

SWT Licensing Committee

Monday, 18th January, 2021,
6.15 pm



Somerset West
and Taunton

[SWT VIRTUAL MEETING WEBCAST LINK](#)

Members: Mark Lithgow (Chair), Janet Lloyd (Vice-Chair), Marcus Barr, Paul Bolton, Simon Coles, Caroline Ellis, Andrew Hadley, John Hassall, Marcia Hill, Sue Lees, Libby Lisgo, Andy Milne, Martin Peters, Anthony Trollope-Bellew and Ray Tully

Agenda

1. Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Licensing Committee

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee.

(Pages 5 - 8)

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive and note any declarations of disclosable pecuniary or prejudicial or personal interests in respect of any matters included on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

(The personal interests of Councillors and Clerks of Somerset County Council, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes.)

4. Public Participation

The Chair to advise the Committee of any items on which members of the public have requested to speak and advise those members of the public present of the details of the Council's public participation scheme.

For those members of the public who have submitted any questions or statements, please note, a three minute time limit applies to each speaker and you will be asked to speak before Councillors debate the issue.

Temporary measures during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Due to the Government guidance on measures to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), we will holding meetings in a virtual manner which will be live webcast on our website. Members of the public will still be able to register to speak and ask questions, which will then be read out by the Governance and Democracy Case Manager during Public Question Time and will either be answered by the Chair of the Committee, or the relevant Portfolio Holder, or be followed up with a written response.

5. Licensing Quarterly Update Report

This report gives officers the opportunity to update members of the committee on work of note, progress on any projects, changes in legislation and look ahead to any significant events that lie ahead.

(Pages 9 - 24)



**JAMES HASSETT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Please note that this meeting will be recorded. You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 2018. Data collected during the recording will be retained in accordance with the Council's policy. Therefore unless you are advised otherwise, by taking part in the Council Meeting during Public Participation you are consenting to being recorded and to the possible use of the sound recording for access via the website or for training purposes. If you have any queries regarding this please contact the officer as detailed above.

Following Government guidance on measures to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), we will be live webcasting our committee meetings and you are welcome to view and listen to the discussion. The link to each webcast will be available on the meeting webpage, but you can also access them on the [Somerset West and Taunton webcasting](#) website.

If you would like to ask a question or speak at a meeting, you will need to submit your request to a member of the Governance Team in advance of the meeting. You can request to speak at a Council meeting by emailing your full name, the agenda item and your question to the Governance Team using governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

Any requests need to be received by 4pm on the day that provides 2 clear working days before the meeting (excluding the day of the meeting itself). For example, if the meeting is due to take place on a Tuesday, requests need to be received by 4pm on the Thursday prior to the meeting.

The Governance and Democracy Case Manager will take the details of your question or speech and will distribute them to the Committee prior to the meeting. The Chair will then invite you to speak at the beginning of the meeting under the agenda item Public Question Time, but speaking is limited to three minutes per person in an overall period of 15 minutes and you can only speak to the Committee once. If there are a group of people attending to speak about a particular item then a representative should be chosen to speak on behalf of the group.

Please see below for Temporary Measures during Coronavirus Pandemic and the changes we are making to public participation:-

Due to the Government guidance on measures to reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19), we will holding meetings in a virtual manner which will be live webcast on our website. Members of the public will still be able to register to speak and ask questions, which will then be read out by the Governance and Democracy Case Manager during Public Question Time and will be answered by the Portfolio Holder or followed up with a written response.

Full Council, Executive, and Committee agendas, reports and minutes are available on our website: www.somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

For further information about the meeting, please contact the Governance and Democracy Team via email: governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

If you would like an agenda, a report or the minutes of a meeting translated into another language or into Braille, large print, audio tape or CD, please email: governance@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

SWT Licensing Committee - 15 June 2020

Present: Councillors Marcus Barr, Paul Bolton, Simon Coles, Caroline Ellis, Andrew Hadley, John Hassall, Marcia Hill, Sue Lees, Libby Lisgo, Mark Lithgow, Janet Lloyd, Martin Peters, Anthony Trollope-Bellew and Ray Tully

Officers: Clare Rendell, John Rendell and Amy Tregellas

Also Present: Councillors Chris Booth, Federica Smith-Roberts, Sarah Wakefield and Loretta Whetlor

(The meeting commenced at 6.15 pm)

1. **Appointment of Chair**

Resolved that Councillor Mark Lithgow be appointed as Chair of the Licensing Committee for the remainder of the municipal year.

Councillors thanked Councillor Kelley Durdan for all her hard work as the previous Chair of the Licensing Committee.

2. **Appointment of Vice-Chair**

Resolved that Councillor Janet Lloyd be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Licensing Committee for the remainder of the municipal year.

3. **Apologies**

No apologies were received.

4. **Minutes of the previous meeting of the Licensing Committee**

(Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing Committee held on 9 March 2020 circulated with the agenda)

Resolved that the minutes of the Licensing Committee held on 9 March 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

5. **Declarations of Interest**

Members present at the meeting declared the following personal interests in their capacity as a Councillor or Clerk of a County, Town or Parish Council or any other Local Authority:-

Name	Minute No.	Description of Interest	Reason	Action Taken
Cllr M Barr	All Items	Wellington	Personal	Spoke and Voted

Cllr P Bolton	All Items	Minehead	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr C Booth	All Items	Wellington and Taunton Charter Trustee	Personal	Spoke
Cllr S Coles	All Items	SCC & Taunton Charter Trustee	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr C Ellis	All Items	Taunton Charter Trustee	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr Mrs Hill	All Items	Taunton Charter Trustee	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr S Lees	All Items	Taunton Charter Trustee	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr L Lisgo	All Items	Taunton Charter Trustee	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr M Lithgow	All Items	Wellington	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr J Lloyd	All Items	Wellington & Sampford Arundel	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr M Peters	All Items	Taunton Charter Trustee	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr F Smith-Roberts	All Items	Taunton Charter Trustee	Personal	Spoke
Cllr R Tully	All Items	West Monkton	Personal	Spoke and Voted
Cllr L Whetlor	All Items	Watchet	Personal	Spoke

6. **Public Participation**

No members of the public had requested to speak on any item on the agenda.

7. **Licensing Quarterly Update Report**

During the discussion, the following points were raised:-

- Councillors queried how many dog litters a breeder had to have before they were required to be licensed.
The Licensing Specialist advised that he thought it was three litters within a twelve month period or if they had a litter as part of a business activity, but he would check and report back to the Committee.
- Councillors queried what had the overall impact been of the covid pandemic on the taxi trade.
The Licensing Specialist advised that it was difficult to tell, he had seen how quiet the taxi rank located on Corporation Street had been and that it had been hard on the taxi trade. He felt their frustration to get back to work, but some drivers were in the vulnerable category so had to shield and were unable to work. He also sadly recognised that the business was not there due to the town centre being closed. He did not have any specific numbers, but believed the impact had been hugely significant. Some taxi drivers were looking to install screens in their vehicles and they

would be guided by Somerset County Council. He agreed that action was needed to assist the taxi trade to return to business.

- Councillors queried the rules on data protection and whether the premises licence holder's details had to be published in the public domain and whether that was compliant with the data protection rules.

The Licensing Specialist advised that two documents were issued to licence holders. One had the full details written on it, which was to be kept for their records and the other was a summary, which was the document to be displayed as that would not include their details.

- Councillors queried how far officers had got with the work to amalgamate the previous councils taxi policies.

The Licensing Specialist advised that sadly no progress had been made due to the covid pandemic and that he had also been involved in other work which included large scale complaints. The work was still high on the list of priorities of work to be completed.

Resolved that the Licensing Committee noted the report.

(The Meeting ended at 6.37 pm)

Report Number: SWT 1/21

Somerset West and Taunton Council

Licensing Committee – 18 January 2021

Licensing Quarterly Update Report

This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Sarah Wakefield

Report Author: John Rendell, Specialist (Licensing)

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 Somerset West and Taunton is required by law to establish a Licensing Committee, in order to discharge various licensing functions and is referred to as the 'licensing authority'. These functions include the regulation of alcohol and entertainment, taxis and private hire vehicles, drivers and operators, gambling and types of animal business, amongst many others.
- 1.2 The licensing authority's objectives (some of which are statutory) are to:
 - Prevent crime and disorder;
 - Prevent public nuisance;
 - Keep the public safe;
 - Protect children and other vulnerable people, from harm;
 - Ensure gambling is conducted in a fair and open way;
 - Ensure businesses provide high standards of care to animals.
- 1.3 Some of functions of the licensing authority, such as determining individual licence applications, are discharged by sub-committees. The main committee is largely responsible for setting policy.
- 1.4 This report gives officers the opportunity to update members of the committee on work of note, progress on any projects, changes in legislation and look ahead to any significant events that lie ahead.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report be noted.

3 Risk Assessment

- 3.1 The contents of this report do not relate to any of the risks identified in the Corporate Risk Register.

4 Background and Full details of the Report

West Bay residential caravan site enforcement notice

- 4.1 The compliance notice issued against West Bay, Watchet has been lifted, following confirmation in August that the site owners had successfully removed the home which was left perilously close to a cliff edge, following a landslip earlier in the year.

Pavement licensing

- 4.2 'Pavement licensing' was one of a number of schemes introduced by the Business and Planning Act 2020, in order to restart the British economy during the tough months of the Covid19 lockdown.
- 4.3 Officers already had experience licensing café and pub pavement furniture on the street, having for some years been issuing permits under section 115E of Part VIIA of the Highways Act 1980; Execution of works and use of objects etc. by persons other than councils. That scheme involves a 28 day consultation, during which the County Council Highways department are consulted, with the fees to apply for the grant of and renew a permit £358 and £345 respectively.
- 4.4 The new 'pavement licence' scheme has a much quicker turnaround; 14 days in total, which comprises of a 7 day consultation to various bodies, including the highway authority, Environment Health, the police and town and parish councils, and 7 days within which officers must decide whether to grant a licence or not. These applications receive tacit consent which, in this case, means a licence is automatically granted, without any conditions, at the end of the 7 day determination period if a formal decision has not yet been reached. The other significant differences with this scheme and the existing one, are the capping of the application fee at £100 and the ability to revoke a licence where conditions are not being met or the furniture layout is giving rise to issues.
- 4.5 Back in February this year, there were 7 premises to whom s.115E permits had been granted. As of the 8th of December, there are now 5 s.115E permits and 10 pavement licences.
- 4.6 None of the 10 pavement licence applications submitted since the introduction of the Business and Planning Act 2020 received tacit consent. All were granted by officers within the 7 day window (after the initial consultation,) meaning all are subject to licence conditions, the majority of which will be standard; see **Appendix 1**.

Service plan

- 4.7 The Covid19 pandemic has had such a huge impact that it has forced us to reflect and review what we believe are the priorities for the service in the short to medium term future.

- 4.8 Attached at **Appendix 2** is a truncated service plan, which outlines the policies and arrangements that we plan to review and/or update next 12 to 18 months as a matter of priority. This is all work outside of 'business as usual' e.g. processing licence applications, investigating complaints and so forth.
- 4.9 Taxi and private hire licensing features heavily on this plan. There has been a pressing need to harmonise/combine the two taxi licensing policies since the formation of the new council but the publishing of the Department for Transport's statutory standards and declaration of a climate emergency has only strengthened the need to bring these licensing arrangements up to date. There are likely to be significant changes, thus there will be extensive consultation with the taxi and private hire trade, key stakeholders and we will establish a policy development working group for elected members.

Numbers of licences currently in force

- 4.10 To give an idea of the variety and number of persons, premises, vehicles and activities which are currently licensed, the numbers of licences in force as of the 11th of December 2020 are shown at **Appendix 3**.
- 4.11 Unfortunately and as one would expect with the economy taking a knock during the pandemic, there are reductions across a number of licence types.
- 4.12 Although street trading consents has come down, we would expect this to rise over the coming months as the service has been contacted by a number of parties who are keen to begin trading in both Taunton and Minehead. Such is the level of interest and as available space is limited, customers are being encouraged to submit expressions of interest rather than applications, in order to avoid forms being completed and payments made in vain.

5 Links to Corporate Strategy

- 5.1 The council has a statutory duty to issues licences for various activities, as outlined in **Appendix 2**. By providing advice to the public, helping them to understand and meet regulatory requirements and responding proportionately where breaches of legislation occur, the service can support the following corporate aims:
- Support the town centres throughout the District to meet the challenge of changing shopping habits.
 - Support the enhancement of arts and culture provision within the District.

6 Finance / Resource Implications

- 6.1 Where legislation allows for cost recovery, licence fees are levied against the administration of the regime and the supervision of licences issued. It would be unlawful to deliberately set the fees to make a profit and any over (or under) recovery is redressed in future fee levels.

7 Legal Implications

7.1 No legal implications identified.

8 Climate and Sustainability Implications

8.1 There are no direct carbon/environmental impacts arising from this report.

9 Safeguarding and/or Community Safety Implications

9.1 The four licensing objectives under the Licensing Act 2003 are:

- Prevention of crime and disorder
- Public safety
- Prevention of public nuisance
- Protection of children from harm

9.2 The continued work of the service to achieve and promote these aims, further supports the role of the Council in ensuring community safety.

10 Equality and Diversity Implications

10.1 There are a number of protected characteristics identified in the Equality Act 2010, which are; age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation and members need to demonstrate that they have consciously thought about the three aims of the Public Sector Equality Duty as part of the decision making process. The three aims the authority must have due regard for are:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

10.2 No equality and diversity implications were identified.

11 Social Value Implications

11.1 As this report does not relate to the procurement of any services or products, no social value implications were identified.

12 Partnership Implications

12.1 No partnership implications were identified.

13 Health and Wellbeing Implications

13.1 Through effective regulation, confidence in licensed premises and activities can be maintained, helping communities to thrive.

14 Asset Management Implications

14.1 No asset management implications were identified.

15 Data Protection Implications

15.1 No data protection implications were identified.

16 Consultation Implications

16.1 As this is an update report, consultation has not been necessary.

17 Scrutiny Comments / Recommendation(s)

17.1 As a quarterly report just for the Licensing Committee, there are no scrutiny comments or recommendations.

Democratic Path:

- **Scrutiny / Corporate Governance or Audit Committees – No**
- **Cabinet/Executive – No**
- **Full Council – No**

Reporting Frequency: Once only Ad-hoc Quarterly
 Twice-yearly Annually

List of Appendices

Appendix 1	Pavement licence conditions
Appendix 2	Licensing service plan: priorities in 2021/22
Appendix 3	Licences in force

Contact Officers

Name	John Rendell
Direct Dial	01823 219491
Email	j.rendell@somersetwestandtaunton.gov.uk

Pavement licence conditions

Mandatory condition, as per the Business and Planning Act 2020

1. Clear routes of access along the highway must be maintained, taking into account the needs of disabled people, and the recommended minimum footway widths and distances required for access by mobility impaired and visually impaired people as set out in Section 3.1 of 'Inclusive Mobility':

“A clear width of **2000mm** allows two wheelchairs to pass one another comfortably. This should be regarded as the minimum under normal circumstances. Where this is not possible because of physical constraints **1500mm** could be regarded as the minimum acceptable under most circumstances, giving sufficient space for a wheelchair user and a walker to pass one another.

The absolute minimum, where there is an obstacle, should be **1000mm** clear space. The maximum length of restricted width should be **6 metres** (see also Section 8.3). If there are local restrictions or obstacles causing this sort of reduction in width they should be grouped in a logical and regular pattern to assist visually impaired people.

It is also recommended that there should be minimum widths of **3000mm** at bus stops and **3500mm to 4500mm** by shops though it is recognized that available space will not always be sufficient to achieve these dimensions.

Where a cycle track runs alongside a footway or a footpath best practice is to physically segregate the two as advocated in Local Transport Note (LTN) 2/86 Shared Use by Cyclists and Pedestrians.

If this is not possible, appropriate tactile surfaces should be used to identify the cycle and pedestrian paths (see Section 4.5). The cycle track should be at least **1400mm** wide with the cycle symbol on the ground every 50 yards. The pedestrian part should meet the standards given earlier in this section and should be separated from the cycle track by a raised dividing line **150mm** wide and **12 to 20mm high**, with a **50mm** wide top face.”

2. Where the furniture to be put on the relevant highway consists of seating for use by persons for the purpose of consuming food or drink, the licence-holder must make reasonable provision for seating where smoking is not permitted.

Conditions attached to this licence by the licensing authority (except if tacit consent applies)

1. All furniture must be contained within and located as shown exactly on, the licensed area identified in the following plan:

<plan/drawing of area>

2. No changes must be made to the licensed area and locations of any furniture, including barriers, without written permission from the Council.
3. The permitted hours of use are as follows:
4. Outside of the permitted hours of use, all furniture must be removed from the licensed area of the highway and be stored securely.
5. The Somerset County Council Highways Authority 'Unauthorised Signs and Goods Displayed on the Highway' policy must be complied with at all times.
6. The licence does not prevent Somerset County Council Highway Authority from exercising its duties and powers to ensure the licensed section of highway and nearby highway is appropriately maintained. Utility companies may also require access to the licensed area under permit.
7. Staff must regularly monitor the licensed area and visit it, when necessary, to ensure it is kept clean and tidy. Any litter or waste arising from use of the licensed area must be cleared away, whether within the licensed area or its vicinity.
8. Should the licensed area not adjoin the relevant premises, customers must not be permitted to carry food and drink which has been sold or supplied to be consumed within the licensed area, from within the relevant premises themselves. Instead, customers must be waited on by staff from the premises. If any accidents e.g. spillages should occur, they must be immediately cleaned up by staff.
9. Suitable and sufficient barriers must be used, to prevent furniture from straying beyond the licensed area. Barriers must include a low tap rail or similar, to aid those with visual impairments to negotiate the licensed area.
10. Where parasols are used, they must be suitable i.e. not common garden umbrellas. They must not overhang barriers marking the licensed area and be closed and/or removed during windy weather.
11. The licence holder must;
 - a) Must publically display this licence, or a copy of it, at the premises so that it can easily be seen from the street to allow inspection by an authorised officer of the police or other officer authorised by the Council.
 - b) Comply with any instruction given in relation to the use of the street or public place by an authorised officer of the Council, Highways Authority or Police.
 - c) Indemnify Somerset West and Taunton Council against all liability which may at any time be taken, made or incurred in consequence of the use of Pavement Cafes and for this purpose must take out a policy of insurance in the sum of up to £5,000,000.
 - d) Produce to the Council, on request, current receipts for premium payments and confirmation of annual renewals of the policy.

12. The licence holder must not assign, underlet or part with his interest or possession, or any part under this licence, but may surrender it to the Council at any time.
13. Amplified music must not be provided in or adjacent to the licensed area, nor projected to it, from the premises.
14. Television screens (including projectors) must not be provided in or adjacent to the licensed area.
15. The licence holder must ensure that no alterations are made to the highway surface.
16. The licence holder must ensure that uses conform to latest guidance on social distancing and any reasonable crowd management measures needed as a result of a licence being granted and businesses reopening.

Enforcement and revocation of this licence

If and where the Council considers that the licence holder has breached any condition of this licence, it may:

- (a) revoke this licence, or
- (b) serve a notice on the licence holder requiring the taking of such steps to remedy the breach as are specified in the notice, within such time as is so specified.

If the licence holder were to fail to comply with a notice, as referred to above, the Council may:

- (a) revoke the notice, or
- (b) take the required steps and recover the costs of doing so from the licence holder.

The Council may also revoke the licence if it considers that:

- (a) some or all of the part of the relevant highway, to which the licence relates, has become unsuitable for the furniture e.g. a temporary road closure order comes to an end;
- (b) as a result of the licence:
 - (i) there is a risk to public health or safety, or
 - (ii) anti-social behaviour or public nuisance is being caused, or risks are being caused,
 - (iii) the highway is being obstructed (other than by anything done by the licence-holder pursuant to the licence),

- (c) the licence holder made a false or misleading statement in their application, or
- (d) the licence holder did not adequately display a notice at their premises, when making their application, as required by section 2(5) of the Act.

Licensing service plan: priorities in 2021/22

Taxi and private hire licensing			
Task/project	Notes	Anticipated benefits	Expected completion date
Harmonise the two existing taxi licensing policies, reviewing and updating elements in the process to ensure it is fit for purpose.	<p>This is a sizeable task and will more than likely be broken down into manageable 'chunks'. The following aspects of the policy are particularly in need of review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxi and private hire vehicle specifications, in particular disability requirements and electric vehicles. • Policy on applicants for driver licence with previous convictions • Conditions which all types of licence are subject to. • The tariff of taxi fares/charges. • Meter testing for taxis. • Determine whether to form one large taxi licensing district where there are no restrictions on where a taxi can ply for hire or maintain two separate 'zones'. • The frequency and format of medical examinations on drivers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute towards the council's aim to be carbon neutral by 2030. • Ensure consistency when discharging the relevant functions across the entire district. • Improve the efficiency of the service and staff confidence in applying policies and rules. • Improve public confidence in the taxi and private hire licensing regime, including the trade itself. • In some cases, meet with the requirements of the Department for Transport's 'Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards'. 	December 2021 to June 2022

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The frequency of criminal record checks on drivers, vehicle proprietors and private hire operators. • The format and frequency of MOTs and the council's own safety test, for taxis and private hire vehicles. 		
<p>Introduce mandatory safeguarding training for drivers.</p>	<p>It would be beneficial to include child sex exploitation and 'county lines'.</p> <p>Likely that this will need to be delivered externally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with the requirements of the Department for Transport's 'Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards'. • Improve public confidence in the taxi and private hire licensing regime, including the trade itself. • Ensure that we are taking all reasonable steps to prevent vulnerable members of the public from being victims of exploitation and harm. 	September 2021
<p>Finalise and deliver the new and improved driver knowledge test, known as the 'knowledge and suitability interview'.</p>	<p>A new format has already been developed. Some testing and final adjustments are required. Arrangements for booking and undertaking the interview need to be finalised, in particular dovetailing the interview with checks of the applicants ID, in order to improve efficiency of the service and reduce the number of visits an applicant may need to make to the council offices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure licensed drivers have the required level of comprehension of English, both written and oral. • Ensure licensed drivers have at a basic knowledge of the local area (thus preventing cross border licensing). • Improve newly licensed individual's understanding of their responsibilities, both statutory and local. 	April 2021

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure drivers recognise the signs of and are able to report child sexual exploitation (having answered questions based on the content of an eLearning module). 	
<p>Begin using 'NR3'; the national register of taxi driver licence revocations and refusals</p>	<p>Our predecessor councils adopted identical policies governing the use of the register and ensuring compliance with GDPR.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with the requirements of the Department for Transport's 'Statutory Taxi & Private Hire Vehicle Standards'. • Ensure decisions to grant (or refuse) licences are made having had regard of an individual's record as a driver with another authority. • Feel comfortable in the knowledge that we are helping to protect the travelling public beyond our own district boundaries, by ensure other licensing authorities are able to access information about individuals whose licences we have refused or revoked. • Improve public confidence in the taxi and private hire licensing regime, including the trade itself. 	<p>April 2021</p>
Animal activities licensing (Catteries, kennels, riding establishments, pet shops etc.)			
Task/project	Notes	Anticipated benefits	Expected completion date

All Case Managers (grade F) / Licensing Officers to complete the level 3 animal licensing inspectors qualification.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve resilience in the service by increasing the number of qualified inspectors and avoid the risk of relying on neighbouring authorities to undertake our visits. 	Existing staff by June 2021
Street trading			
Task/project	Notes	Anticipated benefits	Expected completion date
Develop and publish a street trading policy Page 22	It has become clear that street trading in town centres in particular, must enhance the existing retail and food offer rather than act as direct competition, and enhance the visual amenity. Existing policy is not fit for purpose in this regard, nor does it necessarily reflect other council priorities e.g. carbon neutrality, Covid19 recovery, promote healthy lifestyles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make best use of available town centre locations/open spaces; improving the visual amenity and increasing footfall. • Create local job opportunities and promote local produce. • Improve engagement with town and parish councils, local BIDs, chambers of commerce etc. through consultation and setting of clear objectives. • Allow officers to exercise more discretion in confidence, in order to ensure that only traders who meet with the clearly set objectives are licensed. 	August 2021

Licences Issued and Notices Given

These figures show the number of licences in force at the 11th of December 2020 and the number of notices given since commencement of relevant legislation

	Total	Difference Since September
Licensing Act 2003 Premises Licences	714	2%
Licensing Act 2003 Club Premises Certificates	49	8%
Licensing Act 2003 Personal Licences	2051	0%
Gambling Act 2005 Club Machine Permit	18	0%
Gambling Act 2005 Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permits	15	0%
Gambling Act 2005 Premises Licences	26	8%
Gambling Act 2005 Prize Gaming Permits	1	0%
Gambling Act 2005 Society Lotteries	155	-2%
Gambling Act 2005 Unlicensed Family Entertainment Centres	12	8%
Hackney Carriages	192	-10%
Private Hire Vehicles	43	-7%
Hackney Carriage & Private Hire Drivers	283	-6%
Private Hire Operators	36	3%
Street Trading Consents	27	-30%
Section 115E (Pavement Café) Permits	5	-40%
Pavement licences	10	100%
Animal Boarding Licence	40	10%
Dog Breeding Licence	12	0%
Dangerous Wild Animal Licences	0	0%
Pet Shop Licences	5	0%
Hiring of Horses Licences	14	0%
Zoo Licences	2	0%
Keeping or Training of Animals for Exhibition Licences	3	33%
Caravan Site Licences	88	0%
Scrap Metal Dealer licence	10	-30%
Sex Establishment Licences	1	0%
Skin Piercing Registrations	349	1%

