

Public Protection Annual Enforcement Report

David Hughes, Environmental Enforcement Team Leader

Summary

This report details the action taken by the Environmental Enforcement Team (EET) with regard to licensing issues in the year 2024/25

Breakdown of enquiries received

Between the months of October 2024 & September 2025, the team received a total of 20 public enquiries relating to licensing issues.

These are broken down into two areas:

- i. General Street Trading
- ii. Scrap Metal Dealers

Responses and Outcomes



The team received a total of 20 public enquiries relating to general street trading.

Of these, 1 were duplicate jobs, representing 5% of the total. These are cases where the team has received more than one enquiry about the same issue.

A further 9 cases were closed as unsubstantiated due to insufficient evidence. This figure represents 45% of the total.

1 case was deemed to be compliant. This meant that the street traders in question held all relevant and valid licenses to trade.

5 cases were resolved by offering advice, meaning that the team managed to secure compliance from offenders in 25% of those cases requiring enforcement without the need to serve notice.

3 cases were passed over to other teams, Noise & Nuisance, Food & Safety and Trading Standards, to investigate.

1 case is currently under investigation.

No prosecutions were necessary.



The team received 0 public enquiries relating to scrap metal dealers. All 24 of these scrap metal issues have been proactive enquiries via Op Assist. A monthly operation working with Medway Police Neighbourhood Policing Unit.

Of these, 1 were duplicate jobs, representing 4.16% of the total.

7 cases were deemed to be compliant. This meant that individuals held the correct licenses and documentation required.

Advice was given out in 6 cases.

This left 3 cases where enforcement investigations are currently being undertaken.

It has been necessary to instigate proceedings for 4 cases. All 4 cases are currently at court hearing stage. All are for unlicensed scrap metal collectors.

There have been 3 site visits undertaken, all with partners from the Environment Agency & Kent Police. No issues were found at the time of the visits.

1 scrap metal site is no longer operating having been served notice by Medway Council Planning Department & after appeals & hearings, the site has been cleared of all scrap metal.