



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## **TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE**

### **19 DECEMBER 2007**

Report of the Interim Director of Environmental Services

# **TAXI LICENSING FEES AND CHARGES 2008/2009**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 To approve, subject to the consideration of objections/representations, the proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2008/09.
- 1.2 To request the Interim Director of Environmental Services to advertise the proposed variation of fees.
- 1.3 To authorise the Interim Director of Environmental Services, in consultation with the Chair of Taxi Licensing and Appeals Committee, to consider any objections received within the objection period and take appropriate action if required.
- 1.4 To approve the new licence fees to become effective from 1 April 2008 if no objections are received during the objection period.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The hackney carriage and private hire licensing fees and charges are reviewed annually. These licensing functions are self-financing and non-profit making. The fees and charges are set at a level to recover the total costs incurred in providing the service.
- 2.2 If a trading surplus occurs in any financial year, this is transferred into a taxi licensing holding account. Any amount over £20,000 in this account is then used to either offset fees and charges in the following financial year or fund developments within taxi licensing. The £20,000 limit is retained in the account to offset possible deficits in the taxi licensing budget and is set on advice from the Council's financial officers.
- 2.3 The taxi licensing budget working paper for 2008/09 is attached at Appendix 2. The expenditure (the cost of providing the service) will be £326,345, although this will be offset by £25,000 carried forward from the holding account. This gives a total income requirement of £301,345.
- 2.4 Fee levels have been calculated on the basis of the proportion of licensing resources (principally officer time/costs) allocated to each licence type, and is based upon a 'cost accounting' exercise conducted between May - October 2007. A breakdown of this exercise and the accounting process is attached at Appendix 3.

- 2.5 Although expenditure has increased in 2008/09, not all licence fees have risen. The 'cost accounting' exercise identified a change in the amount of time licensing resources were being used by the different licence types. This has resulted in a rise for drivers (£116 to £138) but a drop for vehicles (£104 to £92) and operators (£43 to £27).
- 2.6 The proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2008/09 are set out in Appendix 4. If approved, they will come into effect on 1 April 2008.

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<b>Background papers:</b>	None
<b>List of Appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 Implications Appendix 2 Taxi Licensing Budget Working Paper 2008/09 Appendix 3 Taxi Licensing Fees Calculation 2008/09 Appendix 4 Proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2008/09

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

1. The proposed fees have been set at a level to recover the full cost of providing the taxi licensing service.

**Legal**

- 2.1 The Council may charge such fees for the granting of licences, etc. to cover the whole or part of the recoverable costs of administering the licensing function.
- 2.2 The Council is required to publish in a local newspaper the proposals for changes to the level of driver, vehicle and operator fees. Any objections or representations must be lodged within 28 days from the date of the publication and considered by the Council.

**Personnel**

3. None directly arising.

**Equalities impact**

4. Fees are calculated using a 'cost accounting' exercise which reflects the actual licensing resources being used by each licence type. The exercise is repeated periodically to ensure it remains relevant and fair.

**Corporate priorities**

5. The proposal supports the corporate priority of **giving excellent services and value for money**.

## APPENDIX 2

### TAXI LICENSING BUDGET WORKING PAPER 2008/09

COST CENTRE	DETAIL CODE	DESCRIPTION	2005/06 BUDGET	2006/07 BUDGET	2007/08 BUDGET	2008/09 BUDGET
4000902	B1001	OPERATIONAL SALARIES-GENERAL	140,050	145,048	155,553	165,771
4000902	B1002	OPERATIONAL SALARIES-ER N.I.	9,607	10,531	11,542	12,615
4000902	B1003	OPERATIONALSALARIES-ER LGSUPN	21,008	24,876	27,067	28,844
4000902	B8011	TRAINING EXPENSES	500	500	1,000	1,000
4000902	D1007	TESTING OF VEHICLES	7,500	7,500	8,000	8,000
4000902	D3001	HIRE OF VEHICLES	1,100	1,100	1,100	2,000
4000902	D4002	CAR ALLOWANCES-LUMP SUM ALLOW	2,665	2,665	2,665	2,665
4000902	D4003	CAR ALLOWANCES-MILEAGE ALLOW	4,100	4,100	4,100	4,000
4000902	E1001	OFFICE EQUIPMENT	4,000	4,000	4,000	2,450
4000902	E1002	OFFICE FURNITURE	450	450	450	2,000
4000902	E1036	PUBLICATIONS/GUIDES	100	100	100	100
4000902	E1501	PROVISIONS	100	100	100	100
4000902	E2001	CLOTHING & UNIFORMS	100	100	100	300
4000902	E2501	PHOTOCOPYING	500	500	500	2,200
4000902	E2502	PRINTING	3,000	3,000	8,000	8,000
4000902	E2504	STATIONERY	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
4000902	E2506	PHOTOGRAPHY	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
4000902	E3502	COURT FEES	500	500	500	500
4000902	E3523	SECURITY SERVICES	2,950	2,950	2,950	2,950
4000902	E4001	TELEPHONES-BT PHONES	800	800	800	800
4000902	E4005	MOBILE PHONE	0	0	0	200
4000902	E4012	COMPUTER SYSTEMS	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
4000902	E4017	POSTAGES	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
4000902	E4501	TRAVEL & SUBSISTENCE	350	350	350	350
4000902	E6501	NON-RECRUITMENT ADVERTISING	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
4000902	E6574	MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE	3,000	3,000	10,000	10,000
		MGT & ADMIN RECHARGE	60,358	59,284	62,431	62,000
		<b>SUBTOTAL OF EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>272,238</b>	<b>280,954</b>	<b>310,808</b>	<b>326,345</b>
4000902	S2001	PRIVATE HIRE OPERATORS LICENCE	(24,440)	(24,621)	(27,942)	(30,060)
4000902	S4001	HACKNEY DRIVERS LICENCE	(35,250)	(47,349)	(46,980)	(46,144)
4000902	S4002	HACKNEY VEHICLE LICENCE	(43,120)	(31,950)	(33,800)	(49,370)
4000902	S4003	PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE	(56,400)	(75,759)	(92,800)	(77,030)
4000902	S4004	PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE	(74,690)	(51,653)	(67,600)	(73,115)
4000902	S4005	TRANSFER VEHICLE LICENCE	(3,640)	(4,256)	(3,000)	(4,256)
4000902	S4006	HACKNEY ENQUIRY RECORD	(125)	(136)	(136)	(250)
4000902	S4007	HIGHWAY CODE KNOWLEDGE TEST	(22,750)	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)
4000902	S4008	DOCUMENTATION REPLACEMENT	(320)	(353)	(353)	(200)
4000902	S4009	KNOWLEDGE DRIVE TEST	0	0	0	(2,000)
4000902	S4010	REPLACE HACKNEY SIGNS - EXTERNAL	(1,200)	(83)	(83)	(225)
4000902	S4011	MOGO BRACKET	0	0	0	(800)
4000902	S4012	REPLACE HACKNEY SIGNS - INTERNAL	(75)	(1,382)	(800)	(102)
4000902	W7037	OTHER MISC INCOME	(1,000)	(111)	(111)	(100)
		<b>SUBTOTAL OF INCOME</b>	<b>(263,010)</b>	<b>(255,653)</b>	<b>(291,605)</b>	<b>(301,652)</b>
		Taxi licensing Reserve c/f	(10,872)	(27,000)	(21,000)	(25,000)
		<b>TOTAL BUDGET SHORTFALL</b>	<b>(1,644)</b>	<b>(1,699)</b>	<b>(1,797)</b>	<b>(307)</b>

## TAXI LICENSING FEES CALCULATION 2008/09

Total Expenditure	326,345
C/f from trading surplus	<u>(25,000)</u>
Income required	301,345

Income (other charges)	25,933
Licence fee income	<u>275,719</u>
Income Expected	301,652

Licence fee income	275,719	
Licence specific charges	16,000	vehicle test charges (£8K) and plate costs (£8k)
Remainder	259,719	to be recovered from <b>all</b> licences

	Drivers	Vehicles	Operators
% officer time/cost	64% (55%)	29% (34%)	7% (11%)
Proportion of £259,719	166,220	75,318	18,181
Licence specific charges		16,000	
Total recoverable	166,220	91,318	18,181
Number of licence 'units'	1200 (1205)	1000 (975)	675 (650)
<b>Unit cost (i.e. licence fee) £</b>	<b>138</b> (116)	<b>92</b> (104)	<b>27/vehicle</b> (43)

(Previous figures shown in brackets)

## **HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS AND OPERATORS LICENCES**

### **LICENCE FEES from 1 APRIL 2008**

#### **DRIVERS**

Hackney Carriage	£138.00
Private Hire	£138.00
Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Driver Knowledge Test	£65.00
For each Hackney Carriage Drive Test	£25.00
Criminal Records Bureau Checks	£36.00

#### **PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR'S LICENCE**

Per vehicle operated	£27.00
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#### **VEHICLE LICENCES**

Private Hire (New)	£92.00
Private Hire (Renewal)	£92.00
Hackney Carriage (New)	£117.00
Hackney Carriage (Renewal)	£92.00

#### **TRANSFER OF VEHICLE LICENCE**

Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Vehicles	£52.00
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#### **ENQUIRIES FROM VEHICLE/DRIVER RECORDS**

Enquiries from proprietors, drivers, accountants, solicitors etc.	£25.00
Document replacement	£20.00

#### **DEPOSITS**

Badges	£5.00
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<b>REPLACEMENT PLATES</b>	£25.00
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#### **REPLACEMENT SIGNS**

Internal	£45.00
Quarter Light Stickers (x2) inc. fitting	£51.00