

## **Enforcement Update**

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### **Purpose of the Report**

To update members on the work of the Licensing Enforcement Team and the various issues they are currently involved with.

### **Recommendation**

That the report is noted.

### **Background**

Officers carry out a number of enforcement activities under the various legislative provisions that relate to licensing, in particularly with regard to taxi's and private hire drivers/vehicles and scrap metal dealers. This report seeks to brief members on the current issues that are being dealt with by the Enforcement Team.

### **Report Detail**

#### **Taxis**

##### **General**

During the previous six months, nine taxi private hire vehicle enforcement checks with the police and other agencies were completed, with advice given to drivers on various issues including, tyre wear, vehicle cleanliness, wearing of badges etc.

During daily enforcement checks, several excessively dirty vehicles have been sent to be cleaned inside and out, drivers have been reminded of handbook condition that vehicle exterior and interior shall be kept reasonably clean at all times. Several drivers needed to be reminded that they must have two identical drivers badges, one badge must be worn by the driver and one must be visible at all times to the passenger.

The Licensing Enforcement Officer, Police, HMRC, Dept of Works & Pensions and VOSA carried out a joint enforcement day at an area wide operation at Bristol International Airport, one hundred & five vehicles were checked, with several prohibition notices being issued, one SSDC licensed vehicle was issued with an immediate prohibition notice.

Further dates have been arranged with the police throughout the next three months. Weekly daytime checks and several late night checks were carried out throughout the past six months on taxis and private hire vehicles in and around the centre of Yeovil to ensure compliance with the our Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Policy and Bylaws.

Monthly taxi checks continue to be carried out at the Pen Mill, Yeovil Junction, Crewkerne and Castle Cary railway stations in order to ensure that vehicles which tend to use the ranks in and around the main towns are also subject to ad hoc inspections.

We have received thirty eight taxi/private hire related complaints in the past six months, which resulted in the issuing of six stop/prohibition notices, four for vehicle damage and two for vehicle cleanliness; all six notices were issues to hackney carriage vehicles.

### **Street Trading**

There are twelve permanent street traders; over one hundred and fifty consents for casual street trading were issued in the past six months.

### **Ilminster Carnival 04/10/2014**

Thirteen traders applied for and were given consent to trade, no traders were found to be present without prior consent.

Approximately twenty five pedlars were requested to produce their pedlars certificate. Four of those challenged prior to starting to trade were without a current permit and were told not to trade, which they complied with. One other when challenged whilst trading was told to cease trading and to leave the area, which he did.

### **Chard Carnival 11/10/2014**

Eleven traders applied for and were given consent in advance, no traders were found to be present without prior consent.

Approximately thirty pedlars were requested to produce their pedlars certificate. Five of those challenged prior to starting to trade were without a current permit and were told not to trade which they complied with. Two others when challenged whilst trading were told to cease trading and to leave the area, which they did after police intervention.

### **Scrap Metal Dealers**

The Licensing Enforcement Officer carried out bi-monthly compliance inspections on all scrap metal collectors and three monthly inspections for scrap metal site licence holders to ensure they are compliant with the requirements of the act. A joint multi agency enforcement operation was arranged, but had to be cancelled at short notice due to a road traffic incident at the Cartgate roundabout.

SSDC currently licence seventeen sites and twelve collectors

### **Financial Implications**

None

### **Implications for Corporate Priorities**

Ensure safe, sustainable and cohesive communities and increase economic vitality and prosperity

### **Other Implications**

None

**Background Papers:** None

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