

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE – 13 MARCH 2014

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

6. REPORT ON LICENSING ACTIVITY – QUARTER 4 OF 2013

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
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(A)	The report be received.
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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 4 of 2013: 1 October – 31 December 2013. This contains the numbers of applications or notices received, and totals of current licences.

2.2 During this quarter the enforcement team have undertaken **240** actions which are divided between visits, inspections and investigations. These have been analysed further and are recorded as:

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 20 outstanding invoices. There have been 9 premises suspended 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 57 letters were produced.

2.5 Under the licensing points system a total of 178 points have been issued to 44 licence holders. Four drivers were required to attend sub committee following this enforcement action. This is continuing to contribute to improvements in drivers and proprietors behaviour.

2.6 In response to concerns raised at the last full Licensing Committee all Hertford and Ware licensed drivers were written to in November 2013 to advise them of action that was to be taken regarding parking on the pedestrianised part of Railway Street, Hertford. These letters were followed up by words of advice to drivers found parked in this location as part of a graduated approach to the issue. The issuing of Licensing Points as detail in the letter began in January 2014 so the results will be covered in the next quarterly report.

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

Essential Reference Paper B – Data.

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