

FINANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES – D. MICHAEL

13th July 2015

WARDS AFFECTED: All

SECTION B – MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

1. Licensing Section - Annual Report

1.1 Purpose of report

To provide information to members in relation to Licensing matters for the period 2014 – 2015.

1.2 Background

The Licensing Section is responsible for the administration and enforcement of licences and registrations that are issued for the following functions

- Hackney Carriage (taxis) and Private Hire
- Alcohol and Entertainment licences
- Gambling premises i.e. Bingo Halls, Betting Shops, Arcades
- Charitable Collections
- Boats and Boatmen
- Firework Storage
- Hairdressers
- Petroleum Storage
- Poisons
- Scrap Metal Dealers
- Sex Establishments and Sexual Entertainment Venues
- Stage Hypnotism
- Street Trading

An annual report for the period 2013 – 2014 was reported to members in August 2014, for comparison purposes, these figures are shown below in brackets.

1.3 Taxis and Private Hire Vehicle

The Licensing Section issue licences for hackney carriage vehicles and drivers and private hire vehicles, driver and operators. Licensing Officers carry out inspection of licensed drivers and vehicles during routine stop checks in addition to the pre arranged inspections that take place at Tregelles court. The tables below provide information on the taxi and private hire function

Table 1 - Number of drivers, vehicles and operators as of 31st March 2015 & number of new applications received between 1st April 2014 and 31st March 2015

Type of Licence	No. of licence holders	New Applications		
		Total	Granted	Refused
Hackney Carriage Drivers	324 (341)	26 (32)	23 (28)	3 (2)
Private Hire Drivers	53 (36)	32 (5)	32 (5)	
Hackney Carriage Vehicles	253 (254)	14 (9)	14 (9)	0 (0)
Private Hire Vehicles	30 (23)	12 (9)	12 (9)	0 (0)
Private Hire Operators	17 (13)	7 (4)	7 (4)	0 (0)

Table 2 – Scheduled vehicle inspections carried out between 1st April 2014 and 31st March 2015.

Type of Licence	Inspections		
	Total	Passed	Failed
Hackney Carriage Vehicles	519 (457)	358 (383)	161 (74)
Private Hire Vehicles	66 (31)	53 (29)	13 (2)

Table 3 – Random vehicle inspections carried out between 1st April 2014 and 31st March 2015.

Type of Licence	Inspections			
	Total	Passed	Failed	
	163 (169)	145 (131)	Immediate Suspension	Deferred Suspension
Hackney Carriage Vehicles	160 (159)	142 (123)	8 (19)	10 (17)
Private Hire Vehicles	3 (10)	3 (8)	0 (1)	0 (1)

1.4 Alcohol and Entertainment

Since November 2005, the Licensing Section has been responsible for the administration and enforcement of licences for premises which sell / supply alcohol and/ or provide regulated entertainment and / or provide late night refreshment. The tables below provide information on the function.

Table 1 – Number of licensed premises as of 31st March 2015.

Type of Licence	No. of licences
Premises Licences	476 (470)
Club Premises Certificates	78 (80)
Personal Licences	1405 (1323)

Table 2 - Number of applications received between 1st April 2014

and 31st March 2015

Type of Application	No. of applications			No. of applications that went to a committee hearing
	Total	Granted	Refused	
New Premises	8 (14)	8 (14)	0 (0)	13 (7) 9 variations 4 new premises
Variation of Premises	11 (2)	11 (2)	0 (0)	
New Club	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	
Variation of Club	0 (1)	0 (1)	0 (0)	
Minor Variation of Premises or Club	12 (5)	12 (5)	0 (0)	n/a
	Received	Granted	Withdrawn	Returned
Temporary Event Notices	191 (165)	181 (159)	3 (5)	7 (1)

Table 3 – Number of applications for review of a premises licence or club certificate between 1st April 2014 and 31st March 2015

Type of Licence	No. of reviews & action taken						Licence Revoked
	Total	Hours Modified	Activity partially restricted	Conditions added / modified	DPS removed	Licence Suspended	
Premises Licence	3 (3)	0 (0)	0 (1)	2 (1)	0 (1)	0 (1)	1 (0)
Club Premises Certificate	0 (1)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

1.5 Gambling Premises

Since September 2007, the Licensing Section has been responsible for the administration and enforcement of premises used for gambling. These include Casinos, bingo halls, betting shops, arcades and tracks.

Table 1 – Number of licensed premises as of 31st March 2015 and number of new applications

Type of Licence	Number of licences	No. of new applications		
		Total	Granted	Refused
Casino	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Betting Shop	19 (20)	1 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)
Adult Gaming Centre	3 (3)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Family Entertainment Centre	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Bingo Hall	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Track	1 (1)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Lottery Registration	131 (133)	10 (14)	10 (14)	0 (0)

1.6 Other Licensing Functions

The Licensing Section is responsible for the administration and enforcement of a number of other licensing functions. The type of authorisation issued by the Licensing Section is determined by the relevant legislation, this is usually either a licence, consent, registration or a permit. The table below outlines the various functions which are the responsibility of the Licensing Section and the type and number of authorisations issued.

Table 1 – Number of authorisations for each licensing type as of 31st March 2015

Function	Type of Licence	Type of Authorisation	No. of authorisations
Street Trading	Mobile	Consent	7 (6)
	Static	Consent	19 (18)
Animal Licensing	Riding Establishment	Licence	3 (3)
	Animal Boarding Establishments	Licence	14 (13)
	Dog Breeding Establishments	Licence	9 (9)
	Dangerous Wild Animals	Licence	3 (3)
	Pet Shops	Licence	6 (5)
	Performing Animals	Registration	3 (2)
Charitable Collections (01/04/14-31/03/15)	House To House	Licence	32 (27)
	Street Collection	Permit	37 (43)
Pleasure Boats	Boat	Licence	1 (1)
	Boatman	Licence	16 (13)
Fireworks	Storage Registration	Registration	21 (17)
	Storage Licence	Licence	1 (2)
	Supply Licence	Licence	1 (1)
Hairdressers		Registration	168 (160)
Petroleum		Licence	19 (19)
Poisons		Licence	12 (12)
Scrap Metal	Site	Licence	9 (9)

Dealers	Collector	Licence	27 (18)
Sex Establishments	Sex Shops	Licence	0 (0)
	Sexual Encounter Venue	Licence	0 (0)
	Sex Cinema	Licence	0 (0)
Stage Hypnotism		Consent	0 (1)

1.7 Complaints

The Licensing Section receives complaints in relation to licensed and unlicensed premises and persons. All complaints received by the Section are logged and investigated by officers. The table below provides information on the number of complaints received and investigated by the Licensing Section between 1st April 2014 and 31st March 2015.

Table 1 – Complaints dealt with between 1st April 2014 and 31st March 2015

Type of Licence	No. of Complaints
Taxis	75 (60)
Alcohol and Entertainment Premises	55 (59)
Gambling Premises	0 (2)
Street Trading	12 (19)
Animal Licensing	19 (29)
Charitable Collections	3 (3)
Pleasure Boats	0 (0)
Fireworks	1 (0)
Hairdressers	0 (0)
Petroleum	0 (0)
Poisons	0 (0)
Scrap Metal Dealers	0 (1)
Sex Establishments	0 (0)
Stage Hypnotism	0 (0)

1.8 Recommendation

That members note the details contained in the report

1.9 Wards Affected

All

1.10 Officer Contact

Neil Chapple
Licensing Manager
Tel (01639) 763056
Email n.chapple@npt.gov.uk