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| <b>Subject:</b>           | <b>Application for the Variation of 7-Day Annual Entertainments Licence for Muriel's</b> |
| <b>Date:</b>              | 20 May 2026  |
| <b>Reporting Officer:</b> | Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control, Ext. 2300                       |
| <b>Contact Officer:</b>   | Stephen Hipkins, Building Control Manager, Ext. 2435                                     |

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| <b>Restricted Reports</b>   |   |
| <b>Is this report restricted?</b>   | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.</b>  |   |
| Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>  |   |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Information relating to any individual</li><li>2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual</li><li>3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)</li><li>4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter</li><li>5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained</li><li>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</li><li>7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime</li></ol> |   |
| <b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>  |   |
| After Committee Decision  | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| After Council Decision  | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| Sometime in the future  | <input type="checkbox"/>  |
| Never   | <input type="checkbox"/>  |

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

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| <b>1.0</b>                                       | <b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>   |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| 1.1  | <p>To consider the application, from JK Pubs 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:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><b>Area and Location</b></td> <td><b>Ref. No.</b></td> <td><b>Applicant</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Muriel's, 12-14 Church Lane,<br/>Belfast, BT1 4QN</td> <td>WK/2022/05308</td> <td>Janine Kane</td> </tr> </table>   | <b>Area and Location</b> | <b>Ref. No.</b> | <b>Applicant</b> | Muriel's, 12-14 Church Lane,<br>Belfast, BT1 4QN | WK/2022/05308 | Janine Kane |
| <b>Area and Location</b>                         | <b>Ref. No.</b>  | <b>Applicant</b>         |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| Muriel's, 12-14 Church Lane,<br>Belfast, BT1 4QN | WK/2022/05308  | Janine Kane              |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| 1.2  | Location map for the premises is attached as Appendix 1  |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| <b>2.0</b>                                       | <b>Recommendations</b>   |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| 2.1  | <p>Taking into account the information presented, and any representations made in respect of the application you are required to make a decision to either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Approve the application for the variation of the 7-Day Annual Entertainments Licence to vary the hours during which entertainment may be provided as requested, or</li> <li>b) Approve the application for the variation with special conditions, or</li> <li>c) Refuse the application for the variation of the 7-Day Annual Entertainments Licence.</li> </ol> |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| 2.2  | If the 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 to the later hours requested until any such appeal is determined.   |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| <b>3.0</b>                                       | <b>Main report</b>   |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
|  | <b><u>Key Issues</u></b>   |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| 3.1  | The nature of the variation applied is to extend the hours during which entertainment may be provided to 3.00am the following morning on every night of the week and to increase the occupancy of the indoor area.   |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| 3.2  | <p>The areas currently licensed to provide entertainment are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ground Floor Bar, with a maximum capacity of 60 persons.</li> <li>• First Floor Bar, with a maximum capacity of 60 persons.</li> </ul>  |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| 3.3  | <p>The days and hours during which entertainment may be provided under the terms of the current Entertainments Licence are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday – Saturday      11:30am to 2.00am the following morning</li> <li>• Sunday                      12:30pm to 2.00am the following morning.</li> </ul>   |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| 3.4  | At present entertainment is provided in the form of DJs on Friday and Saturday nights.   |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |
| 3.5  | The licensee has stated that they would like the variation to extend the permitted hours until 3.00am as they feel the premises is an integral part of Belfast's nightlife and that an increase in operating hours will allow them to compete within the sector, which is essential for the commercial success of the business.  |                          |                 |                  |  |               |             |

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| 3.6        | Building works are ongoing at the premises to increase the area of the public bar at both ground floor and first floor. Increasing the occupancy by approximately 60 persons. The works are being inspected by the Service and the final occupancy will be agreed by the Licensing Surveyor on completion of the works. |
| 3.7        | Layout plans are attached as Appendix 2.  |
| 3.8        | <b>Representations:</b> Public notice of the application has been placed in the newspaper and no written representation has been lodged as a result of the advertisement.   |
| 3.9        | <b>PSNI:</b> The Police Service of Northern Ireland have been consulted in relation to the application and have confirmed that they have no objection to the variation application.   |
| 3.10       | A copy of their response is included as Appendix 3 to this report.  |
| 3.11       | <b>NIFRS:</b> The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service have been consulted and have confirmed that they have no objection to the application.   |
| 3.12       | <b>Health, safety and welfare:</b> 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.  |
| 3.13       | <b>Noise:</b> No noise complaints have been received by the Service in the past 12 months.  |
| 3.14       | 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.  |
| 3.15       | <b>Applicant:</b> The applicant, and/or their representative will be available at your meeting to answer any queries you may have in relation to the applications.  |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</b>  |
| 4.1        | None  |
| <b>5.0</b> | <b>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</b>   |
| 5.1        | 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 plans</li> <li>• Appendix 3 – PSNI Comments</li> </ul>  |