

Report to:	Licensing and Regulatory Committee	Date of Meeting:	Monday 12 June 2023
Subject:	Local Licensing: Performance Report 2022/23		
Report of:	Assistant Director of Place (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 2022/23 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.								
Impact on Children and Young People: None.								
Climate Emergency Implications: The recommendations within this report will								
<table border="1"><tr><td>Have a positive impact</td><td>N</td></tr><tr><td>Have a neutral impact</td><td>Y</td></tr><tr><td>Have a negative impact</td><td>N</td></tr><tr><td>The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors</td><td>Y</td></tr></table>	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
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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 and contains no proposals that will alter any impact on climate change.								

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 7205/23).

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 5405/23).

(B) External Consultations

None.

Implementation Date for the Decision

Immediately following the Committee meeting.

Contact Officer:	Kevin Coady
Telephone Number:	Tel: 0151 934 2946
Email Address:	kevin.coady@sefton.gov.uk

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 2022 to 31 March 2023 865 applications were accepted for process under the Licensing Act 2003 ("the LA03"), this representing a 19.5% increase over the 726 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022.
- 1.2 Under the Gambling Act 2005 ("the GA05"), 20 applications were accepted for process, this representing a 58% decrease over the 47 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022.
- 1.3 With respect to general licensing applications (animal welfare, scrap metal dealers, personal treatment registrations etc.), 114 applications were received, this representing a 9.5% decrease over the 126 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022.
- 1.4 With respect to applications for street collection permits, 46 applications were received, this representing a 2.2% increase over the 45 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022.
- 1.5 With respect to applications for house to house collection permits, 26 applications were received, this representing a 8.3% increase over the 24 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022.

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-notice.aspx.

2.3 During the relevant period there were 68 applications received which required such advertisement; these comprised of 51 Grant applications and 17 Variation applications, this representing a 14% decrease over the 79 applications received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022.

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 347 notifications to residents / businesses; the average being 5 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 16 Reports were submitted by the Unit for consideration by the Licensing Sub-Committee, this representing a 78% increase over the 9 Reports submitted during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022.

5. Details of Reviews held

5.1 During the relevant period 1 premise licence review application was dealt with, this representing a 50% decrease over the 2 reviews dealt with during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022.

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 2022 to 31 March 2023 24 Licences were surrendered, this representing a 4% decrease over the 25 Licences which were surrendered during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022.

7. Details of Service Requests received

7.1 During the relevant period the Unit received and dealt with 1,103 service requests. This representing a 10.08% increase over the 1,002 service requests received during the equivalent 12-month period for 2021/2022. Of these 10 took the form of LA03 complaints, whilst 13 were general licensing complaints.

7.2 With regard to the Doorman Logbooks the Unit dealt with 14 request for Logbooks to be dispatched.

7.3 The following were service requests to the Unit for guidance, advice or information: 781 under the LA03, 16 under the GA05, with 269 under general licensing.

7.4 All of the above matters were attended to within the departmental timescales laid down for such matters.