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*16<sup>th</sup> October 2023*

## **SCOTTISH BORDERS LICENSING BOARD-FESTIVE HOURS 2023/24**

I submit this report for consideration by Scottish Borders Licensing Board

**Board's Policy Terminal Hours** - Sunday to Wednesday midnight; Thursday to Saturday 1.00am.

### **Boards Festive Season Policy**

The vast majority of licensed premises in the Scottish Borders have a seasonal variation included in their Operating Plans allowing a terminal hour of 1.00am on the following days – Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

For 2023/24, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve are on Sundays with Christmas Day and New Year's Day being a Monday and Boxing Day being a Tuesday.

In relation to the aforementioned festive dates, as in previous years, it would seem appropriate to allow the premises who do not have this seasonal variation to apply for an extension to their core hours up to the same terminal hour (1am) on these days and for those applications to be dealt with under delegated powers where no other objections or representations are received. In the case of those applications that attract objections or representations, they would be referred to the Board for a decision as required by legislation.

In addition, it would seem appropriate that the same policy is applied to events being catered for in unlicensed premises by way of an Occasional Licence.

### **Night Club/Late Hours Premises**

Again, as in previous years and with regard to consistency, it is suggested that it would be appropriate to allow night club premises to apply for extensions to their existing hours on these festive dates allowing them to trade to their usual core weekend hours. This preserves their normal weekend time differential between specific late night venues and other licensed premises. Any extended hours applications for these dates could be dealt with under delegated powers where no other objections or representations are received. In a case of an application attracting objections or representations, it would be referred to the Board for a decision as required by legislation.

### **Applications for Other Hours**

Any applications for a terminal hour other than for the days or late times stated above would be referred to the Board for a decision on their own individual merits

Regards

Mike Wynne, Licensing Standards and Enforcement Officer