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| <b>Subject:</b>           | <b>Applications for the Grant of Indoor and Outdoor Entertainments Licences for Liquid, 10-14 Tomb Street</b> |
| <b>Date:</b>              | 20 August 2025  |
| <b>Reporting Officer:</b> | Kate Bentley, Director of Planning & Building Control, ext. 2300  |
| <b>Contact Officer:</b>   | Quintin Thompson, Senior Building Control Surveyor, Ext 2570  |

**Restricted Reports**

**Is this report restricted?**

**Yes**

☐

**No**

☒

**Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.**

**Insert number**

☐

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

**If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?**

**After Committee Decision**

**After Council Decision**

**Sometime in the future**

**Never**

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**Call-in**

**Is the decision eligible for Call-in?**

**Yes**

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**No**

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| 1.0 | Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues  |               |                             |
| 1.1 | To consider an application for the grant of a 7-Day Annual Indoor Entertainments Licence based on the Council's standard conditions to provide music, singing, dancing or any other entertainment of a like kind and an application for the grant of a 7-Day Annual Outdoor Entertainments Licence to provide outdoor musical entertainment.   |               |                             |
|     | Area and Location  | Ref. No.      | Applicant                   |
|     | Liquid   | WK/2022/05620 | Mr Malachy Houston          |
|     | 10-14 Tomb Street  | WK/2020/05621 | The River Rooms Belfast Ltd |
|     | Belfast  |               | 6 Hughenden Avenue          |
|     | BT1 3AS  |               | Belfast, BT15 5DB           |
| 1.2 | A location map is attached as Appendix 1.  |               |                             |
| 2.0 | Recommendations  |               |                             |
| 2.1 | Taking into account the information presented and any representations made in respect of the applications Members are required to consider the applications and to:  |               |                             |
|     | a) Approve either or both of the applications for the grant of the 7-Day Annual Indoor and Outdoor Entertainments Licences, or   |               |                             |
|     | b) Approve either or both of the applications for the grant with special conditions, or  |               |                             |
|     | c) Refuse either or both of the applications for the grant of the 7-Day Annual Indoor and Outdoor Entertainments Licences.   |               |                             |
| 2.2 | If an application is 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. In the case that the applicant subsequently decides to appeal, entertainment may not be provided until any such appeal is determined. |               |                             |
| 3.0 | Main Report – Key issues   |               |                             |
|     | <u>Details of the Premises and Proposals</u>   |               |                             |
| 3.1 | The premises, formerly known as Libertine, previously operated as a Public Bar/Nightclub on the Ground Floor and First Floor and held an Outdoor Entertainments Licence for the smoking area located at the side of the premises.  |               |                             |
| 3.2 | The areas where entertainment is proposed to be provided are the same as previously licenced, i.e:-  |               |                             |
|     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ground Floor, with a maximum capacity of 180 persons.</li><li>• First Floor, with a maximum capacity of 220 persons.</li><li>• External Smoking Area, with a maximum capacity of 200 persons.</li></ul>  |               |                             |
| 3.3 | The days and hours during which entertainment is proposed to be provided, both indoors and outdoors, are the same as those granted for the previous licences, i.e: -   |               |                             |
|     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Monday to Saturday: 11.30am to 3.00am the following morning and</li><li>• Sunday: 12.30pm to 3.00am the following morning</li></ul>  |               |                             |

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| 3.4  | Members are reminded that all applications for the grant of Outdoor Entertainments Licences, requests to provide outdoor entertainment beyond 11.00pm, and requests to provide indoor entertainment past 1.00am are subject to consideration by Committee.                  |
| 3.5  | The applicant has advised that the reasons for applying for the extended hours is to reduce the impact of patrons all leaving at the same time, therefore reducing pressure on taxi services and transport home, and to be competitive with other premises in the vicinity. |
| 3.6  | The applicant proposes to provide entertainment in the form of live music, such as live bands and DJ's.   |
| 3.7  | Layout plans of the premises are attached as Appendix 2.  |
| 3.8  | To assist the applicant in the circumstances where the building is ready to open in advance of consideration of the application to provide indoor entertainment to 3am, the Indoor Entertainments Licence has been issued to 1.00am.  |
|      | <b><u>Representations</u></b>   |
| 3.9  | Public notice of the applications has been placed and no written representation has been lodged as a result of the advertisement.   |
|      | <b><u>PSNI</u></b>  |
| 3.10 | The Police have been consulted and have confirmed that they have no objection to the application.   |
| 3.11 | A copy of the PSNI response is attached as Appendix 3.  |
|      | <b><u>NIFRS</u></b>   |
| 3.12 | The NIFRS have been consulted by the Service in relation to the application and have confirmed that they have no objection to the application.  |
|      | <b><u>Health, safety and welfare</u></b>  |
| 3.13 | The premises has been subject to inspections as part of the licensing application process and all technical requirements and associated operational and management procedures have been checked and are satisfactory.   |
|      | <b><u>Noise</u></b>   |
| 3.14 | The premises have been closed and therefore no complaints have been received in the past 12 months.   |
| 3.15 | Members are reminded that the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2011 gives the council additional powers in relation to the control of entertainment noise after 11.00 pm.  |
|      | <b><u>Applicant</u></b>   |
| 3.16 | The applicant, and/or their representatives, will be available at your meeting to answer any queries you may have in relation to the application.   |

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| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</b><br><br>None.   |
| <b>5.0</b> | <b>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</b><br><br>There are no issues associated with this report.                           |
| <b>6.0</b> | <b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>  |
|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix 1 – Location map</li> <li>• Appendix 2 – Layout plan</li> <li>• Appendix 3 – PSNI Comments</li> </ul> |