

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE – 7 NOVEMBER 2013

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

8. REPORT ON LICENSING ACTIVITY QUARTER 3 OF 2013

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

Purpose/Summary of Report:

To update members on activity in the licensing department in respect of:

- 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 120 actions which are divided between visits, inspections and investigations. These have been analysed further and are recorded as:

- Taxi Inspections and Investigations 24
- Premises Complaints and Visits 73
- Gambling Premises visits 0
- Blue Notice visits 3
- Invoice Visits/chase ups 17
- House to House Collection complaints 1
- Taxi Camera Investigations 0
- TENS Complaints and Investigations 2

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. Currently at the time of reporting there are 10 outstanding invoices. There have been 4 premises suspended and 1 premises licence revoked due to non payment of fees.

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 46 letters were produced.

2.5 Under the licensing points system a total of 80 points have been issued to 40 licence holders. There will be 2 drivers attending a Licensing Sub-Committee having accumulated 12 or more points. This is part of the authority's continuing efforts to improve standards and behaviour amongst drivers and proprietors.

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.

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