

Rachel,

As you are aware The Pedlars Act 1871 is set to be repealed later this year, I have consulted with officers within Leicestershire Police who have been directly involved in both the administration and policing of the Pedlars Act.

Whilst there is a degree of anxiousness around the assumed loss of control around the movement of door to door traders the general contention is that the Pedlars Certificates are not useful in our plans to reduce crime.

The thoughts of the majority are that, individuals who are granted them have undergone a check of Police databases; those who are unsatisfactory don't get a certificate. Should an individual selling items act inappropriately they would be dealt with in the correct manner at the time with alternative legislation.

Given the somewhat antiquated nature of the Pedlar's Certificate, the belief is that there is a knowledge gap with the majority of officers, who when stop checking someone selling items would not think of the requirement to hold a certificate. To close this gap and educate officers would be disproportionate.

The repeal of the Pedlars Act would not cause any significant problems in terms of law enforcement, certificates are only issued if the relevant checks of Police databases are satisfactory. Should individuals peddling their wares become troublesome or suspicious then they would be dealt with appropriately at that time.

The numbers of Pedlars certificates issued by the Leicestershire Police Force have averaged no more than forty a year over the last three years. They also create a degree of bureaucracy for the BCU Commander who signs them, the staff who perform the intelligence checks and the front facing staff that issue the certificate.

Because of the number of issues contained in the Pedlars Act quite clearly breach the ES Directive I feel that the repeal of the act is rightly appropriate and timely.

I have read the associated business document and I am aware of the opinions you have sought to obtain, I hope that the information will be useful.

If there any points you would wish to clarify please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards Matt

D/Supt Hewson

Leicestershire Police