

**Democratic Services Section
Legal and Civic Services Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**



**Belfast
City Council**

17th July, 2026

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LICENSING COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in hybrid format, both in the Lavery Room - City Hall and remotely, via Microsoft Teams, on Wednesday, 22nd July, 2026 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. **Routine Matters**

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Declarations of Interest

2. **Delegated Matters**

- (a) Application to provide outdoor musical entertainment beyond 11.00 pm at Bank Square (Pages 1 - 8)
- (b) Application to provide outdoor musical entertainment beyond 11.00 pm at Custom House Square (Pages 9 - 16)
- (c) Application for the Grant of a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence for St Annes Cathedral Car Park (North) and request to provide entertainment beyond 11pm (Pages 17 - 22)
- (d) Application for the Grant of a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence for St Annes Cathedral Car Park (South) and request to provide entertainment beyond 11pm (Pages 23 - 28)

- (e) Application for the Variation of a 7-Day Annual Entertainments Licence for Thompsons Garage (Pages 29 - 36)



Subject:	Application to provide outdoor musical entertainment beyond 11.00 pm at Bank Square
Date:	22 July 2026
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning & Building Control, Ext. 2300
Contact Officer:	Stephen Hipkins, Building Control Manager, Ext. 2435

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

☒

No

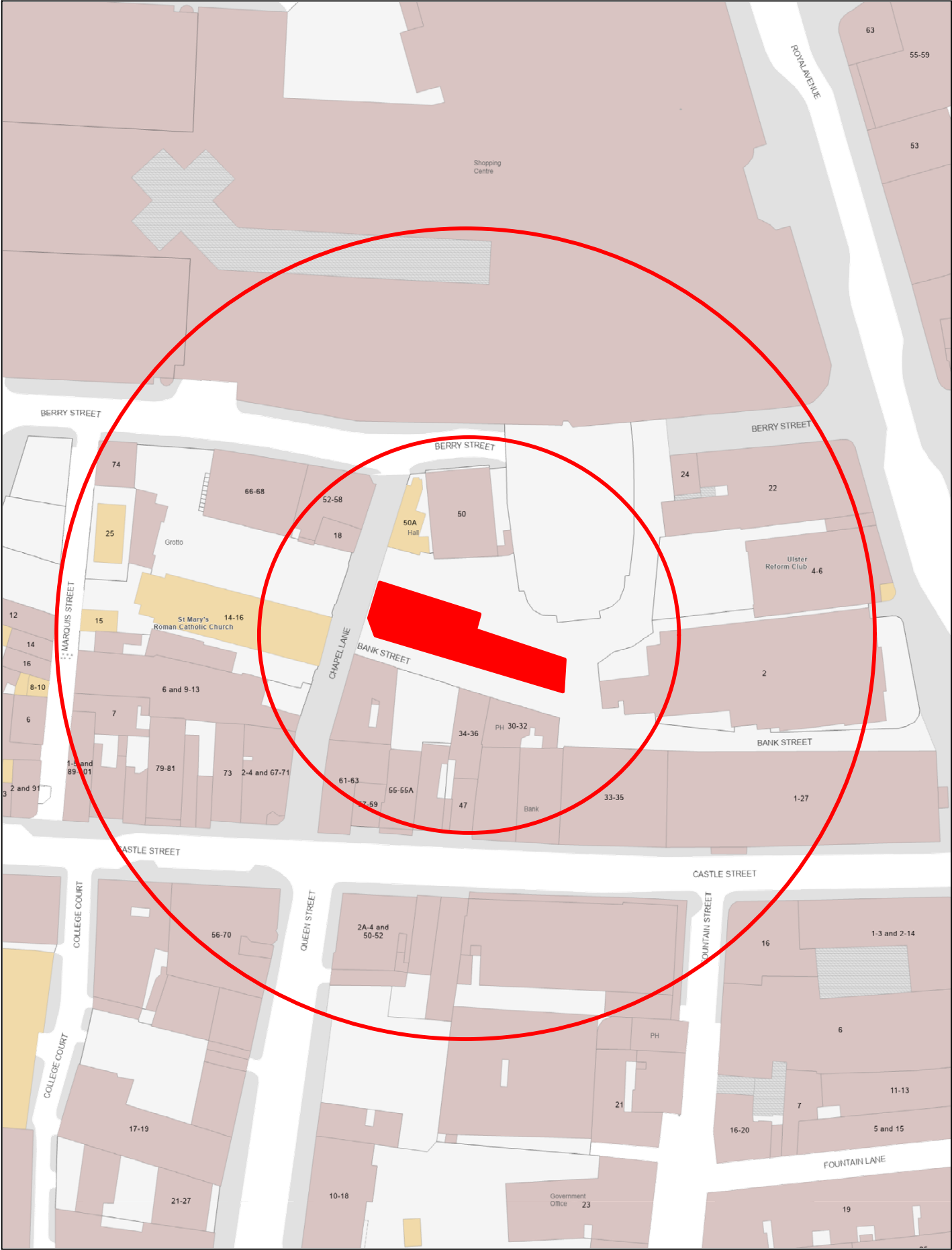
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1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To consider a request from Mr Henry Downey to permit the planned musical entertainment at Bank Square to run beyond 11.00pm on up to eight nights during the Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann from Sunday 2 August to Sunday 9 August 2026.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Taking into account the information presented, and any representations made in respect of the request to extend the hours of entertainment, Members are recommended to agree that entertainment should be permitted to take place beyond the standard hours of licence to 1.00 am on all eight nights of the Fleadh subject to all technical requirements being met. Alternatively, Members could: 1. Agree that only on specified nights will entertainment be permitted to take place beyond the standard hours of licence to 1.00 am and that the other requested nights be permitted to take place to an earlier specified extended hour; or 2. Refuse to extend hours on any night requested.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Bank Square has a 7-Day Annual Outdoor Entertainments Licence and a 7-Day Annual Indoor Entertainments Licence for a Marquee, and both have been used to hold events in the past. The Licence is held by the Department of Communities, Mr Gary Hammond, and is transferred to Henry Downey for the duration of the Fleadh.
3.2	A Site Location Map is attached as Appendix 1.
3.3	The days and standard hours during which entertainment may be provided both outdoors and in a marquee are Monday to Sunday from 11.30 am to 11.00 pm.
3.4	In addition, the following Special Conditions are attached to both the Marquee and Outdoor Entertainments Licences: • Maximum numbers will be agreed at the discretion of the Building Control Service and will vary depending upon individual concert set up proposals. • Prior to any event taking place the promoters are required to demonstrate evidence of early consultation and have in place a robust system of dealing with any complaints, which has been agreed in advance with the Council. • Any requests to provide entertainment later than 11.00 pm must be considered by the Licensing Committee and therefore must be made at least 3 months in advance of the proposed event. • Should an application to provide entertainment beyond 11.00 pm be granted and the Council then receive a significant number of complaints regarding noise or the complaint is of such significant impact, authority is granted to the Director of Planning and Building Control, in consultation with the City Solicitor, to reduce the finishing time for any subsequent nights of the event, in which case the promoter will be required to make contingency arrangements.

3.5	Therefore, this request to provide entertainment later than 11.00 pm must be considered by the Licensing Committee.
3.6	As this is not an application to vary the terms of the Outdoor licence, but a request for Council's permission to extend the hours under an existing Licence Condition, there is no requirement for public advertisement in this case.
3.7	The event organiser has indicated that outdoor music events are scheduled for the following nights, Sunday 2, Monday 3, Tuesday 4, Wednesday 5, Thursday 6, Friday 7, Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 August 2026. The request is to provide entertainment to 1.00 am on all eight nights.
3.8	<u>Rationale for extended hours:</u> A rationale for extended hours beyond 11.00 pm has been provided by the event organiser and is attached as Appendix 2.
3.9	A representative of the event organiser has been invited to attend your meeting.
3.10	<u>PSNI:</u> The Police have been contacted by the Service in relation to the event, however, a response has not yet been received.
3.11	Should Members be minded to approve the extended hours requested, this should be subject to a satisfactory response from the PSNI on the matter.
3.12	<u>Health, safety and welfare issues:</u> Officers have engaged with the event organisers and colleagues in the Fleadh events team in relation to the events and will participate in pre-event meetings.
3.13	An Event Management Plan for the Fleadh has been received and is being evaluated by the Service and shared with other colleagues.
3.14	<u>Noise issues:</u> A significant consideration for Environmental Protection Unit (EPU) will be the proposal to provide outdoor entertainment after 11.00 pm. Members are reminded that the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 gives councils additional powers in relation to entertainment noise after 11.00 pm.
3.15	The noise mitigation strategy will be discussed at the pre-event meetings.
3.16	The event organisers will be required to engage with an acoustic consultant and requested to document a noise mitigation strategy for each night of entertainment. The purpose of the strategy will be to demonstrate that noise from the event will not cause unreasonable disturbance to commercial and residential premises. Once received by the Service this strategy will be provided to EPU for appraisal.
3.17	The organisers have produced a neighbour pre-notification letter containing a nominated event organiser contact that that residents and businesses may refer concerns or make complaints to. The extent of the letter's distribution, which will take place prior to the event, will be agreed with the event organiser by the Service in consultation with EPU officers.
3.18	The event organisers will be reminded of the standard licence condition that receipt of significant complaints may lead to further late nights being curtailed. However, it can be impracticable during the festival to curtail further nights at short notice, and as complaints are not all received on the nights that are the subject of the complaint a full picture does not emerge until all complaints are collated, by which time the events can be concluded.

4.0	Financial and Resource Implications None. Officers will carry out inspections before and during the events which will be catered for within existing Service budgets.
5.0	Equality and Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment There are no issues associated with this report.
6.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	• Appendix 1 – Site Location Map • Appendix 2 – Applicant's rationale for extended hours

Building Control Service



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The request to extend the entertainment licence from **11:00 pm to 1:00 am** for events associated with the **Belfast Fleadh 2026** is mainly about allowing performances to continue later.

The Fleadh is expected to attract very large crowds over several days. Later entertainment helps meet demand from visitors and participants.

Staggering the end of entertainment means people leave the city centre over a longer period rather than all at once, helping to reduce congestion and making it easier to manage transport and public safety.

We will make every effort to avoid against potential impacts such as noise by reducing volume, disturbance to nearby residents, and public safety by ensuring security is in place for the duration.

Regards,

Henry

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Subject:	Application to provide outdoor musical entertainment beyond 11.00 pm at Custom House Square
Date:	22 July 2026
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning & Building Control, Ext. 2300
Contact Officer:	Stephen Hipkins, Building Control Manager, Ext. 2435

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

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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
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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

☒

No

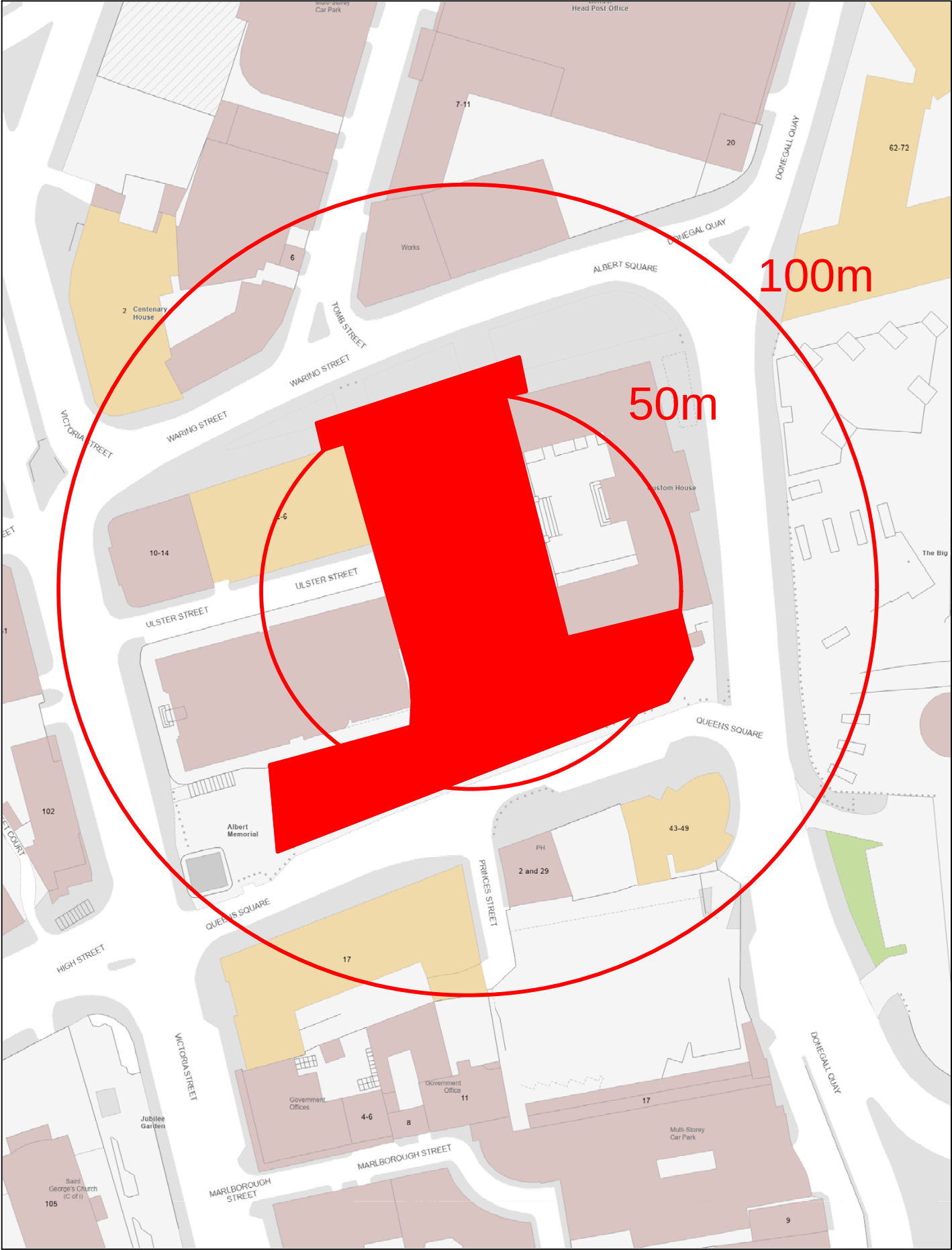
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1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To consider a request from Belsonic Limited to permit the planned outdoor musical entertainment to run beyond 11.00 pm at Custom House Square on up to three nights during Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann. Two events are associated with the Fleadh, one is the CHSQ series with Lush Classical.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Taking into account the information presented, and any representations made it is recommended that Members agree that entertainment should be permitted to take place beyond the standard hours of licence to 1.00 am on Thursday 6, Friday 7 and Saturday 8 August 2026, subject to all technical requirements being met. Alternatively, Members could: a) Agree that only on specified nights will entertainment be permitted to take place beyond the standard hours of licence to 1.00 am and that the other requested nights be permitted to take place to an earlier specified extended hour; or b) Refuse to extend hours on any night requested.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Custom House Square has a 7-Day Annual Outdoor Entertainments Licence and a 7-Day Annual Indoor Entertainments Licence for a Marquee, and both have been used to hold events in the past. The Licence held by the Department of Communities, Mr Gary Hammond, is transferred to Belsonic Limited for the duration of their event.
3.2	A Site Location Map is attached as Appendix 1.
3.3	The days and standard hours during which entertainment may be provided both outdoors and in a marquee are Monday to Sunday from 11.30 am to 11.00 pm.
3.4	In addition, the following Special Conditions are attached to both the Marquee and Outdoor Entertainments Licences: • Maximum numbers will be agreed at the discretion of the Building Control Service and will vary depending upon individual concert set up proposals. • Prior to any event taking place the promoters are required to demonstrate evidence of early consultation and have in place a robust system of dealing with any complaints, which has been agreed in advance with the Council. • Any requests to provide entertainment later than 11.00 pm must be considered by the Licensing Committee and therefore must be made at least 3 months in advance of the proposed event. • Should an application to provide entertainment beyond 11.00 pm be granted and the Council then receive a significant number of complaints regarding noise or the complaint is of such significant impact, authority is granted to the Director of Planning and Building Control, in consultation with the City Solicitor, to reduce the

	finishing time for any subsequent nights of the event, in which case the promoter will be required to make contingency arrangements.
3.5	Therefore, this request to provide entertainment later than 11.00 pm must be considered by the Licensing Committee.
3.6	As this is not an application to vary the terms of the Outdoor licence, but a request for Council's permission to extend the hours under an existing Licence Condition, there is no requirement for public advertisement in this case.
3.7	The event organiser has indicated that outdoor music events are scheduled for the following nights, Thursday 6, Friday 7 and Saturday 8 August 2026. The request is to provide entertainment to 1.00 am on these three nights.
3.8	<u>Rationale for extended hours:</u> A rationale for extended hours beyond 11.00 pm has been provided by the event organiser and is attached as Appendix 2.
3.9	A representative of the event organiser has been invited to attend your meeting.
3.10	<u>PSNI:</u> The Police have been contacted by the Service in relation to the request, however, a response has not yet been received.
3.11	Should Members be minded to approve the extended hours requested, this should be subject to a satisfactory response from the PSNI on the matter.
3.12	<u>Health, safety and welfare issues:</u> Officers have engaged with the event organisers and colleagues in the Fleadh events team in relation to the events and will participate in pre-event meetings.
3.13	An Event Management Plan has been received and is being evaluated by the Service and shared with other colleagues.
3.14	<u>Noise issues:</u> A significant consideration for Environmental Protection Unit (EPU) will be the proposal to provide outdoor entertainment after 11.00 pm. Members are reminded that the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 gives councils additional powers in relation to entertainment noise after 11.00 pm.
3.15	The noise mitigation strategy will be discussed at the pre-event meetings.
3.16	The event organisers will be required to engage with an acoustic consultant and requested to document a noise mitigation strategy for each night of entertainment. The purpose of the strategy will be to demonstrate that noise from the event will not cause unreasonable disturbance to commercial and residential premises. Once received by the Service this strategy will be provided to EPU for appraisal.
3.17	The organisers will also be required to produce a suitable neighbour pre-notification letter containing a nominated event organiser contact that that residents and businesses may refer concerns or make complaints to. The extent of the letter's distribution, which will take place prior to the event, will be agreed with the event organiser by the Service in consultation with EPU officers.
3.18	The event organisers will be reminded of the standard licence condition that receipt of significant complaints may lead to further late nights being curtailed. However, it can be impracticable during the event to curtail further nights at short notice, and as complaints are

	not all received on the nights that are the subject of the complaint a full picture does not emerge until all complaints are collated, by which time the events can be concluded.
4.0	Financial and Resource Implications None. Officers will carry out inspections before and during the events which will be catered for within existing Service budgets.
5.0	Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment There are no issues associated with this report.
6.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	• Appendix 1 – Site Location Map • Appendix 2 – Applicant's rationale for extended hours

Building Control Service



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CUSTOM HOUSE SQUARE - BELFAST FLEADH

Rationale for extended hours

This year, the annual CHSQ music festival was scheduled to run from Sat 8th August - Tues 1st September. In response to the Belfast Fleadh, we are opening Custom House Square on Thursday 6th August, Friday 9th August and extending our hours of operation on Saturday 8th August (6pm-1am) which will further enhance the Fleadh offering.

During Thurs 6th and Fri 7th Aug we intend to open the custom house site from 2pm until potentially 1am (dependent on demand), we will also be extending the hours of operation on Saturday 8th August for the Lush! Classical Concert to 1am. This provides an additional space for five thousand people in Belfast city Centre. Bar, food, toilet facilities and medical provision for five thousand people will be during our operational times.

We will not be selling tickets or charging into Custom House during these two dates, however we have asked Cancer Fund For Children to be present for donations for entry. The Lush! Classical event on Saturday 8th August is ticketed, as per normal CHSQ events.

We are asking for an extension to our entertainment hours on Thursday 6th, Friday 7th and Sat 8th August to 1am. This is to provide a better service for Fleadh guests in that we offer all the additional services noted. After discussions with Belfast City Council, we feel that guests should be kept on site rather than egress happening as normal at 10:45pm, which may overburden the city centre.

Should our extension be granted, Entertainment will be provided between the hours of 2pm-1am with a mixture of bands, DJ and solo performers on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th August, with Saturday 8th August operating from 5pm-1am. We note that this may cause inconvenience to nearby residents and offer mitigations in our event management plan including security and reduced volume.

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Subject:	Application for the Grant of a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence for St Annes Cathedral Car Park (North) and request to provide entertainment beyond 11pm
Date:	22 July 2026
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning & Building Control, Ext. 2300
Contact Officer:	Stephen Hipkins, Building Control Manager, Ext. 2435

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? <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">After Committee Decision</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>After Council Decision</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sometime in the future</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Never</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> </table>		After Committee Decision	☐	After Council Decision	☐	Sometime in the future	☐	Never	☐
After Committee Decision	☐								
After Council Decision	☐								
Sometime in the future	☐								
Never	☐								

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes ☒ No ☐

1.0	Purpose of Report						
1.1	This report is to consider an application for the grant of a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence for St Annes Cathedral Car Park North side, based on the Council's standard conditions to provide outdoor musical entertainment, primarily for use during Fleadh Cheoil 2-9 August 2026. <table><tr><td>Area and Location</td><td>Ref. No.</td><td>Applicant</td></tr><tr><td>St Annes Cathedral North</td><td>24934</td><td>Mr Keith Forster, Belfast City Council</td></tr></table>	Area and Location	Ref. No.	Applicant	St Annes Cathedral North	24934	Mr Keith Forster, Belfast City Council
Area and Location	Ref. No.	Applicant					
St Annes Cathedral North	24934	Mr Keith Forster, Belfast City Council					
1.2	The day and hours that outdoor musical entertainment is proposed to be provided are: Monday to Sunday: 11.30 am to 12:00 am						
1.3	A site location map is attached as Appendix 1						
	Recommendations						
2.1	After taking into account the information presented, and any representations made Members are recommended to approve the application for the grant of the 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence subject any special conditions considered necessary by officers and to all technical requirements being met						
2.2	Should Members be minded to refuse the application, 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.						
2.3	In the case that the applicant subsequently decides to appeal, entertainment may not be provided until any such appeal is determined. Due to time constraints, it is unlikely that an appeal could be concluded in time for entertainment to be provided during Fleadh 2026.						
2.4	Should the licence be granted, it is recommended that Members agree to extend the hours of entertainment to 12:00am and agree that musical entertainment is permitted to take place to 12:00am on all nights 2 – 9 August 2026 inclusive.						
2.5	Alternatively, Members could agree that musical entertainment is permitted to take place to 12:00am on certain specified nights during that period or refuse to extend the hours as requested.						
3.0	Main Report						
	Key Issues						
3.1	St Anne's Cathedral is within the road closure pedestrianised area for Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann.						
3.2	The entertainments licence applied for is to facilitate the provision of outdoor entertainment to the North side of St Anne's Cathedral site, the location of the Fleadh Cheoil food and drink market.						
3.3	The applicant wishes to host entertainment in this outdoor area in line with the Fleadh's traditional music entertainment offering.						

3.4	The applicant has requested that outdoor musical entertainment be permitted beyond the standard hour of 11.00pm to 12:00am on all nights of Fleadh Cheoil 2-9 August 2026.
3.5	Members are reminded that the following conditions are attached to Outdoor Entertainments Licences. • Maximum numbers will be agreed at the discretion of the Building Control service and will vary depending on the individual entertainment proposals. • Prior to entertainment taking place, the licensee is required to demonstrate evidence of early consultation with the Building Control service and have in place a robust system for dealing with complaints. This is to be agreed in advance. • Should an application to provide entertainment beyond 11.00 pm be granted and the Council then receive a significant number of complaints regarding noise or the complaint is of such significant impact, authority is granted to the Director of Planning and Building Control, in consultation with the City Solicitor, to reduce the finishing time for any subsequent nights of the event, in which case the promoter will be required to make contingency arrangements.
3.6	Therefore, this request to provide entertainment later than 11.00pm must be considered by the Licensing Committee.
3.7	Public notice of the application has been placed in the newspaper, and no representations have been received as a result.
3.8	PSNI - The Police have been consulted in relation to the application; however, a response has not yet been received.
3.9	Should Members be minded to approve the Grant of the Outdoor Entertainments licence, this should be subject to a satisfactory response from the PSNI on the matter.
3.10	<u>Health, safety and welfare issues</u> Officers have engaged with the event organisers and colleagues in the Fleadh events team in relation to the proposed use of this space and will participate in pre-event meetings
3.11	An event management plan has been received.
3.12	<u>Noise issues</u> The applicant proposes to provide non-amplified musical entertainment within the outdoor area in the form of traditional music live bands during the Fleadh.
3.13	As entertainment is proposed to be provided beyond the standard finishing time for outdoor musical entertainment to 12:00 am, if granted, a special condition will be added to the licence relating to the sole provision of non-amplified musical entertainment.
4.0	Financial and Resource Implications None. Officers will carry out inspections before and during the events which will be catered for within existing Service budgets.
5.0	Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment There are no issues associated with this report.
6.0	Appendices – Documents Attached • Appendix 1 – Site Location Plan

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Appendix 1: Site Location Map

St Anne's Car Park – North Side



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Subject:	Application for the Grant of a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence for St Annes Cathedral Car Park (South) and request to provide entertainment beyond 11pm
Date:	22 July 2026
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning & Building Control, Ext. 2300
Contact Officer:	Stephen Hipkins, Building Control Manager, Ext. 2435

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.

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1. Information relating to any individual
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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

☒

No

☐

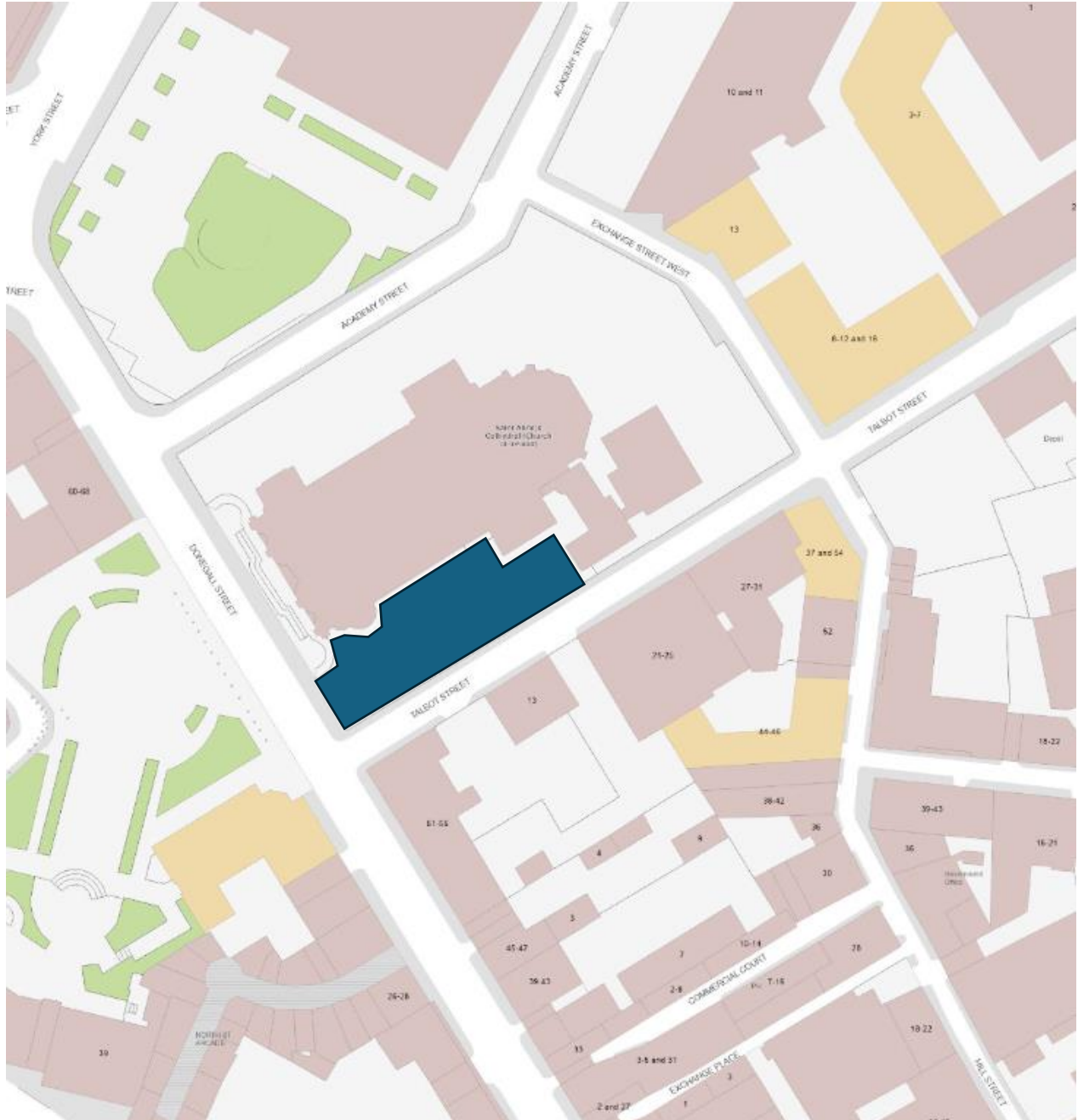
1.0	Purpose of Report						
1.1	This report is to consider an application for the grant of a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence for St Annes Cathedral Car Park South side, based on the Council's standard conditions to provide outdoor musical entertainment, primarily for use during Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann 2-9 August 2026. <table><tr><td>Area and Location</td><td>Ref. No.</td><td>Applicant</td></tr><tr><td>St Annes Cathedral</td><td>25037</td><td>Mr. Stephen Magorrian Wandsworth Pubs Ltd.</td></tr></table>	Area and Location	Ref. No.	Applicant	St Annes Cathedral	25037	Mr. Stephen Magorrian Wandsworth Pubs Ltd.
Area and Location	Ref. No.	Applicant					
St Annes Cathedral	25037	Mr. Stephen Magorrian Wandsworth Pubs Ltd.					
1.2	The day and hours that outdoor musical entertainment is proposed to be provided are: Monday to Sunday: 11.30am to 12:00 am A site location map is attached as Appendix 1						
	Recommendations						
2.1	After taking into account the information presented and any representations made, Members are recommended to approve the application for the grant of the 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence subject to any special conditions considered necessary by officers and to all technical requirements being met.						
2.2	Should Members be minded to refuse the application, 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.						
2.3	In the case that the applicant subsequently decides to appeal, outdoor entertainment may not be provided until any such appeal is determined. Due to time constraints, it is unlikely that an appeal could be concluded in time for entertainment to be provided during Fleadh 2026.						
2.4	Should the licence be granted, it is recommended that Members agree to extend the hours of entertainment to 12:00am and agree that musical entertainment is permitted to take place to 12:00am on all nights 2-9 August 2026 inclusive.						
2.5	Alternatively, Members could agree that musical entertainment is permitted to take place to 12:00am on certain specified nights during that period, or refuse to extend the hours as requested.						
3.0	Main Report						
	Key issues						
3.1	St Annes Cathedral is within the road closure pedestrianised area for Fleadh Cheoil.						
3.2	The entertainments licence applied for is to facilitate the provision of outdoor entertainment to the south side of the St Annes Cathedral site.						
3.3	The applicant wishes to host entertainment in line with the Fleadh's traditional music entertainment offering in this outdoor area.						
3.4	The applicant has requested that outdoor musical entertainment be permitted beyond the standard hour of 11pm to 12:00am on all nights of Fleadh Cheoil 2-9 August 2026.						

3.5	Members are reminded that the following conditions are attached to Outdoor Entertainments Licences. • Maximum numbers will be agreed at the discretion of the Building Control service and will vary depending on the individual entertainment proposals. • Prior to entertainment taking place, the licensee is required to demonstrate evidence of early consultation with Building Control service and have in place a robust system for dealing with complaints. This is to be agreed in advance. • Should an application to provide entertainment beyond 11.00 pm be granted and the Council then receive a significant number of complaints regarding noise or the complaint is of such significant impact, authority is granted to the Director of Planning and Building Control, in consultation with the City Solicitor, to reduce the finishing time for any subsequent nights of the event, in which case the promoter will be required to make contingency arrangements.
3.6	Therefore, this request to provide entertainment later than 11pm must be considered by the Licensing Committee.
3.7	Public notice of the application has been placed in the newspaper, and no representations have been received as a result.
3.8	PSNI - The Police have been consulted in relation to the application, however, a response has not yet been received.
3.9	Should Members be minded to approve the Grant of the Outdoor Entertainments licence, this should be subject to a satisfactory response from the PSNI on the matter.
3.10	<u>Health, safety and welfare issues</u> Officers have engaged with the event organisers and colleagues in the Fleadh events team in relation to the proposed use of this space and will participate in pre-event meetings
3.11	An event management plan has been received.
3.12	<u>Noise issues</u> The applicant proposes to permit provide non-amplified musical entertainment within the outdoor area in the form of traditional music live bands during the Fleadh.
3.13	As entertainment is proposed to be provided beyond the standard finishing time for outdoor musical entertainment to 12:00 am, if granted, a special condition will be added to the licence relating to the sole provision of non-amplified musical entertainment.
4.0	Financial and Resource Implications None. Officers will carry out inspections before and during the events which will be catered for within existing Service budgets.
5.0	Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment There are no issues associated with this report.
6.0	Appendices – Documents Attached • Appendix 1 – Site Location Plan

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Appendix 1: Site Location Map

St Anne's Car Park – South Side



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Belfast
City Council

LICENSING COMMITTEE

Subject:	Application for the Variation of a 7-Day Annual Entertainments Licence for Thompsons Garage.
Date:	22 July 2026
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control, Ext. 2300
Contact Officer:	Stephen Hipkins, Building Control Manager, Ext. 2435

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

☒

No

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1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues					
1.1	To consider the application, from Endless Music Limited, for the variation of their 7-Day Annual Entertainments Licence based on the Council’s standard conditions, to provide music, singing, dancing or any other entertainment of a like kind, for the following premises: <table><tr><td>Area and Location Thompsons Garage, 3 Pattersons Place, Belfast, BT1 4HW</td><td>Ref. No. WK/2002/00036</td><td>Applicant Mr Stephen Boyd</td></tr></table>			Area and Location Thompsons Garage, 3 Pattersons Place, Belfast, BT1 4HW	Ref. No. WK/2002/00036	Applicant Mr Stephen Boyd
Area and Location Thompsons Garage, 3 Pattersons Place, Belfast, BT1 4HW	Ref. No. WK/2002/00036	Applicant Mr Stephen Boyd				
1.2	Location map for the premises is attached as Appendix 1					
2.0	Recommendations					
2.1	Taking into account the information presented and any representations made in respect of the application, Members are recommended to approve the application for the variation of the 7-Day Annual Entertainments Licence to permit entertainment to be provided in the new area to 3.00 am as requested subject to any special conditions considered necessary by officers.					
2.2	Should Members be minded to refuse the application, 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 to the later hours requested until any such appeal is determined.					
3.0	Main report					
	<u>Key Issues</u>					
3.1	The premises has been extended at first floor level to form a new function room. A Building Regulations application was received for the building works. The works have been inspected and a Building Regulations Completion Certificate issued. The nature of the variation applied for is to permit entertainment to be provided in the new function room to 3.00 am the following morning on every night of the week and to increase the occupancy to include this new area.					
3.2	The areas currently licensed to provide entertainment are: • Ground Floor, with a maximum capacity of 280 persons. • Mezzanine Floor, with a maximum capacity of 200 persons. • Second Floor, with a maximum capacity of 50 persons.					
3.3	The days and hours during which entertainment may be provided under the terms of the current Entertainments Licence are: • Monday – Sunday 11:30 am to 3.00 am the following morning					
3.4	At present entertainment is provided in the form of DJ’s seven nights per week.					
3.5	The licensee has stated they intend to use the new function room on selected nights to 3.00am, primarily weekends. The entertainment to be provided in the function room will be in the form of acoustic sets in the afternoon and early evenings, with DJ’s performances from late evening until 3.00am. Permitting entertainment to 3.00am will allow the new area to be operated as an integral part of the existing premises.					

3.6	The new function room will accommodate 150 persons.
3.7	Layout plans are attached as Appendix 2.
3.8	<u>Representations:</u> Public notice of the application has been placed in the newspaper and to date no written representation has been lodged as a result of the advertisement.
3.9	<u>PSNI:</u> The Police Service of Northern Ireland have been consulted in relation to the application, however, a response has not yet been received.
3.10	Should Members be minded to approve the extended hours requested, this should be subject to a satisfactory response from the PSNI on the matter.
3.11	<u>NIFRS:</u> The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service have been consulted in relation to the application, however, a response has not yet been received.
3.12	Should Members be minded approve the variation of the licence this should be subject to a satisfactory response from NIFRS on the matter.
3.13	<u>Health, safety and welfare:</u> 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.
3.14	<u>Noise:</u> The Service is not in receipt of noise complaints for this venue 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.
3.16	The Licensee has engaged an acoustic consultant and an acoustic report has been submitted to the Environmental Protection Unit (EPU) for appraisal.
3.17	<u>Applicant:</u> The applicant, and/or their representative will be available at your meeting to answer any queries you may have in relation to the application.
4.0	Financial & Resource Implications
4.1	None
5.0	Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment
5.1	There are no issues associated with this report.
6.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	• Appendix 1 – Location map • Appendix 2 – Layout plans

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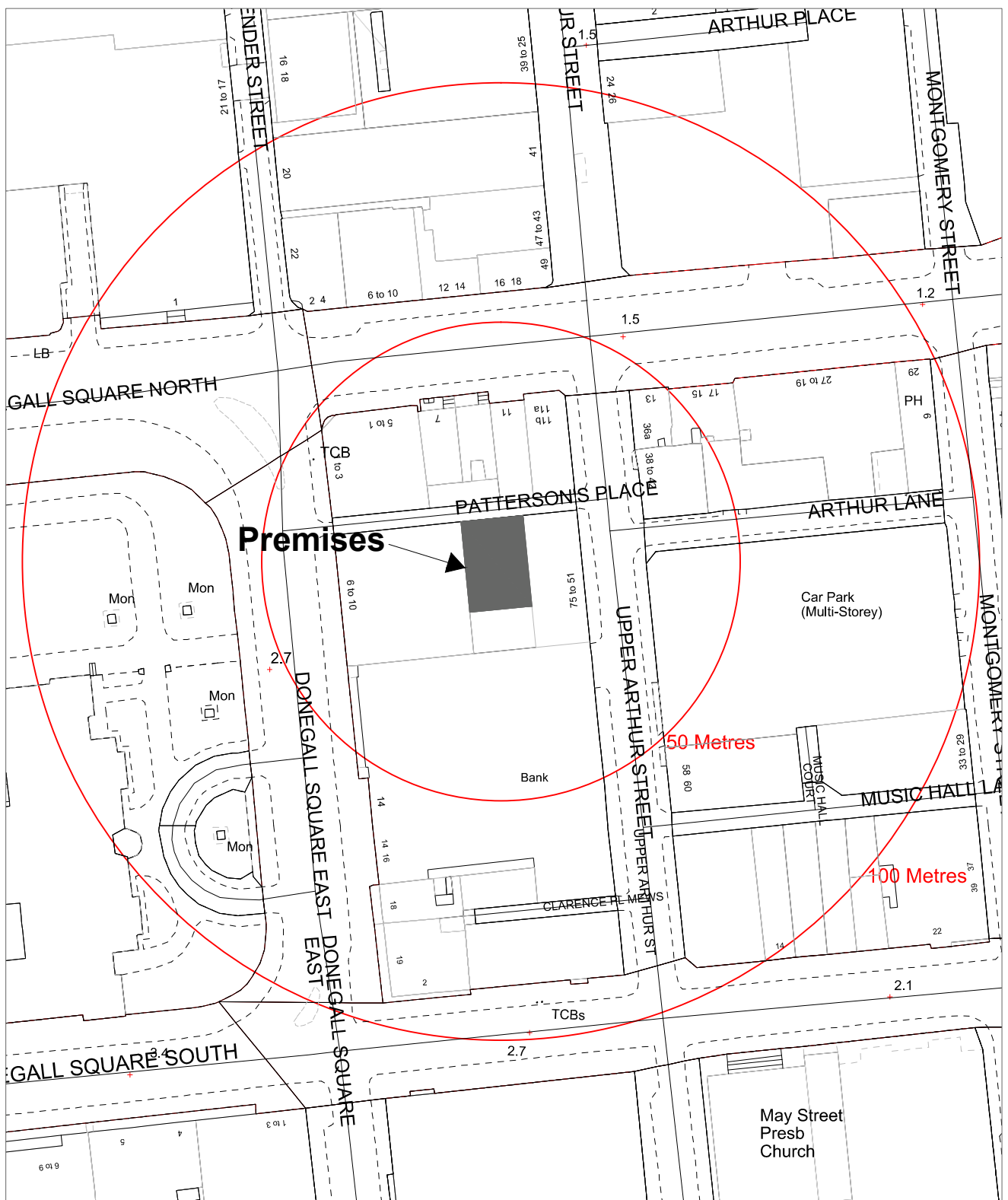


Building Control Service

Belfast Mapping Data v3.0
Prepared by I.S.B.
Based upon the Ordnance Survey
Of Northern Ireland map with the
permission of the Director & Chief Executive.
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100 METRES
50
25
0



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A GLAZED VISION PANEL, OR PANELS OF NOT LESS THAN 0.1M², SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN A DOOR THAT SUBDIVIDES A CORRIDOR, OR WHERE A DOOR SWINGS BOTH WAYS. THE VISION PANEL OR PANELS SHOULD INCLUDE -

- (A) A LOWER ZONE OF VISIBILITY NOT MORE THAN 500mm TO NOT LESS THAN 800mm; AND
- (B) AN UPPER ZONE OF VISIBILITY NOT MORE THAN 1150mm TO NOT LESS THAN 1500mm, MEASURED FROM THE FLOOR AND LOCATED TOWARDS THE LEADING EDGE OF THE DOOR.

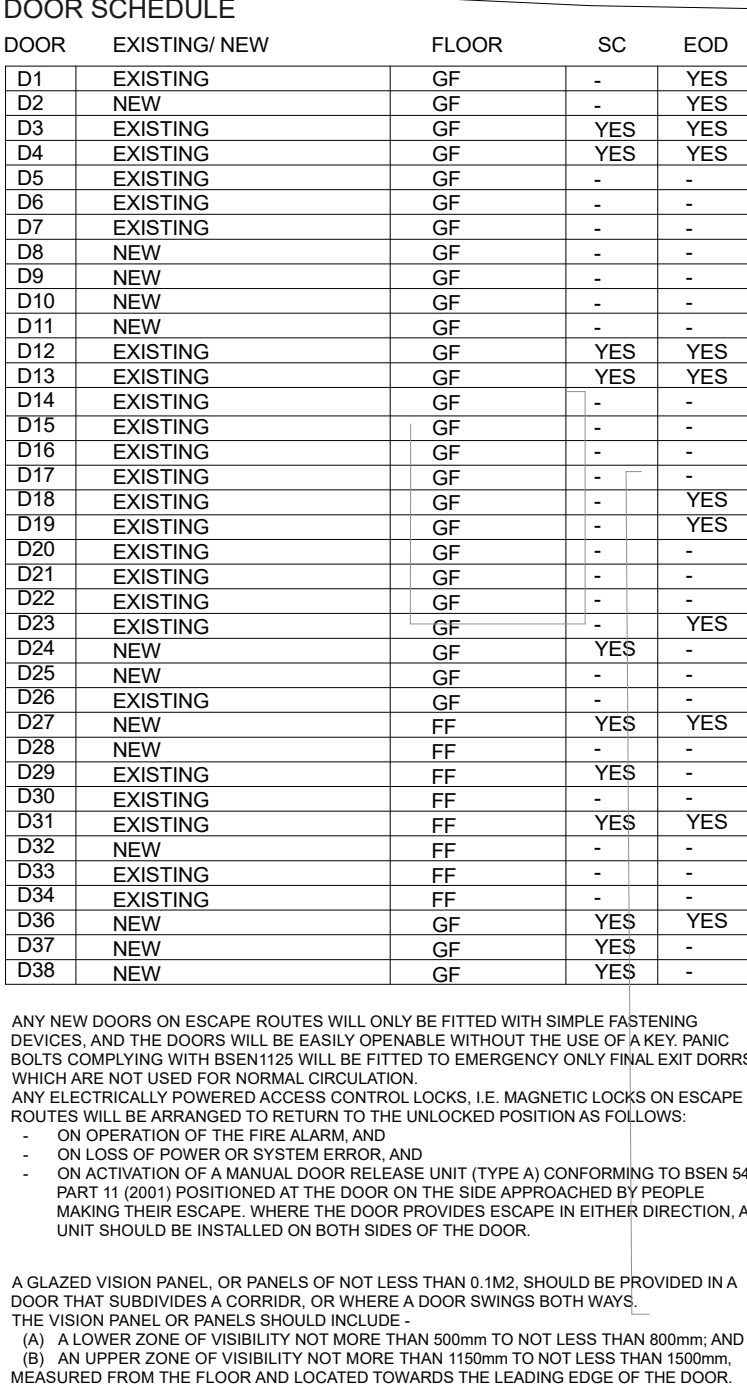
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Diagram illustrating the minimum zones of visibility for a person standing on a platform. The diagram shows a vertical profile of a person with a total height of 1500 mm. The zones of visibility are defined by horizontal dashed lines at 1150 mm, 800 mm, and 500 mm. A note indicates that the top section must be 'not less than 150 mm'.

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