



REPORT TO:	Licensing Committee
DATE:	Wednesday, 29 June 2022
SUBJECT:	Charitable House to House Collections Policy
PURPOSE:	Consideration of a Draft Charitable House to House Collections Policy
KEY DECISION:	N/A
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	Portfolio Holder for Public Protection
REPORT OF:	Donna Hall - Head of Public Protection
REPORT AUTHOR:	Richard Boole – Public Protection Manager
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All wards
EXEMPT REPORT?	No

SUMMARY

Consideration of a draft Charitable House to House Collections Policy, to formalise local requirements and expectations around the application, issue and enforcement of permits under the House to House Collections Act 1939. The Licensing Committee are being asked to consider the draft Policy and agree that a period of consultation can take place, with a view to formally approving the Policy at a later meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee consider the draft proposed House to House Charitable Collections Policy as shown at Appendix A of this report and agree for consultation to be undertaken.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To ensure that South Holland District Council maintains a consistent approach to the regulation of charitable house to house collections, to protect the rights of legitimate charities to raise

funds directly from people's homes and to protect residents from unscrupulous or overdemanding fundraising.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Do nothing

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The House to House Collections Act 1939 and the House to House Collections Regulations 1947, includes powers for local authorities to regulate charitable house to house collections undertaken in its area. The Regulations require that any charitable collection undertaken house to house requires a permit.

1.1 As it stands, the Council doesn't have a formally adopted policy in respect of Charitable House to House Collections, which could lead to inconsistency in the way these collections within the District are managed.

2. REPORT

2.1 A draft policy is shown at Appendix A. The intention of the policy once adopted, is to provide greater clarity as to the local requirements and expectations around the application, issue and enforcement of permits.

2.2 The adoption of a policy will help to ensure consistency of approach and helps to a) protect the rights of legitimate charities to raise funding through collections at people's homes; and b) protect residents of the District from either unscrupulous fundraising or overdemanding fundraising in one area at any given time.

2.3 An adopted policy also aids enforcement consistency, including decision making by the Licensing Committee / Licensing Panel when required.

2.4 It is proposed that an consultation process take place before this draft policy is formally recommended for adoption. This would take the form of publishing the draft policy on the Council website for a period of 6 weeks and bringing it to the attention of a number of charities that regularly hold collections in the District.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 Consultation on the adoption of a policy for Charitable House to House Collections, will help inform the final policy and ensure that it takes into account the views of relevant stakeholders.

4. EXPECTED BENEFITS TO THE PARTNERSHIP

4.1 This policy relates purely to the regulatory activity within the South Holland District under the remit of the Licensing Committee, however the policy aligns well with the East Lindsey District Council Policy.

5. IMPLICATIONS

5.1 SOUTH AND EAST LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCILS PARTNERSHIP

5.1.1 None

5.2 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

5.2.1 The policy supports the Corporate Priorities and in particular supports the Priority of “Your Place” by helping to reduce and prevent crime and disorder; and enhance the wellbeing of communities. The policy also supports the priority “Your Health and Wellbeing” by ensuring Public Protection can protect and support communities through regulatory activity.

5.3 STAFFING

5.3.1 Adoption of the policy will result in a small amount of additional work for the Licensing Team, however it’s not anticipated that this will have any significant impact on staffing at this time.

5.4 CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.4.1 Although no formal policy is required under the relevant legislation, a formally adopted policy helps to provide a transparent and consistent approach, supports legitimate fundraising and protects the general public. The Licensing Committee has the delegated authority to set or amend the policy.

5.5 DATA PROTECTION

5.5.1 Data protection will be in line with other current licensing data and the existing privacy policy and data impact analysis will still apply.

5.6 FINANCIAL

5.6.1 None

5.7 RISK MANAGEMENT

5.7.1 None

5.8 STAKEHOLDER / CONSULTATION / TIMESCALES

5.8.1 Consultation will be carried out as detailed in this report. Consultees will include the Council’s Policy Development Panel, Lincolnshire Police and prominent charities that collect in the District, plus other interested parties and charities that wish to respond to the online consultation. The consultation will take place over a period of 6 weeks. It is intended that the policy be brought back to Licensing Committee for approval in November 2022.

5.9 REPUTATION

5.9.1 None

5.10 CONTRACTS

5.10.1 None

5.11 CRIME AND DISORDER

5.11.1 Lincolnshire Police will be a consultee on this policy. There are offences under the relevant legislation and so the policy will support charities to comply with the law.

5.12 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY/ HUMAN RIGHTS / SAFEGUARDING

5.12.1 The policy will help to protect vulnerable people by ensuring tighter controls on charitable collections.

5.13 HEALTH AND WELL BEING

5.13.1 None

5.14 CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

5.14.1 The consultation document will be emailed to consultees where possible to reduce printing and paper. The consultation document will be available on the Council's website, as will the final Policy once approved.

5.15 LINKS TO 12 MISSIONS IN THE LEVELLING UP WHITE PAPER

MISSIONS	
This paper contributes to the follow Missions outlined in the Government's Levelling Up White paper.	
Pride in Place	By 2030, pride in place, such as people's satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local culture and community, will have risen in every area of the UK, with the gap between the top performing and other areas closing.
Crime	By 2030, homicide, serious violence, and neighbourhood crime will have fallen, focused on the worst-affected areas.

6. ACRONYMS

6.1 None

APPENDICES	
Appendices are listed below and attached to the back of the report: -	
APPENDIX A	Draft Charitable House to House Collections Policy

BACKGROUND PAPERS
No background papers as defined in Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the production of this report.

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THIS REPORT
A report on this item has not been previously considered by a Council body

REPORT APPROVAL	
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Signed off by:	Donna Hall, Head of Public Protection John Leach, Deputy Chief Executive - Communities