

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**REPORT OF THE INTERIM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF REGULATION AND  
ENFORCEMENT  
TO THE LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

**JANUARY 2021**  
**ALL WARDS**

**Regulation and Enforcement Activity Report – October/November 2020**

1. Summary
  - 1.1 Birmingham City Council's Regulation and Enforcement Division covers range of statutory functions including enforcement activities.
  - 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with information as to the scale and type of activities that have been ongoing in the current financial year. This period covers the months of October and November 2020.
2. Recommendation
  - 2.1 That the content of the report be noted.

Contact Officer: Paul Lankester, Interim Assistant Director Regulation & Enforcement  
Telephone: 0121 675 2495  
E-mail: paul.lankester@birmingham.gov.uk

### 3.0 Background

- 3.1 The range of functions exercised by officers on behalf of the City Council are varied and occur across all parts of the city. The overview of activities in October and November 2020 is set out in the Appendix to this report.

### 4. Consultation

- 4.1 No public consultation has taken place, as this is an information report.

### 5. Implications for Resources

- 5.1 None

### 6. Implications for Policy Priorities

- 6.1 None

### 7. Public Sector Equality Duty

- 7.1 No further equality issues have been identified, as all enforcement activities are carried in accordance with the adopted enforcement policy, which was the subject of an equalities impact assessment.

## **INTERIM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

Background Papers: Nil

## **REGULATION & ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY REPORT** **OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2020**

### **Introduction**

The way the Council enforces its regulatory activities under the terms of the relevant legislation has altered significantly since the outbreak of Covid 19. Changes have been made to comply with national guidance and the introduction of new legislation. This report provides a snapshot of enforcement activity for the services in Regulation and Enforcement since lockdown. While services are seeking to enter the recovery phase, many services are reliant on changes to Government legislation and guidance.

### **Detailed Action**

The table below sets out the activities undertaken in Q1 (April, May, June accumulative); Q2 (July, August, September accumulative) and Q3 (October/November 2020)

### **Environmental Health, Licensing and Trading Standards**

| Activity                      | Env. Health |        |       | Licensing |      |      |         |     |     | Trading Standards |    |    |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------|-------|-----------|------|------|---------|-----|-----|-------------------|----|----|
|                               | Q1          | Q2     | Q3    | HCPH*     |      |      | General |     |     | Q1                | Q2 | Q3 |
|                               |             |        |       | Q1        | Q2   | Q3   | Q1      | Q2  | Q3  |                   |    |    |
| Prosecution agreed            | 57          | 76     | 75    | 8         | 1    | 1    |         | 1   | 2   | 7                 | 7  | 1  |
| Simple Cautions               | 4           | 4      | 3     | 16        | 3    | 3    |         |     | 1   |                   |    | 2  |
| Statutory Notices served      | 26          | 58     | 13    |           |      |      |         |     |     |                   |    |    |
| Coronavirus Enforcement       | 254         | 1,709  | 749   | 33        |      |      |         |     |     |                   |    |    |
| Licence applications          |             |        |       | 195       | 512  | 480  | 196     | 397 | 259 | 126               |    |    |
| Licence sub-committees        |             |        |       |           |      |      | 14      | 31  | 16  | 17                |    |    |
| Of which were reviews:        |             |        |       |           |      |      |         |     |     |                   |    |    |
| Interim steps                 |             |        |       |           |      |      | 1       | 1   | 5   |                   |    |    |
| Expedited                     |             |        |       |           |      |      | 2       | 1   | 3   |                   |    |    |
| Standard                      |             |        |       |           |      |      | 3       | 0   | 0   |                   |    |    |
| Licence renewals              |             |        |       | 343       | 1538 | 1182 | 9       | 26  | 27  |                   |    |    |
| Requests for Actions Received | 10,809      | 13,673 | 3706  | 166       | 315  | 271  |         |     |     | 1,114             |    |    |
| Requests for Actions closed   | 8,446       | 8,271  | 1,700 | 287       | 268  | 277  |         |     |     | 1,251             |    |    |

## **Environmental Health**

### **Analysis of Requests for Assistance (RFA)**

The analysis of the types of activity in Environmental Health is shown below.

|                        | Q1           | Q2           |               | Q3          |               | Year Total   |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Work type              | RFA Total    | Total        | PI Target met | Total       | PI Target met | RFA Total    |
| Accidents              | 92           | 109          | 106           | 23          | 23            | 224          |
| Dogs                   | 415          | 549          | 543           | 172         | 169           | 1136         |
| Infectious Disease     | 122          | 169          | 153           | 53          | 45            | 344          |
| Pest Control           | 4159         | 5292         | 4734          | 1370        | 1165          | 10821        |
| Request for Assistance | 6158         | 7498         | 5611          | 2088        | 1217          | 15744        |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>10946</b> | <b>13617</b> | <b>11147</b>  | <b>3706</b> | <b>2619</b>   | <b>28269</b> |

The Service continues to undertake inspections and provide advice on Covid compliance. Through monies provided by the Director of Public Health we are recruiting 8 extra officers solely focused on Covid compliance checks.

In addition, the Government has announced nationally the investment of £30m for increased Enforcement and Compliance checks. Birmingham's share of this is £889k to be spent in the next 4 months.

The courts are now sitting, and hearing submitted prosecution cases and we are again looking to submit cases rather than deal with matters via simple cautions in-line with our enforcement policy. We are undertaking limited inspections of high risk food premises and food complaints on a risk assessment basis as required by the Food Safety Agency.

## **Licensing**

Activity in the Licensing Service has increased of late and the service is close to returning to 'business as usual', though lockdown restrictions do impact on this extensively. Activity in Licensing Sub Committees has markedly increased following the opening of the hospitality sector. This is expected to continue for the remainder of the year.

In total 111 matters have been finalised through the delegated process, which would have ordinarily come before the sub-committee. 27 of which were finalised in November.

## **Outcome of Licensing Act 2003 Expedited Reviews (Q3: October – November)**

### **Nakira, Queensgate, 121 Suffolk Street Queensway, Birmingham, B1 1LX**

On 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020, Superintendent Morris, of West Midlands Police, applied for a review, under Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended by the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006), of the Premises Licence granted to RP Restaurant Ltd in respect of the above premises as a result of the premises being found at approx. 00.40am on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to be open and trading in breach of the 10pm curfew and not operating in a Covid safe manner.

The police were of the view that an event was taking place in the premises in contravention of the Covid19 restrictions at the time. The premises had previously been visited on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2020 at 05.00am when officers witnessed a party taking place with loud music and no social distancing following which the licence holder received advice from the Police Licensing Team.

A Licensing Sub Committee was required to convene within 48 hours of receipt of the application to determine whether to take any interim steps.

On 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 Licensing Sub- Committee A met and having heard from both the licensee and representatives of WMP resolved that the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) be removed and that the Premises Licence be suspended pending the full review hearing.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020 the licensee made representations back against the interim steps imposed on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 which resulted in the requirement for a further Sub Committee to convene within 48 hours of receipt.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Licensing Sub Committee C met and having heard from both the licensee and representatives of WMP resolved to maintain the interim steps imposed on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 pending the full review hearing.

The review application was advertised, by the Licensing Authority in accordance with the regulations; representations were received from Public Health, Environmental Health and Licensing Enforcement as responsible authorities under the Licensing Act 2003.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020 Licensing Sub- Committee A, met to consider the full review and having heard evidence from the licence holder, West Midlands Police, Public Health, Environmental Health and Licensing Enforcement resolved to revoke the premises licence, remove the DPS and to maintain the interim step of suspension pending the outcome of any appeal to the Magistrates Court.

**Petite Afrique (Formerly La Reference), 160 Hockley Hill, Birmingham, B19 1DG**

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020, Superintendent Green, of West Midlands Police, applied for a review, under Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended by the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006), of the Premises Licence granted to Mr Rodrigue Tankeu in respect of the above premises as a result of the premises being found at approx. 22.25 hours on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2020 to have approximately 40 people, including staff, inside of the premises in breach of the 10pm curfew and without social distancing measures.

Police officers had previously visited the premises on numerous occasions since the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2020 to engage and explain the restrictions and guidance in place including a visit on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 2020 when the licensee was spoken to about loud music being played.

A Licensing Sub Committee was required to convene within 48 hours of receipt of the application to determine whether to take any interim steps.

On 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 Licensing Sub- Committee A met and having heard from representatives of WMP resolved that the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) be removed and that the Premises Licence be suspended pending the full review hearing.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020 the licensee made representations back against the interim steps imposed on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 which resulted in the requirement for a further Sub Committee to convene within 48 hours of receipt.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Licensing Sub Committee C met and having heard from both the licensee and representatives of WMP resolved to maintain the interim steps imposed on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 pending the full review hearing.

The review application was advertised, by the Licensing Authority in accordance with the regulations; representations were received from Public Health, Environmental Health and Licensing Enforcement as responsible authorities under the Licensing Act 2003.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Licensing Sub- Committee A, met to consider the full review and having heard evidence from the licence holder, West Midlands Police, Public Health, Environmental Health and Licensing Enforcement resolved to revoke the premises licence, remove the DPS and to maintain the interim step of suspension pending the outcome of any appeal to the Magistrates Court.

**Dahlak Lounge, Hampton Street, Birmingham B19 3LS**

On 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020, Superintendent Churchill, of West Midlands Police, applied for a review, under Section 53A of the Licensing Act 2003 (as amended by the Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006), of the Premises Licence granted to Mr Biniam Mebrahtu in respect of the above premises as a result of the premises being found at approx. 9.10pm on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2020 to be operating in breach of Covid Regulations including the playing of loud music, social distancing between groups not being maintained and no mitigation measures being in place. In addition, there were concerns about fire safety measures due to the shutters being closed whilst persons were inside the premises.

The premises had previously been visited on the 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020 when officers witnessed loud music, and described the premises as being packed / overfull with no social distancing following which the licence holder received advice from the Police Licensing Team.

A Licensing Sub Committee was required to convene within 48 hours of receipt of the application to determine whether to take any interim steps.

On 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020 Licensing Sub- Committee A met and having heard from the licensee's business partner and representatives of WMP resolved that the Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) be removed and that the Premises Licence be suspended pending the full review hearing.

The review application was advertised, by the Licensing Authority in accordance with the regulations; a representation was received from Environmental Health as a responsible authority under the Licensing Act 2003.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 Licensing Sub Committee C, met to consider the full review and having heard evidence from the licence holder, West Midlands Police and Environmental Health resolved to revoke the premises licence, remove the DPS and to maintain the interim step of suspension pending the outcome of any appeal to the Magistrates Court.

## Analysis of RFAs

The breakdown of types of RFAs in Licensing is shown below.

|   | Q1         |            | Q2         |            | Q3         |            |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|   | Received   | Closed     | Received   | Closed     | Received   | Closed     |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>166</b> | <b>287</b> | <b>315</b> | <b>268</b> | <b>271</b> | <b>277</b> |
| <b>Hackney Carriage</b>                     | 4          | 22         | 24         | 19         | 14         | 19         |
| <b>Private Hire</b>                         | 104        | 190        | 206        | 175        | 202        | 199        |
| <b>Licensing Act 2003</b>                   | 51         | 64         | 76         | 63         | 46         | 48         |
| <b>Gambling Act 2005</b>                    | 0          | 3          | 0          | 0          | 1          | 0          |
| <b>Scrap Metal Dealers</b>                  | 7          | 7          | 7          | 9          | 7          | 9          |
| <b>Sexual<br/>Entertainment<br/>Venues</b>  | 0          | 1          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          |
| <b>Massage &amp; Special<br/>Treatments</b> | 0          | 0          | 2          | 2          | 1          | 1          |
| <b>Charitable Street<br/>Collections</b>    | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 0          | 1          |

## Scrap Metal Dealers

There are currently 93 licences issued in Birmingham under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013. The breakdown of licences issued is as follows:

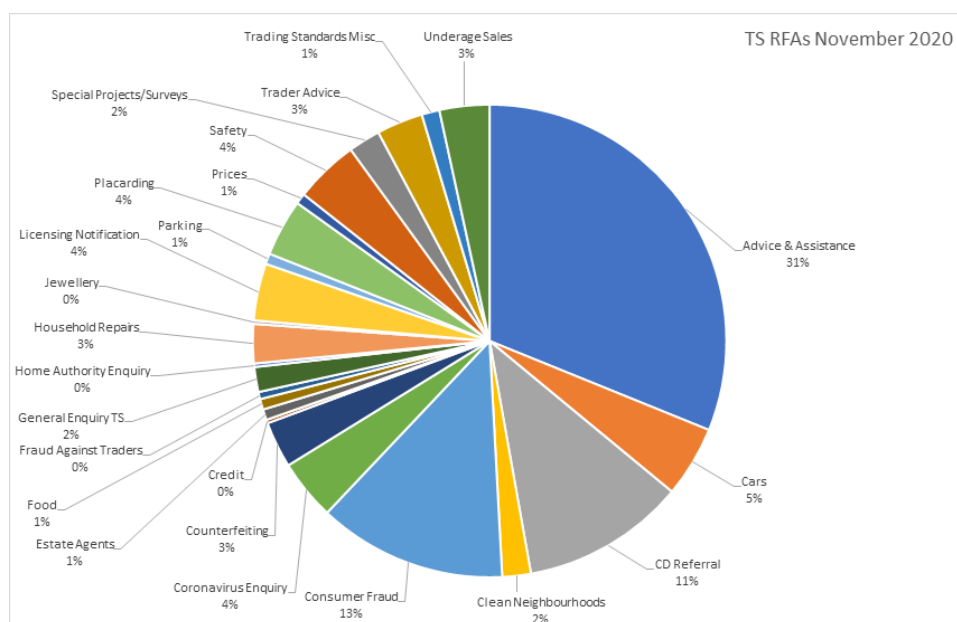
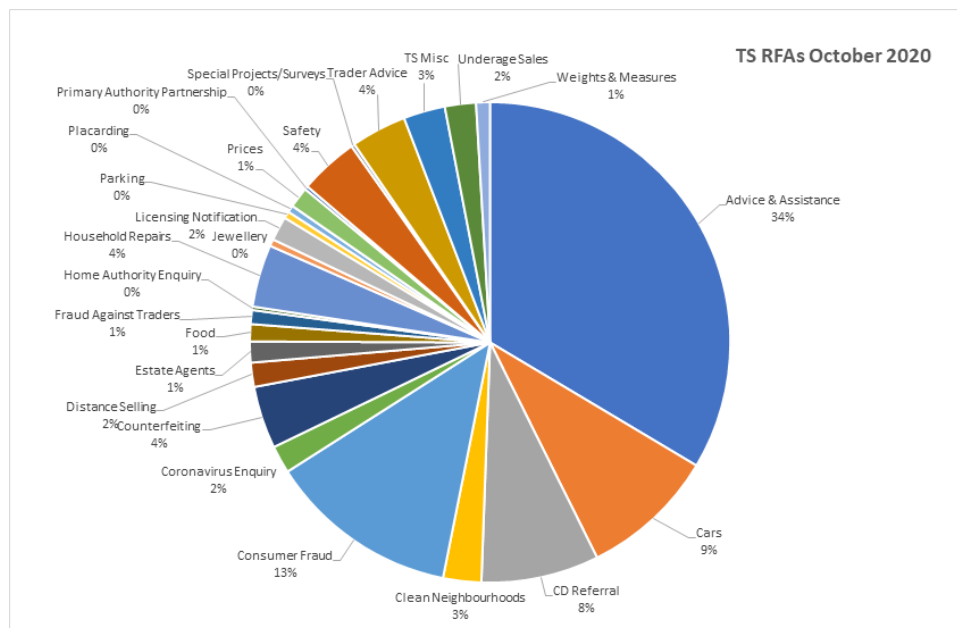
| Type of Licence                | Number of active licences |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Scrap Metal Site Licences      | 46                        |
| Scrap Metal Collector Licences | 47                        |

There has been the following enforcement action with regards to Scrap Metal Site licences:

| Type of Enforcement | October | November |
|---------------------|---------|----------|
| Complaints          | 1       | 0        |
| Inspections         | 3       | 4        |



## Trading Standards – Q3: October / November 2020



### October/November 2020 RFAs

Trading Standards received 429 Requests for Assistance in October (consistent with previous month) and 411 in November.

### Coronavirus Related RFAs

Requests for Assistance relating to coronavirus have increased considerably from 8 RFAs received about this issue in October to 17 RFAs this month.

### **Core TS Activities**

The core Trading Standards activities – product safety, underage sales, rogue traders and car sales all remain largely consistent. However, complaints about consumer fraud have increased from 8% last month to 15% this month. Of these, the highest sub-categories are scam websites and telephone calls / text messages and doorstep selling. It appears as though residents are starting to see an increase in tradespeople going door-to-door offering their goods and services. Complaints about car sales have reduced back to previous levels.

### **Financial Investigation**

In terms of COVID-19 related work, the two Financial Investigators (FIs) continue to focus their attention on fraudulent Coronavirus Business Grant applications. Interviews with suspects in these cases are set to commence this week, in joint investigations with Birmingham Audit.

Both FIs are also conducting work on behalf of Sandwell MBC and Wolverhampton CC, in a shared approach to undertaking financial investigation. In terms of Sandwell, this also relates to suspected fraudulent claims for Coronavirus Business Grants, along with a large-scale car clocking scam and tracing and recovering funds stolen from a school by a rogue business manager. Work also continues to assist the Birmingham based Regional Investigation Team with their investigations into a number of counterfeit goods sellers under Operation Beorma.

The service's FIs are also continuing to work with Birmingham Audit on their investigations into fraudulent Coronavirus Business Grant applications.

The FIs have recently secured further work assisting Wolverhampton City Council's Trading Standards Service with a financial investigation into a group of counterfeiters.

Outstanding Proceeds of Crime hearings are now starting to be rescheduled at Crown Courts where space is available. A final hearing involving a Planning Enforcement case is due to be heard mid-December and further cases have been listed for early 2021.

### **Tobacco inspection Op Marcus**

On 24 September 2020 Birmingham's Trading Standards team carried out intelligence-led visits to seven retailers across the city, targeting illicit and [counterfeit](#) tobacco. More than 900 packs of illicit cigarettes, 150 packets of hand rolling tobacco and more than 200 packs of niche tobacco products (e.g. shisha) were seized from premises. The owners of the premises will be invited for formal interviews. Officers were assisted by tobacco detection dogs from Wagtail UK and supported by [west midlands police](#).

### **Criminal Justice Act – underage knife sale**

Retailer pleaded guilty to selling a knife to an underage volunteer. He was given an eighteen-month Community Order plus 80 hours unpaid work.

### **Seizure of Counterfeit Goods**

Following intelligence received alleging supply of counterfeit goods, Trading Standards inspected a business in Hockley in October resulting in the seizure of hundreds of branded items suspected of being counterfeit. The owners of the business will be formally interviewed in due course and a report submitted to legal services.

### **Anti-Counterfeiting Group Award**

Birmingham Trading Standards and the Birmingham hosted CenTSA Regional Investigation Team (RIT) have received a joint award in November for the work they are doing to tackle the supply of counterfeit goods.

Operation BEORMA is a joint operation with a number of different agencies, including National Trading Standards (NTS) targeting serious and organised criminals responsible for huge supplies of fake goods into and in and around the UK and sales at both on-line and at physical market places. This complex operation led by the RIT together with Birmingham Trading Standards has led to nearly 50 direct enforcement actions, the identification of previously unknown OCG's and the recovery of several million pounds worth of counterfeit goods.

### **Placarding project**

Trading Standards have continued to tackle illegal placarding on the Public Highway across the city.

In September a further forty signs were removed from across the city. Fourteen businesses have been identified who have been sent warning letters and instructing them to cease putting up any further signs and to remove any further placards they may be displaying.

In November over thirty placards advertising various businesses were removed. Most of the placards related to businesses that had not been identified on previous exercises. This included a fireworks distributor who agreed to remove any further placards once he was contacted. Some of the other placards related to blinds, building and gardening services. Some 18 different businesses are being contacted and advised that placarding is a breach of Regulations.

This is an improvement in terms of number of illegal placards seen compared to the first exercise in July when nearly 120 illegal placards were removed.

Enforcement action may follow for those that persist.

### **National Consumer week - 16 November to 22 November**

This year's campaign was very timely ahead of 'Black Friday' and 'Cyber Monday', two of the biggest pre-Christmas shopping days. It also holds a significance this year because of COVID-19. It is expected that online shopping will continue to rise, and coronavirus measures will encourage its further growth as shoppers avoid the high street. This brings new challenges for both consumers and businesses, and the information shared through this campaign reflects these developments. During this campaign we were able to get numerous tweets out to the public and our followers.

## **TS Website**

There have been 6,314 page views for November 2020, which is an increase of 4,758 from October.

## **England Illegal Money Lending Team (IMLT)**

In November 2020, the England Illegal Money Lending Team received a total of 39 reports of illegal money lending (IML), an increase of 4 reports to the previous month, and a decrease of 6 reports from November 2019.

The majority of reports were generated from information provided by caller/source with 20 reports. This was followed by victims with 13 reports, housing services with 3 reports and the Police, Crimestoppers and the Gambling Commission with 1 report each.

30 new illegal lenders were identified during the month of November 2020.

The following warrants were executed by the IMLT during the month of November 2020

**OPERATON LAMBEROOD** – On 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020, a woman was arrested on suspicion of illegal money lending and money laundering, following an operation in Kent. Cash, documentation and electronic devices were seized after a warrant was executed at a residential property in East Malling. A 46-year-old woman was taken into custody as part of the operation carried out by the IMLT in partnership with Kent County Council Trading Standards and Kent Police. The woman has been released under investigation pending further enquiries. (TSSE Region)

### **The following hearings took place during November**

**OPERATON YEARLING** – On 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020 an Exeter man who illegally lent money to vulnerable people was given a suspended sentence. Robert Ferguson, 69, of Exe Street, Exeter, admitted running an unlawful money lending business and was jailed for 30 weeks, suspended for two years at Exeter Crown Court. He was also ordered to do 180 hours unpaid community work and pay £300 costs.

The case was prosecuted by the IMLT in partnership with Devon, Somerset and Torbay Trading Standards and Devon and Cornwall Police. Ferguson had been running his illegal money lending scheme between April 2014 and November 2019. He charged exorbitant rates of interest to friends or people he met in pubs and received tens of thousands of pounds in loan repayments, which was paid directly into his bank by more than 20 people. (South West Region)

**OPERTION SHOREHAM** – On 17<sup>th</sup> November 2020, Alan Fromson, 80, and Joyce Fromson, 78 were both sentenced to 10 months in prison, suspended for two years at Teesside Crown Court. The husband and wife team ran a lucrative illegal money lending business in the Stockton area and netted over £500k in loan repayments. The pair, both of Greenleas, Carlton, Stockton, pleaded guilty to two charges of illegal money lending between July 2007 and October 2019. The case was prosecuted by the IMLT working in partnership with Stockton Council Trading Standards and Cleveland Police.

The pair had left Provident (legal loan provider) and established their own money lending company called JFA Personal Credit in 1997. The couple ran a legitimate business until 2007 when they failed to renew their licence to loan money to customers. They did not pay any tax on their earnings during the course of running their illegal business. They issued loans worth around £382,800, earning £214,044 in interest payments and netting a total of £573,457 over a 12-year period. Specialist officers from the IMLT executed a search warrant at the couple's home in October 2019, where evidence and records were seized. In interview, Alan told investigators "the money goes straight into our pockets and we could get away with it, so we did" and "we have had a very, very good living out of it". (North East Region)

**OPERATION CHARNWOOD FOREST** –On 27<sup>th</sup> November 2020, at Sheffield Crown Court, MAVUNGA pleaded to illegal money lending counts; The defendant utilised the services of a social media influencer on at least two occasions. SAMURIWO pleaded not guilty. His trial is fixed for 2 days starting 18 May 2021. MAVUNGA has to attend on that day to be sentenced after the trial. (East Midlands Region)

#### **Other IML related news**

**On 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020** – the LIAISE Manager Cath Wohlers, appeared on the Channel 4 show, Steph's Packed lunch. The show interviewed an illegal money lending survivor 'Becky', and Cath discussed the modus operandi of Loan sharks and alternatives to avoid using them.

#### **Regional Investigation Team (RIT)**

Officers from the RIT assisted other law enforcement bodies with an exercise at an outdoor market known for selling counterfeit products.

Summonses were issued to a Birmingham based clothing manufacturer for his part in the counterfeit clothing manufacturing chain. He is next due to appear at Birmingham Magistrates Court on 30 November.

In the last update, reference was made to the sentencing of three individuals for their part in a home improvement scam. A fourth person involved in this case and who had failed to attend court, has been arrested and he is now in the court system.

Work continues on the other investigations currently being conducted. All of the investigations involve a significant number of alleged victims, with those victims being spread across the central region and beyond.

#### **Registration Service**

##### **Deaths**

The service is processing death registrations in line with the Coronavirus Act and the direction of the General Register Office (GRO). In late March 2020 a new process for registering was enacted and the service implemented this and honed the processes to improve performance. The table below shows the level of death registration for April to November 2020 compared to 2019.

| <b>Deaths</b>        | <b>2019</b> | <b>2020</b> | <b>% change</b> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <b>April</b>         | 819         | 2260        | <b>+176</b>     |
| <b>May</b>           | 863         | 983         | <b>+13.9</b>    |
| <b>June</b>          | 762         | 767         | <b>+0.65</b>    |
| <b>July</b>          | 802         | 800         | <b>-0.25</b>    |
| <b>August</b>        | 793         | 714         | <b>-9.95</b>    |
| <b>September</b>     | 802         | 804         | <b>+0.25</b>    |
| <b>October</b>       | 878         | 904         | <b>+2.96</b>    |
| <b>November</b>      | 844         | 1132        | <b>+34.11</b>   |
| <b>Running Total</b> | <b>6563</b> | <b>8364</b> | <b>+27.44</b>   |

## **Births**

The Government reintroduced the registration of births in June, with an optional alternative procedure. Whichever procedure is adopted still requires face to face meetings. For operational reasons the service followed the standard process and was fully operational from mid-June. As at 30 November there were 3180 outstanding birth registrations, of which 1090 were over the statutory 42 days registration period. The table below shows the level of birth registrations for June through to November compared to 2019, when the service recommenced.

| <b>Birth Registrations</b> | <b>2019</b>  | <b>2020</b>  | <b>% change</b> |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| <b>June</b>                | 1,819        | 543          | <b>-70.15</b>   |
| <b>July</b>                | 1,880        | 2,820        | <b>+50</b>      |
| <b>August</b>              | 1,647        | 2,045        | <b>+24.2</b>    |
| <b>September</b>           | 1956         | 2376         | <b>+21.5</b>    |
| <b>October</b>             | 2284         | 2464         | <b>+7.89</b>    |
| <b>November</b>            | 2004         | 2542         | <b>+26.85</b>   |
| <b>Running Total</b>       | <b>11590</b> | <b>12790</b> | <b>+10.35</b>   |

## **Ceremonies**

Following the initial national lockdown, the Government announced that the taking of notices of marriage and civil partnership, together with ceremonies could recommence from July, provided the venue is COVID 19 secure. Following this announcement and in line with the guidance issued in late June by the GRO, Birmingham Register Office implemented measures to enable ceremonies to take place from 4 July. Due to the second national lockdown, marriage and civil partnership ceremonies were suspended from 5 November to 2 December. The tables below show the level of ceremonies and notices from July to November compared to 2019.

| <b>Ceremonies</b>    | <b>2019</b> | <b>2020</b> | <b>% change</b> |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| July                 | 188         | 45          | <b>-76.1</b>    |
| August               | 224         | 63          | <b>-72.75</b>   |
| September            | 150         | 121         | <b>-19.35</b>   |
| October              | 164         | 123         | <b>-20</b>      |
| November             | 140         | 12          | <b>-91.40</b>   |
| <b>Running Total</b> | <b>866</b>  | <b>364</b>  | <b>-58</b>      |

| <b>Notice of Marriage and Civil Partnership</b> | <b>2019</b> | <b>2020</b> | <b>% change</b> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| July  | 610         | 430         | <b>-29.95</b>   |
| August  | 522         | 365         | <b>-30.1</b>    |
| September                                       | 621         | 373         | <b>-39.95</b>   |
| October   | 566         | 478         | <b>-15.5</b>    |
| November  | 620         | 518         | <b>-16.45</b>   |
| <b>Running Total</b>                            | <b>2939</b> | <b>2164</b> | <b>-26.37</b>   |

| <b>Citizenship Ceremonies</b> | <b>2019</b> | <b>2020</b> | <b>% change</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| July                          | 268         | 156         | <b>-41.75</b>   |
| August                        | 199         | 246         | <b>+33.2</b>    |
| September                     | 281         | 170         | <b>-39.45</b>   |
| October                       | 273         | 214         | <b>-21.65</b>   |
| November                      | 220         | 203         | <b>-7.75</b>    |
| <b>Running Total</b>          | <b>1241</b> | <b>989</b>  | <b>-20.31</b>   |

### **City Centre Operations - Temporary Pavement Licences**

The table below shows the activity that has taken place from when the temporary pavement licences were introduced to the end of November 2020.

Note –

**New** equates to the number of applications received where the applicant did **not** previously hold a Street Café Licences (Highway Act)

**Current** equates to the number of applications received where the applicant previously held a Street Café Licences (Highway Act)

| <b>Month</b>        | <b>Received</b> | <b>Approved</b> | <b>Refused/Rejected/Withdrawn</b> | <b>New</b> | <b>Current</b> | <b>City Centre</b> | <b>Local Centres</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| July                | 3               | 2               | 1                                 | 2          | 1              | 3                  | 0                    |
| August              | 33              | 28              | 5                                 | 21         | 12             | 29                 | 4                    |
| September           | 8               | 7               | 1                                 | 4          | 4              | 6                  | 2                    |
| October             | 7               | 6               | 1                                 | 6          | 1              | 4                  | 3                    |
| November            | 0               | 0               | 0                                 | 0          | 0              | 0                  | 0                    |
| <b>TOTAL TODATE</b> | <b>51</b>       | <b>43</b>       | <b>8</b>                          | <b>33</b>  | <b>18</b>      | <b>42</b>          | <b>9</b>             |

**13 January 2021**

**Paul Lankester**  
**Interim Assistant Director Regulation and Enforcement**