

LGA General Assembly Motions

Appendix A – Metal Theft and Licensing Motions

Set out below is the text of the metal theft motion submitted by the West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority:

1. Centro calls on the Local Government Association in lobbying Government and Members of Parliament to introduce new legislation to help combat the serious impact of metal theft on our local communities including home owners, churches and local highway authorities.
2. Discussions with our partners Network Rail and the British Transport Police have highlighted the alarming amount of rail service delays which are caused through the theft of cabling and other materials. The economic impact of this both for the West Midlands and nationally is significant; causing travel delay for passengers, disruption to businesses and an increased safety risk through signalling and telecommunications failure.
3. Centro therefore seeks legislative reform to tighten and enhance practices at metal recycling facilities to help improve and support the reduction of metal theft. Centro welcomes the voluntary code of practice developed by the British Metal Recycling Association (BMRA) and Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) as a basis for this reform. This includes the following crime reduction measures:
 - 3.1. The introduction of digital recorded CCTV systems at the entrances and/or weighbridges of recycling centres that is retained for 28 days. Where such systems have been installed posters advertising the fact will clearly be displayed on the premises.
 - 3.2. Requesting identification from persons disposing of metals who are not already known to the recycling centre. The identification requested to include name, address and post code. A record of the method of identification produced will be recorded including unique identifying reference number where applicable i.e. driver number in the case of driving licence or customer number if utility bill or similar document produced. Cash should not be paid to persons unknown to the recycling centre or where identification cannot be produced.

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- 3.3. The maintenance of accurate records required by the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964. This will include ensuring that names, addresses and vehicle registration number are complete and accurate.
- 3.4. Suspicious persons will be reported to the local police force for the area concerned.
- 3.5. Suspicious transactions will be reported to the local police force for the area concerned.

Cllr Angus Adams
Chairman
West Midlands Integrated Transport Authority

Set out below is the text of the licensing motion:

4. The LGA welcomes proposed changes to the licensing laws that will allow local councillors and local residents more say in what licences are granted.
5. The LGA calls on the Government to make changes in four specific areas.
 - 5.1. That establishments open past 12 midnight are allowed to be charged for the full cost of Police presence in the areas concerned to relieve the pressure on Council Tax payers.
 - 5.2. Councils to be allowed to decide the final opening times in all areas of their authority.
 - 5.3. That councils should be able to charge the full costs of their licensing functions to those who apply for licences.
 - 5.4. That premises that are causing concern to the Police and local residents should be able to be shut by the Police with immediate effect on the signature of a senior Police Officer, and that any appeal must be heard within 7 days.

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