



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

LICENSING COMMITTEE 27 July 2017

ITEM 5

Report of the Strategic Director of Communities & Place

Taxi Licensing Fees and Charges 2017/18

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report provides information on the proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2017/18.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve, subject to the consideration of representations, the proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2017/18 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.
- 2.3 To delegate to the Strategic Director Communities and Place following consultation with the Chair to consider any representations received within the required period and to take appropriate action if required to address such representations.
- 2.4 To approve the new licence fees to become effective from 1 October 2017, subject to there not being any representations received during the required period, or where any such representations have been withdrawn.

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.

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 Separate accounts must be kept for each type of licence issued; namely those for hackney carriage drivers, hackney carriage vehicles, private hire drivers, private hire vehicles and private hire operators. 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 need to be calculated for each particular type of licence independently of each other and will, more likely than not, lead to fluctuations each year.
- 4.3 Members will be aware that a number of changes to the licensing administrative process have been consulted on, developed and introduced with effect from 1 July 2017. The new process and the additional resources involved in undertaking it have been included in the fees and charges process.
- 4.4 The taxi licensing budget working paper for 2017/18 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 2017/18 are set out in Appendix 3.
- 4.6 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.
- 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 21 September 2017 at 6.00pm to consider any matters that may arise. Members are therefore requested to make provisional entries in their diaries for that purpose.

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 Mazer Hussain - - Michael Kay
For more information contact: Background papers: List of Appendices:	Sandra Mansell Tel 01332 641931 e-mail sandra.mansell@derby.gov.uk None Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Taxi Licensing Budget Working Paper 2017/18 Appendix 3 – Proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2017/18

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 The proposed fees and charges 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 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.

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 2017/18

1st October 2017 Onwards		Total Costs	Private hire drivers		Hackney carriage drivers		Private hire operators		Private hire vehicle		Hackney carriage vehicle	
			%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£
Assumed Reserve Balance		-8,396	39.4%	(3,307)	15.65%	(1,314)	7.37%	(619)	27.57%	(2,314)	10.03%	(842)
Apportioned costs												
Year 1	01/04/17 - 31/03/18	300,741	45.5%	136,687	18.1%	54,284	4.5%	13,533	23.5%	70,674	8.5%	25,563
Year 2	01/04/18 - 31/03/19	255,271	40.6%	103,640	16.1%	41,099	5.4%	13,785	27.8%	70,965	10.1%	25,782
Year 3	01/04/19 - 31/03/20	226,954	32.1%	72,852	12.8%	29,050	12.2%	27,688	31.4%	71,264	11.5%	26,100
Year 4	01/04/20 - 31/03/21							13,948				
Year 5	01/04/21 - 31/03/22							14,053				
Total apportioned costs				313,179		124,433		83,007		212,903		77,445
Direct costs / income												
Year 2	plus, direct costs	12,268		0		0		0		9,078		3,190
Year 2	less, direct income	(28,027)		(18,064)		(8,193)		0		(1,366)		(405)
Year 3	plus, direct costs	12,268		0		0		0		9,078		3,190
Year 3	less, direct income	(28,027)		(18,064)		(8,193)		0		(1,366)		(405)
Year 1	plus, direct costs	12,268		0		0		0		9,078		3,190
Year 1	less, direct income	(28,027)		(18,064)		(8,193)		0		(1,366)		(405)
Total direct costs / income				(54,191)		(24,580)		0		23,138		8,355
Total to recover through licence fees				255,682		98,538		82,389		233,727		84,958
Number of licences				912		352		943		943		286
Proposed 2017/18Licence Fees												
			Private hire drivers		Hackney carriage drivers		Private hire operators		Private hire vehicle		Hackney carriage vehicle	
			%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£
One year licence			126 (117)		127 (115)		n/a		81 (79)		96 (86)	
Three or five year licence			280 (308)		280 (304)		87 (76)		n/a		n/a	

Appendix 3

PROPOSED LICENCE FEES & CHARGES FOR DRIVER, VEHICLE & OPERATOR LICENCES AND OTHER CHARGES FOR 2017/18

	Current Fee	Proposed Fees Oct17 to Mar 18
Vehicle Licences		
Annual Private Hire Vehicle (New & Renewal)	£79.00	£81.00
Annual Hackney Carriage (Renewal)	£86.00	£96.00
Annual Hackney Carriage (New) incl. internal, quarter-light stickers & fitting	£156.00	£166.00
Executive Exemption		
New / Renewal for Exemption Certificate	£116.00	£131.00
Existing Private Hire Vehicle Exemption Certificate	£66.00	£77.00
Five Yearly Private Hire Vehicle Operator Licences		
Per Vehicle	£76.00	£87.00
Drivers Licences		
*Annual Hackney Carriage Driver / Dual Badge	£115.00	£127.00
*Annual Private Hire Driver	£117.00	£126.00
Three Yearly Hackney Carriage Driver / Dual Badge	£304.00	£280.00
Three Yearly Private Hire Driver	£308.00	£280.00
*Annual licences are only issued in specific circumstances		
New Hackney Carriage/Private Hire Driver Application Administration Fee	n/a	£50.00
Other Related Charges		
Knowledge Test Fee	£89.00	£87.00
Hackney Carriage Drive Test Fee	£49.00	£55.00
Prescribed Mandatory Safeguarding Training Fee	n/a	£30.00
Enhanced Disclosure and Barring (DBS) Check (incl. Admin Fee)	£57.00	£57.00
Changing dates of knowledge tests /safeguarding training dates	£10.00	£10.00
Change of vehicle registration number	£27.00	£26.00
Change of vehicle records	£17.00	£16.00
Subject access data request for information	£10.00	£10.00
Other requests for information that fall outside subject access	£28.00	£27.00
Document Replacement	£24.00	£24.00
Replacement Badges	£19.00	£19.00
Replacement Plates	£28.00	£27.00

Replacement Hackney Carriage Quarter Light Stickers (incl. fitting)	£70.00	£66.00
Replacement Hackney Carriage Internal Signs	£48.00	£28.00