



Subject:	Application for the Renewal and Variation of a Seven-day Annual Entertainments Licence - Metropolitan Arts Centre (MAC), 10 Exchange Street West
Date:	16th March, 2016
Reporting Officer:	Trevor Martin, Head of Building Control, ext. 2450
Contact Officer:	Stephen Hewitt, Building Control Manager, ext. 2435

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues						
1.1	<p>To consider applications for the renewal and variation of a Seven-day Annual Entertainments Licence for The Metropolitan Arts Centre, based on the Council's standard conditions to provide music, singing, dancing or any other entertainment of a like kind.</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Premises and Location</th><th>Ref. No.</th><th>Applicant</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>The Metropolitan Arts Centre 10 Exchange Street West Belfast BT1 2LJ</td><td>WK/201600401 WK/201600404</td><td>Ms Anne McReynolds</td></tr></tbody></table>	Premises and Location	Ref. No.	Applicant	The Metropolitan Arts Centre 10 Exchange Street West Belfast BT1 2LJ	WK/201600401 WK/201600404	Ms Anne McReynolds
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The Metropolitan Arts Centre 10 Exchange Street West Belfast BT1 2LJ	WK/201600401 WK/201600404	Ms Anne McReynolds					
1.2	Copies of the application forms are attached at Appendix 1.						
1.3	The nature of the variation is to extend the hours during which entertainment may be provided from 1.00 am to 2.30 am for a one-off performance on Saturday 16 th April 2016.						
1.4	Members are reminded that the normal process for dealing with Entertainments Licence applications which are not the subject of objections is that the Director of Health and Environmental Services will grant the licence as provided for in the Council's Scheme of Delegation.						
1.5	However, in light of the fact that the applicant has also applied for a variation to extend the hours of entertainment past 1.00am the applications are being presented to you for your consideration.						
1.6	A location map is attached at Appendix 2.						

2.0	Recommendations
2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4	<p>Taking into account the information presented and representations made in respect of the applications you are required to make a decision to either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. approve the application for the renewal of the Seven-day Annual licence, or 2. Approve the application for the renewal with special conditions, or 3. Refuse the application for the renewal of the Seven-day Annual licence. <p>Should you be of a mind to approve the application to renew the licence you are then required to determine, subject to all technical requirements being met, either to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. agree to the variation of the licence and that entertainment be permitted to take place beyond the standard hours of Licence to 2.30 am on Saturday 16th April 2016; or 2. refuse to extend the hours as requested. <p>If the applications are refused, or special conditions are attached to the licence to which the applicant does not consent, then the applicant may appeal the Council's decision within 21 days of notification of that decision to the County Court.</p> <p>Should the Committee decide to refuse the variation application, and the applicant decides to appeal, the licence will continue with its present conditions until the Appeal is determined.</p>
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The areas licensed to provide entertainment are the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downstairs at the MAC with a maximum capacity of 440 persons; • Downstairs at the MAC Balcony (1st Floor) with a maximum capacity of 107 persons; • Downstairs at the MAC Balcony (2nd Floor) with a maximum capacity of 81 persons; • Ground floor public foyer with a maximum capacity of 341 persons; • Upstairs at the MAC (1st Floor) with a maximum capacity of 128 persons; • Upstairs at the MAC Balcony (2nd floor) with a maximum capacity of 24 persons; • Crush Bar with a maximum capacity of 110 persons; • Tall Gallery 2 with a maximum capacity to be agreed; • Upper Gallery 3 and Support Space 4, with a maximum capacity to be agreed, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – When Tall Gallery 2 and Upper Gallery 3 are used simultaneously with Downstairs at the MAC and Upstairs at the MAC the occupancy of all areas must be agreed by the Council 28 days in advance of the event; – When used simultaneously the combined occupancy permitted in Tall Gallery 2 and Upper Gallery will be a maximum of 300 persons; • The Factory with a maximum capacity of 100 persons; and • The Lab with a maximum capacity of 60 persons,

3.2	<p>The days and hours during which the premises are currently licensed to provide entertainment are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday to Sunday: 8.00 am to 1.00 am the following morning.
3.3	<p>Entertainment is currently provided in the form of theatrical performances, dance productions and live musical acts.</p>
<p><u>Reasons for the Variation</u></p>	
3.4	<p>The applicant has advised that the main reason they wish to extend the hours of entertainment is to allow for a one-off performance by Max Cooper on the 16th April 2016.</p>
3.5	<p>The applicant has advised that they themselves have only just been contacted by the artists representatives about the possibility of facilitating the act and that, if granted, the performance will take place in Downstairs at the Mac.</p>
3.6	<p>A copy of the applicant's submission is attached at Appendix 3.</p>
<p><u>Representations</u></p>	
3.7	<p>At the time of writing this report no written representation has been lodged as a result of the public notices of the applications. However the statutory 28-day objection period will not expire until 29th March 2016.</p>
3.8	<p>In order to facilitate the proposed event on the 16th April 2016, Officers would propose that the Committee consider delegating power to the Director of Health and Environmental Services to grant the Entertainments Licence upon the expiry of the statutory 28 day period provided no objections are received.</p>
<p><u>PSNI</u></p>	
3.9	<p>The PSNI has been consulted and has no objection to the applications. A copy of its correspondence is attached at Appendix 4.</p>
<p><u>Health, Safety and Welfare Inspections</u></p>	
3.10	<p>A total of three during performance inspections have been carried out on the premises by Officers from the Service in the last 12 months. The inspections revealed that the conditions of the Entertainments Licence were being adhered to and the Officers were satisfied that all operational and management procedures were being implemented effectively.</p>
3.11	<p><u>Noise Issues</u> The Environmental Protection Unit (EPU) has been consulted in relation to the applications and they have confirmed that no complaints have been received over the last 12 months.</p>
3.12	<p><u>Licensee / Applicant</u> The applicant and/or their representatives will be available at your meeting to answer any queries you may have in relation to the request for additional hours.</p>
3.13	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> Officers carry out during performance inspections on premises providing entertainment but this is catered for within existing budgets.</p>

3.14	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> There are no equality or good relations issues associated with this report.
4.0	Documents Attached
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appendix 1 – Application forms• Appendix 2 – Location map• Appendix 3 – Rationale submission from the applicant• Appendix 4 – PSNI correspondence