

## **Report from Chair of Licensing Committee**

Licensing Committee has not met this cycle; however, I can provide the following updates:

- The temporary enforcement officers have had an immediate impact working out in the field undertaking inspection, observation, enforcement and advisory work. They have worked with partner organisations and delivered joint initiatives that have focussed on public safety in the night-time economy, including out of hours visits to pubs and clubs and street patrols concerned with pedestrian safety, queueing, door supervision and taxi movements.
- Targeted Interventions via roadside hackney carriage and private hire checks have continued
- 'Out of Town' vehicles have been subject to police checks and reports of defects issued to the licensing authority
- Compliance observations around the town centre have identified potential touting, including out of town vehicles which have been referred to the licensing authority for licence review
- Taxi Task Group agreed to implement the new 'Safer Cabbying' test to replace the knowledge test. This new assessment will cover a broader range of subjects relevant to a professional taxi driver including vehicle safety, highway code, disability and accessibility requirements, safeguarding, personal safety as well as legal and local taxi rules and conditions.
- Incidents of stone throwing at taxis by youths have been the focus of additional police patrols following reports by drivers
- 3 licensing hearings have taken place since the last report, 2 taxi reviews and 1 variation to a licensed premises.