden City, Longniddry	No update, not selling alcohol	Expires Nov 2027
23/11/2023	The Tiffin Box, North Berwick	No update, not selling alcohol	Expires Nov 2027
25/04/2024	One Stop, Tranent	Just opened with occasional licences	Expires Apr 2028
23/05/2024	Tesco Express, Wallyford	No update, not selling alcohol	Expires May 2028
29/08/2024	Papple Steading	No update, not selling alcohol	Expires Aug 2028
29/08/2024	Costcutter, Tranent	No update	Expires Aug 2028
27/02/2025	Yarrow Cookery School	Recently granted	Expires Feb 2029
24/04/2025	Carlo's Fish Bar and Restaurant		Now Confirmed
24/04/2025	La Trattoria	Recently granted	Expires Apr 2029
22/05/2025	Gilmerton House	Recently granted	Expires May 2029
22/05/2025	Premier Gifford	Recently granted	Expires May 2029
22/05/2025	Margiotta, Longniddry	Recently granted	Expires May 2029
25/09/2025	Herd Café	Recently granted	Expires Sep 2029
25/09/2025	92 North High Street, Musselburgh	Recently granted	Expires Sep 2029
31/10/2025	Sweet and Smoky	Recently granted	Expires Oct 2029
Confirmation	Outstanding	18	

Two premises have confirmed their provisional premises licence to operate on a full premises licence.

Marketing the Forum

The LSO has been promoting the Forum whilst on visits.

Joint working – LSO and Community Police Officers

Visits have been conducted in town centres, giving guidance about safe sales of alcohol to staff and highlighting any issues found. This will continue across East Lothian over the coming months.

Forum training update

Becky Crichton as our new Clerk offered to help assist in organising forum training from Alcohol Focus Scotland. Unfortunately, this training is no longer available.

Seasonal Capacity Checks

Over the festive period, checks on off sales capacity and MUP will be conducted at off sales premises.

Karen Harling

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11 November 2025