

**TO: LICENSING AND SAFETY COMMITTEE  
10 JANUARY 2013**

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**HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTIONS INFORMATION  
Director of Environment, Culture and Communities**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to make the Committee aware of the information available to the public in respect of house to house collections which take place in Bracknell Forest.

**2 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 2.1 House to house collections for a charitable purpose (i.e. a charity or similar good cause) are required to be licensed by the local authority, unless an exemption order has been granted to the charity in question. These are granted by the Cabinet Office to certain larger charities, such as the British Heart Foundation and Cancer Research UK.
- 2.2 The Council receives between 10 and 20 applications for house to house collections licences each year. There is no fee payable for this type of licence.
- 2.3 On the Bracknell Forest Council website, members of the public can access a list of holders of exemption orders. They can also access a list of the licences issued for collections in 2012-2013, along with confirmation of the amount raised by that collection and the total amount of proceeds which went to the named charity. This information can be found at: <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/licencehousetohousecollections>.
- 2.4 In January 2012 a new guideline figure was set by the Committee in respect of the percentage of proceeds from house to house collections that should be applied for charitable purposes. Each application is judged on its individual merits but the figure was set at 80% to ensure that excessive amounts would not be used to cover the costs of the collection. It is estimated that since the guideline figure was brought in, around five applications have been refused. None of those applicants that have been refused have chosen to exercise their right of appeal to the Cabinet Office.

Background Papers

House to House Collections Act 1939

House to House Collections Regulations 1947

Contact for further information

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