



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
25 MARCH 2009

ITEM 7

Report of the Corporate Director of Environmental Services

PRIVATE HIRE RICKSHAW LICENCE FEES AND EXEMPTION OF KNOWLEDGE TEST FOR RIDERS

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To consider a reduced fee for Private Hire Rickshaw licences and Rickshaw Riders licences.
- 1.2 To consider waiving the requirement to sit and pass a knowledge test for Private Hire Rickshaw Riders.
- 1.3 To review the fees and the knowledge test requirement for Private Hire Rickshaw Riders in 12 months.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 On 9 July 2008 the Taxi Licensing & Appeals Committee agreed to licence Rickshaws as hackney carriage or private hire vehicles and their riders as hackney carriage or private hire vehicle drivers, subject to the applicant meeting the existing conditions for the respective licence.
- 2.2 In February 2009 the Council received an application from East Midlands Rickshaws to operate a private hire vehicle.
- 2.3 The licence fees are based on an apportionment exercise, which identifies officer time and cost of administering and enforcing each licence. There are no set charges currently for private hire rickshaw vehicle or rider licences.
- 2.4 Initially, the applicant proposes to licence one Rickshaw and one Rider to cover the intended set route between Iron Gate, the Market Place and the Westfield Centre.
- 2.5 There will be a reduction in administration and enforcement time and costs with these two licences and therefore officers propose a reduced annual vehicle licence fee of £30 for the Rickshaw and an annual fee of £75 for the Rickshaw Rider.

- 2.6 The Council does not yet have a knowledge test for Rickshaw riders. Given the limited set route in the city centre proposed by the applicant, officers would ask Committee to allow the Rickshaw rider exemption from sitting and passing the knowledge test.

For more information

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Background papers:

None

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None directly arising.

Legal

2. None directly arising.

Personnel

3. None directly arising.

Equalities impact

4. Rickshaws would be available to all residents and visitors to Derby. Private Hire Rickshaws will have to comply with the Disability Equality Duty.

Corporate Priorities

- 5.1 Taxi Licensing contributes to the priority of **giving excellent service and value for money.**
- 5.2 The licensing of Rickshaws supports the Council's priority of **creating a 21st century city centre.**