

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: CIVIC LICENSING ENFORCEMENT – JUNE 2013
Meeting: CIVIC LICENSING COMMITTEE
Date: 7 August 2013
Author: CHIEF GOVERNANCE OFFICER

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Members will recollect that at the February meeting of the Civic Licensing Committee, the activity of enforcement within Civic Licensing was introduced for information.
- 1.2 It was agreed that future reports detailing enforcement action undertaken recently would be brought before Members for information.
- 1.3 Various aspects of enforcement undertaken by the Licensing Enforcement Officer in June 2013 are outlined in the following sections of the report.

2. TAXI/ PRIVATE HIRE CAR 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/ 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 June 2013, 38 taxis and 3 private hire cars were inspected by the Licensing Enforcement Officer. All of these checks were in order with the exception of the following matters:-

Taxi Operator 076 – Rear plate positioned in the rear window.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 5.

Taxi Operator 078 – Wheelchair ramps were missing from the vehicle.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 1.

Taxi Operator 083 – Taximeter was found to be running slow.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 26.

Taxi Operator 124 – Taximeter seal was missing.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 25.

Taxi Operator 136 – Taximeter was found to be running slow.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 26.

Taxi Operator 151 – Taximeter seal was broken.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 25.

Taxi Operator 164 – Taximeter was obscured by a sun visor.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 24.

Taxi Operator 296 – Taximeter was found to be running slow.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 26.

Taxi Operator 486 – Taximeter was found to be running slow.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 26.

Private Hire Operator 012 – Taximeter was found to be running slow.
This is a breach of taxi licence condition number 26.

Taxi Driver 611 – The driver was not carrying a taxi driver licence or identification badge. This is a breach of taxi driver licence condition number 8.

- 2.4 All driver/ operators with outstanding issues were written to and requested to attend the licensing offices and provide evidence that the matters detailed in paragraph 2.3 had been attended to. All have now fully complied.

3. CIVIC LICENSING ENFORCEMENT CHECKS

- 3.1 During June 2013, the Licensing Enforcement Officer undertook 37 civic licensing compliance checks/enquiries.

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

- Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO's) – four enquiries carried out.
- Street Trader – eleven checks carried out.
- Second Hand Dealers – ten checks carried out.
- Late Hours Catering – eight checks carried out.

- Market Operator – two checks carried out.
- Window Cleaner – one check carried out.
- Knife Dealer – one enquiry carried out.

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)
- Vehicle details (if applicable)
- Occupants details

3.5 All of these checks were in order with the exception of the following matters:-

- An unlicensed window cleaner was traced in Manor Street, Falkirk. He was advised to cease working until a window cleaner licence has been granted. A letter and application form was subsequently posted out.

3.6 In addition to the above, the Licensing Enforcement Officer carried out 6 taxi knowledge tests involving 9 candidates. 16 site notice checks were also carried out.

4. CIVIC LICENSING COMPLAINTS

No complaints were received during June 2013.

5. RECOMMENDATION

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

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Chief Governance Officer

Date: 29 July 2013

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

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

None