

Licensing and Appeals Committee



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4 July 2019

A meeting of the **Licensing and Appeals Committee** of North Norfolk District Council will be held in the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer, NR27 9EN on **Monday, 15 July 2019 at 10.00 am.**

At the discretion of the Chairman, a short break will be taken after the meeting has been running for approximately one and a half hours

Members of the public who wish to ask a question or speak on an agenda item are requested to arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. It will not always be possible to accommodate requests after that time. This is to allow time for the Committee Chair to rearrange the order of items on the agenda for the convenience of members of the public. Further information on the procedure for public speaking can be obtained from Democratic Services, Tel: 01263 516019, Email: linda.yarham@north-norfolk.gov.uk

Anyone attending this meeting may take photographs, film or audio-record the proceedings and report on the meeting. Anyone wishing to do so must inform the Chairman. If you are a member of the public and you wish to speak on an item on the agenda, please be aware that you may be filmed or photographed.

Emma Denny
Democratic Services Manager

To: Dr P Butikofer, Mr H Blathwayt, Mr T Adams, Mr D Baker, Mr D Birch, Mr P Fisher, Mr T FitzPatrick, Mrs P Grove-Jones, Mr N Housden, Mr N Lloyd, Mrs M Millership, Mrs G Perry-Warnes, Mr J Rest, Mrs E Spagnola and Mr A Yiasimi

All other Members of the Council for information.

Members of the Management Team, appropriate Officers, Press and Public



If you have any special requirements in order to attend this meeting, please let us know in advance

If you would like any document in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact us

Heads of Paid Service: Nick Baker and Steve Blatch
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A G E N D A

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

3. MINUTES

(Pages 1 - 14)

To approve as a correct record, the minutes of the meeting of the Licensing and Appeals Committee held on 10 June 2019 and of meetings of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 5 June 2019.

4. ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

To determine any other items of business which the Chairman decides should be considered as a matter of urgency pursuant to Section 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked at this stage to declare any interests that they may have in any of the following items on the agenda. The Code of Conduct for Members requires that declarations include the nature of the interest and whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest.

6. PUBLIC PROTECTION - LICENSING UPDATE

(Pages 15 - 26)

Summary: The report highlights current licensing matters and presents information to the Committee regarding licences issued and workloads of the Public Protection Team for the first half of 2019 (calendar year).

Conclusions: N.A

Recommendations: This report is for information.

Cabinet Member(s) Councillor N Lloyd – Portfolio Holder Councillor Dr P Bütikofer - Chair of the Licensing Committee	Ward(s) affected - All
Contact Officer, telephone number and email: Gemma Faircloth 01263 516139 gemma.faircloth@north-norfolk.gov.uk	

7. UPDATE ON TASK & FINISH GROUPS

To give an oral update on task and finish groups.

8. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

To pass the following resolution, if necessary:

“That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph _ of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to the Act.”

9. TO CONSIDER ANY EXEMPT MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PUBLIC BUSINESS OF THE AGENDA

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LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing and Appeals Committee held on Monday, 10 June 2019 at the Council Chamber - Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer, NR27 9EN at 10.00 am

Committee

Members Present:

Dr P Butikofer (Chairman)	Mr H Blathwayt (Vice-Chairman)
Mr T Adams	Mr P Fisher
Mrs P Grove-Jones	Mr N Housden
Mrs M Millership	Mrs G Perry-Warnes

Members also attending:

Mr J Toye

Officers in Attendance:

Public Protection Manager and Democratic Services & Governance Officer (Regulatory)

Apologies for Absence:

Mr D Baker
Mr N Lloyd
Mr J Rest
Mrs E Spagnola

1 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

None.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Licensing and Appeals Committee held on 11 March 2019 and Licensing Sub-Committee held on 3 April 2019 were approved as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

The Public Protection Manager updated the Committee on the following issues arising from discussions at the previous meeting:

Minute 37 – Licensing Update – the Public Protection Manager confirmed that the DBS guidance required applicants who had lived outside the UK to apply to their country or embassy in the UK for a certificate of good character, and set out the process for each country as there were slight differences in procedure.

3 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

5 UPDATE ON GENERAL LICENSING ISSUES

The Public Protection Manager outlined the responsibilities of Public Protection and the structure of the team. She gave a brief overview of some of the licences which were administered by the Licensing Authority. A more comprehensive report on the make up of licences issued and the work of the team would be provided for the next meeting.

Councillor Mrs P Grove-Jones asked if shops which sold e-cigarettes needed to be licenced.

The Public Protection Manager stated that licensing of e-cigarette outlets was not the responsibility of the Licensing Authority although it may fall within the remit of another agency.

Animal Licensing

The Public Protection Manager stated that there had been changes in the legislation relating to Animal Licensing in October 2018 and the Committee had discussed this matter at previous meetings. (Main report [10 September 2018](#)). Inspections had been carried out in accordance with the new legislation. There had been some delay in issuing licences due to problems with a new database system, but these were now being issued and those affected had been kept informed.

In addition, "Lucy's Law" would come into effect from April 2020 banning the sale of puppies and kittens by third-party sellers, e.g. pet shops. In future, puppies and kittens could only be sold by the breeder with the animals' mother present. However, there were no pet shops which sold puppies and kittens in the North Norfolk District.

Gambling Licensing

The Public Protection Manager explained that the Gambling Commission was responsible for the wider aspects of gambling but the Licensing Authority issued a range of licences for premises such as pubs with gaming machines, family entertainment centres, adult entertainment centres. Further details would be provided at the next meeting.

Taxi Testing Stations

The Public Protection Manager stated that the current contract for taxi testing stations would end on 27 June 2019. Four applications had been received as a result of the tendering process for the new three-year contract, all of which were successful, and the Council was currently awaiting the return of signed contracts. If confirmed, there would be taxi testing stations in Stalham, Cromer, Sheringham and Trunch. No applications had been received from the west of the District. However, the four stations would allow more choice and flexibility than the present three testing stations.

Councillor N Housden asked if taxis could be tested outside the District.

The Public Protection Manager explained that vehicles could only be tested at an approved test station within the District as each Licensing Authority had its own standards which vehicles had to meet.

6 UPDATE ON TASK & FINISH GROUPS

Taxi Handbook and Policy

The Public Protection Manager explained the purpose of the task and finish group. A significant review of the Taxi Handbook and Policy had been carried out but it had not been published pending further guidance on CCTV in vehicles. As a result of the Rotherham child exploitation case which involved taxi, some authorities had implemented the use of CCTV in taxis but there had been a number of court challenges and recent guidance had been issued which provided clarity about CCTV policies with regard to the information which could be held.

The Public Protection Manager sought 3 to 5 volunteers to sit on the Task and Finish Group. She would update the draft Policy and Handbook and circulate it to the Group for their input prior to consultation with the North Norfolk Taxi and Private Hire Forum.

Licensing Policy

The Public Protection Manager sought three volunteers to sit on the Licensing Policy Task and Finish Group. The revised Licensing Policy was due for implementation in 2021 but as it would be subject to wide consultation it was advisable to commence the review as soon as possible.

Membership of Task and Finish Groups:

Taxi Handbook and Policy: Dr P Bütikofer, Mr P Fisher, Mr N Housden and Mrs G Perry-Warnes

Licensing Policy: Mr H Blathwayt, Dr P Bütikofer and Mrs P Grove-Jones

The meeting ended at 10.31 am.

Chairman

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LICENSING AND APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 5 June 2019 in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer at 10.00 am.

Sub-Committee: Mr T Adams (Chairman)
Mr N Housden
Mrs E Spagnola

Officers in Attendance: Public Protection Manager, Licensing Enforcement Officer, Legal Advisors (2) and Democratic Services & Governance Officer

Also present: Mr P Bütikofer (observing)

1 APOLOGIES

None

2 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

To appoint Cllr T Adams as Chairman of the meeting.

3 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Mr T Adams and Mrs E Spagnola declared that they knew the applicant under Minute 7 but did not have a pecuniary interest.

Cllr Adams also declared that he had been a frequent customer of one of the firms mentioned in the reports.

5 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to the Act.

6 (WK/190002901) – Review of a Licence to Drive Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicles in North Norfolk

Present: Licence Holder

The Chairman introduced the Panel Members and Officers.

The Legal Advisor outlined the purpose of the hearing and explained the procedure for the meeting.

The Public Protection Manager presented the report, which related to a review of a taxi driver's licence where a DVLA check had revealed endorsements which merited further consideration.

The Chairman invited questions to the Public Protection Manager.

In answer to a question by Councillor N Housden, the Public Protection Manager confirmed that the Licence Holder had been able to carry out his normal business since the return of his licence.

The Chairman invited the Licence Holder to put his case.

The Licence Holder referred to his driving and employment history. He considered that he had been dealt with very harshly by the Court when he had been banned but had received a fair hearing at appeal when his licence was returned to him. He referred to his speeding offences and explained that some of the points were due to be removed in the next few months. He enjoyed his work very much and considered that he did a good job. He wished to continue to work.

The Chairman invited questions to the Licence Holder.

The Licence Holder answered questions regarding his speeding offences. He confirmed that no customers had been in his car at the time of the offences and that all had been a relatively small amount over 30 mph. He considered that he had been careless rather than reckless. His last offence had been well over a year ago and he had kept to the speed limit.

The Chairman invited closing statements.

The Public Protection Manager stated that the information in the report gave details of the speeding offences and that the Licence Holder had also given information on them. She drew attention to the options for determination of this case.

The Licence Holder stated that his employer had provided references for his Court appearances. He considered that he did a very good job and his customers thought he gave them a very good service. He had a lot of regular work from local people and visitors. He dearly wished to continue and did not want to have to seek alternative employment.

The Sub-Committee retired at 9.50 am and returned at 10.22 am.

The Chairman read the determination.

RESOLVED

That no further action be taken.

7 (WK/190005242) – Review of a Licence to Drive Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicles in North Norfolk

Present: Licence Holder

The Chairman introduced the Panel Members and Officers.

The Legal Advisor outlined the purpose of the hearing and explained the procedure for the meeting.

The Public Protection Manager presented the report, which related to a review of a taxi driver's licence where a DVLA check had revealed endorsements which merited further consideration.

The Chairman invited questions to the Public Protection Manager.

In response to questions by Councillor N Housden, the Public Protection Manager clarified the situation with regard to the Licence Holder's DVLA and NNDC penalty points.

The Chairman invited the Licence Holder to put his case.

The Licence Holder explained that it was an oversight on his part not to declare his DVLA points. He had read the Handbook some years ago and it had slipped his mind. He had made a mistake and could not defend himself.

The Chairman invited questions to the Licence Holder.

The Licence Holder answered Members' questions regarding his most recent driving offence, driving record, matters relating to his application form and awareness of the Handbook. He confirmed that he had not been carrying passengers at the time of the offence. He undertook to refresh himself on the requirements of the Handbook and report any future incidents straight away in future.

The Chairman invited closing statements.

The Public Protection Manager referred the Sub-Committee to the options for determination of this case.

The Licence Holder stated that taxi driving was his only source of income and suspension or revocation of his licence would cause hardship to his family.

The Sub-Committee retired at 10.44 am and returned at 11.46 am.

The Chairman read the determination.

RESOLVED

That the following condition be added to the Licence:

In the event that the Licence Holder receives any additional NNDC points on his licence within a 12 month period following this decision, the Licence Holder will automatically have to appear in front of the Licensing Sub-Committee.

8 (WK/190006487) – Application for a Licence to Drive Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicles in North Norfolk

Present: Applicant

The Chairman introduced the Panel Members and Officers.

The Legal Advisor outlined the purpose of the hearing and explained the procedure for the meeting.

The Public Protection Manager presented the report, which related to an application for a taxi driver's licence where a Disclosure and Barring Service Report (DBS) had been received which merited further consideration.

The Chairman invited questions to the Public Protection Manager.

In response to a question from Councillor N Housden, the Public Protection Manager confirmed that she was satisfied that the paperwork submitted by the Applicant was complete.

The Chairman invited the Applicant to put his case.

The Applicant gave details of the offences on his DBS summary which had occurred many years ago when he was young. He said that they had not been instigated by him but he had pleaded guilty on legal advice. He explained how his circumstances had changed since then.

The Chairman invited questions to the Applicant.

The Applicant answered questions relating to his medical report.

The Chairman invited closing statements.

The Public Protection Manager referred the Sub-Committee to the options for determination of this case.

The Applicant stated that he was applying for a taxi licence as he was unable to continue with his previous career following an accident at work and had now been offered a job as a taxi driver.

The Sub-Committee retired at 12.04 pm and returned at 12.25 pm.

The Chairman read the determination.

RESOLVED

That a licence be granted.

9 (WK/190005335) – Application for a Licence to Drive Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Vehicles in North Norfolk

Present: Applicant
Applicant's prospective Employer

The Chairman introduced the Panel Members and Officers.

The Legal Advisor outlined the purpose of the hearing and explained the procedure for the meeting.

The Public Protection Manager presented the report, which related to an application for a taxi driver's licence where a Disclosure and Barring Service Report (DBS) had been received which merited further consideration.

There were no questions to the Public Protection Manager.

The Chairman invited the Applicant to put his case.

The Applicant explained the circumstances of his convictions and the medical issues which led to them. He had since pursued alternative therapies for his medical issues which had been successful.

The Chairman invited questions to the Applicant.

The Applicant answered questions regarding his medical issues and the circumstances of a car accident referred to in his application. He confirmed that any pain was managed through physiotherapy, his movement was not restricted and his reactions were good. He explained that the car accident had been caused by mechanical failure and no-one else had been involved. He confirmed he had no driving convictions.

The Chairman invited closing statements.

The Public Protection Manager stated that the Applicant had provided a large amount of detail in his application and referred the Sub-Committee to the options for determination of this case.

The Sub-Committee retired at 12.40 pm and returned at 1.11 pm.

The Chairman read the determination.

RESOLVED

That a licence be granted subject to the following conditions:

- 1. The Applicant is required to provide a medical report from his GP annually from the date of the licence; and**
- 2. The Applicant must immediately notify the Council of any change to his current medical condition pertinent to his NNDC taxi licence and historic medical condition.**

The meeting closed at 1.15 pm

Chairman

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LICENSING AND APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the Licensing Sub-Committee held on 5 June 2019 in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer at 1.45 pm.

Sub-Committee: Mrs P Grove-Jones (Chairman)
Mr H Blathwayt
Mr N Housden

Officers in Attendance: Public Protection Manager, Licensing Enforcement Officer, Legal Advisor and Democratic Services & Governance Officer, Legal Assistant (observing)

Also present: Mr P Bütikofer (observing)

1 APOLOGIES

None

2 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

To appoint Councillor Mrs P Grove-Jones as Chairman of the meeting.

3 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor N Housden declared that one of the cases related to his Ward.

5 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

That under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 1 of Part I of Schedule 12A (as amended) to the Act.

6 (WK/190007885) - COMPLAINT RECEIVED REGARDING PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR AND DRIVER IN NORTH NORFOLK

Present: Licence Holder

The Panel Members and Officers introduced themselves.

The Legal Advisor outlined the purpose of the hearing and explained the procedure for the meeting.

The Public Protection Manager presented the report, which related to a complaint which had been received concerning an NNDC licenced driver which merited further consideration as to whether or not he remained a fit and

proper person to hold licences (drivers and operators) in North Norfolk. She stated that the Licence Holder had been requested to outline his booking procedure. She outlined the main points and options for determination.

There were no questions relating to the report.

The Chairman invited the Licence Holder to put his case. He explained that his vehicle had a punctured tyre but he had contacted the person who had made the booking in question and completed the booking as soon as he was able to.

A copy of an email which had been received from the complainant was circulated to the Panel and the Licence Holder.

The Sub-Committee questioned the Licence Holder as to his view of the nature of the complaint and whether or not he had contingency plans in place.

The Licence Holder considered that the complaint was malicious and said there had been previous issues with someone trying to get back at him. He said that he always made sure he was never late for appointments and always turned up, and that he loved his job. He had other companies he could ring but did not call them quickly enough when he had the puncture.

The Chairman invited closing statements.

The Public Protection Manager referred the Sub-Committee to matters contained in the report.

The Licence Holder reiterated that he made sure he was on time and was helpful to his customers.

The Sub-Committee retired at 2.10 pm and returned at 2.40 pm.

The Chairman read the determination. She advised the Licence Holder to keep a driver's log.

RESOLVED

That no further action be taken.

7 (WK/190001738) - APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE TO DRIVE HACKNEY CARRIAGE OR PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES IN NORTH NORFOLK

Present: Applicant

The Panel Members and Officers introduced themselves.

The Legal Advisor outlined the purpose of the hearing and explained the procedure for the meeting.

The Public Protection Manager presented the report, which related to an application to drive hackney carriage or private hire vehicles where a Disclosure and Barring Service report merited further consideration. She outlined the options for determination.

The Chairman invited questions to the Public Protection Manager.

The Applicant said that an allegation referred to by the Public Protection Manager was false and had been dropped by the Police. No further investigations had been carried out in respect of the issue since then. He considered that his licence had been taken away on the basis of those allegations.

The Public Protection Manager explained that the application had come before the Sub-Committee as there were issues which needed discussion and it was stated in the report that no further action had been taken in relation to the allegation referred to by the Applicant. She referred to the 'fit and proper' test in determining applications for licences to drive taxis.

The Applicant reiterated that he was innocent and no action had been taken against him. He stated that allegations were made all the time against taxi drivers.

The Applicant answered Members' questions regarding his previous and prospective employment and the nature of his email correspondence with the Authority.

The Legal Advisor referred to the entries on the Applicant's DBS summary and sought clarification from the Applicant as to the allegation he was referring to.

The Applicant explained the nature of the allegation and stated that he was frustrated that this matter had been brought up again when there had been no court case.

The Chairman invited closing statements.

The Applicant did not wish to make a closing statement.

The Public Protection Manager referred to the information which had been presented to the Sub-Committee and the options available for determination.

The Sub-Committee retired at 3.07 pm and returned at 3.53 pm.

The Chairman read the determination.

RESOLVED

That the applicant is not granted a licence to drive Hackney or Private Hire Vehicles in North Norfolk.

The meeting closed at 3.55 pm

Chairman

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Public Protection - Licensing Update

Summary: The report highlights current licensing matters and presents information to the Committee regarding licences issued and workloads of the Public Protection Team for the first half of 2019 (calendar year)

Conclusions: N.A

Recommendations: This report is for information.

Cabinet Member(s) Councillor N Lloyd – Portfolio Holder Councillor Dr P Bütikofer - Chair of the Licensing Committee	Ward(s) affected - All
Contact Officer, telephone number and email: Gemma Faircloth 01263 516139 gemma.faircloth@north-norfolk.gov.uk	

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This reports updates on work within the Public Protection Team – Licensing function. It aims to update and inform members of relevant licensing matters.
- 1.2 The Licensing updates include;
 - 1.2.1 House of Lords Select Committee publishes a call for evidence in respect of the gambling industry.
- 1.3 Report detailing work of the Public Protection Team for the first half of 2019, this informs the Committee on current licences issued by the team and the total numbers held.
- 1.4 A more detailed overview and relevant documents are included later in the report and appendices.

2. Licensing Updates

2.1 House of Lords Select Committee publishes a call for evidence in respect of the gambling industry

2.1.1 The call for evidence, raises a number of questions:

1. The current state of the industry;
2. Developments in gambling habits;
3. The industry's contribution towards research, education and treatment of problem gamblers;
4. Whether the Gambling Act 2005 needs to be updated to reflect the significant changes in technology;
5. If gambling operators should have a legal duty of care to their customers;
6. Whether children should be allowed to play games machines including fruit machines, pushers and cranes;
7. The effectiveness of the voluntary levy;
8. Whether changes should be made to the statutory regime governing the National Lottery; and
9. How decisions should be made about regulating gambling advertising.

The deadline for submissions is Friday 6 September 2019.

2.1.2 The full report can be seen in **Appendix A** and also by using the following link; <https://www.parliament.uk/documents/lords-committees/Gambling-committee/Gambling-Call-for-evidence.pdf>

3. Report on work completed for first half of 2019.

3.1 To present information to the Committee regarding licences issued and workloads of the Public Protection Team for the first half of 2019 period (calendar year)

3.2 In order to enable effective monitoring of workload and issue of licences, a database has been set up and the following information is taken from the database. Recording of work prior to 2014 was more sporadic. In March 2018 the database update was started, this may affect the records as there have been significant issues with the implementation of the upgrade.

3.3 The table below shows total current licences (plus DBS applications processed); There has been a change in total numbers since the previous report and the figures in brackets indicate either the increase or decrease in licences held.

Licence Type	Licence Description	Current Total
LABO	Animal Boarding	7 (-1)
LAGC	Adult Gaming Centre	8
LATE	Cosmetic Skin Piercing Practitioners	103 (+4)
LBNT	Betting Premises Non Track	6
LBRG	Dog Breeding	4 (+1)

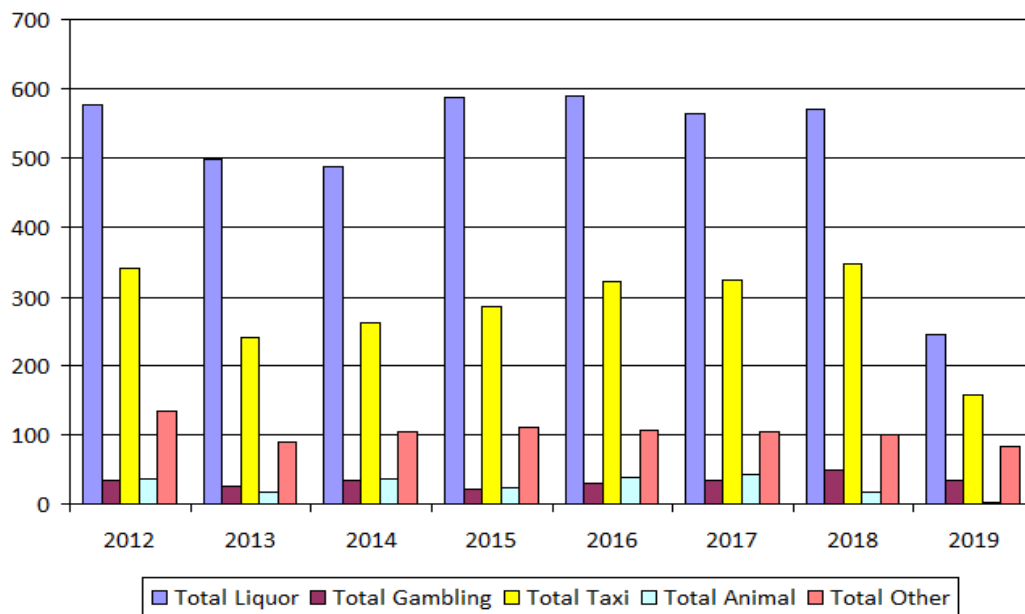
Licence Type	Licence Description	Current Total
LBTR	Betting Premises Track	1
LCAM	Camping Site	3
LCLB	Club Premises	37 (-1)
LCRB	Disclosure Barring Service (DSB)	108 (-31)
LCVN	Caravan Site	190 (75 on database)
LCEX	Caravan Site [exempt]	6
LDD3	Taxi Driver - 3 Years	273 (+6)
LDWA	Dangerous Wild Animals	0 (-1)
LFCEP	Gaming Permit - FEC	20 (+1)
LFEC	Family Entertainment Centre	2
LGCB	Gambling Club Gaming Permit	4
LGCM	Gambling Club Machine Permit	6
LGPN	Gambling Premises Notification	82 (+2)
LHCO	Hackney Carriage Operator	40 (+1)
LHCV	Hackney Carriage Vehicle	160
LHHC	House to House Collection	42 (+3)
LIND	Personal Licence; Sale of Alcohol	1751 (+21)
LNOI	Notification Of Interest	0
LPHO	Private Hire Operator	44 (+1)
LPHV	Private Hire Vehicle	75 (+6)
LPRM	Alcohol & Entertainment	545 (-4)
LPS	Pet Shop	3 (-2)
LPSK	Premises - Skin Piercing	47 (+2)
LRE	Riding Establishment	5
LSC	Street Collections	194 (+4)
LSLA	Lottery - Small Premises	114 (+5)
LSMC	Scrap Metal Dealer - Collector	13
LSMS	Scrap Metal Dealer - Site	7 (-1)
LZOO	Zoo	2

3.4 DBS applications are processed every three years, the zoo licences have either a 4 or 6-year licence (both are currently 6 years). Skin piercing registrations for practitioners are issued once.

3.5 The number of licences issued each year can be seen in the following graph; taxi licences were introduced as 3 year licences in 2012 which may account for the apparent drop in licences issued per year. The 'other' category includes; piercing, scrap metal, street and house to house collections and caravan sites. A further breakdown has been given in the subsequent three graphs for Liquor, taxi licences and Temporary Event Notices.

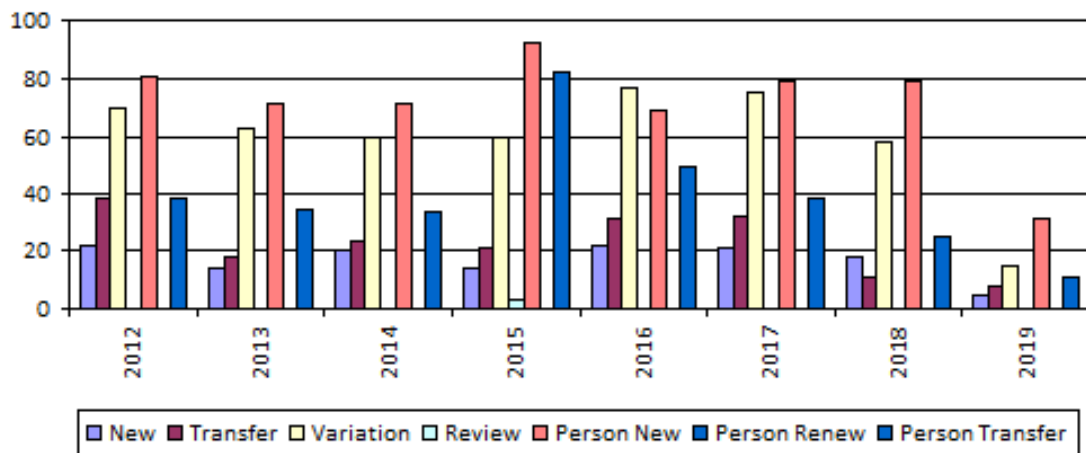
3.6 Please note that Graph 4, Taxi licences does not show accurate figures for 2019, this is due to the change in database and some further reconfiguration of the statistical report is required to enable the live data to be brought across.

Licences Issued (Graph 1)

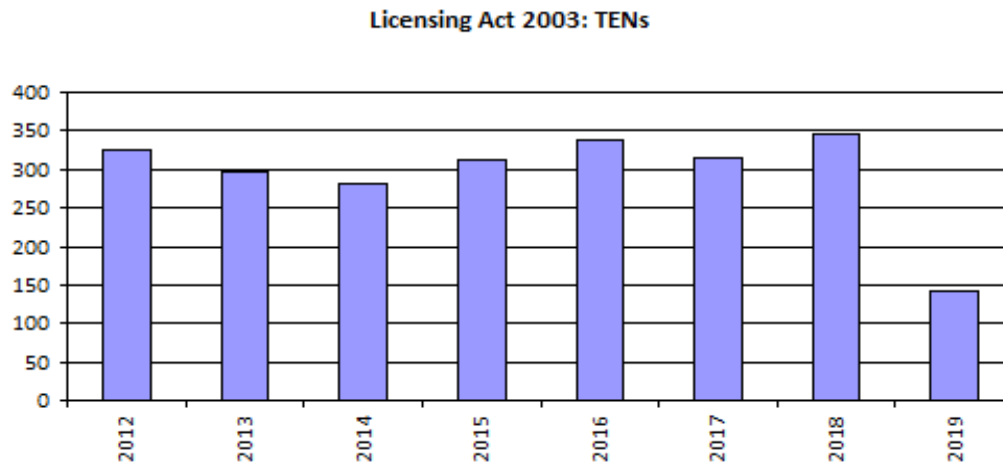


Breakdown of Licences Issued under the Licensing Act 2003 (excluding TENS) (Graph 2)

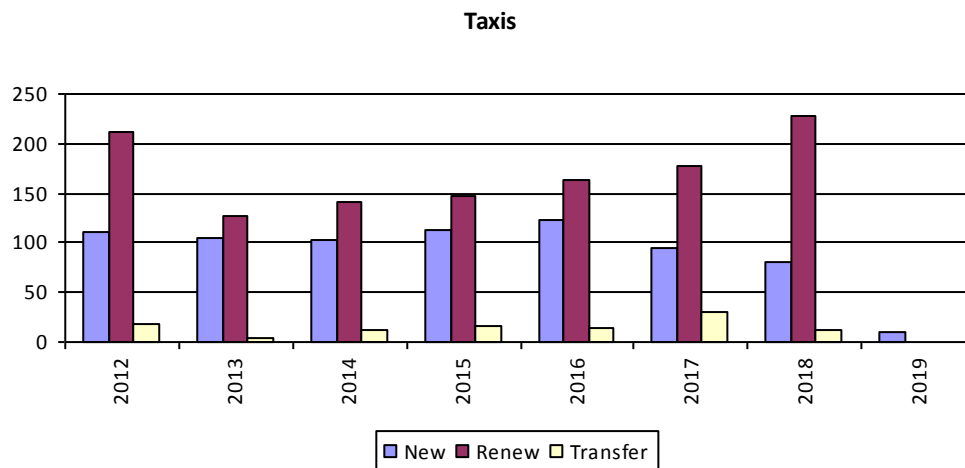
Licensing Act 2003



Breakdown of Temporary Event Notices (TENS) (Graph 3)

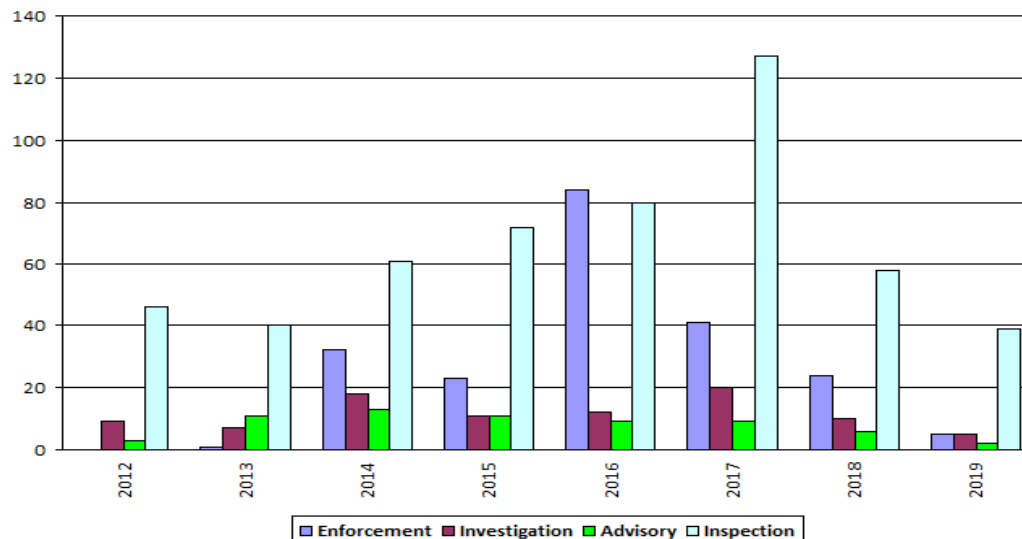


Breakdown of Licences Issued for taxis, including vehicles, drivers, operators (Graph 4)



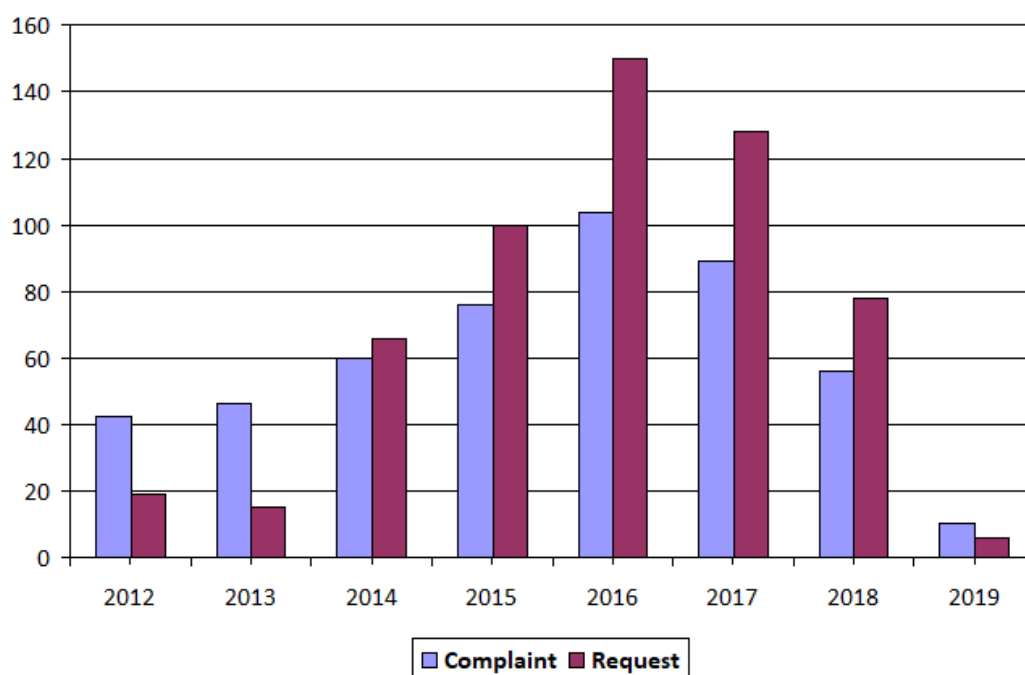
3.7 The following graph shows the number and type of visits per year.

Visits per year (Graph 5)



3.8 The following graph shows totals received per year of complaints /requests which are investigated by the team.

Service Requests/Complaints (Graph 6)



3.9 In addition to the above we also monitor incident records provided by the Police in order to target our enforcement and advisory visits effectively to those licensed premises that have a high number of incidents or that are serious.

3.9.1 Accurate recording of work is vital and the team are reminded regularly to ensure that work is recorded. The information above can be further drilled down to provide information to allow effective day to day management of workloads and to determine where we may experience peaks and troughs to allow for better prioritisation proactive and project/focused work. The change in database may have impacted on the recording of service requests and complaints and this will be reviewed.

4 Implications and Recommendations

N/A

5 Financial Implications and Risks

5.1 Not Applicable to this report.

6 Sustainability

6.1 Not Applicable to this report.

7 Equality and Diversity

7.1 Not Applicable to this report.

8 Section 17 Crime and Disorder considerations

8.1 Not Applicable to this report.



SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE GAMBLING INDUSTRY

Call for Evidence

The Select Committee on the Social and Economic Impact of the Gambling Industry was appointed by the House of Lords on 13 June 2019 to consider this. It has to report by 31 March 2020.

The Committee will be including in its remit the social and economic impact of the Gambling Act 2005 and related legislation.

This is a public call for written evidence to be submitted to the Committee.

The Committee is happy to receive submissions on any issues related to the subject of the inquiry, but would particularly welcome submissions on the questions listed below. You need not address every question.

Diversity comes in many forms, and hearing a range of different perspectives means that Committees are better informed and can more effectively scrutinise public policy and legislation. Committees can undertake their role most effectively when they hear from a wide range of individuals, sectors or groups in society. We encourage anyone with experience of or expertise in an issue we are investigating to share their views with the Committee, with the full knowledge that their views have value and are welcome. If you think someone you know would have views to contribute, please do pass this on to them.

Instructions on how to submit evidence are set out at the end.

If you have any queries please email the staff of the Committee at hlgamblingindustry@parliament.uk or phone 020 7219 4384.

The deadline for submissions is Friday 6 September 2019.

Questions

The Gambling Act 2005

1. Are the three primary aims of the Gambling Act 2005 (to prevent gambling from being a source of crime or disorder, to ensure that gambling is conducted in a fair and open way, and to protect children and other vulnerable persons from being harmed or exploited by gambling) being upheld?
2. What changes, if any, are required to bring the Act up to date with new technology and the latest knowledge about how gambling harm is distributed?
3. Is gambling well regulated, including the licensing regime for both on- and off-shore operations? How successfully do the Gambling Commission, local authorities and others enforce licensing conditions including age verification? What might be learned from comparisons with other regulators and jurisdictions?
4. Should gambling operators have a legal duty of care to their customers?

Social and economic impact

5. What are the social and economic costs of gambling? These might include costs associated with poor health and hospital inpatient services; welfare and employment costs; the cost of benefit claims; lost tax receipts; housing costs through statutory homelessness applications; and criminal justice costs.
6. What are the social and economic benefits of gambling? How can they be measured and assessed?

Levy

7. Is the money raised by the levy adequate to meet the current needs for research, education and treatment? How effective is the voluntary levy? Would a mandatory levy or other alternative arrangement be more productive and effective? How should income raised by a levy be spent, and how should the outcome be monitored? What might be learned from international comparisons?

Research

8. How might we improve the quality and timeliness of research in the UK? What changes, if any, should be made to the current arrangements for funding, commissioning and evaluating research in the UK? What might be learned from international comparisons?
9. If, as the Responsible Gambling Strategy Board (RGSB)¹ has suggested, there is limited evidence on which to base sound decisions about gambling by children and young people, what steps should be taken to rectify this situation?

¹ Now called the Advisory Board for Safer Gambling

Education

10. Is enough being done to provide effective public education about gambling? If not, what more should be done?

Treatment

11. Are the services available for the treatment and support of people at risk of being harmed by gambling sufficient and effective? How might they be improved? What steps might be taken to improve the uptake of treatment, particularly among groups who are most likely to experience harm from gambling and least likely to seek help?
12. What steps should be taken better to understand any link between suicide and gambling?

Advertising

13. The RGSB has said that by not taking action to limit the exposure of young people to gambling advertising “we are in danger of inadvertently conducting an uncontrolled social experiment on today’s youth, the outcome of which is uncertain but could be significant.”² Do you agree? How should we make decisions about the regulation of gambling advertising? What might be learned from international comparisons?

Gambling and sport

14. Gambling is becoming an integral part of a growing number of sports, with increasingly close relationships between operators and sports clubs, leagues and broadcasters. What are the risks attached to this?

Gambling by young people and children

15. How are new forms of technology, including social media, affecting children’s experiences of gambling? How are these experiences affecting gambling behaviour now, and how might they affect behaviour in the future?
16. The legal availability of certain forms of commercial gambling to under-18s in Great Britain is unusual by international standards and has been described as an ‘historical accident’.³ Should young people between 16 and 18 be able to purchase National Lottery products, including draw-based games, scratch cards and online instant wins?
17. Should children be allowed to play Category D games machines (which include fruit machines, pushers and cranes)?

² <https://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk/PDF/RGSB-Gambling-and-children-and-young-people-2018.pdf>, p.12.

³ <https://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk/PDF/RGSB-Gambling-and-children-and-young-people-2018.pdf>, p2.

Lotteries

18. The restrictions on society lotteries were relaxed by the Gambling Act 2005, and there is concern that some of them are effectively being taken over by larger commercial lotteries. Is this concern well founded? If so, what should be done?
19. Should changes be made to the statutory regime governing the National Lottery, to bring it into line with the regime governing operators of other lotteries?

How to submit evidence

Written evidence should be submitted online using the written submission form available at <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/gambling-committee/> If you do not have access to a computer you may submit a paper copy to:

Clerk to the Select Committee on the Social and Economic Impact of the Gambling Industry
Committee Office, House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW

The deadline for submission of written evidence is Friday 6 September 2019.

Short, concise submissions are preferred. Submissions longer than 6 pages should include a one-page summary. Paragraphs should be numbered. Submissions should be dated, with a note of the author's name, and of whether the author is acting in an individual or corporate capacity. Submissions with a university or college address should make clear whether they are submitted in an individual capacity or on behalf the university or college. All submissions made through the written submission form will be acknowledged automatically by email.

Submissions become the property of the Committee which will decide whether to accept them as evidence. Evidence may be published by the Committee at any stage. It will normally appear on the Committee's website and will be deposited in the Parliamentary Archives. Once you have received acknowledgement that your submission has been accepted as evidence, you may publicise or publish it yourself, but in doing so you must indicate that it was prepared for the Committee. If you publish your evidence separately, you should be aware that you will be legally responsible for its content.

In certain circumstances the Committee may be prepared to accept submissions but not to publish them, in whole or in part. If you would like to submit evidence on this basis you should first discuss this with the Clerk to the Committee.

You should be careful not to comment on individual cases currently before a court of law, or matters in respect of which court proceedings are imminent. If you anticipate such issues arising, you should discuss with the Clerk to the Committee how this might affect your submission.

Personal contact details supplied to the Committee will be removed from submissions before publication but will be retained by the Committee staff for specific purposes relating to the Committee's work, such as seeking additional information.

Certain individuals and organisations may be invited to appear in person before the Committee to give oral evidence. Oral evidence is usually given in public at Westminster and broadcast in video and online. Persons invited to give oral evidence will be notified separately of the procedure to be followed and the topics likely to be discussed.

Substantive communications to the Committee about the inquiry should be addressed to the Clerk, whether or not they are intended to constitute formal evidence to the Committee.

This is a public call for evidence. Please bring it to the attention of other groups and individuals who may not have received a copy direct.

You can follow the progress of the inquiry at <https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/gambling-committee/>

1 July 2019

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