

REPORT TO: LICENSING COMMITTEE

DATE: 9 JULY 2019

TITLE: LICENSING TEAM ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

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RECOMMENDED that the Licensing Committee:

- A** Notes the enforcement activity from April 2018 to March 2019 carried out by the Licensing Team.

BACKGROUND

1. It is important that the Licensing Team ensure that licence holders comply with licence conditions and take enforcement action in line with its enforcement policy, when non-compliance is noted. In order to support this, in addition to the routine work of the team, a number of specific compliance and enforcement activities take place throughout the year.
2. This report sets out the activity undertaken for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire licences, Licensing Act 2003 premises and other activity within the remit of the Licensing Team.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

3. **Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicle Compliance**
4. This is undertaken either by asking drivers to attend unannounced vehicle inspections at the Council's appointed test station, or by carrying out roadside vehicle checks.

	2018-2019
Vehicle compliance sessions at test station	4
Vehicles checked	55
Vehicles suspended	34

5. An extra compliance session was arranged at the appointed test station in addition to the three sessions agreed in the garage tender. This was due to the number of vehicle failures and suspensions to licensed vehicles.

6. Licensing Act

7. Compliance checks take several forms including; programmed compliance inspections based on the risk assessment of a business's previous compliance with licence conditions, proactive town-wide evening patrols and reactive investigations in response to complaints about premises.

	2018-2019
Pro-active inspection	64
Post inspection letter	11
Revisits	6
Out of Hours Surveillance – number of sessions	3
Out of Hours surveillance – premises observed in total	4
Notice of Suspension of licence for non-payment of fees	12
Licences suspended	0

8. Scrap Metal Dealers

	2018-2019
Routine inspections	2

9. Gambling Act Premises Licenses

	2018-2019
Betting premises inspections	4
Track betting premises inspections	1

IMPLICATIONS

Place (Includes Sustainability)

Progressive and proportionate enforcement of licensing requirements helps to create a level playing-field and protects compliant businesses from unfair competition from the less scrupulous.

Author: Andrew Bramidge, Project Director – Enterprise Zone and Interim Head of Planning

Finance (Includes ICT)

Enforcement activity is carried out within approved service budgets.

Author: Simon Freeman, Head of Finance and Deputy to the Managing Director

Housing

None specific.

Author: Andrew Murray, Head of Housing

Community Wellbeing (Includes Equalities and Social Inclusion)

Proactive enforcement and investigation of complaints ensures better compliance with licensing requirements and so helps to protect vulnerable residents from exploitation

Author: Jane Greer, Head of Community Wellbeing

Governance (Includes HR)

None specific.

Author: Dimple Roopchand, Principal Solicitor on behalf of Simon Hill, Head of Governance

Appendices

None.

Background Papers

None.

Glossary of terms/abbreviations used

None.