

## **V TIME LIMITS FOR LODGING APPLICATIONS FOR OCCASIONAL LICENCE (AN42-2013)**

The Board's Statement of Licensing Policy says that, except where there is good reason, no applications for occasional licences will be accepted less than 28 days before the event to which they relate. This was to allow a minimum period of 21 days in the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 within which the Chief Constable and the Licensing Standards Officers may be consulted and for all other requirements of the application process to be completed.

In the meantime, the legislation has been amended to give the Board the discretion to shorten the 21 day period where the Board "is satisfied that the application requires to be dealt with quickly". It is recommended that the Board delegates authority to the Convener in consultation with the Clerk to determine in individual cases what constitutes a need for such quick determination of applications and that the Board directs that such power is to be exercised where the reason for the event is not reasonably foreseeable, e.g., a funeral, or a rearranged sporting event at short notice. If there are no such grounds, then the application is to be returned to the applicant and not considered.