



LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

14 DECEMBER 2021

ANNUAL REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

Report from: Bhupinder Gill - Assistant Director, Legal and Governance

Author: Mandy Francis - Licensing Manager
Mark Lees – Regulatory Services Manager
(Gravesham & Medway)

Summary

The purpose of this report is to enable the Licensing Authority to present its annual report in respect of licensing compliance and enforcement.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

1.1 The Council's statement of licensing policy in respect of its functions under the Licensing Act 2003 refers to the licensing objective of the prevention of crime and disorder and associated compliance and enforcement.

1.2 The Council also has in place policies in respect of Gambling, Taxi Licensing, Scrap Metal and Sexual Entertainment Venues.

2. Background

2.1 The Council's Licensing Team works closely in partnership with other responsible authorities, agencies and internal partners to deliver the statutory requirements of the various pieces of legislation in respect of licensing matters.

2.2 The licensing officers work well with other partners, including the Police, Gambling Commission and Trading Standards.

2.3 The Council has established protocols on licensing compliance and enforcement issues. These provide for the targeting of resources towards high-risk premises and activities that require greater attention, while providing a lighter touch in respect of low-risk premises that are well operated. All licence holders are expected to co-operate in order to promote the licensing objectives. Evidence of non-compliance may be considered sufficient grounds for formal action where efforts to

resolve problems informally have failed or whether a matter is so severe that informal action would be inappropriate.

- 2.4 A copy of the Compliance and Enforcement Update Report is attached at Appendix A for Members' consideration.
- 2.5 Currently, we have a Service Level Agreement with the Council's Environmental Enforcement Team, whereby they are responsible for all compliance and enforcement work in respect of scrap metal dealers/collectors and street trading.
- 2.6 A report from the Environmental Services Manager is attached at Appendix B.

3. Risk Management

- 3.1 It is important that the Licensing and Safety Committee is kept fully informed of relevant work being carried out in respect of all licensing matters.

4. Financial and legal implications

- 4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
- 4.2 The Council has produced effective policies in respect of licensing matters.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 That the Committee notes and comments on the reports at Appendices A and B.

Lead officer contact

Mandy Francis, Licensing Manager for the Gravesham and Medway Shared Licensing Service
Telephone No: 01474 337438 Email mandy.francis@gravesham.gov.uk

Appendices

Appendix A – Compliance & Enforcement Update
Appendix B – Environmental Enforcement Update

Background papers

None