

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Licensing Committee – 21 November 2012

Licensing Update Report

Report of the Licensing Officer

(This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Ken Hayward)

1. Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the activities of the Licensing Service under the Licensing Act 2003, Gambling Act 2005 and Taxi Legislation together with other general licensing matters.

2. Background

- 2.1 This report is produced to keep the Council's statutory committee up to date with current arrangements and statistics relating to the Licensing Service.

3. Report

3.1 Licensing Act 2003

Application numbers remain high for the period from May to October 2012. The greatest increase was for Temporary Event Notices issued during May, 54 Temporary Event Notices were issued compared to 38 issued in May 2011. We suspect this was due to the Olympics and the Queens Diamond Jubilee. The total numbers of licences issued and notices given up to the end of October 2012 are set out in **Appendix 1**.

3.2 Licensing Act 2003 Policy

The Licensing Act 2003 Policy has been updated and a draft copy was sent out for consultation, which concluded on 01 November 2012. A separate report has been prepared to act as an update to the Committee.

3.3 Gambling Act 2005

There was little change in the numbers of Permits, Registrations and Licences held with Taunton Deane. The total numbers of permits, registrations, notices and licences given up to the end of October 2012 are set out in **Appendix 2**.

3.4 Gambling Act 2005 Policy

The Gambling Act 2005 policy has been updated and a draft copy was sent out for consultation, which ended on 01 November 2012. .

A separate report has been prepared to act as an update to the Committee.

3.5 Taxis

There was a slight increase in the number of applications including renewals for Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Drivers in August 2012 when compared with the same period last year. Applications for Hackney Carriage Vehicles, Private Hire Vehicles and Private Hire Operators have remained mostly the same. The total numbers of Licences issued and applications received up to the end of October 2012 are set out in **Appendix 3**.

3.6 Taxi Forum

The 5th Taxi Forum was arranged for 16 October 2012, but was subsequently cancelled due to no new queries being raised for discussion by the trade.

A further Taxi Forum has been arranged for 26 November 2012.

Membership of the Forum is made up of representatives from licensed drivers, operators, the Licensing team and members of the Licensing Committee.

3.7 Street Trading & Pavement Cafes

There has been an increase in the number of street trading consents issued in 2012, with the increase occurring in the summer months. The total number of permits and licences issued up to the end of October 2012 are set out in **Appendix 4**.

3.8 Street Trading Policy

A new policy for Street Trading has been created and was made available on the Taunton Deane Borough Council website for comment from 08 September - 01 November 2012. Members of the trade with street trading consent and/or pavement cafe permits were notified of the creation of the S115e policy and guidance and offered the chance to make representation. One representation was received from an internal Council department and was included in the Policy. A separate report has been prepared to act as an update to the Committee.

3.9 Animal Welfare Licensing

There has been little change in the number of Licences held within the Borough. The total numbers of licences consents and permits issued up to the end of October 2012 are set out in **Appendix 5**.

3.10 Other Licensing

There has been a lower number of permits issued for House to House and Street Collections compared with the same period last year, but a higher number of registrations for skin piercing in the Borough. Permits and Licences issued for Caravan Sites, Motor Salvage Operators, Scrap Metal Dealer Registrations and Sex Shop Licences have remained similar to the same period in 2011. The total numbers of licences, registrations and permits issued up to the end of October 2012 are set out in **Appendix 6**.

4 **Finance Comments**

None

5 Legal Comments

The legal implications are set out within the report.

6 Links to Corporate Aims

As an update report there are no links to specific corporate aims. However if the Licensing function were not carried out in an efficient manner, complaints or legal challenges may be brought that could undermine the work being done to support the Council's Corporate Strategy.

7 Environmental and Community Safety Implications

None identified.

8 Equalities Impact

Not required.

9 Risk Management

No risk identified.

10 Partnership Implications (if any)

None identified.

11 Recommendations

That the report be noted.

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Licences Issued and Notices Given

Premises Licences	403
Club Premises Certificates	29
Personal Licences	1075
Temporary Event Notices	2181

Applications Received and Notices Given

	May		June		July		August		September		October	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Grant of a Premises Licence	2	0	2	3	3	1	1	2	4	2	3	1
Variation of a Premises Licence	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	1
Transfer of a Premises Licence	1	4	2	4	8	0	4	2	5	5	0	2
Change of Designated Premises Supervisor	5	7	5	6	8	10	6	6	8	8	8	14
Minor Variations	0	1	1	1	3	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Grant of a Personal Licence	8	14	7	4	12	11	9	7	15	5	5	14
Temporary Event Notices given	38	54	45	46	23	29	35	42	23	23	25	28

Licences Issued and Notices Given

Club Machine Permit	7
Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits	7
Occasional Use Notices	19
Premises Licences	17
Prize Gaming Permits	0
Society Lotteries	192
Temporary Use Notices	0
Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres	0
Notification of 2 or less Gaming Machines	61

Applications Received and Notices Given

	May		June		July		August		September		October	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Applications for a Permit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Application for a Licence	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Notification of Intent to have Gaming Machines	0	1	0	2	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Occasional Use Notice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lottery registration	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0

Taxis

Licences Issued

Hackney Carriages	166
Private Hire Vehicles	31
Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Drivers	236
Private Hire Operators	28

Applications Received

Hackney Carriage Licence (including renewals, transfers and vehicle changes)
 Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Drivers Licence (including renewals)
 Private Hire Vehicle Licence
 Private Hire Operator Licence

May		June		July		August		September		October	
2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
21	14	10	15	12	11	18	14	13	20	13	23
13	13	11	7	11	16	15	27	24	11	18	15
2	1	3	2	1	1	3	3	2	2	3	4
3	3	3	8	1	2	4	2	1	0	1	0

Other Licensing

APPENDIX 6

Licences, Registrations and Permits Issued

Caravan Site Licences	42
House to House Collection Permit	98
Motor Salvage Operator	6
Scrap Metal Dealer Registration	19
Sex Shop Licences	2
Skin Piercing Registrations	194
Street Collection Permits	258

Applications Received

	May		June		July		August		September		October	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
Caravan Site Licences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
House to House Collection Permit	4	1	2	0	2	0	3	6	3	5	1	3
Motor Salvage Operator	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scrap Metal Dealer Registration	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Sex Shop Licences	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Skin Piercing Registrations	4	0	0	0	0	5	0	3	2	1	0	5
Street Collection Permits	11	2	2	2	3	2	7	5	7	1	6	4