



Subject:	Application for the Grant of a 14 day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence for land bounded by 1-7 Fountain Street and 22-40 Castle Street.
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

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No

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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		
1.1	To consider an application for the grant of a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence to provide outdoor musical entertainment <table> <tr> <td> Area and Location Land bounded by 1-7 Fountain Street and 22-40 Castle Street Belfast BT1 5EA </td><td> Applicant Mr Ciaran Smyth Phoenix Wine & Spirits Limited </td></tr> </table>	Area and Location Land bounded by 1-7 Fountain Street and 22-40 Castle Street Belfast BT1 5EA	Applicant Mr Ciaran Smyth Phoenix Wine & Spirits Limited
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1.2	A location map is attached as Appendix 1.		
1.3	Members are reminded that all applications for the grant of Outdoor Entertainments Licences must be brought before Committee for consideration.		
1.4	This report is to consider a request from Ciaran Smyth of Phoenix Wine & Spirit Stores Limited. for the grant of a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence for the former Norwich Union House site, accommodating a temporary bar, stage and seating area, based on the Council's Standard Conditions to provide outdoor musical entertainment.		
2.0	Recommendations		
2.1	Taking into account the information presented and any representations made Members are recommended to approve the application for the provisional grant of a 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 grant of a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence, 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.		
3.0	Main Report		
	<u>Key Issues</u>		
3.1	The applicant has submitted a 14-Day Occasional Outdoor Entertainments Licence for land bounded by 1-7 Fountain Street and 22-40 Castle Street. The site is within the road closure pedestrianised area for Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann.		
3.2	The premises will be a temporary outdoor events space formed on land now available following the demolition of a number of buildings on Fountain Street and Castle Street. The site will be bounded by Fountain Street, the existing Voodoo premises, which is owned by the applicant, and the temporary events space operated by TG4 for the period of the Fleadh Cheoil. The maximum numbers within the event space will be agreed by the Building Control Service and may vary depending on individual concert set-up proposals.		

	• The days and hours during which entertainment is proposed to be provided are • Monday to Saturday: 11.30am to 11.00pm and • Sunday: 12.30pm to 11.00pm
3.3	The applicant proposes to provide an area for the consumption of food and alcohol which will include the provision of live music.
3.4	A site location map is attached as Appendix 1. Layout plans of the premises are attached as Appendix 2.
3.5	<u>Representations</u> Public notice of the application has been placed in the newspaper, and no representations have been received as a result.
3.6	<u>PSNI</u> The Police have been contacted by the Service in relation to the application, however, a response has not yet been received. We will update Committee at your meeting.
3.7	Should Members be minded to approve the application as requested, this should be subject to a satisfactory response from the PSNI on the matter.
3.8	<u>Health, safety and welfare</u> Members should note that, if you are minded to provisionally grant the application, it will not be declared final until all works are complete to ensure compliance, amongst other matters, with all fire safety, structural and access requirements.
3.9	All certification pre-requisite to the grant of a licence will also be required before the licence can be confirmed.
3.10	<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. An acoustic report has therefore not been sought for the proposal.
3.11	Members are reminded that the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 gives the Council additional powers in relation to the control of entertainment noise after 11.00 pm.
3.12	<u>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 application.
3.13	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> None.
3.14	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no issues associated with this report.
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 – Location map • Appendix 2 – Temporary Events Space