

Name of meeting:
 Date:

Licensing and Safety Committee
 29th October 2012

Title of report: House to House Collections

Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	NO
Is it in the Council's Forward Plan ?	NO
Is it eligible for "call in" by Scrutiny ?	Yes/ No or "not applicable" If no give reason why not
Date signed off by <u>Director</u> & name	
Is it signed off by the Director of Resources?	Yes/ No financial implications If yes give date
Is it signed off by the Acting Assistant Director - Legal & Governance?	Yes/ No legal implications If yes give date
Cabinet member portfolio	

Electoral [wards](#) affected: ALL
 Ward councillors consulted: N/A

Public or private:

1. Purpose of report

This report aims to inform members of the current situation regarding house to house collections in Kirklees and to seek approval for adoption of the attached draft policy as the new House to House Collections Policy for Kirklees.

2. Key points

A house to house collection is a collection for charity either of money or goods. The number of house to house collections has increased significantly over the past two years. In addition to this there are increasing numbers of bogus collectors and illegal collections. There is a need for a policy to support decisions around house to house collections.

As the number of house to house collections has increased significantly, the number of decisions being made has also increased as officers are minded to refuse many of the applications coming in front of them. This is mainly due to the lack of information

being provided by applicants to assist in making decisions and the proportion of money being given to charity compared to the value of the goods or money collected.

Many of those collecting goods are commercial companies who are using the charity name to increase their collection income.

There are also concerns about the public giving goods and money with the understanding that the majority of this will be given to the charity, when this is not currently the case with many house to house collections.

The legislation concerning the refusal of applications for House to House Collections is very specific and only allows certain matters to be taken into account. This policy aims to give both officers and members more guidance on making decisions about house to house collections.

3. Consultation

The Policy has been subject to a full 12 week consultation with pertinent stake holders.

The only response to the consultation was to object to the requirement of the applicant having to provide a basic CRB disclosure. The reasons given were that a cost is incurred for the certificate which is currently £26.

4. Implications for the Council

Proper licensing of house-to-house collections allows better control of public safety and a direct connection for householders to establish that the proper permissions have been sought and granted by the organisers of such collections.

There are no financial implications through the proposed adoption of the policy.

5. Next steps

For Members of the Licensing and Safety Committee to determine whether to adopt the policy or not.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

Officers recommend that adoption of the policy is approved. .

7. Contact officer and relevant papers

Catherine Waltér – Licensing Manager 01484 456860
Neal Fearn – Head of Service 01484 221552