

TITLE: LICENSING OFFICERS UPDATE

COMMITTEE: LICENSING COMMITTEE

DATE: 12 OCTOBER 2016

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[R99]

1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To update Members of the Licensing Committee on the work of Officers.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 For information purposes only.

3.0 SUMMARY

General

3.1 The following tables illustrate the day to day applications and inspections processed and completed by the Licensing Authority in the period 5 July 2016 and 28 September 2016.

Applications

Licence type	Number
Taxi driver	34
Taxi vehicle	33
Taxi operator	7
TEN's	76
New and varied premise licences	9
Animal welfare licences	0
Personal licences	12
Small lottery licences	0
DPS and transfers of premise licences	24
DBS criminal record applications	19
TOTAL	214

Inspections

Inspection type	Number
Complaint	1
Enforcement	95
Routine	47
Re-visit	8
Pre-application	5
TOTAL	156

Suspensions

Suspension notice type	Number
DBS	1
Medical	2

Annual fee	3
Vehicle non-compliance	15
Suspension notice becoming active	6

- 3.2 Issuing the above suspension notices gives the licence holder 21 days to resolve the issue before the suspension becomes active. The above shows that all of the licence holders resolved the outstanding issue, and were not officially suspended. The figure of notices issued is up on the last period due to LA03 annual fee notices, but the active figure is the same. The figures remain very positive.
- 3.3 In addition to the suspension notices issued above Officers the following immediate suspension notices for vehicle MOT failures.

Taxi driver – enforcement action	0
Taxi vehicle – MOT failures	11

Driver Standards Agency (DSA) Tests

- 3.4 On the 2nd September the Council was informed that the Driver, Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) are no longer providing the DSA test which we require all new applicants to complete. The last available test date is the 31st December 2016, although it is very possible that local availability may run out prior to this date.
- 3.5 Feedback from licensing forums suggests that this is affecting a large number of licensing authorities, and so the LGA is attempting to convince the Department for Transport to extend the deadline to provide Council's time to seek an alternative solution.
- 3.6 Officers are working on this issue, and will report back to Members in November's meeting.

Driver commendation

- 3.7 Members are asked to note that on 28 September 2016 there was a collision between a taxi and a motor-cyclist on the junction of Market Street and Lynn Road. No blame has been apportioned at the time of writing this report, but Officers felt that the actions of a passing taxi-driver Mr Kevin Henderson should be brought to the attention of Members. The motor-cyclist suffered severe trauma to his leg as a result of the collision, and was losing a lot blood, Mr Henderson provided his first aid kit from his vehicle, and helped to stem the flow of blood with a belt. He also remained with the injured man until the paramedics took him away in the ambulance. All too often taxi drivers are criticised for their actions, and so Officers felt the actions of Mr Henderson should be noted. It should also be noted that the taxi-driver involved in the incident was physically unhurt by the collision.