

Name of meeting and date: **LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE 18 March 2011**

Title of report: **Proposed changes to licensing conditions for horse riding establishments licensed under The Riding Establishments Acts 1964 and 1970.**

Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Not Applicable
Is it in the Council's Forward Plan?	Not Applicable
Is it eligible for "call in" by Scrutiny?	Not Applicable
Cabinet member portfolio	Not Applicable

Electoral wards affected and ward councillors consulted: ALL

Public or Private: PUBLIC

1. Purpose of report

To seek members approval to update standard licensing conditions for horse riding establishments in Kirklees.

2. Key points

- The council is responsible for licensing horse riding establishments. Approved veterinary officers are involved in the licensing inspection and provide a written report to the Animal Health Officer with recommendations as to whether a licence should be granted. In the past concerns have been raised by the vets relating to the qualifications of the instructors at some establishments. We are now seeking to incorporate a condition which clarifies the level of training required by those involved in running a riding establishment.
- In addition we propose to amend condition 1 which currently states the maximum number of horses **accommodated** on the establishment at any one time must not exceed that stated on the licence. We feel that this condition is prohibitive to businesses as it does not allow for other horses to be present on the premises for other purposes. Therefore we propose that the licence includes a schedule of horses passed by the vet for **use** in the riding establishment.
- Currently our licensing procedure dictates that we check the amount of public liability insurance is adequate with the council's insurance department. It is proposed that condition 20 should be amended to include

that the amount of public liability insurance must be deemed adequate and agreed by the council's insurance department. This simply reflects our licensing procedure.

3. Implications for the Council

The council has a responsibility not only for the health and welfare of the horses but also that of the general public using these establishments. The additional condition will enable staff to satisfy themselves of the competency of the applicants. The condition aims to safeguard the public whilst being flexible enough for establishments to achieve without being too incumbent on the business.

4. Consultees and their opinions

All owners of horse riding establishments in Kirklees and veterinary surgeons in the area and members of the public attending the Holmfirth Horse Market.

Appendix 1 – Copy of the letter and consultation

Appendix 2 – Copy of the existing licensing conditions

Appendix 3 – Copies of the 5 written responses

Appendix 4 – Copy of the new proposed conditions

5. Officer recommendations and reasons

Members of the Committee are requested to consider and approve the amendments to the conditions as set out in Appendix 4 as outlined in the key points above.

6. Cabinet portfolio holder recommendation

N/A

7. Next steps

Not applicable

8. Contact officer and relevant papers

Kim Walker – Senior Environmental Health Officer – 01484 226454