

Committee: Licensing & Environmental Health

Date:

Title: Enforcement Update

13th July 2021

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Summary

1. This Enforcement Update report is to inform the Committee of the enforcement activities carried out by Licensing Officers during the period of 22 April 2021 to 30 June 2021.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

Financial Implications

3. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Background Papers

4. None

Impact

5.

Communication/Consultation	None
Community Safety	None
Equalities	None
Health and Safety	None
Human Rights/Legal Implications	None
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

6. Between the period of 22 April and 30 June 2021 a total of 22 visits were made to UDC licensed premises. While Covid-19 restrictions have remained in place, visits have been primarily to monitor compliance with the restrictions and to offer guidance and financial assistance where relevant.
7. With the Euro 2020 football tournament commencing in mid-June, advice was also provided on dealing with foreseeable problems that may occur with the showing of matches. As part of this, Licensing Officers have also been accompanying Community Safety Partnership colleagues in their campaign to promote awareness of domestic violence caused by behaviours associated to the football. Beer mats, posters, and literature were handed out to a number of pubs.
8. Licensing Officers from Uttlesford, Braintree, Chelmsford and Colchester took part in 'Operation Coachman' on 8 June 2021. This involved inspecting hackney carriage and private hire vehicles and driver licence checks at various primary schools across Essex during the morning school journey. Any issues identified were subsequently dealt with by the respective Local Authority. There were 2 issues identified with Uttlesford licensed drivers and both concerned the wearing of unsuitable attire. As they were first time breaches, advice was given to both drivers and were warned of future conduct.
9. Another 'Operation Coachman' is scheduled for 6 July 2021 at different Essex schools.
10. Following a change of operating address, one Private Hire Operator was visited and inspected by Licensing Officers for compliance with Uttlesford conditions. The operator was found to be fully compliant at the time.
11. In respect of licensed hackney carriage and private hire drivers, there has been 1 licence revocation and 8 licence suspensions. These are broken down as follows;
 - 1 revocation was as a result of an allegation made concerning a driver's behaviour towards a child passenger during a home to school contract journey. The revocation was made under the delegated authority of the Environmental Health Manager (Commercial) & the Licensing & Environmental Health Committee Chair due to the level of risk posed to public safety.
 - 7 suspensions were as a result of Medical and/or DBS certificates not being received from the driver by the required date.
 - 1 suspension was due to a medical issue that had caused the DVLA to remove the driver's permission to drive, but has since been rectified and reinstated.
12. In respect of licensed hackney carriage and private hire vehicles, there have been 4 licence suspensions. 3 vehicles failed their compliance test, and 1 vehicle was

suspended following an accident and associated damage. All vehicles have now had their suspensions lifted following necessary repairs being made and evidenced.

13. A total of 22 complaints have been received during this period. These are broken down as follows;

- 20 complaints relating to drivers. 6 of these remain in progress at the time of writing.
- 2 complaints relating to vehicles. Both have now resolved been closed.