

# Scrap Metal Dealers Licensing Policy



Date: 5 July 2018  
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Key Decision? YES NO (delete as appropriate)  
Local Ward Members n/a

## REGULATORY AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report seeks approval from committee members for consultation to begin on a proposed Statement of Policy and Guidelines for the Licensing of Scrap Metal Dealers, included as Appendix A.
- 1.2 This policy outlines the requirements of the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 (the act). It gives guidance to new applicants, existing licence holders, consultees and members of the public as to how the Council will administer and enforce the requirements of the Act.

### 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Members approve for consultation the new Statement of Policy and Guidelines for the Licensing of Scrap Metal Dealers.

### 3. Background

- 3.2 Lichfield District Council (“the Council”) is the Licensing Authority under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 and is responsible for granting site licences and collector’s licences in the District of Lichfield in respect of businesses that deal in scrap metal and vehicle dismantling.
- 3.3 The Act maintains local authorities as the principal regulator, but replaces the old registration system with a full licensing regime. It grants power to refuse a licence to “unsuitable” applicants and a power to revoke licences if the dealer becomes “unsuitable”.
- 3.4 The 2013 Act aims to raise the standards across the scrap metal industry and to help achieve this, licensed operators will need to keep detailed records of their transactions; and verify the identity of those selling scrap metals to them.
- 3.5 In addition to replacing the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964 and the Vehicle Crime Act 2001, the 2013 Act revises the definition of a ‘Scrap Metal Dealer’ so as to take into account the modern way in which people collect and deal in scrap metal. The 2013 Act provides for two types of Scrap Metal Dealer licences, a ‘Site Licence’ and a ‘Collector’s Licence’, both of which last for three years.

Alternative Options	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Committee could consider not consulting on the proposed policy; however this would not accord with good governance or best practice.</li> <li>2. The Council could choose not to introduce a policy on Scrap Metal Dealers, however to do so would be contrary to best practice and may lead to a lack of clarity on the application of the legislation.</li> </ol>
Consultation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If approved for consultation, the proposed new policy would be issued to the following agencies for consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staffordshire Police</li> <li>• Staffordshire County Council</li> <li>• Ward members</li> <li>• Existing scrap metal dealers in the District</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. The policy would also appear on the Lichfield District Council website for public consultation.</li> </ol>
Financial Implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The new policy seeks to clarify the policy and procedures around licensing of scrap metal dealers in the District and ensure applications are completed correctly therefore reducing administration time spent dealing with incomplete or inaccurate forms.</li> <li>2. The policy includes details of the fees charged for the issuing of licenses which take into account the cost of processing, administering and compliance costs associated with the licence.</li> <li>3. The fees are set by the Council under guidance issued by the Home Office with the approval of the Treasury and are regularly reviewed.</li> </ol>
Contribution to the Delivery of the Strategic Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The policy will support objectives contained within the District Council's Strategic Plan 2016 -20. In particular, a vibrant and prosperous economy and healthy and safe communities by ensuring that only legal, well-regulated scrap metal dealing takes place within the District.</li> </ol>
Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. An equality Impact Assessment will be undertaken once the consultation process is complete.</li> </ol>
Crime & Safety Issues	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The policy will assist the Local Authority in exercising its duties and responsibilities under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 and thereby prevent scrap metal related crime.</li> <li>2.</li> </ol>

	Risk Description	How We Manage It	Severity of Risk (RYG)
A			State if risk is Red (severe), Yellow (material) or Green (tolerable) as determined by the Likelihood and Impact Assessment.
B			
C			
D			
E			

**Background documents**

Appendix A - Statement of Policy and Guidelines for the Licensing of Scrap Metal Dealers

**Relevant web links**

None