



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

TAXI LICENSING AND APPEALS COMMITTEE

11 FEBRUARY 2009

Report of the Corporate Director of Environmental Services

TAXI LICENSING FEES AND CHARGES 2009/2010

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 2009/10.
- 1.2 To request the Corporate Director of Environmental Services to advertise the proposed variation of fees.
- 1.3 To authorise the Corporate 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 2009 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. Currently the account holds £32,000. Usually 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 It is proposed this year to retain an extra £7,000 in addition to the £20,000. The extra £7,000 will put aside for updating IT systems, and the remaining £5,000 will be used to offset the fees and charges for the coming year.
- 2.4 The taxi licensing budget working paper for 2009/10 is attached at Appendix 2. The expenditure (the cost of providing the service) will be £329,786. This is an increase of £3441. This has been kept to a minimum by reducing some of the individual budgets where possible.

- 2.5 The projected licence incomes are in a slightly different format compared with previous years. For 2009/10 the incomes reflect more accurate percentages, therefore resulting in some projected income figures increasing and others decreasing.
- 2.6 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 that was conducted between May - October 2007. A breakdown of this exercise and the accounting process is attached at Appendix 3.
- 2.7 Using the 'cost accounting' exercise identified a change in the amount of time licensing resources were being used by the different licence types. For 2009/10 the proposed licences fees will remain the same as for 2008/09. For drivers the proposed annual fee will £138, vehicles will be £92 and operators will be £27.
- 2.8 The proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2009/10 are set out in Appendix 4. If approved, they will come into effect on 1 April 2009.

For more information contact:	Ann Walker Tel 01332 641996 e-mail ann.walker@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	None
List of Appendices:	Appendix 1 Implications Appendix 2 Taxi Licensing Budget Working Paper 2009/10 Appendix 3 Taxi Licensing Fees Calculation 2009/10 Appendix 4 Proposed licence fees and charges for driver, vehicle and operator licences and other charges for 2009/10

IMPLICATIONS

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 2009/10

COST CENTRE	DETAIL CODE	DESCRIPTION	2007/08 BUDGET	2008/09 BUDGET	2009/10 BUDGET
4000902	B1001	OPERATIONAL SALARIES-GENERAL	155,553	165,771	169,915
4000902	B1002	OPERATIONAL SALARIES-ER N.I.	11,542	12,615	12,930
4000902	B1003	OPERATIONALSALARIES-ER LGSUPN	27,067	28,844	29,565
4000902	B8011	TRAINING EXPENSES	1,000	1,000	1,000
4000902	D1007	TESTING OF VEHICLES	8,000	8,000	8,200
4000902	D3001	HIRE OF VEHICLES	1,100	2,000	1,100
4000902	D4002	CAR ALLOWANCES-LUMP SUM ALLOW	2,665	2,665	2,730
4000902	D4003	CAR ALLOWANCES-MILEAGE ALLOW	4,100	4,000	3,500
4000902	E1001	OFFICE EQUIPMENT	4,000	2,450	2,450
4000902	E1002	OFFICE FURNITURE	450	2,000	1,500
4000902	E1036	PUBLICATIONS/GUIDES	100	100	100
4000902	E1501	PROVISIONS	100	100	100
4000902	E2001	CLOTHING & UNIFORMS	100	300	300
4000902	E2501	PHOTOCOPYING	500	2,200	2,000
4000902	E2502	PRINTING	8,000	8,000	8,000
4000902	E2504	STATIONERY	1,000	1,000	1,100
4000902	E2506	PHOTOGRAPHY	1,000	1,000	500
4000902	E3502	COURT FEES	500	500	500
4000902	E3523	SECURITY SERVICES	2,950	2,950	2,950
4000902	E4001	TELEPHONES-BT PHONES	800	800	700
4000902	E4005	MOBILE PHONE	0	200	200
4000902	E4012	COMPUTER SYSTEMS	5,000	5,000	5,000
4000902	E4017	POSTAGES	1,500	1,500	1,700
4000902	E4501	TRAVEL & SUBSISTENCE	350	350	300
4000902	E6501	NON-RECRUITMENT ADVERTISING	1,000	1,000	1,000
4000902	E6574	MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE	10,000	10,000	9,000
		MGT & ADMIN RECHARGE	62,431	62,000	63,550
		SUBTOTAL OF EXPENDITURE	310,808	326,345	329,786
4000902	S2001	PRIVATE HIRE OPERATORS LICENCE	(27,942)	(30,060)	(20,250)
4000902	S4001	HACKNEY DRIVERS LICENCE	(46,980)	(46,144)	(63,190)
4000902	S4002	HACKNEY VEHICLE LICENCE	(33,800)	(49,370)	(30,600)
4000902	S4003	PRIVATE HIRE DRIVERS LICENCE	(92,800)	(77,030)	(117,860)
4000902	S4004	PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE	(67,600)	(73,115)	(67,500)
4000902	S4005	TRANSFER VEHICLE LICENCE	(3,000)	(4,256)	(4,256)
4000902	S4006	HACKNEY ENQUIRY RECORD	(136)	(250)	(200)
4000902	S4007	HIGHWAY CODE KNOWLEDGE TEST	(18,000)	(18,000)	(18,000)
4000902	S4008	DOCUMENTATION REPLACEMENT	(353)	(200)	(200)
4000902	S4009	KNOWLEDGE DRIVE TEST	0	(2,000)	(820)
4000902	S4010	REPLACE HACKNEY SIGNS - EXTERNAL	(83)	(225)	(225)
4000902	S4011	MOGO BRACKET	0	(800)	(800)
4000902	S4012	REPLACE HACKNEY SIGNS - INTERNAL	(800)	(102)	(100)
4000902	W7037	OTHER MISC INCOME	(111)	(100)	(100)
		SUBTOTAL OF INCOME	(291,605)	(301,652)	(324101)
		Taxi licensing Reserve c/f	(21,000)	(25,000)	(5,000)
		TOTAL BUDGET SHORTFALL	(1,797)	(307)	(685)

TAXI LICENSING FEES CALCULATION 2009/10

Total Expenditure	329,786
C/f from trading surplus	(5,000)
Income required	324,786

Income (other charges)	24,701
Licence fee income	<u>300,085</u>
Income Expected	324,101

Licence fee income	300,085	
Licence specific charges	16,200	vehicle test charges (£8,200) and plate costs (£8,000)
Remainder	283,885	to be recovered from all licences

APPORTIONMENT OF FEES

	Drivers	Vehicles	Operators
% officer time/cost	64%	29%	7%
Proportion of £283,885	181,686	82,327	19,872
Licence specific charges		16,200	
Total recoverable	181,686	98,527	19,872
Number of licence 'units'	1300 (1200)	1085 (1000)	750 (675)
Unit cost (i.e. licence fee) £	138 (138)	92 (92)	27/vehicle (27)

(Previous year's figures shown in brackets)

HACKNEY CARRIAGE AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE DRIVERS AND OPERATORS LICENCES

LICENCE FEES from 1 APRIL 2009

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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REPLACEMENT PLATES	£25.00
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REPLACEMENT SIGNS

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