

Report to:	Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Date of Meeting:	Monday 13 June 2022
Subject:	Local Licensing: Performance Report 2021/22		
Report of:	Head of Highways and Public Protection	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:			
Is this a Key Decision:	N	Included in Forward Plan:	N
Exempt / Confidential Report:	N		

Summary:

To report the work carried out during 2021/22 by the Local Licensing Unit.

Recommendation(s):

That Licensing and Regulatory Committee:

- i) Notes this report; and
- ii) Requests that similar reports be brought on an annual basis.

Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

In order that the Licensing & Regulatory Committee can have an overview of the work carried out by the Local Licensing Unit.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

None

What will it cost and how will it be financed?

(A) Revenue Costs

Costs are met from within the existing Local Licensing Budget (BD11).

(B) Capital Costs

There are no financial costs associated with the proposals in this report

Implications of the Proposals:

Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): None.	
Legal Implications: None.	
Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.	
Climate Emergency Implications: The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	N
Have a neutral impact	Y
Have a negative impact	N
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Y
This is an information only Report.	

Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:

Protect the most vulnerable: Yes
Facilitate confident and resilient communities:
Commission, broker and provide core services: Yes
Place – leadership and influencer:
Drivers of change and reform:
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity:
Greater income for social investment:
Cleaner Greener

What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?

(A) Internal Consultations

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services has been consulted and notes the report indicates no direct financial implications for the Council. (FD 6773/22).

The Chief Legal and Democratic Officer has been consulted with regard to any legal implications and any comments have been incorporated into the report. (LD 4973/22).

(B) External Consultations

None.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

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Appendices:

None.

Background Papers:

There are no background papers available for inspection.

1. Details of licensing applications accepted for process

- 1.1 During the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 726 applications were accepted for process under the Licensing Act 2003 (“the LA03”), this representing a 72.45% increase over the 421 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021.
- 1.2 Under the Gambling Act 2005 (“the GA05”), 47 applications were accepted for process, this representing a 193.75% increase over the 16 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021.
- 1.3 With respect to general licensing applications (animal welfare, scrap metal dealers, personal treatment registrations etc.), 126 applications were received, this representing a 22.33% increase over the 103 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021.
- 1.4 With respect to applications for street collection permits, 45 applications were received, this representing a 28.57% increase over the 35 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021.
- 1.5 With respect to applications for house to house collection permits, 24 applications were received, this representing a 60% increase over the 15 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021.

2. Advertisement of certain LA03 applications

- 2.1 In order to ensure that Grant and Variation applications are brought to residents’ / businesses’ attention, since 25 April 2012 (via legislation introduced into the LA03 by The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011) the Licensing Unit has been required to advertise these types of applications on the Council website (this

is in addition to the existing provisions which were retained whereby the applicant has to advertise the application in a newspaper and on the premises).

- 2.2 In respect of Sefton these Notices can be found via a dedicated page on the Council website via:

www.sefton.gov.uk/business/licensing-registration/entertainment,-alcohol-and-late-night-refreshment/licensing-act-public-notices.aspx.

- 2.3 During the relevant period there were 79 applications received which required such advertisement; these comprised of 60 Grant applications and 19 Variation applications, this representing a 29.51% increase over the 61 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021.

3. Sefton's LA03 leafleting notification scheme

- 3.1 This scheme was formally adopted by Members at their Meeting on 6 June 2011. The scheme involves the Licensing Unit going over and above the advertising provisions of the LA03 by proactively informing those occupiers and owners of properties with curtilages abutting premises, who have made certain applications under the LA03, of the fact of that application.
- 3.2 As a consequence Licensing Officers sent out a total of 463 notifications to residents / businesses; the average being 5.79 notifications sent per application.
- 3.3 The Licensing Unit received no objections from residents / businesses leafleted as a direct result of this activity.

4. Reports submitted to Licensing Sub-Committee

- 4.1 During the relevant period 9 Reports were submitted by the Unit for consideration by the Licensing Sub-Committee, this representing a 200% increase over the 3 Reports submitted during the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021.

5. Details of Reviews held

- 5.1 During the relevant period 2 premise licence review applications were dealt with, compared with none for the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021.

6. Details of LA03 Licences surrendered

- 6.1 At their Meeting on 19 November 2012 Members RESOLVED that any future Performance Reports should "*provide details of surrendered Licences*".
- 6.2 During the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 25 Licences were surrendered, this representing a 47.06% increase over the 17 Licences which were surrendered during the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021.

7. Details of Service Requests received

- 7.1 During the relevant period the Unit received and dealt with 1,002 service requests. This representing a 11.71% increase over the 897 service requests received

during the equivalent 12-month period for 2020/2021. Of these 24 took the form of LA03 complaints, 1 of GA05 complaints, whilst 3 were general licence complaints.

- 7.2 With regard to the Doorman Logbooks the Unit dealt with 9 request for Logbooks to be dispatched.
- 7.3 The following were service requests to the section for guidance, advice or information: 700 under the LA03, 21 under the GA05, with 240 under general licensing.
- 7.4 Of the remaining requests a total of 3 were received from premises advising that they were taking advantage of the Covid Temporary Off Sales provisions and 1 concerned general Covid advice.
- 7.5 All of the above matters were attended to within the departmental timescales laid down for such matters.

8. Statement of Gambling Licensing Policy Refresh

- 8.1 Section 349 of the GA05 requires that all licensing authorities prepare and publish a statement of the principles that they propose to apply in exercising their functions under the GA05 during the three year period to which the Statement of Licensing Policy (the Policy) applies. A licensing policy statement will last for a maximum of three years, but can be reviewed and revised by an authority at any time.
- 8.2 The Policy required revising during 2021 in order for it to take effect from 31 January 2022 (when the new three year cycle commenced).
- 8.3 Section 349 (3) of the GA05 requires that the Licensing Authority consult with the following on the Policy (or any subsequent revision):
- The chief officer of police for the Authority's area;
 - One or more persons who appear to the Authority to represent the interests of persons carrying on gambling businesses in the Authority's area; and,
 - One or more persons who appear to the Authority to represent the interests of persons who are likely to be affected by the exercise of the Authority's functions under this Act.
- 8.4 The consultation exercise lasted 12 weeks and ended on 5 April 2021. The subsequent refreshed Policy came into force on 31 January 2022.