



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
19 February 2015

ITEM 5

Report of the Strategic Director of
Neighbourhoods

Taxi Licensing Fees and Charges 2015/16

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The report provides information on the proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2015/16.

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 2015/16 as set out at Appendix 4.
- 2.2 To request the Service Director of Environment and Regulatory Services to advertise the proposed variation of fees.
- 2.3 To approve the Chair of the Taxi Licensing and Appeals Committee and the Service Director of Environment and Regulatory Services to consider any representations received within the required period and take appropriate action if required.
- 2.4 To approve the new licence fees to become effective from 1 April 2015 subject to the consideration of any representations received during the required period.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 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 annually. These licensing functions are self-financing and non-profit making. The aim is to set the fees and charges at a level to recover the total costs incurred in providing the service.

- 4.2 The way in which the fees and charges have been calculated this year has changed. This follows the outcome of a legal case brought against the Council of the City and the County of Cardiff which determined that separate accounts must be kept for each type of licence that are issued; namely those for hackney carriage drivers, hackney carriage vehicles, private hire drivers, private hire operators and private hire vehicles. It also determined that 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.
- 4.3 In calculating the fees and charges, officers have considered how much time is spent dealing with matters relating to each type of licence, similar to the apportionment exercise that has been undertaken in the past, how many licences of each type are likely to be received during the financial year and what staffing level is required to deal with the workload expected.
- 4.4 The taxi licensing budget working paper for 2015/16 is attached at Appendix 2.
- 4.5 Fee levels have been calculated on the basis of the information set out in Paragraph 4.3 above. A breakdown of this and the accounting process is set out at Appendix 3.
- 4.6 The proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2015/16 are set out in Appendix 4. If approved, they will come into effect on 1 April 2015.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None. Fees and charges need to be reviewed annually and 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	Olu Idowu
Financial officer	Amanda Fletcher
Human Resources officer	-
Service Director(s)	John Tomlinson
Other(s)	-

For more information contact:	Michael Kay Tel 01332 641940 e-mail michael.kay@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Taxi Licensing Budget Working Paper 2015/16 Appendix 3 – Taxi Licensing Fees Calculation 2015/16 Appendix 4 – Proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2015/16

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 The proposed fees have been set at a level to recover the full cost of providing the taxi licensing service.
- 1.2 For 2015/16, a new methodology has been used to calculate the fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges. Subsequently some have increased and others have decreased or remained the same.

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.

IT

- 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.**

TAXI LICENSING BUDGET WORKING PAPER 2015/16

EXPENDITURE DESCRIPTION	Private Hire Drivers	Private Hire Operators	Private Hire Vehicles	Hackney Carriage Driver	Hackney Carriage Vehicle	Total
OPERATIONAL SALARIES-GENERAL	61,824	5,152	58,389	25,760	20,608	171,733
OPERATIONAL SALARIES-ER N.I.	5,070	422	4,788	2,112	1,690	14,082
OPERATIONALSALARIES-ER LGSUPN	11,005	917	10,393	4,585	3,668	30,568
TRAINING EXPENSES	109	9	103	46	36	303
EYE TESTS	20	2	19	8	7	56
TESTING OF VEHICLES	0	0	7,140	0	2,509	9,649
TRANSPORT RUNNING COSTS	102	9	97	43	34	285
HIRE OF VEHICLES	247	21	234	103	82	687
CAR ALLOWANCE MILEAGE	302	25	286	126	101	840
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	5,677	473	5,362	2,365	1,892	15,769
BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS	11	1	10	4	4	30
CLOTHING & UNIFORMS	53	4	50	22	18	147
LEGAL FEES	180	15	170	75	60	500
COURT FEES	336	28	317	140	112	933
SECURITY SERVICES	718	60	678	299	239	1,994
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	41	3	39	17	14	114
MEDICAL FEES	7	0	0	3	0	10
TRADE UNION DUTIES	73	6	69	30	24	202
MOBILE PHONE	56	5	53	23	19	156
CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS	42	3	40	17	14	116
NON RECRUITMENT ADVERTISING	162	14	153	68	54	451
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE	2,106	175	1,988	877	703	5,848
OTHER HIRED AND CONTRACTED	417	35	394	174	139	1,159
BANK CHARGES	114	10	108	48	38	318
DISCLOSURE AND BARRING	15,796	0	0	4,532	0	20,328
Sub Total	104,468	7,389	90,880	41,477	32,065	276,279

EXPENDITURE DESCRIPTION (UNCONTROLLED)	Private Hire Drivers	Private Hire Operators	Private Hire Vehicles	Hackney Carriage Driver	Hackney Carriage Vehicle	Total
OFFICERS IMDEMNITY	185	15	175	77	62	515
SUPPORT SERVICES (ACCOMODATION)	1,476	123	1,394	615	492	4,101
SUPPORT SERVICES (CASH OFFICE)	1	0	1	0	0	3
SUPPORT SERVICES (ACCOUNTANCY)	1,927	161	1,820	803	642	5,352
SUPPORT SERVICES (FINANCIAL SERVICES)	27	2	26	11	9	75
INSURANCE OVERHEAD COSTS	253	21	239	106	84	704
SUPPORT SERVICES (SYSTEMS)	324	27	306	135	108	900
SUPPORT SERVICES (PAYROLL)	2,109	176	1,992	879	703	5,858
SUPPORT SERVICES (VOICE NETWORKS)	325	27	307	135	108	902
SUPPORT SERVICES (CODAS)	277	23	262	116	92	770
SUPPORT SERVICES (PROCUREMENT)	4	0	3	2	1	10
SUPPORT SERVICES (HEALTH AND SAFETY ADVISORY SERVICES)	10,337	861	9,763	4,307	3,446	28,714
Sub Total	17,245	1,437	16,287	7,186	5,748	47,903
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	121,713	8,826	107,167	48,663	37,813	324,183

TAXI LICENSING FEES CALCULATION 2015/16

	Private Hire Drivers	Private Hire operators	Private Hire Vehicles	Hackney Carriage Driver	Hackney Carriage Vehicle	Total
Forecast Expenditure(£)	121,713	8,826	107,167	48,663	37,813	324,183
Forecast 'one off income'(£)	37,165	20	370	5,833	119	43,507
Use of the Reserve at known as at Feb 2015(£)	1,908	1,756	1,756	786	628	6,835
Total(£)	82,640	7,050	105,041	42,044	37,066	273,841
Forecast Number of Licences	881	77 (vehicles 811)	811	363	290	2,422
Proposed Cost of licence(£)	94	9 per vehicle	130	116	128	

Appendix 4

PROPOSED LICENCE FEES & CHARGES FOR DRIVER, VEHICLE & OPERATOR LICENCES AND OTHER CHARGES FOR 2015/16

FEES FROM 01 APRIL 2015	CURRENT 2014/15 CHARGE (£)	PROPOSED 2015/16 CHARGE (£)
DRIVERS		
Hackney Carriage	108	116
Private Hire	108	94
Hackney Carriage or Private Hire Driver Knowledge Test	65	65
Hackney Carriage Drive Test	25	36
Disclosure & Barring Check (based on cost recovery and subject to change)	44	44
Disclosure & Barring Administration Charge per Application	n/a	10
PRIVATE HIRE OPERATOR'S LICENCE		
Per vehicle operated	23	9
VEHICLE LICENCES		
Private Hire (New & Renewal)	91	130
Hackney Carriage (New – including internal & quarter light stickers & fitting)	116	246
Hackney Carriage (Renewal)	91	128
HACKNEY SIGNAGE (REPLACEMENT)		
Internal signs	45	48
Quarter-light stickers (x2) including fitting	51	70
CHANGES & ALTERATIONS		
Changing knowledge test date	5	8
Change of vehicle records	n/a	13
Change of vehicle registration number	25	23
ENQUIRIES FROM VEHICLE / DRIVER RECORDS		
Subject access data request for information	10	10
Other requests for information outside subject access data request requirements	25	22
REPLACEMENTS		
Replacement badge	20	16
Replacement certificate / document	20	20
Replacement plate	25	23