



Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Thursday, 06 June 2019	Matter for Information
---	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Report Title: **Licensing Update (Q4 2018/2019)**

Report Author(s): **Mandy Geary (Senior Licensing & Enforcement Officer)**

Purpose of Report:	This information report provide an overview of the work under-taken by the Licensing Section for the fourth quarter of 2018/2019
Report Summary:	This report covers the standard quarterly reporting items in relation to taxi and private hire licensing, applications under the Licensing Act 2003 and Gambling Act 2005 and any notable enforcement activity. An update is also provided in respect of other concurrent matters
Recommendation(s):	That the contents of the report and appendix be noted.
Senior Leadership, Head of Service, Manager, Officer and Other Contact(s):	David Gill (Head of Law & Democracy / Monitoring Officer) (0116) 257 2626 david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk Mandy Geary (Senior Licensing & Enforcement Officer) (0116) 257 2637 mandy.geary@oadby-wigston.gov.uk
Corporate Objectives:	Providing Excellent Services (CO3)
Vision and Values:	Accountability (V1) Teamwork (V3) Customer Focus (V5)
Report Implications:-	
Legal:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Financial:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Corporate Risk Management:	No corporate risk(s) identified
Equalities and Equalities Assessment (EA):	There are no implications arising from this report. EA not applicable
Human Rights:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Health and Safety:	There are no implications arising from this report.
Statutory Officers' Comments:-	
Head of Paid Service:	The report is satisfactory.
Chief Finance Officer:	The report is satisfactory.
Monitoring Officer:	The report is satisfactory.

Consultees:	None.
Background Papers:	None.
Appendices:	1. Licensing Application Statistics (Q4 2018/2019)

1. Taxi and Private Hire Licensing

1.1 Vehicles

During the period 1st January 2019 to 31st March 2019 the Licensing Section has processed 188 applications for hackney carriage & private hire driver, vehicles and operator licences.

1.2 Drivers

During the reporting period we held 3 tests and had 45 candidates who sat the Council competency test. Of the 45 who sat the test 12 gained a pass and the remaining candidates failed. The test forms part of the application criteria and a pass is required before the applicant can go forward to make an application to become a licensed driver. 53 applicants and drivers attended the Child Sexual Exploitation courses which were held in Jan, Feb and March.

1.3 Revocation Appeal

Following the revocation of a drivers licence under section 61(1)b and 61(2B) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 the Council received a formal appeal to the Magistrates Court by the driver. The first hearing was held at Leicester Magistrates Court at the beginning of March, unfortunately the appellant had not prepared for the hearing and so the Court Clerk adjourned the hearing for several weeks in order that he could seek legal advice. Prior to the new hearing date the driver advised the Council and the Magistrates Court that he had made the decision to withdraw his appeal and the Councils decision to revoke the licence remains in force.

1.4 New Competency Test

From April the Council will be introducing a new Competency test. The tests have been revamped and given a new look. Candidates now get an hour to complete the test, with 50 multi choice questions which include topics such as shortest routes, The Highway Code, Legislation and Conditions of Licence and writing a receipt. Candidates must achieve an 80per cent pass mark on all 5 sections of the test etc.

Once a candidate has passed the test it is only then that they are able to proceed with making an application to become licenced. Applicants who fail will be able to take up to 3 tests in total, should they fail all 3 tests each candidate then has to wait 12 months from the date of the last test before being able to take the test again.

2. Licensing Act 2003

During the quarter, there have been 30 applications relating to the Licensing Act. 1 Temporary Event Notice, 10 Personal Licence applications and 18 applications for premises licences which included 2 minor variations and 15 licence transfers and or variation of the DPS (Designated Premises Supervisor).

3. Gambling Act 2005

There were 3 applications made under the above Act, 2 new small society lotteries

registrations and a notification of gaming machines for an alcohol licensed premises.

4. General Licences

The team also issued the following licences during the quarter. 1 acupuncture person registration, 1 acupuncture premises registration, 2 Animal Welfare Licences, 1 house to house collection and 10 street collection permits

5. Licensing Enforcement

The team has continued to respond to complaints received. It is anticipated that proactive enforcement action will be undertaken during 2019/20 following the establishment of a Corporate Enforcement Team as part of the newly adopted Corporate Plan.

The breakdown of licensing application statistics for quarter 4 is attached at **Appendix 1** to this report for members' information.