

Licensing Committee – 12th February 2013

6. Enforcement Update

Strategic Director: Vega Sturgess, Strategic Director Operations & Customer Focus
Assistant Director: Laurence Willis, Assistant Director Environment
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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 vehicles. 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, several dates for taxi private hire vehicle enforcement checks were arranged, but several were cancelled by the Police, VOSA or County Council due to lack of staff resources. The pre-Christmas check with Police, VOSA and Council officers was carried out with 18 vehicles stopped and checked, resulting in the VOSA inspectors issuing two immediate and three delayed prohibition notices, with advice given to a further two drivers on lighting issues. Further dates will be arranged 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 are carried out at the Pen Mill, Yeovil Junction 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 one taxi/private hire related complaints in the past six months, which resulted in the issuing of eight stop/prohibition notices, all eight notices were issues to hackney carriage vehicles.

Street Trading

Iminster Carnival 06/10/2012

Eleven traders obtained a street trading consent in advance of the event, the two traders who arrived without prior consent, were asked to leave.

Approximately fifteen pedlars were challenged. One pedlar was found without a permit and told to cease trading and to leave the area, which they did.

Chard Carnival 13/10/2012

Sixteen traders obtained a street trading consent in advance of the event, there were no street traders without prior consent.

Approximately twenty pedlars were challenged. Two pedlars were found without a permit and told to cease trading and to leave the area, which they both did.

Castle Cary Big Christmas

Fifteen traders obtained a street trading consent in advance of the event, there were no street traders without prior consent.

Wincanton Christmas Extravaganza

Fourteen traders obtained a street trading consent in advance of the event, there were no street traders without prior consent.

Scrap Metal Dealers & Motor Salvage Operators

The licensing enforcement officer and the police carried out joint inspections at all premises that are registered as scrap metal dealers, all the premises were compliant with the requirements of the act.

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
