

**Report of the Service Director Culture,
Housing and Regulation to the
Statutory Licensing Regulatory Board
to be held on the 21 February 2018**

ENFORCEMENT UPDATE

1. Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report, is to provide Members with an overview of the work Licensing Enforcement Officers have undertaken to date.

2. Background

Members are minded to note, that Licensing Enforcement Officers have continued to proactively embark on a number of licensing enforcement operations. A summary of enforcement operations undertaken are detailed below.

3. Current Position

Suspension of premises licence for failing to pay annual fee

There are currently several licensed premises throughout the borough that have outstanding annual fees in relation to their premises licence.

Taking the above into consideration, Licensing Officers are now in a position to suspend premises licences in order to comply with the Licensing Act 2003.

The suspension can be lifted on receipt of payment of the outstanding fee.

Section 55a of the Licensing Act 2003 states:

A Licensing Authority must suspend a premises licence if the holder of the licence has failed to pay the authority an annual fee that has become due under section 55(2).

Premises with outstanding accounts will have received invoices and documentation requesting the fees owed and Licensing Officers will work with all licensed premises to avoid a suspension of the licence, however members should be mindful that the Licensing Act 2003 states we must suspend in circumstances where outstanding fees are due.

4. Training for SIA Doormen

Working with colleagues in Public Health, Licensing Officers are offering training for all SIA doormen, especially those working in our town centre license premises. The training will promote an awareness of equality and diversity, and help doormen to identify, understand and provide support to people with mental health issues, it will aim to improve their understanding of the effects of alcohol and substance misuse, and offer them the opportunity to become qualified first aiders.

5. Charity Boxing Events

Great Yarmouth Borough Council are currently investigating an incident regarding a fatality to a young boxer who died after taking part in his first unlicensed boxing event at a nightclub in the area.

Following on from this Licensing Officers have met with Health and Safety Officers to raise awareness in respect of the risks associated with unlicensed boxing and the measures Officers can take to ensure organisers of such events are carrying out the event safely.

All applications for premises licences that include the provision for boxing or wrestling will be required to provide a suitable and sufficient health and safety risk assessment to the Licensing Authority and Environmental Services a minimum of 21 days prior to the event taking place.

6. Immigration checks in licensed premises

On the 2nd February 2018 Licensing Officers accompanied by Immigration Enforcement Officers inspected a licensed premise in the town centre. Immigration Officers were in receipt of intelligence which suggested illegal immigrants may have been working and living on the premises.

Licensing Officers also had to ensure the premises were operating in compliance with the Licensing Act 2003.

The premises were found to be compliant under the Licensing 2003, and all individuals on the premises had the correct permissions to live and work in the UK.

7. Proposal

Proactive enforcement operations like these will continue to take place on a regular basis and Officers are in the process of arranging further enforcement operations with various agencies including South Yorkshire Police and The Immigration Service. Whilst offences are always unacceptable we will combat ill failings and convey the message that all individuals licensed under the Licensing Act 2003 must begin to accept responsibility for their failures and make a change.

Failure to do so, will only continue to put the safety of the public at risk when frequenting licensed premises and their surrounding areas.

8. Background Papers

Enforcement Officer Reports which contain exempt information are not available for public inspection

10. Officer Contact

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