

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE – 1 NOVEMBER 2012

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

12. REPORT ON LICENSING ACTIVITY QUARTER 3 OF 2012

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

Purpose/Summary of Report:

To update members on activity in the licensing department re:

- processing licences,
- enforcement activity, and
- other implementation of the Service Plan.

<u>RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSING COMMITTEE:</u> that	
A	The report be received.

1.0 Background

1.1 This report presents data by full quarters on processing and enforcement data, and Licensing Sub Committee involvement, on licences, notices, and permits, and applications including:

- Alcohol, entertainment, and late night refreshment licences under the Licensing Act 2003,
- Gaming under the Gambling Act 2005,
- Taxi drivers, vehicle proprietors and operators.

1.2 This report also records developments in the service that implement the Service Plan.

2.0 Report

2.1 See **Essential Reference Paper B** for performance data for quarter 3 of 2012: 1 July – 30 September 2012. This contains the numbers of applications or notices received, and totals of current licences.

2.2 During this quarter the enforcement team have undertaken 70 visits or inspections. These have been analysed further and are recorded as:

• Taxi Inspections and Investigations	4
• Premises Complaints and Visits	20
• Gambling Premises visits	0
• Blue Notice visits	3
• Invoice Visits/chase ups	2
• House to House Collection complaints	0
• Taxi Camera Investigations	1
• TENS Complaints and Investigations	0

All complaints regarding taxis and premises have been fully investigated.

2.3 In respect of premises, the breaches of the licences have been addressed in accordance with our Licensing Enforcement Policy. During the previous reporting period a large amount of effort had been made by the team to recover annual fees from licensed premises. During this period the number of visits has fallen dramatically. Currently at the time of reporting there are 18 outstanding invoices.

2.4 A significant part of the enforcement team's work is to ensure that all documentation for taxi drivers and vehicles are current and licenses are valid. During this quarter 66 letters were produced.

2.5 Under the penalty points system a total of 122 points have been imposed against 53 licence holders. It is hoped that this will contribute to improving drivers and proprietors behaviour.

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers

None.

Contact Member: Councillor Malcolm Alexander – Executive Member for Community Safety and Environment.
malcolm.alexander@eastherts.gov.uk

Contact Officer: Brian Simmonds – Head of Community Safety and Health Services, Extn: 1498.
brian.simmonds@eastherts.gov.uk

Report Author: Maria Williams – Licensing Enforcement Officer,
Extn: 1674.