

The background of the slide features a large, faint, light blue outline of the City of Vancouver coat of arms. The crest includes a crown with four maple leaves, a shield divided into four quadrants (top-left: saltire, top-right: cross with antlers, bottom-left: sailing ship, bottom-right: eagle), and a banner at the bottom with the motto 'A NE FOR A'.

## **Agenda Item**

**5**

**Civic Licensing Enforcement -  
January 2017**

**Falkirk Council**

**Subject: Civic Licensing Enforcement – January 2017**  
**Meeting: Civic Licensing Committee**  
**Date: 8 March 2017**  
**Author: Chief Governance Officer**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Licensing Enforcement Officer undertook various aspects of enforcement in January 2017. Details of these are outlined in the following sections of the report.

**2. Taxi/Private Hire Checks**

- 2.1 The Licensing Enforcement Officer routinely carries out spot checks of taxis and private hire car vehicles to ensure compliance with licence conditions.

- 2.2 The checks take place at various taxi ranks and other places within the district. The checks consist of a range of items including the following:-

- Id badge/ Taxi-Private Hire Licence
- DVLA driving licence
- Plates displayed
- Tariff Sheet
- Fire Extinguisher
- First Aid Kit
- Taximeter seal
- No commercial adverts displayed on the vehicle
- No smoking signs displayed
- Taxi roof sign
- Condition of vehicle

- 2.3 In January 2017, 28 taxis and 1 private hire car were inspected by the Licensing Enforcement Officer. The majority of these checks were found to be in order with the exception of the following matters:-

Taxi Operator 054 – was found not to be carrying a fire extinguisher.  
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 8.

Taxi Operator 157 – the taximeter time was 15 minutes slow.  
This is a breach of private hire car licence condition number 32.

Taxi Operator 413 – the taximeter time was 7 minutes slow.  
This is a breach of taxi driver licence condition number 32.

Taxi Driver 1964 – was found not be carrying their taxi driver licence. This is a breach of taxi driver licence condition number 2.

The operators and driver (who are first time offenders) have attended at the licensing office regarding these issues. They are now fully compliant.

### **3. Civic Licensing Enforcement Checks**

3.1 During January 2017, the Licensing Enforcement Officer undertook 24 civic licensing compliance checks and enquiries.

3.2 The compliance checks/enquiries involved the following civic activities:-

- Second Hand Dealers – six routine checks of licensed premises were carried out to ensure that the licence holder details were correct, that the licence was being properly displayed and that the register of sales was being kept up to date. All was found to be in order. One enquiry was carried out and an application form issued.
- Street Trader – one routine check was carried out to ensure that the licence holder details were correct. All was found to be in order.
- House of Multiple Occupation – one enquiry was made regarding a property in Tummel Place, Grangemouth. It was established that it was operating as an unlicensed HMO. The owner traced and interviewed and an application has since been submitted for a licence.
- Skin Piercing – three routine checks of licensed premises were carried out to ensure that the licence holder details were correct and that the licence and notices were being properly displayed. All was found to be in order.
- Late Hours Catering – five routine checks of licensed premises were carried out to ensure that the licence holder details were correct and that the licence was being properly displayed. All was found to be in order.
- Window Cleaner – three routine checks were carried out to ensure that the licence holder details were correct. All was found to be in order. One unlicensed window cleaner was traced and an application form issued.
- Booking Office – three routine checks were carried out to ensure that the licence holder details were correct, that the licence was being properly displayed and that the booking register was being kept up to date. All was found to be in order

3.3 These checks consist of a range of items including the following:-

- Licence type
- Licence holder details
- Day to day manager details (if applicable)
- Id badge/ Licence
- Register check (if applicable)
- Occupants details

3.4 In addition to the above, the Licensing Enforcement Officer carried out 2 site notice checks. Two taxi driver knowledge tests involving seven candidates were also carried out

#### **4. Civic Licensing Complaints**

4.1 A complaint was received from a female motorist who reported that when driving in Borrowstoun Crescent, Bo'ness, she had been confronted by a private hire car driver, who despite parked vehicles being on his side of the road, had refused to pull in to let her pass. He had then made her reverse to allow him to pass and on passing her he had made a rude hand gesture towards her. The private hire car driver was subsequently traced and interviewed regarding the matter and accepted that his actions were not appropriate. He wished to pass on his apologies to the complainer.

4.2 The complainer was advised of the outcome and was satisfied with the course of action taken.

#### **5. Recommendation**

5.1 It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report.

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**Chief Governance Officer**

**Date: 28 February 2017**

**Contact Officer: Bryan Douglas, Licensing Co-ordinator (telephone 501262)**

#### **List of background papers**

None