

**APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEE - IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION HEARINGS
(AN137-2002)**

As members will be aware, Tayside Police occasionally request an immediate suspension hearing in terms of paragraph 12 of schedule 1 to the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 in cases where offences have been committed and where they feel that the licence holder constitutes a serious threat to public order or public safety.

These hearings by their very nature are convened at short notice and problems in securing a quorum invariably arise.

To obviate this problem it is recommended that the Committee delegate consideration of such requests to a Sub-Committee comprising any three members drawn from the membership of the Licensing Committee with the quorum being 3 members. The Sub-Committee would be chaired by the Licensing Committee Convener or Depute Convener, failing whom, those present would elect a chair for that particular meeting only.

The only power of the Sub-Committee would be to decide whether or not to suspend a licence. In the event that a licence was suspended it would only be until the matter had been dealt with at a hearing under paragraph 11 of Schedule 1, which would be held within six weeks of the date of the initial suspension, and to which all members of the Committee would be invited to attend.