

LSO – Licensing Forum Notes November 2025 – January 2026

Board Meetings

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

○ **November Licensing Board 2025**

- **Major Variation Application – Board Game Bistro**

Major variation application to tidy up premises licence to reflect new business operating within. Gaming added as an activity to reflect that the premises is now board game café. Granted by the Board.

- **Provisional Premises Licence – Bella Italia, North Berwick**

Application for a provisional premises licence for restaurant in the centre of North Berwick. 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 in September. The provisional premises licence was granted by the Board.

- **Provisional Premises Licence – 140 High Street, Musselburgh**

Application for a provisional premises licence for a convenience store in the centre of Musselburgh. The premises was previously a bank. The board considered the number of surrounding premises detailed by the LSO, as well as seven objections from surrounding shops/services and a local councillor on behalf of a number of constituents. The board granted the provisional licence with a condition in relation to deliveries.

- **Premises Licence Review Application – the Anchor Bar, Musselburgh**

Following application by Police Scotland, PC Michael Upton a premises licence review was held. PC Upton began by stating that two assaults, a serious assault and a minor assault to injury, were reported. He advised the suspect for the serious assault was a 17-year-old male who had thrown a pint glass at another customer and that CCTV had shown a high level of violence. Due to the age of the suspect, PC Upton had inspected the premises and a report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal. The staff and premises manager have been formally cautioned and charged. He concluded by saying that he had been unable to contact the premises licence holder and staff member to inform them that a report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal. The LSO, following a compliance visit, noted only minor issues with signage and the need to implement a written age verification policy. The representing solicitor highlighted concerns that police had not followed proper process and not engaged with the premises as part of a formal intervention. He defended the position, stating that all staff involved were personal licence holders, and any charges should be dealt with in a criminal court. The premises licence holder and staff disputed the charges and maintained they followed correct procedures, including calling police. The Board asked questions of all parties and discussed the review privately. A formal written warning was issued to the premises licence holder.

- **December Recess – No Licensing Board**

- **January Licensing Board 2026**

- **Major Variation Application – Day Today, Haddington**

Application to alter the layout of the premises and alter the display capacity. LSO report detailed concerns that the accessible display was not within one single area, and in breach of a premises licence mandatory conditions. The applicant’s agent accepted this and asked the Board to agree the capacity; work would be completed with the LSO to find an acceptable single area, and the acceptance of the layout plan could be delegated. The Board agreed and granted the application.

- **Major Variation Application – Longniddry Inn, Longniddry**

Application to add theatre as an activity to facilitate productions by a local drama group. Granted by the Board.

Provisional Licences Outstanding Confirmation

Provisional Grant Date	Premises	Comments re Section 50 Certs.	Confirmed
31/03/2022	Broxmouth Courtyard	Ongoing work	Expires Mar 2026
25/08/2022	The Mart, East Linton	Ongoing work	Expires Aug 2026
30/03/2023	Buck and Birch	Will surrender	Expires Mar 2027
28/09/2023	Carfrae Farm shop	Ongoing work on section 50	Expires Sep 2027
23/11/2023	Garden City, Longniddry	Not selling alcohol	Expires Nov 2027
23/11/2023	The Tiffin Box, North Berwick	Not selling alcohol	Expires Nov 2027
25/04/2024	One Stop, Tranent	No update	Expires Apr 2028
23/05/2024	Tesco Express, Wallyford	Not selling alcohol	Expires May 2028
29/08/2024	Papple Steading	Confirmed	January 2026
29/08/2024	Costcutter, Tranent	No update	Expires Aug 2028
27/02/2025	Yarrow Cookery School	No update	Expires Feb 2029
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
27/11/2025	140 High Street, Musselburgh	Recently granted	Expires Nov 2029
27/11/2025	Bella Italia	Recently granted	Expires Nov 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.

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