

# REPORT FOR DECISION

<b>DECISION OF:</b>	<b>LICENSING &amp; SAFETY PANEL</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> July 2020</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>OPERATIONAL REPORT</b>
<b>REPORT FROM:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (OPERATIONS)</b>
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>M BRIDGE</b>
<b>TYPE OF DECISION:</b>	N/A – Report for information only
<b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:</b>	This paper is in the public domain
<b>SUMMARY:</b>	A report to advise members on operational issues within the licensing service.
<b>IMPLICATIONS:</b>	
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	N/A
<b>Scrutiny Interest:</b>	Internal Scrutiny Panel

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 The report advises Members on operational issues within the licensing service.

## 2.0 Licensing Hearings Panel

2.1 The Licensing Service received an application for the grant of a premises licence in respect of The Hub Bar, Haslam Street, Bury. Representations were received from Greater Manchester Police and An interested party in respect of this application. This matter was scheduled to take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020, However the Licensing Unit Manager explained via telephone conference call, that since the application had been received there had been the outbreak of the Covid-19. As a result of this and the restrictions and requirements for social distancing, it was felt that the hearing of the application together with representations from GMP and the Ward Councillor could not be dealt with fully in the public interest. It was noted that GMP had indicated that an application would be made to hear some of its representations in private.

- 2.2 Due to these circumstances, in order to deal with the application in the appropriate manner it was proposed that the time period set out in the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005 within which the hearing of the application must be commenced, be extended in the public interest, in order to ensure a full and fair hearing, for three months until 1 July, pursuant to regulation 11 of those Regulations.
- 2.3 It was agreed unanimously, pursuant to regulation 11 of the Licensing Act 2003 (Hearings) Regulations 2005, to extend the time period set out in the Regulations within which the hearing of the application must be commenced, for three months until 1 July, in order to deal with the application in the appropriate manner and in order to ensure a full and fair hearing, in the public interest.
- 2.4 The rescheduled meeting took place on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 and Members resolved It was agreed unanimously, to grant the application subject to the conditions as per the report and the additional modified conditions agreed between the applicant and PC Scott on behalf of GMP.

### **3.0 Statistics of the Licensing Service**

- 3.1 The Licensing Service during the financial year 19/20 have dealt with the following:-

Type of Work	Number
Number of Licences/Registrations/Consents/Permits processed	4501
Number of applicants/Licence holders considered by the Licensing and Safety Panel Of which were new applicants - Suspension / Revocation / Admonishment - 8 Granted - 6 Refused - 3 Withdrawn - 3	20
Number of applications considered by Licensing Hearing Panels Of these:- Personal Licence - 1 New application - 1 Variation application -1 Review application - 1	4

Complaints regarding Taxi Trade	129
Complaints regarding Licensed premises	59
Freedom of Information Requests	46
Compliance checks/Enforcement/complaints undertaken by the Licensing Service:-  Licensed premises - 638  Taxi Trade - 776  Clients - 219  Operator - 12  Vehicles - 545	2190
Number of Enhanced Disclosure Checks	419
Number of Knowledge Tests undertaken includes Hackney Carriage conditions test/Private hire conditions test	122
Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities involving Animals)(England) Regulations 2018 - Inspections	45
Gambling  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Betting Shop (Transfer) -7</li> <li>• Club Machine Permit (New) - 2</li> <li>• Notification of Intent to have Gaming Machines - 13</li> <li>• Small Society Lotteries (New) - 8</li> </ul>	30
General Licensing  Electrolysis – New Application -1  Hairdressers – New Application -5  House to House Collections Applications – 32  Street Collection permit Applications -110  Marriage Venue Licences – New Applications – 4  Scrap Metal Licence (Mobile) -1  Scrap Metal Dealer (Site Licence) New Application – 2, Renewal 10  Second Hand Dealer – New application – 18	216

Street Trading Consents – New – 17 Renewal -16	
<p>Policy matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safeguarding Training – Currently 61 drivers that have not completed the training.</li> <li>• Window Tint Policy</li> <li>• Testing Manual</li> <li>• Vehicle Signage</li> </ul>	

#### **4.0 Common Minimum Licensing Standards/Clean Air**

4.1 The Licensing Unit Manager has been attending further meetings in relation to the above with all the other Greater Manchester Authorities.

4.2 A meeting hosted by the Combined Authority for Executive Members/Councillors took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 to brief members of the current situation relating the common minimum licensing standards and Clean Air.

4.3 It is hoped that the consultation will take place in the Autumn.

#### **5.0 COVID 19**

5.1 Following a meeting of the Emergency Powers Group on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 2030, the licensing service have been given permission to amend Council policy to assist licence holders in respect of the following matters:

- To postpone the Knowledge test until further notice.
- To grant a Hackney Carriage/Private hire Drivers Badges for a 12 month period rather than up to 3 years under the legislation.
- To permit a self-certification declarations in respect of medicals
- To postpone the receipt of new applications for Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Drivers badges
- To extend all current Hackney Carriage and Private Hire vehicle licences by 3 months beyond their current expiry date which are due for renewal between the dates 1/6/2020 and 31/3/2021 and to move forward by 3 months all 6 monthly scheduled interim vehicle tests scheduled between 1/7/20 to 30/9/20
- To permit Minor Variations or Temporary event notices to be submitted under the Licensing Act 2003 for On Sales of Alcohol and outside areas. The fees in respect of these applications will be waived (Only for those applications that relate to the on-sales and outside areas to assist businesses in light of COVID19).

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