
REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL – PETITION RELATING TO LICENSING OF STREET TRADERS

To: **Council – 24 April 2014**

By: **Regulatory Services Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Wards: **All**

Summary: **To report back to Council on a petition relating to licensing of street traders**

For Information

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The following petition, containing 475 signatures, was presented to Council on 5 December 2013.

“We the undersigned hereby affirm that we want to see changes made to how Thanet District Council currently allow Street Traders to work around the general public with no background checks in place. Many Street Traders are in close contact with children and vulnerable people.

“Many other councils in the UK license Street Traders and protect society – we see this as a loop hole in the system and we the undersigned demand that street traders in Thanet Kent become licensed and have background checks for previous convictions before being allowed to work so closely with the public.”

- 1.2 The Licensing Board, having the power to license street trading, considered the petition on 18 February 2014.
- 1.3 The officer’s report to the Board, which can be viewed on the Council’s website, www.thanet.gov.uk, included the following points:
- 1.3.1 Designating streets in Thanet as licensed streets would not achieve the petition objective of enabling the Council to carry out criminal record checks on applicants for a street trading licence.
- 1.3.2 Central Government would need to amend or create new legislation to ensure that criminal record checks are undertaken in respect of street traders.
- 1.4 The Licensing Board AGREED that no streets in Thanet be designated licensed streets.

3.0 Corporate Implications

3.1 Financial and VAT

3.1.1 As stated in the report to the Licensing Board.

3.2 Legal

3.2.1 As stated in the report to Licensing Board.

3.3 Corporate

3.3.1 As stated the report to Licensing Board.

3.4 Equity and Equalities

3.4.1 As stated the report to Licensing Board.

4.0 Recommendations

4.1 This report is for Council to note.

5.0 Decision Making Process

5.1 The Licensing Board's decision is being reported to Council for information.

Contact Officer:	Philip Bensted, Regulatory Services Manager, Ext 7630
Reporting to:	Harvey Patterson, Corporate & Regulatory Services Manager, Ext. 7005

Annex List

<i>None</i>	N/A
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Background Papers

Title	Details of where to access copy
Petition	Democratic Services

Corporate Consultation Undertaken

Finance	N/A
Legal	N/A