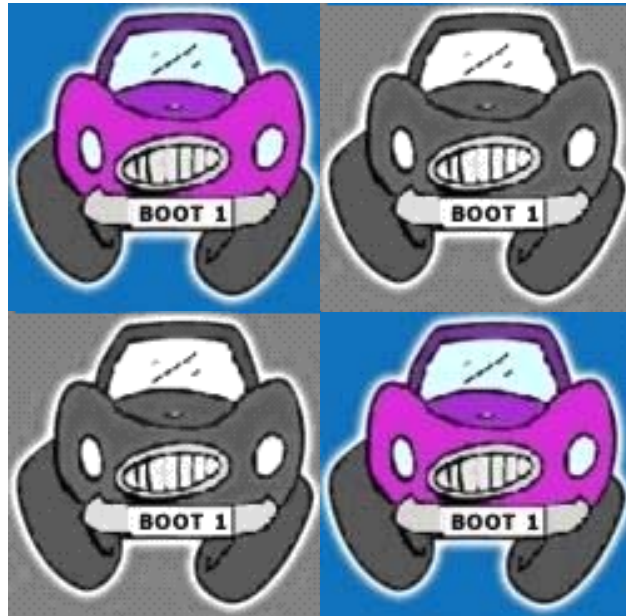




Car Boot Fair?



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Community Safety
Scrutiny Review
of
Car Boot Fairs

Democratic Services
Dec 2006
CS008

GLOSSARY

This report is written as far as possible in plain English with the minimum of jargon. All acronyms are spelt out in full when they first appear but for sake of clarity their meanings are repeated here.

ARA	Asset Recovery Agency
BPI	British Phonographic Institute
CD	Compact Disc
Charter Mark	The Government's national standard for customer service for organisations delivering public services
DVD	Digital Video Disc
ELSPA	Entertainment & Leisure Software Publishers Association
FACT	Federation Against Copyright Theft
IP crime	Intellectual Property crime
IPSOS UK	An independent market research company which merged with MORI in October 2005
PACE	Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984
TS	Trading Standards

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COMMUNITY SAFETY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
04 DECEMBER 2006

Car Boot Fair?

SECTION 1 ~ SUMMARY

1. A thriving trade in stolen and counterfeit goods undoubtedly exists across the country and Oxfordshire is no exception. Theft, burglary, robbery and car-crime occur regularly every day, bringing misery and financial loss to many of its victims. The exact scale of the problem is difficult to measure but there are real costs to local people and businesses as a result of the crime associated with these unlawful markets. The “high profit, low risk” characteristics of counterfeiting in general have made it a very attractive criminal enterprise of late. Counterfeit DVDs are seen as especially lucrative, owing to the fact that, as copying technology has become affordable and widespread, they have become very cheap to make yet offer relatively large mark-ups.
2. A minority of unscrupulous people have traditionally taken advantage of the somewhat under-regulated environment often afforded by car boot fairs, which prompted the Scrutiny Committee to look at the topic. In developing its recommendations, the Lead Member Review Group was asked to evaluate the efficacy of the current regulatory framework and assess the role different agencies play in enforcing these regulations at car boot fairs. The specific objectives of the review are set out in the scoping document in **Annex 1**.
3. It should be remembered that car boot fairs, provided they are kept free of a minority rogue element, are recognised as offering a very worthy and highly valued activity for local people. Such events effectively enable people to ensure goods they no longer need are re-used, and thus have environmental benefits by reducing the volume of unwanted property going to landfill. A survey of a representative sample of 3,000 Oxfordshire residents confirmed the popularity of car boot events, with almost a third of respondents having visited at least one boot fair in the last year. Furthermore, there are a number of much less visible avenues of disposal for illicit products, some involving criminal networks others making use of the Internet, which though related were not the object of study for this Review.
4. In recognition of the need to both safeguard consumers and protect local retailers from unfair competition, a lot of excellent work is being done by a highly regarded, well performing Trading Standards service, which has been awarded the Charter Mark for excellence four times running. A redistribution of personnel in 2005/06 helped to address staff shortages that had previously caused a slight under performance of the Rogue Trader Unit, which had previously delayed the introduction of the voluntary Code of Practice for car boot fair organisers. The Committee recognise that this adjustment has succeeded in getting activity back on track and wish to confirm their support for the increasing attention Trading Standards are paying to this area. They are sorry to learn that the Trading Standards Officer responsible for the Rogue Traders Unit has recently left the Council. They hope this does not impede implementation of the Trading Standings' Priority Action Plan or the Scrutiny Committee's recommendations.

5. It is accepted that in the absence of legislation, current voluntary schemes can sometimes be difficult to enforce and will not necessarily control those determined to avoid the requirements (the very people agencies most need to control). The Committee accepts that additional legislation would give further powers that can offer real enforcement benefit. However, experience from elsewhere where specific local Acts are in force, suggests such local legislation requires a commitment from both the local Police and Trading Standards to properly resource the necessary infrastructure to support a market reduction approach. The basic fact of the matter is that these agencies generally don't have the resources they need to sufficiently enforce their current legislative powers and it is thought likely that additional powers would fall into disuse. The Committee therefore feel that implementing a local Trading Standards Act in Oxfordshire would not stand up to cost/ benefit analysis.
6. In light of this, the Committee especially welcome the voluntary Code of Practice, and related enforcement measures. It requires organisers to take partial (but not complete) responsibility for sellers from whom they receive payment, in order to ensure that traders operating unfairly or illegally are not permitted at their events. The Committee would also like to see improved liaison with the police and other agencies, together with a more formal approach to the sharing of intelligence. This is needed to ensure there is less potential for additional evidence gathering opportunities to be missed because responsibility for its collection 'falls between the gaps'. It is hoped that these steps, added to the Code of Practice, will create an appropriate enforcement regime that will provide an effective deterrent.
7. The vast majority of the Oxfordshire residents we surveyed, endorsed the Code of Practice. They were generally supportive of attempts by the authorities to ensure organisers took greater responsibility for regulating their events.
8. At present Thames Valley Police cannot find the funding needed to address the intelligence gap relating to unlawful markets that was identified in their strategic assessment. Having recognised this limitation the Committee hope to see the Police taking a much more robust approach to criminal handlers of stolen property. It is acknowledged that they are trying to move away from a reliance on traditional scene-of-crime detection and make a concerted effort to put resources into their emerging intelligence-led policing strategy. It is hoped that this will enable agencies to actively disrupt the supply chain for stolen goods.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet:

- R1) NOT to implement an 'Oxfordshire Trading Standards Act' at this time but not to oppose any requests to the Home Office for national legislation.
- R2) to endorse the use of a voluntary Code of Practice and to strengthen it by requiring car boot fair organisers to note vehicle registration numbers of any sellers they suspect to be infringing the Code, and to maintain a list of such license plates which should be shared with Trading Standards.
- R3) to increase the deterrence effect by ensuring Trading Standards:
 - a) officers are given the delegated authority to charge alleged offenders in a police station and thus make greater use of 'fast-track prosecutions',
 - b) take greater advantage of their powers under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 to recover money which has been obtained illegally, and
 - c) liaise more effectively with the police to ensure further searches are carried out to complete investigations and seize additional assets stored in offenders' premises (not just those in their possession when caught).
- R4) to ask Trading Standards and the Police to create some warning messages about the risks of dealing in stolen goods which should be included in future literature and relevant web pages.
- R5) to liaise with its district council partners to ensure that if in future any car boot fairs are granted planning permission, compliance with Trading Standards' Code of Practice is stipulated within the planning conditions.
- R6) to consider if the powers to make new by-laws suggested in the Local Government White Paper offer the potential to improve regulation locally.
- R7) to investigate if there may be funding available through the Community Strategy, Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, or similar partnerships, to encourage the Police to enforce the laws on handling stolen goods more rigorously by establishing:
 - a) a small team to gather specific intelligence about trade in stolen goods, OR
 - b) a dedicated police officer with special responsibility for coordination of intelligence relating to unlawful markets, and consider seconding him/ her to work in Trading Standards.
- R8) to encourage Trading Standards officers and police community support officers/ neighbourhood police teams to regularly provide a visible police presence at car boot sales and help gather community intelligence.
- R9) to request the Police and Trading Standards to create an information exchange protocol, which should later be extended to include the DVLA, the Home Office Immigration team, HM Revenue & Customs and the Benefits Agency/ Department for Work and Pensions.

SECTION 2 ~ BACKGROUND

1. AIMS OF THE REVIEW

9. The scoping document for the Review was formally adopted 03 July 2006 (**Annex 1**). Three main aims were distilled out of the broader objective to examine the situation in Oxfordshire; namely to investigate the extent to which consumers are put at risk by exposure to shoddy, substandard and potentially dangerous merchandise, to evaluate the efficacy of the current regulatory framework for protecting the public from conmen and criminals, and to assess the role different agencies play in enforcing regulations.

boot sales provided the initial rationale for the Review. It was further felt that this was an important area for Scrutiny after a Councillor had received complaints from several residents in his division about a series of garden thefts, which in isolation were considered petty but were cumulatively becoming a bigger concern. In addition the Chief Executive had received letters from local traders complaining about the growing threat to their businesses from counterfeit trade.
10. The Community Safety Scrutiny Committee tasked with commissioning the review appointed Cllrs. Cartledge, Hudspeth and Lamont to carry it out (the former subsequently withdrew from the inquiry). The Review has identified key issues by examining documents relating to issues such as piracy and stolen goods and considered different Trading Standards and Policing strategies and interventions (listed in **Annex 2**). They have held a number of semi-structured interviews with car boot fair organisers, Trading Standards officers, the Police and local community members (listed in **Annex 3**). In addition the Review used the Citizen's Panel survey of 3,000 local residents to ascertain attitudes to the topic.

12. These issues triggered concerns about the level of activity at car boot fairs and the extent to which these events lay within or without the arena of regulation. A number of Council commitments have been made concerning the provision of an effective contribution to the reduction of crime and disorder. It is anticipated that the review's recommendation will make a contribution to the Council's strategic priorities around sustaining Oxfordshire's successful economy.
11. A background of a growing problem nationally of counterfeit and pirated goods being sold at occasional sales and/ or car

13. It should be noted that the Review could not cover everything and in line with good project management methodology deliberately restricted its focus to keep the scope of their assessment manageable. The Councillors comprising the Review Group chose *not* to examine issues relating to the disposal of stolen goods more generally, nor to get too drawn into wider issues relating to counterfeiting.

2. THE LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

14. Local authorities and the police have a statutory duty under the Consumer Protection Act 1987, Trade Descriptions Act 1968, and the Trade Marks Act 1994 to protect the public by controlling the sale of

stolen and unsafe goods and enforce fraudulent use of trademarks. They also have powers under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 and Copyright, etc and Trade Marks (Offences and

Enforcement) Act 2002 to deal with criminal counterfeiting offences (**Annex 4** gives details of these offences). In recognition of the fact that preventing crime is a task for the whole community, Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 also requires all local authority activities and functions to consider community safety and crime prevention implications.

15. Between 1981 and 2000, nine Councils in England enacted legislation regulating the second hand trade, and in 2001 Kent County Council became the tenth. In 2003 Nottingham City Council implemented similar legislation as well. These local authorities were concerned to improve their knowledge of the standards of second hand trading outlets and car boot fairs – particularly as regards counterfeit and unsafe goods. They also promoted their Acts against a background of concerns relating to the easy disposal of stolen property, which was seen to encourage theft. Second hand shops trading on the high street, or traders selling at fairs or markets, were believed to be one of the easiest outlets for thieves looking to turn stolen property into cash, and yet were an unknown quantity to the authorities (unregistered), and kept few records.¹
16. Such concerns are not unique to this country and similar assumptions about the role of the second hand trade in supporting theft apply elsewhere. A report produced to evaluate the Kent Act found a number of countries with second hand trade regulations:

¹ Trading Standards prior to the Acts had no reliable list of people who were operating a trade in Kent. This meant that people who were in fact operating a trade could pose as private individuals and deny their customers the consumer protection which comes with buying from a trader. Trading Standards wished to promote transparency of business and ensure all traders in the county operate on a level playing field subject to the same regulations of safety and consumer rights. In order to do this, they need to know who is trading.

France, Australia, Canada – have had routine regulations as regards second hand shops for many years. In France, officially at least details of sellers including references of identity papers must be regularly signed by the police or mayor's office (with penalties extending to imprisonment) – but in practice the provisions are largely ignored, not least because the police do not have time to enforce the regulations. In Australia, second hand trade regulation often explicitly sets out "to facilitate and expedite the recovery of stolen property" and if a buyer or seller will not give you their details traders should physically restrain them until the police arrive. Documentary evidence of the identity of sellers is required. ... Scotland requires second hand dealer to apply for a licence to trade..²

17. In the UK, local legislation is mostly concerned with regulating the second hand trade in general (and not just car boot fairs). It requires dealers who trade in second hand goods to register with one of the Councils and to keep records of their transactions. Some authorities believed that car boot fairs needed to be regulated too; for example Kent placed a requirement on those who organise car boot fairs (as well as the owner or manager of the venue where such fairs occur) to notify their Trading Standards Department 21 days in advance about when they intend to hold fairs and to record the name and vehicle registration numbers of all sellers present on the day. Dealers are required to conspicuously display a copy of their registration certificate when trading from any premises in Kent – premises include a vehicle or stall. Records must be kept and be available for inspection for two years. With these new regulations come powers of entry and inspection of registered premises and their records by police and Trading Standards officers of the council.

² Evaluation of the Kent and Medway Acts 2001, Kent Criminal Justice Centre, Mar 2003

18. In response to a Private Members Bill which, although subsequently dropped, sought to create national proposals to better regulate the second hand trade in general, the Government have committed to seeking “evidence from police forces and local authorities when they consult on whether the regulatory aspects of the Kent Acts have wider application.”³ (See **Annex 5** for details of when this might take place).
19. A three point plan from the Local Government Association (LGA) is calling for greater powers that would allow councils to supervise car-boots sales and monitor the activities of sellers. These would include the implementation of compulsory codes of practice that would hold organisers liable for illegal activities at their events, with the threat of prison sentences for serious offenders.

³ Hansard, 19 Jun 2006, c1661W

SECTION 3 ~ FINDINGS

1. THE SCALE OF THE PROBLEM

(a) Stolen property

20. It is widely assumed that thieves take stolen property to second hand traders in order to swap items for cash. A belief reinforced when a second hand shop, opened in Newcastle as a police undercover operation, resulted in large numbers of criminals coming into the shop to sell things they had stolen. However interviews with offenders show that, although the second hand trade has a role to play in the disposal of stolen property, it is not the central selling point.

Young offenders spoke of usually selling property they stole to friends and acquaintances. They also repeatedly mentioned corner shops. One group said exchanging goods for drugs was routine. Many adult offenders use other traders in specialised businesses – such as builders, garages – whose main line is not second hand property but who can use particular equipment on occasion. Considerable trade in stolen property also went on between networks of friends and trusted acquaintances who ordered property that they would like – this applied particularly to cars and car parts.⁴

21. Home Office research identifies a 'hierarchy of markets', where "a trusted contact to whom the offender could sell regularly was most prized".⁵ The local Police officers interviewed for this Review, endorse these views about other means for disposal of stolen goods, suggesting that:

Most stolen goods in Oxfordshire are sold to fast food outlets, taxi divers or

building sites. Drug users who steal to fund their habit usually sell to shop-keepers and pub landlords. The recipient sometimes gives the addict a list of other things they are in the market for and the addict will go and steal them to order. Often the person stealing already knows where they are going to sell it.

Although some stolen goods end up at car boot sales it is probably the thin end of the wedge. Much more, for instance, probably ends up on e-Bay. E-Bay is the growth area, it offers greater protection, it is a much bigger place to hide.

Experience locally confirms such findings, for example in June 2006 a police raid on an Oxford 'corner store' found designer perfumes, clothing, alcohol and a laptop which were all believed to have been stolen.

22. Boot fair organisers generally thought thieves would be unlikely to steal for the profits in pence that car boot fairs represented, whilst others quoted anecdotes of seeing traders at car boots with 20 of the same item. One offender said he knew people who sold at car boot fairs but most offenders said "car boot sales were rarely used because of the very low profit margins."⁶
23. The Review was not able to substantiate anecdotal accounts of thefts from gardens (the original stimulus for commissioning this Review) but interestingly the Association of British Insurers and the police are now unofficially categorising what was simply 'theft, other' as an increasing problem of 'Gardening Crime'.⁷

⁴ Evaluation of the Kent Acts, p.55-6

⁵ Targeting the markets for stolen goods – two targeted policing initiative projects, p.4

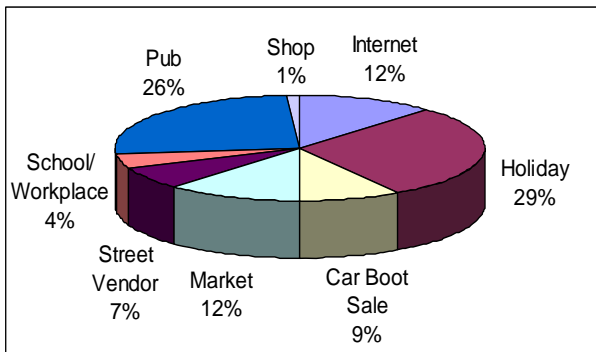
⁶ *ibid*, p4

⁷ Observer Magazine, 20 Aug 2006, p.27-8

(b) Counterfeit goods

24. Research has confirmed that the consumption of counterfeit, pirated and other fake goods is a common, widespread and normalised practice across the United Kingdom, with the loss to the whole audio visual industry from illegitimate copyright theft of music and film estimated at between £719m⁸ and £818m⁹ (and criminal gain estimated at over £14b). As with stolen goods there are a number of market places and precise prevalence of counterfeit goods at car boot fairs is difficult to quantify, however “Kent officers have seized counterfeit items from 139 different sellers and the majority of these were at boot fairs.”¹⁰ Recent research found that the main location for the purchase of counterfeit and pirated goods was on holiday abroad but that a full range of fake goods could also be found at car boot fairs, local markets and street vendors. Purchases were also made in local pubs or social clubs.

Purchase sites for counterfeit DVDs¹¹



25. Again as was the case with stolen goods, the Internet is often mentioned as of equal or greater significance than care boot fairs. The Federation Against Copyright Theft (FACT) have successfully closed 50%

⁸ National Intellectual Property (IP) Enforcement Report 2005, p.135

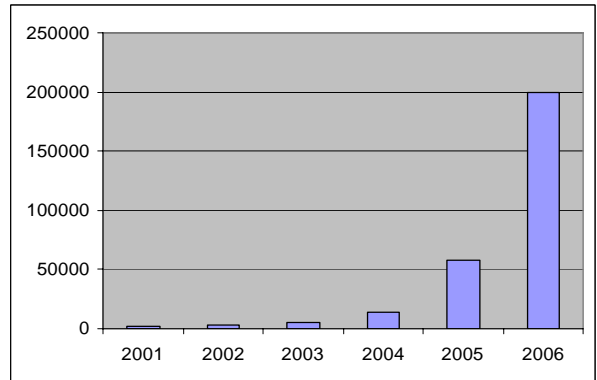
⁹ Source: <http://www.piracyisacrime.com/bigissue/piracy.php>

¹⁰ The Kent Acts: A case for National Legislation, Dec 2004, p36

¹¹ Fake Nation, 2005, p.9

more websites and online auction houses selling pirate DVDs throughout 2005, and seized 2.1m pirate DVDs (equivalent to 5,700 per day). Seizures of pirate DVD-Rs (i.e. copied using burners) in the UK in 2005 were up by 136% to 1.3m. There is also evidence that this is a problem locally, for instance Banbury Magistrates Court found a local fraudster guilty of selling pirate DVDs over the Internet.

Number of infringing E-Bay auction removed for piracy¹²



26. The accepted reasons given for the tremendous growth in the scale of intellectual property crime are that the creative industries themselves grew by an average of 6% per year between 1997 and 2003, which when coupled with the fact that new opportunities in technology make reproduction more accessible at a time when stretched enforcement resources have been focussed elsewhere, means that counterfeiting's “high profit, low risk” characteristics have made it a very attractive criminal enterprise.

27. It is well documented that pirate and counterfeit goods have been seized at car boot fairs, in Oxfordshire and elsewhere. During a pilot study where Kent Trading Standards and police officers attended a particular car boot fair over a three-week period, six stalls selling counterfeit goods were dealt with, two of which had significant quantities (£34,500) of new film release DVDs. More than £1m worth of

¹² Source: www.bpi.co.uk/index.asp The figure for 2006 is only up to 10 May 2006

counterfeit goods were seized from a Leeds car boot fair in December 2005.¹³ A raid earlier this year at an Oxford City car boot fair discovered over £9,500 worth of counterfeit DVD and CDs. A few high street retailers have written to the Council to complain about the unfair competition they face from illegal activity, and a market trader telephoned the Scrutiny team to complain about three separate groups of people blatantly selling pirate DVDs at car boot fairs in Oxfordshire.

(c) Unsafe products

28. Evidence concerning the sale of shoddy and substandard goods at car boot fairs is less well documented in the research literature, although some counterfeit goods are often inferior to their real counterparts. Direct observations made by the Review Group during a visit to local car boot fairs in the summer, found cigarettes and alcohol on sale. These were most likely smuggled or stolen, although the possibility that they were counterfeit cigarettes cannot be ruled out (HM Revenue & Customs seized more than 41 million packets of counterfeit cigarettes in 2004, a 25% increase from the preceding year).¹⁴

29. In the Kent pilot study Trading Standards officers seized goods from one car boot trader who was offering unsafe power tools. A recent Oxford raid found hardcore pornographic films amongst the counterfeit DVDs, which in the UK are not only age restricted but can only be legally sold under license. Witnesses have also raised concerns about other age-restricted products that they have seen on sale at local events, especially knives, but also occasionally swords, air-rifles and martial arts weapons.

(d) Summary

30. The most reliable conclusion the Committee can draw from all its research is that there is a large data gap, which means the extent to which the second hand trade in general, and car boot fairs in particular, are used as an avenue for the disposal of stolen property, smuggled products and counterfeit goods cannot be known. However direct observation from attendance at local events confirms findings from case studies in the research literature and has proven that car boot fairs are sometimes used to sell such illicit products.

¹³ TS Today, April 2006, p.13

¹⁴ National Intellectual Property (IP) Enforcement Report 2005, p.136

2. EXPERIENCE FROM THE KENT ACTS AND ELSEWHERE

(a) Overview

31. The University of Kent's evaluation is equivocal in its support for these local Acts. It certainly cites instances where the Kent experience has shown a number of positives for Trading Standards by introducing regulation in an arena where previously there was none and therefore it was difficult to target activity.

Generally as far as Trading Standards are concerned, the value of the Acts is instrumental in that the Acts both reveal to them who is trading, and therefore subject to consumer protection legislation, and also gives them a valid justification for visiting and inspecting these traders.¹⁵

Because of the previous lack of regulation in all business registration, the benefits for Trading Standards are quite clear in that the legislation makes the second hand trade transparent for the enforcement of other Trading Standards legislation relating to consumer protection, increasing their inspecting power to enforce consumer safety and address other illicit marketplaces, often linked to stolen goods, such as the trade in counterfeit goods.¹⁶

32. The existence of legislation was also found to give police officers a highly valuable additional avenue when investigating individual cases, which has been used in detections of acquisitive crime and associated criminal activity. Police admit that,

When resources are available to police it properly, second hand trade regulation has potential as a useful tool to combat parts of the stolen

goods distribution chain and increase transparency of trading activities.¹⁷

The legislation has clearly deterred some offenders from using the second hand trade due to the increased risk in this formerly easy method of disposal. It also provides a point of intervention to those thought to be trading dishonestly. Suspicion of non-compliance can be followed-up with police surveillance.

33. However, for the police, the advantages of what can be done with legislation over what can be done with a voluntary scheme working with second hand traders is less clear-cut. One Kent case study quoted in the evaluation showed how the police recovered £2,000 of stolen garden property because the shop had recorded names and vehicle details of the sellers. However,

The owners said that they collected this sort of information anyway so this is another case where it cannot be certain how much the Kent Acts helped.¹⁸

Unfortunately there can be little firm evidence either for or against the impact of legislation. Police in North Yorkshire make regular use of prisoner interviews to help generate intelligence on likely outlets for stolen goods, and the information coming back suggests that thieves are finding it harder to dispose of stolen items to registered dealers and are moving out of their existing method of dealing into more of a classic black market approach, selling in pubs or other non-regulated environments.

This would suggest that their renewed emphasis on the Act is beginning to have an effect on the operation of the market for stolen

¹⁵ Evaluation of the Kent and Medway Acts, Mar 2003, p.47

¹⁶ *ibid*, p.59

¹⁷ *ibid*, p.64

¹⁸ *ibid*, p.20

goods, although figures are impossible to produce.¹⁹

34. Initially the impact in terms of aggregate detected and reported crime rates in Kent appeared minimal, despite the Police seeking to make it routine practice to use the Act's powers to search registered premises.

In terms of their impacts on levels of recorded crime and detection rates since December 2001 the evidence to date is not particularly encouraging; the detection rate for Burglary Dwelling fell from 18% to 16% and for Burglary Other rose from 61% to 63%.²⁰

However a later report by the Kent Police and Trading Standards suggests the legislation has added to detection potential and between 2000/01 and 2003/04,

Contributed to a 6.9% reduction in burglaries (dwelling) since the Acts came into force. No other police force within Kent's family of most similar forces have experienced these levels of crime reduction.²¹

(b) Resources required by intervention

35. The initial costs in simply enacting local legislation can be substantial. The combined cost for Nottingham City Council of Parliamentary Fees and the salary of a lead officer was £165k. For Kent, the costs were even higher, as they had to fight opposition from the antiques trade, and are estimated to be in the region of £350k.²² Kent Police officially spent at least

£100,000 on setting up the necessary infrastructure.²³

36. Staff resource requirements are also considerable, especially at first, but remain substantial if the regulations are to be actively enforced. Trading Standards put approximately 33% of their work hours into the Kent and Medway Acts during the first four months of implementation, and changed their business plan in order to accommodate the new work which they regarded as high priority which reduced to about 10-15% later on. During the first 12 months activity relating to the Kent Acts was given a special focus, with over 1500 visits made, nearly 5,000 second-hand traders registered and over 2,000 occasional sales involving 450 venues and 233 organisers notified.²⁴

37. In many areas with older legislation in force for over a decade, Trading Standards could not maintain the initial time investment in the Acts for the necessary on-going staff involvement. Similarly police forces like those in North Yorkshire, though initially keen on the extra powers conferred by such Acts, found that its use rather fell by the wayside due to lack of staff resources for enforcement. Many still see car boot fairs as a significant problem but fail to see how with current resources the legislation will be enforced with enough consistency to have an effect.

38. Lancashire and Worcester also spoke of a dead period in activity on the legislation following the initial flurry (involving bespoke officers). A typical case described Licensing as a "Cinderella" of services. Within Licensing, taxis and public entertainments have traditionally taken priority as the issues of main public concern. Few registered traders had ever had an inspection visit from a council

¹⁹ *ibid*, p.27

²⁰ Evaluation of the Kent and Medway Acts, Mar 2003, p.14

²¹ The Kent Acts: A case for National Legislation, Dec 2004, p.6

²² Figures quoted by Nottingham City Council Trading Standards in a telephone interview

²³ The Kent Acts: A case for National Legislation, Dec 2004, p.24

²⁴ Evaluation of the Kent and Medway Acts, Mar 2003, p.6-8

officer and only one had the required record of transactions available for inspection. Car boot fairs organisers are collecting a large amount of data on attendees and their registration numbers and in Kent the agencies found they also cannot look at all these records. The resource implications to try and make use of this vast sea of data, by checks and analysis, are considerable and yet if this information is only treated as a resource to be tapped when needed, the collection of it is likely to fall into disrepute.

39. However, some areas such as Humberside, Hereford, Worcester and Nottingham mentioned that even if this data was simply managed on a “purge” basis and looked at once a year, this could still be a useful weapon in support of officers making enquiries - “if the legislation was withdrawn, many more enquires would prove negative at an early stage”. Even when not regularly managed, such police powers are valued for the climate of compliance they promote.
40. On balance, it seems it is too resource intensive to regularly make use of the records that are kept and experience suggests that enthusiasm ebbs and flows according to what is in vogue with the police but when resources are made available to police it properly, the Act can be a useful tool to combat parts of the stolen goods trade.

(c) Licensing vs registration

41. Regulatory legislation such as this has been criticised for being relatively easy to evade. Numerous agency personnel questioned whether mere registration requirements, rather than licensing, contain the necessary enforcement strength. As one officer put it,

it does seem strange that even a record of convictions for theft or handling stolen goods would not

*prevent a person from dealing in second hand goods, and to that extent the legislation does not protect the public against unscrupulous dealers.*²⁵

Some traders were even using the fact of their registration with the councils as some kind of stamp of approval.

42. A related problem is that there is no offence of registering under a false name. Both the Kent Police and local organisers in Oxfordshire questioned the effectiveness of any recording of the details of those selling at car boot fairs by the organisers. Unless the details are checked there is scope for providing false details. The Committee believe that the level of accuracy required to make it useful for boot fair organisers to take lists of sellers’ details is almost impossible to achieve in the absence of national ID cards, and thus not worth the burden it would impose.
43. A licensing scheme means that licences could be revoked from traders found to be dealing in stolen goods, which would – and in Scotland does – increase the regulation. Some local authorities in England have also chosen this option, for example Barking & Dagenham Borough, Birmingham City, Channock Chase, Rugby Borough and Tameside Metropolitan Borough Councils. Most of these authorities only approve licences of boot fairs which are for community fundraising or charitable purposes. However it would be even more costly in administrative terms and would effectively close many local events which are currently valued by local people, and for these reasons is not supported by the Committee at this time.

²⁵ Evaluation of the Kent and Medway Acts, Mar 2003, p.33

(d) Level of fines/ bringing prosecution

44. Experience in many areas suggests that the level of fines are too low and thus render local legislation ineffective. Authorities such as North Yorkshire, Lancashire and Kent, pointed out that for many traders the perceived costs of compliance with the requirement to register (i.e. no longer being able to avoid paying tax) far exceed the level of fines. Such traders would prefer to pay these adhoc fines rather than risk exposing their activities as a business for examination by the tax authorities. Furthermore, due to the resource constraints on checking compliance, an unregistered trader keeping no records and trading at several fairs would realistically be unlucky to be caught more than once or twice a year. The fines therefore fail to offer any real deterrent to those wishing to evade the monitoring of boot fairs.
45. The effectiveness of such legislation could be greatly improved by raising the level of fines to a point which represents a real threat. However no authority can introduce a higher fine than is applicable to the same offence in another part of the country, and since some of these acts were passed in the 1980s fines are low.
46. The Crown Prosecution Service was contacted for this review but they were unable to provide any useful information. With respect to stolen goods they cannot disaggregate their case data to be able to offer any insights into enforcement in relation to car boot fairs, as opposed to theft generally, and for copyright offences they explained that Trading Standards were the prosecuting agency. The Committee are concerned that the general practice of Trading Standards only to proceed to prosecution after several warnings further reduces any deterrent effect.

(e) Evaluating the added value of local legislation

47. Several problems highlighted in the evaluation of the Kent legislation echoed those previously identified by earlier pioneering Councils – there is no provision for refusing registration or vetting applicants; there is no fee to cover even administrative expenses; to operate efficiently much agency and trader effort has to be put into maintaining up-to-date records which requires resources that are scarce in the face of many other competing priorities; proper inspection requires further resources that agencies simply do not have; there is no provision for a standardised record keeping book; and the “paper tiger” fines (set when the first Act was introduced) are so low as to provide very little deterrent, and no incentive for dealers to be as stringent as they should be regarding sellers’ identity. Also, in the absence of an authorised photo ID card and without police powers to check names and addresses many of the details recorded by traders and Trading Standards may be false.
48. A further complaint identified by many traders is that it will always be the case that those who don’t want to be regulated will fail to register and or keep records. The Acts would be impossible to enforce against the very sort of dishonest dealer who wouldn’t register and the fines are too low to provide a sufficient deterrent. In the words of the Kent Trading Standards lead officer;

those unwilling to register under the Acts are those who are flouting the law in general ²⁶

To place too much emphasis on one particular marketplace could be counter productive; it could cause displacement into other more entrenched markets that are not the object of official attention.

²⁶ Evaluation of the Kent and Medway Acts, Mar 2003, p.18

Traders said the legislation “will be one more law which will not stop people stealing” and will allow those on the margins – possibly operating from home and unregistered in any official way (and who could well be the most unscrupulous) – to still escape regulation. They are concerned that rogue dealers will just go out of open trading. The only traders for whom the legislation will “work” are those who were already co-operative.

49. The Committee conclude that, though desirable in theory and in spite of its many genuine benefits, on balance the evidence suggests such legislation is in practice an expensive “sledgehammer to crack a nut”²⁷. Cornwall County Council expressed interest in pursuing similar legislation but in the end similarly concluded that it was not cost effective to do so and preferred instead to await national legislation from the Home Office.

50. Although John Whittingdale MP was unable to obtain a Second Reading debate for his private Members Bill, the Minister’s response set out several ways in which the Government are considering national proposals. The Committee endorses a national approach, not least as it accords with calls from the Alliance Against IP Theft, which represents over 500 of Europe’s businesses including BPI (music), FACT (films) and ELSPA (games), lobbying for better protection against intellectual property crime. It also has the advantage of being able to set the fines at a higher level. An additional benefit of national legislation would be to remove the lack of consistency arising from similar but different provisions in each local authority area, which pose a problem to those second hand traders who travel around the country and trade at different locations.

R1) The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet NOT to implement an ‘Oxfordshire Trading Standards Act’ at this time but not to oppose any requests to the Home Office for national legislation.

²⁷ This was the general feeling of many of the traders interviewed in the Kent evaluation, p52

3. CODE OF PRACTICE

(a) Aims and objectives

51. There was a perception amongst some witnesses that the organisers of boot fairs could do more to regulate their events. Some were perceived as “only really being interested in collecting the money and not asking any questions”. One trader who heard about the Review phoned in to complain about what she saw as the repeated and flagrant appearance of counterfeit DVD sellers at events she attended. It was in response to these concerns that, in the absence of national legislation, Trading Standards established its voluntary Code of Practice (**Annex 6**).
52. The Code seeks to set out a set of standards to which signatories can then be expected to meet. It requires organisers to take partial (but not complete) responsibility for sellers from whom they receive payment, in order to ensure that traders operating unfairly or illegally are not permitted at their events. This means they must prominently display their trading name and address, provide a named contact for liaison with Trading Standards, provide copies of the ‘Guide to Sellers’ advice leaflet, and actively police the event by reporting any seller suspected to be operating unfairly or illegally to Trading Standards.

(b) Organisers’ views

53. On the whole, organisers accepted that they may have had one or two incidents of illicit trade in the past but believed they had been dealt with and thus felt they already co-operated with agencies and self-regulated effectively. However almost all conceded that ‘there will always be some people who slip through the net’ because ‘we don’t have eyes in the back of our heads’. As of September 2006 those organisers in the County who had been approached had all signed up to the

voluntary Code of Practice. Some thought it a bit unnecessary as they were effectively doing it already, others, especially some of the smaller boot fair organisers, were grateful for the advice which they thought would help them to tighten things up a little bit and generally appreciated more regular contact with officers. Many mentioned they would especially welcome greater involvement from their community police teams.

54. The twin concerns raised by the organisers of local events were the difficulty they would have if in future they were required to record the car registration numbers of all sellers,²⁸ and their inability to distinguish fake goods from the real thing, especially with clothes. Many spoke of a visit from Trading Standards Officer in which “even he could not tell which of the two baseball caps was the fake”. It was also noted that Trading Standards are more effective in this area than they are in neighbouring unitary authorities where there are fewer resources and officers available.
55. Only one organiser felt it would be easy to record registration details, since instead of taking the fee from sellers when they arrive as most organisers do, he chose to walk around after the event had started to collect his money. The Committee felt this was a much better option since this also gave organisers an opportunity to meet each vendor by their stall and have a quick look at what they were selling, and agreed it would not be difficult to take down vehicle

²⁸ Interestingly, Nottingham City Council found less resistance to this idea – they did a survey before introducing its legalisation and asked people that were involved with organising fundraising events such as car boot fairs, if they thought it will cause any problems to take the names, addresses and car registration numbers of all the sellers at the event. Of the 53 respondents, 55% said it would cause some or many problems and 45% said very few or none.

registrations of anyone suspicious at this point.

56. When asked how they had dealt with any previous incidents of suspect trade, organisers consistently stated that they simply relied upon recognising people to ensure they didn't return. No one said they noted car license plate details of suspect traders. The Committee felt that this was not a sufficiently robust system for tackling persistent offenders and would prefer the Code of Practice to be amended to require such details to be passed on when identifying such people to Trading Standards. This would have added benefit for improved monitoring, as the data then held by Trading Standards could be used to identify trends in the scale and location of any problems.

(c) Public perceptions

57. Car boot sales are extremely popular and are seen as fulfilling a community and recreational need. According to a survey of 3,000 residents conducted for this Review, almost a third of the population (30%) have been to one in the last year. Many witnesses also felt they could be viewed as having a positive environmental impact in that they helped to reuse unwanted goods rather than throwing them away.
58. Survey respondents confirm that 'dodgy' goods have been seen at local events but are not overwhelmingly prevalent and tend to think (approx $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{4}{5}$ of respondents) such problems are either 'very' or 'fairly serious'. Stolen goods, age-restricted and shoddy goods are most frequently thought to be a serious issue.
59. Few people think these problems should be ignored, with almost $\frac{4}{5}$ (80%) saying the voluntary Code of Practice is a 'very good' or 'fairly good' idea. A compulsory registration scheme for sellers or a mandatory licensing scheme is not widely supported (just over half - 55%) found these to be acceptable ideas. Banning car boot sales is a very unpopular suggestion, and limiting their number is not a well supported idea either.

(d) Enforcement

60. The Committee welcome the consistent direction of travel demonstrated by Trading Standards over the last three years, aimed at improving car boot fairs' compliance with trading legislation. In their Service Plan 2004/5 boot fairs were not mentioned. In 2005/6 the service aimed "to develop a Code of Practice and complete a programme of inspections". In 2006/7 this was stepped up to include an explicit target "to clear away all sellers of counterfeit goods from the Kassam car boot fair and other venues", supported by the milestone/ measures that a programme of enforcement action is agreed with Thames Valley Police, Home Office Immigration Team and other organisations with a minimum of 4 high profile raids on the Kassam Stadium boot fair.
61. The Committee appreciate that Trading Standards aim to ensure compliance with the law. In general this can often be done (given that prosecutions are very time consuming and costly) by advising and warning those who do not currently meet the appropriate standards. The service plan points to the general success of this approach (across the board and not just to second hand traders) in bringing over 80% of businesses found not to comply with trading laws during inspection back to a state of compliance. However this leaves 20% still not complying with the law. In the experience of other authorities, relatively low fines, coupled with an approach which at best simply confiscates stock seized on the day, fails to provide a significant deterrent to many illicit traders. They will usually recover any losses within a few hours or days of further unlawful trading.
62. "Under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (POCA) and the Incentivisation Scheme,

which came into effect this year, Trading Standards Authorities are receiving powers to keep a third of any illegal assets that they recover through court orders. In the case of counterfeiting, a person found guilty of one IP offence is deemed to be a lifestyle criminal and their income/ assets obtained over the last 6 years are assumed to come from crime (the onus being on the defendant to prove otherwise). The Committee wish to see Trading Standards making much greater use of such confiscation orders (which can only be made after successful prosecution) and thus altering their Service Plan to make it a strategic objective to use POCA and confiscation proceedings to recover assets from IP crime prosecution. The Committee believe this affords an opportunity not only to damage the capacity of criminals to continue trading but will allow assets rightfully to be returned to the community. Moreover it could provide financial support for the activities of Trading Standards that may help it to alleviate the "budgetary constraints and efficiency savings that can only be met by reducing staffing costs and as a consequence may not be able... to maintain previous levels of performance."²⁹

63. Liaison with the police appears to be improving and effectively establishes who will be the lead agency in any joint operations. Usually when the enforcement relates to trading infringements, Trading Standards take the lead. The one drawback to this arrangement is that it usually means the potential to collect additional evidence is missed. Trading Standards processes can be cumbersome, as they often have to wait to serve a summons on people, rather than arresting them. In the meantime people can disappear or dispose of incriminating material. If the police were the lead they would be more likely to complete the investigation by using their powers under s18 of the PACE Act 1984 to search a

suspect's premises for other stock or copying equipment. The Committee heard that there is partial communication which ensures there is some sharing of information, although it appears that this is not particularly structured. It can be difficult to ensure the same named police officer is always contacted because of the large number of different police teams within the main Basic Command Unit area.

64. A number of authorities have tried to overcome the sluggish nature of Trading Standards legal enforcement options by introducing a 'fast-track system'. This involves speeding up the process of bringing alleged offenders to court by obtaining delegated authority to allow Trading Standards officers to immediately charge them at a police station. In Oxfordshire the County Solicitor exercises this power on behalf of the Council, so Trading Standards have to prepare a file and then submit it to Legal Services. Fast-tracking has been successfully introduced in Wirral, Ealing, Slough, Liverpool and Nottinghamshire where it enables alleged perpetrators to be interviewed straight away and bailed, which prevents them from absconding. The fast-track process has the added benefits of reducing costs and saving considerable officer time by preventing delay. Previously it would regularly take in excess of six months from an arrest being made to the defendant appearing in court.
65. The Committee would like to see a further strengthening of enforcement action to reverse the perception that illegal trading at car boot fairs is high profit and low risk. The flow of information between Trading Standards, the Police, DVLA, Home Office Immigration team and the Benefits Agency could be improved by creating an information sharing protocol to establish a collective commitment to improving coordination and identify the criteria for intelligence which must be shared. Currently there is still the potential for some

²⁹ Oxfordshire Trading Standards Service and Performance Plan 2005/06, p.1

information to “fall between the gaps”, when an agency shows less interest in a matter that is “someone else’s area”. An example of this concerns the sale of smuggled goods which both the Police and Trading Standards tend to leave as something for HM Revenue & Customs to deal with but don’t notify them concerning what they have seen. The Committee would also like to see Trading Standards work with the Police to identify some suitable warning messages that could be added to their Code of Practice, other literature and the website. For instance the Crimestoppers message, “Warning: Buy Bent Gear, Get (up to) 14 years” or the warning that appears on the Car Boot Junction website, “If you handle stolen goods you may be subject to a greater penalty than the original thief”.

(e) Traders, markets and new goods

66. The most affected industries feel very strongly that not enough is being done to tackle the piracy problem:

*With IP crime not a top priority for police, the onus of tackling music piracy falls upon the Trading Standards Authorities, who lack the duty, power and resources to enforce copyright and tackle organised and well-funded criminal networks. The BPI says this “enforcement gap” has resulted in a piecemeal approach to tackling IP crime, and this has allowed the piracy problem to escalate. Furthermore, other enforcement issues exacerbate the problem; the current laws mean that damages do not have a sufficient deterrent effect in civil cases. It is difficult for authorities to take action against markets and car boot sales that persistently sell fake goods - and as company directors often turn a blind eye to copyright infringement, workplace piracy is on the increase.*³⁰

³⁰ Source: <http://www.bpi.co.uk/index.asp>

67. The Committee believe wholesale regulation of local car boot fairs is excessive and impractical, and without implementing a specific licensing scheme for boot fairs a Councils’ statutory powers and controls are limited by permitted development rights which allow private land to be used for sales and markets for up to 14 days per year.³¹ However, the Council may have other options to intervene. For example, authorities can require notice to be given of the intention to set up a temporary market on private land, through the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, and at least two instances of case law upheld that a car boot fair could be considered to be a market.

*The assertion that a car boot sale constitutes a market has been accepted by the courts and the recent case involving Leeds City Council confirms car boot sales fall within the definitions of a market.*³²

68. One option would be to explore any conditions contained in local market charters, as these often grant a degree of exclusivity by not permitting another market within a certain radius. These ancient legal rights may be used despite the absence of any specific modern requirements for planning permission as they are not lightly overridden by planning controls. The Greater Manchester Act does not include car boot fairs, but the authority has successfully used Market Charter arrangements to stipulate that “traders” are not allowed at car boot fairs.
69. The Review Group discovered that one event in Oxfordshire operates differently to all others in that it has been granted planning permission by the local planning authority. This was because it takes place

³¹ Under the Town and Country Planning Order 1995, provided the land so used is not included within the cartilage of a building, thus excluding fairs located within the car parks of stadiums, etc.

³² Trading Standards Today, Mar 2006, p.27

within the cartilage of a building (Kassam stadium car-park) and thus was not covered by permitted development rights. Many organisers felt this gives their events a significant competitive disadvantage because the car boot fair at the Kassam stadium is not subject to the maximum 14 events a year stipulation – in effect it has been given a license to trade year round which cannot be revoked. The Cabinet are advised to liaise with its district council partners to prevent other boot fairs being granted such permanent permission, because of the potentially negative impact on subsequent regulatory enforcement capabilities.

car boot fairs and other markets to make money illicitly and help ensure that consumers can be confident that the goods they buy are legitimate. One approach would be to write this into Oxfordshire's Code of Practice, perhaps with an exception being made for produce, so that farmers' market stalls and the sale of plants could still take place. Birmingham City, Wolverhampton City, Wakefield District, Tameside Metropolitan Borough, Walsall Metropolitan Borough Councils and the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham created new by-laws (under s37 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982) to stipulate only second-hand goods owned by the vendor may be sold (**Annex 7**). A commercial organiser of giant car boot fairs in Kilburn has voluntarily imposed a similar restriction at all its events.

70. Another way to effectively control the sale of fake and smuggled goods would be to implement a 'no new goods' policy. This could shut out the criminals who are using

R2) The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet to endorse the use of a voluntary Code of Practice and to strengthen it by requiring car boot fair organisers to note vehicle registration numbers of any sellers they suspect to be infringing the Code, and to maintain a list of such license plates which should be shared with Trading Standards.

R3) The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet to increase the deterrence effect by ensuring Trading Standards:

- a) officers are given the delegated authority to charge alleged offenders in a police station and thus make greater use of 'fast-track prosecutions',**
- b) take greater advantage of their powers under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 to recover money which has been obtained illegally, and**
- c) liaise more effectively with the police to ensure further searches are carried out to complete investigations and seize additional assets stored in offenders' premises (not just those in their possession when caught).**

R4) The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet to ask Trading Standards and the Police to create some warning messages about the risks of dealing in stolen goods which should be included in future literature and relevant web pages.

R5) The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet to liaise with its district council partners to ensure that if in future any car boot fairs are granted planning permission, compliance with Trading Standards' Code of Practice is stipulated within the planning conditions.

R6) The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet to consider if the powers to make new by-laws suggested in the Local Government White Paper offer the potential to improve regulation locally.

4. INTELLIGENCE-LED POLICING/ DISRUPTING STOLEN GOODS

71. During joint operations in a pilot study on a particular car boot fair, although police assisted Trading Standard Officers to confiscate a large number of counterfeit DVDs, no stolen property was identified.

An internal report on the activity concluded that rather than a blanket attendance at these fairs, "a better use of resources would be to continue to react to specific intelligence regarding individuals attending to dispose of suspected stolen property".³³

This view was endorsed by witnesses from Thames Valley Police who explained that it is not cost-effective to work on a speculative basis, for example by scanning goods for ultraviolet pen markings at car boot fairs as a matter of routine. Their response to problems must be based on intelligence.

72. The police understand that fraudsters, counterfeiters and handlers often sit together (as someone who commits one crime will be often quite willing to commit the other). According to the Northern Ireland Orgs Crime Task Force around 80% of counterfeiters are estimated to be illegally claiming benefits, and Powys County Council Trading Standards also report a link between counterfeiters and fraudulent benefit claimants.³⁴ Steps taken to tackle one problem could have a positive impact on the others. However, the Police have recognised, through both the national strategic assessment and the Thames Valley strategic assessment, that there is a considerable and historic deficit in the intelligence over who exactly is handling stolen goods.
73. The advance of intelligence-led policing aims to develop new techniques beyond the

³³ Evaluation of the Kent and Medway Acts, Mar 2003, p20-1

³⁴ National Intellectual Property (IP) Enforcement Report 2005, p.52

traditional methods relating to the scene of the crime. There is a concerted effort to improve the knowledge of handlers by improved questioning of those arrested and by using community intelligence better. Unfortunately,

It is more difficult for the police to get thieves to talk about their handlers than to get them to talk about other thieves. Thieves need handlers, whereas other thieves are competition.

Communities often take a lot of convincing to believe it is worth reporting crimes in general. It can be even harder to collect information about handling.

This can be linked to the fact that handling is not generally felt to be as serious as many other forms of crime and people may not see the need to report what they regard as harmless or indeed beneficial.³⁵

For the Police to be able to build up robust intelligence they need more crimes to be reported to them. Their key activity in resolving this issue is their drive around neighbourhood policing to build closer bonds. Undercover operations, where the police sell to handlers, have also been highly successful in gaining valuable intelligence especially where they believe stolen goods disposal is linked to drug-driven acquisitive crime. Such infiltration methods are time-consuming and costly but yield information that may be difficult to obtain in other ways.

74. Experience from the Kent Acts, however, reveals they were primarily used by the police as an aid to detection of a burglary, rather than as a mean of gathering intelligence on handlers and prosecuting them. The Committee would like to see the police in Oxfordshire putting more resources into combining their emerging

³⁵ Targeting the markets for stolen goods – two targeted policing initiative projects, p.12

intelligence-led policing strategy with the 'market reduction approach' (pioneered by Mike Sutton in 1998 and subsequently developed by the Home Office) in order to deliver a concerted effort to actively disrupt the supply chain for stolen goods. In other words, to turn their attention (and resources) to where thieves dispose of stolen property and thus make it harder for them to sell stolen goods. The police should do more to move away from the traditional approach of scene of crime detection and actively enforce the law around the handling of stolen goods, which would include tackling all unlawful markets by looking at less visible avenues of disposal. Doing so would help to put some substance behind the messages that the Committee are recommending be spread wherever possible, warning people of the serious consequences of handling stolen goods.

75. The Police agree that they would like to gather more intelligence on the handlers of stolen goods. The Force Control Strategy includes "Identifying disposal points and handlers of stolen property" as one of its burglary priorities.³⁶ As they have explained to the Review Group, the contacts trusted by thieves are at the pinnacle of the unlawful markets hierarchy. Moreover, intelligence on a handler is recognised as preferable to information on a burglar, for as one officer put it,

If I find the handler I can see who comes and goes, I will see a lot of burglars, a lot of drug users. It's like the difference between fishing with a trawling net rather than fishing with a single rod.

A view confirmed by a case study for Home Office research where the identification of a single handlers' safe house cleared up 42 offences of burglary.³⁷

76. Unfortunately, the Police say they are unable to find the necessary resources to do this on anything more than a sporadic basis, and have asked if the Committee can find a way to fund this important activity. This suggests to the Committee that there is a mismatching of funding to priorities.
77. The Committee recognise that the Cabinet would be unlikely to support making a payment to the Police for this purpose from its own budget but would hope they take whatever action they can to urge the police to use powers under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, combined with the recent creation of the Asset Recovery Agency (ARA), to create a small and virtually self-financing specialist team for gathering intelligence on, and ultimately disrupting, local stolen goods markets.³⁸ Or at the very least to identify a dedicated officer charged with specialising in the coordination of intelligence relating to unlawful markets, perhaps seconded to work in Trading Standards.

³⁶ Annual Policing Plan 2006-07, p.53

³⁷ Targeting the markets for stolen goods – two targeted policing initiative projects, p.14

³⁸ For example, in February 2006 the ASA secured a £39k confiscation order against a dealer in counterfeit DVDs. – Source: Car Boot Calendar, Jul-Aug 2006, No 26, p.18-21

- R7) The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet to investigate if there may be funding available through the Community Strategy, Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, or similar partnerships, to encourage the Police to enforce the laws on handling stolen goods more rigorously by establishing:**
- a) a small team to gather specific intelligence about trade in stolen goods, OR**
 - b) a dedicated police officer with special responsibility for coordination of intelligence relating to unlawful markets, and consider seconding him/her to work in Trading Standards.**
- R8) The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet to encourage Trading Standards officers and police community support officers/ neighbourhood police teams to regularly provide a visible police presence at car boot sales and help gather community intelligence.**
- R9) The Committee RECOMMEND the Cabinet to request the Police and Trading Standards to create an information exchange protocol, which should later be extended to include the DVLA, the Home Office Immigration team, HM Revenue & Customs and the Benefits Agency/ Department for Work and Pensions.**

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

78. For the majority of the recommendations put forward by this review it has not been possible for finance officers to forecast a precise financial implication. Finance officers have instead used a scale for the level of officer input that is likely to be required and to indicate whether it will have a significant impact on the existing service. The scale used will range from a negligible level of officer time to a significant level, indicating when additional staffing would be required.
79. Where it is possible to provide an estimated cost of a recommendation an indication of the level of funding required is indicated, and whether this will impact on revenue or capital funding and whether it will be required on a one-off or on-going basis is noted. A similar scale method will be used with a negligible cost requiring funding of up to £10,000 through to a significant cost requiring funding of over £500,000. In addition, the financial implications of this review will also consider any relevant opportunity costs that could possibly arise from the recommendations.

Recommendation	Comment	Officer Time	Cost
R1	By NOT implementing an 'Oxfordshire Trading Standards Act' it will not result in any financial implication.	Nil	Nil
R2	A negligible amount of officer time will be required to update the Code of Practice to include the new requirements of car boot fair organisers and also to advise organisers of the changes made.	Negligible	
R3	<p>a) & b) If Trading Standards officers are to make greater use of 'fast-track prosecutions' and their powers under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, it will initially involve a reasonable amount of officer time to develop and implement processes and also to understand the regulations regarding the use of the Incentivisation Funds (which allow local authorities and other agencies to retain up to 1/3rd of recovered assets following a successful prosecution).</p> <p>In the long-term it is believed that the 'fast-track' system will reduce the amount of officer time needed for pursuing prosecutions.</p> <p>c) Instigating more effective liaison with the police will require a negligible amount as it is likely to build on existing practices.</p>	<p>Reasonable (initially)</p> <p>Negligible</p>	
R4	The creation of stolen goods warning messages will involve a negligible amount of officer time from both Trading Standards officers and the Police. The outcome will be included in existing literature and web pages so should not incur any additional cost.	Negligible	
R5	Liaising with the district councils with regards to planning permission will require a negligible amount of officer time in the form of writing to/meeting with the district councils and gaining the endorsement of the Cabinet.	Negligible	

R6	A negligible amount of officer time will be required to draw together the potential impact and benefits of implementing the power to make new by-laws so that Cabinet can make an informed decision. If Cabinet agreed to the proposal it will involve a minimal amount of time to establish and implement the by-laws and will incur associated costs for implementing and regulating the new by-laws.	Negligible	Negligible to Minimal
R7	Investigating funding sources will require a negligible amount of Trading Standards officer time which would involve working with a Police representative. If this work was successful it would be a significant benefit for the service.	Negligible	
R8	By encouraging a more visible presence of Trading Standards officers at car boot sales it will involve a negligible amount of officer time (probably at weekends). This would be dependant on the number of events and there may also be an associated negligible cost.	Negligible	
R9	Linked to R3 c). Creating a formal information exchange protocol between Trading Standards and the Police will involve a negligible amount of officer time as it should build on existing arrangements between the organisations.	Negligible	

Scales**Officer Time**

Negligible	Minimal	Reasonable	Considerable	Significant
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Cost

Up to £10,000	Up to £50,000	Up to £250,000	Up to £500,000	Over £500,000
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Scoping Document

Review Topic (name of Review)	Car Boot Sales
Review Reference Code	CS008
Parent Scrutiny Committee	Community Safety
Lead Member Review Group (Cllr's involved)	Cllrs. Cartledge, Hudspeth & Lamont
Member responsible for tracking (nominate one Cllr)	Cllr. Lamont
Officer Support (Scrutiny Review Officer lead)	Matt Bramall
Rationale (key issues and/ or reason for doing the Review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns were raised by some constituents (especially in rural areas) that goods stolen from their gardens may be being sold at occasional sales. It corresponds with Trading Standards service priority, namely "To Provide an Effective Contribution to the Reduction of Crime and Disorder". • The Review may protect local retailers and manufacturers from unfair competition and ensure that legitimate business flourishes. It corresponds to the corporate strategic challenge, namely "Sustaining Oxfordshire's successful economy". • Forthcoming legislation is anticipated to improve regulation to tackle criminal activity centred around car boot sales and other temporary sales. Nationally trade in fake goods is estimated to be worth £9b p.a. which costs the Exchequer approx £2b p.a. in lost tax revenue – approx 25% of counterfeits are bought at markets and car boot sales. • 5 out of the 10-question criteria are met
Purpose of Review/Objective (specify exactly what the Review should achieve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine situation in Oxfordshire against a background nationally of a growing problem of counterfeit and pirated goods being sold at occasional sales and/ or car boot sales. • Investigate the extent to which consumers are not put at risk by exposure to shoddy, substandard and potentially dangerous merchandise and protect the public from conmen and criminals. • Evaluate the efficacy of the current regulatory framework • Assess the adequacy of the role different agencies play in enforcing regulations – e.g. Trading Standards, the Police, etc.
Indicators of Success (what factors would tell you what a good Review should look like)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear picture is obtained of the scale of the problem within Oxfordshire. • Clear recommendations are made, based on the evidence obtained, to improve the balance between over and under regulation of car boot and other occasional sales.
Methodology/ Approach (what types of enquiry will be used to gather evidence and why)	<p>Interviews with witnesses</p> <p>Literature review</p> <p>Possible benchmarking against other local authorities</p>

Specify Witnesses/ Experts (who to see and when)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nigel Strick – Head of OCC Trading Standards & Registration • Richard Webb – OCC Trading Standards Group Manager (Community) • Richard Staveley – OCC Trading Standards Officer, Rogue Traders Unit • ?? – District Council Licensing Officer(s) • Paul Coles – Gloucester Green Market Co-ordinator • Richard Franklin – Manager, Big Ben’s Car Boots • traders who frequent car boot sales • ?? – Chamber of Commerce • Det. Sgt. Tony Lees – Thames Valley Police • DCI Houalla – Thames Valley Police • a neighbourhood action group officer – Thames Valley Police • Susannah Winter – Alliance Against IP Theft 		
Specify Evidence Sources for Documents (which to look at)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation – e.g. Consumer Protection Act 1987; Business Names Act 1985; Consumer Transactions Order 1976; Misrepresentations Act 1967; Sales of Goods Act 1979 (Amended by Sale & Supply of Goods to Consumers Regulations 2002); Trade Descriptions Act 1968; Trade Marks Act 1994; Copyright, Designs & Patents Act 1988 • The Occasional Sales Bill • Oxfordshire Trading Standards Service Plan 2005-06/ 2006-07 • Police Neighbourhood Action Group policy documentation 		
Specify Site Visits (where and when)	<p>Visits to a number of local car boot sales will be needed.</p> <p>May wish to visit another authority, contenders so far include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ York (known to have prosecuted traders selling pirated goods at car boot sales), and ▪ Northamptonshire are involved with a national lobby group ▪ Kent – introduced their own Medway Act 2001 to improve local regulation 		
Specify Evidence Sources for Views of Stakeholders (consultation/ workshops/ focus groups/ public meetings)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who visit car boots – will try to find them by use of flyers, advertising on the website and issuing a press release/ writing letters to local media, as well as conversations during site visits. • Round table discussion with relevant ‘stakeholders’ 		
Publicity requirements (what is needed – fliers, leaflets, radio broadcast, press-release, etc.)	<p>Press release to advertise the Review</p> <p>Flyers to give out at car boot sales</p> <p>Local radio phone-in</p>		
Resource requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person-days • Expenditure 	<p>35 days</p> <p>£500 (may increase if financial expertise has to be bought in)</p>		
Barriers/ dangers/ risks (identify any weaknesses and potential pitfalls)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review might get tempted to stray into broader areas of stolen and counterfeit goods more generally. • Must be careful not to seek to over-regulate the legitimate activity of many residents and traders – guard against accusations of being ‘kill-joys’. 		
Projected start date	July 2005	Draft Report Deadline	23 Oct 2006
Meeting Frequency	Every two weeks	Projected completion date	04 Dec 2006
When to evaluate impact and response		12 months after considered by Cabinet	

Bibliography

During the course of the review, the following documents were collated, prepared or considered. Copies of all these documents are available for inspection in the Members' Resource Centre:

Relevant O.C.C. policies and strategies:

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- *Code of Practice for Car Boot Sale Organisers*, Oxfordshire County Council Trading Standards, February 2006

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- *A Brief Guide to Intellectual Property and Anti Counterfeiting*, The Patent Office, no date
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- *Guidance Note – The Trade Descriptions Act 1968*, DTI Consumer and Competition Policy Directorate
- *A Brief Summary of Copyright Law* www.britishcopyright.org,
- *A Brief Summary of Trade Marks Law*, www.kaltons.co.uk,
- *The Copyright, etc and Trade Marks (Offences and Enforcement) Act 2002 Guidance Note*, www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/en2002/2002en25.htm ,
- *How the BPI Does Anti-Piracy Work*, The British Phonographic Institute, www.bpi.co.uk/index.asp
- *IP Crime – Enforcement: Aide Memoir*, The Patent Office, September 2005
- *Strategy for Local Markets Legislative Proposal – Discussion Document*, Alliance Against IP Theft, no date
- *National Intellectual Property (IP) Enforcement Report 2005*, The Patents Office/ Dept of Trade and Industry, 22nd June 2006

Newspaper/ magazine articles:

- *“I thought of placing small explosives under the plants...”*, Observer Magazine, 20 August 2006
- *Undercover Sting Finds DVD Racket*, Banbury Guardian, 24 August 2006.
- *Probe into Car Boot Sales and Markets*, Abingdon Herald, 24 August 2006.
- *‘We’ll Boot Out Rogue Traders’*, Oxford Mail, 04 August 2006.
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- *‘Car boot sales becoming ‘breeding ground for criminals’*, LGA Press Release No.127/06, 29 August, 2006 www.lga.gov.uk/PressRelease.asp?id=SXB1A4-A783CA18
- *York Racecourse Boot Fair*, The Car Boot & Fairs Calendar, No.26, July 2006

List of Witnesses

Oral evidence was obtained from the following 'witnesses' during the review public hearings:-

- ❖ Richard Webb – OCC Trading Standards Group Manager (Community)
- ❖ Richard Staveley – OCC Trading Standards Officer, Rogue Traders Unit
- ❖ Det. Chief Inspector Houalla – Thames Valley Police
- ❖ Det. Chief Inspector Boyd – Thames Valley Police
- ❖ PC Martyn Wills – Thames Valley Police
- ❖ Andrew Lewis – Oxford City Council Planning Control Team Leader
- ❖ Tony Brummel – Cherwell District Council Chief Engineer, Property & Technical Dept
- ❖ Mrs. Huddle – Thames Valley Fairs Ltd
- ❖ David Wibberley – 22nd Sea Scouts Treasurer
- ❖ Mr. Nigel Morris – Bodicote Car Boot Fair Organiser
- ❖ Mr. Neale – Wytham Village Hall and Playing Field Committee Chairman
- ❖ Brian Lester – Black Bird Leys Parish Council Chairman

Written evidence was obtained from the following people:-

- ❖ Mrs Tanner – Tetsworth Car Boot Fair Organiser
- ❖ Mark Sockett – Blockbuster Store Manager, Henley
- ❖ Martin Street – Woolworths Store Manager, Witney

Site visits were undertaken to the following car boot fairs:-

- ❖ Big Ben's Car Boot at the Kassam – 20/ Aug/ 2006
- ❖ Drayton Car Boot Sale – 20/ Aug/ 2006

Offences around counterfeiting and piracy

LEGISLATION

Trade Marks Act 1994

The Trade Marks Act 1994 lays down criminal offences specific to counterfeiting and piracy. It protects against unauthorised copying of registered trade marks. However trade marks need not be registered the Act (Section 2 (2)) also seeks to protect unregistered marks through the common law right of arising out of what is known as "passing off".

What's the relevant Trade Marks legal provision relating to Counterfeiting?

Section 92 of the 1994 Trade Marks Act lays out offences concerning counterfeiting and unauthorised use of trade marks.

Trade Descriptions Act 1968

The Trade Descriptions Act 1968 came into effect on 30 November 1968. It replaced and expanded the old Merchandise Marks laws which dealt with mis-description of goods. Its particular function is to ensure, as far as possible, that people tell the truth about the goods and services they provide.

Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (CDPA)

Copyright can be complex. It legislates for the rights of authors, artists, creators and composers and for those to whom copyrights legally belong, say, by assignment. The CDPA's Act's copyright provisions aim to prevent any unauthorised persons copying original works. Therefore it protects persons who create or own literary works; dramatic works; musical works; artistic works; sound recordings; films; broadcasts; cable programmes and so on.

There is no official system for formal registration of copyright and therefore no government register exists that lists protected works. Nevertheless, the CDPA sets out in plain language the criminal breaches and their appropriate penalties.

Copyright, etc. and Trade Marks (Offences and Enforcement) Act 2002

This Act improves enforcement tools available and brings into line the penalties, throughout the UK, for criminal copyright and trade mark offences. In brief it removes some of the inconsistencies between the provisions applying to different IP offences and provides greater legislative transparency that should assist enforcers. The amendments made by the Act include changes to powers of arrest in cases of offences for making illegal goods for sale or dealing in illegal goods. They improve the IP criminal offence provisions by:

- increasing maximum penalties for certain copyright and related offences, bringing them to the same level available for trade mark offences;
- improving existing and introducing new police search and seizure powers in cases where illegal goods are made for sale and in cases of offences under IP law;
- bringing in improved provisions for obtaining court orders for forfeiture of illegal material that may have been seized during investigation of copyright and related offences (provisions that match those that already apply to obtaining court orders in cases of trade mark offences). More information can be found at:

<http://www.patent.gov.uk/copy/notices/guidance.pdf>

WHAT ARE THE CRIMINAL OFFENCES FOR COUNTERFEITING & PIRACY?

The most common ones are:

Section 92 Trade Marks Act (unauthorised use of trade marks)

Making or dealing in goods and packaging which bear signs identical to or likely to be mistaken for a registered trade mark; it is also an offence to possess equipment specifically designed or adapted for making these signs. The maximum penalty is 10 years imprisonment or unlimited fines or both

Section 107 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (criminal liability for making or dealing in infringing articles)

Section 107 refers to the offence of dealing in articles that are believed to infringe a copyrighted work; to possess any equipment specifically adapted to making copies of copyrighted works is also an offence.

Penalties have recently been raised for more serious copyright offences involving the manufacture, importation and distribution of infringing articles - (see The Copyright, etc. and Trade Marks (Offences & Enforcement) Act 2002). They are now in line with Trade Marks Act penalties for offences, i.e. a maximum of 10 years imprisonment or unlimited fines or both, and all carry the power of seizure

Section 198 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 (criminal liability for making, dealing in or using illicit recordings)

Section 198 relates to offences of making or dealing in recordings, which are illicit and infringe performers' and owners' rights (i.e. this is piracy or 'bootlegging'). Again, the penalties have been raised (under The Copyright, etc. and Trade Marks (Offences & Enforcement) Act 2002) bringing them into line with the Trade Marks Act, i.e.: to a maximum of 10 years imprisonment or an unlimited fine or both.

Offences under this Section of the Act are arrestable and recordable

Since counterfeiting and piracy are criminal offences the police often join with Trading Standards Officers (TSO's) and HM Revenue & Customs to develop coordinated approaches. Counterfeiting and Piracy are arrestable offences and therefore the police have a duty to enforce the law.

In addition, Local Authorities have a statutory duty through their TSO's to enforce the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, and section 93 of the Trade Marks Act 1994 imposes a duty on every Local Authority to enforce section 92 (the anti counterfeiting provisions). Similar provision exists for copyright offences under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, but has not yet been brought into force. Trading Standards Officers will often call for police assistance when searching premises and a breach of the peace is possible.

What powers do Trading Standards Officers have?

Under the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, trading standards officers (TSOs) have powers to make test purchases and to enter premises to inspect and seize goods and documents. These powers also apply under the Trade Marks Act 1994.

Where there are reasonable grounds to believe an offence has been or is about to be committed, and permission to enter the premises has been or is likely to be refused, TSOs can apply to a Justice of the Peace for a warrant to search.



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Reference: T44427/6

Dear Mr Bramall,

Thank you for your e-mail of 15/11/06 about the Home Office consultation on the regulation of second hand goods traders.

As you will be aware, when the Kent Acts were passed the sponsors of those Acts were required to submit a Report to the Home Secretary detailing the effectiveness of the legislation in the three years since implementation. When their Report was laid before Parliament, in December 2004, the Minister announced that a national consultation would take place to establish whether there was a need to introduce national legislation.

It has taken some time to prepare a consultation paper that fully reflects the wide range of issues involved but having now given all of these issues due consideration we are proposing to launch the consultation process shortly. It will seek views on a range of options on how best to work with traders in second hand goods to disrupt the market for stolen goods, including legislation, voluntary regulation and amending existing powers. It will additionally seek views on the regulation of occasional sales.

I would of course be happy to add you to our list of list of correspondees so that you receive a copy of both the paper, upon publication, and the consultation outcome.

I hope that this is helpful.

N. McDermott

Oxfordshire's Code of Practice

Everybody knows that car boot sales are an excellent way of recycling unwanted goods. At the same time they provide the opportunity for buyers to find a bargain and sellers to make a bit of money on goods they no longer want.

Unfortunately, although car boot sales started as an informal and friendly means of recycling unwanted goods they have been tainted by a few people who wish to use them to facilitate unfair practices and criminal activity.

Traders, whether they operate from the high street, from a car boot sale or market, are subject to the provisions of the Sale of Goods Act. This means that the goods they sell must comply with the following provisions:

1. they must match any descriptions applied to them;
2. they must be of satisfactory quality; and,
3. they must be fit for the purpose for which they were intended.

Goods purchased privately from an individual need only comply with the first of these provisions – i.e. they must only match the descriptions applied to them.

Goods sold by traders would also need to comply with other Trading Standards legislation such as that relating to trade descriptions, product safety, food standards, pricing and weights and measures.

It can be seen, therefore, that a trader posing as a private individual, either innocently or intentionally, is avoiding his/her responsibilities to their customers and has an unfair advantage over legitimate traders. They may also be committing criminal offences.

Car boot sales have also become havens for sellers of counterfeit goods. Some counterfeit items such as DVDs tend to be relatively easy to distinguish, others such as clothing, are not so easy. In addition, where you find counterfeit DVDs you often find pornographic material.

Code of Practice

In an effort to reduce the quantity of counterfeit goods sold in car boot sales; to ensure that consumers are treated fairly; and, to create a level playing field for all traders, the Trading Standards Service has developed this code of practice. We will be asking operators and promoters of car boot sales to take some responsibility for the car booters from whom they receive payment.

We are not asking operators to take complete responsibility, we will offer support in dealing with traders and members of the public, and training for staff, but we will be asking for traders suspected to be operating unfairly or illegally to be excluded from your car boot sale.

Please find below a copy of the full Code of Practice.

CODE OF PRACTICE

As promoter/operator of a car boot sale the code of practice requires you to:

- ❖ Display, in a prominent position:
 - your trading name and contact business address
 - the address/contact number of the Trading Standards Service (for the benefit of anyone seeking advice about goods sold at the event).
- ❖ Provide details of an event contact to liaise with Trading Standards in respect of any matters relevant to the Code of Practice or Consumer Protection law.
- ❖ Actively police the event; reporting any seller, suspected of illegal/unfair trading in accordance with the Code, to Trading Standards.
- ❖ Exclude any seller, on Trading Standards evidence, found to be selling counterfeit goods of any description.
- ❖ Provide copies of the "Guide to Sellers" advice leaflet:
 - to every seller on an event by event basis
 - at the entry/exits to the event for the information of potential buyers.
- ❖ Ensure all staff working at the event are aware of the Code of Practice and comply with its requirements.

What are the consequences of not complying with the Code?

As a Service we would be far happier working with the operators of car boot sales. However, where an operator consistently fails to act on Trading Standards advice, he/she could find themselves under investigation for aiding and abetting, for example, the sale of counterfeit goods.

Birmingham City Council's Car Boot Regulations

Commercial

These are not permitted in Birmingham.

Charitable

It is at the discretion of the City Council whether any organisation or individual is permitted to hold a Car Boot Sale for charitable or fund raising purposes. The following conditions apply -

(1) a maximum of 6 Car Boot Sales during a calendar year.

(2) a limit of venues of a maximum of 6 Car Boot Sales during a calendar year, to be spaced one month apart.

(3) at least 28 days notice of intent to hold a Car Boot Sale must be given.

PLEASE NOTE the holding of a Car Boot Sale without having given the requisite notice renders both the operator and occupier of land liable to prosecution under Section 37 of the Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1982.

(4) a fee of £50.00 in acknowledgement of Birmingham City Council's Market Rights is payable on application and this must be received not less than 28 days before the event.

Each approved Car Boot Sale will be limited to no more than 50 cars (or spaces) and each and every vendor shall sell or display only articles surplus to their own domestic requirements, normally described as jumble or bric-a-brac and including books, records, small second hand domestic furniture and equipment etc. Vendors selling new items and goods 'bought in' for resale, including bric-a-brac etc should not be permitted. No tables should be allowed to be set up in addition to the use of car boots.

A fee of £1 for each let car over 50 will be levied in addition to the original fee. More than 50 boots may also result in future events not being sanctioned.

All income from charges to 'car booters' must benefit the organisation identified in the application and evidence to support this requirement must be available for inspection on request. If such evidence is not available operators may be prosecuted for holding a rival market and prevented from holding further sales within the Birmingham City Boundary.

Any organisation or individual found to be contravening the above requirements may be prosecuted and/or banned from holding further Car Boot Sales.

Application forms can be requested using the contact details below. Alternatively, to apply and pay online please follow the link [Car Boot Sales Online Form](#)

Telephone 0121 303 0254 or 0121 303 0300

email: marketstalls@birmingham.gov.uk

“Formate alternative te ketij publikimi ofrohen me kerkese. Kjo perfshin dhe gjuhe te tjera, me shkronja te medhaja, shkronja per te verberit, kasete degjimi, disk kompjuteri ose email.”

Albanian

আপনি যদি অনুরোধ করেন তাহলে এই পুস্তিকাটি বিকল্প ছাঁদে, যেমন, অন্য কোনও ভাষায়, বড় হরফে, ব্রেইলে, অডিও-ক্যাসেটে, কমপিউটারের ডিস্কে বা ইমেলের মাধ্যমে পেতে পারেন।

Bengali

“本刊物備有其他的格式可供索取。這些包括有其他語言版，大字版，盲人用版，錄音帶版，電腦磁碟版或電子郵件版。”

Chinese

प्रार्थना करने पर यह प्रकाशन दूसरे रूपों में प्राप्त किया जा सकता है। जिस में सम्मिलित है, दूसरी भाषाओं में, बड़े छापे में, ब्रेअल, सुनने की टेप पर, कम्प्यूटर की डिस्क पर या ई-मेल द्वारा।

Hindi

“ਇਹ ਪੁਸਤਕ ਬੇਨਤੀ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਵੀ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। ਜਿਵੇਂ ਕਿ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ, ਵੱਡੇ ਛਾਪੇ ਤੇ, ਬ੍ਰੇਲ ਵਿਚ, ਸੁਣਨ ਵਾਲੀ ਟੇਪ ਤੇ, ਕੰਪਿਊਟਰ ਡਿਸਕ ਜਾਂ ਈ ਮੇਲ ਤੇ।”

Punjabi

“اس اشاعت کو متبادل اشکال میں درخواست کرنے پر حاصل کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ اس میں دوسری زبانیں، بڑا پرنٹ، بریل (جسے اندھے چھو کر پڑھ سکیں)، آڈیو کیسٹ، کمپیوٹر ڈسک یا ای میل شامل ہیں۔”

Urdu

Alternative formats of this publication are available on request. These include other languages, large print, Braille, audiocassette, computer disk or email.

Scrutiny Review Report into Car Boot Fairs

DEC 2006

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