



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE
21 January 2016

ITEM 11

Report of the Strategic Director of Communities & Place

Taxi Licensing Fees and Charges 2016/17

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report provides information on the proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2016/17.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve the proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2016/17 as set out at Appendix 3.
- 2.2 To request the Service Director of Communities, Environment and Regulatory Services to advertise the proposed variation of fees.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The proposed licence fees and charges must be advertised and any objections or representations received must be considered by the Council.
- 3.2 Any changes to the licensing fees and charges must be approved and in place prior to the commencement of the new financial year.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The hackney carriage and private hire licensing fees and charges are reviewed regularly. These licensing functions are self-financing and non-profit making and must be set at a level to recover the total costs incurred in providing the service.
- 4.2 The fees and charges were last considered in September 2015 following deregulation changes and the introduction of three year licences for drivers and five year licences for private hire operators.

- 4.3 Separate accounts must be kept for each type of licence that is issued; namely those for hackney carriage drivers, hackney carriage vehicles, private hire drivers, private hire operators and private hire vehicles. Any surplus/deficit generated in any financial year for any one type of licence must be used to offset that particular type of licence in the following financial year. This means that separate licence fees and charges will need to be calculated for each particular type of licence independently of each other and will, more likely than not, fluctuate each year.
- 4.4 The taxi licensing budget working paper for 2016/17 that sets out the methodology undertaken in calculating the proposed fees is attached at Appendix 2.
- 4.5 The proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2016/17 are set out in Appendix 3.
- 4.6 In accordance with the requirements set out in section 70(3)(b) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, before certain new fees and charges are introduced, the Council is required to publish them in a local newspaper. Any representations must be lodged within 28 days from the date of the publication.
- 4.7 The Act provides that where a representation is made and not withdrawn, the Council must consider it. In the event of this occurring, a provisional meeting of the Licensing Committee has been arranged on 3 March 2016 to consider any matters that may arise. Following this, the final set of fees and charges for the 2016/17 period will be considered at the scheduled meeting of the Licensing Committee on 17 March 2016.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None. Fees and charges need to be set at a level to recover the total costs incurred in providing the service.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	Olu Idowu Amanda Fletcher John Tomlinson
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For more information contact: Background papers: List of Appendices:	Michael Kay Tel 01332 641940 e-mail michael.kay@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Taxi Licensing Budget Working Paper 2016/17 Appendix 3 – Proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2016/17
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IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 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, taking in to account any relevant case law, charge such fees for the granting of licences to cover the whole or part of the recoverable costs associated with the administration and compliance of 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

- 3.1 None directly arising from this report.

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- 4.1 None directly arising from this report.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 The fees and charges set out in the report have been calculated using methodology which reflects the actual resources being used by each licence type. This will need to be undertaken each year to ensure it remains relevant and fair.

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None directly arising from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 None directly arising from this report.

Property and Asset Management

8.1 None directly arising from this report.

Risk Management

9.1 None directly arising from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 The proposals set out in this report will deliver **better outcomes for our communities, more efficient and effective services and improved value for money for our customers.**

Appendix 2

TAXI LICENSING BUDGET WORKING PAPER 2016/17

Taxi Licensing Licence Fee Cost Calculation - 1 April 2016 onwards

Standard licence fees

Year	Cost type	Costs to apportion	Three year licence		Three year licence		Five year licence		One year licence		One year licence	
			Private hire drivers		Hackney carriage drivers		Private hire operators		Private hire vehicle		Hackney carriage vehicle	
			%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£
2016/17	Apportioned costs	269,498	44.4%	119,613	17.6%	47,476	8.0%	21,560	22.0%	59,290	8.0%	21,560
	Direct costs, less direct income			(13,930)		(5,939)				8,708		3,071
2017/18	Apportioned costs	215,768	40.0%	88,557	15.9%	35,150	6.4%	10,831				
	Direct costs, less direct income			(13,033)		(5,686)						
2018/19	Apportioned costs	247,351	43.9%	110,856	17.4%	44,000	5.6%	10,882				
	Direct costs, less direct income			(13,033)		(5,686)						
2019/20	Apportioned costs							10,933				
2020/21	Apportioned costs							10,985				
Total cost to recover through licence fees				279,032		109,316		65,190		67,998		24,630
Number of licences (estimated)				907		360		861		861		287
Cost per licence				308		304		76		79		86

One year licence fees

		One year licence		One year licence		
Year	Cost type	Costs to apportion	Private hire drivers		Hackney carriage drivers	
			%	£	%	£
2016/17	Apportioned costs	269,498	44.4%	119,613	17.6%	47,476
	Direct costs, less direct income			(13,930)		(5,939)
Total cost to recover through licence fees			105,684	41,537		
Number of licences (estimated)			907	360		
Cost per licence			117	115		

Classification: OFFICIAL

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Appendix 3

**PROPOSED LICENCE FEES & CHARGES FOR DRIVER, VEHICLE & OPERATOR
LICENCES AND OTHER CHARGES FOR 2016/17**

	Current Fees Oct 15 to Mar 16	Proposed Fees Apr 16 to Mar 17
Vehicle Licences		
Annual Private Hire Vehicle (New & Renewal)	£83.00	£79.00
Annual Hackney Carriage (Renewal)	£91.00	£86.00
Annual Hackney Carriage (New) incl. internal, quarter-light stickers & fitting	£161.00	£156.00
Five Yearly Private Hire Vehicle Operator Licences		
Per Vehicle	£86.00	£76.00
Drivers Licences		
*Annual Hackney Carriage Driver	£123.00	£115.00
*Annual Private Hire Driver	£124.00	£117.00
Three Yearly Hackney Carriage Driver	£246.00	£304.00
Three Yearly Private Hire Driver	£249.00	£308.00
*Annual licences will only apply if issued by Taxi Licensing Sub-Committee		
Other Related Charges		
Knowledge Test Fee	£65.00	£89.00
Hackney Carriage Drive Test	£36.00	£49.00
Enhanced Disclosure and Barring (DBS) Check (incl. Admin Fee)	£54.00	£57.00
Changing dates of knowledge tests	£8.00	£10.00
Change of vehicle registration number	£23.00	£27.00
Change of vehicle records	£13.00	£17.00
Subject access data request for information	£10.00	£10.00
Other requests for information that fall outside subject access	£22.00	£28.00
Document Replacement	£20.00	£24.00
Replacement Badges	£16.00	£19.00
Replacement Plates	£23.00	£28.00
Replacement Hackney Carriage Quarter Light Stickers (incl. fitting)	£70.00	£70.00
Replacement Hackney Carriage Internal Signs	£48.00	£48.00