

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE

17th March 2014

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 2013 – UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Kit Taylor
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes
Relevant Head of Service	Steve Jordan – Head of Worcestershire Regulatory Services
Ward(s) Affected	All
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	N/A
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 On 30th September 2013 the Licensing Committee received a report in relation to the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 (“the Act”) which was coming into force on 1st October 2013.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to RESOLVE;

That the contents of the report be noted.

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 Implementation of the Act has been achieved using existing resources.

Legal Implications

- 3.2 The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 provides the Council with a number of powers and duties in relation to the regulation of scrap metal dealers. Appropriate delegation of these powers and duties by the Council is required to enable the effective implementation of the legislation.

Service / Operational Implications

3.3 Background

On 30th September 2013 the Licensing Committee received a report in relation to the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 which was coming into force between 1st October 2013 and 1st December 2013.

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- 3.4 This report has been prepared in order to give Members of the Licensing Committee an update on the implementation of the Act to date in Bromsgrove District Council's area.
- 3.5 The first part of the Act came into force on 1st October 2013 and applications were made to Bromsgrove District Council from this date onwards for both site and collectors licences.
- 3.6 When all of the provisions of the Act came fully into force on 1st December 2013 Press releases were arranged in order to raise awareness amongst the scrap metal industry and the general public about the new licensing requirements.
- 3.7 All of the applications that have been received have been subject to consultation with West Mercia Police and the Environment Agency.
- 3.8 In total 6 site licences have been issued to scrap metal dealers operating sites in the Bromsgrove District Council area. Additionally 9 licences have been issued to mobile collectors, allowing them to collect scrap metal within the district.
- 3.9 All of these applications were granted by officers under delegated powers and none required referral to a Licensing Sub-Committee. If the suitability of any licence holder is brought into question, they can be brought back before a Licensing Sub-Committee and their licence can be revoked.
- 3.10 Officers from Worcestershire Regulatory Services were involved in an operation with officers from West Mercia Police on Tuesday 17th December 2013. This operation involved visiting those sites in respect of which a site licence had been granted by Bromsgrove District Council. The visits were intended to provide advice on the new law and in particular the record keeping requirements. Officers also took the opportunity to check the records that were being kept at the sites concerned at the time of the visits.
- 3.11 Compliance was generally good, although some improvement was required at one or two sites. Advisory letters were issued to those licence holders whose sites required improvements to their record keeping and the sites are due to be revisited in the near future.
- 3.12 Officers from Worcestershire Regulatory Services have also been working with the Police to investigate a recent allegation of an unlicensed person collecting scrap metal in the Bromsgrove area. Investigations are ongoing.
- 3.13 Additionally officers from Worcestershire Regulatory Services have supported other Police operations throughout the County targeting both mobile scrap metal collectors and scrap metal sites.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.14 There are no specific implications arising from this report.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1 None

5. APPENDICES

None

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013

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