



Subject:	Application for the Grant of a 7-Day Annual Outdoor Entertainments Licence for The Donegal, 11-17 Donegall Street
Date:	17 June 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	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in? Yes No

1.0	Purpose of Report			
1.1	<p>This report is to consider an application for the grant of a 7-Day Annual Outdoor Entertainments Licence for 'The Donegal', 11-17 Donegall Street, based on the Council's standard conditions to provide outdoor musical entertainment.</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="311 398 1268 564"> <tr> <td data-bbox="311 398 710 533">Area and Location The Donegal, 11-17 Donegall Street. BT1 2FT</td> <td data-bbox="726 398 949 465">Ref. No. 24889</td> <td data-bbox="965 398 1268 564">Applicant Mr. Patrick Simpson JPE Hotels Ltd. 657 Antrim Road BT15 4EF</td> </tr> </table>	Area and Location The Donegal, 11-17 Donegall Street. BT1 2FT	Ref. No. 24889	Applicant Mr. Patrick Simpson JPE Hotels Ltd. 657 Antrim Road BT15 4EF
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1.2	<p>The day and hours that outdoor musical entertainment is proposed to be provided are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday to Saturday: 12.00 noon to 11.00 pm and • Sunday: 12.30 pm to 10:30 pm 			
1.3	<p>A site location map is attached as Appendix 1 and the proposed layout plan and visual rendering of the premises is attached as Appendix 2.</p>			
2.0	Recommendations			
2.1	<p>After taking into account the information presented and representations received the Committee are required to consider the request to grant outdoor entertainment until 11pm and, subject to all technical requirements being met, either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Approve the application for the grant of the 7-Day Annual Outdoor Entertainments Licence or b) Approve the application for the grant with special conditions, or c) Refuse the application for the grant of the 7-Day Annual Outdoor Entertainments Licence. 			
2.2	<p>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.</p>			
2.3	<p>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.</p>			
3.0	Main Report			
3.1	<p>Background</p> <p>The applicant has applied to provide outdoor entertainment to the rear of their vacant building at 11-17 Donegall Street. Works have commenced to reinstate an existing outdoor area to the rear of the building, which is the area where it is proposed to provide outdoor entertainment.</p>			
3.2	<p>Granting of this outdoor entertainments licence does not confer nor negate any requirement for planning permission which may be required depending on the duration of the use.</p>			
3.3	<p>Donegall Street is in the Cathedral Quarter of the city centre and is within Zone 2 of the Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann event area plan and within the road closure pedestrianised area.</p>			

3.4	<p>The applicant wishes to host entertainment in line with the Fleadh's traditional music entertainment offering in this outdoor area.</p>
<p>Key Issues</p>	
3.5	<p>Public notice of the application has been placed in the newspaper and no written representation has been lodged as a result of the advertisement.</p>
3.6	<p>PSNI - The Police have been consulted in relation to the application, however, a response has not yet been received.</p>
3.7	<p>Should Members be minded approve the Grant of the 7-Day Annual Outdoor Entertainments licence, this should be subject to a satisfactory response from the PSNI on the matter.</p>
3.8	<p>NIFRS - The Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service have been consulted in relation to the application, however, a response has not yet been received.</p>
3.9	<p>Should Members be minded approve the Grant of the 7-Day Annual Outdoor Entertainments licence this should be subject to a satisfactory response from NIFRS on the matter.</p>
<p><u>Health, safety and welfare issues</u></p>	
3.10	<p>Works to create the outdoor entertainment are due to complete on 18 July 2026.</p>
3.11	<p>If the Committee decides to grant the Outdoor Entertainments Licence, it will not be issued until such time as all works are completed to the satisfaction of the Service.</p>
3.12	<p>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</p>
3.13	<p>An event management plan has been received and shared with other colleagues.</p>
<p><u>Noise issues</u></p>	
3.14	<p>The applicant proposes to provide non-amplified musical entertainment within the rear outdoor area of his building in the form of traditional music live bands during the Fleadh.</p>
3.15	<p>Entertainment will not be provided beyond the standard finishing time for outdoor musical entertainment of 11.00 pm.</p>
3.16	<p>If a decision is taken to Grant the licence, a condition would be added to the licence relating to the sole provision of non-amplified musical entertainment.</p>
3.17	<p>The following special conditions are attached to the Outdoor Entertainments Licences.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maximum numbers will be agreed at the discretion of the Building Control service and will vary depending on the individual entertainment proposals. 2. 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.

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 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Appendix 1 – Site Location Plan• Appendix 2 – Proposed Layout Plan.