

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....14th February 2019

1. Title of Item/Report

Licensing Service Update

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that informed Members of the progress made by the Licensing Service from 01 April 2018 until 31 December 2018.

During the past 9 months the service had continued a period of review and progression. Licensing administration and business processes had been reviewed to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of managing the issue of all licenses, permits and registrations, during this period 1862 applications covering all aspects of the licensing regime had been received and 1799 had been processed and completed.

In addition 38 beauty activity applications were received and processed, these applications cover activities such as hairdressing, skin piercing, acupuncture and tattooing and require a comprehensive officer inspection.

The service received and processed 60 charity collection applications, the returns data returned to us by the applicants confirms a total of £49,119.70 being raised for charity, and this information would be made available to the public via the website.

Clear local policies had been developed in line with legislation and consultation with users, including:

- The Private Hire and Hackney Carriage Policy January 2016 (reviewed 2018)
- The Licensing Act 2003 Statement of Licensing Policy January 2016
- Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Licensing Principles January 2019

The next steps for the Licensing Service would be:

- To research the work which had been carried out between other Local Authorities and alcohol retailers in identifying street drinking and any associated crime caused by this.
- To revisit the implementation of a Licensing Service penalty points system and licence suspension, as tools to ensure compliance of Private Hire Operators, Licensed Drivers and Licensed Vehicles and therefore improve conduct and service.
- Following publication of the institute of licensing 'guidance on determining the suitability of licensees and applicants in the licensed hackney carriage and private hire trade', produced in association with LLG, NALEO, LGA a review of the current codes of conduct for licensed drivers is required.
- Inclusion of all revoked and refused drivers to the national NAFAN refusals register.
- Ongoing digitalisation and implementation of Cx system.
- Online distance training package for officers and members
- Review of issued animal activities licences and fees and potential legal action taken against unlicensed premises.
- Exploring a regional safeguarding statement of policy.

RESOLVED that:-

1. The progress made to ensure public safety and support local businesses by the Licensing Service be noted.
2. The work identified which will enhance public safety and support to businesses further be agreed.
3. Reasons for the Decision  
  
To keep Cabinet Members informed of work and planned activity within the Licensing Service.
4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected  
  
None.
5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest  
  
None.
6. Details of any Dispensations  
  
N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight, 23 February 2019

Proper Officer  
19 February 2019